

The Epistle



FEBRUARY 2025

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
Holli Scholtz, 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
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Bruce Theobald
 Pastoral Care
Rob Curwen
 Long-Range Planning
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Michael Walters Young
 Treasurer

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February 2025

Office Hours:

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

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

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.

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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 March newsletter is Wednesday, February 26, 2025](#)

Upcoming Events

February 7 - 9

WSP Retreat

February 28 - March 1

Vestry Retreat

March 4

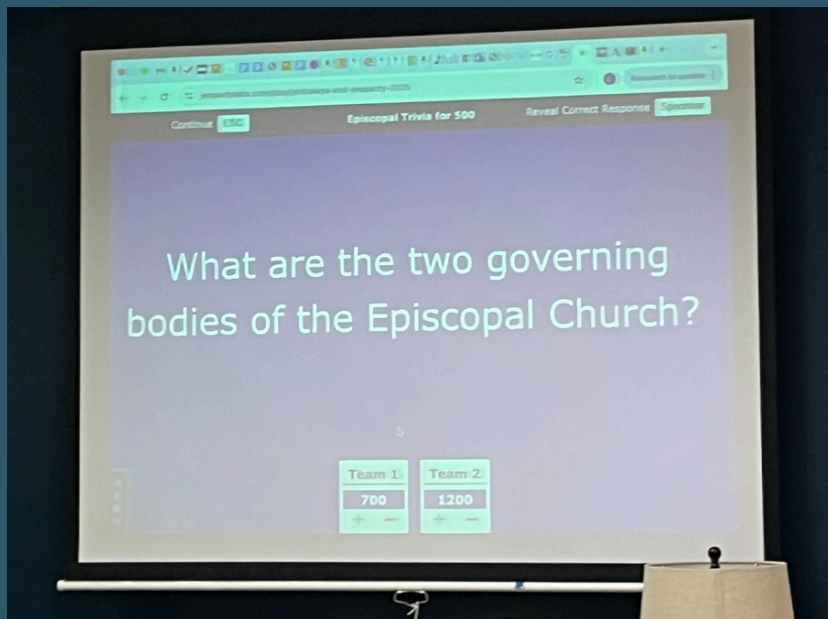
Gathering for Good - Shrove
Tuesday

March 5

Ash Wednesday

March 11

Stations of the Cross
Lenten Series Begins



From Jambalaya and
Jeopardy Night -
Do you know the answer?

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/>

St. Paul's Annual Meeting

On Sunday, January 26, St. Paul's held its annual meeting. It took place in the church sanctuary during our normal Christian Education hour at 10:00.

The hour consisted of different leaders in the church, each giving a short talk about their ministry and the past years' activities. After two prayers to open the meeting, the following reports were offered:



Michael Walters-Young, Treasurer

Michael began by discussing the budgeting process and how the Finance Committee recommended the budget to the vestry. For 2025, St. Paul's will be working with a balanced budget. The operating

budget for 2025, which includes pledges as well as cash/plate is \$1,231,471. The overall revenues have increased for the parish but that is offset with increased expenses for items such as Outreach (we are now giving over \$110,000 for community needs), Diocesan Fair Share, Utilities, and COLA salary increases. This also includes a reserve fund of about \$11,000. The Finance Committee and Vestry is proud of this budget and what it says about the values of our parish.

Ron Howes, Junior Warden

As the vestry member who oversees the physical plant of our church, we have seen much in the way of building activity. Obviously, the new construction has been a major focus of the church but other items have been front and center. Barnabas had a broken water pipe that caused us to make some needed but unexpected repairs. The fire alarm system broke down and we had to get a new one installed, even in the middle of construction. And we moved the church offices, temporarily, to Barnabas while construction is occurring.

St. Paul's Annual Meeting

Pam Horne, Senior Warden

Needless to say, it was a very busy year for the Senior Warden. Pam highlighted the following events:

1. The above-mentioned water pipe burst in Barnabas and our response in getting it repaired quickly.
2. The annual vestry retreat and the Mutual Ministry Review, facilitated by Molly Dale smith.
3. Coordination of the temporary move to Barnabas, with so many St. Paul members helping.
4. Working with our partners for a successful building campaign (906 architects, Solomon Builders, First Horizon Bank, the Diocese, and Susan Miller who is our project manager).
5. Bringing in new faces to our staff, Brett Smith (Youth Minister) and Rachel Shoaf (Nursery supervisor).

Susan Miller, Project Manager

The building and renovation project began in November and is currently right on schedule! Demolition was the first activity and now it is moving into the building phase as we begin the year. We want to thank everyone for their support and patience during this exciting but challenging time.



Vestry Elections

The parish voted unanimously to approve the proposed slate for new vestry members: Jim Miller, Spencer Dibble, Melissa Montero, and Jonathan Webster. The church body gave thanks for the four exiting vestry members: Pam Horne, Ron Howes, Mary Emilie Acklen, and Rob Curwen.



Rusty McCown, Rector

2024 was an year of much change, but good change. On March 10, 2024 the parish came together and wholeheartedly supported our renovation project, even with the unexpected additional costs, mainly due to increased labor and materials. We certainly have been altered in our normal activities but the parish seems to be able to adjust very well. The rector took a sabbatical this year and was so appreciative of those who carried on our ministries as well as dealing with needed decisions for the project, namely Monna Mayhall and Pam Horne. 2025 will be a challenge but the church will continue to provide its crucial ministries, even in the midst of some upheaval. 2025 will be a grand year for our church home, St. Paul's.

These reports, as well as other ministry reports, can be found in the printed annual report on our website.

The meeting closed as the congregation sang the Doxology.

Stewardship on Display

(aka 2024 Annual Parish Meeting)

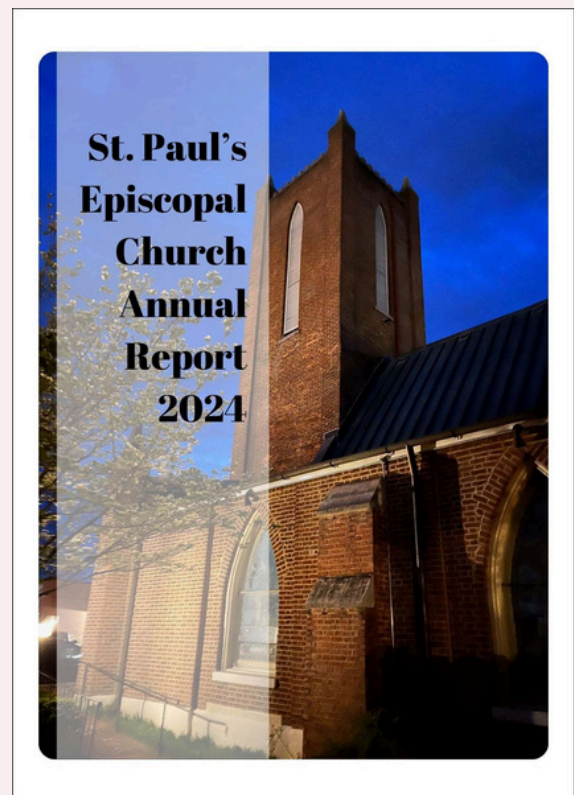
If ever you wanted to be inspired to invest time and talent to StPaul's, the Annual Meeting held Sunday morning (January 26) would have done it for you, OVER and OVER.

- Fearless leader Fr. Rusty McCown literally gave us a call to action to find one new way to get involved in 2025.
- Our Junior and Senior wardens, Ron Howes and Pam Horne, reviewed the changes they and the full Vestry have seen and done this past year in the "mechanics" of the church.
- Our Treasurer, Michael Walters Young showed us that our Vestry and Finance committee carefully budget and prepare for the fiscal future and continue to protect our Clergy and Staff from inflation, while maintaining a balanced budget that is forward thinking.
- Susan Miller continued her gifts of work coordinating and communicating about our building project, sharing about that as well.

A paper copy of the Annual Report was distributed and details many of our ministries in worship, inreach, and outreach that occurred in 2024 and will continue in 2025. If you missed the meeting, please try to get your hands on a copy of that report, particularly if you are looking for a place to land in this community.

And don't miss it next year - I promise, what seems meh always over delivers!

Julie



Click the annual report
to download a copy.

Building Project Update

We are nearly 100% complete with Demolition, except for the remaining existing restroom currently still being used. The restroom demo will happen hopefully after the new restrooms are functioning. We are 10.5% complete with the total project. The poured concrete foundation is complete and the new concrete block wall is being constructed this week and next. The underground new sewer lines have been laid, ready for new restrooms and kitchens to be built.

In the next week 906 Architects will be making a couple of brick mock up walls to evaluate brick selection for the new upper story. It's a fine art selecting a brick and mortar product that will blend with the existing brick. You may now notice the older brick on Founder's Hall is different from the newer brick on the main corridor facade and Otey Hall. It is virtually impossible to find the exact brick from 40 years ago. The intent is to have the brick blend as well as possible in order to appear seamless.

Holes were cut into Founder's Hall ceiling in order to run gas and water lines to their destination. This week our contractors will be patching and repainting those areas. Outside a new grip paint product will be applied to the ramp leading into Founder's Hall. This should help prevent slipping when wet. Let's please all be aware of these kinds of hazards during construction. Also the ceiling has been demoed in the passage from the Sacristy leading into Founder's Hall. This room and Kristy's old office shows where two buildings were joined together at some point. It's interesting to see the old construction and poses some thoughts of how the new construction will be solved. Solomon and 906 Architects are working on the solution. Kristy's old office space will eventually be a Robe Room leading into the Sacristy. We will also install an ADA safety lift to navigate the stairs going into the church.

There are many things happening with our construction project, one by one all will get finished. This is an exciting time for St. Paul's! Please stay curious and thank you for all your support.



Jambalaya & Jeopardy



Thanks Donna Stokes-Rogers for the delicious jambalaya!



St. Paul's Staff	Film and TV	Emcees	High Culture/Trivia	Riddles
100	100	100	100	100
200	200	200	200	200
300	300	300	300	300
400	400	400	400	400
500	500	500	500	500

Blind Date With A Book

Check out the new Blind-Date-With-Book selection in the Corner Gift Shop. Wrapped books (No titles!) with little treats will guarantee a cozy evening at home with a delightful story, a cup of tea, and a variety of book accessories. Best blind date ever! Consider giving one as a gift to another book lover. We offer a variety of fiction and non-fiction, children's books, and coming soon - cookbooks!

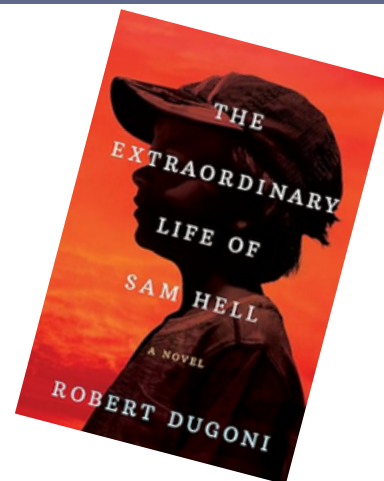


Bad Girls Book Club

The Bad Girls Book Club will meet again on February 25th in Barnabas from 6:30 PM to approximately 8:00 PM.

We will discuss *The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell*: a Novel by Robert Dugoni.

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



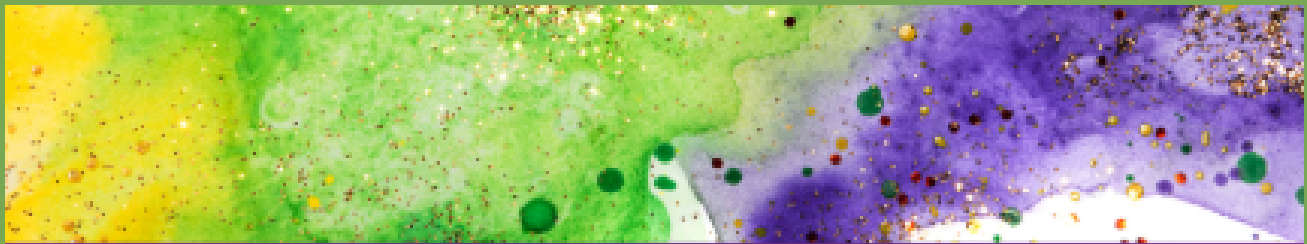
Annual Pancake Supper - Tuesday, March 4, 2025

Our Annual Pancake Supper is on for this year! It will look a little different, but we're going to provide the same great pancakes! We will have two seatings: 5:30 and 6:30 PM and also will have Take Home available.

Youth and Parents are encouraged to sign up to volunteer. Youth who volunteer will earn credit toward MTOP. Even if you're not attending MTOP, remaining funds will go toward the youth capital campaign pledge! Jobs will include setting up, serving, preparing pancakes, selling take home menu items, and cleaning up. The Men of St. Paul's are generously providing ingredients and griddles!

Time at EYG on February 23 and March 2 will be dedicated to preparing some of our take home menu items!

RSVP AND SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER HERE: bit.ly/EYGPancakeSupper



The Youth of St. Paul's Presents:

Annual Pancake Supper

Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at 5:30 and 6:30 PM

Pre-Order Take Home Menu

King Cake	\$30
Take & Bake Hashbrown Casserole	\$15
St. Paul's Drop Beignet Mix	\$10

Take Mardi Gras home! Pre-order until February 23! Pick up at the Barnabas rear entrance on March 4 between 5:30 - 7:30 PM.

<https://bit.ly/EYGPancakeSupper>



*Thank you for your support of the
St. Paul's Youth Group!*

EYG Dates for February

February 2 from 3-6 PM in Barnabas: Keep/Watch Workshop for students 16 and over! Register at bit.ly/Keepwatch

February 9 from 1:30 – 3 PM at Pinkerton Park Field: EYG Super Bowl! Dress warm and ready to play some human Foosball! It'll be as impressive as the NFL and cuter than the Kitten Bowl...probably.

February 23 from 5 – 7 PM in Barnabas: Classic EYG! Dinner, Fellowship, & Fun!

Youth Confirmation Classes

Sundays beginning February 2 *
Barnabas * 10 AM

The holy sacramental rite of Confirmation is a mature commitment to Christ and an important part of being a Christian and an active member of St. Paul's. Youth Confirmation Classes are open to students in 8th grade or older and will be led by Jay Fahey. The class will meet for 10 sessions this semester until Confirmation on May 25.

Please RSVP to
brett@stpaulsfranklin.com.

Spring Retreat

April 4-6, 2025

Register:
bit.ly/EYGSpringRetreat





All 6th – 12th graders are invited to join us Sunday evenings in Barnabas for Episcopal Youth Group (EYG)! We will have dinner together, play games, have small group discussions, and pray compline. Email Brett at brett@stpaulsfranklin.com with any questions!

Young Adults & College Students

Click on the calendar for more information about February's events. All college students and young adults in their 20s and 30s are welcome!

Email brett@stpaulsfranklin.com for more information!

January & February							2025
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
26	27	28 • Trivia night at Neighbors at 7pm	29	30 • <u>Gathering for Good at 6pm</u>	31	1	
2 • <u>Keep Watch Training from 3-6pm</u>	3	4	5	6	7 • heART & Soul Women's Retreat	8 • heART & Soul Women's Retreat	
9 • heART & Soul Women's Retreat	10	11	12	13 • Trivia night at ML Rose at	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21 • Darty at the Smith's at 7pm	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28		

<https://www.stpaulsfranklin.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/February-YA-Calendar.pdf>

Join us for a dinner party
at the home of
Josh and Brett Smith
301 Megan Court, Franklin, TN
February 21 at 7 PM

Please bring an appetizer
or dessert to share.

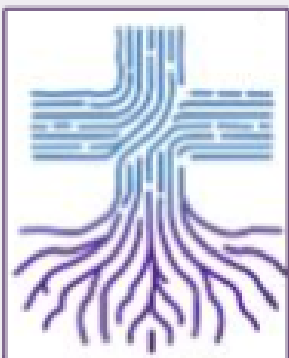
RSVP to
brett@stpaulsfranklin.com!



The season now known as Lent (from an Old English word meaning “spring,” the time of lengthening days) has a long history. Originally, Lent was “a season of penitence and fasting,” the time of preparation for those who were to be baptized, at the Easter Vigil, the celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord early on Easter Sunday. But since these new members were to be received into a living community of Faith, the entire community was called to preparation. Also, this was the time when those who had been separated from the Church would prepare to rejoin the community.

Today, during the season of Lent all Christians are invited “to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word.”

In the western church the forty days of Lent extend from Ash Wednesday through Holy Saturday, omitting Sundays. The last three days of Lent are the sacred Triduum of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. The number 40 is connected with many biblical events, but especially with the forty days Jesus spent in the wilderness preparing for His ministry by facing the temptations that could lead him to abandon his mission and calling.



The color used in the sanctuary for most of Lent is purple. This is the color of royalty, and so anticipates through the suffering and death of Jesus, the coming resurrection of Christ as the King of Kings, celebrated on Easter Sunday. There are no beautiful flowers on the altar during Lent, but only greenery or nothing at all. There are no Alleluias said within the liturgies, and there is no celebratory sounding music, but rather music that tends to be more somber.



Ash Wednesday

Wednesday March 5 is Ash Wednesday, marking the beginning of the penitential Season of Lent, in the church. Ashes are an ancient sign of penitence. From the Middle Ages it became the custom to begin Lent (the forty days before Easter) by being marked in ash with the sign of the cross. The reminder that we are dust turns our attention to the creative power of God, and God's ability to heal the brokenness in our lives when we offer that brokenness to God. That turning to God is the work of Lent, preparation for the celebration of Jesus's resurrection on Easter Day.



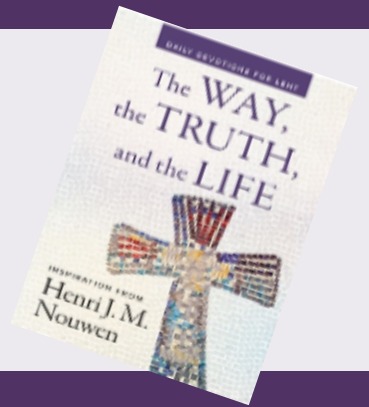
On Ash Wednesday, consider coming to one of these services to join with the community of faith to begin the Holy Season of Lent:

- 7:00 am Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist
- 12:00 Noon Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist
- 6:00 pm Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist (Childcare is available)

“You are dust and to dust you shall return.”

Lenten Devotions

Make sure to pick up a copy of The Way, the Truth, and the Life –Lenten Daily Devotional booklet based on inspiration from Henri J. M. Nouwen. Available in the Narthex and Founders Hall beginning Sunday March 2nd.



Lenten Meditations

Sign up to receive for daily emails

According to The Book of Common Prayer, Lent provides us with the opportunity for self-examination, repentance, prayer, fasting and self-denial; and to read and meditate on God's holy word (BCP, p 265). This Lenten Season, discover new ways your faith is guiding you through, as you journey through Episcopal Relief & Development's Lenten Meditations, reflecting on "A Commonplace Lent."

"Let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching." (Hebrews 10:24-25)

Sign up to receive a meditation in your inbox each day. May God richly bless you this Lenten season. <https://www.episcopalrelief.org/church-in-action/lent/>



Tuesday Evening Lenten Programs

March 11, 18, 25, April 1, 8

5:00 PM - Stations of the Cross in the Sanctuary

Sign up here to lead Stations one Wednesday: <https://bit.ly/LentenSeries2025>

5:30 PM - Supper in Barnabas

Sign-up here to to bring food one Wednesday: <https://bit.ly/LentenSeries2025>

6:00 -7:00 PM Lenten Program – Sensing the Gospel

“We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life ... ” (1 John 1:1)

In Jesus Christ, the salvation God provides cannot be reduced to an idea or abstraction. Salvation happens, instead, in human flesh. Indeed, God arrives as human flesh. Moreover, people encountered Jesus in their own bodies. These were real people in real contact with a real man from Galilee. Join us on Tuesday Evenings during Lent to explore Biblical passages that discover Christ through our bodies, making God known in tangible, sensory ways.



Holy Week through Easter Sunday

Sunday April 13 - Palm Sunday

7:30 am Holy Eucharist
8:45 am Holy Eucharist
10:00 am Palm Procession
11:00 am Holy Eucharist
6:00 pm Holy Eucharist

Tuesday April 15

5:30 – 7:00 pm The Royal Table

Dinner followed by Communion Class for Children and their Families
(for children who have never received Communion and would like to, as well as those who already receive communion)

Thursday April 17

6:00 pm Maundy Thursday (Foot Washing and Holy Eucharist)

Friday April 18

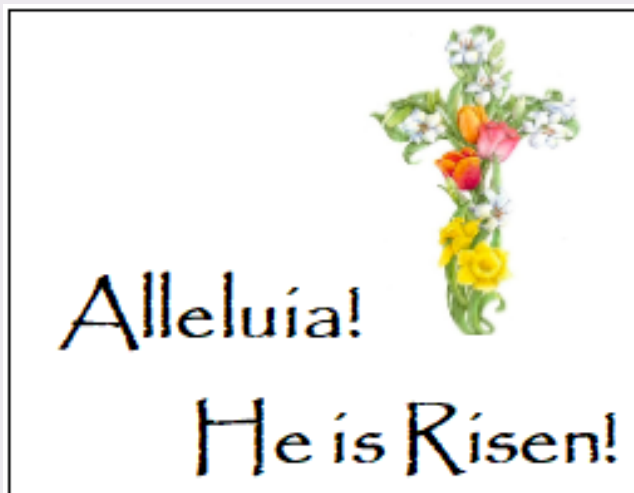
12:00 Noon Good Friday (Holy Eucharist)
3:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday Apr 19

7:30 pm Easter Vigil

Sunday Apr 20 - Easter Sunday

7:30 am Holy Eucharist
8:45 am Holy Eucharist
10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt
11:00 am Holy Eucharist



WITS - Women in Theological Study

WITS will begin a book study on *Freeing Jesus*, by Diana Butler Bass. *Freeing Jesus* is an invitation to leave the religious wars behind and rediscover Jesus in all his many manifestations, to experience Jesus beyond the narrow confines we have built around him. It renews our hope in faith and worship at a time when we need it most.

If you want a book, let Monna know and she'll order one for you.

These are the dates for this study:

February 20 – Intro and Chapter 1 – Jesus as Friend

March 6 – Chapter 2 – Jesus as Teacher

March 13 – Chapter 3 – Jesus as Savior

March 20 – Chapter 4 – Jesus as Lord

April 3 – Chapter 5 – Jesus as The Way

April 10 – Chapter 6 – Jesus as The Presence

(No WITS: February 27, March 27, April 17)



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

Seekers Class

Beginning Sunday, March 2 our annual “Seekers” Class will begin. This is the class traditionally offered for those adults who wish to join the church through Confirmation or Reception. However, please know that all are welcome, especially current congregants of St. Paul’s who would like a refresher course.

We will look at church subjects such as worship, church history, and Episcopal theology. The course will last for eight sessions, with a couple Sundays off for various reasons. Our last class will be on May 4. The diocesan bishop will then make his annual visit to St. Paul’s for Confirmation on May 25.

We will meet each Sunday at 10:00 in our Barnabas annex conference room which is the building located behind the church on Fair St. If you have any questions please contact Rusty via email: rusty@stpaulsfranklin.com or by phone 615-790-0527.



Adult Formation

Join us and the Wise Men (aka the Three Kings, or the Magi) in Founder’s Hall at 10:00 am to explore scripture, prayers and a bit of theology associated with the liturgical season of Epiphany. Is this time about “witness”, is it about “light”?

Women of St. Paul's Cookbook

Our next meeting is Wednesday, February 19 at 10AM. We are in the process of testing and still asking others to test recipes, so anyone is welcome to stop by and try out a recipe.

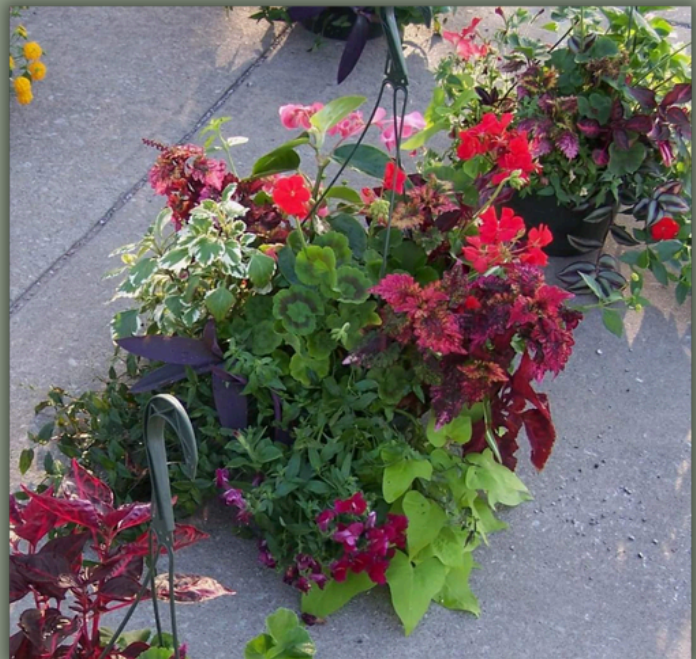


WSP Social

The next WSP Social is on Friday, March 28th, 6 PM at the home of Cyndy Howes. More details to come.

Flower and Fern Basket Sale

The Flower Basket and Fern sale will begin at the retreat this upcoming weekend. We will have forms for sales at the February 16 church services. Look for posters soon!



Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee of St. Paul's Church functions to serve non profit 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 of 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 with our own 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 the only 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 amazing organizations

In January, the Outreach committee provided for several organizations that we have previously assisted. We gave the following:

- \$1,500 quarterly to Meals on Wheels
- \$4,000 to the Williamson County Homeless Alliance
- \$500 quarterly for our very own St. Paul's Food Pantry
- \$3,000 to Bridges Domestic Violence Center

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 on the "Community Partners" on our Outreach page. There are many opportunities to volunteer or donate to help our friends and neighbors 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 of the committee: Will Boggs, Jim Miller, Judy Stockton, Fred Warner, Sheila Morreale, Spencer Dibble and Angela Lassiter.

*Dear Monna and the entire St. Paul's Family,
What an honor to receive such an incredible donation just before Christmas to help our families and their children at High Hopes. We are deeply humbled by your support in so many ways throughout the years. Not only have you blessed us financially, but you have come to serve others, truly being the hands and feet of Jesus. You have prayed for us, and we have been recipients of your great works and love in so many ways. We are grateful. May St. Paul's be blessed in doing God's Kingdom work in 2025!
Thank you! Allen + High Hopes!*



High Hopes
DEVELOPMENT CENTER

"embracing uniqueness, inspiring growth"



301 High Hopes Court, Franklin, TN, 37064 • www.highhopesforkids.org • Phone: (615) 661-5437 • Tax ID: 62-1210720

January 9, 2025

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Attn: Rev. Monna Mayhall
510 West Main
Franklin, TN 37064

Dear Monna,

Thank you for your generous donation of \$3,000.00 on 12/26/2024 in support of High Hopes during this season of giving. Your support profoundly impacts the children and families we serve, enabling us to continue helping more than 1,000 families annually across Middle Tennessee.

At High Hopes, our mission is to empower children, youth, and families through education, therapeutic services, and loving support, helping them reach their full potential. Your gift supports inclusive education, specialized therapies, and behavioral services—creating meaningful change and a brighter future for those who depend on us.

We would love to show you the impact of your generosity firsthand. I invite you to tour High Hopes to see the joy and progress happening every day within our walls.

Stay connected with us by visiting our website for updates on events, volunteer opportunities, and more. Don't forget to follow us on social media to see your support in action.

Thank you for believing in our mission and being a vital part of our journey. Together, we are building a brighter future for generations to come.

With gratitude,

Nan Zierden, Director of Development

*Thank you so much for
your continued support!*

P.S. To schedule your tour or learn more about how you can help, email me at nzierden@highhopesforkids.org. We can't wait to share our story with you!

Please consider this letter an official receipt of your contribution referenced above. No goods and services were provided to you in consideration of this gift. This organization is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, IRS section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii) and 509(a)(1) for both federal and state tax purposes. Tax ID 62-121072.



Down Syndrome Achievement Centers
educate. inspire. believe.

Nashville, TN

January 13, 2025

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
510 W Main St
Franklin, TN 37064-2722

Dear St. Paul's Episcopal Church,

Thank you for believing in GiGi's Playhouse Nashville!

We thank you for your very generous donation of \$1100 in 2024. Your donation for our Playhouse means that you understand the value of our mission to change the way the world views individuals with Down syndrome. Your donation will support therapeutic-based, educational, wellness and career programs for many children and adults with Down syndrome, while helping us change perceptions, educate, and support new parents, and positively impact the surrounding community.

Thanks to you, we provide a place to celebrate Down syndrome and reinforce the social and academic skills individuals with Down syndrome need in order to reach their full potential and contribute to society. At GiGi's Playhouse Nashville, families find a community in which to share their experiences of raising children with Down syndrome and gain invaluable support. All our programs are designed to empower individuals with Down syndrome to be their own best advocates. We build friendships, community, and understanding through free classes in literacy, math, music, art, computer skills, cooking and so much more. Because of your generosity, GiGi's Playhouse Nashville will be able to deliver these programs to individuals with Down syndrome, and at no charge to their families! Miracles happen at GiGi's where - with your help - we turn belief into achievement.

Please email nashville@gigisplayhouse.org if you need further information on your donations.

With Sincere Gratitude,
Denise Bayles
Executive Director



GiGi's Playhouse Nashville is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization and is solely funded by the GiGi's Playhouse Alliance EIN 46-2014837, Group #5402. GiGi's Playhouse Alliance is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization which is in good standing.

Birthday Outreach Ministry

If you like a party, and if you have a heart for visiting people, then we have an opportunity for you that combines the two. On the 2nd Tuesday of every month, join with parishioners to visit Charter Senior Living of Franklin, to celebrate the birthdays of the Charter residents for that month. We will plan to meet there from 12:30-1:30 pm giving us a chance to visit with residents, and eat cake too!



If you are interested, contact Monna Mayhall at monna@stpaulsfranklin.com or 615-790-0527.

Spring Street

Our February 27 Spring Street gathering will honor Black History month by making a meaningful decoration and having a special lunch together.

Please click the link below if you would like to volunteer. If you have any questions please text or email Jackie King. momking2nd@yahoo.com or 914-329-3017,

<https://bit.ly/SpringStFeb2025>



Thank you to everyone who donated bingo prizes. We had a great selection and played until they were all gone! Thanks also to everyone who set up, served and cooked, the ziti was all gone too! We had a fun gathering and quite a few of the ladies expressed their thanks for all that St. Paul's does.

Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels February delivery dates are Wednesday, February 19 and Friday, February 21. Contact Kathy Berry for more information.

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. The key is not to isolate yourself.

St. Paul's offers a morning Grief Support Group, as well as an evening one on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. On February 5th and 19th, the Grief Support Group meets from 9-10 am or 6-7 pm in Barnabas.

Questions: Contact Monna Mayhall at monna@stpaulsfranklin.com.



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

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,

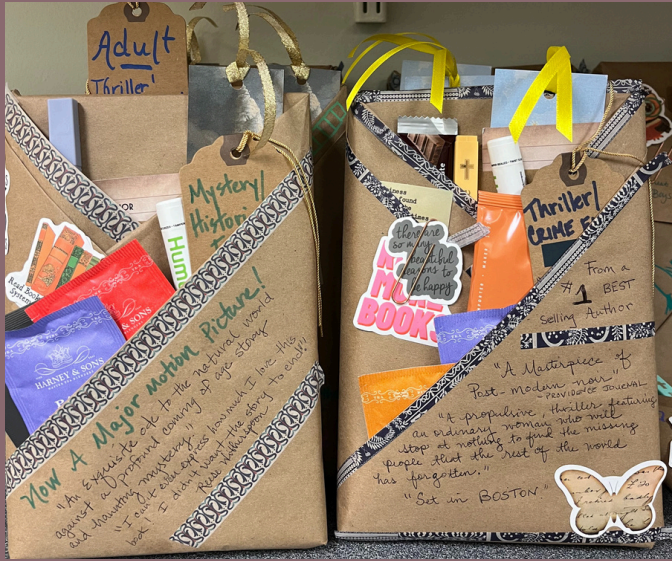
Jay Fahey and Libby Sullivan, Bicentennial Co-chairs

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 December 2024

December Summary: Another year is complete, and the parish came close to meeting its financial expectations. When non-operating accounts are taken into consideration, the parish broke even.

Revenues: Total revenues were under budget by 2.1%. Congregational giving for the year was nearly there - 0.8% under expectations. The largest underperforming revenue was to not take the use of monies from investments and endowment earnings as the parish is stable enough.

Expenses: Expenses were 9.3% below budget for the month and are still 1.7% below budget for the year. A new account - 520.00 Vestry Meetings Expenses - has been added to the Operating Expenses which is a breakout of charges previously accounted for under Misc. Operating. For the year, we were 0.7% under budgeted expenses.

Overall: The parish ended with a preliminary operating deficit of \$29,427 or about 2-3% over budget, but when non-budgeted accounts are added the overall surplus or about 1%.



Item	December 2024		C (A-B)		Year to Date to December 2024		G (E-F)		H (E/F-1)	
	A Actual	B Budget	Monthly Variance - Positive / (Negative)	D (A/B-1)	E Actual YTD	F Budget YTD	YTD Variance - Positive / (Negative)	G (E-F)	H (E/F-1)	
Revenues										
Pledges & Cash in Plate	\$130,423	\$147,832	(\$17,409)	-11.8%	\$1,142,145	\$1,151,000	(\$8,855)	-0.8%		
Other Income	\$1,521	\$16,042	(\$14,520)	-90.5%	\$5,287	\$20,500	(\$15,213)	100.0%		
Total Revenues	\$131,944	\$163,874	(\$31,930)	-19.5%	\$1,147,431	\$1,171,500	(\$24,069)	-2.1%		
Expenses										
Personnel	\$53,333	\$55,350	(\$2,017)	-3.6%	\$669,900	\$680,709	(\$10,809)	-1.6%		
Operating Expenses	\$70,437	\$47,282	\$23,155	49.0%	\$506,958	\$504,498	\$2,460	0.5%		
Total Expenses	\$123,769	\$102,632	\$21,137	20.6%	\$1,176,858	\$1,185,207	(\$8,349)	-0.7%		
Net Operating Income	\$8,175	\$61,242	(\$53,067)		(\$29,427)	(\$13,707)	(\$15,720)			
Non-Budgeted Rev. & Exp. (Net)	\$34,999				\$47,129					
Total Parish Performance	\$43,173				\$17,702					

February Birthdays

- 1 Austin Pratt, Eliza Tyer, Avery Hilley
- 2 Julie Reinhardt, Julia High, Marie Nelson
- 3 Melanie Lampertz, Landon Kowalski
- 4 Susi Trabue
- 7 Philip Phillips, Bob Johnson, Jack Buse, Paul Hannah
- 8 Brianna Bailey, Alaina Smith, Mila Tkach
- 9 Lyn Knopf, Hope Elkins, Linda Hall, Theodore Walters Young
- 10 Sam Miller, Nelson Williams, Desi Noller
- 11 Trish Baugh, Theodore Melvin Shoureshi
- 12 Hannah Impeartrice, Whitfield Spain
- 13 Sam Williams
- 14 Lindsay Gain, Robert McCown, Sarah Thurman
- 15 Glenn Trahan, Ken Young
- 16 Granville Grant, Debbie Whitlock, Scarlett Schmitt
- 17 Brent Blackwelder
- 18 Richard Phillips, Margen Laratta, Abe Lamb, Celia Gibson
- 19 Beth Woodruff
- 20 Freda Garrett, Linley Williams
- 21 Robbi De Peri, Colin Henry, Jay Fahey, Brooke Zegley, Maggie Hennes
- 22 Bonnie Sullivan, Marty Karpie, Olivia Cussimanio, Elizabeth Vaughn-Neely,
Henry Konyn
- 23 Brad Preston, Katie Liang, Lisette Benefield-Smythe
- 24 Tom Stearns, Wes Edwards, Pam Fahey, Olivia Jones, Kayla Staggs
- 25 Richard Waggoner, Will Liang
- 27 Greer Carlisle, Robert Collins, Brian Grant
- 28 Pamela Bradley Smith, Tom Moucka

February Anniversaries

- 16 Janet & Kit Carroll
- 24 David & Barbara Roth
- 24 Jeff & Kristy Williams
- 24 Brandon & Shay Hall
- 24 Larry & Debbie Whitlock
- 25 Wayne & Connie Senseney



Condolences to

- Cindy Thomsen in the death of her mother, Anne Trabue Rutherford
- Vicki Ramsey in the death of her mother, Carola Twigg

