



The Epistle

of

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

(318) 865-8469

June 2025

Living the Transforming Love of Jesus Christ

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We Celebrate Seventy-Five Years of St. Paul's



This month, on the Day of Pentecost, we celebrate our 75th birthday as St. Paul's Episcopal church. We celebrate with worship first, of course, then fun, fellowship, cake, and a commemorative photo on the lawn.

At this 75-year mark it seems an invitation to reminisce, but also to look forward. Where have we been and where will we go? We remember all those who have come before us and treasure those memories; at the

same time we look at the little ones, the future of our church. We are all links in the chain of our history. We have been blessed with a slate of wonderful Rectors who have led the spiritual growth and health of the church. In May, we celebrated Fr. David Greer, Fr. Paul Martin, and Fr. Guido Verbeck who joined Fr. Michael at the 10:30 service to reminisce and to share reflections and stories of their time here at St. Paul's (see p. 4). You will hear from some of them in this issue as well, on pgs. 2-3.

The remainder of this anniversary year will be peppered with exciting events including a 1950s worship service in the Parish Hall (with the 1928 Prayer Book). This is where we held worship services before the "big church" was completed. It's going to be a very special service! In September we will hold our organ rededication and concert, and Trunk or Treat in October will feature decades-themed trunks. In November we will hold an old time Country Store in the Parish Hall. And finally, in December we have a visit from Bishop Owensby and we will bury a time capsule. A new pictorial directory is being compiled and a 75th Anniversary cookbook.



As we celebrate this milestone anniversary, keep an eye on the monitors across our facility for fun, vintage photos and videos of our life together here at St. Paul's!

We have such a rich history together and there is so much more to come. Cheers to 75-years, St. Paul's!



Summer sunflowers in the Day School Garden

A Message from Rectors of St. Paul's



Fr. Michael Cannon



Happy Pentecost! The gift of the Holy Spirit reminds us that we are spiritual beings. Our faith is that we have life beyond what is perceptible. Everlasting life. Eternal life. The Communion of Saints. As someone put it, we are souls that have bodies and not bodies that have souls. As such, we are linked to all believers across all time and space. We are each a link in a living chain that stretches forever. Our 75th anniversary is a time to appreciate these connections. In this issue, I am pleased that Frs. Greer, Verbeck, and Martin have all written an epistle filled with inspiration and remembrance. I hope that they will remind you how we are deeply connected in Christ, and what a good thing that is. Thanks be to God!

Fr. David Greer

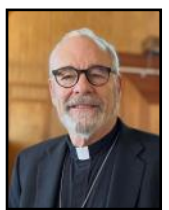


When I first came to Saint Paul's I had just been involved with Cursillio in Virginia. I made my Cursillo and I just rejoiced in the life that it gave me; I was elected to the national committee. The bishop of that committee was assigned by the presiding bishop, and it was the bishop of this Diocese, so we had a wonderful connection. Ron Smith often says that at my first vestry meeting I asked how many vestry members had been to Cursillo and none of them had. But when I was through almost all of them had. It's a wonderful movement.

In terms of what was new here, we put in the tabernacle which is to the left of the altar which is where we keep the reserve sacrament and later on we had incense which was brought to us by one of our priests...which enriched our life. Also, during my time here the needlepoint kneelers in the church were done by parishioners. Soon after I got here someone said, "You know, we have 1800 members!" and I said "We don't have 1800 members." So, we got Liz Heatherwick, a real saint, to correct the membership list and she did a wonderful job. That's been further updated now with pictures of members. Pastoral work was generally done by my assistant, Jim Ellisor, who was also chaplain to the school. Another thing I was very involved with was St. Paul's Day School. I had the privilege of appointing JoAnn Rose to lead the day school. The day school is ranked as the best day school in the whole area. The only building program I had here was the smallest building program, a little corridor connecting the nursery to the church.

I had the great privilege of being elected as Rector Emeritus by the vestry and I'm very honored by that, but I rejoice in the ministry that Fr. Michael is forming here and all the great things that are going on. It is a great privilege to be involved in this church and to continue to be involved in this church.

Fr. Guido Verbeck



It has been 75 years. Seventy-five years since the founders of this congregation stood on the dirt of Southfield Road, gazing across the cotton fields that stretched southward from Shreveport, and envisioned a new church, building and congregation, rising to the glory of God.

Worshiping on the campus of Centenary College while our building was being constructed, the family came into being. Moving into the new building- a temporary worship space destined to become the parish hall when the "big Church" was constructed, along with classrooms, offices where the Word was taught, shared and preached, and the ministries began- to the Glory of God.

A new family moving into the neighborhood would soon hear a knock on the door as Mister Brown, the first rector came to call- to introduce himself and to tell the people when they were expected to come to church. And we grew. In addition to worship and Sunday school, there were youth groups, sports teams, a Boy Scout troop, prayer groups, the Women of the Church which instituted the "Country Store", with the proceeds being set aside for an organ for the Big Church, already on the drawing boards.

We outgrew our space. In less than 10 years, construction began on the new worship space. Under the watchful eye of Bill Evans, the architect, who was there every day, choosing each board ... nary a knot... and watching the vision become reality. A majestic structure pointed heavenward, with an organ filling this space with the sacred music of the ages, a lighted cross, shining out through a clear window to a darkening world, and ultimately two magnificent stained glass windows--- to the glory of God.

Expanded facilities-more classroom space, a pre-school, kitchen, gift shop, parlor, rose garden, Scout hut all to facilitate the growth of the congregation, physically and spiritually to the glory of God. Continually building and improving a physical plant that God made possible, enthroned on the prayers and labor of a loving church family, and ministries to which God called His people. McRae Lodge for the youth, a columbarium for eternal rest for those who have gone before... and helped grow the family and its spiritual home. And the placing of the font front and center reminding us of the two sacraments ordained by Christ... we come to the Eucharist through our baptism.

This is just a snapshot of where we are and where we have come from. What picture will develop for the future? What will our legacy be? All that we enjoy has come from the work of others- congregants who loved their Lord, and have passed on all that we have in faith and hope that we will continue the vision... not for our personal glory, but all to the glory of God.

Now the torch has been passed to us, the current generation, to continue what the visionaries and builders of the past have gifted us. As we pray and labor for God and His kingdom in this place, we must keep our senses keen, to discern where God is leading us, as we continue to build His kingdom on earth. That work never ends and we, faithful servants, must never cease in answering God's call to us. The picture of a family is a good one as we seek to love God, and our neighbors as ourselves. Such focus brings JOY into our lives, and helps us keep our priorities in order. JOY: Jesus...Others...Yourself. The world will always confront us with challenges, and with God's strength and guidance, and our faithful response, we will meet them and defeat them... for the Glory of God.

So it is appropriate to celebrate our history, but also envision what lies ahead. That we may gratefully continue to enjoy what we have inherited, passing it on to new generations, going forth into the world to love and serve our Lord... and all to His greater Glory.

All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee.

Fr. Paul Martin



I was honored and privileged to serve at St. Paul's for twenty-four years. I arrived August 1st 1997 to serve as a part time youth minister. St. Paul's EYC started from a few members to being the largest and most active youth group in the Diocese. Adopting the Biblical passage from 1 Timothy 4:12, the young people set the example for the parish in speech, life together, loving care, in our faith, and in purity of action and thought, devoting themselves to fun, study, faith development, and ministry, they began to set the pace for life at St. Paul's. The teens went to Youthquake, experienced the power of the Spirit at the Brownsville Revival in Pensacola, on mission trips to Mexico, the Dominican Republic and Haiti during which, by God's grace, we replicated ourselves with new Christians. We were involved with missions in Shreveport also. We started the 30 Hour Famine to aid World Vision.

During my cure at St. Paul's we saw the formation of the Matthew 25 Task Force, Wonderful Wednesday, contemporary worship, the Haiti Mission, Discovering Your God Given Gifts, and "Invite, Welcome, Connect." We sent members to Solar Under the Sun to be trained to erect and service solar Power generators. As St. Paul's saw growth in numbers, more than that we were blessed to see spiritual growth among her members. We started a Sunday night prayer and praise service offering a prayer ministry in the power of the Holy Spirit. One of the highlights was having Karen Armstrong, who played Clara in the movie, *The War Room*. Amelia Jordan organized the event, which filled the nave to overflowing. People from all over Shreveport came and were blessed by the service. Karen gave a powerful message. Christians from every denomination and background attended and were blessed. I was quoted as saying to those present, "Now, this is Church!" and it was.

For fifteen years I had the privilege and blessing to work for and alongside one of the greatest Rectors ever, Guido Verbeck III. He set the mission and allowed me to exercise the ministry within that mission with freedom. I was then given the opportunity to continue God's ministry as Rector of St. Paul's for nine years, being unanimously chosen by the Vestry. Little did I know that I would become a "Construction Rector". During my time as Rector we did reroof the entire building, built the McRae Lodge, did reparations of the stained glass in the transepts, upgraded the organ and also did repairs, purchased a piano for the church, remodeled the acolyte/worship leader room, remodeled the chancel and sanctuary, placed new carpeting for the nave, installed the electric sign, replaced the boilers for the church and Parish Hall, replaced the chillers for the main church and Parish Hall areas, replaced the HVAC for the Day School and office area, and built Phase II of the Columbarium.

What is more important than all of that is the opportunity I had to serve the wonderful Family of St. Paul's. I loved being Assistant Rector and Rector of this most wonderful parish; to do the pastoral and sacerdotal work, to encourage and equip the faithful for ministry, teach, preach, and administer an incredibly talented ministry team. I have truly been blessed in my almost fifty years of ordained ministry. I shall count the twenty-four years at St. Paul's as being an exceedingly great privilege. God has blessed me richly. I wish to thank the Family of St. Paul's for your love and support during my time with you. Jesus is faithful!

Fr. Matt Woollett



Congratulations on celebrating 75 loving and faithful years to our risen Savior who call each of us to "walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, ..." (see BCP, p. 376). As your namesake urged his fellow Christians: "proclaim the message, be persistent, whether the time is favorable or unfavorable (even during a pandemic); convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching." Above all, you have fought the good fight, you have finished the race (if you want to count 75 years the first lap), you have kept the faith (see 2 Tim 4:2;7).

Speaking of pandemics, when I began my ministry among you as your Interim Rector in the fall of 2021, we had just emerged from the pandemic and were finally free from the need to socially distance and wear masks as we gathered for worship. However, not long after my arrival, we were faced with the Delta variant and had to return to pandemic protocols. This, however, in no way put a damper on your willingness to spread the Good News. Like a virus you continued to support the mission in Haiti, minister to least among us, especially those in the Cedar Grove neighborhood and the little ones attending St. Paul's Day School. Youth ministry continued as well as Bible Study every Sunday (did you ever finish that massive study of the Book of the Prophet Isaiah?)

Above all, you, as a community of faith, were so welcoming to Harriet and me, finding us an apartment to live in which you fully furnished. That certainly made the commute from New Iberia to Shreveport every week so much nicer, and being able to bring our pets with us was a nice touch as well. I especially experienced your hospitality in that I was able to engage in the ministry of Interim Rector for the first time ever with you as my "guinea pigs"; you were the recipients of all my missteps and mistakes and not once did you ever make me feel less than as a person and priest. What a gift that was and is!

Additionally, as a result of the pandemic, Harriet and I were denied the opportunity to properly say goodbye to The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany. However, the goodbye celebration you threw for us was so loving, so wonderful, that it more than compensated for the lack of any celebration when my ministry ended at Epiphany. Jesus tells his disciples: "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (Jn 13:35). This is how Harriet and I will always remember you, the good people of St. Paul's: by your love for us and one another.

Worship

Worship Ministry Leaders

Acolytes: Susan Sherwin	318.422.7290
susansherwin18@gmail.com	
Altar Guild: Magdi Ferguson	318.237.7354
magdiferg@gmail.com	
Worship Leaders: Ron Smith	318.470.3349
chefpraise@yahoo.com	
Ushers: Robert Vinet	318.564.4047
robertfvinet@gmail.com	
Flower Delivery: Laurie Sena	318.572.4767
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Adult Choir: Bob Maynard	318-773-2296
rmaynard1957@gmail.com	
Young Voices: Louise Smith	318.469.2653
sewpraise@yahoo.com	
Live Stream Team: Bruce Shear	318.218.5800
orionpierre@yahoo.com	
Lay Eucharistic Visitors: Terry LeGrand	318.573.2233
terry.legrand312@gmail.com	
Children's Church: Mallory Hubbard	318.680.7143
mallory.hubbard11@yahoo.com	

Altar Guild Needs You!



Have you ever wondered who places the colorful liturgical hangings on the altar every Sunday? Have you ever wondered who sets out the silver vessels for the Eucharist, or who prepares the altar flowers for delivery to those in need of cheering up? It's the Altar Guild, that's who! If you feel called to be a part of this beautiful ministry and have the privilege of caring for the holy vessels and linens of the altar, there is a

place on the Altar Guild for you. Please contact Magdi Ferguson at 318-237-7354 or Carol Moloney at 225-362-2783 for more information.

Altar Flowers

June 1: To the Glory of God and in loving memory of our fathers: J. L. Nichols and Henry Hollowell. Given by Mike and Martha Nichols.

June 8: To the Glory of God and in loving memory of Jane Pell, our beautiful and beloved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, and the world's most wonderful and perfect "mum." Given by the Brannon Family.

June 15: To the Glory of God and in memory of Joe Matt Alexander, William Stith Bynum, and our friend, Bob Ficalora. Given by Stith and Nancy Bynum.

June 22: To the Glory of God and in celebration of our wedding anniversary. Given by Larry and Jan Graff.

June 29: To the Glory of God and in celebration of the birthday of my wife, Janet Moore. Given by Paul Moore.

Rector Recognition



As part of our 75th Anniversary slate of events we welcomed Fr. David Greer, Fr. Paul Martin, and Fr. Guido Verbeck to church on Sunday, May 18 to share reminiscences and stories from their

time here at St. Paul's.

Each had a significant contribution to the life of our church. Fr. Greer spoke about Cursillo and the large number of parishioners who attended during his tenure. Fr. Guido shared several humorous anecdotes including his gradual relocation of the baptismal font from the children's chapel to the Nave and the now legendary story of the deer who got into the church. Fr. Paul's tenure included an extensive building campaign including the new roof, the McRae Lodge, and the second phase of the Columbarium.



Each received a beautiful watercolor of the church which included their name, dates of tenure, and a prayer. A reception followed in the Parlor with cake!

Sunday Lectionary

June 1: The Seventh Sunday of Easter

1st Lesson: Acts 16:16-34; Psalm 97; 2nd Lesson: Revelation 22:12-14,16-17,20-21; Gospel: John 17:20-26

June 8: The Day of Pentecost

1st Lesson: Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:25-35, 37; 2nd Lesson: Romans 8:14-17; Gospel: John 14:8-17, (25-27)

June 15: Trinity Sunday

1st Lesson: Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31; Psalm 8; 2nd Lesson: Romans 5:1-5; Gospel: John 16:12-15

June 22: The Second Sunday after Pentecost

1st Lesson: Isaiah 65:1-9; Psalm 22:18-27; 2nd Lesson: Galatians 3:23-29; Gospel: Luke 8:26-39

June 29: The Third Sunday after Pentecost

1st Lesson: 1 Kings 19:15-16,19-21; Psalm 16; 2nd Lesson: Galatians 5:1,13-25; Gospel: Luke 9:51-62

Families, Children, Youth

VBS Goes to Egypt

Vacation Bible School took the kids on a tour of the Nile, to ancient Egypt, where they learned all about the life of Joseph, about Egyptian food, they made crafts, had snacks, and sang songs.

Each day the kids met Joseph at a different age in his life, beginning with a young Joseph and ending late in his life.



Barry Larson as young Joseph



Fr. Guido as an older Joseph



Crafts are always fun at VBS; this year kids learned how to write their names in hieroglyphics, they made bricks from mud and straw, decorated headdresses and collars with fancy gemstones, made baskets, and colored sarcophagi, and made Anglican prayer beads.

Food is also quite popular at VBS and in addition to the daily snacks, kids were able to learn about various Egyptian foods such as dates, figs, cantaloupe, avocado, and various breads.

But perhaps the most popular activity is the singing! We had a great band at VBS this year comprised of Matt and Angie Abrams, Bob Maynard, Anne Garner, and Jerry Bagwell. The children loved to sing *Pharoh, Let my People Go* and other fun songs.



VBS could not happen without all our volunteers who make it all happen. It was a great week in Ancient Egypt!

Newcomer's Cookout at Rectory



Newcomers were feted at the Rectory on May 17 hosted by Fr. Michael and Erika and co-hosted by Paul and Janet Moore and Mike and Martha Nichols.

Guests included a mix of old and new families and

included Kaye Chrichlou, Karen Brewer, Pierre and Rhonda Rubben, Sheila Asghar, the Abrams family, Michelle and Ava Boyd.



Karen Brewer, Kaye Chrichlou, Rhonda and Pierre Rubben, and Sheila Asghar.

Summer Math Tutoring Available



Good news! Would you like your child to strengthen, maintain, or get ahead on his or her math skills for the coming school year? Rachel McNerney is offering tutoring this summer, with afternoon slots available Monday through Friday for students in grades 6–12. Rachel teaches middle school math at St. Mark's Cathedral School.


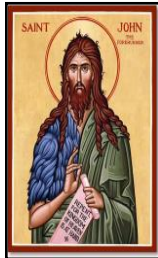

Contact her by phone or text at 318-573-6409.

Families, Children, Youth Ministry Leaders


Camp Hardtner: Elizabeth Ollendike 318.286.1007
eollendike@gmail.com

Parents Supper Club: Fr. Cannon 864.320.7116
frmichael@stpaulsshreveport.org

June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
1 8 am Holy Eucharist 1 9:30 am Adult Sunday School (Parlor) 9:30 am and 12 pm Cookbook Interest Meeting (Bride's Room) 10:30 am Holy Eucharist 2, Mission Trip Commissioning 12 pm First Communion Class (Church) 2 pm EYC: SIX! (Stage Center)	2 6 pm Outreach Committee Birthday: Norah Ollendike, Dorothy Rivers	3 1 pm Knitting Group (Wardens' Room) 1:30 pm Matthew 25: Common Ground (Parish Hall) 7 pm Centering Prayer (Wardens' Rm) Anniversary: Arnold and Betty Cannon, Joseph and Terry LeGrand	4 10:30 am Bible Study 5:30 pm Evening Prayer
8 The Day of Pentecost 10:30 am Holy Eucharist 2 with Baptism 11:30 am 75th Anniversary Birthday Bash 3 pm Holy Eucharist at The Glen 	9 12 pm Finance Committee Birthday: Marshall Johnston Anniversary: Jim and Janet Taliaferro	10 1 pm Knitting Group (Wardens' Room) 1:30 pm Matthew 25: Common Ground (Parish Hall) 7 pm Centering Prayer (Wardens' Rm) Birthday: Corey Gabler	11 St. Barnabas the Apostle 10:30 am Bible Study (Wardens' Room) 5:30 pm Evening Prayer (Chapel) Birthday: Sarah Harold
15 Trinity Sunday 8 am Holy Eucharist 1 9:30 am Adult Sunday School (Parlor) and Psalm Studies (Bride's Room) 10:30 am Holy Eucharist 2 South Dakota Missioners Return Birthday: Larry McCaskill	16 10:30 am St. Catherine's Guild (Wardens' Room) 6 pm Vestry Meeting Birthday: Paul Jackson, Pam Langley, Ginger White	17 1 pm Knitting Group (Wardens' Room) 1:30 pm Matthew 25: Common Ground (Parish Hall) 7 pm Centering Prayer (Wardens' Rm) Birthday: John Hilton Ferguson, III	18 10:30 am Bible Study 5:30 pm Evening Prayer Birthday: Harper May Wain Thompson
22 8 am Holy Eucharist 1 9:30 am Adult Sunday School (Parlor) and Psalm Studies (Bride's Room) 10:30 am Holy Eucharist 2 5 pm: EYC: Bible Bowl & Bible Jeopardy (McRae Lodge) Birthday: Gwen Bowles, Michael Miller	23 Birthday: Avery Duncan, Alex Rusling, Ron Smith	24 The Nativity of John the Baptist 1 pm Knitting Group (Wardens' Room) 1:30 pm Matthew 25: Common Ground (Parish Hall) 7 pm Centering Prayer (Wardens' Rm) Birthday: Patrick Omundson 	25 10:30 am Bible Study 5:30 pm Evening Prayer Birthday: Malcolm Sta Vazquez, Tanner Wynn Anniversary: Gordon a
29 8 am Holy Eucharist 1 9:30 am Adult Sunday School (Parlor) and Psalm Studies (Bride's Room) 10:30 am Holy Eucharist 2 12 pm First Communion Class (Church) 5 pm EYC: Little Free Library (McRae Lodge) Anniversary: Bobby and Emily Horne	30 St. Peter and St. Paul Birthday: Janet Moore 		

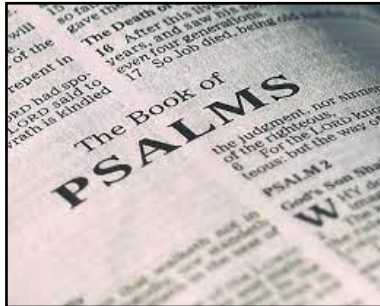
2025

	Thu	Fri	Sat
ed (Wardens' Room) yer (Chapel)	5 12 pm Men's Bible Study (Bride's Rm) 7 pm Choir Practice	6 6:30 am Brotherhood of St. Andrew Bible Study (Wardens' Room) Birthday: Yvonne Lockley, Edie Waghalter	7 8 am South Dakota Missioners Depart 10 am <i>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i> auditions (Parish Hall) Birthday: Jerry Bagwell
e  SAINT BARNABAS	12 12 pm Men's Bible Study (Bride's Rm) 5:30 pm Guild of Queen Esther (McRae Lodge) 7 pm Choir Practice Birthday: Cannon Kennedy, Mallory Metz	13 6:30 am Brotherhood of St. Andrew Bible Study (Wardens' Room) Birthday: Maya Bynum, Margaret DePingre, Tim Tully Anniversary: Chris and Mandy Metrejean	14 Birthday: Mark Ferrant
3 (Wardens' Room) yer (Chapel) ys, Charles Pinzon,	19 12 pm Men's Bible Study (Bride's Rm) 7 pm Choir Practice	20 6:30 am Brotherhood of St. Andrew Bible Study (Wardens' Room) 6 pm Brotherhood of St. Andrew Cookout (Parish Hall) Birthday: Cameron Bicknell, Laura Kirspel	21 9 pm Brotherhood of St. Andrew Breakfast (Parish Hall)
5 (Wardens' Room) er (Chapel) dtlander, Mondo n nd Donna Rountree	26 12 pm Men's Bible Study (Bride's Rm) 7 pm Choir Practice Birthday: Mike Nichols Anniversary: Bert and Andrea Babington, Josh and Emily Maier	27 6:30 am Brotherhood of St. Andrew Bible Study (Wardens' Room)	28 Birthday: Philip Baker Anniversary: Aaron and Jennifer Rusling



Discipleship & Christian Education

Summer Sunday Psalm Studies



A new summer Sunday School series began mid-May; it's the Summer Sunday Psalm Studies (say that three times fast!).

Rachel McNerney will lead the discussion each week taking a look at the

Psalm of the week. Kids are invited to come as well and do art work inspired by the Psalm. The group is merging with Donuts for Dudes for the summer which means Donuts for All! The group meets in the Parish Hall each Sunday at 9:30.



"Let the peoples praise you, O God"

Emma McNerney created this precious illustration of Psalm 67. "Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you."

All are welcome to join each Sunday at 9:30 in the Parish Hall.

Discipleship Ministry Leaders

Adult Sunday School: David Langley	318.272.0931
rt251800@yahoo.com	
It Takes a Village: Angie Abrams	318.347.6971
angie8287@gmail.com	
St. Paul's Day School: JoAnn Rose	318.458.0809
joannnonirose@gmail.com	
EYC: Kim Duncan	318.564.1004
kepitcher@live.com	
Cursillo: Ashley Baker	318.218.4056
sittig.ashley@gmail.com	
Men's Bible Study: Jerry Bagwell	318.469.1601
Bagwell.jerry@yahoo.com	
Wednesday AM Bible Study: Amy Prather	318.584.1971
amy.prather0115@gmail.com	
Brotherhood of St. Andrew: Jerry Bagwell	318-469-1601
bagwell.jerry@yahoo.com	
Centering Prayer: Alan Prather	318.458.8722
ajprater@bellsouth.net	
Godly Play Sunday School: Angie Abrams	318.347.6971
angie8287@gmail.com	
Vacation Bible School: Michelle Boyd	904.860.1383
ministrycoordinator@stpaulsshreveport.org	

Summer Reading



Summer offers the potential for leisure time and an opportunity for catching up on those books we have been meaning to read all year.

You may have noticed the new bookshelf in the Parlor on which you will

find copies of many of the books Fr. Michael has offered for study during the program year. Feel free to borrow one of those, especially if you weren't able to attend the Wonderful Wednesday programs in which they were discussed. Titles include *The Screwtape Letters* by C. S. Lewis, *Just Begin* by Dann Wigner, and *A Full Hearted Life* by Bishop Jake Owensby.

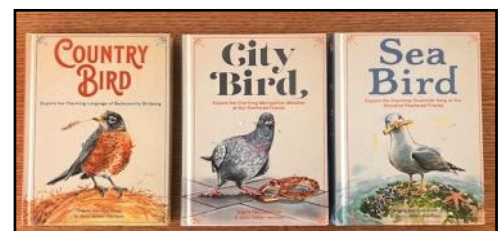


You will also find there copies of other books,



contemporary books we have studied or discussed in the women's group on Sunday or just in our own casual reading. Titles include *Liturgy of the Ordinary* by Tish Harrison Warren, *What is the Point of Being a Christian* by Timothy Radcliffe, and *Unshakeable Hope* by Max Lucado.

You'll even find books by our own published authors such as Angela Vinet's



precious bird series books and Pat Becker's *Cane River Bohemia*.

Mission and Outreach

St. Paul's Players: *Tom Sawyer* Auditions



Join us this summer for our next production!
Parts for men, women and children
Directed by Amber Garner
Show dates: July 24, 25, 26 and 27
Auditions: Saturday, June 7, 10 am – noon
St. Paul's Parish Hall
Bring 16 measures of a song to sing; cold reads
Rehearsals: Monday-Friday, 5:30-8 pm
Beginning June 16

Save the date for auditions for *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. The next production of the St. Paul's Players has roles for 9 men, 6 women, 8 boys, and 5 girls. The play is a musical!

Amber Garner will be directing this timeless classic where we will once again enjoy the antics and adventures of Tom, Huck, Becky Thatcher and all the rest

of Mark Twain's beloved characters.

Auditions will be Saturday, **June 7** at 10 am in the Parish Hall. Rehearsals begin June 16 and will be Monday - Friday from 5:30 - 8 pm. Bring 16 measures of a song to sing!

Show dates are July 24, 25, 26, and 27 at St. Paul's and on July 30 at St. Jude Catholic Church in Bossier City.

All proceeds from St. Paul's Players productions benefit our outreach mission work in South Dakota on the Cheyenne River Reservation at the Black Horse Ranch.

Our mission trip this summer is set for June 7 - 15.

Off to South Dakota



Our South Dakota missionaries will depart on June 7. They will be spending a week at the Black Horse Ranch on the Cheyenne River Reservation in South Dakota working with the Lakota children again this summer.

This year we are bringing Godly Play to share with the children, inviting them to learn and wonder through the interactive play and stories of the program. We will also work again helping Fr. Kurt and Mtr. Ellen Huber with Horse and Pony camp.

To a person, everyone of our group who participated in the trip last year called the week a transformative experience. It is true that we gain as much from the experience as the children we are there to serve.

Much of the expense of the trip is supported through proceeds raised by the St. Paul's Players; if you would like to help support our mission, please consider making a donation. You may designate South Dakota Mission Trip on the memo line.

Snacks for Common Ground Summer Camp



We are collecting healthy snacks for the campers at Common Ground again this summer. Items needed include peanut butter crackers, trail mix, fruit ups, fig bars,

pretzels, granola, and bagged nuts. Donations may be left in the church office or the cubbies in the Holding Hall by the Narthex.

During the summer months, Common Ground has two different summer camps with educational, recreational and spiritual activities. Up to 90 children from the community attend. Each summer St. Paul's supports this effort to provide each camper with a healthy snack bag each week. If you'd like to help pack the snack bags each week, contact Emily Maier.

Mission and Outreach Ministry Leaders

Outreach: Levi Brendle	321.960.5109
lbrendle80@gmail.com	
Matthew 25: David Langley	318.272.0931
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Kairos: Ron Smith	318.470.3349
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Meals on Wheels: Kay Netherland	318.617.7789
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St. Paul's Players: Paul Moore	318.553.4788
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Parish Life

Wonderful Wednesday on Sumer Hiatus



Learning about the hand of Jesus

Our final Wonderful Wednesday for the program year was May 14. We marked the day with a hamburger cookout and with banana pudding, of course! Welcome summer!

Looking back, in the Adult Program we opened the year in August 2024 with a presentation on the summer mission trip. We had a study on *The Book of Common Prayer* and during Advent we examined *On the Way to Bethlehem* by Rob Fuquay. The Lenten study was *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis. We also discussed Lenten disciplines such as Veneration of the Cross, Tenebrae, Stations of the Cross, and the Great Vigil of Easter.

King's Club had a stellar year making crafts and going deeper into the Gospel of the week with educational, interactive play.

Fall will come soon enough and we look forward to another season of fun, fellowship, and discipleship.

Vestry Corner

Highlights from March and April Vestry meetings:

- A project to replace carpet in the pulpit and prayer desk, as well as on the stairs to the balcony and the stage in the Parish Hall was approved.
- Cursillo has been pushed to October 3-5 this year due to scheduling conflicts at the Wesley Center.
- The rededication concert for the organ is scheduled for September 20.
- A project to clean the air ducts in the church and school was approved. It appears some have never been cleaned.
- A new pledge statement has been completed and will be sent out quarterly.
- New gutters have been installed in the courtyard around the office windows; awaiting plans to replace carpet, refurbish office, and replace/repair the leaking windows.

St. Paul's 75th Anniversary Events



St. Paul's celebrates 75 years this year and there are many events in which you may want to become involved! In addition to the publication of a new church directory there will be events throughout the year. For example:

Recipe/Cookbook: Send your favorite recipes to Jordan Matlock or to the office.

A special Pentecost/ 75th Anniversary Church Service with Baptisms will be held June 8. There will be activities for the kids, lunch, and we will have a group photo taken on the lawn via drone! And of course there will be cake.

A 1950's service will be held in the Parish Hall, where we held services before the "big church" was built. We will do this on September 7. Ron Smith is your contact for that.

Trunk or Treat in October will have decades-themed trunks! Start planning yours now!

There will be a **Country Store** on November 16. Contact a member of the Guild of Queen Esther or St. Catherine's Guild for more information or if you'd like to have a booth.

Parish Life Ministry Leaders

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Knit Group: Martha Nichols	318.272.4305
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Prayers

We pray for the Family of St. Paul's. For the sick: Isabella and Natalie Castro, Kenny Vasquez, Heather Garraway, Jonathan West, Richie Self, Ward, Kenny Vasquez, Barbie Cannon, Corey Gabler, Alan Prater, Marlyn Monette, Ivy, John Pat Frost, Billie, Rob, Laura Kirspel, Fr. David Greer, John Greer, Paul Tatom, Judy Boogearts, Bill and Chris Ostendorff, Mary Virginia Hill, Ron Snelling, Gary Whitener, Nan Colgin, Maggie McElroy, Mike Herriage, Emilie Anne Ostendorff, Tom Ostendorff, Bob Kopp, Stephen Roberts, Peggy Byerly, Steven Pell, Mary Helen Byrum.

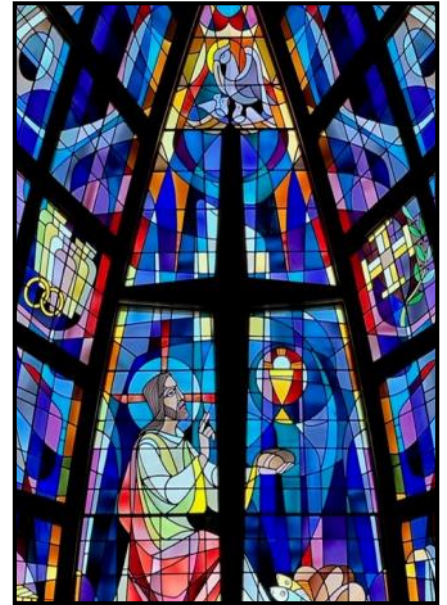
We pray for our military: Aaron, Amanda, Chris, Clark, Cody, Cole, JanRay, Jason, Levi, Michael, Shaun, Steven

We pray for our missionaries: Tom and Robin Wilson

We pray for the faithfully departed: Emmie Sue Ellisor

We pray for our expectant mothers: Kimvy Calpito, Brittanie Carpenter

We pray for the Anglican Communion, Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York, and Sean, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church USA; Bishop Jake Owensby and his wife, Joy; Bishop Moises, Bishop of the Dominican Republic, our companion diocese; St. Matthias, Cherident, Haiti, and Pere Jacob; the President of the United States, Donald, and we pray for Fr. Michael, our Rector, the clergy, the people, and the ministries of St. Paul's.

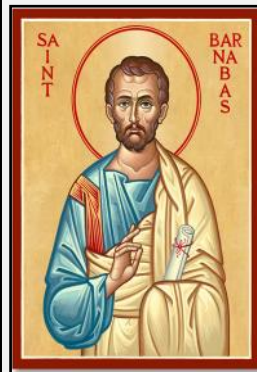


Collect for June 8: The Day of Pentecost



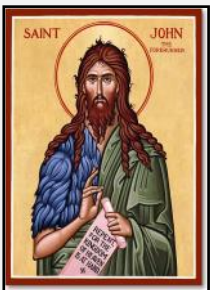
Almighty God, on this day you opened the way of eternal life to every race and nation by the promised gift of your Holy Spirit: Shed abroad this gift throughout the world by the preaching of the Gospel, that it may reach to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Collect for June 11: St. Barnabas, Apostle



Grant, O God, that we may follow the example of your faithful servant Barnabas, who, seeking not his own renown but the well-being of your Church, gave generously of his life and substance for the relief of the poor and the spread of the Gospel; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Collect for June 24: Nativity of St. John the Baptist

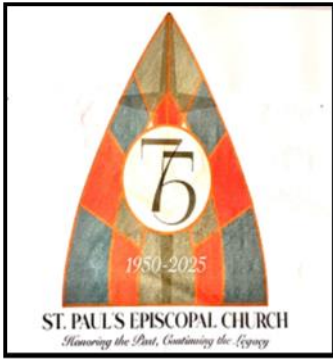


Almighty God, by whose providence your servant John the Baptist was wonderfully born, and sent to prepare the way of your Son our Savior by preaching repentance: Make us so to follow his teaching and holy life, that we may truly repent according to his preaching; and, following his example, constantly speak the truth, boldly rebuke vice, and patiently suffer for the truth's sake; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A Collect for June 29: St. Peter and St. Paul



Almighty God, whose blessed apostles Peter and Paul glorified you by their martyrdom: Grant that your Church, instructed by their teaching and example, and knit together in unity by your Spirit, may ever stand firm upon the one foundation, which is Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*



St. Paul's Episcopal Church
275 Southfield Road
Shreveport, LA 71105

The Family of St. Paul's – Living the Transforming Love of Jesus Christ

JESUS CHRIST IS HEAD OF THE CHURCH

The Right Rev. Jacob W. Owensby, PhD, DD ~ Bishop of the Diocese of Western Louisiana

The Rev. Michael Cannon, Rector

The Rev. David J. Greer, Rector Emeritus

The Rev. Guido Verbeck, Rector Emeritus

Ron Smith, Senior Warden

Ashley Baker, Junior Warden

The Vestry

2023-2025 - Ashley Baker, Louise Broadwell, Lois Fraser, Bruce Shear

2024-2026 - Stith Bynum, Rebecca Evans, David Langley, Levi Brendle

2025-2027 - Barbie Cannon, Beverly Casso, Will Duncan, Paul Moore

Pat Becker.....Parish Secretary
Michelle Boyd.....Ministry Coordinator
Erika Cannon.....Parish Administrator
Kimberly Duncan.....Youth Minister
Bob Maynard.....Music Minister
JoAnn Rose.....Day School Principal
Elizabeth West.....Organist