



The mission of St. Paul's Episcopal Church is to worship God and to bring all into a loving relationship with Jesus Christ

October 2008

www.stpaulsmboro.org

Tennessee Episcopal Cursillo #65 to be held October 23-26

Let's chat about Cursillo, shall we?

I'd like to tell you how much my Cursillo experience has meant to me, but it's hard to quantify.

Let me take you back to October, 1995. Back then, I was really just getting started with this Episcopal/Christian way of life. I went through Pilgrimage and was confirmed in May of that year. So, what next? It had just begun to feel like God might have something real and exciting in store for me.

The weekend began Thursday evening. By bedtime, I had experienced Stations of the Cross for the first time, and some meditations which planted seeds that would germinate throughout the weekend.

As Friday morning dawned, this diverse group of folks from all over the diocese began to explore together how God intended for Christians to work together for The Kingdom. Each individual, with their unique gifts, began to see what they could and should do to be part of God's plan to present Jesus to the world.

I must admit to some skepticism. My mind was working against the things happening around me. I wanted to be outside; it was a beautiful Fall weekend in October on Monteagle mountain. So, I basically pouted through the day. Oh, I took notes on the material presented, and participated in discussions, but my heart wasn't in it.

There was a group of people there with us, the "Team". Included were facilitators at

each table, spiritual directors (Fr. Gene Wise among them), some lay leaders, and a gang of people called "chas". These chas taught me a lot about how fun it is to serve others. They brought us snacks, beverages, aspirin when needed, a sweater if we got cold, sharpened pencils, whatever. They were tireless.

This Team had planned for the weekend, and it was apparent they had worked hard. And then, it occurred to me that they were doing all this for the glory of God. They had given up their beautiful weekend to be there, too. And they were, obviously, happy about it.

My heart began to change. What if this was the way it should be? What if it wasn't just about me, but about all of us, working together? What is God's love for me was, truly, unconditional?

We worshipped together, laughed, cried, ate, sang, talked, listened, and then we would eat some more. It was fabulous!

Jesus Christ truly became my Lord and Brother that weekend.

Each participant will have their own story to tell. There are over 200 of our fellow St. Paul's parishioners who have been to a Cursillo weekend. Seek them out and ask them about it. Perhaps it is something you would like to consider for yourself.

Now's the time! The next Cursillo weekend is October 23-26. If you have questions about it, let's chat. E-mail me at joyce1010@bellsouth.net. Let's pray about this, shall we?

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A MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER
PUBLISHED BY

ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH,
MURFREESBORO, TN

Rutherford County Habitat for Humanity

Proudly Presents

"COOKING TO BUILD"

Friday, October 10th at the Civic Plaza.

This event will be open to the public.

Admission for the public will be \$10.00. This will include unlimited tasting of soups, stews, and/or chili. All of the money raised will benefit Rutherford County Habitat for Humanity.



Habitat for Humanity

ST. PAUL'S WORK DAY

Saturday, October 25th

Sign up for 8:00 to 11:30 or 12:00 to 3:30.

We need skilled and unskilled laborers.

And...a lunch crew.

Watch for a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall.

PRIEST IN CHARGE



 One morning recently, I needed to get to the office especially early—to get a head start on the day. I got ready in the dark and tried not to awaken anyone else at home. When I was finally ready to go, I opened the door to the house, and a rush of very cool, nighttime air helped awaken

me. I had dressed for the temperature the weatherman had predicted for the middle of the day, but I shivered on the way out of the house. It dawned on me that fall might just finally be here.

I probably should have realized that fact before then. I've been watching the squirrels outside the office laboring to get up the trees. Their stomachs are burgeoning with summer fat—their preparation against the coming winter. I've noticed the leaves on a few of our trees beginning to lose their bright greenness. And I've become aware that it seems like the sun is going down earlier and earlier and is waiting a little later each day to rise. I should have known it because I love fall and can't wait until it comes each year.

It also should have dawned on me that my brother's birthday is the day before the fall equinox. It's kind of ironic because my birthday is the day of the spring equinox. Mine ushers in spring; my brother's, the fall. Maybe those birthdays are why I always look forward to the changing of the seasons.

Maybe, in some way, those changes mark the beginnings of new things, the beginnings of new phases of life. For me, those dates are kind of like mile markers in the cycle of change.

This fall at St. Paul's is shaping up to be a season of changes for us as a parish—good changes. New things are beginning. Familiar programs and people return to our life together. And, certainly, the promise of a new rector brings all kinds of excitement. That change, particularly, begins a whole new cycle of life in our community. We're going to have the opportunity to welcome a new member into our family, and that person will most likely bring with them their own family. As I said last month, a new rector brings a totally unique perspective to St. Paul's—a new idea of who we can become, a new vision of how God can use us to welcome people into a relationship with Jesus Christ. And that's exciting!

What we love about St. Paul's isn't going to change. I expect the things we love will only continue to grow, but, as the brilliant colors of fall start to approach, we're going to have the opportunity to witness the first signs of the good things God has planned for us. This fall, my prayer for us is that we give ourselves over to cool air of excitement, as God gets us ready for the bright colors of the good things He's already been planning.

Matt

Stephen Ministry



*For this is the message
you have heard from
the beginning, that we
should love one another.
1 John 3:11*

Progressive Dinner November 7

Every year the Friday before Consecration Sunday, St. Paul's family gathers to break bread together in each other's homes.

This year the Progressive Dinner will be held on Friday evening, November 7 beginning at 6:30pm. Chairing the event this year is Jeannie Roberts.

Look for a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall coming soon and please consider hosting either a salad course or the main course in your home this year.

We will end the evening in style at the home of the ever-gracious and hospitable, Sally and Howard Wall for the sumptuous, bodacious, and downright heavenly dessert course.

For more information contact Jeannie at 216-0879; Kathleen Herzog at 497-9652 or Marcie Richmond at 890-7812.

Senior Warden's Corner



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

By the time that you read this article the vestry will have concluded all of our interviews and visits with the slate of prospective new Rector candidates. To date it has been a very positive and exciting process.

As we near the end of this part of the journey, I solicit your prayers for each of the candidates and for the vestry. Your faithful prayers and support are a continued blessing as we strive to hear and see what God is revealing to us. I can assure you that everyone on the vestry is humbled by the awesome responsibility that we share in the calling of our new Rector. We are also confident that this process has been blessed by the guidance of a loving and caring God from the very start of the discernment of the search team until this moment.

At this point we have one more candidate with which we will visit and then we will be seeking to discern who God is calling to be with us. While this may be the end of this process, it is more importantly an exciting beginning in the next chapter of our long history as a church family.

I want to again take a moment to thank each of you, not only for your prayers and support, but also for your friendship, love and patience. I cannot tell you at this exact moment which of these prospective candidates will be our new Rector, but I can assure you that God knows and in the words of Gene Wise, "It'll be okay"!

Stay tuned for announcements to come soon.

Peace,

Chuck

PEWS AVAILABLE

Three pews left.

These are from the old Parish Hall (red oak)

Sizes: 7ft. 6 in. 10ft. 12ft. 6in.

These can be custom cut to length at no additional charge.

If interested please call **Bill Williams 849-8612** or
Tom Collins at 890-7159 or 974-7158

St. Paul's Announces —

Quarterly Bleed and Feed Sunday

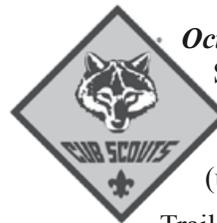
— as Shortages Hit our Community!

Both nationwide and locally, food banks are facing unprecedented food shortages. Second Harvest announced that August donations dropped precipitously as demand exploded from the social service agencies that rely on it for food to distribute. For many of us, higher food and gas prices mean foregoing an occasional meal at a local restaurant. But for many less fortunate, the worst bout of food inflation in 17 years means not having enough food to scrape together a full meal for their families.

In addition, the Red Cross locally has less than a 48-hour supply of all blood types combined. The minimum acceptable supply level is a 72-hour supply, which means the amount that the local Red Cross supplies to hospitals within a 72-hour period.

At St. Paul's we are going to combine these two opportunities to give to those in need in our local community. On **Sunday, October 19**, we will have our first quarterly **Bleed and Feed Sunday**. The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be here from 7:30 until 11:30 so that donors can help alleviate the local blood shortage. That Sunday will also be a Brown Bag Sunday. We will supply parishioners with grocery bags, which they can fill with non-perishable foods and bring to church on the 19th. Keep an eye on your Sunday bulletins for more information! Questions can be directed to Tina Whitfield at 896-7186 or Jane Smith at 355-0666.

Cub Scouts Popcorn Month!



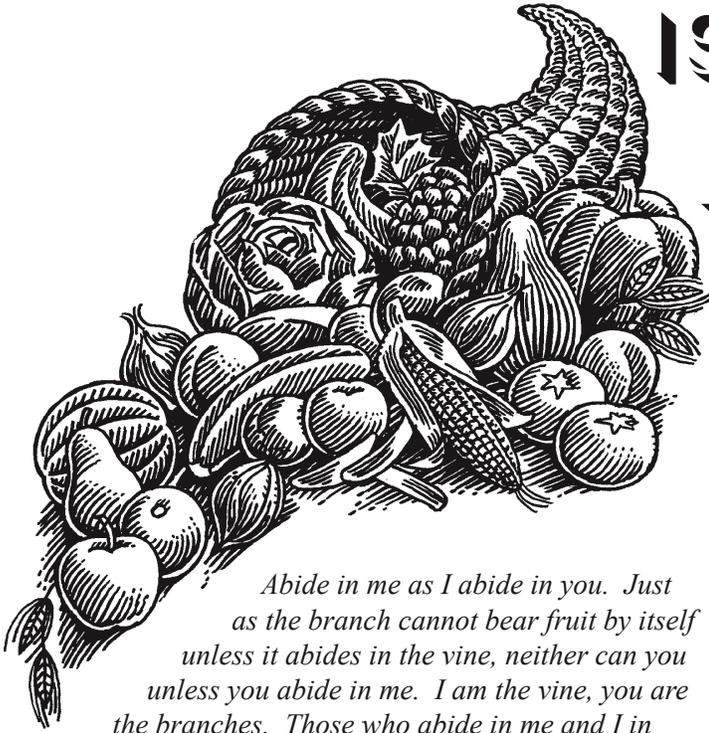
October is Popcorn Month! St. Paul's Cub Scouts, Pack 108, will be selling delicious and healthful Trail's End Gourmet Popcorn throughout the month of October (until Oct. 23, actually).

Trail's End Gourmet Popcorn is delicious, well-made and comes in many different sizes and varieties. They make great Christmas gifts for friends, family and co-workers. With your generous support, we can fund our Cub Scout pack's activities through May 2009!

Watch for our Cubs between Sunday services during October. They'll be ready to offer you some of the best popcorn you've ever tasted. And on behalf of our Pack Committee Chairman Fant Smith and myself, thank you very much for your support of Scouting at St. Pauls.

Will Cate, Pack 108 Cubmaster

OUTREACH IS BEARING MUCH FRUIT!



Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. —John 15:4-5

A message was written across the top of one of the Outreach Surveys we received: “Beware! We can lose focus of the Good News of Jesus Christ by following the gospel of ‘Good Works’!” That admonishment is well taken, and it begs an important question about the role of the Church, and of this parish, in doing Outreach Ministry: Is the purpose of the church to strengthen and build up believers, or is it to minister to the world of hurt and need? Yes.

When Jesus describes himself as the vine, maybe we tend to think of him as the conduit of water and nutrients that sustain the branches. Jesus did not refer to himself as the stalk, but seems to be hinting that he is something greater than that. The vine is incomplete without the branches and the leaves and the fruit. Jesus seems to be telling us that we must cling to and make ourselves part of his vine. But he makes it equally clear that he expects us to bear much fruit.

The Church exists to worship God and to form and nourish Christians. Only by abiding in Jesus, the Vine, do the branches live. So, how do we know the branches live? Jesus assumes that living branches produce fruit. Bearing much fruit is a natural result of a vibrant connection with Christ. The challenge provided by the warning above is to avoid producing fruit in order to prove that we abide in Christ.

We must seek always to abide in Christ. We’ve been promised that when we do, we bear fruit.

The image of Jesus as the vine is a picture of our communal life in him. Without being connected to him, and through him to one another, the branches wither and die for lack of nutrients and water. Without the branches’ connection to the vine, the fruit will not be nourished and supported to the day that it ripens. That is the primary role of the Church in Outreach Ministry: to nourish, support and provide structure for bearing the love of Christ into the world.

So, how do we apply that scriptural lesson to responding to Christ’s call to love and serve our brothers and sisters in need? The St. Paul’s family gathers regularly to worship together, nourishing and strengthening our spirits, energizing our hearts and hands to “go out and do the work (we’ve been given) to do”. We know that many, many of us are involved in serving God’s children through our work and through personal volunteer efforts. We know from Parish Profile and Outreach Ministry surveys that many of us would like to see St. Paul’s offer more opportunities for parish involvement in serving our community.

Your Outreach Ministry Committee is working hard to put that desire into action. This month, we will have our first quarterly “Bleed & Feed”, a combined blood drive for the Red Cross and food drive for the Rutherford County Food Bank on Sunday, October 19, at all three services. The following weekend, Saturday, October 25, is St. Paul’s Habitat for Humanity workday! We will provide labor and lunch for the “Builder’s Blitz”. More details for both of these events are included elsewhere in this month’s Evangel.

We also have the opportunity to provide a meal to hungry school children at Patterson Park on a monthly basis. Contact Suzanne Cate or Kris McCusker for more information if you’re interested in participating in the Patterson Park Project.

Save the date! Outreach Ministry Fair and Soup Supper: Wednesday, Nov. 19, beginning with Holy Eucharist at 5:30. More details in next month’s Evangel!

Advent Greenery



We are rapidly approaching the Holiday Season again, with our gathering at Thanksgiving to remember and give thanks for the bountiful blessings that we have received as a family and a Nation. Following that we will be observing the Season of Advent. This year the first Sunday of Advent will be November 30th.

In "A Dictionary for Episcopalians", by John N. Wall, Advent is described, as the first season of the church's liturgical year, beginning on the fourth Sunday before Christmas and ending with the first Eucharist of Christmas. Advent is traditionally regarded as one of two penitential seasons (the other being Lent). Advent is better thought of as a season of solemn preparation for remembering Christ's incarnation at Christmas and for anticipating the fulfillment of his promise to return in power and glory.

During the observance of Advent we adorn the church with beautiful evergreens. I am always reminded by these, that by being born as man and living among us, Christ brought the promise of Eternal Life. I look forward to the wonderful story of a young girl who gave birth to an infant that was the Son of God, to the accounts of the Shepherds, the Angels and the Wise Men. By our solemn observance of Advent we prepare ourselves for the wonderful story of Christ's birth.

The Flower Guild will soon be gathering the greenery to use in the arrangements for Advent. If you plan to prune any of your evergreens please keep in mind that we can use those cuttings. We will start collecting greenery during the week before Thanksgiving and will prepare the arrangements used in the church on November 29th. If you have any magnolia, Nandina, boxwood, holly, spruce, or other types of evergreens that you can donate please let us know. We have to purchase some things that we use, but try to keep the cost down by collecting any local plants that are available. Last year we had a wonderful response from members of our Parish, which gave us plenty of greenery to refresh our arrangements. Remember these stay up for weeks, so we have to remove any greenery that dries out, and in some cases have to completely remake arrangements during these weeks.

The Poinsettias have to be ordered very soon so that we will be able to get them delivered for use at Christmas. We hope that you will consider a dedication of one of these. As usual, your dedications will be printed in the Christmas Bulletin. Envelopes will be available for these dedications in Parish

Hall on the Flower Guild Bulletin Board and in the Narthex in our basket. Just fill in the dedication that you wish to have printed in the bulletin and place it, along with your check in the offering plate, our basket in the Narthex, or in the Flower Guild box in Parish Hall. We will announce in the Sunday Bulletin when we start taking donations for Poinsettias at the beginning of November, along with the price of the Poinsettias this year and when the deadline will be for turning those in to the office in order to get the dedications printed in the Christmas Bulletin.

The new Calendar for Altar Flower Dedications for 2009 will soon be up on our Bulletin Board in Parish Hall. We will have an announcement when the new calendar is in place. If you would like a dedication of Altar Flowers on a special date next year please fill in the date with your name. Also please remember to fill out an envelope with your dedication at least a week before it is to appear in the bulletin and place it in the offering plate, or put it in our box in Parish Hall. These dedications must be given to Kathy in the office no later than noon on Tuesday before they are to appear in the bulletin. We always try to do our best to get those printed correctly and not overlook anyone.

Again we in the Flower Guild would like to express our gratitude to all who have given us your support this year, with donations, your gracious comments about our work and your prayers for those who give of their time and talents to this ministry. A special thanks to Kathy and Susan in the office who are always so helpful and patient with me, to Dotty from the Altar Guild who is a wonderful source of information when I need advice, and to Father Matt. It is truly a joy to work with the dedicated group who are members of the Flower Guild and to be in the presence of the beauty of one of the gifts of God's Creation, flowers.

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions about donating altar flowers, greenery or Poinsettias. My number is 849-8612. Thank you,

Juanita Williams, Flower Guild Chairman

Catechesis

Among St. Paul's many blessings are our children. We have more than 50 children attending Catechesis of the Good Shepherd classes on Sunday mornings! That number includes nine 3 year olds! You haven't lived until you have been in a room of nine three year olds for Sunday School. What a blessing they are. Many, many thank yous to Jo Wintker, Martha Canada and Ca'tricia Robinson for volunteering to lead the 3 year olds. Jo and Martha have anchored this room for 7 years. That is quite a legacy.

Larry Puzzo and Sally Palmer have been Catechists for 7 years also. Larry and Sally, along with Susan Gaither are leading the Pre-K and Kindergarten class this year. Assistants are Lauren Greathouse and Jennifer Kropog. With a group of fifteen 4 and 5 year olds, we know they are working hard as well. If you attend the adult Christian Ed class in Parish Hall, you have probably heard their rousing rendition of "This Little Light of Mine"! It's hard to tell kids to be quiet when they are singing about Jesus.

Music is an important component of the Catechesis program. This year, all 1st - 6th graders are gathering together for music at the beginning of the Christian Ed hour. Even the youngest have eagerly learned the lyrics to "Lord of the Dance". Many thanks to Sudi Luboniecki for coordinating the music lesson. Krista Phillips, Libby Willis, Sandy Clemmons, and Beverly Calder are leading the lessons for the twenty 1st - 3rd graders. I honestly cannot tell you how many years' experience they have we've lost count! Their experience and leadership have shaped our Catechesis program; they are truly the deans of Catechesis. Thanks also to Linda Johnson and Kay Boyd for assisting this year.

After teaching Pre-K and Kindergarten for 4 years, I have moved over to teach the 4th-6th graders this year. Pidge Cash and Sudi Luboniecki have worked with this group

for several years; I am blessed to have their experience. We have a great group of ten kids. Many thanks also to Margaret Ordoubadian for continuing to make new materials for us; we will have more and more to work with as we study the Old Testament and the teachings of Jesus.

During the fall, the "ordinary" time of the church calendar, the youngest children spend time with the basic elements of the Eucharist - naming the articles used, the vestments of the priest and the seasons of the church year. The 1st-3rd graders are learning about the History of the Kingdom of God and the moments of sacred history. The 4th - 6th graders continue the lessons of sacred history with emphasis on each person's place in the Plan of God.

Above all else, we are learning to be in relationship - with ourselves, with each other and with God. Sometimes that is hard to explain or describe. We know that covenant is about identity. We find our identity as members of a group - first the group of children in an atrium together for an hour on Sunday mornings, then as part of St. Paul's, and finally as part of the world wide communion of Christians. We're working on that. Covenant is also about transformation. And we know that God is at work on that.

Thank you, God, for the little children.

Becky Potts, Co-Director, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd



Thanksgiving Lunch

You are cordially invited to share in St. Paul's Traditional Thanksgiving Lunch following the Thanksgiving Service

Thursday, November 27

Following the 10:30 am service

All are welcome!

Sign up sheets will be in the Parish Hall in October
Bring a dish and enjoy lunch with your church family

For more information, please contact
Gene & Janelee Wise 849-9869

GREETINGS FROM YOUR VESTRY!

We are pleased to share with you that we are actively involved in interviewing the candidates that the Search Committee recommended to us. We have been very impressed with the candidates so far and ask that you continue to pray for them and us as we complete this last leg of our journey. God has great things in store for St. Paul's and your Vestry is both thankful and humble to be part of this process.

A Brand New Way: Young Adult Leadership in the Episcopal Church

By Kathleen Jaco

For years I attended fairly regularly the Breakaway service held here at St. Paul's on Tuesday nights. It was the regular worship service I attended from 2003 until around 2006, although it morphed and changed in form during that time. Campus and Young Adult Ministry are on hiatus right now, as the diocese is beginning to build it up and recognize that it is vital to both the present and future of the Church.

Usually small in number, young adults (ages 18 to 30) seek a place to fellowship and belong in the church. Not all go to college, and some stay in college well into their 20s. What is the separation between Campus Ministry and Young Adult Ministry? Is there a separation? Do small numbers hinder the formation of these ministries? We are not the only ones dealing with these issues, and thanks to the grace of God (and urging from Suzanne Cate and Father Matt) I was able to attend a conference in Houston, Texas September 19-21: A Brand New Way!

The conference was put on by The Office of Young Adult Ministry of The Episcopal Church and for three days I met with 100+ other young adults and ministers to discuss these very issues. From all over the United States, U.S Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and Honduras we came together in the spirit of rejuvenating often small and under-the-radar ministries.

We met-and-greeted over traditional Texas style BBQ and held a service of Compline in the Cathedral in downtown Houston. Since we had representatives from Spanish speaking countries, throughout the whole conference we were treated to the mellifluous sounds of the Gospel and prayers read in Spanish, and also sang a few hymns in Spanish.



Kathleen (left) and other attendees at conference

Saturday morning we attended two workshops of our choosing. I attended "Polity 101" and "Words, Sacraments, Symbols." Polity 101 was a basic informational seminar outlining the structure of the church as well as how the national church interacts with the broader Anglican Communion. Words, Sacraments, Symbols focused on the liturgy we use and how we can shape it so that it can in turn shape us. Fascinating and lively discussions ensued in both seminars and I came out knowing more about my identity as an Episcopalian than I ever have before!

We also met in small groups to discuss best practices, what this ministry needs, and how the Office of Young Adult Ministry can help. We learned from each other's failures and successes and realized that often the results of this ministry are unquantifiable, yet that does not make them any less important.

I was both sad and overjoyed Sunday morning as we gathered one last time to break bread together and celebrate the Eucharist. The homily focused on the Gospel reading, Matthew 20:1-16 (the Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard). Whether we began this ministry years ago, or are just starting out, we are all working for the glory of God. We are called to tend the vines as well as plant them, for without them new growth cannot occur.

God our Father, you see your children growing up in an unsteady and confusing world: Show them that your ways give more life than the ways of the world, and that following you is better than chasing after selfish goals. Help them to take failure, not as a measure of their worth, but as a chance for a new start. Give them strength to hold their faith in you, and to keep alive their joy in your creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP p. 829)

St. Paul's Student Ministries presents...



Come watch your friends dressed up as rock stars and singing karaoke get bashed...I mean judged by "Simon", "Paula" and "Randy"! And if you have the guts, you can sing too!

This will be a HILARIOUS night!
Don't miss it!!

Cost: FREE

(The Café will be open so bring a few bucks...and a few friends!!)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The St. Paul's Student Ministries Fall Retreat is scheduled for November 14th – 16th.
Check the website for details on this trip which are coming very soon.

www.stpaulsyouthonline.com

Consecration Sunday

November 9, 2008

Consecration Sunday is a special Sunday for the parishioners of St. Paul's. It is a time for us to unite and thank God for His blessings. St. Paul's members have participated in these celebrations over the last four years. We invite St. Paul's many new families to join this year's celebration.

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. We are all followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. This Sunday encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?" We then make our financial commitment to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries for our parish and



the community. This is done during the service and, while voluntary, we encourage all of our members to attend and participate in this process.

Consecration Sunday will have two worship services, the regular 7:30 service and a joint 10:30 service combining the 8:45 and 11:00 services. Christian Education classes will not be held that day. The nursery will be fully staffed for your small children. Following the 10:30 service, the celebration will continue with a church-wide FREE luncheon at the Stones River Country Club. We encourage all families to join us.

Unlike some other parishes, we will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. Leading up to November 9, parishioners, clergy, and a special guest speaker will share their own experiences in giving of their monetary rewards to the Lord's service. In addition, you will be receiving information regarding the event and the special Celebration luncheon following the 10:30 joint service November 9.

We ask you to prayerfully consider what God is calling you to give for 2009 in the weeks leading up to Consecration Sunday. Thank you in advance for participating with us in the coming events.

Prayers & Thoughts

One day in 1206, St. Francis of Assisi knelt and prayed before the crucifix in the church of San Damiano, Italy. Here is one translation of the words he prayed that day.

"Most High, glorious God, enlighten the darkness of my heart; Give me right faith, sure hope and perfect charity. Fill me with understanding and knowledge, that I may fulfill your command."

—St. Francis of Assisi



God of our life, there are days when the burdens we carry chafe our shoulders and weigh us down; when the road seems dreary and endless, the skies gray and threatening; when our lives have no music in them, and our hearts are lonely, and our souls have lost their courage. Flood the path with light, we beseech Thee; turn our eyes to where the skies are full of promise; tune our hearts to brave music; give us the sense of comradeship with heroes and saints of every age; and so quicken our spirits that we may be able to encourage the souls of all who journey with us on the road of life, to Thy honor and glory.

—Saint Augustine



Seventeenth-century Bible scholar Matthew Henry had great insight into God's will when he proclaimed, 'When God intends great mercies for His people, He first of all sets them a 'praying.'

Did you ever consider that when you feel the urge to engage in deep meaningful prayer, it might be God's preparation for 'great mercies'?

OCTOBER 2008

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|---|---|--|--|---|--|
| NOTES: Fall Break Oct. 6th-10th. County and City | | | | | | |
| 5 PENTECOST 22 7:30, 8:45 & 11:00 am HE 8:45 am Children's Church 9:55 am Christian Education 4 pm Belle Meade Baroque 5 pm Dream Group NO EXPERIENCE/YOUTH 7 pm AA | 6 11:30 am Staff Meeting 5:30 pm Alanon 6 pm Girl Scouts 6:30 pm Pilgrimage 7 pm AA 7 pm EJM | 7 4 pm RSCM Rehearsal 6:15 pm Dream Group 6:30 pm Cub Scout Troop Bears 7 pm Nightly Bible Study 7 pm AA | 8 7 am & 5:30 pm HE 9 am Bible Study 5 pm Weight Watchers NO D-GROUPS/YOUTH 7 pm AA 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal | 9 9 am CPR Training for Girl Scouts 6:30 pm Stephen Ministry Training at Holy Cross, Murfreesboro 7 pm AA 7 pm Cub Scout Pack 108 Committee Meeting | 10 9 am CPR Training for Girl Scouts 11:30 am Cooking To Build Lunch @ The Civic Plaza 6 pm AA Potluck 7 pm AA | 11 11 am Blessing of Pets 7 pm AA |
| 12 PENTECOST 23 7:30, 8:45 & 11:00 am HE With Holy Baptism at 11 am Service 8:45 am Children's Church 9:55 am Christian Education 5 pm Dream Group 5 pm Xperience (Youth) 7 pm AA | 13 11:30 am Staff Meeting 5:30 pm Alanon 6:30 pm Pilgrimage 7 pm AA 7 pm EJM | 14 12 noon Morning Side Delivery 4 pm RSCM Rehearsal 6 pm Vestry Meeting 6 pm Catholic Charities of Nash 6:15 pm Dreams 7 pm Nightly Bible Study 7 pm AA | 15 7 am & 5:30 pm HE 9 am Bible Study 5 pm Weight Watchers 6 pm Monthly Out Reach Meeting 6:30 pm D-Groups (Youth) 7 pm AA 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal EVANGEL DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER | 16 6:30 pm Stephen Ministry Training at Holy Cross, Murfreesboro 7 pm AA | 17 5:30 pm Parent's Night Out! 7 pm AA | 18 9 am DOK 7 pm AA |
| 19 PENTECOST 24 7:30 am until 11:30 am Bleed and Feed Blood Drive 7:30, 8:45 & 11:00 am HE 8:45 am Children's Church 9:55 am Christian Education 9:55 am Coffee With The Clergy 5 pm Dream Group 5 pm Xperience (Youth) 7 pm AA | 20 11:30 am Full Staff Meeting 5:30 pm Alanon 6 pm Girl Scouts 6:30 pm The Pilgrimage 7 pm AA 7 pm EJM | 21 4 pm RSCM Rehearsal 6:30 pm Cub Scout/Bears 7 pm Nightly Bible Study 7 pm AA | 22 7 am & 5:30 pm HE 9 am Bible Study 5 pm Weight Watchers 6:30 pm D-Groups (Youth) 7 pm AA 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal | 23 CURSILLO WEEKEND 6:30 pm Cub Scout Pack 108 Meeting 6:30 pm Stephen Ministry Training at Holy Cross, Murfreesboro 7 pm AA | 24 CURSILLO WEEKEND 5 pm Cub & Family Campout 7 pm AA | 25 CURSILLO WEEKEND Habitat Builder's Blitz Whole Foods Buying Order Due 7 pm AA |
| 26 PENTECOST 25 CURSILLO WEEKEND Reformation Sunday 7:30, 8:45 & 11:00 am HE 8:45 am Children's Church 9:55 am Christian Education 5 pm Dream Group 5 pm American Idol Karoke (Youth) 7 pm AA | 27 11:15 am Staff Meeting 5:30 pm Alanon 6 pm Girl Scouts 6:30 pm The Pilgrimage 7 pm AA 7 pm EJM | 28 4 pm RSCM Rehearsal 6:15 pm Dreams 7 pm Nightly Bible Study 7 pm AA | 29 7 am & 5:30 pm HE 9 am Bible Study 5 pm Weight Watchers 6:30 pm D-Groups (Youth) 7 pm AA 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal | 30 6:30 pm Stephen Ministry Training at Holy Cross, Murfreesboro 7 pm AA | 31 7 pm AA | NOTES |



| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| David Hatfield..... 10/01 | David Turner..... 10/15 |
| Ernest (Sam) Lane..... 10/01 | Molly Bartsch..... 10/17 |
| Jacob Brown..... 10/02 | Jordan Brown..... 10/17 |
| Gene Wise..... 10/02 | Sue Koechlein..... 10/17 |
| Abby Geppert..... 10/02 | Jeannie Roberts..... 10/17 |
| Alvin Allgood..... 10/03 | Mamie Scott..... 10/17 |
| Claire Bradford..... 10/04 | Melanie Clayton..... 10/18 |
| Newt Molloy..... 10/04 | Virginia Tipps..... 10/18 |
| Robert (Evan) Willis..... 10/04 | Erin Wilson..... 10/18 |
| Gayle Boyd..... 10/05 | Cathrine Gordon..... 10/20 |
| Luke Cassidy..... 10/05 | Laurette Hughes..... 10/20 |
| Terri Sterling..... 10/05 | Freda Kramer..... 10/20 |
| RuthAnna Thomason..... 10/07 | Daisy Gannon..... 10/21 |
| Samuel Turner..... 10/07 | John Morris..... 10/21 |
| Margaret Huffman..... 10/08 | Brianna Phillips..... 10/21 |
| Alice Gibson..... 10/09 | Janice Stewart..... 10/21 |
| Jennifer McGuire..... 10/09 | Dale Tipps..... 10/22 |
| Joyce Adkins..... 10/10 | Tim Seneker..... 10/23 |
| Fred Rogers..... 10/10 | David Cate..... 10/24 |
| Stephanie Smith..... 10/10 | Paul Kelly..... 10/24 |
| Christopher Curtis..... 10/11 | Andrew Schneider..... 10/25 |
| Jessica Beckwith..... 10/12 | Edward (Ed) Arning..... 10/26 |
| Matthew Canada..... 10/12 | John Callow..... 10/26 |
| Richard (Jake) Arning..... 10/13 | Matthew Elrod-Erickson.. 10/26 |
| Tomasa Brito..... 10/13 | Wendi Watts..... 10/26 |
| Connie Moffett..... 10/13 | James (Jim) Calder..... 10/28 |
| John Worley..... 10/13 | Dr. Elizabeth Bray..... 10/29 |
| Ellen Donovan..... 10/14 | Frances (Libby) Jones..... 10/29 |
| Charlie Moudy..... 10/14 | Martha Rowland..... 10/29 |
| Elizabeth Long..... 10/15 | Sandy Gleaves..... 10/31 |
| Ernestine Reeder..... 10/15 | Luke Schmackle..... 10/31 |

MEMBERSHIP RECORDS UPDATE

If you have moved, changed your home or cell phone numbers, or have had a change in your e-mail address, please contact the church office to update your records.

PUBLICATION DEADLINES

Announcements for the Sunday bulletin are due in the church office by Wednesday, 12:00 noon, each week. Articles for the monthly Evangel newsletter are due in the church office by the 15th of each month. The deadline for the November Evangel is Wednesday OctoberS 15, 2008. Please e-mail all information to evangel@stpaulsmboro.org.

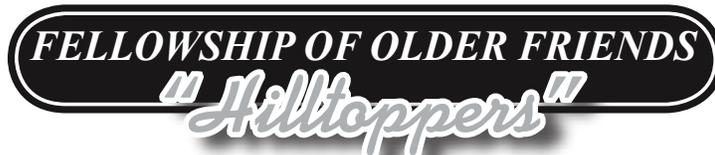
PARISH STAFF

The Rev. Matt Greathouse, Priest In Charge
 Chuck Phillips, Sr. Warden
 Joshua Courtney, Minister to Youth
 Susan Greenall, Office Administrator
 Dr. David L. Rowe, Assistant to the Rector
 Ralph Smith, Assistant to the Rector
 Angela Tipps, Minister of Music
 Jacob Courtney, Assistant Minister to Youth
 Aimee Spurlock, Choirmaster RSCM
 Kathy Warlick, Administrative Assistant
 Kathy and Bill Jones, Co-Treasurers

VESTRY

Wardens: Chuck Phillips,
 Rodney George, Jeff James, Bill Williams

 Kathleen Herzog, Kristi Hay, Barry Huber,
 Ron Messier, Robin Newell, Marcie Richmond,
 Fant Smith, Jane Smith



Older friends help each other when they need:

- Transportation • Visits
- Phone Calls • Help with Errands

We are eager to know of any parishioner who may have these needs OR if you are willing to provide some of these services.

– Call –

Jo Wintker at 907-5725 or Ralph Smith at 556-6414.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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 Murfreesboro, TN 37133

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 Website www.stpaulsmboro.org

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
116 N. Academy Street
Murfreesboro, Tn 37130

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**Belle Meade Baroque Concert at St. Paul's
Sunday, October 5th, 4 pm • Open To The Public • Admission is FREE**

October 2008



My brothers, whenever you have to face trials of many kinds, count yourselves supremely happy, in the knowledge that such testing of your faith breeds fortitude, and if you give fortitude full play you will go on to complete a balanced character that will fall short in nothing. --- James 1:2 (New English Bible)

They watched that TV golf tournament played in mid-summer's Scotland. The course is on the sea and the wind howls, blowing steadily at 45 miles an hour. These two old amateurs were "pretty good" golfers as young men and one said, "I'd never be able to play that course. I hit the ball too high. The wind would kill me."

The other said, "If you had to play that course, week after week, you'd quit hitting the ball high. You'd learn to keep it low."

Adversity can be a gift, a learning and growing experience. My grandmother, widowed at age 28, on the prairie with four children, the youngest only two, said, "The Lord never gives you more than you can handle." There are some who have ample reason to argue with that. There are times when life is overwhelming; nevertheless one is apt to discover great strength and faith in trying times. God offers eternal hope that we are especially mindful of in times of stress.