



2012 Lenten Series: *Finishing Well*

Our Lenten observances this year include daily Morning and Evening Prayer and Stations of the Cross (see schedule). I encourage you to deepen your Lenten experience by participating in these worship services as you are able. The heart of our Lenten observance is the teaching series on Wednesday evenings. This year's series is entitled "Finishing Well."



This year's series focuses on the questions: What does it mean to finish well? What steps must we take to prepare for our deaths? These are important questions for Christians to ponder -- both young and old. The first two weeks will be led by Dr. Cynthia Crysdale, Professor of Christian Ethics and Theology at the School of

Theology at The University of the South in Sewanee. Dr. Crysdale will teach us about the theological underpinnings of Finishing Well.

Week three will be led by Jim Dooley, Director of Concord Baptist Senior Adult Program and founder and director of Senior Connections. Mr. Dooley will give us an overview

of caregiving for our loved ones and a program he is developing entitled "It's about Time."

Week four will feature two of our bright young attorneys, Theodore Goodman and Jeremy Cothorn, who will lead us through the legal essentials of finishing well.

Bishop's Visit – March 25

Bishop John Bauerschmidt will join us for all three services.

Please make plans to meet and greet him at the reception.

Fr. Polk and Fr. Colin will finish up in week five as we plan our own funeral services.

The series will begin on Wednesday, February 29 and run for five consecutive Wednesday evenings. A soup supper will be served beginning at 5:30 pm. **There is no charge for lenten suppers. Please sign up in the Parish Hall to bring a soup, cheese, or bread/crackers to share.** A brief liturgy begins at 6:15 p.m. in St. Andrew's Chapel

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followed by the teaching series. We will be finished no later than 7:15 p.m. Child care is available.

While we often put off or resist thinking about our mortality, Lent is an appropriate time to learn, both theologically and practically, how to "Finish Well."

**Blessings,
Polk+**

Fr. John Dear to Speak on: *Lazarus, Come Forth!*

Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth!" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, "Unbind him and let him go." - John 11

Nashville--The Episcopal Peace Fellowship (EPF) will sponsor an "Evening Meditation and Book-Signing" with Father John Dear on March 16, 2012, Christ Church Cathedral, 900 Broadway Nashville, 7:00 pm.

Fr. Dear, previously nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize, is a renowned peace activist and author who will lecture on his newly released title, *Lazarus, Come Forth!*, based on Jesus' miracle of raising his friend from the dead as outlined in St. John's Gospel.

The work is a ground-breaking new book that suggests that Lazarus represents "humanity" stuck in the culture of death, and that Jesus represents "the God of life" calling humanity out of the tombs, out of the culture of violence and war, into "the new life of resurrection peace."

The EPF has worked since its founding in 1939 promoting peace and social justice, pursuing non-violence, and establishing a climate of inter-faith tolerance. Chapters are now being organized across Tennessee.

Join Fr. Dear for an evening reflection and book-signing on March 16. He will discuss the Gospel mandate to carry out Jesus' liberating work today, but also to obey new commandments – to take away the stone that keeps us trapped in our violent culture of war, to call each other out of the tombs, to unbind one another and to set each other free to live in peace and nonviolence. Through this work, we will find new hope and the fullness of life.

Fr. Dear's other books include: *The God of Peace; Transfiguration; You Will Be My Witnesses; Living Peace; The Questions of Jesus; Put Down Your Sword; Jesus the Rebel; Peace Behind Bars; Disarming the Heart*, and his autobiography, *A Persistent Peace*.

For more information on the lecture and book signing, contact Becky Rochford, Christ Church Cathedral, Nashville, (615) 255-7729 or Ronald T. Clemmons, Episcopal Peace Fellowship, Murfreesboro, (615) 867-6318.

Thank You

Many thanks to all our friends at St. Paul's for your recent food and transportation assistance during Ed's illness. You are all blessings in our lives.

Love,

Ed and Dotty McClung
(submitted prior to Ed's passing)

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Note from Suzanne Cate

(Editor's note: Suzanne is a member of our church who is finishing her last semester of seminary at Sewanee this spring. She sent us this update in January.)

My dear Brothers and Sisters,

I have so much to tell you that I hardly know where to begin! In this first month of 2012, I have completed General Ordination Exams and made a holy pilgrimage to Israel. GOEs are tests that each candidate for ordination must take prior to ordination (Harry Potter fans might think of OWLs as an analogous example); they cover the seven canonical areas of knowledge in which we are expected to achieve proficiency: the Holy Scriptures, church history, Christian theology, Christian ethics, contemporary society, liturgics, and theory and practice of ministry. Seminarians fondly refer to GOEs as "ecclesiastical hazing." It is an ordeal of endurance, but each member of my class felt very well-prepared for the questions we were asked. Sewanee's School of Theology has done a very good job of preparing us for our ministries. (Yea, Sewanee's Right!)

The day after GOEs were over, two of my classmates and I flew to Istanbul on our way to Israel. We spent two days there, exploring the ancient city and getting over jetlag by drinking a lot of Turkish coffee. We spent the next 14 days on pilgrimage with a group from St. George's College in Jerusalem.

We began with a two-day trip around Galilee, which was much different than I had always imagined it -- both smaller and more majestic, somehow. We explored the Old City of Jerusalem, visiting all the Holy sites on everyone's must-see list and a couple of unlikely spots that are holy to me for the way God broke through unexpectedly. We also visited with settlers and with Palestinian refugees on the West Bank, and saw the good work that the Diocese of Jerusalem does throughout the region. Please give

generously to the collection on Good Friday that helps fund their work, and always, always, pray for peace in Jerusalem. The pilgrimage was an important event in my own spiritual life, just exactly what I needed going into my final semester in seminary.

This final semester is a time in which I find myself in tension between wanting to wring out every last bit of practical knowledge and needing to begin the process of pulling away. We have loved our time in Sewanee so very much, but I'm beginning to feel a very strong pull toward whatever lies ahead for us.

Bishop Bauerschmidt has released me to seek deployment outside the Diocese of Tennessee. If there were a viable position here, I'd be very open to considering it, but it looks like our future will take us somewhere else. While we are quite disappointed to be leaving our dear friends here, Will and I appreciate the opportunity to begin our search process.

Please pray for us as we continue discerning the call to a specific church. I've learned to live with uncertainty with a fair amount of grace, but it is still difficult for me. Please pray that I will be able to wait patiently for God's movement in this process. As soon as we know anything certain, we'll let you know.

I want to thank you all for your support and prayers for Will and me during this time of formation. I say this again and again because there is no way to express how important you have been to us and to our journey. Shalom. Salaam. Peace and love, **Suzanne Cate**

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Notice

Geoffrey Cox

September 9, 1959 – February 14, 2012

Passed away at home. Service was held at Masters Funeral Home on February 18 in Polaka, Florida.

Geoffrey is the son of Bill and Aerolene Cox, and is survived by his wife, daughter, son, stepson and sister.

Soup-er Bowl Food Drive: *The stats are in!*

Thanks to all who participated in, and contributed to the Soup-er Bowl Food Drive. Collectively the four churches who participated collected 9178 food items - that includes \$1825. This was the largest total to date for this Operation InAsMuch drive. AND the largest number of food items that St Paul's members collected in one drive.

The final numbers:

First Baptist Church - 4512 food items

St Paul's Episcopal Church - 2560 food items (our largest collection ever!!)

First Presbyterian Church - 1193 food items

Central Christian Church - 763 food items

Special thanks to: Carole and Dan Felciano for making flyers and prepping the food bags, to Ed Arning and the Boy Scouts for counting and carrying, to Bob Shoemaker and Tim Seneker for counting and delivering, to Publix on Memorial Blvd for the loan of a grocery cart, and to all of you who shared your food bounty so others could have a meal.

Mark your calendar: the next food drive is May 6.

There are baskets in the narthex for your food donations. Bring items anytime, we will see that they get to the

Rutherford County Food Bank, and will be included in the next food drive count.

Thanks to all - you are all winners!

Basking in the SONshine

A Spring Break for Women: Basking in the SONshine! Women of St. Paul's, please take moment to consider your needs: for time away from the dailyness of your important and pressing tasks, for time with others who understand the dailyness of your tasks. Consider the opportunity to be away from all of that and be in a place where you will more easily feel the presence of God. Join others at the women's retreat where you will feel the love of the Father, the fellowship of our brother, Jesus, and the empowerment of the Spirit.

Retreat set for April 20-22 at Henry Horton State Park in Chapel Hill. We will also offer an option to attend the main program, only, on Saturday, Apr. 21.

Whoa . . . you say, that's a big promise! Yes, it is, and it's available to you! Is this a sales pitch? Yes, it is, of the best kind. You are invited to sit, rest, and receive. Our focus will be on the value of time spent in communion with the spirit. We will return to our busy lives with renewal and energy, with new eyes and energized hands. The dailyness of our

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tasks will still be there, but will be seen in new ways and met with new enthusiasm.

We will spend this time at Henry Horton State Park in Chapel Hill, TN. This is just a 40-minute drive from church. The park has a lodge with comfortable accommodations, great food, and meeting space both inside and outside. We will not be camping, but there will be some time Saturday afternoon for outdoor activities to take advantage of the park's offerings if you choose.

The retreat will begin on Friday evening with Compline and fellowship. On Saturday, a program will be presented in the morning by Rev. Monna Mayhall of St. Paul's, Franklin. Monna is engaging in preparation for the retreat in collaboration with our own retreat committee. She is excited and enthusiastic about the opportunity to journey through this weekend with us. Rev. Mayhall serves as priest with primary responsibility for parish life at St. Paul's. She also serves as chaplain to Daughters of the King.

After lunch, there will be a time for optional activities, and then a time of supported meditation. After dinner, there will be Compline and our traditional pajama party. Sunday morning, Rev. Mayhall will officiate at an outdoor Eucharist. The entire weekend will be infused with music, led by many of our talented choir members.

This year, to encourage as many of us to participate as possible, we are offering a Saturday-only option. If you choose this option, you will receive the morning program, lunch, the afternoon activities, and meditation time.

Please mark your calendar now. You can register online at <http://stpaulsboro.org/womens-retreat>. To make this possible for all, there will be financial aid available, and we are making efforts to match those interested in carpooling. We pray that you will join us. That will make the weekend for someone!

For more information, contact Patricia Petty: 931-389-6757.

Adult Christian Education

Images of the Spirit. When we think of Jesus, we immediately have a mental picture of a person. But the Holy Spirit is different. When we think of the Holy Spirit we imagine an invisible and impersonal force. We imagine something like a vague fuzzy cloud. The Bible is clear that the Holy Spirit is a person, but how can human beings understand who he is? Join us as we examine the word pictures that Scripture gives us of the Holy Spirit. Meets in the Chapel. Taught by Fr. Polk, Dr. David Rowe, and Dr. Ron Messier.

1 John. The epistle of 1 John has always enjoyed an esteem disproportionate to its size. John Wesley wrote about the epistle, "How plain, how full, and how deep a compendium of genuine Christianity." Join us as we examine the themes of 1 John. These include: 1) The Gospel According to 1 John, 2) What Jesus Has Done and What We Are To Do, 3) The Promise of the Spirit, and 4) Discernment. Meets in the Parish Hall. Taught by Fr. Colin.

Feasting on the Word. Each Sunday Don will lead a discussion on one of the lectionary readings for the day. Every week you will explore the questions: 1. WHAT is important to know? 2. WHERE is God in these words? 3. SO WHAT does this mean

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for our lives? 4. NOW WHAT is God calling us to do? Meets in the Multi-Purpose Room (this is room that connects to the Parish Hall with double doors). Taught by Don Clayton.

All classes begin at 9:45 a.m.

Downtown Churches: *Holy Week Services*

Each weekday during Holy Week (April 1-6) except Thursday, worship services and lunch will be sponsored by downtown churches.

Monday, April 2	First Baptist	Noon
Tuesday, April 3	First Presbyterian	Noon
Wednesday, April 4	Central Christian	Noon
Thursday, April 5	Maundy Thursday (services times vary)	
Friday, April 6	St. Paul's Episcopal	11:30 a.m.

Food Ministry Needs You!

Would you like to join a team who provides meals for our church family when in need? Think how nice it is not to have to worry about "what's for dinner?" when you or a loved one is ill, had surgery, lost a loved one, or welcomed a new baby home. That's where our Food Ministry can help!

Remember, all the meals do not have to be homemade. We just need your willingness to supply a meal or part of meal and/or be able to deliver it.

The team leader for the month coordinates the meal and the delivery. If you find yourself in need of the Food Ministry, please call the church office at 893-3780 or Kathleen Herzog at 497-9652.

The team leader for the month will be in touch with you. This vital ministry is a way for you to share Jesus' love with members of your church family. We would love to have you join us!

Batter up!

A sign-up sheet for our men's church-league softball team is in the parish hall.

All men 18 yrs.-and-over are eligible.

Practice begins the week of March 12th and league play begins the week of April 16th.

Questions? Phone Coach Tom Washer at 519-3306.

St. Paul's Archives

Please drop off pictures and articles (concerning St. Paul's or our members) in your possession for The Archives Committee.

If you wish to keep the originals, we're sure the office will make copies for the Archives.

Thanks, The Archives Committee.

B.J. Huggins

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Dates to Remember at St. Paul's

Lent, Holy Week, Palm Sunday and Easter 2012

Now to April 8th

WEEKLY EVENTS

Mondays

8 a.m. - Morning Prayer

6 p.m. - Evening Prayer

(Chapel)

Tuesdays

8 a.m. - Morning Prayer

6 p.m. - Evening Prayer

(Chapel)

Wednesdays

7 a.m. - Holy Eucharist

8 a.m. - Morning Prayer

Noon - Healing Service

(Chapel)

5:30 p.m. - Lenten Program

Thursdays

8 a.m. - Morning Prayer

6 p.m. - Evening Prayer

(Chapel)

(except Maundy Thursday, April 5th.)

Fridays

8 a.m. - Morning Prayer

(Chapel)

6 p.m. - Stations of the Cross (Nave) through
April 5th

(Except on Good Friday);

April 6th, at 5:30 p.m.

And.....

March 25 – Bishop's Visit

March 31 – Operation Inasmuch

April 1 – Palm Sunday

April 5 – Maundy Thursday

April 6 – Good Friday

April 7 – Holy Saturday

April 8 – Easter Sunday

Birthdays

03/01 Benjamin Kropog

03/02 Susan Tallent

03/02 Taylor Matteson

03/03 David Wilson

03/03 Ian Hay

03/04 Ione Smith

03/04 Steven Curtis

03/04 Brandon Blum

03/05 Tami Waggoner

03/05 Zane Devereaux

03/05 Deana Raffo

03/05 Collier Smith

03/05 Samuel Tipps

03/07 Martha Whitmore

03/07 Irma Lowe

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03/08 Anne Clark
03/08 Jameson Martin
03/09 Dot Jackson
03/09 Dan Felciano
03/11 Jean Kinney
03/11 Stephen Warren
03/12 Cami Oravetz
03/14 Wayne Potter
03/14 Joye Hatfield
03/16 Meredith Kramer
03/17 Charles Tretter
03/18 Lacy Wakid
03/18 Mac McCord
03/18 Trevor Tidwell
03/18 Allison Burritt
03/20 Nancy Loucky
03/20 Matt Greathouse
03/22 Jeff Slaney
03/22 Callum Hay
03/23 Teresa Johnson

03/24 John Davidson
03/24 Jim Demos
03/24 Sandy Bragg
03/24 Bill Emory
03/24 Katherine Northrup
03/25 Dotty McClung
03/25 Charlie Goodman
03/25 Mary Jane Young
03/25 Charlie McClain
03/29 David Curtze
03/29 Justin Davis

Operation Inasmuch

Saturday, March 31

8:30 a.m. Commissioning Service

First Baptist Church Sanctuary

9 a.m. Projects Begins

**More than 100 volunteers needed for this wonderful community project!
Make plans to join!**

**For information on how to participate, watch the St. Paul's
announcements and weekly e-blasts.**

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***Our Mission is to worship God and to bring all
into a loving relationship with Jesus Christ***

St. Paul's Staff

James K. Polk Van Zandt, Rector
The Rev. Colin M. Ambrose, Associate Rector
The Rev. Gene Wise, Rector Emeritus
Steven Lefebvre, Youth Minister
Angela Tipps, Organist, Choir Director and RSCM
Susan Greenall, Office Administrator
Kathy Warlick, Administrative Assistant
Nikki Butler, Nursery Director
Morris Hamby, 7:30 a.m. Musician
Joyce Adkins, Assistant to the Rector
Kathleen Herzog, Assistant to the Rector
Dr. David L. Rowe, Assistant to the Rector

Contact Us

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Phone: (615) 893-3780

Website: <http://stpaulsmboro.org>

You can listen to Father Colin Ambrose's sermons online at <http://colinambrose.wordpress.com/>. Click on older posts at the bottom left to access archived sermons.

To obtain a copy of Father Polk Van Zandt's sermons please contact the Parish Office at 893-3780.