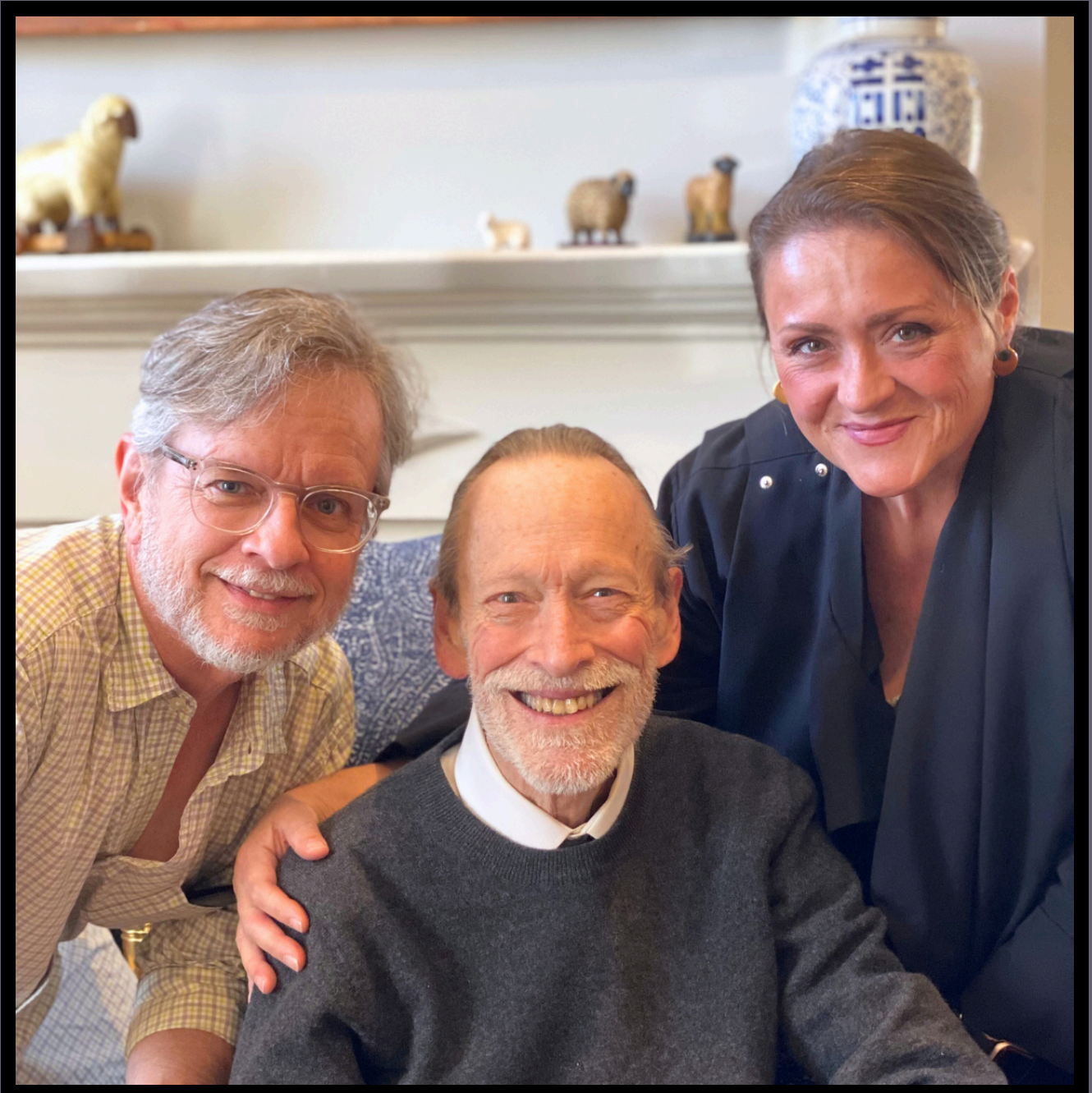


The Epistle



NOVEMBER 2024

Our mission is to proclaim the news of Jesus Christ and care for all

The Clergy and Staff

The Rev. W.R. "Rusty" McCown, Rector
The Rev. Monna Mayhall, Associate Rector
The Rev. Ann Van Dervoort,
 Assisting Priest, Retired
Donna Stokes-Rogers, Music Minister
Rick Jackson, Organist
Libby Sullivan, Children's Minister
Brett Smith, Youth Minister
Shannon Buttrey, Parish Administrator
Kristy Moore, Financial Administrator
Paula Sherman, Communications Manager

Vestry

Pam Horne, Senior Warden
 Finance, Stewardship, Long Range Planning
Ron Howes, Junior Warden
 Building and Grounds
Mindy Boggs
 Clerk and Parish Life
Angela Lassiter
 Outreach
Dr. Larry Whitlock
 Stewardship
Ann Denson
 Christian Formation
Mary Emilie Acklen
 Hospitality
Paul Hannah
 Finance
Chris Oberholtzer
 Communications
Bruce Theobald
 Pastoral Care
Rob Curwen
 Long-Range Planning
Holly Spain
 Youth and Children's Ministries
Michael Walters Young
 Treasurer

FIND US:

**510 WEST MAIN STREET
 FRANKLIN, TN. 37064
 (615) 790-0527
 WWW.STPAULSFRANKLIN.COM**



**FIND US ON FACEBOOK
 @STPAULSFRANKLINTN**

**FIND US ON INSTAGRAM
 @STPAULSFRANKLIN**

November 2024 Office Hours:

**Monday-Thursday
 9:00 am - 4:00 pm**

**Friday
 9:00 am - 12:00 pm**

Office Closed: November 28-29

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY:
 A member of the clergy is always on call. If you need assistance from a priest outside office hours, the number to call is 615-790-0527. You will then be directed to a member of the clergy.

In This Issue

- 5 Rick Jackson
- 7 Stewardship
- 8 Spencer Dibble
- 10 Announcements
- 12 Parish Life
- 27 EYG
- 29 Young Adults
- 30 Women of St. Paul's
- 33 Men of St. Paul's
- 34 Formation
- 37 Outreach
- 41 Stephen Ministry
- 42 Historic Reflections
- 44 Corner Gift Shop
- 46 Volunteer Opportunities
- 47 Finances
- 48 Life Events



Stephen Ministry: Carol Waters, Elizabeth Tyer, Heather Bottoms, Donna Thomas, Vicki Carlisle, Sharmila Patel, Sam Barcus, Val Box, Jan Abstein, Barb Green, Becky Gengler, Marcia Wilkinson

(Not pictured) Monna Mayhall, Jean Larson, Chris Oberholtzer, Kelly Pitsenberger

The Epistle is published the first of each month. Forward any information you have for News In The Pews, Sunday bulletin, or The Epistle monthly newsletter to communications@stpaulsfranklin.com and we will make sure it gets to the right publication.

[Deadline for the October newsletter is Tuesday, November 26, 2024](#)

Upcoming Events

November 3

All Saints Service

November 5

EYG Holy Hike

November 14

Newcomers' Dinner

November 19

Social Graces

November 23

Holy Hike

December 5

Gathering for Good -
Advent Wreath Making

December 8

Lessons and Carols

December 15

Christmas Caroling

December 24

Children's Christmas Pageant

December 24

Christmas Eve Service



Many more meetings and gatherings can be found on the Church Calendar, under the "About Us" tab on the church website: <https://74053364.view-events.com/calendar/74053364/>

Rick Jackson

Our beloved organist, Rick Jackson, retired earlier this month. Rick came to St. Paul's 12 years ago, initially sharing organist duties with Don Dice.

Prior to his time at St. Paul's, Rick performed all over the world with artists such as Larry Carlton, Kirk Whalum, Steve Lukather, Lee Ritenour, Norman Brown, Dean Brown, Paul Jackson Jr., Lee Roy Parnell, Philip Bailey, Everet Harp, Boney James, Rick Braun and more. He toured with Amy Grant and Michael W. Smith for their Christmas shows and has appeared on many recordings.



From Rick Jackson

To the people of St. Paul's from Rick Jackson, Organist

Most of you are already aware that I have retired and am no longer playing at St. Paul's. Unfortunately this was not by my choice but due to a progressive illness, Pulmonary Fibrosis. In my case, the disease has progressed quickly in the last three months to the point of not being physically able to continue performing at the level that I consider necessary. I had planned on a more gradual exit, including time to find a person just right for St. Paul's, but one's plans don't necessarily work out. I'm very sorry to have left so abruptly. I wish that it would not have been so sudden.

I feel blessed to have experienced a wonderful life overall and an exceptional life at St. Paul's. Rev. Rusty McCown, Rev. Monna Mayhall, and Rev. Ann Van Dervoort have led and directed me in choosing and performing appropriate sacred music for every worship service or special occasion. I was fortunate to have had Don Dicie as my mentor for two years while I was the assistant organist. His guidance and musicianship was invaluable. Donna Stokes-Rogers, Music Minister, is an exceptional director, singer, conductor, and has been my dearest friend for my entire tenure at St. Paul's. The staff at St. Paul's, Claire, Shannon, Libby, Brett, Kristy and Paula have helped me negotiate all kinds of crucial and everyday tasks.

And lastly and most importantly are you, the people of St. Paul's. I have come to know many of you very well. And as I have found out during this period, there are many, many more of you that I haven't known or spoken to regularly who have reached out to me. I have received so many cards, notes, and letters that I am practically speechless. I have been provided with food and visits at home. But I am most overwhelmed by your incredible generosity in providing me with a retirement fund. It is truly unexpected and very comforting. God bless you all. I greatly miss being there every week, but please know that you all are in my heart forever.

God be with you,
Rick Jackson



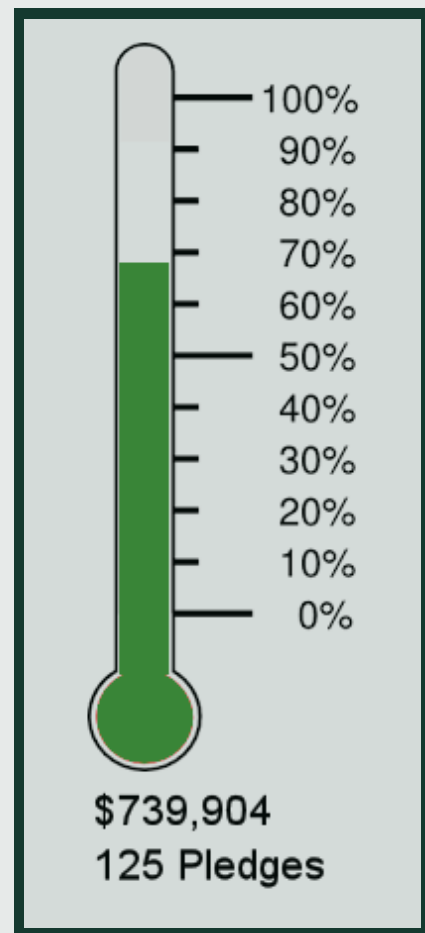
We have celebrated Commitment Sunday, and last week, All Saints' Sunday, and both days included incredible moments of worship and celebration.

Soon the new year for the church begins, on December 1, the first Sunday of Advent. Please take a moment to end this church year with your pledge card submitted, so that you can fully engage your heart in all of the moments of Advent.

We have a lot happening in 2025, and your generosity for our "structure" (both human and physical) and our Outreach partners will allow this to be as seamless as possible. The witnesses to our footprint in the community have allowed us to see what we can do outside of St. Paul's Church campus. Let's keep it going; don't put off filling out your pledge card until the holidays are here. Either go to the web site, rummage through the papers on your desk, or pull a new card from the Narthex and drop it in the offering plate next Sunday.

Any questions or concerns about the process? Feel free to reach out to me!

Julie Reinhardt
615-336-8723
jhreinhardt65@gmail.com



In today's reading, we hear about Bartimaeus, the blind believer with tremendous faith who calls out to Jesus for healing, but is told by the crowd surrounding Jesus to "Keep it moving, Jesus is here for us, not you." The crowd might have had all sorts of motivations for hanging around Jesus, but you would hope that most of the crowd were following Jesus because they resonated with his message of loving God and loving your neighbor. Whatever their motivations, they were not behaving in the way that Jesus taught us to.

Fast forward two thousand years; plenty of time to absorb Jesus' message, and I begin attending various churches as a child through young adulthood. At the time I didn't recognize it, but I participated in churches that were shunning Bartimaeus. Our Bartimaeus were homosexuals, divorced people, the poor, and people with criminal histories. It's not that these groups were barred from entry, but their problems and pains were framed as their own comeuppance, deserved, and the crowd wasn't going to part the way for them to get closer to Jesus.

In my early twenties I began to critically examine these churches that I had been a part of, and I was upset that what I was reading didn't line up with what I was practicing. I felt fooled, foolish, and angry. I became very anti-church. For the next decade I don't think I ever set foot in a church. Still being a bit foolish, I painted all churches with a broad brush. They're all this way.

Fast forward a few more years and I've married my beloved wife, Suzanne. While we were dating, she told me about growing up in the Episcopal church, and how much she enjoyed the community. One evening when she was about four months pregnant with our first child, she brought up church again, and it was clear where this was going. She asked me to thoughtfully consider St. Paul's so that our child and our family could experience the same wonderful community she had grown in. It was a reasonable request, and she was carrying our baby, so the least I could do is give St. Paul's a try. Even still, I was confident that within a few weeks or months, I would identify St. Paul's Bartimaeus; that fringe group the church turned its nose up at, and I'd leverage this to get my Sundays back.

We attended our first service together, and some things caught me off guard that day:

- Everyone saying the same thing at the same time, and everyone seemed well rehearsed.
- We prayed for other churches across the state and globe.
- A woman delivered the sermon.
- A chalice bearer wore a rainbow pin, which I interpreted as being LGBTQ accepting.

Homily - Spencer Dibble

These were all novel to me. In one day, a lot of the notions I had carried for years about churches, began to fall away. Shortly after we began attending, there was an announced book study. St. Paul's would be reading *The Color of Compromise: The Truth about the American Church's Complicity in Racism*. I had noticed that the church demographics were very white, and I was surprised that this group would even care enough about racism to learn about their own complicity. I had to attend and learn what this was all about. Over the eight-week study, I was very moved by a group that was genuine, heartfelt, willing to learn about our own ignorance in many cases, and most importantly willing to work to undo the damage of the past.

Fast forward a few weeks and I was approached to join the Outreach Committee. When it was my turn to bring forth an organization for the group to consider supporting, I was a bit apprehensive about my pick, the 21st District Recovery Court. How would the committee, and the church, feel about committing resources to convicted drug users? I was prepared for refusal or at least some debate, but the committee thought it was a great idea. I was relieved and stunned.

My experiences at St. Paul's have shifted my view of what church can be. This group does not resemble the gathering around Jesus that shoved off Bartimaeus, but rather of a different group also mentioned in the book of Mark. In Mark 2, a paralyzed man is across town from a house where Jesus has once again drawn a large crowd.

Mark 2:3-5: Some men came, bringing to (Jesus) a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

We can choose to be exclusionary and insular, or we can choose to be dedicated to bringing more people into the fold. We can part the crowd around Jesus to help the disparaged, or even go over the top of the crowd if we must.

When you participate in St. Paul's book studies, when you welcome newcomers, when you show up to gathering for good, when you share the peace with a stranger, you are bringing people into the fold and being a good steward of St. Paul's. By being a steward of St. Paul's, you allow for someone like me to change their views of churches, and ultimately change their life.

Spencer Dibble
October 27, 2024

Construction Project Update

We are beginning our long awaited construction project for our Christian Education and office spaces. Here's the latest...

The City of Franklin has approved the construction drawings and issued construction permits. Demolition will begin in the next couple of weeks.

The first thing you will see is an ADA ramp entering the Founders Hall entrance. This ramp will serve access to restrooms near Founder's Hall which will remain functional until the new restrooms are installed. This will also be the entrance into Founders Hall from the courtyard.

Next week we'll see the pecan tree being protected with fencing and mulch as per our arborist's design.

The iron fence will be temporarily coming down, and Sixth Avenue will be fenced off around the side of the courtyard. Sixth Avenue will remain open to traffic with no parking through the duration of the construction.

The long awaited time for commencement has finally come! Thank you for your patience and anticipation.

Susan Miller

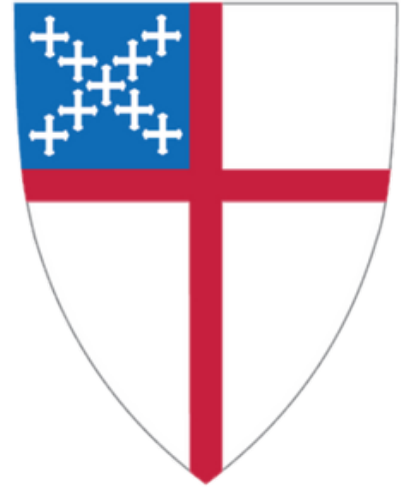


Announcements

Call For Vestry Nominations

As we move into the last months of the year, it is time to nominate individuals for membership on the Vestry. This year we will be electing 4 new members to the Vestry. Four members of the current Vestry will be rotating off at the end of the year and we will elect their replacements for three-year terms at the annual meeting.

If you would like to nominate a fellow parishioner or yourself for any of these positions on the Vestry, please reach out to: Rusty (rusty@stpaulsfranklin.com) or Pam Horne (pentopage@mac.com) by Sunday, November 3rd.



St. Paul's Nursery Is Hiring

We are in search of a nurturing, enthusiastic adult (21 years or older) to take charge of our Sunday morning nursery care in Barnabas beginning September 8th.

Responsibilities include arriving at 8:30 to set up the nursery in our temporary location, caring for children from the 8:45 service through the end of the 11 am service, and putting all of the nursery equipment and supplies away before leaving at roughly 12:30.

Compensation is \$80 per week, and the person would be required to complete a background check and Safe Church training.

If you have questions, would like to apply, or know of someone who would be a great fit, please contact libby@stpaulsfranklin.com.



Blessing of the Animals



Blessing of the Animals



Blessing of the Animals

The Blessing of the Animals was a drive-through event this year. Our furry friends were chauffeured through Barnabas parking lot to receive a blessing, bookmark, and a St. Francis medal for their collar.



A Prayer for Pets Who are Ill or Suffering

Loving God, you brought these beloved animals into our lives, to share kindness, joy, and faithful companionship: Receive our thanks and praise for the community between your animals and your people, and all the ways in which we bless each other's lives. Relieve these sick animals of their pain; may they return to good health. Comfort these aging animals; may their last years be full of love and happiness. We entrust them to your care, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pasty, beloved dog of Childs family

Owen, beloved dog of the Turner

Duke, beloved dog of Elizabeth Coggins

Twin 2, beloved cat of Turner family

Tesla, beloved cat of David Turner family

Jude, beloved cat of Turner family

A Prayer for Pets Who Have Passed Away

Almighty God, your Son taught us that though five sparrows could be bought for two pennies, they are not forgotten before you. We ask your prayers for these animals we have loved and lost. We are grateful to have shared our homes and our lives with them, and they with us. Bless all those who mourn; may memories of their loving companion comfort them. In your name we pray. Amen

Ginger, beloved dog of Robin Hensley

ChaCha, beloved cat of Gloria and Randy Cox

Louie, beloved dog of Sam and Christy Hilley

Rosalina, beloved hen of Donna Stokes-Rogers

BunBun, beloved rabbit of Sharmila Patel and Philip Phillips

Julep, beloved dog of Barbara and David Rogers

Luna, beloved cat of Bella Garner

Pace, beloved dog of Tracy and Bill Frist

Lucky, beloved dog of Elizabeth Queener

Ivey, beloved dog of Childers family

Boss, beloved dog of Teresa Smith

Cowboy, beloved dog of Agar family

Nikki, beloved parakeet of Elkins family

Blessing of the Animals

Helping Animals In Shelters

The goal of the Williamson County Animal Shelter is to partner with the community to find a good home for every adoptable pet, slow pet population growth, end animal neglect and abuse, and to be a positive force in the community. Check here for more ways to help or to inquire about giving an animal a forever home: www.adoptwcac.org. The following items are always needed at the shelter:

Cat Items

- Royal Canin Mother and Baby wet food
- Royal Canin Mother and Baby kibble
- Iams wet kitten food
- Breeders Edge milk replacement
- Miracle Nipples
- Churu lickable treats
- Litter boxes and clay and clumping litter
- DaBird Feather toy refills
- Mylar ball toys
- Food scales (for weighing kittens)
- Open-top, medium size carriers
- Havahart traps
- Feral cat dens
- Scratching posts

Dog Items

- Milk-Bone treats (mini and small sizes)
- BilJac soft training treats
- Greenies Pill Pockets
- Lick mats
- Nylabone chew toys
- Benebone chew toys
- Good Dog collars (all sizes)
- 1" x 6" clip leashes

Miscellaneous

- Liquid laundry soap
- Blankets, sheets, towels, and washcloths (not electric blankets that do not work)
- Pet beds (not feather)
- Food and water bowls
- Grooming items
- Bird seed for feeders (sunflower or mix)
- Dust-free, paper bedding for small pets (not newspaper)

Halloween Festival



Halloween Festival



Chili Cook-Off



One highlight of the Halloween Festival was the Annual Chili Cook-Off. Entries included Casper's Special Chili, Holy Ghost Chili, Tumblin' Tumbleweed Chili, Pork-U-Pine Chili, Holy Moly Chili, Trick or Treat Chili, and more. This year we had a panel of three judges who tasted all 11 entries and ranked their 3 favorites. Voting for the People's Choice Award was open to everyone who attended. And the winners were:

- 1st Place: Richard Phillips
- 2nd Place: Loren Robicheaux
- 3rd Place: Mark Tumblin
- People's Choice Award:
Loren Robicheaux



Costume Contest



Winners of the Costume Contest:

Coollest: The Hogans (zombies)

Sparkliest: Ada Martin (Glinda)

Funniest: Robin Hensely & Friend
(Wilma & Fred)

Original: The Dibbles (Farmers and
Cows)

Scariest: Larry Whitlock (skeleton)

Best Costume: The Andersons (Cast of
Zelda)



St. Paul's Needs You

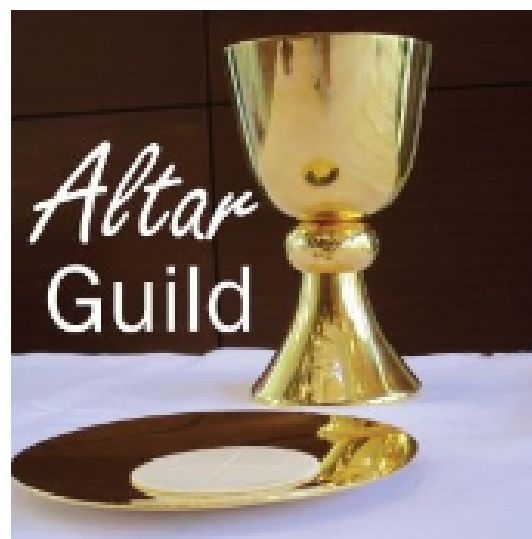
For we know, God "equips his people for works of service so that the body of Christ may be built up." Ephesians 4:12

Our church is seeking members who desire to offer themselves in service to God and others. Altar Guild is a ministry where ordinary things are turned into an extraordinary worship experience. We work joyfully in a holy way to preserve an atmosphere of God's presence in our old church.

There are many opportunities in which to offer your time and talent to the Guild. You may opt to serve in as many or as few of these tasks as your heart calls you to do: preparing for Sunday services, polishing silver, polishing brass, laundering linens – some team – some individual tasks — some quarterly, semi-annually or annually throughout the year as needed.

You will be welcomed, supported, trained and work alongside seasoned guild members, offering your hands, feet and thoughts to God as you serve him and all those who come through our doors to worship. One guild member recently commented, "It's the easiest job in the Church."

Come see what we are all about on Saturday, November 16th at 11:00am in Founder's Hall. If you can't make it but are interested in knowing more, please speak with Fr. Rusty (rusty@stpaulsfranklin.com) or Monna (monna@stpaulsfranklin.com) or call Phyllis Thompson (615) 337-0932.



Social Graces

Tuesday November 19
Lunch and Live Jazz Music!
Come join us in the Middle Room in Barnabas

11:30 am – Catered Lunch
12:00 noon – 1:00 pm
\$10 --- RSVP by Friday November 15

RSVP to monna@stpaulsfranklin.com or 615-790-0527 by November 15. Note any dietary restrictions.
Pay when you come.

Social Graces is a ministry for people 55 years old and older, but anyone, any age is welcome to our programs and events. If you have any questions about Social Graces, please contact [Monna Mayhall](#).

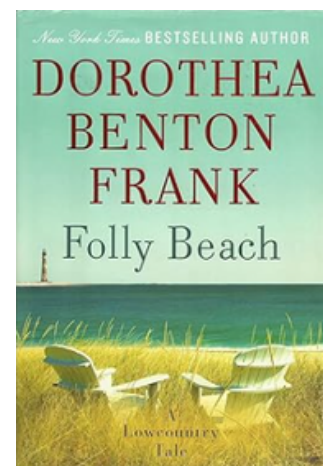


Bad Girls Book Club

The next meeting for The Bad Girls Book Club is Tuesday, November 19th in Barnabas from 6:30 PM to approximately 8:00 PM. We will discuss *Folly Beach* by Dorothea Benton Frank.

Note: We are meeting the third week of this month because of Thanksgiving.

Please bring a light appetizer and/or a drink to share.



Choral Evensong

A Celebration of All Saints

Sunday, November 3, 2024, 6:00 pm
St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Almighty God, you have surrounded us with a great cloud of witnesses:
Grant that we, encouraged by the good example of all your servants
may persevere in running the race that is set before us,
until at last we may with him attain to your eternal joy;
through Jesus Christ, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen. (BCP 250)

Sunday, November 3, 2024, 6:00 pm
Featuring the Choir of St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Officiant: Rev. William "Rusty" McCown

Evensong is a service that follows the order of Evening Prayer in our Book of Common Prayer. It consists of choral music (psalms, canticles, and anthems) from our rich Anglican musical tradition, scripture readings, and sung prayers. Please join us for this beautiful service on Sunday, Nov. 3 at 6:00 pm.



If you are new to St. Paul's, we would love to get to know you a little better. The staff of St. Paul's is hosting a Newcomers' Dinner at the home of The Rev. Rusty and Laura McCown. This will be a time to get to know each other a little better and answer any questions you might have about St. Paul's. RSVP to the office at shannon@stpaulsfranklin.com or 615-790-0527, ext. 103. We look forward to seeing you on the 14th!



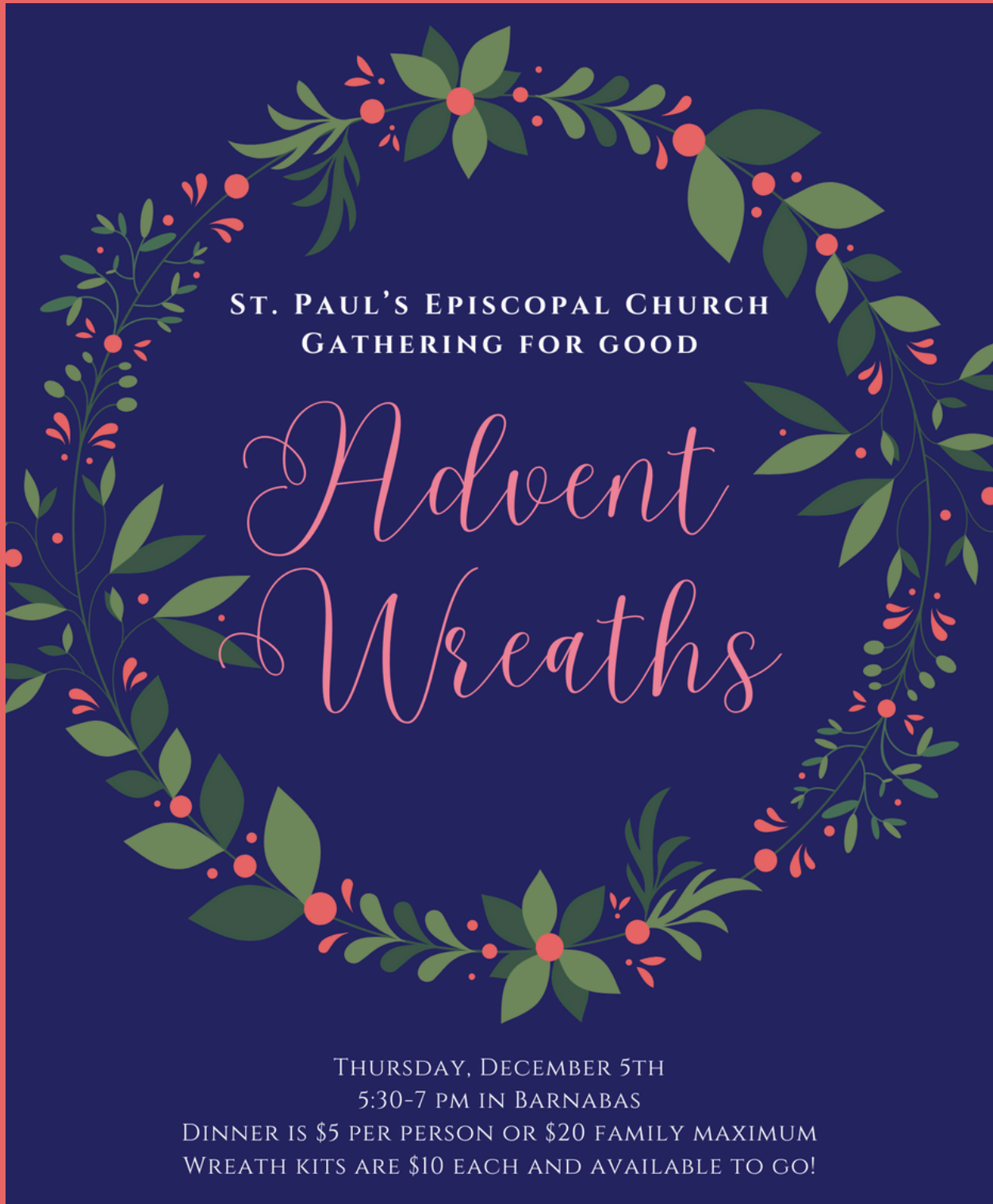
Join us for our next Holy Hike
WHEN: Saturday, November 23 at 9:00 am
WHERE: Marcella Vivrette Smith Park
1825 Wilson Pike, Brentwood



Holy Hikes...

- are like a progressive Liturgy
- are once a month.
- are open to anyone, any age - please share information.
- are accessible, being mostly flat, and 1-2 miles in length.
- are at various location each month - park, trail, zoo, etc.
- are free unless place of the hike charges admission/fee.

If you have questions about Holy Hikes, please email Monna at monna@stpaulsfranklin.com.



Join us Thursday, December 5th from 5:30-7pm in Barnabas for our annual Advent Wreath event. Wreath kits will be available for \$10, and include all you need to create a beautiful, one-of-a-kind wreath for your home. Dinner is \$5 per person or \$20 family maximum. If you'd like to take your wreath kit to go, that option is available. Be on the lookout for a sign-up email soon. We hope to see you there!

December

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

DEC. 5 ADVENT WREATH MAKING AND FAMILY DINNER 5:30 PM

DEC. 8 ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS 6:00 PM

DEC. 15 CAROLING DOWN MAIN STREET 5:00 PM

DEC. 24

CHILDREN'S PAGEANT: FIRST SERVICE 4:00 PM

CHILDREN'S PAGEANT: SECOND SERVICE 4:30 PM

FESTIVE EUCHARIST 7:30 PM

FESTIVE EUCHARIST 11:00 PM

DEC. 25

CHRISTMAS DAY EUCHARIST 10:00 AM

DINNER AT BETHLEHEM 11:30 AM

COMMUNITY MEAL

DEC. 29 SUNDAY MORNING EUCHARIST 8:00 AM
AND
10:00 AM



It's getting dark earlier which means EYG has been playing a lot of nighttime 9 square after youth group!

Students in 6th-12th are invited to join us for our upcoming youth events! Email Brett at brett@stpaulsfranklin.com or check News from the Pews for details!

- Sunday, November 3 5 PM - until end of service: dinner and All Saints' Evensong
- Tuesday, November 5 10:30 AM - 12 PM: Holy Hike at Smith Park in Brentwood
- Sunday, November 10 5 - 7:30 PM: Rake and RUN! service night ****note date change!****



The youth car park fundraiser was rain or shine - even if we were completely surprised by the rain!



What do a burger, the Duolingo owl, Minecraft beef, and the orange M&M have in common?
They're now a pumpkin!



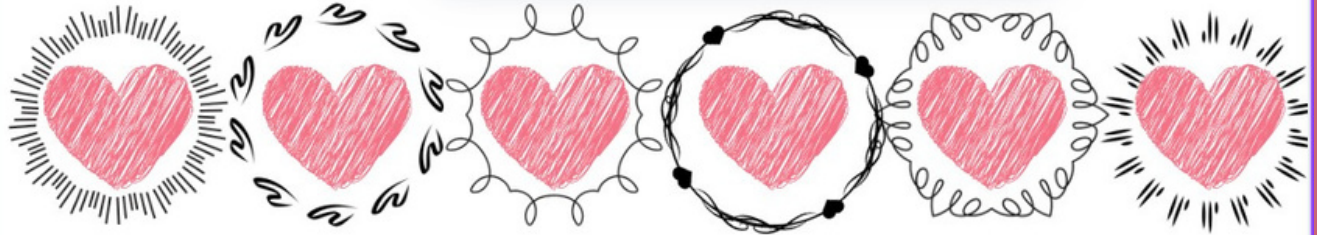
Young Adults



Trivia, volunteering, and a haunted Franklin tour! Oh my! Our young adults had a great October! College students and young adults in your 20s or 30s are invited to any of our November events! Email brett@stpaulsfranklin.com for more information!

November							2024
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
					1	2 • Family Day at Harlinsdale Farm	
3 • Walk at Pinkerton Park at 3:00	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12 • Trivia Night at Neighbors at 7:00	13	14	15	16 • Board Games and Jazz at Arrington Vineyard at 4:00	
17 • St. Paul's CITY volunteer opportunity	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24 • Walk at Park at Harlinsdale at 3:00	25	26 • St. Paul's Bad Girls Book Club at 6:30	27	28	29	30	

WSP - Women of St. Paul's



heART & Soul Retreat

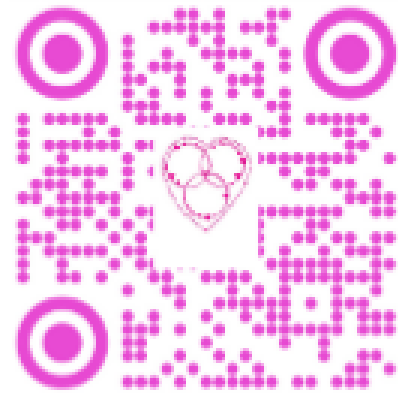
Circle of Love

February 7-9

Montgomery Bell State Park

All Women of St. Paul's are invited to the annual heART & Soul Retreat, a sacred time to nourish your creative spirit, your soul, and your body as a child of God. The weekend will be a time for fun and fellowship, with optional enrichment classes in arts/creativity, spiritual growth, physical activity and more, shared meals, worship and lots of free time to relax and re-create.

Scan the QR code or [click here for more information](#) and to register!





heArt & Soul Retreat

Circles of Love

The Lodge Montgomery Bell

Saturday - Class Options



We invite ALL WOMEN of St. Paul's to come enjoy this sacred time to nourish and love your creative spirit, your soul, and your body as a child of God. The weekend will include:

- Opportunities to gather for fun and fellowship
- Morning Prayer and Compline services as well as Sunday morning Eucharist
- Enrichment class sessions on Saturday (participation is optional)
- Time to relax in 3 different parlor spaces on Friday and Saturday night with activities such as board games, puzzles, card games, storytelling, or other group interests
- Hiking/walking in the park
- Social hours in the parlor rooms (BYO drinks)
- Wonderful participant goodies donated by our ladies
- An optional early start on Thursday evening (extra fee)

Base price includes hotel room for Friday and Saturday, five meals, and all class supplies. Saturday only option also available!!! Our mum sale has helped to cover the costs of the community use areas to help offset costs for the 2025 heArt and Soul Retreat.

Weekend Schedule

Friday, February 7

4:00—6:30 Check-In/Get Settled

5:30 – 6:30 Explore Parlors and Meeting Spaces

6:30 – 8:00 Welcome, Dinner, and Compline

8:00 - ??? Fun & Fellowship in the Suite Parlors

Saturday, February 8

7:30 – 8:00 Morning Prayer in Parlor (optional)

8:00 – 8:45 Hot Breakfast

9:00 – 10:15 Session I or Free Time

10:30-11:45 Session II or Free Time

12:00 – 1:15 Boxed Lunch and Group Picture

1:30 – 2:45 Session III or Free Time

3:00 – 5:00 Explore Montgomery Bell or Free Time

5:15- 6:15 Social Hour in Parlors

6:30 – 8:00 Dinner and Compline

8:00 - ??? Fun & Fellowship in the Suite Parlors

Sunday, February 9

8:00 – 9:00 Enjoy Continental Breakfast

9:30 – 10:30 Eucharist

Registration cannot be processed until forms and payment (or arrangements) are received. Rooms are assigned in the order of completed registration!

Registration is open until December 20.

Deadlines are firm to guarantee a room. The room block will be released after December 20. After that date, you will have to make your own arrangements unless someone cancels freeing a space in our reserved block. Montgomery Bell will try to accommodate late registrations.

Cancellations made prior to 12/20 will be refunded minus \$25 fee. No refund for cancellations after December 20, though you may find someone to assume your spot.

Confidential scholarships are available!

Do not let money be the reason you miss the retreat!

Contact Monna Mayhall for information!

monna@stpaulsfranklin.com

If you have questions about the weekend, contact us!

Cassy Gilchrist at cassygilchrist@gmail.com (615-957-7020)

2024 Retreat Planning Committee Members
Katie Faulkner & Cassy Gilchrist - Co-Chairs
Vicki Carlisle, Becky Gengler, Lucinda Harshey,
Cindy Howes, Kathy Ulezelski, and Sarah Webster



heArt & Soul Retreat

Circles of Love

The Lodge Montgomery Bell
Saturday - Class Options



Love Your Body:

- Stretch and Recover with Mary Emilie Ackden -You can even do this in a chair! Wear comfy pants. If you have a yoga mat, bring it. If not, a towel will do. Chairs will be available.
- Dancing with Maggie Gilchrist - Come learn a dance combination, a fun easy way to get your body moving and learn some basic dance steps!
- A Walk in the Park with Karen Austin - A "get the blood flowing" walk of about 2-3 miles to enjoy the outdoors and use some muscles. All levels welcome, and we will be in appropriate groups.



Love Your Creative Spirit:

- Reverse Coloring with Marida Stearns -Come, relax and enjoy. Draw lines inside or simply around the already colored shapes, and let your creative juices flow.
- Paper Cranes with Ginny Brewer - Learn the history and symbolism of the origami crane, then learn to make them for yourself.
- Multimedia Mandalas with Katie Faulkner and Cassy Gilchrist - Create your own uniquely beautiful Mandala (a Sanskrit word meaning circle) through use of watercolor paint or watercolor pencils and paper overlays.



Love Your Soul:

- Holy Hike with Monna Mayhall - A progressive outdoor Eucharist along an easy, accessible trail, providing a way to worship God in the beauty of God's creation, in what John Muir called "God's first temples."
- Living in the Miraculous with Elizabeth Power - Explore where we see Jesus in tiny interactions, his presence in our midst whether we are happy, sad, or mad. The smallest gesture may be His hand on our heart: do we see or feel it? How do we respond?
- Circle Wisdom with Cyndy Howes - Let's study the circle of women in the New Testament!

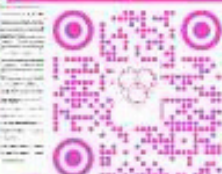


More Love Practices:

- Emotional Intelligence and the Enneagram with Donna Stokes-Rogers - Everyone is searching for their balanced sense of self. Using the Enneagram and a "feelings wheel", we will talk about identifying emotions and how to return to a peaceful center. All class participants will determine their type before coming to the retreat.
- Cooking with Love with Melissa Montero -Get your meals out of a rut and love what you eat.
- Photo Organizing and Editing with Mindy Boggs - Make your photos look their best and organize them too!



Love Your:	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3
Body	Stretch and Recover	Dancing	Walk in the Park
Creative Spirit	Reverse Coloring	Paper Cranes	Multimedia Mandalas
Soul	Holy Hike	Living in the Miraculous	Circle Wisdom
Self	EQ & the Enneagram	Cooking with Love	Photo Organizing & Editing



Use the QR Code or the link below to register!

Registration is open from
October 1 - December 20, 2024

<https://forms.gle/bo9pW8nqM8fi5yMz7>

Questions? Contact
Cassy Gilchrist

615-957-7020 or cassygilchrist@gmail



Upcoming Events

The Men of St. Paul's have three upcoming events remaining on the calendar for 2024.

Franklin Elementary School, Thursday, November 23, 2024, 5:00-6:00 pm

This is family night. We will be serving hot dogs, chips, cookies and drinks for about 200.

Freedom Reigns Ranch, Saturday, November 25, 2024, 2:00 pm

Covenant School is arriving for a time of reflection and activity. The men have had the privilege of supporting this group several times since the shooting at the school and we are grateful that Carissa asked us again to support FF and Covenant with food and fellowship. We will serve burgers, dogs, chips, cookies and drinks.

Freedom Reigns Ranch, Sunday, December 4, 2024, 2:00 pm

This year's Christmas celebration will be at Harlinsdale Park. These are fun people who enjoy a good time. They do so much for the community and a "thank you" from the FF Board and the MOSP is a good way to show our appreciation for the help they provide the community.

Mark your calendars and plan to be a part of the MOSP team.



WITS in November and December

For November and December, WITS – (Women in Theological Study) WITS will be offering a study on *The Book of Forgiving*, by Desmond Tutu and Mpho Tutu. Each of us has a deep need to forgive and to be forgiven. After much reflection on the process of forgiveness, Tutu has seen that there are four important steps to healing. Forgiveness is hard work, but work that is worth doing. We will explore the fourfold path that Tutu lays out in the book. Please feel free to buy the book, but it is not necessary for the study and discussion.

These are the dates for this study:

Nov 7 – Telling the Story

Nov 14 – Naming the Hurt

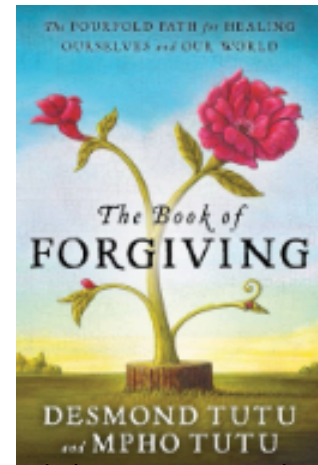
Dec 5 – Granting Forgiveness

Dec 12 – Renewing or Releasing the Relationship/and Celebration

(No WITS: November 21, December 19 – Spring Street

November 28 – Thanksgiving or December 26)

WITS meets on Thursdays in Barnabas from 9:30 -11:00 am (please note the Nov/Dec dates). If you have any questions please contact Monna Mayhall at monna@stpaulsfranklin.com or 615-790-0527.



Fall Christian Formation Classes for Adults

Sundays at 10:00 am in Founders

November 10 and 17 - Stories of Faith: Exploring the Parables – Jesus taught in parables that sometimes left his disciples and others just scratching their heads. You do not want to miss this chance to hear The Rev. Dr. Bob Abstein offer a study and discussion of some of Jesus’ parables, looking at their meaning and their significance.

November 24 - Mind the Gap: Intergenerational Formation – “Intergenerational connections are vital for living a good life at any age. There is wisdom at any age.” As educator and author Parker Palmer writes, intergenerational opportunities are important. Come share in conversation with “young and old” gathered together to share collective wisdom of Thanksgiving.

December 1 - No Christian Formation Classes

Ephesians - Brown Bag* Bible Study

January 12 - March 4, 2025
Barnabas Board Room
12:30 - 1:30 pm

Join us for an 8-week session to dive into the book of Ephesians using a study book entitled "Included in Christ; Living a New Story from Ephesians." The study was written by Heather Holleman, PhD (Professor of Composition and Advanced Writing at Penn State), published by Moody Publishing, 2017.

We will meet weekly from Sunday, January 12 to March 4, 12:30 to 1:30 in the Barnabas Board Room, on Sundays. *Bringing your own "brown bag lunch" is optional.

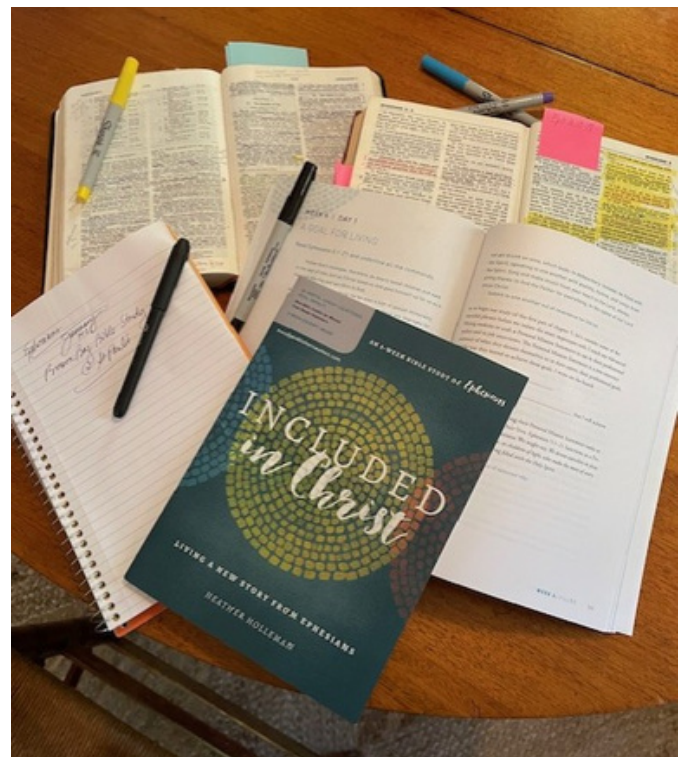
Each week, we will review our individual studies (1 per day each week), which present us:

- Opportunities to interact with the biblical text
- Reflections on key verbs, phrases, and ideas in Ephesians
- Ways to help connect the old self w/the new

An opportunity to grow in fellowship as we consider new ways to apply God's word to our daily lives, this class is open to all ages, high school and up, boys, girls, men and women. Class size is limited to 15 people (and no fewer than 6 people).

A sign-up genius will be created and posted soon to determine our study booklet ordering. I'm looking forward to experiencing this walk through Ephesians with you and to growing in our faith walk together.

-- Ann Denson



Grief Support Group at St. Paul's

Loss comes in all shapes and sizes. Grief of any kind, can feel very lonely, even when you have loved ones around. Sharing your sorrow with others who have experienced similar losses can help. The pain of grief can often cause you to want to withdraw from others and retreat into your shell. But having the face-to-face support of other people is vital to healing from loss. Even if you're not comfortable talking about your feelings under normal circumstances, it's important to express them when you're grieving. Comfort can also come from just being around others who care about you. The key is not to isolate yourself.

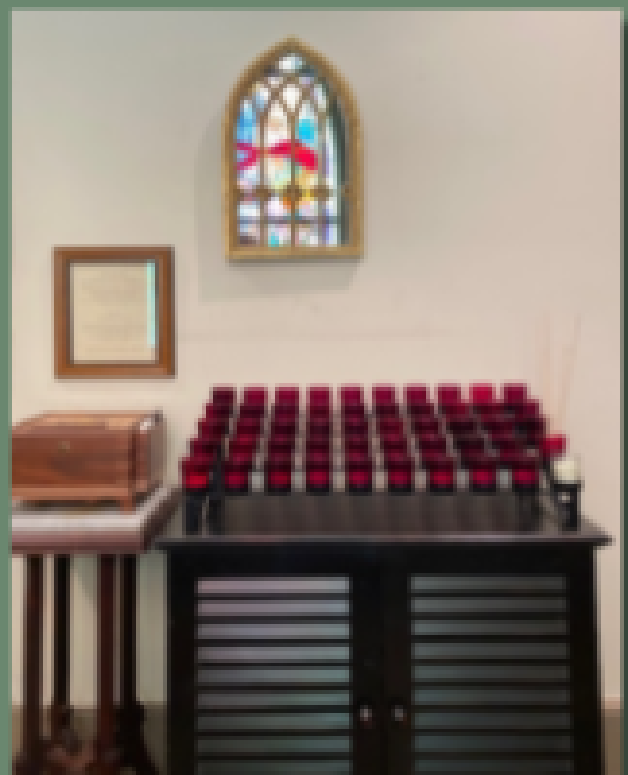
St. Paul's is offering a morning Grief Support Group, as well as an evening one, beginning in December with this date: Wednesday December 11th at 9:00 am and 6:00 pm in the Board Room in Barnabas. If you have any questions, please contact Monna Mayhall at monna@stpaulsfranklin.com.

Votive Candle Stand and Prayer Box

There are many ways to pray and request prayer, either for yourself or on behalf of other people. In an effort to provide an additional space and place for that, St. Paul's has placed a Votive Candle Stand in the columbarium, inside the church, as well as a Wooden Prayer Box.

The Votive Candle Stand is there for you to Light a candle to remember a loved one or offer prayer to God.

The Prayer Box is there for you to write your prayers on a piece of paper and place in the box. The members of the Daughters of the King of this parish have taken vows to pray. They will collect your prayers and add them to their prayers.



The Outreach Committee of St. Paul's Church functions to serve nonprofit organizations. Its vision is to share God's Grace with those in need in Williamson County. The mission of the Outreach Committee is to embrace community services in Williamson County dedicated to encouraging and advancing development in all people towards their fullest potential, and it is the intent of the committee to assist our church community in sharing God's grace outward into our wider community, participating, donating and encouraging people and the organizations addressing their needs. We intend to promote existing initiatives in our church and continue the conversation within our church community on what we can do for our neighbors in the fulfillment of our Christian duty.

The Outreach Committee would like to thank the parishioners of St. Paul's for entrusting us with such a labor of love. Your financial support is making a difference in the lives of so many people. You are only the reason we can do this, thank you! And, to that effect, we would like to make all aware of exactly who you are helping in our community. So, each month, we would like to share a few of them so you might be able to see and support these organizations.

Closer to Home is a nonprofit that anonymously provides for individuals facing financial difficulties. This could include clothing, furniture, bills, food...whatever the situation requires. Interestingly, those who benefit from Closer to Home, rarely know the source of their aid as referrals are made by the Williamson County Juvenile Court, Williamson County and FSSD Social workers or the Vanderbilt Cancer Center and secured by those referral sources. The Outreach Committee granted \$3,000 to help this organization continue their mission here in Williamson County.

Last, but not least, we have made donations to organizations we have helped previously....



We gave \$3,000 to 21st District Recovery Court to assist with their extraordinary mission of helping those in recovery in our community.

We granted \$5,000 to Freedom Reins Ranch for the continuing care of our favorite horse, Joe. Thanks to St. Paul's Joe will be well fed for the next year!



We awarded \$5,000 to Gentry Foundation to help with their continuing mission of providing tutoring low-income children who are struggling with academic performance.

And thanks to the amazing people of St. Paul's, we matched our congregation's donations and sent a check to Franktown's summer camp program for \$10,054. Every year our parishioners continue to surprise and delight our community and us!

St. Paul's is making a difference in our community and it shows! This month, we have received several letters of thanks from some of the nonprofits we have supported this year. Please enjoy reading the following words of gratitude the Gentry Foundation and Kindred Spirits.

We would love to engage our St. Paul's family with the nonprofits we have helped along the way, so please check out the St. Paul's website and the "[Community Partners](#)" on our [Outreach page](#). There are many opportunities to volunteer or donate to help our friends in Williamson County!

Our committee meets the third Tuesday of each month and is always eager to learn from church members about groups in Williamson County that can use our church's extra hand up. Our best nonprofits are found through our parish! If you have any thoughts or suggestions about organizations, please contact Monna Mayhall at monna@stpauls.com or any other members on the committee: Will Boggs, Jim Miller, Judy Stockton, Fred Warner, Sheila Morreale, Spencer Dibble and Angela Lassiter.

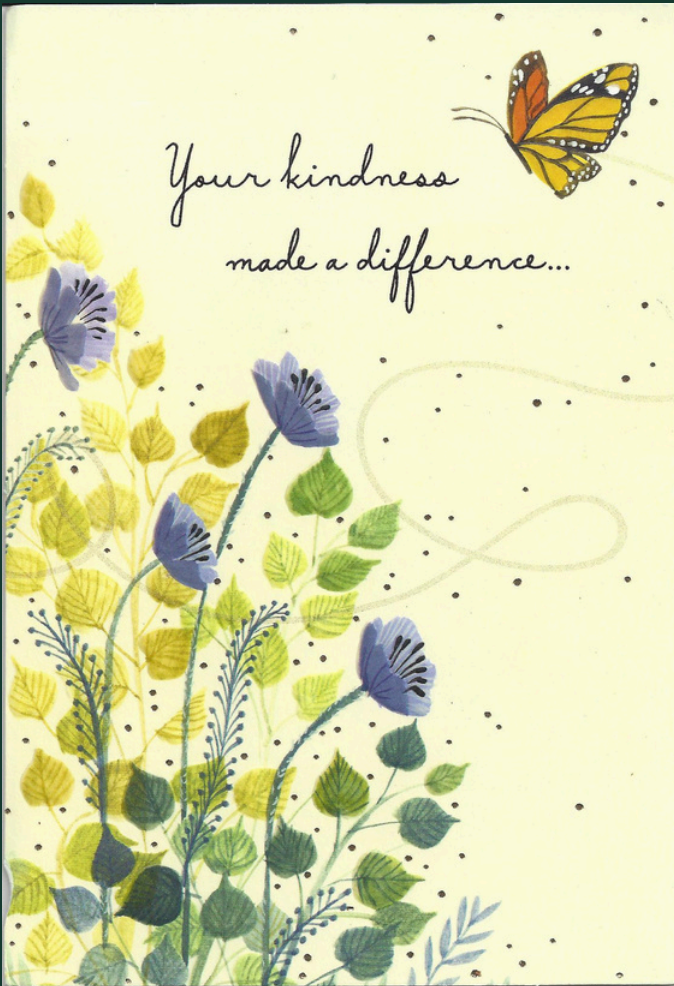




Dear Church Friends,

I want to extend our deepest thanks to everyone at St. Paul's for your generous donation of \$5,000. We are truly grateful for your support and for recognizing our impact on the community. Thank you again for your kindness and partnership.

Warm Regards,
Evelyn Hickerson



Your kindness
made a difference...

Dear St. Paul's Episcopal Church!,
From the bottom of my heart, I cry out
"Thank you!" Penny, the horse
Sponsoring, is greatly appreciative
...and your
thoughtfulness
touched my heart.

THANK YOU

I will make sure to send you all updates from time to time (photo's etc....)

What a blessing your 5K is! Really & truly it's through donations like yours that keep Kindred Spirits ALIVE!

Blessings,
Alicia Burdham

November Gathering

We are looking forward to celebrating Thanksgiving with our Spring Street friends with a traditional feast and live music!

Please click on the link below if you would like to volunteer.

<https://bit.ly/SpringStNov21>



Needs for Care That Stephen Ministers Can Meet

- Those who are grieving the loss of a loved one
- People who are hospitalized
- People being treated for cancer -- and members of their families
- Individuals who are terminally ill -- and members of their families
- People who are experiencing divorce (before, during, and after)
- Parents who have children leaving home for the military, college, marriage, or work in another geographical area
- New congregation or community members who are experiencing transition difficulties
- Parents and families with children who have disabilities
- People recovering at home or in a rehabilitation facility after an illness or injury
- Those who are homebound or reside in an assisted living facility or a nursing care center
- Family members of someone (nearby or far away) who is homebound or resides in an assisted living facility or a nursing care center
- People with a chronic illness or a long-term disability-and their primary caregivers
- People facing birth-related issues such as infertility, adoption, an unplanned pregnancy, or the birth of a child
- People who have lost their jobs or had some other significant financial setback
- People experiencing significant job-related stress
- Family members of deployed military personnel
- People in the process of downsizing to a smaller home, moving into an assisted living situation, or changing their living arrangements in some other way
- People who are preparing to retire, who have recently retired, or who have been forced to retire early
- People affected by disasters or violence
- People experiencing spiritual crisis
- People with other critical needs or major life transitions that you know about

Bicentennial Backroads

The Bicentennial Society sponsored a day trip to The Farm in Summertown, lunch at Shaffer's Barbeque and then to Ethridge to visit an Amish community. Watch for upcoming trips!



Join St. Paul's Bicentennial Society

With only four years left until St. Paul's 200th birthday, please consider joining the Bicentennial Society by making a donation of \$1,000, payable on a schedule of your choosing between now and 2027.

Funding from the Bicentennial Society supports our mission of preserving our past, and securing our future by supporting various projects and events that are not provided for in St. Paul's annual budget. As a member, you will play an important role in these endeavors.

Education: St. Paul's recently hosted a History Symposium on the establishment of the early churches in the city of Franklin. This symposium, open to the entire community, was the first of a series of events to both educate and unite our local faith communities. The Bicentennial Society has also helped create the history panels on display in Otey Hall and the self-guided tour brochures of our historic nave.

Preservation: The Bicentennial Society has helped catalogue our historic documents and photographs now maintained at the Williamson County Archives, and will soon undertake the restoration of the broken tombstone of Bishop Otey's son at the front entrance of the church.

Presently, the society is helping with the repair of the historic wooded louvers above the front doors of St. Paul's. Keeping the historic parts of our church in good repair is a key goal for the Bicentennial Society.

Celebration: Your membership will also support the many events currently in the planning stages for 2027. When the Bicentennial Society was established in 2017, one of the primary goals was to raise funds to support church-wide and community celebrations without straining the annual operating budget of the church.

Please consider joining the Bicentennial Society and play an important role in the Education, Preservation, and Celebration of St. Paul's.

Gratefully,

Jay Fahey and Libby Sullivan, Bicentennial Co-chairs

Historic Committee Products

Stop by the Corner Gift Shop to pick up some items from the historic committee.



Corner Gift Shop



Ushers For All Services Needed

If you are interested in being an usher for one of our Sunday services, please let us know by contacting the office (shannon@stpaulsfranklin.com). A training class will be offered on what to expect and how to handle each situation.

Holy Eucharistic Visits

If you would like Holy Communion brought to you, please let us know, and we can schedule a time for someone to visit you. For questions or if you would like to schedule a Eucharistic Visit, you can contact Monna Mayhall at monna@stpaulsfranklin.com or 615-790-0527.



Altar Flower Sign-Ups

If you would like to sign-up to memorialize, honor, celebrate or thank a special person(s) with Altar Flowers, please sign up on the date of your preference by signing up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0c48abad2fa0f58-altar>. We will also have a list hanging on the Church Bulletin board if you prefer to sign up that way.

The Lord's Lift

If you need a ride to church on Sunday, contact the church office before 4:00 pm on the Thursday before the Sunday that you will need a ride. If you can offer a ride to someone to church on Sunday, contact the church office to be placed on a Sunday Rotation Schedule. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Shannon at 615-790-0527 or shannon@stpaulsfranklin.com.

Recycling



We need the help of parishioners who would be willing to take a blue bag with them to recycle with their own household recyclables when they come to church. Paper is collected in the large, gray bin in the workroom next to Shannon's office and there is a large, green bin for glass in Otey kitchen. For more information, please contact Shannon or any member of the recycling committee. St. Paul's and the environment are grateful for your help.

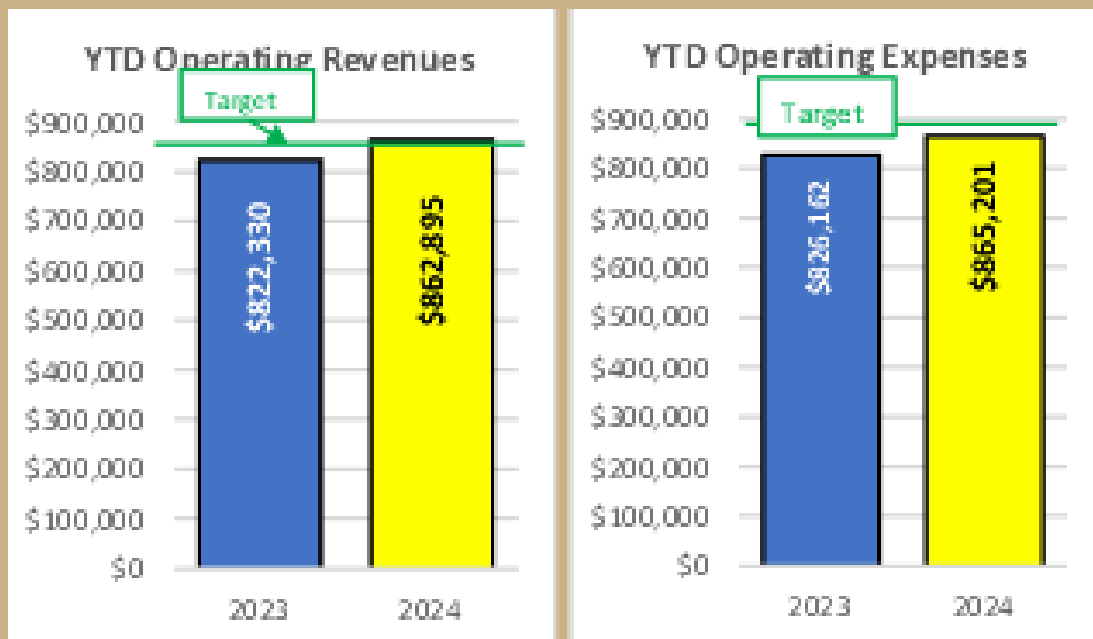
Financial Performance for the month of September 2024

September Summary: Three Quarters into 2024 and the parish is basically breaking even.

Revenues: September collections were very strong - nearly 34% better than expected, led by strong cash in plate which was over 2.5x the monthly budget.

Expenses: Expenses were 21.0% above budget - led by several large disbursements of the outreach budget.

Overall: The parish through nine months is breaking even and meeting budgeted expectations. Should pledging come in as expected, the parish is looking good to end the year in a positive balance.



Item	September 2024				Year to Date to September 2024			
	A Actual	B Budget	C (A-B) Monthly Variance - Positive / (Negative)	D (A/B-1) %	E Actual YTD	F Budget YTD	G (E-F) YTD Variance - Positive / (Negative)	H (E/F-1) %
Revenues								
Pledges & Cash in Plate	\$96,599	\$72,236	\$24,364	33.7%	\$859,747	\$835,058	\$24,689	3.0%
Other Income	\$29	\$42	(\$12)	-29.5%	\$3,148	\$4,375	(\$1,227)	100.0%
Total Revenues	\$96,629	\$72,277	\$24,351	33.7%	\$862,895	\$839,433	\$23,462	2.8%
Expenses								
Personnel	\$59,879	\$55,350	\$4,529	8.2%	\$510,113	\$500,153	\$9,960	2.0%
Operating Expenses	\$55,424	\$39,902	\$15,522	38.9%	\$355,089	\$366,834	(\$11,745)	-3.2%
Total Expenses	\$115,302	\$95,252	\$20,050	21.0%	\$865,201	\$866,987	(\$1,785)	-0.2%
Net Operating Income	(\$18,674)	(\$22,975)	\$4,301		(\$2,306)	(\$27,554)	\$25,247	
Non-Budgeted Rev. & Exp.(Net)	\$16,541				\$4,171			
Total Parish Performance	(\$2,133)				\$1,865			

November Birthdays

- 2 Frank Baugh
- 3 Jim Poole
- 4 Tod Hull
- 5 Jason Riddle, George Gibson, Mae Pirtle, Annette Phillips, Cindy Tumblin
- 6 Bo Sheller, Sara Richter, Lori Jones
- 7 Marty Ligon
- 8 Ward Stein, Lynn Burton
- 9 Gloria Kinnard, Carol Huber
- 10 Nicholson Dunavan
- 11 Kate Pitsenberger
- 12 Christine Parnell
- 13 Laine Walters Young, Patty Norem
- 14 Vicki Stein, Samantha Strobel
- 15 Dick Bobo
- 16 Venetia Henry, Susan Miller, Garner Spain
- 17 Tracy Waggoner, Susan Myers
- 19 Charlie Grimes, Laura McCown, Ruthie Pirtle
- 20 Meghan Sutherland, Liz Lilly, Kathy Germain
- 21 Fred Newell
- 22 Mishelle Phillips, Rudy Gilchrist, Dan Tyler, Joshua DeRosia
- 23 Andy Peterson, Declan Hogan
- 24 Sheila Morreale, Henry Robinson, Francesca Lamb
- 25 Eric Johnson, Susan Hughes, Jerry Rasnic
- 26 Larry Rogers, Samantha Saalwaechter, Susan Black
- 27 Olivia Henry, Rex Anderson
- 29 Ayden Boylan, Renee Reinhardt

November Anniversaries

- 1 Lynn Cook, Austin Wilson, Annalee Pitt, Ian Pitt, Ed Miller
- 2 Tav Cooke
- 3 Hannah Boylan, Carolyn Savage, Marion Werner
- 4 Dean De Peri, John Looney
- 5 Beverly Headley, Emilie Armstrong, Lesley Foote, Sophia Nickerson,
Laura Forehand
- 6 Liam Brandon
- 7 Richard Boring, Karen Sullivan, Celeste Phillips
- 8 Emerson Myers, Hayes Myers, Richard Brand, Margaret Small
- 9 Evey Knopf, Connie Trahan, Kathy Suttle, Josh Thurman, Lois Henderson
- 10 John Nickerson, Jim Ramsey
- 11 Sarah Nance, Andrew Preston
- 12 Rebecca Atack, George Bishop, Bruce Burton
- 14 Arlene Berexa, Neil Atkinson
- 15 Bobby Pitts, David Shepherd, Abu Rahman
- 16 Trevor Hyssong, Nell Henderson

Births

- Mary Scarlett Schmitt, daughter of Ben and Katy Schmitt
- Cassius "Cash" Lee Schmitt, son of Ben and Katy Schmitt
- Thomas Henry Martin, son of Jenna and Thomas Martin
- Celia Claire Gibson, daughter of Kayla Staggs

Condolences to

- Katie Faulkner and all of their family in the death of Scott Lee Faulkner
- Mark Rohde in the death of his mother, Ruth Rohde
- Tim Sumja in the death of his mother, Del Sumja

