The Tentmaker
St. Paul’s Episcopal Church
Daphne, Alabama
May 10, 2017

A Message from Thack

You know you are getting older when:
Your back goes out more than you do.
You know the lyrics to every Rolling Stones album. (Yikes!)
You enjoy hearing about other people’s operations.
People call you at 9:00 p.m. and ask, “Did I wake you?”
You take a metal detector to the beach.
You wear black socks with sandals.
Your ears are hairier than your head.

How do you feel today? Do you feel your age? I pose these questions because with high school and college graduations upon us, many of you may be feeling like time has gotten away from you.

Seriously, many people become depressed as they age because they equate the aging process with productivity and value. Many older people don’t feel they are as useful as they once were because they aren’t nearly as mentally sharp, strong, and agile as they were in their youth. It’s as if their self-worth diminishes as they celebrate another birthday.

If you feel this way, then the Lord has some good news for you! The good news is that regardless of age, you are still a part of God’s plan. We see this in the story of Abraham and Sarah from the Book of Genesis. If you recall, God told them that they would be the parents of nations. This was a neat trick when you consider that they were 99 and 90 years old, respectively, when they began to raise this family!

Now I’m not suggesting that those of you who are bumping 70, 80 or 90 may become parents again. But Abraham and Sarah’s story reminds us that age is irrelevant when it comes to God’s plans for us. Their story also reminds us that we cannot pick the time or the season for God to reveal His purposes. Who knows? Regardless of your age and station in life, you may not yet be the person God created you to be.

When you start to “feel your age” and think that your options in life may be rapidly declining, then remember the story of Abraham and Sarah. God is never finished with a life regardless of the age of the person. And while His plans are often unexpected, we are never too old to realize His hopes and dreams for us.

Peace, Thack
Congratulations to Our Students!

Congratulations to the following students: John Bryant for graduating from Bayside Academy and for being admitted into the freshman class at Auburn University; Madeline Marie Ellison for graduating from Fairhope High School; Lauren Erdman for graduating from Bayside Academy and being accepted into the freshman class at the University of Alabama; Skye Harrison for graduating from Fairhope High School and for being accepted into the freshman class at Auburn University; Olivia Lyons for graduating from Fairhope High School and for being accepted into the freshman class at Samford University; Sahra El-Hamaki for graduating from Florida Atlantic University. Sahra will attend nursing school in the fall; Matt Harris for receiving his Masters in Law (LLM) degree in Criminal Law from Georgetown University; Tom Shoulitz, who will be an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Texas Southwest and an attending surgeon at Parkland Memorial Hospital, Dallas, Texas, upon completion of his surgical fellowship in July at the University of Washington in Seattle; Jayne Sharp for graduating from the University of South Alabama with a Masters in School Counseling; David Chavers, PhD, for completing the doctoral program in Psychology at the University of South Alabama and for his new positions of staff psychologist with the Veteran’s Administration in Pensacola and Biloxi; and Walker Jackson for joining the Alabama National Guard. Congratulations to all of you and may God continue to direct your paths.

St Peter’s Fish Fry

St. Peter’s 2017 Fish Fries will be held from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm on the following dates:

May 4th
June 1st
July 6th
August 3rd
September 7th
October 5th

Eat in or take out. Plates $10 each includes: Fried Fish, Hushpuppies, Coleslaw, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, and desert.
Proceeds go to local ministries.

6270 Bon Secour Hwy
Bon Secour, AL 36511
2017 Spring Picnic

At 5 Rivers Park

Thank you: Elizabeth Faust, Howard Wilson and Our Men’s Group

Pictures taken by Bill Cody
an EXCEPTIONAL thank you!

THANK YOU ALL for sharing an exceptional evening at the Exceptional Foundation's ARTS 2017 event!! A wonderful night of food, friends, great art and of course fun-draising for the program that supports the social, recreational and artistic activities for the local population of special needs adults!! Thank you to all who volunteered time and talents, thanks to all who shared in sponsorships, thanks to the artists, who by sharing their talents, encouraged participants to be creative and smile in the spotlight and thanks to each and every one who attended!! It was a fantastic night sharing in the excitement of all the participants as they presented creative masterpieces and great individual works of art - such fun! Thanks and hugs to everyone at St. Paul's for so wonderfully supporting this growing program!
**Calling All Want-To-Be Cooks---6th-12th graders!**

Wouldn’t you love to prepare an elegant four-course meal for five or six of your friends or your family? Just imagine their expressions when they see what YOU can do all by yourself! Here’s the plan: Sign up for a one-week cooking course (July 31-August 4) from 4:00-6:00 in Malone Hall. What will you learn? Table setting, serving etiquette, measuring, reading recipes, table decorating, and prayer writing. For our meal, we will prepare appetizers, salads, entrees, and desserts. Each cook will be in charge of one table on serving night, August 4, at 6:00. Class size is limited to 6-8 cooks. Sign up early by calling Beverly Koepp @ 404-3980, or email Beverly at bkoep@bcbe.org.

**FAMILY PROMISE:** We will be having families again beginning Saturday, May 21, leaving Sunday, May 28, which is Memorial Day weekend. It can be a little more difficult to schedule on holidays so please look at your calendars and see if you will be in town. It would be fun too if we could have a holiday picnic for them as well, with games outside to celebrate Memorial Day. Too often the folks don't have the opportunity to participate in celebrations. Contact me nkincafe@yahoo.com or Nancy Dziubakowski 625 3406

**Youth Car Wash**

**Sunday, March 21, 7:30-12:00.**

Help support your St. Paul's Youth as they prepare for the summer mission trip to the Dominican Republic. All donations welcome!

**Website and Morning Prayer**

Our website is being updated. Everything that was on the old site is daily being transferred to the new one. The website address is

http://www.stpaulseasternshore.com

One of the changes is that Morning Prayer is now available for you to listen to each day. If you look in the left hand column of the website and scroll down you will see where it says **MORNING PRAYER**. Click on the box that says **AUDIO** under the date you would like to hear. You can subscribe by following the directions under the subscribe button.

If you are interested in reading and recording Morning Prayer please call the office to schedule a date and time.

Thank you,

Terri
It may look small, but St. Paul’s Episcopal Thrift Shop on Main Street in Daphne is mighty. The shop is celebrating its 40th anniversary in late April, along with its success in giving almost $1.3 million back to the local community.

The shop — the largest ministry at St. Paul’s — was launched as a way to support the church.

“There were a few ladies back in 1977 who were concerned about the finances of St. Paul’s. It was a tiny church then,” said Jane Shoultz, who chairs the shop’s board. “They went into their attics and got things down and started a little thrift shop, if you could call it that at the time.”

Initially, it was open only on Fridays and Saturdays. “And there were days when they made 75 cents,” Shoultz said. “After a while, $75 would blow them out of the water for the weekend.”

Once the women had maxed out on the things that they could sell or give away, they began accepting donations that could be resold.

“I’ve heard stories of women who would bring in their husband’s overalls still dirty from the field and muddy boots,” said Linda Monley, shop manager. And the women at the shop, she said, “would actually wash and spot-clean and iron, clean the boots, and sell this stuff.”

These days, the doors are open Tuesday through Saturday, and donations arrive in such volume that the shop is always full of merchandise. It’s grown to the point that many donations are kept at a leased warehouse space nearby.

“This warehouse has been an amazing gift to us because we don’t have the room in the shop to display furniture,” Shoultz said.

Big-ticket furniture sales can be a boon for a thrift shop, as Shoultz pointed out: “Two-hundred and fifty dollars for a sofa? We’ve got to sell a lot of blouses and skirts to add up to that.”

It’s certainly a far cry from the early days of washing muddy overalls.

Although the shop employs a manager, assistant manager and part-time “muscle power” for lifting donated furniture, it is run primarily by volunteers.

With relatively few expenses, the shop is able to give 75 percent of its sales proceeds to the church and the community, with each receiving an equal share. This year, local community groups will be getting $129,000.

“We have different agencies that we work with, the prime one being Prodissee Pantry,” said Shoultz. “They screen people there for food donations and in talking to the people if they find folks who are in need of clothing or housewares, or furniture or linens, they fill out a voucher for them and the individual comes in and we give them the things that they need.”

Reflecting on the shop’s 40-year milestone, Shoultz said, “I think it took fortitude to start the shop, but I think more than that it took a tremendous amount of fortitude to continue.” She said, “It was such a small group, they had to be pretty strong-willed to keep it going.”
ST. PAUL’S SERVICES:

**Sunday Worship**
Holy Eucharist, Rite I
8:00 am

Christian Education
(Life Center and Malone Hall)
For Children and Adults
9:15 am

Holy Eucharist, Rite II
10:30 am

**Wednesday Worship**
Holy Eucharist, Rite I
7:00 am

Holy Eucharist, Rite II
with Healing Service
Wednesday
12:00 pm (Noon)

**3rd Thursday**
*of each month*
Taize Prayer
(Narthex)
7:00 pm

BIBLE STUDIES

**Sunday**
Christian Education
(Life Center and Malone Hall)
For Children and Adults
9:15 am

**Tuesday**
Men’s Bible Study
(Malone Hall)
7:00 am

**Wednesday**
Morning Bible Study
(Library)
10:30 am

**Great Wednesday**
(Malone Hall)
6:00 pm
Potluck Supper and Study

VESTRY AND OFFICERS

**Term Ending**

**December 31, 2017**
Donna Brown
Nancy Dziubakowski
Tim Michael,
Sr. Warden
Howard Wilson,
Jr. Warden

**December 31, 2018**
Roxanna Carpenter
Davis Daniel
Jim Jackson
Janet Norman

**December 31, 2019**
Sue Cody
Alice Frederick
Michael Koepp
Tom Walker

~
Walker Jackson,
Youth Representative

Martha Lathan,
Clerk of the Vestry

Airrior Norwood,
Treasurer

Church Website
www.stpaulseasternshore.com

Email Address
officestpaulsdaphne@gmail.com

Phone
251-626-2421

Fax
251-626-2456
Delta Safari boat trip, May 1, 2017.
A beautiful day on the water —

Followed by lunch at Felix's on the Causeway.
Christian Education, by Elizabeth Faust

Last Sunday was our parish picnic and what a Sunday it was! I was overwhelmed with generosity from everyone willing to add to our special day so thank you!! I also really want to thank Howard Wilson and the rest of the Men’s group for everything they did, from cooking, to transporting tables to and from the park and for even bringing a big grill out there! Without you guys, we wouldn’t have been able to pull it off! Also thank you to Liz Ray and Kristina McKenna for taking care of our kiddos in Children’s Chapel while I was running back and forth all morning! It takes a village to pull off a big event like that and I am so grateful for everyone who helped out and came out to fellowship!

A FEW Quick CHRIS ED ANNOUNCEMENTS

*8:00 Chapel is not meeting until mid-August. Every summer we take a small break as we are preparing for VBS and many of you are vacationing anyway! The nursery will still be available and there will be a small activity for them. You can also still join us for the 10:30 service!

*New Faces in the Nursery! This summer we will be adding to our Nursery Staff… we are also encouraging parents to take a turn volunteering for a week or two out of the summer. Mamas, if you feel the call please let me know!

THANK YOU to everyone who has donated to our snack supply over the last couple of months. Our little ones have been so blessed by your generosity and creativity too!

*Congratulations to Skye Li Harrison, Madeline Marie Ellison, Jayne Sharp, John Bryant, Olivia Lyons, and Lauren Erdman on your graduations!!!! We will be lifting you up this Sunday at both services!

*Registration has begun for VBS and MAD Camps as well as for volunteers! We will meet June 11th after the 10:30 service to plan for Vacation Bible School.
MAD CAMP
GRADERS 6 & UP
9AM-12PM
JULY 17, 19, 21

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
9AM-12PM
JULY 24-27

VBS and MAD Camp registration is going on right now and you can pick up a registration form in the Narthex at any time! We will also be selling T-shirts for a limited time for campers and volunteers as a fundraiser to support our new campus playground renovation. In Chapel we use this playground occasionally and it is in desperate need of a refurbishment.

We are also excited to announce that we will be offering an extended day program for VBS Campers from 7:00am-5:30pm for those in need of a full day offering. Please contact Elizabeth Faust (626-2421) or Mary Haulard (626-for more information!)

*Forms for everything above are together as a packet with VBS Registration
VBS 2017 - Cave Quest
Following Jesus, the Light of the World
July 24-27 9:00-12:00
(Before and After care also available)

Must be 3 years old and fully potty-trained to attend. Nursery Available for volunteers only.

Student’s Name
_________________________________________

Parent/Guardian Name
_________________________________________

Address
_________________________________________

E-mail Address
_________________________________________

Phone Numbers — Home ____________ Cell ____________ Work ____________

Age Information
Date of birth ____________ Age ____________

Last school grade completed ____________

Home Church
_________________________________________

Allergies/Medical Information/Other
_________________________________________

Emergency Contact
Name ____________________________ Phone ____________

Dismissal Information
Name(s) of person(s) who may pick up this child from VBS
_________________________________________

_________________________________________
**Vacation Bible School Cave Quest T-shirts!**

(optional, not required to participate in VBS)

$10 each – proceeds go toward our church playground!

Due by Sunday, June 25, 2017

Name: _______________________

**Staff Shirt (Adult sizes only)**

Volunteers (including MAD Campers) working all four days get a free shirt!

Please circle:

- Small
- Medium
- Large
- XL
- XXL

**Camper Shirts (Glow in the DARK!)**

Please circle:

- Youth
- Adult
- Small
- Medium
- Large
- XLarge

**Total**

# of Shirts _____ x $10.00 = _____ total due with this form (cash or check only) by June 25, 2017

Names of those receiving shirts:

Some may be available at registration but will be very limited.
St. Paul’s Episcopal Church
28788 North Main Street
Daphne, Alabama 36526

Return Service Requested

St. Paul’s Episcopal Church
28788 North Main Street
Daphne, Alabama 36526

The Rev. Thack H. Dyson, Rector
The Rev. Mary Alice Mathison, Curate
Paul Anderson, Church Musician
Elizabeth Faust, Christian Education
Terri McMillan, Administrative Assistant
Joan McKnight, Staff Assistant
Mark Costlow, Life Center Sexton
Mary Haulard, Preschool — 251-626-2774

Office Hours 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. (Monday-Thursday)
8:00 a.m. — Noon (Friday)

Church Telephone: 251-626-2421 Fax: 251-626-2456
E-mail: officestpaulsdaphne@gmail.com
Thrift Shop Telephone: 251-626-6102

We worship together as we seek God, serve God, and share God with love and acceptance for all.