



The Tentmaker

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Daphne, Alabama

October 7, 2026

Message From Thack

Rally Day: Investing in the Kingdom of God

“Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.”

1 Peter 4:10

On Sunday, October 25, St. Paul's will celebrate our annual Rally Day. It is our ministry fair, our stewardship ingathering, and an opportunity to look toward 2027 and ask a simple but important question: How is God calling me to participate in the life and ministry of our parish?

Christian stewardship is often times reduced to money. Certainly, money is part of it, and an important part. Jesus spoke frequently about our possessions because he understood that what we do with them reveals something about what we value. But biblical stewardship is much larger than a pledge card. Stewardship is what we do with everything God has entrusted to us: our time, our talent, and our treasure.

The word *steward* describes someone entrusted with something that ultimately belongs to another. That is a helpful way to understand the Christian life. Our lives are gifts. Our abilities are gifts. Our resources are gifts. Even the hours and days we have been given are gifts. Christian stewardship begins when we recognize that these things are not simply ours to possess. They have been entrusted to us so that we may use them faithfully and generously for the glory of God and the good of others.

That is why Rally Day is about much more than filling out pledge cards or putting our names on lists. It is an invitation to invest ourselves in the life and ministry of St. Paul's and, through St. Paul's, in the work of God's Kingdom.

There are countless ways to make that investment. Some serve by volunteering at our Thrift Shop, whose ministry reaches far beyond the walls of our parish. Others find fellowship, prayer, and service through the Daughters of the King, Junior Daughters of the King, youth group, or our Men's Ministry. Some deepen their faith through Bible studies, EfM, Sunday School, and our Great Wednesday at Six programs. Others participate in outreach ministries, such as the Exceptional Foundation of the Gulf Coast, Come and Behold, Scouting, Mourner's Path, Pre-School, or our Heaven and Health Committee.

Still others serve in our worship. Many serve as acolytes, servers, chalice bearers, lectors, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, choristers, and ushers. Then there are those who give to the glory of God more anonymously through the altar and flower guilds who quietly prepare our church for worship every Sunday. Saint Paul reminds us that the Church is one body with many members, and every member has a part to play. That is an important image for Rally Day. The Church is not something we attend. It is something we are.

When we become involved in ministry, something changes. St. Paul's becomes more than the church where we worship on Sunday morning. It becomes *our parish*. We begin taking ownership of its mission. We develop relationships with people we might otherwise never know. We discover gifts we may not have realized God had given us. And we begin to understand that ministry is not simply something the clergy and staff do. Ministry belongs to all the baptized people of God.

Our financial stewardship is an equally important part of that calling. The pledges we gather on Rally Day make possible the daily life and ministry of St. Paul's. They keep the lights on and the buildings maintained. They provide the resources necessary for worship, Christian formation, pastoral care, outreach, and ministry. They help provide salaries and benefits for our small, but faithful staff members whose work supports the enormous range of ministries taking place here week after week.

Those things may sound ordinary. Utility bills, insurance, maintenance, salaries, supplies, and repairs are not particularly glamorous. Yet ministry requires a place from which ministry can happen and people who can help make it happen. The ordinary expenses of parish life become instruments of extraordinary ministry when they enable us to worship God, teach the faith, care for those who are hurting, welcome the stranger, feed those in need, form children and adults as disciples, and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

That is why a pledge is more than a financial contribution. It is an investment in ministry.

Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21). Our giving is one way we place our hearts more fully into God's work. We are saying, "I believe in what God is doing here, and I want to be part of it."

The same is true when we volunteer a few hours each week at the Thrift Shop, sing in the choir, teach a Sunday School class, administer the chalice, read Scripture, participate in an outreach ministry, attend a Bible study, help with Great Wednesday, or simply say "yes" when I ask you if you love Jesus.

None of us can do everything. Nor should we try. But every one of us can do something.

Rally Day therefore invites us to ask three questions as we prepare for 2027: What portion of my time can I give? What gifts and talents has God entrusted to me? What portion of my financial resources can I faithfully return for God's work?

The answers will be different for each of us. The important thing is that we ask the questions prayerfully.

God has entrusted St. Paul's to us for this particular moment. We inherited this parish from generations of faithful people who worshiped, prayed, served, sacrificed, and gave so that there would be a St. Paul's for us. Now it is our turn to be faithful stewards, not simply maintaining what we inherited, but strengthening it for those who will come after us.

So on October 25, come to Rally Day. Walk among the ministry displays. Ask questions. Meet the people doing the work. Perhaps visit a ministry you have never considered before. Bring your pledge card. And most importantly, bring an open heart.

Ask God, "Where do you need me?" You may be surprised by the answer. Because when we offer God our time, our talent, and our treasure, we are doing much more than supporting an institution. We are participating in the mission of Jesus Christ. We are helping proclaim the Gospel. We are caring for God's people and

strengthening Christ's Church. We are planting seeds whose fruit we may never personally see. And through all of it, God is glorified.

Peace, Thack



Join us for
RALLY DAY
Sunday, October 25th
THERE WILL BE
ONE CHURCH SERVICE ONLY
AT 10:00 A.M.
IN THE CHURCH
THE SERVICE WILL BE
FOLLOWED
BY A DELICIOUS PICNIC LUNCH PREPARED BY
ST. PAUL'S MEN'S GROUP
IN THE HOWARD WILSON LIFE CENTER
Please bring a dessert to share at the picnic.



SOCKtober ... a ministry of Daughters of the King

DOK is once again excited to invite you to join in our “**SOCKtober**” ministry!

Fall is **not** the time for cold feet - so please help us warm the feet of those in need by bringing **SOCKS** – new or clean “gently used” - for all sizes of ‘soles’ - men, women, children - toddler to teen. Baskets and a collection rack, located in the Narthex (aka Lobby) of Church, will receive socks throughout the month of **OCTOBER!**

We will give socks to “homeless souls” through the Clothesline Ministry of St John’s in Mobile, Baldwin Family Village, Family Promise, St. Paul’s Thrift Shop, Veteran’s Home and so many others!! Bless you for your generosity and may your day also be blessed!

This is a “**SOUL to SOLE**” ministry ...
giving socks to warm the feet of many in need!

Thank you from Julian of Norwich
St. Paul’s Chapter of the Daughters of the King.



SPAGHETTI DINNER and BINGO...

Come join the fun in the
Howard Wilson Life Center
beginning at 5:45 p.m.
at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Daphne
the **4th Friday** of each month, January - October...
Friday, October 23rd!

Enjoy a delicious spaghetti dinner -
and then play 11 games of BINGO
All proceeds go for the support of St. Paul’s ministries.

Financial Report

September Operating Income:

\$90,173.63

September Operating Expenses:

\$87,490.93

September Operating:

\$2,682.70

We only had a positive balance in September because we had some investment income of \$12,000. Without it we would have had a negative Operating. balance for September.

Year to Date Operating Income:

\$791,159.70

Year to Date Operating Expenses:

\$846,714.10

Year to Date Operating Net Total:

-\$55,554.40

2026 Capital Campaign Goal:

\$200,000

Received to date (October 5th):

\$213,798.50—1.06% of our goal

103 Donors—25.7% of Congregation

Capital Improvement Expenses to-date:

Threshold and Window Pros - \$500.00 for Door Repair in Malone Hall and Office Areas

Door Mats - \$1200.00

Real Floors - \$18,564.76 for Carpet and Flooring in Malone Hall and Office Areas

Greg Hobbs Painters - \$13,661.80 for painting in Malone Hall, Office Areas,

Powerwashing and painting Church and doors and Sherwin Williams for Paint Samples

Capital Improvement Fund Balance: \$179,871.94

A Wonderful Morning of Fellowship! ♥

The Thrift Shop was delighted to welcome many of you for Coffee Hour on September 20th following both the 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. services. It was a wonderful morning of fellowship, good food, conversation and shopping!

A special thank you to the St. Paul's Thrift Shop Board of Directors for providing the delicious refreshments and to Cindy Hoeb for coordinating the event and making everything come together so beautifully.



HOUSEWARES DONATIONS NEEDED!



We are in need of donations of clean, gently used housewares such as dishes, glassware, serving pieces, small kitchen appliances, cookware and home décor.

Your donations help support our ministry and local outreach programs.

Thank you for thinking of St. Paul's Thrift Shop!

♥ THANK YOU, HALEY HARE! ♥

This past Saturday, we said a fond farewell to Haley Hare as she begins an exciting new chapter with a full-time job!

Haley has been a very valued member of our St. Paul's Thrift Shop family for over three years and we are so grateful for her helpful, positive attitude, delightful smile and her dedicated service.

A perennial favorite, she will be greatly missed by our volunteers, staff, customers, and friends.

Congratulations, Haley! We're proud of you and wish you much happiness and success in your new position. Don't be a stranger — you'll always be part of the St. Paul's Thrift Shop family!

♥ Please join us in wishing Haley all the best! ♥



St. Paul's



Greetings fellow parishioners!

Do you like to sing? There is just no reason that you shouldn't join St. Paul's parish choir!

We are a loving, inclusive group! We can teach you how to read/follow music. Most of the hymns we sing are familiar!

Don't have a lot of time? Everyone needs to take some time for themselves! Our rehearsal on Wednesdays is from 6:30 to 8. Christopher is very conscientious about getting us out on time or early! Sunday morning we meet in the choir room at 9:45. That's only 45 minutes before church starts!

Got kids? The nursery is open for choir time on Sundays or you can bring them!! And you can bring them on Wednesdays. We are fine with that!!

I don't know if you've heard about the choir parties but we have a great time!! Shhh! It's a secret!

Singing in the choir is a great way to serve God and St. Paul's!! You get to have fun AND serve God!!

Just talk to Christopher or any choir member. We'd love to have you join us!!!



There are many exciting musical dates coming up at St. Paul's!

Choral Evensong — October 11 at 5:00 p.m.

We will gather in the church for a beautiful service of Choral Evensong. Our choir has worked incredibly hard to prepare for this special evening, and I'm very thankful for the opportunity to share this music and worship with them.

Eastern Shore Chamber Music Festival — November 15 at 2:30 p.m.

St. Paul's will be hosting the Eastern Shore Chamber Music Festival for a special concert featuring patriotic music in celebration of the 250th anniversary of our country.

We hope you'll join us for these wonderful musical offerings at St. Paul's!





Dear St. Paul's Family,

This year, we will be presenting our Nativity display (Come and Behold Him) on December 4th, 5th, and 6th. For those who are new to our parish, every other year, we display approximately 200 Nativities from around the world in the Howard Wilson Life Center. This is St. Paul's gift to the community and there is no charge. It takes a minimum of 50 volunteers to set up and oversee the three-day event. To organize, assign jobs, and answer questions, one meeting will be held on Saturday, October 10th at 10:00 a.m. in Malone Hall. We will begin receiving and setting up the Nativities on November 29th following the 8:00 a.m. service. It takes a lot of hands to prepare and execute. I am asking you to share your Nativities and consider joining this wonderful outreach ministry. Please look for the signup sheet in the narthex and plan to come to the October 10th meeting. There is a job waiting for you! The team is always available to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Dyson

Gaye Wilson

Roxanna Carpenter

Sue Cody

St. Paul's Men's Group

Thank you to the 12 parishioners who showed up on September 19 for the Grounds Work Day. We removed ground cover, pulled weeds, and trimmed bushes to beautify the church property. We filled two trailers with debris.

Thank you also to the 6 men that went to Baylights at Beckwith on September 26 to serve the Bishop's BBQ at lunch. You represented St. Paul's very well.

Tickets are available now for Porkfest which is November 21. They can be purchased from several Men's Group members for \$49.





Christmas Eve Pageant Practice

BELIEVE IT OR NOT, IT'S ALREADY
ALMOST TIME TO BEGIN PRACTICES
FOR THE CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT!

PRACTICES IN NOVEMBER WILL BE
FOR 3RD-12TH GRADERS ONLY.
YOUNGER CHILDREN MAY ATTEND
BOTH DECEMBER PRACTICES.

PRACTICE DATES/TIMES/LOCATION

NOV. 8	9:15-9:45AM	CHAPEL
NOV. 15	9:15-9:45AM	CHAPEL
NOV. 22	5-6PM	CHURCH
NOV 29	5-6PM	CHURCH
DEC. 6	9:15-9:45AM	CHAPEL
DEC. 13	NO PRACTICE DUE TO DRIVE THRU	
DEC. 20	5-6PM	CHURCH



Prayer Requests

Immediate Prayer Requests:

Ray Bing, Donna Brown, Jeff Brown, Tommy Burnett, Frances Coleman, Deanna Cook, Faith Cornett, Jody Davis, Wayne Davis, Patrick Foster, Laura Ann Gibson, Glenda Gravley, Toni Gray, Jim Gullede, Sharon Hoiles, Carl Hucke, Dave Johnson, Leslie Johnson, Susan Johnson, Thomas Kielek, Tracie Knight, Beverly Koepp, Pat Lieb, Donelle McBride, Michael McCollum, Leigh McKibbon, Bob McKnight, Marcie Morrow, Dorothy Moore, Lainey Owen, Cindy Patterson, Phyllis Schneider, Stephen Schneider, Marie Schriener, Michael Schwarte, David Robert Scott, Marc Silliman, Avos Stickney, Cleighton Strickland, Karen Thomason, Mary Haston Vest, Nancy Walker, Julia Warren,

Ongoing Prayer Requests:

Bobby Acosta, Christopher Blackwell, Betty Borroni, Dakota Burchett, Pat Cannon, Janice Clifford, Jim Clifford, Jennifer Conner, Margie Cowart, Suzanne Damour, Tom Davidson, Nancy Dziubakowski, Sylvia Forbes, Dee Grantham, Kay Hardin, Terri Hare, Hannah Harper, Richard Hatchett, Eddie Hill, Susan Hill, Jossie Hurst, Shari Hyde, Shannon Kern, Alexander Kielek, Neil Magruder, Leigh Marsh, Angela Mason, Buddy Morrow, Bo Nichols, Sonny Nichols, Sam Pace, Mary Pace, Sara Patton, Janet Penry, Judy Reeves, Mary Rudolf, Marilyn Russell, Jesse Rutherford, Larry Rutherford, Kem Rudledge, Stephanie Sanchez, Pat Schlimmer, Cathy Slagle, Ken & Genette Stephens, Vicki Thompson, Anna & Bill Waid, Ken Wallis, Bob & Beth Wickwire, Andy Wilson, Kern & Mary Wilson

For the Departed: Joseph “Jojo” Mitchell, Cathy Gibbons White, Linda Barnett, Harry Davidson Poole

For Those Serving in the Military:

Bradley Billingsley, Graham B’Wade, Ryan Bowman, James Cassebaum, Matthew Cheatham, Chase Clark, Jackson Deaton, Josh Dedrickson, Michael Duchesne, Christopher Dukarm, Steven Grey, Matthew Harris, Adam Harrison, Rusty Henry, Karen Hubley, Walker Jackson, Daniel James, Jake Jerome, Matt Jones, Harrison Key, Daniel Lambert, Chris Lessard, Jackson May, Bryan Quinn, Holden Quinn, Madie Quinn, Neil Quinn, Justin Ramsey, Neil Sevelius, Michael Strohlein, Dan Strohlein, Aiden Walker, Brad Yonkers

For Those with Birthdays:

October 1-31: (02) Bonnie Boll, Vada Evans, (05) Linda Koenig, Shawn Alves, Sterling McFarland, (06) Sharon Knowles, (07) Joan McKnight, Michael Taylor, (08) William Harrison, II, (09) Kathryn Wallis, Christopher Conger, (10) Janet Kucera, (11) Nancy Beck, (12) Jack Thompson, (14) David Green, Kelly Meshejian, Astrid Wetzell, (15) Bob Wakeman, Debbie Quinn, Patrick Davenport, Sarah Beth Walker, (16) Lee Williams, (18) Arthur Oken, Cooper Dalto, Jonah Delgado, (19) Cathy Slagle, John Sharp, (20) Marsha Chinal, (21) Court Hurst, Robin Dilsaver, Julie Taylor, (23) Meredith Myers, (24) Ray Bing, Tim Michael, (26) Arvis Leininger, Caron Richards, David Op’t Holt, Donna Nolte, Iris Mitchell, (27) Margot Boll, (28) Tommy Hindman, (29) Becky Costlow, Charlotte Patterson

Please let the office know of any names to be added or removed from the Prayer List.

2027 OPERATING PLEDGE

For the Ministry and Operations of St. Paul's Episcopal Church:

In thanksgiving to God for many blessings,
I/We pledge to St. Paul's OPERATING FUND for 2026:

an ANNUAL TOTAL of \$ _____

I/We will pay the total amount on a

\$ ☐ Weekly ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Annually BASIS (please check one)

2027 BUILDING FUND PLEDGE

I/We would also like to pledge to
St. Paul's BUILDING FUND for 2026

an ANNUAL TOTAL of \$ _____

I/We will pay the total amount on a

\$ ☐ Weekly ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Annually BASIS (please check one)

Name _____

Address: _____

Telephone Numbers: _____

Email: _____

Would you like Offering Envelopes? Yes No

Would you like information about becoming a member of St. Paul's?
Yes No

Please fill out this form and return it either by:

- Placing it in church offering plate or
- Mailing it to 28788 North Main Street, Daphne, Alabama 36526 or
- Emailing it to officestpaulsdaphne@gmail.com or
- Contacting the church office at 251-626-2421

PLEDGES DO NOT AUTOMATICALLY RENEW EACH YEAR.

PLEDGE CARDS MAY ALSO BE FILLED OUT AND SUBMITTED ON THE CHURCH WEBSITE:
WWW.STPAULSEASTERNSHORE.COM

WE NEED YOU!!!

Listed below are the many ministry opportunities offered at St. Paul's. Please prayerfully review the list and sign-up for the ministry or ministries in which you would like to participate. Even if you are already involved we ask that you fill out this form. It will help us to update your contact information. Thank you for offering your many gifts and talents to our church family! Someone will be in touch very soon to share with you the details regarding the ministry or ministries you've selected below.

Adult Christian Education

- ☐ Anglican Studies
- ☐ 7 a.m. Men's Tuesday Bible Study - Zoom Mtg.
- ☐ African Bible Study, Tuesday at 6 pm
- ☐ Wednesday 10:30 a.m. Bible Study
- ☐ Great Wednesday @ 6 p.m.
- ☐ Adult Confirmation Classes
- ☐ Small Groups
- ☐ EfM

Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.

- ☐ Adult
- ☐ Youth
- ☐ Children k-4th grades

Worship

- ☐ Acolytes
- ☐ Altar Guild
- ☐ Chalice Bearers
- ☐ Daughters of the King
- ☐ Jr. Daughters of the King
- ☐ Flower Guild
- ☐ Lay Eucharistic Visitors
- ☐ Lectors
- ☐ Prayer Team
- ☐ Ushers/Greeters
- ☐ Vergers
- ☐ Videographers

Music Ministry

- ☐ Parish Choir
- ☐ NEWSONG

Children's Christian Education

- ☐ Vacation Bible School Volunteers (Adults and Youth)
- ☐ Nursery Worker Volunteers
- ☐ Christmas Pageant Helpers
- ☐ Drive through Nativity Helpers
- ☐ Children's Chapel (8 & 10:30)
- ☐ First Communion Class K-4th grade

Youth Christian Formation

- ☐ EYC (Youth Group)
- ☐ EYC Meals
- ☐ Christmas Pageant Helpers
- ☐ Drive through Nativity Helpers
- ☐ Youth Confirmation Class
- ☐ VBS Volunteers (Youth needed)

Pastoral Care

- ☐ Email Prayer Chain
- ☐ Garden of the Resurrection
- ☐ Parish Nursing
- ☐ Heaven and Health
- ☐ Emergency Preparedness

Outreach

- ☐ St. Paul's Thrift Shop Volunteer
- ☐ Creation Care
- ☐ Ecumenical Ministries
- ☐ Exceptional Foundation
- ☐ Come and Behold Him Nativities
- ☐ Prayer Shawl Ministry
- ☐ St. Paul's Preschool
- ☐ Cooking Ministry
- ☐ Bingo/Spaghetti Supper
- ☐ Coffee Hour after 10:30 a.m. service
- ☐ Grounds Sprucing
- ☐ Cursillo
- ☐ Sexton Saints
- ☐ Tentmaker Folders
- ☐ Trunk or Treat
- ☐ Stewardship
- ☐ Wedding Committee

Important:

- ☐ *Youth and Adult Volunteers for the Christmas Pageant and Drive Through Nativity.*
- ☐ *Youth and Adult Volunteers for VBS.*
- ☐ *Youth and Adult Volunteers for the Seder Meal.*

Social

- ☐ St. Paul's Men's Group
- ☐ Supper Club - Dining OUT
- ☐ Supper Club - Dining IN
- ☐ Parish Picnics
- ☐ Sharing Faith Dinners
- ☐ Seder Meal Volunteers

Please Print Clearly:

Name: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

Cell: _____

Mailing Address:

**Someone will be contacting
you soon!**

Thank you for signing up!!

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

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The Rev. Thack H. Dyson, Rector
The Rev. Judith W. Comer, Priest Associate
The Rev. S. Albert Kennington, Priest Associate
Elizabeth Faust, Christian Education & Preschool Administrator
Hali Nestande, Youth Leader
David Kielek, Howard Wilson Life Center Sexton
Christopher Conger, Church Musician & Choirmaster
Joan McKnight and Donna Brown, Staff Assistants
Terri McMillan, Administrative Assistant

Office Hours 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. (Monday-Thursday)
8:00 a.m. — 11:30a.m. (Friday)

Church Telephone: 251-626-2421 Fax: 251-626-2456
E-mail: officestpaulsdaphne@gmail.com
Facebook Page: St. Paul's Eastern Shore
Preschool Phone: 251-626-2774
Thrift Shop Telephone: 251-626-6102
Church App: <https://tithely.app.link/st-pauls-eastern-shore>
Website: www.stpaulseasternshore.com

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