

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

April 2024



From the Rector--Digging into Our Future

In the last newsletter I wrote about steps the Vestry has taken to explore the current and long-term repair and maintenance requirements of our beautiful campus, as well as the longer-term resource needs of our ministries and the possible benefit of an endowment. This exploration has been unfolding in a process that includes committee discussions and proposals from consulting firms with expertise in the relevant fields.

What are our property needs? Some things are obvious, like when a HVAC system fails; others, like the condition of a roof, evolve gradually and are harder to identify when replacement is needed. Yet both cost substantial amounts of money and must be addressed in a timely manner. The Buildings and Grounds Committee has heard a proposal from a firm that assesses the condition of buildings and the site they occupy to allow for orderly planning of maintenance and repair. The firm's clients include schools and churches, and we have talked with people who worked with them. In order to exercise due diligence, we are also exploring whether a nearby firm or group of contractors can provide a similar quality of evaluation at a favorable cost.

Who can help us raise the funds? The Capital Campaign Exploratory Steering Committee is chaired by Jay Fisher, and includes Joel Cunningham, Julie Elrod, Rob Lamborn, Barbara Prunty, Annette Smith, and Beth Wiley. This committee has discussed attitudes about the parish's most recent capital campaign, and the relative merits of engaging a consultant or not. It has learned about three firms and reviewed proposals from them. The committee's recommendation to authorize a readiness/feasibility study with Horizons Stewardship has been

approved by the Vestry.

What should we expect going forward? The Buildings and Grounds Committee is asked to recommend the best way to assess our property needs to the Vestry for its May meeting. Parishioners will then be invited identify property issues that need to be addressed, and to take part in the process of discerning the shape of a potential campaign and if now is the time to undertake one. The final decision whether or not to undertake a campaign, and what to include, rests with the Vestry.

All of this work is an act of stewardship, of taking care of something that belongs to another. A capital campaign, if and when undertaken, will respect that our bedrock stewardship is annual pledging and giving for the ongoing support of the parish. I am grateful for the generous stewardship you members of this parish demonstrate in our common life, and I look forward to continuing in conversation about the long-term wellbeing of the congregation and our ability to serve in the future.

Vestry Highlights **Regular meeting of March 21, 2024**

- Toured Brooks Hall from attic to basement, and heard an interim report from the Brooks Hall Study Committee.
- Heard a Zoom presentation from Buildings Solutions, a firm that assesses the condition of property to determine current and long-term repair/maintenance needs.
- Heard a report from the Capital Campaign Exploratory Steering Committee on the 2 consultant firms they have considered and received proposals from.

Regular meeting of April 18, 2024

- Heard a report from the Capital Campaign Exploratory Steering Committee regarding a third consultant firm's proposal, as well as the pluses and minuses of not using a consultant.
- Authorized entering into an agreement of Horizons Stewardship for developing a vision for a campaign in consultation with parish leaders and members, and conducting a feasibility/readiness study.
- Approved funds for major repair of the Claiborne Hall elevator and the front doors of the church.
- Expressed appreciation for the ministry of Michael Sturdy, seminarian.



Parish Workday

On Saturday, April 20, we tackled a number of cleanup and repair projects inside and outside. Under the leadership of Junior Warden Diane Jones, we had help from Dan Amundson, Robin Bates, Meg Beasley, Betty Barton Blythe, Jimmy Blythe, Betty Carpenter, Rob Lamborn, Matthew Mitchell, Max Leffler-Mitchell, Theo Leffler-

Mitchell, Neil Patterson, Marilyn Phelps, Tom Phelps, Michael Thompson, Joe Wehrmeyer, and Beth Wiley. It's more fun to work on projects with church

friends than on projects at home; look for the next workday to be scheduled or the fall.

Return of the Pillar

After an accident this winter knocked over one of the driveway pillars, it has now been rebuilt to once again mark the driveway.



Congratulations and Welcome!

At Bp. Bauerschmidt's annual visitation on April 14, we celebrated the confirmation of Matthew Mitchell and Andrea Sanders, and the reception from the Roman Catholic Church of Cheryl Lankhaar. We are delighted they have taken this step!



Rob Lamborn, Andrea Sanders, Matthew Mitchell, Cheryl Lankhaar, Betty Carpenter & Bp. John Bauerschmidt

Thank you, Frieda!

On Sunday, April 21, we gave thanks for Frieda Hawkins on the occasion of her retirement after more than 11 years as Parish Administrator.

Her time here included 3 priests, a building project, and a global pandemic. Speakers warmly praised her skill, commitment, friendliness, and helpfulness.

We presented her with a framed Mary Priestley print of the church. Monetary contributions toward her retirement gift are going to establish a credit at her veterinarian, to support care for the beautiful new puppy she has just adopted!





Ascension Day

The Holy Eucharist will be celebrated at 5:00pm on Thursday, May 16.

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

Honoring our Graduates

Sunday, May 5, we will pray for our graduates by name in both services. This includes those graduating from all programs, from preschool through doctorate and non-degree programs such as EfM. Please email your graduate's information to Jeannie at formation@stmarkstpaul.org and include their name, relation to you if they do not normally attend church, school, program, and whether they will attend with you on May 5. We will pray for all of them during

Prayers of the People. During Coffee Hour we will have a special gift for those who are present.

Thanks for a great Lenten Soup Series!

We had a great turn-out every week to discuss Dr. John Gatta's new book **Green Gospel: Foundations of Ecotheology**, with the author facilitating discussion. Thanks to John for leading, and to all those who participated. Thanks to all who made and served delicious meals: Frieda Hawkins, Betty Carpenter, Sarah Edmonds, Annie Armour, Michael Thompson, Scott Lee, Neil Patterson, Wendy Howard, and Mary Priestley.



Reception honoring John Gatta

On Sunday, April 28, during coffee hour we will congratulate John Gatta on the release of his latest work *Green Gospel: Foundations of Ecotheology* (Church Publishing, 2024). The book is available at the University bookstore, churchpublishing.org and Amazon.com. Join us for refreshments, and bring your book for John to sign!

YOUTH NEWS

Youth Sunday School is on hiatus until this fall.



VB-U.S. 2024: Narnia on the Mountain

June 3rd-6th 5:00-7:00pm

narniaonthemountain.eventbrite.com

Come step through the wardrobe! The Christian Formation Committee has chosen C. S. Lewis' Narnia as the theme for this year's all-ages vacation Bible school. 2024 will be the 8th year of the program, affectionately called



VB-U's rather than VBS, which incorporates dinner and lectures with camp-style worship and children's activities like tie-dyeing and crafts.

This year, children will have tea with Mr. Tumnus, taste the White Witch's Turkish delight, and learn that Aslan is on the move! Adults will be treated to lectures on the works of C.S. Lewis, and reflections by Brown Patterson on studying under the great author and theologian.

Want to help us make this happen? We need volunteers in the kitchen, with music, and with the children. Email Jeannie at formation@stmarkstpaul.org to volunteer.

Children's Formation



Godly Play

Godly Play meets from 9:45-10:45 each Sunday in the Godly Play rooms in Claiborne Parish House.

Godly Play 1

Apr 7 - Knowing Jesus in a New Way 1 & 2 - Cara, Beth

Apr 14 - Knowing Jesus in a New Way 3 & 4 - Wendy, Aaron

Apr 21 - Knowing Jesus in a New Way 5 - Cheryl, Wendy

Apr 28 - Knowing Jesus in a New Way 6 - Wendy, Cheryl

May 5 - Knowing Jesus in a New Way 7 - Cheryl, Aaron

May 12 - combined

May 19 - combined

Godly Play 2

Apr 7 - The Story of Ezekiel - Julia, Aaron

Apr 14 - The Story of the Child's Own Life - Barbara, Julia

Apr 21 - The Story of the Child's Own Life, cont. - Julia, Aaron

Apr 28 - The Story of Catherine of Sienna - Julia, Aaron

May 5 - The Story of Julian of Norwich - Barbara, Julia

May 12 - The Story of Pentecost - Julia, Barbara

May 19 - Year-End Celebration - Julia, Cheryl

Many thanks to our wonderful Godly Play teachers!

Please register 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>

Rite 13

Rite 13 meets on Sundays, 4-6pm. “Fully revised and updated, [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.” Rite 13 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 currently in grades 6-8.

Nursery Notes

Come play and learn with us! Nursery is now open from 8:15 to noon on Sunday mornings through the month of May. (During the summer, 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 is Nursery Caregiver. Our Substitute Caregivers Patricia (Cuca) Ramirez-Miranda, Olivia Merrit and Fernando Totti will be graduating this May, and will be greatly missed!

Please register your child for Nursery online:

<https://onrealm.org/StMarkStPaul/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=ZDk4ODBiZWQtNWQxOC00NjMOLWJhMmUtYjA1MzAwZmY1MTdi>

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!

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 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. Over the past year we have averaged 5-7 attendees. Two of our long-term members have moved nearer to family, but since adding an announcement in the weekly bulletin, we have gained two people, one new and one who had been part of our group in the past. We hope to host a half-day workshop at the parish sometime in the coming year.

Education for Ministry

by EfM Mentor Wendy Prothro Howard

The EfM seminar meets on Monday nights from 6:30 until 9:00 in the Hethcock Room. We are a vivacious group of nine (seven women and two men) covering all 4 years of the EfM program: 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. 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. We reflect on these themes through four different perspectives- 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. EfM will open for new students in Fall, 2024.

Sunday Forum: Creating in God's Image

Sunday Forum is enjoying a banner year, with fascinating speakers and great discussion every week. Our theme, "Creating in God's Image," has been far more than a lecture series. We have sung, danced, made art, watched, listened, and explored. Please check the schedule to see what's coming up next!

The forum meets each Sunday, concluding May 5th with our Seminarian Michael Sturdy.

CREATING IN GOD'S IMAGE

**SUNDAYS AT 9:45 AM IN KENNERLY HALL
PARISH OF ST. MARK & ST. PAUL**

Jan 7	Rob Lamborn	Rector's Forum
Jan 14	Jeannie Babb	Singing as Non-Violent Resistance
Jan 21	**Snow Day**	(Pearigen talk moved to Feb 11)
Jan 28	Ray Gotko	Sewanee Bells: Tunes & Changes
Feb 4	Leslie Todd	Featherworks: Luminescence & Spirituality in 16 th century Spanish America
Feb 11	Phoebe Pearigen	Dance: A Healing Art
Feb 18	Russ Heldman	Shakespeare & Faith
Feb 25	Lauryl Tucker	Creating with Play
Mar 3	Harriet Runkle	Visual Arts on the Mountain
Mar 10	Robin Bates	"Being Alive is the Magic": The Spiritual Vision that Shapes Francis Hodgson Burnett's Secret Garden
Mar 17	Sr. Madeleine Mary	Creating in the Garden
Mar 24	~	Palm Sunday
Mar 31	~	Easter Sunday
Apr 7	Wyatt Prunty	Faith & Imagination
Apr 14	John Bauerschmidt	Bishop's Visit
Apr 21	Scott Lee, Rob Lamborn	St. Peter's Basilica
Apr 28	Brown Patterson	Religion & the Royal Society: Thinking of Nature in New Ways in Early Restoration England
May 5	Rob Lamborn	Rector's Forum

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: JEANNIE BABB @ 423-255-6479

Easter Eggs

A huge thanks goes out to all who assisted with the Easter Egg hunt! Hundreds of candy- and toy-filled eggs were donated, as well as gorgeous dyed and decorated eggs.

Thanks especially to Kamilla Haidaienko for teaching us the Ukrainian art of egg decorating with wax and dyes. We had a wonderful time with this contemplative activity, and we raised \$177.00 in donations to help Ukrainian refugees through Episcopal Relief & Development. The need continues. You may also donate directly here: [Ukraine Crisis Response fund](#)



St. Mark & St. Paul in Pictures





The Community Action Committee is an outreach program of St. Mark & St. Paul, which serves our neighbors in need. Our doors are open Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM for people to shop in our food pantry, and ask for utility payment assistance. We serve about 60 families a month, and are always 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 which is CAC Pantry Sunday.

CAC had a full month full of packing meals, distributing Easter meal baskets, and the monthly Community Meal. Check out the photos to see our wonderful student volunteers and community members supporting CAC!

Upcoming Event: Friday, April 26th - CAC Community Meal

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



Our Kitchen 2 Table Program packs unused portions from the McClurg Dining Hall every Wednesday evening. Our students and community volunteers pack the food into trays, and then they are sealed for freezer safe storage. In March,

McClurg donated 634 pounds of food which created 613 meals for our neighbors. These meals also go out to community partner organizations in Grundy and Franklin Counties.



CAC Bonner and Canale students prepared an excellent meal of baked spaghetti, garlic bread, and salad for the March Community Meal. To top it all off, we also had an ice cream sundae bar with loads of toppings! During the meal, we were entertained by musicians from the Hunger for Community Initiative through the Grundy Area Arts Council. We hope to see you at the next meal on Friday, April 26th at 12:00 PM!

Our collection for Easter meal baskets provided each family with ham, peas, creamed corn, scalloped potatoes, dinner rolls, and fixings for a cake. Our students put the items together in each basket, and decorated them with Easter grass and eggs.



Thank you to everyone who donated to the 2nd Annual Easter Meal Basket Project! With your help, CAC was able to provide 36 Easter meals to our families!

**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 of roasts 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. Coffee is simple to make in the coffee maker. The parish provides the coffee. ***EVEN if you forget*** to bring a snack, St. Mark & St. Paul always has your back with extra snacks you can utilize if necessary.



Greetings 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 contact Parish Administrator Dan Amundson (admin@stmarkstpaul.org) or call 931-598-5926 and the Altar Guild will be in touch.

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.**

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- Create and join events

Let's be the church... together.



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, Sue Hawkins, Karen Keele, Pat Kirby, Mike Mattei, Richard O'Connor, Shawn O'Neil, Geraldine Piccard, Julian Price, Rachel Roberts, Jean Stell, Evelyn Taylor, Peggy Ward, the people of Gaza, Israel, and Ukraine.

April Birthdays



Beth Chamberlain 4 / 1 ; Christianna Taylor 4 / 1 ;
Rod Smith 4 / 1 ; Heidi Siegrist 4 / 5 ;
Brown Patterson 4 / 8 ; Jack Howick 4 / 8 ;
Curt Williams 4 / 9 ; Andrew Thompson 4 / 10 ;
Benjamin Rudd 4 / 10 ; Doris Carlisle 4 / 12 ;
Peter Keeble 4 / 16 ; Ian Tucker 4 / 16 ;
Joseph Gray 4 / 16 ; Anne Griffin 4 / 17 ;
Everest Kitzrow 4 / 18 ; Carolyn O'Connor 4 / 19 ;
Pamela Macfie 4 / 19 ; Jeff Frazier 4 / 19 ; Maggie Rudd 4 / 22 ;
Amy Patterson 4 / 24 ; Fiona Osborne 4 / 25 ; Rachel Suarez 4 / 27 ;
Latham Davis 4 / 28 ; Allison Bruce 4 / 28 ; John Solomon 4 / 28

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