



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

THE

CURSILLO WEEKEND APPROACHING



The Diocese of Tennessee will hold its 63d Cursillo weekend beginning on Thursday evening, October 25 to Sunday afternoon, October 28. During these days participants will hear

about Christian living and experienced its being lived out in a warm and "laid back" environment. This happens through a mix of short talks, personal faith stories, and fun activities whose focus is to discover who Jesus is and how he works in our lives. If you have been a Christian but have felt there's just something lacking in your spiritual life, or if you have been thinking you really want to begin responding to the love you have received but are not sure quite how to go about that, Cursillo could be the place for you. I have heard it said that this one weekend experience can accelerate your growth in Christian living better than anything else. That certainly was my experience. If you would like to attend this weekend or would like to explore it further, please talk to Fr. Matt, David Rowe, Kathleen Herzog, or Joyce Adkins. We'll be delighted to answer any question you might have. You can also visit Cursillo's web site at www.tnepiscursillo.org.

David Rowe

COX FAMILY PICNIC at the Oaklands Saturday, October 20



This is one of only a few events each year that we get to have the entire parish together. For many years the picnic has been held at the beautiful farm of Bill and Arlene Cox. After hosting this wonderful event for 20 years, Bill and Arlene have graciously agreed to move the picnic to a venue closer to town. They are looking forward to attending the picnic instead of hosting!

This year's picnic will be held at the park at Oakland's Mansion on Maney Avenue. The newly renovated park has a large pavilions and restrooms, a play area for the children, and a large area perfect for Frisbee throwing or pickup football games. The picnic will be October 20th, from 11:00-3:00. There will be inflatables for the children, and the committee is working on other games and activities.

There will be maps and sign-ups in the Parish Hall soon. Please plan to attend! Mike Becker and Kent Sterling will be chairing this event. Please see them or Rodney George with any questions you have.

CONSECRATION SUNDAY NOVEMBER 18, 2007



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. For those of you who have worshiped at St. Paul's over the last three years, you have experienced this unique introspection. This year, we invite the many, many new families here at St. Paul's to join in this 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

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EVERY
ANGEL

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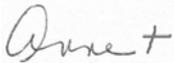
A number of people have mentioned to me how much they like the blessing I use at the end of our Eucharistic liturgy and have asked for a copy of it (see below).

I first heard it used by my former bishop, The Right Rev. Hays Rockwell (now retired) of the diocese of Missouri. I loved it then, and love it still. I never had a chance to ask him about its source, but have since learned that it is a paraphrased extraction of the text of I Thessalonians 5:14-15. Over time there have been any number of references to it in one form or another, including Bishop Duncan Gray I, fifth bishop of Mississippi and grandfather of that diocese's present bishop, Duncan Gray III. A version of it is used by the Archbishop of Canterbury, and has been quoted by Queen Elizabeth II in her Christmas address. It is also echoed in the hymn "Go Forth for God," Number 347 in our hymnal.

In the form passed down to me it really doubles as both dismissal and blessing, using as it does words of sending forth. For all its brevity I find it to be a wonderful summary of the gospel, and I draw from it encouragement, inspiration, challenge and comfort. It is my wish that it prove to be that for you, as well, though God will use it to work in you that which you need most. I share it with you with joy, and with my blessing.

Go out into the world in peace. Be of good courage; hold fast that which is good. Render to no one evil for evil. Strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; tend the sick; honor all people. Love and serve the Lord rejoicing in the power of God's Holy Spirit; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you now and remain with you always.

In Christ's love,



Anne Fraley+, Interim Rector



MEETING REMINDERS

The *Men's Club* meets the first Thursday of each month in the parish hall. The October meeting will be held on October 4th, at 6:00 p.m. *Ladies' Night Out* meets the same evening, October 4th, at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Libby Willis, 730 East Burton Street.

The *Daughters of the King* meets the third Thursday of each month. The next meeting will be on October 18th, at 6:30 p.m.

The *Yarn Crafters* meet the third Sunday of each month. They will meet October 21st at 2 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

The *Dream Group* meets Tuesday nights, October 2nd, 16th, and 30th, at 6.15 pm. In October, the group will also meet for a special session on Wednesday, October 17th, from 9 a.m. - 5.30 p.m.

The *Artists Way* group meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday evenings of each month. The October meetings will be the 11th and 25th.

The *Vestry* meets on the second Tuesday of each month. The next regular, monthly meeting will be on October 9th at 6:00 p.m.

ST. PAUL'S MUSICAL NOTES EVENSONG RECITAL SERIES

St. Paul's Choir and Choristers will lead Choral Evensong on the following Sundays: November 4 (All Saints' Sunday), February 10 (First Sunday in Lent), and May 18 (Trinity Sunday). The services will begin at 4:00 p.m., and childcare is provided. Preceding each Evensong is a recital by some very talented instrumentalists in our parish.

Stephen Smith, tenor, will perform the first Evensong recital on November 4. Stephen is Associate Professor of Voice at MTSU, where he has taught since 1998. Having received two degrees and a Performer's Certificate from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, Stephen has sung opera roles throughout Europe and the United States. He and his wife, Ione, have three daughters: Sara, a freshman at Rhodes College in Memphis, Anna and Stephanie, both students at Riverdale High School.

Future recitals on the Evensong Series include David Loucky, trombone (February 10) and Cathrine Gordon, flute (May 18).

RSCM DEBUT

Our choristers, under the direction of Aimee Spurlock, will sing at All Saint's in Smyrna on Sunday, November 4, with Bishop Bauer-schmidt celebrating confirmation. Then that afternoon they will return to St. Paul's



to join the adult choir for Choral Evensong. As you know, choristers from St. Paul's and All Saints are combining for rehearsals, and we are pleased that they are able to join forces in leading worship.

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

9:50 - 10:50, Sunday Mornings

Good Shepherd Atrium

for children age 3 (by Sept. 30, 2007)

led by Jo Wintker, Martha Canada, David Kirkham
located behind Parish Hall

Mustard Seed Atrium

for children age 4 (by Sept. 30, 2007) - Kindergarten

led by: Becky Potts, Sally Palmer, Larry Puzzo
located behind Parish Hall

True Vine Atrium

for children 1st grade - 3rd grade

led by: Krista Phillips, Beverly Calder, Melanie Clayton
located in St. Margaret's Hall

Plan of God Atrium

for children 4th grade - 6th grade

led by: Libby Willis, Sudi Luboniecki, Pidge Cash
located in St. Margaret's Hall

for more information contact

Libby Willis

Becky Potts

898-0317

895-1350

willis2010@bellsouth.net

rebeccapotts@bellsouth.net

A FEW WORDS FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

Thanks be to God! We, as Anglicans, are very familiar with this response as we go about our worship through the liturgy. Speaking for myself, one of the “traps” in simply responding at the appointed time is the loss of why we respond. The answer is as obvious as the rapidly graying hair on my head: all of our blessings come from God!

Along with thanking God, there are many of you that also deserve our collective thanks for all that you do to further God’s Kingdom. The individual application of your gifts and talents has created and sustained this wonderful community that we all enjoy at St. Paul’s. I give thanks specifically for:

Jacob Courtney—for his help with the youth and, with his friends, for playing at the Christian Ed kickoff.

Ken Halliburton—for his leadership in the Fall Christian Ed Kickoff event.

Kent Sterling—for his willingness to sweat over a hot grill at that event.

John Green—for his help in this period of transition in the youth program.

All the Lay Youth Ministers—for their help in making our youth program such a vital part of St. Paul’s.

Krista Phillips—for her help in enacting a new Sunday morning program for the youth.

Lynn Wilson, Barry Huber, Claire Bradford, Gary McGuire, Ernestine Reeder, Richard & Carol Detmer, Jeannie Roberts, Ted & Rhonda Ramsey, Ca’Tricia Robinson—for teaching in that new program.

Libby Willis, Ca’Tricia Robinson, Jerry Redditt, and Becky & Alex Potts—for their help in preparing our Christian Ed space for the new year.

Bill Williams—for the myriad of projects he does for the health and care of our campus.

David Rowe—for the enormous unseen work that keeps so many things going.

David Rowe & Joyce Adkins—for their role in re-invigorating the Pilgrimage.

Don Clayton, Ron Messier, and David Rowe—for their role in the Adult Christian Education program.

All the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Catechists—for their commitment to that program.

Susan Greenall and Kathy Warlick—for their persistent commitment to the minutia of our healthy parish.

Rodney George—for the lending and donation of talented professionals for several projects on the campus.

Suzanne Cate—for her overwhelming devotion to Compass and EfM.

Will Cate—for his help with the IT needs of the office.

Our acolytes—for their service and the way they enhance our services.

Alex Hollis, John Green, and Tracey Ring for their encouragement and direction of our acolyte program.

Newton Molloy and the Search Committee—for their commitment and boundless energy in guiding the parish through the process of discovering its identity and preparing for the next phase of God’s plan for St. Paul’s.

Don Dunlap—for his tireless effort at keeping our church bus running and off the side of the road.

Alex Hollis, Tim Seneker, and Richard Detmer—for their willingness to devote so much time and energy to the needs of our website.

Angela Tipps, Morris Hamby, Ed Rogers, and the choir—for their role in making the music program at St. Paul’s such a shining success.

Aimee Spurlock—for her expertise and guidance in the initial phases of the RSCM program at St. Paul’s.

Ralph Smith and the Stephen Ministers—for their quiet, but not overlooked, ministry.

Jo Wintker—for her persistent effort to raise our consciousness of the senior members of our parish.

Vestry—for their unbelievable commitment to the health and vitality of the parish.

Daughters of the King—for their quiet, but essential, role in supporting this community with prayer and ministry.

Anne Fraley—for her calm presence and vision for this period of our life together.

Jerry Redditt—for all the things she does, including Children’s Church, that are done with little or no fanfare or recognition but without which our community would be so much less vital.

Juanita Williams and the Flower Guild—for their tireless work to beautify our worship spaces.

Dotty McClung and the Altar Guild—for their silent and enormous devotion to the sacramental life of our parish.

Ed McClung and the Archives Task Force—for their work of preservation and compiling of our parish’s history

The Men’s Club and Ladies’ Night Out—for their openness and inviting atmosphere that give so many people an entrance into parish life.

Shannon Turner and the Nursery staff—for their love and care for the youngest children in the parish.

Jane Smith and her helpers—for their work on bringing the Red Cross Bloodmobile to St. Paul’s.

Bonnie Black and others—for raising the parish’s awareness of the need to recycle.

Kris McCusker, Monica Wetzig, Laureen Greathouse, Alicia Hollis, Collier Smith, Peggy Seneker for their help as Interim Nursery Coordinators (working a Sunday or two in the nursery).

Kathleen Herzog and all those who participated in Operation Inasmuch. Christina Brown at First Baptist said the day was “flawless” and she was tickled to death at the response. She mentioned that there were more St. Paul’s members signed up to work than ever before!

Fran Lovell, Kristy Hay, Tracey Ring, Wendi Watts, Sandy Gleaves, Janet Arning, Kathy Jones, Lisa Halliburton and Alicia Hollis—for their quiet dedication as members of the counting teams. (I CAN’T SEEM TO MOVE THIS PARAGRAPH TO THE LEFT...)

I am certain that I have overlooked many people who deserve our sincere thanks. Please be assured that it is not intentional, but speaks to the depth and breadth of how involved we all are as a community. I count my service with you as a real blessing in my life, and I thank God and each of you for the opportunity.

God’s Peace,

Chuck

Chuck Phillips, Senior Warden



SEARCH COMMITTEE

Who are the ministers of the Church? The ministers of the Church are lay persons, bishops, priests, and deacons.

What is the ministry of the laity? The ministry of lay persons is to represent Christ and his Church; to bear witness to him wherever they may be; and, according to the gifts given then, to carry on Christ's work of reconciliation in the world; and to take their place in the life, worship, and governance of the Church.

If you've been through Pilgrimage and paid attention when David Rowe asked those questions, you knew they were in the catechism in the Book of Common Prayer. And if you have children in the catechesis program, they probably knew that, too.

After asking that question, David talks about the importance of the order the ministers are listed in. Laity is listed first because it is the most important. The Church is described as the Body of which Jesus Christ is the Head and of which all baptized persons are members. It is called the People of God, the New Israel, a holy nation, a royal priesthood, and the pillar and ground of truth. (In case you were wondering, that's in the catechism, too.)

And now for a question and answer not in the catechism. Why is the search committee writing about the catechism? The search committee is writing about what is in the catechism because as we search for a priest to become the new rector at St. Paul's, we need to understand that person's role in the church and the role of our community. Our new rector will be a very important piece of the St. Paul's puzzle, but he or she is by no means the most important one. The most important piece is our community, who we are—individually and collectively—and who we want to become.

During October, the search committee will conduct a self-study that will include a questionnaire for parishioners 16 years old and older. The search committee also will collect information and ideas from various ministry groups. Everyone will have an opportunity to make their voice heard, and we hope all of you will take advantage of it.

One of the reasons for doing this self-study is to help the search committee create a job description for our next rector and a parish profile that will be sent to candidates for that job. But, like the ministry of priests in the church, it isn't the only purpose for doing this. Most importantly, it's an opportunity for us to reflect on our church community and to better understand our ministries and ourselves.

Oh, and in case you want to find out more about what's in the catechism, it's on pages 845-862 of the Prayer Book. You just might be surprised what you find there.

KEEPING THINGS STRAIGHT

There is so much going at St. Paul's—so much activity and so much use of our facilities. Thank you to each team and group who is so careful about helping to keep our campus neat and orderly. As we continue to utilize our community's space—and as that use becomes ever more frequent—it becomes increasingly important to be mindful of the need to keep it straight for everyone who is using it. If you need help disposing of clutter or extra materials, please let us know. We all want to be faithful stewards of our tremendous resources.



WHAT'S MYROLE IN THIS SEARCH PROCESS?

Over the years I've spent a lot of time participating in and leading searches. One was for a new rector (Fr. Wise was the result) and three searches were for a new bishop (Bishops Herlong and Bauer-schmidt). While they took place in different times and circumstances, they shared a common reality. The community's real job was not looking for a new spiritual leader; it was faithfully fulfilling God's call to discover ourselves.

The story of Exodus and wandering in the desert is a textbook guide for us. Moses receives a call and a commission, to lead the Hebrews out of Egypt to Mount Sinai where they can worship Him. After that God will lead them to a new homeland, and it might appear that was God's intent. But if that were so, God would have taken them there immediately. Instead, he leads them through the wilderness for forty years before bringing them to Canaan. Obviously, the point of their wandering was not a destination. Rather, it was to discover what it meant to be God's people.

So it is with us. Our destination in this search is not a new rector. God wants us to understand what it means for us at St. Paul's to be a people of God. A lot has happened in the fifteen years of Fr. Wise's leadership. We've grown in numbers and in facilities, and the temptation is to think that all this adds up simply to bigger numbers. The reality is, we're different than we were, not just bigger, but qualitatively different, as a family, as a worshiping community, as a gift to the people of Murfreesboro, Rutherford County, and the Diocese of Tennessee.

What does this mean? How has God gifted us? And how does he want us to use our gifts for His great purpose—making the Kingdom more and more a reality in this time and place?

These are the real questions of our search. Soon the Search Committee will ask us to do our work in this process, to look at each other and listen to each other and ask, "Where is God leading us?" God is calling us, as God called the Hebrew children, to leave our safe place and encounter him, not in the familiar but in newness, not in comfort but in struggle, not in assurance but in questioning. We could, like so many of the Hebrews, say "No. Let us go back to Egypt where we had meat to eat and water to drink." But we won't do that; our history as a church family proves that. Like Moses and the faithful ones we will say, "Guide us oh thou great Jehovah."

David Rowe

CALLING ALL HILLTOPPERS

Autumn is here and so are some cool opportunities for "senior" parishioners. If you are age 60 or over you should receive a bright yellow post card (in the mail) outlining some of these opportunities and asking for your input. Please check your choices on the post card and leave in the designated basket in the Narthex.

Remember you are at the top of the hill, not over it.



FREE FOODS IS GREAT, BUT FREE HUGS ARE BETTER!

Suzanne Cate, Campus Minister



I've recently come across two articles about Young Adult Ministry that have given me cause to re-examine how we do ministry, particularly with those in our community between the ages of 18 and 30. If you believe, as I do, that cultivating Christian leaders among our young adults is vital to the health of the church for both the future and the present, then the issue of how we minister

to those potential leaders is worth studying and praying about.

The first article that blipped across my radar screen is one that appeared in Christianity Today almost a year ago, announcing the decline and fall of Willow Creek's highly-touted Axis ministry for young adults. Willow Creek is the huge mega-church that is often held up as the exemplar of church growth, and Axis was a church-within-a-church that catered to the cultural expectations of the young crowd. Axis attracted 2000 young worshippers in its heyday, but had recently experienced a precipitous drop-off.¹

The decline is said to have occurred when the members of the original surge outgrew the demographic for whom Axis was created. An interim pastor of the ministry at the time stated that he felt that the Axis program didn't adequately connect the 20-somethings to the rest of the congregation. According to James Wilhoit, Wheaton College professor of Christian formation and ministry: "Young people are actually yearning for a holistic community rather than something that looks like a club."²

The second article that came to my attention is a summary of a recent LifeWay research project seeking understanding of the "dropout" phenomenon endemic to the 18-22 year old crowd.³ The research seems to indicate that about 70 per cent of that age group will stop going to church for at least a year. The most common reason given for dropping out involved life changes, such as going to college or the demands of entering the workforce.

Developmentally, these young people are behaving in ways that are entirely appropriate for their stage of life. Young adulthood is all about testing and challenging the "givens" of their lives. I don't think that we're necessarily called to try to prevent that testing; on the contrary, I believe it would be most helpful to provide an accepting, supportive environment in which young adults can ask the hard questions that arise when faith is confronted with the difficult realities of life in a broken world.

Other common reasons for leaving have to do with feeling disconnected or undervalued. Young people are by nature passionately seeking meaning for their lives as they establish themselves as individuals and attempt to define their values and beliefs. The church could and should offer opportunities for young people to contribute their passionate energy and gifts to meet the needs of others. Outreach and social justice ministry opportunities provide a much-needed outlet for that energy. The dedication and enthusiasm that young adults bring to their service in the community can be an inspiration for the rest of the congregation to look beyond our comfortable "fork and knife ministries".

The young people surveyed by LifeWay stated that they often felt "invisible" to the rest of the congregation. One of my goals as a Campus Minister for St. Paul's is to help all of us to see these young people when they walk in the door, to recognize the very real obstacles they had to overcome to reach the pews, and to celebrate their

presence among us! I ask each of you to watch for these young people, and when you see them, don't assume that they are looking for other young people just like themselves with whom to connect. The reality is that they want to connect with *you* and share your life experience! So, please, welcome them as you would anyone else; express an interest in their lives and share yours with them. College kids and other young adults certainly enjoy free food, but they long for friendship and free hugs!

¹Madison Trammel, Axis Denied, (Christianity Today, October 2006).

²Trammel.

³Libby Lovelace, New View of Young Adults, (LifeWay Biblical Solutions for Life, 2007).

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

UNITED THANK OFFERING

The United Thank Offering gives us an opportunity to turn our prayers of thanks into action. By contributing to the offering we unite our thankfulness with that of many others throughout the Episcopal Church. The offering is turned into grants that address compelling human need and expand the mission and ministry of the church. The resulting actions have been felt around the world since 1889. This is a fully endowed fund, which means 100% of all UTO offerings collected are distributed in grants each year.

Collection boxes are available in the Narthex on the visitors table, in the blue basket. There are also sample prayers and other information in the basket. The power of the Blue Box is unlimited. It can be used at home on the table, by the bed or in the car. It can be personal or one shared by the whole family. Currently we collect the offering around Mother's Day.

If you have questions about the offering, please contact Alice Gibson at 890-4681.



ADVENT CRAFT AND BAKE SALE



The Advent Craft and Bake Sale is an annual event. It is held around the beginning of Advent. Adults and children in the parish contribute baked goods and other homemade goodies as well as craft items. We have even auctioned paintings, quilts and other items. Each year it is a treat to see the talents of our fellow parishioners. This project supports our Rector's Discretionary Fund. This fund is used to assist people who come to our church with financial needs, especially during the winter months. This year the event will be held on December 2nd.

With the help of many in the parish, this event as always been a success. If you have questions about the Advent Craft and Bake Sale, please contact Alice Gibson at 890-4681

A WORD FROM THE WISE OR OTHERWISE

Information has come to me that our Parish is doing well and growing. It's no surprise to me – the leadership both clerical and lay is strong and committed to following Jesus.

Janelee and I have found being retired to be a new experience. We have experienced joy and some loneliness. It has been wonderful meeting new people, worshiping in new Christian environments and lonely because we miss our Parish family and worship. Our experience of the Christian communities is that they are really good spiritual homes but, for us, they fall short of St. Paul's.

We've traveled a lot. Including our trips to Illinois, we've been out of town about half the time since retirement. The highlights of travel were our two-week cruise around South America (the penguins were great), our trip to the Sun Belt Basketball Tournament, and our pilgrimage to Ireland. Almost all the travel in the United State was made in our new Toyota Matrix thanks to your wonderful gift.

We are going to lead another pilgrimage to The Holy Land at the end of February (look for the announcement in this newsletter) and we are going to lead a journey to Russia on July 18th 2008. Those who have not had a pilgrimage to the Holy Land would have a powerful experience on this pilgrimage, and I believe everyone would enjoy Russia. Brochures are coming (or may be in place) shortly.

One fascinating spiritual encounter occurred during our cruise around South America. On Saturday evening the second week of our cruise, I went to inquire about Sunday services the following day. I was told they were not being offered. So I asked, "How about Ash Wednesday next week?" No, they said. I told them I was a retired minister and would be willing to lead them. They said the Cruise Director would contact me.

We met Sunday at 10 a.m. He said Ash Wednesday would be fine and that they had a lot of items for services left on board by the last Catholic priest. They had vestments (although they were Easter colors), chalices, patens, bread and wine. I used their computer and told them I knew my partner, Fr. Matt Greathouse, would send me the service of the Episcopal Church that we would want to use. The Cruise Director said they would help us any way they could.

There was, of course, a missing ingredient – ASHES! I frankly didn't know what we would use. However, the day before Ash Wednesday, we were on the Falkland Islands (English, of course). We went by the Anglican Cathedral and asked if we could get some ashes for the service. They had no Dean, but we talked with the spouse of the priest and he said they had no ashes but he was preparing them that evening from last year's crosses (made from a local grass that looks much like palms). He said, I do have one cross I can give you and another parishioner had another. We took those back to the ship and we came up with ashes for Ash Wednesday. The place of worship was the lounge A.K.A. the bar on top of the ship. With a simple one line announcement in the ship's daily activity planner, we still had 89 (out of 1,065) worshippers. All received imposition of ashes and all except one received communion. The chalice bearers were Presbyterian and Methodists. Many later told me they had never received the imposition of ashes and it was a powerful experience for them. I must admit that it is a bit difficult to preach about fasting and self denial on a cruise but we sure felt the presence of Jesus in that place.

We pray God's continued blessing on you and pray that you are walking hand in hand with Jesus. God loves you and so do we.

Gene & Janelee Wise

ST. PAUL'S WEBSITE NEWS



Your Communications Committee is working diligently to upgrade the "look and feel" of our website. This is no small undertaking. We are blessed to have the help of some very talented people in the area of marketing and design. Our chief consultant is none other than Jim Colella, who has helped develop the image and brand of many big organizations that you would recognize. Jim is a long-time friend of Father Matt and is donating his professional services as a ministry. Jim has helped us secure a very talented graphic designer and we are tremendously excited about this project!

In the very near future when you type in St. Paul's web address, you will see a new page, which is called a "splash page." This is just a space holder while the construction of the new website is underway.

We have identified many things that we would like our new website to do for us. The three primary focuses are: 1) to serve as a welcoming instrument to those seeking a church, 2) to serve as a welcoming tool for Episcopalians new to Murfreesboro, 3) to serve as a communications tool for all our members.

Our research has shown us that far too many church websites fail to do what they were intended to do. Many sites are not welcoming; they are often cold or too busy; they include jargon that visitors do not understand or appreciate, and they rarely make ministry easier for their members. We hope to avoid all of these problems when our new product is completed. Our language will be welcoming and non-technical. We intend for the information on our site to be easy to find and the site intuitive to negotiate. We plan to incorporate many functional elements such as limited secure access to portions of our church data base so that you can use your home computer to update your own information anytime it changes. We plan to have a significantly improved calendar of events. We are looking into a video tour of our campus. We hope to have written and possibly audio copies of sermons available online. We will have our beautiful choir presentations available. We will have a more robust photo album. We intend to make it possible for you to register for or schedule events for the church from your home computer. These are just a few of the things we hope to incorporate. We welcome your ideas as well. If you have an idea about our website please contact Alex Hollis, Tim Seneker, or Richard Detmer.



PARENTS NIGHT OUT

Costume Party

October 19th, 5:30-9:30 pm.

The children will enjoy a harvest festival of fun, games, and activities. We will need some youth volunteers to help run the games and activities. We will also need some goodies made by our parents. Please e-mail us at nursery@stpaulsmboro.org to reserve your spot, sign up to help, sign up for a snack, or see the sign up sheet in the Nursery.

NEW PROCESSES

We are in the process of implementing new security processes in the Nursery. We will be taking pictures of the children and their parents in the upcoming weeks. We will be using these pictures with our new name tag system. Also, when bringing children to the nursery, all signing in and out will be through Room B only.

Thank you for sharing your children with us.

We truly cherish each one of them.



Please join our next pilgrimage to the Holy Land February 26, 2008. For people of faith to actually walk in the steps of Jesus inspires greater faith.

This will be the fourth Pilgrimage Janelee and I have led. David Rowe has been part of three pilgrimages, and the Claytons have been on two. We took our granddaughters on the last pilgrimage and they told me that Lent and

Easter came alive in new ways after their journey.

On this journey we will be with The Rev. Randy Dunnivant and his wife Lanette and some folks from Good Shepherd Episcopal Church. We will stay in excellent hotels with wonderful breakfasts and dinners. Our guides will open our eyes to new truths that empower the Word. We will have daily reflections and prayer, and will share Communion in some Holy places.

Brochures are on the bulletin board over by the coffee. People from outside the Episcopal Church are welcomed, and we guarantee they will love traveling with Episcopalians. The estimated cost of the Pilgrimage is \$2,759.00. This includes everything (even insurance) except lunches, tips for Driver and Guide, and personal purchases.

If you are going to take one trip in your life, this should be the one for people of faith.

We hope you join us.

Gene and Janelee Wise

BAPTISMS ON ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

St. Paul's will be celebrating All Saints on Sunday, November 4. This occasion is one of four during the Christian year most appropriate for baptisms. If you or someone you know desires to be baptized, please see the Rev. Anne Fraley in the church office, 615.893.3780.



SUPPORT COMPASS BY RECYCLING!

Compass is sponsoring an ink cartridge recycling program with Cartridge World of Murfreesboro. Look for the cartridge recycling bin in the parish hall near the Ministry with Young People bulletin board, and drop those old, used up cartridges off to be recycled! Or you can take your cartridges directly to Cartridge World on Thompson Lane to be refilled—just be sure to mention that you support Compass.

Ink and laser cartridges qualify, but the cartridges must be original manufacturer's brand to be accepted—no "store" brands, please! Compass will receive cash for your cartridge donation, which will help fund St. Paul's campus ministry at MTSU! Thanks for your donations!

FLOWER GUILD



Although Fall is just approaching, the Flower Guild is preparing for the Holiday Season. Our teams spend many hours in preparation of arrangements, watering, and refreshing the greenery in the church. Orders for the lovely greenery and berries that are purchased for Advent must be placed well in advance of the season. Some of this must be ordered from the wholesale florist, as it is not locally available, but there are many plants growing in our area that are lovely to use for the Advent arrangements. We are hoping that parishioners will save any holly, magnolia, spruce, or other appropriate cuttings and donate them for use in arrangements. Buckets will be available for those who would like to bring cuttings to the church for the Flower Guild to use. There will be a reminder in the church bulletin before the beginning of Advent, at the time that these cuttings are needed. The buckets will be placed in the hallway outside our work room by the Academy Street entrance for those who wish to provide cuttings. We hope everyone will be looking around to see what they might share with us. It takes lots of greenery to provide arrangements throughout the weeks of Advent, and every effort is made to keep them fresh and lovely.

The Flower Guild must place orders for the delivery of our poinsettias about the middle of October. In early November envelopes will be available for those who wish to purchase poinsettias for dedications in memory, celebration or thanksgiving for friends and loved ones. These dedications will be printed in the Christmas bulletin. We appreciate all of the generous donations that are given so that our church can be adorned with these beautiful flowers for Christmas.

The new Flower Calendar for 2008 will be placed in the Parish Hall in early November. There will be an announcement when it is there for you to see and sign up for dedications for the coming year. If you sign up for a date, please provide your phone number on your envelope in case there are questions about spelling or wording of dedications. Also be sure to provide us with the dedication that you would like to have printed in the bulletin at least two Sundays before they are to be used. The Flower Guild has to provide this information to Kathy in the office, no later than Wednesday of every week in order to get it printed in the bulletin for the following Sunday. If the envelopes are placed in the offering plate on the Sunday before, they sometimes do not get to the Flower Guild box until later in the week. All dedications are important to us. We realize that they are meaningful to those who gave them to us and we hope to get them printed correctly as well as having them in the bulletin on the correct date.

If you have any questions concerning the Flower Guild, such as making dedications, signing up for a date on the Flower Calendar or donating greenery, please call Juanita Williams at 849-8612.

All donations, comments and compliments are greatly appreciated by the Flower Guild Teams.

Juanita Williams, Flower Guild Chair



St. Paul's senior citizens want to say a big **THANK YOU** to Peggy Seneker and her committee for the sumptuous luncheons prepared and served each quarter to our senior citizens in honor of their birthdays. In this case, "age is golden!"



YOUTH NEWS

**“When being a Christian quits being fun,
I’m going to quit being a Christian!”**



I blanched the first time I heard this, especially because it was said by a priest. I thought to myself (too spiritually insecure to ask him what he meant), well, that’s sacrilegious! Being a Christian is supposed to be serious! Being a Christian is sup-

posed to be hard work! Hard work isn’t supposed to be fun!

You guessed it. . .time and experience have proven me wrong, the priest was right, and the last few weeks in the Youth Ministry at St. Paul’s have borne this out. As is often the case, what first appear as challenges are really opportunities in work clothes, and this Christian “work” has been fun and the rewards have been bountiful indeed.

Youth has met each Sunday afternoon this month in our combined Junior and Senior High session in the Youth Ministry Center (St. Margaret’s Hall) with worship, music (most entertainingly led by Jacob!), and, of course, games. We are, after all, fun Christians. Our worship, in which the youth participate, is filled with prayer, Scripture, and a thought-provoking message based on our readings. The depth and breadth of the spiritual intellect and curiosity among those often considered “immature” (some of us are, after all, parents of teens, right?) is amazing. St. Paul’s is truly blessed with a dedicated and devoted group of young Christians. And some of them continue their weekly worship with Bible study (thank you, Don Clayton, many, many times over!) every Wednesday evening.



For those who count numbers, Youth attendance is higher than it has been in months. For those who need to know what message is being delivered, there are some still contemplating the questions of the spiritual challenge two weeks ago: “How fast will I run? How high will I reach? How soon will I quit?” (By the way, what about you?) September has been a great month for us, especially with the addition of the rising sixth graders and the return of so many of our high schoolers. For those ambivalent about whether to join us, you won’t know what you’re missing unless you come and see!

The best (and most fun!) for last: As of October 7 (or thereabouts) St. Paul’s family is blessed to welcome Josh Courtney as our Interim Youth Minister! Josh and his wife, Jennifer, will be returning to Murfreesboro (where they first met in high school) from Josh’s present position as a full-time Youth Minister in South Carolina, and we are very excited about his mission and ministry with us. There is a greeting from Josh elsewhere in this Evangel. Please open our St. Paul’s home and family to them and welcome them in the same spirit in which I was told so long ago: “Being a Christian is fun!”

As always, know that the Youth Program at St. Paul’s is dedicated to the Christian mission of our Church, reaching our kids with care, commitment, and encouragement.

Peace, blessings and FUN!
John Green

MEET JOSHUA AND JENNIFER COURTNEY

Hey everybody! My name is Joshua Courtney and I’m the new youth leader guy! (I think the official title is Interim Youth Minister.) Anyway, you can call me Josh. Well, I just wanted to take this opportunity to tell you just a little bit about me. I am 26 years old and I have been involved in youth ministry for 6 years. I live in South Carolina right now but I am from Murfreesboro. I went to high school at Middle Tennessee



Christian School where I met my beautiful wife Jennifer. (She wanted nothing to do with me then, though...but I finally talked her into giving me a chance after college!) Jennifer and I have been married for two years now and are expecting our first child on January the 24th. We are pumped! (I’m excited about feeding our baby lemons and watching the funny faces he makes! ...I know that’s mean!) We are also pumped about being with all of you at St. Paul’s! We are excited about getting to know each of you! Jennifer and I are moving back to Murfreesboro on October the 6th, so we’ll see you in a few days!

Sincerely,
Joshua Courtney

P.S. In case you didn’t know: Jacob Courtney (the weird looking guy with long red hair that has been leading worship in the youth services) is my brother... please don’t hold that against me!

On Sunday, October 7th, we’ll formally welcome the Courtneys at the 8.45 service. Following that service, everyone will get the chance to personally welcome them at a reception. Watch for more details in the bulletin.

WESLEY’S HOT CORNER #12

I’m a runner. I run everyday after school, and I love it. I never had a purpose for running, other than staying in shape, but now I do. At school there’s a kid that I see walking from lunch. This young man isn’t like you and me; he has braces on his legs. When you look at his face, you can see that every step is a struggle. I thought my life was full of pain, but that was

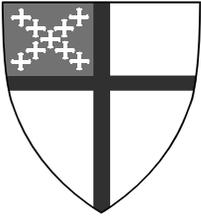


**...let us
run with
patience
the race
that is set
before us...**

before I looked into the eyes of this kid. He fights with every step only to have to take another one. I used to not have a reason to run, but now I do. This kid can’t run, so I’ll run for him. Remember that when life gets hard, someone has it harder, and when you think you’ve made your last step, you have to make another. Thank God we have Jesus to help us with that next step.

Hebrews 12:1

Wesley



EPISCOPAL STUFF,

or, "Why do they do that?"

People new to the Episcopal Church often comment on how much like the Catholic Church we are. Well, yes and no. Like the Catholic Church we are traditional, and much of our liturgy has evolved from Catholic practice. We

do not generally, however, place statues in our churches or confession booths, and in most Episcopal churches you will not see a basin of holy water for people to use to make the sign of the cross when entering or leaving the church. Our understanding of the nature of the church and of Christian community are also quite different.

But many Episcopalians practice their devotion in more or less Catholic ways. Anglican prayer beads are common now-a-days, though the prayers attached to them are different from those Catholics use in the rosary. And many enrich their prayers and meditations with candles.

In Latin *votive* refers to anything that is set apart or consecrated for personal devotion (notice the root word here) to God. Most commonly it refers to a particular kind of small candle.



Lighting a votive candle is an act that symbolizes the coming of light into the world and the faith we have that our God is listening and is prepared to answer our prayer (though not necessarily in the way we wish or expect Him to). The smoke that rises from a votive candle also reminds us of the smoke in the great temple in Jerusalem that constantly carried the prayers of worshipers to heaven.

Many Episcopal churches have votive candle stands to assist in personal prayer for those to whom lighting a candle is a meaningful act. One simply comes to the stand, lights a candle, kneels or stands and offers his/her prayer, and then leaves with the candle still lighted. Soon, such a stand will be placed in the west (south) transept close to the columbarium. This is a gift to the church in love and memory of Aidan Liam Hay. We hope that parishioners will see in this a gift to all those whose devotion will be enhanced by the very simple act of bringing light to the nave.

David Rowe

YARN CRAFTS FOR THE SANTA TRAIN

The St. Paul's Yarn Crafters will collect knitted and crocheted gift items for the Santa Train through the end of October. The Santa Train is an annual train journey through Appalachia delivering 15 tons of gifts, candies and toys to children in Kentucky, Virginia and Tennessee to thousands of families in rural communities each year. Any yarn crafters who are interested in contributing to this and other charity projects may help themselves to the yarn donations located in the storage closet off the Parish Hall. Completed items may be left in the bins in the same location. There are plenty of ideas and patterns available online, ranging from easy beginner projects to more advanced items. A good place to start is at Knitting for Charity: <http://www.knittingforcharity.org>.

St. Paul's Yarn Crafters meet the third Sunday of each month at 2:00 in the Parish Hall. Contact Jean Marie Martin, 895.7332, for more information about specific projects.

CONSECRATION SUNDAY

(continued from page 1)

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 services, the 7:30 and a joint 10:30 a.m. service, combining the 8:45 and 11 a.m. 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 James Union Building on the campus of MTSU. We encourage all families to join us.

Unlike other parishes, we will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. Leading up to November 18th, 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 a.m. joint service November 18th.

We ask you to prayerfully consider what God is calling you to give for 2008 in the weeks leading up to Consecration Sunday. Thank you in advance of participation with us in the coming events.

Don Clayton and Richard Detmer
Co-Chairs, Consecration Sunday

ST. PAUL'S WHOLE FOODS COMMUNITY

Sat., Oct. 29th, is the deadline for our October 16th delivery in the Parish Hall. Once again, we'll meet to taste, order and laugh together on Saturday morning from 10 AM to noon. Wonderful brands are available (Kashi, Barbaras Bakery, Amy's Kitchen, Muir Glen, Ecco Bella, Life Tree, Spectrum, Bob's Red Mill, Sheltons—the list goes on and on) at greatly reduced prices when we buy by the case to split amongst ourselves. We've ordered cases of Muir Glen Minestrone soup, Amy's Kitchen broccoli/cheddar frozen pie, Amish roll butter, Amaranth cereal, Fruitabu, plus many, many others. Come join us!

If you have questions or concerns, email Pidge Cash at bpcash@comcast.net.



MILITARY MINISTRY

The military ministry would like to thank the parish for their generosity. Your response has been heart-warming. We recently shipped ten, well-filled packages. We want, also, to thank our chairperson, Sandy Gleaves, who has been energetic, efficient, and hard-working. We also want to recognize Barbara Ellington who makes beautiful Anglican prayer beads, which we include in each box. Items we always need are as follows: AT&T phones cards (Sam's Wholesale Club has a good deal on these), playing cards, Chapstick, batteries (AA & AAA), shaving supplies, and wet wipes. God bless you.

OCTOBER 2007

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	1 5:30 pm Alanon 6:30 pm Pilgrimage 7 pm AA 7 pm EIM	2 6:15 pm Dream Group 6:45 pm Search Committee 7 pm COMPASS	3 7 am & 5:30 pm HE 9 am Bible Study 11:15 am Staff Meeting 6 pm Weight Watchers 6:30-7:30 pm Jars of Clay 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal 7 pm AA	4 6 pm Ladies' Night Out 6 pm Men's Club 7 pm AA	5 7 pm AA	6 7 pm AA	
7 PENTECOST XIX 7:30, 8:45 & 11:00 am HE 8:45 am Children's Church 9:55 Christian Ed 12:30 pm Compass Lunch 5-7 pm Jr. High & Sr. High 7 pm AA	8 COLUMBUS DAY Office Closed 5:30 pm Alanon 6 pm Girl Scouts 6:30 pm Pilgrimage 7 pm AA 7 pm EIM	9 6 pm Vestity Meeting 7 pm COMPASS	10 7 am & 5:30 pm HE 9 am Bible Study 11:15 am Staff Meeting 6 pm Weight Watchers 6:30-7:30 pm Jars of Clay 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal 7 pm AA	11 6 pm Artists Way 7 pm AA	12 7 pm AA	13 7 pm AA	
14 PENTECOST XX 7:30, 8:45 & 11 am HE 8:45 am Children's Church 9:55 Christian Ed 12 pm PALANCA Party 12:30 pm Compass Lunch 1:45 pm Caris Hospice 5-7 pm Jr. High & Sr. High 7 pm AA	15 EVANGEL DEADLINE 5:30 pm Alanon 6:30 pm Pilgrimage 7 pm AA 7 pm EIM	16 12 pm Whole Foods Buying Club delivery 4:30 pm RSCM Rehearsal 6:15 pm Dream Group 6:45 pm Search Committee 7 pm COMPASS	17 7 am & 5:30 pm HE 9 am Bible Study 9 am-5:30 pm Dream Group 11:15 am Staff Meeting 6 pm Weight Watchers 6:30-7:30 pm Jars of Clay 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal 7 pm AA	18 6:30 pm Daughters of the King 6:30 pm Rutherford County Heritage Association 7 pm AA	19 PARENTS NIGHT OUT 5:15-10 pm Children's Costume Party 5:30-9:30 pm Parent Group Costume Party 7 pm AA	20 COX FAMILY PICNIC @ THE OAKLANDS 11 am-3 pm 7 pm AA	
21 PENTECOST XXI 7:30, 8:45 & 11:00 am HE 8:45 am Children's Church 9:55 Christian Ed 10 am Coffee with the Clergy 12:30 pm Compass Lunch 2 pm Yarn Crafters 5-7 pm Jr. High & Sr. High 7 pm AA	22 5:30 pm Alanon 6 pm Girl Scouts 6:30 pm Pilgrimage 7 pm AA 7 pm EIM	23 4:30 pm RSCM Rehearsal 6:45 pm Search Committee 7 pm COMPASS	24 7 am & 5:30 pm HE 9 am Bible Study 11:15 am Staff Meeting 6 pm Weight Watchers 6:30-7:30 pm Jars of Clay 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal 7 pm AA	25 6 pm Artists Way 7 pm AA	26 7 pm AA	27 10 am Whole Foods Buying Club 7 pm AA	
28 PENTECOST XXII 7:30, 8:45 & 11 am HE 8:45 am Children's Church 9:55 Christian Ed 12:30 pm Compass Lunch 5-7 pm Jr. High & Sr. High 7 pm AA	29 5:30 pm Alanon 6:30 pm Pilgrimage 7 pm AA 7 pm EIM	30 4:30 pm RSCM Rehearsal 6:15 pm Dream Group 6:45 pm Search Committee 7 pm COMPASS	31 ALL HALLOW'S EVE 7 am & 5:30 pm HE 9 am Bible Study 11:15 am Staff Meeting 6 pm Weight Watchers 6:30-7:30 pm Jars of Clay 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal 7 pm AA	CURSILLO WEEKEND			CURSILLO

COX FAMILY PICNIC THE OAKLANDS SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20





10/01 David Hatfield	10/15 David Turner
10/01 Sam Lane	10/17 Jordan Brown
10/02 Gene Wise Jr	10/17 Sue Koechlein
10/03 Alvin Allgood	10/17 Jeannie Roberts
10/04 Claire Bradford	10/17 Mamie Scott
10/04 Newton Molloy III	10/18 Melanie Clayton
10/04 Evan Willis III	10/18 Virginia Tipps
10/05 Gayle Boyd	10/18 Erin Wilson
10/05 Luke Cassidy	10/20 Cathrine Gordon
10/05 Terri Sterling	10/20 Laurette Hughes
10/07 Sally Burgess	10/20 Freda Kramer
10/07 Ruth Anna Thomason	10/21 Daisy Gannon
10/08 Margaret Huffman	10/21 John Morris
10/09 Alice Gibson	10/21 Brianna Phillips
10/09 Jennifer McGuire	10/21 Janice Stewart
10/10 Joyce Adkins	10/22 Dale Tipps
10/10 Fred Rogers	10/23 Tim Seneker
10/10 Stephanie Smith	10/24 David Cate
10/11 Christopher Curtis	10/24 Paul Kelly
10/12 Jessica Beckwith	10/25 Andrew Schneider
10/12 Matthew Canada	10/26 Ed Arning
10/13 Jake Arning	10/26 John Callow
10/13 Tomasa Brito	10/26 Matthew Elrod Erickson
10/13 Connie Moffett	10/26 Wendi Watts
10/13 John Worley Jr	10/28 Jim Calder
10/14 Charlie Moudy	10/29 Justin Baker
10/15 Elizabeth Long	10/29 Elizabeth Bray
10/15 Ernestine Reeder	10/29 Martha Rowland

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

The deadline for announcements in the Sunday bulletin are due in the church office by Thursday, 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 October *Evangel* is Monday, September 17, 2007. Please e-mail all information to evangel@stpaulsmboro.org.

PARISH STAFF

The Rev. Anne Fraley, *Interim Rector*
 The Rev. Matt Greathouse, *Associate Rector*
 Chuck Phillips, *Senior Warden*
 Susan Greenall, *Office Administrator*
 Dr. David L. Rowe, *Assistant to the Rector*
 Ralph Smith, *Assistant to the Rector*
 Angela Tipps, *Minister of Music*
 Aimee Spurlock, *Choirmaster RSCM*
 Shannon Turner, *Nursery Coordinator*
 Kathy Warlick, *Administrative Assistant*
 Kathy & Bill Jones, *Co-Treasurers*
 Joyce Adkins, *Junior Warden*
 Jeff James *Junior Warden*
 Bill Williams, *Facilities Manager*

VESTRY

Rodney George, Kathleen Herzog, Alex Hollis,
 Barry Huber, Fran Lovell, Robin Newell,
 Marcie Richmond, Tim Seneker, Fant Smith



PLEASE TAKE NOTE

The mailing address for St. Paul's Episcopal Church has changed. All mail should now be sent to:

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

Church Office	615.893.3780
Office Fax	615.893.2892
Office E-mail	office@stpaulsmboro.org
Website	www.stpaulsmboro.org

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
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COX FAMILY PICNIC—THE OAKLANDS—OCTOBER 20, 11 am-3 pm

October 2007



View from the Pew

*by
Hank Haines*

*This is my Father's world,
and to my listening ears
all nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.*

*This is my Father's world:
I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
his hand the wonders wrought.*

-Maltbie Babcock

Chuck was a gentle, totally relaxed member of a small-town church. However, in a letter to the editor of the local newspaper he exposed himself as a concerned environmentalist. An outraged, red-in-the-face fellow churchgoer confronted him. "How did you dare say in that letter that conservation is a spiritual matter?"

Chuck (who later said he had mentally prepared for this) responded, "When I was a child in the Methodist church, we sang that great old hymn, 'This Is My Father's World.' I was naive enough to believe its message. . . and it seems I still am."

