

April 2011



Holy Week and Easter Events

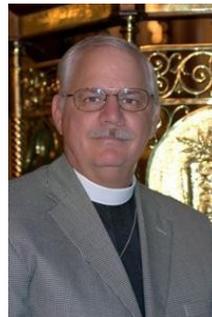
- **April 17 - Palm Sunday:** Worship services at 7:30 a.m., 8:45 a.m.* 11 a.m.*
- **April 21 - Maundy Thursday:** Worship service at 6 p.m.* (Nave)
- **April 22 - Good Friday:**
Community Service: 11:30 a.m. lunch - \$5 per person (St. Paul's Parish Hall)
Good Friday Liturgy: Noon (Nave)
Stations of the Cross: 5:30 p.m (Nave)
Good Friday Liturgy (Nave)
- **April 24 - Easter Sunday:** Worship services at 7:30 a.m., 8:45 a.m.* 11:00 a.m.*

*Nursery provided

Easter Lily Dedications

If you wish to make an Easter Lily dedication in honor, memory, celebration or thanksgiving of a loved one or event, please fill out one of the envelopes available on the visitor's table in the Narthex or on the Flower Guild bulletin board in the Parish Hall. Place the envelope in the box provided on the visitor's table or in the Flower Guild box in Parish Hall or turn it in to the church office. Dedications must be submitted by April 18 to be printed in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Suggested donation for lilies is \$12 each. You are encouraged to take your lily home after the 11:00 a.m. service on Easter Sunday.

A Different Perspective on Lent



It's easy to look at the season of Lent as a drag. After all, it's supposed to be a time of "self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting and self-denial," as it states in the Book of Common Prayer (p. 265). This isn't something our human nature takes to readily. I've never heard of any-

one being really excited about getting into self-denial or fasting. Repentance is something we can put off until another day. There are some things about Lent that can be depressing. Lenten hymns, for example. Most of them sound like dirges.

There's a more positive way to understand the Lenten season. We need to remember that these 40 days are based on Jesus' struggle in the wilderness. What stands out in this struggle is that Jesus was victorious over temptation. Nothing depressing about that! It was a time in which he discovered the power of God was within him. It was

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a time in which he was ministered to by angels. Lent is a time in which we too can discover that God's power can overcome our temptations if we are willing to join the struggle. We might also discover a few angels in the process. How exciting that can be!

The word Lent means "spring." There's certainly nothing depressing about spring, especially if you've ever lived in a place in which winters were cold and dismal. Spring is about new life, about awakening, about renewal. It's a time of beauty, sweet smells, and warmth. It's about increasing light. Lent can be about all these things too. To enter a Lenten discipline means that we can discover our own inner spring -- new life, new thoughts, and new buds of hope. We discover the God who has the power to bring this season into our souls. To know and to understand this is a new joy.

Lent, above all, is about preparing for the greatest festival of the year, Easter. It's a time in which we are to get ready to experience again the resurrection. It's a time to begin to understand the power of God and what this event has meant to countless Christians for 2000 years. With this in mind, Lent is anything but a drag.

– Polk+

Nashville Chamber Singers

Nashville Chamber Singers will perform it's spring 2011 concert in the nave at St. Paul's on Sunday, April 3 at 3 p.m. The Chamber Singers are directed by St. Paul's choir director and organist Angela Tipps. Admission is free.

Men's Club & Ladies Night

Ladies Night Out. Thursday, April 7 starting at 6 p.m. Join us for food, fun, and fellowship at the home of Libby Willis. If you have questions please call Libby at 898-0317.

Men's Club. Join the men of St. Paul's on Thursday April 7 for fellowship and dinner. Fellowship starts at 6 p.m. with dinner at 6:30 p.m. Please sign-up in Parish Hall.

This month the cooks will be Rob Clifton, Jimmie Beasley, and Bill Bucher. Contact Jim Calder or Fred Koechlein if you are interested in cooking in 2011.

Birthday Luncheon

The second quarter birthday luncheon will be held Thursday, April 14 at 11:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Luncheons are held once per quarter to celebrate the birthdays of St. Paul's family members over seventy (70+ years young), and their significant other or guest. You do NOT have to have a birthday during this quarter to attend. There is no obligation on your part except to RSVP! A committee of friends and helpers who wish to share their talents in this special ministry prepares the meal. Please call Jennifer McGuire at 713.5059 to RSVP.

We don't have everyone's birth date on file, so we are unable to send an individual invitation to each of you. However, if your 70th birthday is this year, PLEASE RSVP and attend this luncheon for you!

Confirmation and Reception



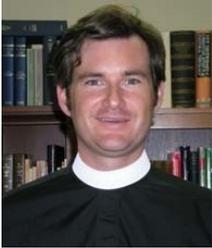
The following people were confirmed at St. Paul's during the bishop's visit on March 20: Ron Harris, Angela O'Neil, April Loftin, Paul Long, Lisa Walsh, and Rick Walsh

People who were received into the Episcopal Church during the bishop's visit were: Donna Marie Barrett (member at St. Paul's, Franklin) Donna Long, Kelly Northrup, Patricia Petty, and Steve Petty.

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Wooden Candlesticks



"The candlesticks on the altar -- why did you replace the brass ones with plain wooden ones?" someone asked me the other day.

It's a good question. And in fact, the candlesticks aren't the only thing we have changed. During Lent, the brass chalice and paten are switched out for a chalice and paten made from pottery. The brass offertory plates are

swapped for plain, woven baskets. In many churches, the beautiful vestments normally worn by the clergy are replaced with sackcloth. Everything in the church is made simpler, made plainer. But again, "Why?"

Lent is a time of stripping down to essentials as each Christian focuses on his or her individual relationship with God. By slowing down and making our life a little simpler, we are able to reflect more clearly on our spiritual lives. By engaging in a season of quiet, we are able to hear God a little more clearly. In the early church, many Christians were baptized on Easter Sunday, so traditionally Lent was a special time of study and prayer in preparation for baptism. Lent is a time of spiritual honesty, a time in which we examine our lives and ask God to free us from any bad habits we have gotten into over the past year.

Exchanging our brass candlesticks for wooden ones is an outward manifestation of the inner stripping that is occurring during Lent. When we make the church look a little plainer, a little simpler, we are reminding ourselves that we are called to make our own lives a little simpler at this time in the church year.

Lent is a time of stripping away. But it's important to remember that the word "Lent" itself comes from the old English word for "spring." We seek to strip away our sin. We seek to strip away our bad habits. We do not do this to make our lives miserable. No. Lent means springtime; a time for growth. As we make our lives simpler, as we strip down to the essentials, we are preparing for that great climax of Easter -- new life bursting through death. We strip down and make things simpler so that the new life of God has room to come in and transform us on Easter morning.

– Colin

St. Paul's Vestry Update

Just what is a Vestry supposed to do anyway? According to the Canons of the Diocese of Tennessee, "The Vestry shall have responsibility for raising and disbursing moneys and for keeping proper records thereof. It shall be responsible for building, maintaining and keeping in good condition for the use of the Parish, all parish buildings and improvements. It shall be responsible for all equipment and property belonging to the Parish, and for the maintenance of the grounds, and real properties owned apart from the church building. It shall be responsible for all business and temporal affairs of the Parish."

What does this mean for St. Paul's 2011 Vestry? As we grapple with financial issues, one of our challenges is to always remember our mission statement ". . . to worship God and to bring all into a loving relationship with Jesus Christ." St. Paul's is blessed with many ministry activities, and we celebrate and support these.

Many St. Paul's members are struggling with personal finances in our current weak economy. The Vestry has adopted a balanced budget and is watching every penny that is spent. But unexpected needs always come up, and this year two big ones have so far -- the Parish Hall roof and organ repair or replacement.

As we all know, the Parish Hall is inadequate. The Long Range Planning Committee has done an excellent job of gathering information about what we do need to support St. Paul's ministries. Given the economy, few people feel ready to proceed to design and construction, but we hope to be ready in a very few years. In the meantime, the Parish Hall roof leaks badly!

In recent years, many repairs have been attempted and now respectable roofing contractors have convinced us that the only cure is to replace the roof. The cost will probably exceed \$30,000. The

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Vestry has authorized the new roof and construction will take place soon.

The organ is an even more difficult issue. One way we worship God at St. Paul's is through music, and an organ contributes tremendously to our music. Our old organ needs very expensive repairs just to keep it playing. Angela Tipps does a wonderful job of working around problems, but even her skills are inadequate when pipes fail to respond to keys or pedals. This old organ was designed for a much smaller space and no amount of repair work will enable its sound to fill St. Paul's nave. One could argue that our worship space is incomplete until it gets an organ designed for the space. This is not something for which everyone feels comfortable spending money, although there may be many who would joyfully contribute for this purpose. The Vestry is weighing whether to repair or replace the organ. If you would like more information about the needs for the organ please contact the rector or the senior warden.

We invite your prayers!

Richard Detmer
2011 Senior Warden

Fred and Angel

by Ed Arning

Many times we are moving briskly through the church hallways and gathering spots and don't find time to get beyond the light greetings of "Hey, how are you? Good? Glad to hear it."

If we pause long enough at the coffee pot, we may learn that someone has a nagging cold or an aching back.

Rarely do we get to the depths of special characteristics or activities someone has or is involved in.

If one was to dig deep into a conversation with Fred Koechlein, you'd learn of Fred's ministry beyond the walls of St. Paul's. Did you know that our beloved Fred takes his and Sue's golden retriever around to area nursing homes to visit the elderly on a regular basis?

We have all heard the wonderful stories of the positive impact pets have on our lives, especially folks who cannot get out and around easily. Fred's efforts put a local and personal touch to these stories.

Since 2003, Fred and Angel, their retriever, have been making such rounds. It was then that Angel became certified for this special type of work. At Community Care of Rutherford County, they stop by once a month and see up to 60 residents. At St. Clair Sr. Citizens they stop by twice a month. Over at Adam's Place and the VA the loving pair shows up once a month.

Fred and Angel even take their ministry to two long-term health care centers in Lebanon, seeing large groups on each visit.

In an effort to share the "good news" of his ministry, Fred has expanded his audience to local schools, including MTSU, and personal residences. There's no doubt that once area students hear this pair's story, they'll be touched forever.

By the way, Angel turned 12 this past December and is recovering from having a tumor removed.

So, as you walk the church hallways and bump into Fred, take time and ask him how ol' Angel is doing and maybe you'll hear a good story about their ministry beyond the walls of St. Paul's.

St. Paul's Softball Team

Sign up for men's softball in the Parish Hall through April 4. Practices will be at 7 p.m. at Old Fort Park and will continue each Monday, same time and place. League play begins the week of April 11 and ends about the second week of June.

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Thinking Theologically

By Kathleen Clark

If you heard Suzanne Cate's (spectacular!) sermon about theological education on Sunday February 27 then I hope it caused you to pause and think about what your personal theological education looks like.

Three years ago, with her encouragement, I took mine to the next level by enrolling in Education for Ministry (EFM), a continuing education program offered through the University of the South's School of Theology. It's a program designed to strengthen the lay ministry of the church, to give a sound theological basis for the personal ministries that make the Episcopal Church such a great place to be.

When I began this program three years ago my knowledge of the Old and New Testaments and church history was fragmented and I was full of questions. We don't always want to ask those questions, but here it's encouraged. Through individual study and group reflection I have discovered more about my beliefs as a Christian and their implications in my life than I would have elsewhere. The lessons challenge my head and my heart, as well as my time management skills, as they can be quite lengthy!

The most valuable thing I have learned in my time in EFM is how to think theologically. As a group we do an exercise called theological reflection, and through this we learn how to take virtually anything -- issues, situations, films, positions, ideas, problems, books, etc. -- and think about it theologically. By doing this we take what we learn in our lessons and apply it to our lives, particularly our individual ministries. After all, what good is a theological education if you don't know how to use it?

Think about it, pray about it, and if you feel a burgeoning interest in deepening your theological education I encourage you to talk to someone who has been involved with EFM, or talk with our mentors, Nancy Carter (615-554-5371) and Ron Messier (615-542-5148). Not only will you discover things about yourself, your faith, and your ministry, but you will also find a supportive spiritual community in which you can explore those things.

Haiti Mission Continues



In July 2010, the adventure began with six members of St. Paul's being called to Haiti. At that time, the task was to help the people of Croix

De Bouquet by offering basic medical care at Lespwa Timoun medical clinic and also planting a 120-tree orchard. A project to install a well is nearing completion and on May 23 the second part of the sustainable-living plan will be to install a one-acre vegetable garden, complete with an irrigation system.

This time Ted Cassidy (who went on the first trip) and his wife, Lisa will join 10 parishioners from St. Mary's on the Highlands from Birmingham, Alabama. The second part of the May trip will be to assist with the completion of the new Lespwa Timoun (Hope for the Children) Nutrition Clinic in Croix de Bouquet, operated by Carmel Valdema, a Haitian public health nurse and wife of the Episcopal priest, the Rev. Fritz Valdema. Lespwa Timoun serves the critically malnourished children of Haiti.

Currently housed in a leased facility, a new clinic is near the end of construction and supported with funds from churches in the southeastern United States. Since the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, Lespwa Timoun has also served as a medical clinic, treating an average of 60 patients per day. The new facility will house a medical and dental staff, an in-patient facility for the most critically ill children, a pharmacy, and a farming project that will provide fresh food.

Our hearts go out to the people of Haiti who are still suffering from the devastating earthquake in January 2010. We ask for your prayers and support on this upcoming mission.

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Prayers and Support for Japan

Our thoughts and prayers are with those affected by the 8.9-magnitude earthquake and resulting tsunami that struck Japan in the northeastern coastal city of Sendai at 2:46 p.m. local time (12:46am EST).

The effects of the disaster are widespread, affecting churches and partners around the Pacific region, including Hawaii and the west coast of the US. Episcopal Relief and Development staff have reached out to local partners and are standing by, ready to offer assistance. Please continue to pray for those affected. To help those in need, please donate to the Japan Earthquake Response Fund of the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund.

Websites of other agencies supporting the relief efforts in Japan include:

- <http://www.mercycorps.org/> (Roman Catholic Church)
- <http://www.globalgiving.org/dy/v2/content/countries.html?country=Japan>
- <http://www.redcross.org>

Student Art Sale In May



Watch for a student art sale to be held in the Parish Hall at St. Paul's in May. Proceeds from the art sale will go to the Blackman High School National Art Honor Society for community projects. More information on the sale will be announced in the May issue of the Evangel.

Recent Baptisms

Katherine Mae Fuller, daughter of Allen and Melanie Fuller, was baptized on Jan. 9, 2011.

Andie Laurel Owen, daughter of David and Stacey Owen, was baptized on March 6, 2011 at the 8:45 a.m. service.

Anderson Bennett LaRoche, son of David and Brook LaRoche, was baptized on March 6, 2011 at the 11:00 a.m. service.

Downtown Churches Holy Week Schedule of Luncheon & Services

12:00 noon each day (except Good Friday).
Donation of \$5 for lunch appreciated

Monday, April 18 - First Baptist Church East Main

Tuesday, April 19 - First Presbyterian Church with Antioch Primitive Baptist Church

Wednesday, April 20 - Central Christian Church

Thursday, April 21, Maundy Thursday Services

- Central Christian Church 7:00 p.m.
- First Presbyterian Church 6:30 p.m.
- St. Paul's Episcopal Church 6:00 p.m.

Friday, April 22 St. Paul's Episcopal Church
11:30 lunch (\$5) /12:00 service

Sunday, April 24, Easter Services

- **First Baptist Church:** 9:00 a.m. (Traditional); 11:15 a.m. (Connections)
- **St. Paul's Episcopal Church:** 6:00 a.m. Ecumenical Sunrise Service on the East Side of the Square and regular worship times of 7:30 a.m., 8:45 a.m., 11:00 a.m.
- **First Presbyterian Church** 8:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.
- **Central Christian Church** 10:45 a.m.

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Birthdays

04/01 Dan (Dan) Scott
04/01 Sarah Smith
04/02 Alex Lowe
04/02 Andrew Ennamorato
04/03 Victoria Sullivan
04/04 Rebecca (Jo) Morris
04/04 Brendan Martin
04/04 Jennifer Crowell
04/04 Janna (Janna) Chew-Petree
04/05 Clara Ambrose
04/06 Ned Arbuckle
04/06 Kim Tormey
04/08 Robert Taylor
04/08 Ellis (Ellie) Michaelson
04/10 Megan (Megan) Molloy
04/10 Michael Gleaves
04/10 McKenzie (Reid) Halliburton
04/12 Stanford (Stan) Golden
04/12 Ericka (Lynn) Wilson
04/13 Carrie Wiechman
04/13 Samantha Samford
04/14 Adriana Bawol
04/14 Aryn Watson
04/15 Carol Deken
04/15 Ellen (Ellen) Garrison
04/15 Greg Adkins
04/16 Jimmie Beasley
04/16 Carole Felciano

04/16 Lisa Halliburton
04/16 George Chew Jr.
04/16 Don Long
04/17 Aaron Schneider
04/17 Virginia Anne Fuller
04/18 Reza (Reza) Ordoubadian
04/18 Cheryl Beasley
04/18 Kimberly (Kim) Burritt
04/18 David (Tyler) Jones
04/19 Kane Dayton
04/20 Ronald (Ron) Clemmons
04/20 Kathleen Herzog
04/21 Madeline Roberts
04/22 Allen Fuller
04/23 Carrie Barham
04/23 Jennifer Dillon
04/24 Don Dunlap
04/24 Emily (Emily) Messier
04/25 William (Bill) Kimball
04/25 Anna Chew
04/26 Juanita (Woody) Piggott
04/27 Chloe Donegan
04/28 Ann Miller
04/28 Jordan Raines
04/28 Grace Puzzo
04/29 Peter Marozsan
04/29 Robert Becker
04/30 Sadye Snead
04/30 Kendall Morton
04/30 Faith Bennett
04/30 Carrie Clemmons

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