

—The Episcopal Parish of —
**St. Mark
& St. Paul**
—On the Mountain —

July 2024



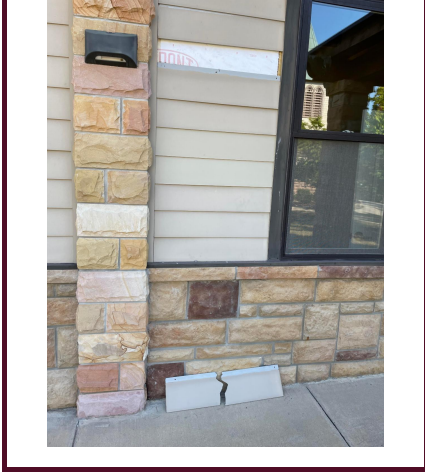
From the Rector-- *A Thorough Check-Up*

In the March and April newsletters I wrote to you about a process of "remembering the future"; as your Vestry considered the state of our facilities and demographic trends in our community and denomination. An important diagnostic component of this work will take place in the first half of August. Experts from the firm Building Solutions will conduct a two-day visit to assess the conditions of our leasehold and buildings, including roofs, exterior walls, HVAC, plumbing, electric, safety, and more. Our Buildings and Grounds Committee considered two facilities assessment firms, as well as the possibility of assembling these inspections locally. At the end of the day the committee valued the objectivity such an outside company would bring, and took into account the strong recommendations Building Solutions had from St. Andrews-Sewanee School and Annette Smith (who worked with them on 3 school assessments).

Before arriving onsite, Building Solutions (whose initials I won't refer to them by!) will review and analyze extensive documentation about our property compiled by Parish Administrator Dan Amundson.

This bit of siding that fell off the front of Claiborne is pretty obvious, but we'd also like to know about little problems or less conspicuous issues that you know of around the church campus.

Please email Dan by July 31 at



admin@stmarkstpaul.org with any property issues you are aware of so that we can provide Building Solutions as much information as possible.

They will report their first impressions from the inspection at the end of their site visit, and we will share these preliminary findings as a part of the all-parish brunch at 9:45am on Sunday, August 18. Building Solutions will then further analyze the data they have gathered in light of their knowledge base about the life cycle of various building systems.

The final report from Building Solutions is expected in September. It will include a detailed description of the various aspects of our facilities and their current condition, as well as a spreadsheet predicting when items will need to be replaced and at what cost in that year. This will give us more comprehensive and precise information than has been available before about what is (and will be) needed to keep our beautiful facilities in good repair for years to come. The framework the report will provide will allow current and future Vestries and Junior Wardens to plan major repairs and replacements in advance so as to save money over the long run.

As mentioned earlier this year, a Capital Campaign Exploratory Steering Committee chaired by Jay Fisher has been authorized to undertake a feasibility study to help the Vestry discern whether a campaign will be appropriate in our near future. Jay will provide a preview of that process at our parish wide brunch on Aug 18. The final report from Building Solutions will provide important information as this discernment enters a new phase this November. Congregational conversations and a survey will listen to the voices from the pews to gain a sense of parishioners' viewpoints informed by what we have learned. Please pray for your Vestry and the others involved in this significant work.

The Rev. Rob Lamborn began vacation on Monday, July 15, and will be back in the office Wednesday, July 31. The parish office remains open and staffed regular hours. For pastoral issues, please contact Deacon Betty Carpenter, or for other urgent matters outside of office hours, Junior Warden Diane Jones (June 15-21) or Senior Warden Robin Bates (June 22-30).



Church Picnic

Welcome Picnic is Coming

The Welcoming Picnic will be August 25th! It's our way to say welcome (or welcome back) to the mountain. There will be buckets of fried chicken, deviled eggs, and

all kinds of sides and desserts. Bring your favorite dish or just show up and eat. We will be on the lawn (weather permitting) after second

service. Everyone is welcome!

Incoming Organist/Choir Director Wyatt Poe will start work here in August, and I am pleased to expand on his background so you can start to get to know him.

Wyatt graduated from Columbus State University's Schwob School of Music with a Bachelor's degree in Organ Performance in 2021. That year he won first prize in contemporary music and second prize in romantic music at the Charleston International Festival of Music. Wyatt has studied choral conducting privately, and has led or assisted in leading music at three Episcopal churches. He also has experience in children's music education, and will conduct the children's choir in addition to the adult choir. Wyatt will begin the General Track of the Master of Arts program at the School of Theology this fall. He will be joined in Sewanee by his partner, Carter, and two cats, Mister and Kylo. In addition to sacred music, Wyatt enjoys cooking, staying active, and playing all kinds of games.



Introducing Our New Brooks Hall Resident

Jacob Hall is an incoming MDiv student at the School of Theology and Postulant for Holy Orders from the Diocese of West Virginia, where he was born and raised. He is a graduate of Marshall University, Huntington, WV, where he served as a student leader in the Episcopal campus ministry and sang in the choir of his home parish, Trinity, Huntington.

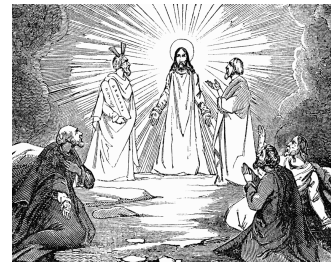
Between undergrad and seminary, Jacob has been serving an Episcopal Service Corps placement at Saint Mark's, Philadelphia. He is excited to begin studying on the Domain and is thankful for the opportunity to live in Brooks Hall!

Summer Worship Schedule is coming to an end

Starting Sunday August 4th, Holy Eucharist services will be held at 8:30 and 11am in the church. The 11am service will be livestreamed on our [Facebook page](#) and remains available there afterward.

Feast of the Transfiguration

Please mark your calendars to join other Episcopalians on the Mountain to celebrate Jesus' Transfiguration on the evening of Tuesday, August 6 at St. James' Church (Midway) Sewanee.



Constant Contact Newsletter Email: When you get to the bottom of your email you may see "[Message clipped] [View entire message](#)". To see the full newsletter click on "View entire message."

Office Hours for 2024

9:00am-4:30pm Monday, Wednesday & Friday

9:00am-1:00pm Tuesday & Thursday

Christian Formation

By Jeannie Babb, Director of Christian Formation
formation@stmarkstpaul.org 423-255-6479 cell

Back to School Sunday - August 4th

On the first Sunday in August, we will be focused on our parishioners of all ages who are students.

- Blessing of the Backpacks – All students are invited to bring their backpacks to church! We want to pray for and with you as you step into a new semester.
- Children's Sunday School resumes at 9:45 a.m. Join us in Claiborne Parish House and we will direct you to your classroom! (Parents are invited to register early so we will know allergies and other important information to keep your child happy, healthy and safe!)
- Ice Cream Social after 2nd service. Parents, please leave your children on the playground with our caregivers and join us in the Hethcock Christian Education Room.

Rite 13 resumes this fall (date TBD)

Rite 13's 2023-2024 academic year concluded with a year-end party at Lake Cheston. The program will begin again just before or after Labor Day.

Rite 13 is the first module of Journey to Adulthood (J2A). J2A is centered on inclusive, relational ministry and uses Bible study, prayer, rites of passage, and service projects. There are three modules included in the program: Rite 13, J2A, and 4Ward, each with lessons organized around Self, Society, and Spirituality." The program is led by Hilary Bogert-Winkler, who is a priest, longtime youth leader, and assistant professor of liturgy at the seminary. Rite 13 is open to youth in grades 6-8.

Please contact Hilary Bogert-Winkler to be added to the email and text lists.
hmbogert@sewanee.edu

Children's Formation

A Godly Play session for all ages – Sunday, July 28, 11:15 a.m. in Godly Play 2

Come hear a story and reflect on it with us. Learn what we do in Godly Play, and why we do it.

This is for anyone who would like an introduction, orientation, refresher, or some inspiration as we head into the new school year.



Godly Play resumes August 4th

Godly Play is not merely a curriculum. It is a deep, reflective spiritual practice. Godly Play storytellers find new treasure in the stories, even after hearing and telling them many times. Children learn new ways of seeing the world with this practice, which is not didactic theology but an exploration of relationship with God through storytelling.

We have two Godly Play classrooms. Godly Play 1 is designed for children 3-5 years old.

These youngsters will hear the core stories, often tied to the lectionary. In this classroom, children learn how to form and hold the circle. They learn to take turns, hold space, and engage in classroom conversation. They also learn positive habits like doing one thing at a time, cleaning up they go, and serving others before themselves. Modeled after Holy Eucharist, the schedule includes time for prayer, the word, reflection, thanksgiving, and a shared feast.

In Godly Play 2, these practices are reinforced and deepened. Consideration of the stories is expanded with enrichment stories and side-by-side storytelling. Our wonderful crew of storytellers and doorkeepers are excited to greet new children and returning students alike!



Please register your child online using this link or QR Code. Your registration helps us protect and care for your child.

<https://onrealm.org/StMarkStPaul/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=NWZjNjY2MTEtODJhZi00MTVklTlM2ItYjA1MzAwZjk4Zjhh>

Godly Play Training

Are you interested in learning the Godly Play method of storytelling? We expect to hold a training in late fall. Please let Jeannie know if you'd like to be included. The parish covers the cost and participants receive certification as a storyteller or doorkeeper as desired. All volunteers who will be working with children or youth receive training including Safeguarding God's Children, and have a background check by the diocese.

Nursery Notes

Come play and learn with us! During the school year, Nursery is open from 8:15 to noon on Sunday mornings. (During June and July, there is no Sunday School and nursery is open during second service only.) We meet on the playground when the weather is nice. In case of rain, nursery meets in the middle classroom downstairs in Sewanee Children's Center.

Children are usually brought into the church during announcements to participate in Eucharist with their parents. Please communicate with staff about this at drop-off.

Cara Kitzrow serves as our Nursery Coordinator. Diana Rung, who has served as Nursery Caregiver after several years as a Substitute, will be returning to school this fall, so we are interviewing applicants for this position. We are also looking to add two more Substitute Caregivers. Please speak to Jeannie or Cara if interested, or send us your resume. All nursery staff receive training including Safeguarding God's Children, and have a background check by the diocese.



Please register your child for Nursery online:

<https://onrealm.org/StMarkStPaul/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=ZDk4ODBiZWQtNWQxOC00NjM0LWJhMmUtYjA1MzAwZmY1MTdi>

Please be sure to sign in on the Nursery clipboard, and indicate whether you'd like your child brought into the church during announcements to participate in Eucharist.

We have openings for more caregivers who live locally and are able to serve during summers and holidays. Please talk with Jeannie or Cara if that describes you!

Youth Sunday School resumes August 25th

Youth Sunday School meets upstairs in Brooks Hall, where youth have their own space with bean bags, couches, a TV, and a foosball table. We have a small class in a relaxed atmosphere with lots of snacks and games – and often some very serious conversation. Youth Sunday School students often participate in the worship service as acolyte, crucifer, or reader, so we are sensitive to the need of those who need to step out earlier.

Sunday Forum resumes August 25th

The theme for the 2024-2025 Sunday Forum is “This Fragile Earth, Our Island Home.” We will meet every Sunday with a special guest speaker; however, the first Sunday of the month is typically reserved as a Rector's Forum. This allows Rob flexibility to address seasonal and timely subjects. Coffee, tea, and a light snack are available during this time. We meet in Kennerly Hall. The sessions are recorded to be enjoyed later as well.

Sunday Forum needs audio/visual volunteers to arrive a few minutes early, help the speaker set up laptop and microphone, and record the forum. You only need your cell phone, and training is provided. Please contact Jeannie or the Sunday Forum host Robin Bates rrbates@smcm.edu.

THIS FRAGILE EARTH, OUR ISLAND HOME

Sundays, 9:45-10:45 in Kennerly Hall
Parish of St. Mark & St. Paul

Join us for the launch of a new Sunday Forum series focused on earth care and spirituality. The full line-up of speakers will be published soon.



August and September Forums

Aug 25	John Gatta	Imagining God's Creation of an Evolving World
Sept 1	Rob Lamborn	Rector's Forum
Sept 8	Robin Gottfried	Caring for Creation, Spiritual Formation, and the Renewal of the Church
Sept 15	Kirk Zigler	Life Underground: Cave Biodiversity of the Cumberland Plateau
Sept 22	Kevin Goodman	Education for Ministry: From Seminars to Bayous
Sept 29	Nate Wilson	Fire on the Mountain: The Fire Ecology of the Domain

216 University Ave. | Sewanee, TN 37375 | stmarkstpaul.org



VB-U.s 2024: Narnia on the Mountain

What a delightful time we had in Narnia! Each night we walked through a larger-than-life wardrobe and gathered for a delicious and on-theme meal served by Wendy Prothro Howard and her kitchen wizards.

Mr. Tumnus (played by Jim Pappas) led the children away for tea. Edmond (Ren Elrod) was tempted by the White Witch (Kathryn Bruce), and we all had a chance to taste the Turkish delight. The children even learned how to select the colors and flavors, and made some Turkish delight of their own. On the third night, we were visited by Father Christmas (Scott Lee), who gave wonderful gifts to Susan (Nora Jane Elrod), Peter (Julian Elrod), and Lucy (Everest Kitzrow) and then to us all. On the final evening, we had a costume party and celebrated Eucharist at the stone altar down by the woods.

We had a great turnout every night. While the youth and children tie-dyed t-shirts, played games, and made candy, lectures on C. S. Lewis and his works were given by Brown Patterson, Julia Bates, and John Gatta. Robin Bates hosted the lecture series. Cara Kitzrow designed and facilitated the children's program with the help of Diana Rung, Jori Smith, Aaron Elrod, Sarah Edmonds, Hilary Bogert-Winkler, and other volunteers.

Thanks are also due to our artists! Cara designed and built the wardrobe and set. Cheryl Lankhaar painted the lovely mural of Lucy and Mr. Tumnus. Sarah Edmonds made the wonderful lamp post. Sarah and Diana also made Turkish delight. Everest Kitzrow, Elizabeth Taylor, Joseph Gray, Benji Sowell, Wendy Prothro Howard and others helped decorate the room.

Thanks to all who loaned us your Christmas trees! This was such a fun VB-Us! We are already working on ideas for next summer. Let Jeannie know if you'd like to be on the team for 2025 VB-Us! Planning will start in earnest after Christmas.





Centering Prayer

by leader Jennifer Michael

Centering Prayer is a method of silent prayer through which we consent to God's presence and action within us. Those who practice it do so not in place of corporate worship and service, but rather as a necessary complement to those modes of engaging with God and with our neighbor. Having a core of people in the parish who practice contemplative prayer makes a difference.

The Centering Prayer support group at St. Mark and St. Paul's continues to meet faithfully every Monday night. With chairs encircling a candle at the front of the nave, we have a brief check-in about our prayer practice and anything else going on in our lives, and then we have a meditation session (what we call a "sit") together. If you have questions or are interested in joining the group please contact Jennifer D Michael at jmichael@sewanee.edu

Education for Ministry (Summer 2024)

by EfM Mentor Wendy Prothro Howard

EfM is a FOUR year seminar with all class year participants meeting in ONE seminar group. Year 1 studies the Hebrew Bible, Year 2 studies the New Testament, Year 3 studies the History of Christianity, and Year 4 studies contemporary theology of the Episcopal tradition. Seminar participants from all four years reflect upon various concerns from their readings, the relationship of those themes between each of the four years, and the implications of the theme in today's world. Reflection on these themes is guided by utilizing four different perspectives from experience, society (culture), tradition (Episcopal Church), and personal beliefs. The goal of EfM is to deepen faith and to discover expressions of that faith in service to others.

The 2024-2025 sessions will begin after Labor Day 2024 and will end before Memorial Day 2025. Exact dates will be determined after the initial registration is completed.

The Sewanee EfM seminar group meets on Monday nights from 6:30 until 9:00 in the Hethcock Room at Saint Mark and Saint Paul.

Registration is CURRENTLY OPEN.

Please view <https://theology.sewanee.edu/education-for-ministry/> for more information about the program.

Please contact Wendy at wendyprothrohoward@gmail.com for registration information!



The Community Action Committee (CAC) was thrilled to participate in the Sewanee 4th of July festivities celebrating "RED WHITE BLUE - THANKFUL FOR YOU!" We had a wonderful group of people representing CAC in the parade, and heard all the cheers as we walked up University Avenue. Thanks to YOU, CAC has been able to serve our Sewanee community and beyond for 50 years. We are grateful for your continued support of our mission and helping serve our neighbors!

CAC continues to be open Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM for people to shop in the food pantry, and ask for utility payment assistance. We

serve about 60 families a month, and are regularly in need of food and nonfood (cleaning supplies, paper products, hygiene items, etc.) items to keep our shelves stocked. Donations are always welcomed, especially on the first Sunday of every month for CAC Pantry Sunday.

If you are interested in learning more about CAC, and how you can help, please contact Sarah at cac@stmarkstpaul.org.



EPISCOPALOOZA




What happens when you invite all the surrounding Episcopal churches plus St. Mary's Convent and All Saints Chapel?

You have Episcopaloosa!

Add college students with AmeriCorps Vista and a trombone playing rector with everyone singing singable hymns.....pure joy fills the room. It was said that if an event happens twice it becomes a tradition.

Episcopaloosa is an opportunity to extend hospitality and build community. Good food.....good people.....good music what's not to like?

This tradition will continue and if you missed this year there is always next year.



COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

HOSTS NEEDED



COFFEE HOUR – HOSTS NEEDED

Get your service power through coffee hour!

As one of the church's oldest methods of fellowship, coffee hour serves an enormous purpose.

We need HOSTS to continue this fellowship flow.

No need to bake a cake or shop until you drop for this - simply provide a small

snack to serve with coffee after the 11am service in Kennerly Hall. *EVEN if you forget* to bring a snack, St. Mark & St. Paul always has your back with extra snacks you can utilize if necessary.

Coffee is simple to make in the coffee maker. The parish provides the coffee.

PLEASE consider signing up on the board in Kennerly Hall TODAY!



A Note from your Altar Guild

We wish to extend a warm welcome to our new parish members and a continued “thank you” to those who have been around a while.

The Altar Guild ministry is open to everyone – including men, as you may have noticed in the weekly bulletin listing those serving each Sunday.

Some families like to get involved and that is certainly encouraged. We like to utilize everyone’s particular skills. Some like to polish brass/silver while some like to wash linens for the Eucharist. I personally like the satisfaction of seeing the altar setup for the service – everything in its place and ready for the ministers to use during the service.

Like everything else, altar guild service is not for everyone. We welcome you to try it out for a month or two to see if it is as fulfilling for you as it is for those of us currently serving. We promise we will be there to walk you through everything and we utilize checklists, post photographs or diagrams of altar setups and provide manuals to help us all remember what to do.

What type of time commitment is involved? For our regular services we schedule 2 members a Sunday. They usually meet on Sat. morning to polish and get the vessels setup for Sunday. On Sunday morning, one person comes prior to the 8:30am service (around 8:00am) and sets out the prepared items. After that service both members clean what was used and resets for the 11:00am service. After that service the second member cleans and puts everything away. Of course there are special services such as funerals or seasonal services where we all pitch in according to our availability.

Interested and/or have questions? Please let Dan Amundson know in the church office at 931-598-5926 and we will contact you in a timely manner.

Lynda Gotko and Dorothy Gates – Co-chairs of Altar Guild

Giving to the Parish of St. Mark & St. Paul

Bill Pay from Your Bank Website

Use the Bill Pay service provided by your bank. If your bank offers online bill pay services, follow their setup directions to add the church as a payee, and add recurring automatic payments. Use the name and address below for the payee:

Parish of St. Mark & St. Paul

P.O. Box 267
Sewanee, TN 37375
(931) 598-5926

By Mail

Mail us a check, or place cash or check in the offering plate on Sunday. If you are giving toward a pledge, please write "Pledge" on the memo or envelope. If mailing, send to us at the above address.

Online Giving

Convenient and secure -- You can make a one-time donation or set up a recurring gift. Choose credit, debit or bank account payments. If you already have a login for our Realm software, you can either **Give Now** or text "Otey\$75" (or any amount) to 73256. Follow the prompts and manage your account. **More information regarding Realm below.**



Get Connected with Realm

Let's get connected. ✨

Download our Connect app today.

- ✉ Update your personal information
- ✉ Communicate with groups & teams
- 📅 Follow church announcements
- 🔍 Look up members
- 📄 Manage giving
- 📅 Create and join events

Let's be the church... together.

Realm Connect  

The advertisement includes a collage of six photos: a woman smiling while using a smartphone, a hand holding a smartphone displaying the app interface, two women looking at a book together, a man in a blue shirt working outdoors, a woman looking at a smartphone, and a man smiling while using a smartphone.

Our church management software has expanded capabilities to help parishioners get connected and stay that way. You can easily update your personal information, see the status of your giving, and set up online one-time or recurring electronic giving. As always, we are still able to receive gifts by check.

Interested or have questions?
Call the Church Office at 931-598-5926.

Prayer Requests: Peggy Bonds, Lisa Cantrell, Corky Carlisle, Bill Davis, Margaret Edsall, Ray Gotko, Pat Kirby, Mike Mattei, Shawn O'Neil, Geraldine Piccard, Julian Price, Rachel Roberts, Jean Stell, Evelyn Taylor, Freddy Tucker, Lauryl Tucker, Myron Van de Ven, and the people of Gaza, Israel, Sudan, and Ukraine.

July Birthdays

Claire Reishman 7/2; Clint Smith 7/2;
Amanda Gott 7/2; Sue Moseley 7/3; Larry Wilson 7/8;
Richard Winslow 7/14; Tilghman Myers 7/15;
Clive Osborne 7/15; Allison Cahoon 7/18;
Marilyn Phelps 7/18; Julianna Gray 7/19;



Amy Lamborn 7/24; Oliver Jervis 7/27;
Elliott Fisher 7/31

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