



The Tentmaker

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Daphne, Alabama

August 14, 2019

Message from Thack

When we hear stories about someone's good fortune, many Christians tend to say, "God is good!" We say that a lot — "God is good!" — when we hear reports of people who inexplicably avoided doom.

A woman has car trouble and avoids a fatal 12-car pile-up on I-10 that she would've been in if her car had started. Isn't God good? My laryngeal cancer was discovered almost by accident. Many friends and family members responded to my good fortune by saying, "Isn't God good? I believe I even said, "God is good!"

But is this why God is good? If God hadn't spared my life, would God still be good? I ask that because for the many stories there are of people who escaped doom, there are just as many (if not more) stories of people who weren't so "lucky." People die in pile-ups on the highway all the time. In that context, it almost sounds obscene to say, "Isn't God good?" There were people diagnosed with Stage IV cancer and died weeks later because their cancer was discovered too late. In the face of that can we still say, "Isn't God good?" There was a time in my life when it didn't make sense to draw attention to God's goodness in a situation that seems to be the opposite of good. Yet, despite my previous hesitation to say God is good in the face of someone else's misfortune, is God still good? It depends on what God's goodness means.

The Bible is a good witness to God's inherent goodness. It says that God is good. It's not just what he does; it's who he is — and who he is never changes. In Psalm 46, the psalmist says, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear..."¹ God is good because he is a constant and abiding presence in the midst of our difficulties!

This is why we can say, no matter how bad the storm is, no matter how much pain we experience, no matter how different the outcome is from what we've prayed for, God is good. In the hardest moments of life, God comes close to us and he doesn't falter, he doesn't quit, he doesn't leave and he doesn't let us go.

God is good to the victims and continues to be for the survivors of the mass murders in El Paso and Dayton. God is just as good to the people who die in car accidents as he is to the people who inexplicably avoid them. God is just as good to the parents of obedient children as he is to parents of children who have rebelled. God is just as good to the people who lose their jobs in corporate downsizing as he is to the people who earn a promotion. God is just as good to all who died of laryngeal cancer as he was to me when I survived it. Even if my cancer comes out of remission, God is still good.

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Isn't God good? Yes! The answer is always a resounding yes. God is good! But we have to stop only talking about his goodness when an unexpectedly pleasant thing happens. That's because God's goodness is not dependent on an outcome or an emotion or the near miss of a tragic situation.

God is not good because we avoid danger. God is good because when the storms of life hit, he comes closer to us than the storm ever could. He doesn't falter. He doesn't leave. And no matter what, he never lets us go.

Peace, Thack

¹ *Book of Common Prayer*, Psalm 46:1-2, p. 649.

Church Etiquette

It has been brought to my attention again about the noise that emanates from the narthex into the nave on Sunday mornings. Folks who gather in the nave to pray before church find it difficult to concentrate and prepare themselves for worship because of the loud talking in the narthex. I realize many of you are happy to see your friends when we gather for worship each week and you can't help but greet them warmly. That's fine, but can you catch up with them during the coffee hour in Malone Hall after the service? Someone once told me that the holiest time for her during Sunday morning worship was her prayer time before the service started. Please be mindful of that reality and respect your fellow parishioners when you enter the church. Also, please mute or turn your cellphones off before you enter church. Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. Thack

St. Paul's SPAGHETTI SUPPER and BINGO

Friday, August 23 beginning at 6:00pm inside St. Paul's LIFE center

COME – enjoy an evening of **dinner and BINGO** – total for both \$25 ... plus you may win \$\$

... if no one in your party is playing BINGO, the cost of dinner is \$8 per person ...

... if however, someone in your party is playing BINGO, the cost of dinner is \$5 per person ...

.... the cost for playing 11 games of BINGO is \$20 per card (3 tries per game) ...

***(proceeds – after winnings – to benefit St. Paul's LIFE center ministries)*

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**dinner served at 6:00pm**

**BINGO begins at 6:30pm** - play 11 games for a **\$20 game packet** (plus **\$5 for dinner plate**)

Call a friend ... bring the kiddos ... see ya' **Friday, August 23** in the LIFE center  
only at **St. Paul's BINGO** on the 4<sup>th</sup> **Friday night** can you have it all ... **food, friend\$, fun!**

*Please join us in spreading the word that*

# **Hate Has No Home Here**

Phyllis Bruce is coordinating a yard sign project that allows us to show the world that Hate Has No Home Here...not in our own homes, our hearts, our communities, or our lives. This yard sign is our way to pass that message forward.

The Hate Has No Home Here project seeks to declare neighborhoods, businesses, and places of community free from hate speech and behavior and to promote safe places for conversation, work, learning, and living.

The sign project began in a Chicago neighborhood that was characterized by its diversity of age, race, nationality, and ethnicity. The movement is built around a simple idea: it's easy to hate people we don't know.

While the sign calls to mind the American flag, it is not a political statement. It is a public declaration that hate speech and hateful actions against others will not be tolerated by the individual or organization displaying the sign.

The yard signs are corrugated plastic. Bulk orders of 100 allow us to obtain the signs for \$5 each (as opposed to the usual \$20). Phyllis is taking orders – contact her at [pobruce46@gmail.com](mailto:pobruce46@gmail.com) or 251.680.2764 and let her know how many you want! Money is due when signs are delivered. (*Please give money to Phyllis Bruce.*)

Adrienne LaPorte is also selling some of her beautiful Anglican rosaries to raise funds to buy extra signs that will be available for purchase if you need more after our original orders. You'll find them outside in the courtyard after church (the rosaries).



[www.hatehasnohome.org](http://www.hatehasnohome.org)

## **Parish Nurse News**

### **Donna Nolte MSN, CCRN**

In the last Tentmaker, we reviewed some important things to include in a hurricane emergency preparedness plan. In this edition, let's look at things you should be aware of both during and after a storm. While most of this is good common sense, it never hurts to review!

Before you decide to shelter in place during a hurricane, make sure you are aware of your location's ability to withstand wind and the storm severity level that the construction is rated for. Know your location's elevation level and if it is flood prone. Knowing how your property or location is situated with respect to storm surge and flood levels will help you make the decision to stay or leave.

If you decide to ride it out, there are some important things to be aware of. The greatest threat to personal safety during the storm is due to high winds downing trees and creating flying debris. Stay inside and away from windows, skylights, and glass doors. An interior room on the ground level will provide you with the best protection from falling trees. If your windows are not protected by shutters or plywood, cover the openings inside with sheets. This will at least slow down any flying glass if the window takes a direct hit. Turn off major appliances and the AC if your home loses power to reduce the risk of damage. Power often comes back on but not at full capacity ("brown out") which can damage large appliances and electronic equipment.

Lightening is another serious risk during the storm. While I don't recall ever seeing lightening during a hurricane, it is a documented fact that it occurs and something that all safety experts warn about. Don't use your landline or take a shower / bath during the height of a storm.

If flooding threatens, turn your electricity off at the main breaker. Even if the power is already down, turning the breaker off will ensure that the power remains off until the threat of flooding is over.

Don't go outside until an official "all clear" is given. If the eye of the storm passes overhead, it is easily mistaken for the end of the severe weather. Don't be tempted to "see what the wind feels like"...the risk of injury from flying debris is significant.

After the storm, the most common cause of injury and death is due to drowning or near drowning. Most of these avoidable deaths occur when motorists drive into floodwaters thinking they can safely drive through. As little as one foot of moving water can sweep a car off the road. Six inches of moving water can sweep an adult off their feet. A good rule of thumb is that if you can't see the bottom, don't walk or drive through the water.

Don't touch fallen or low hanging wires under any circumstances and stay away from puddles with wires near them. Don't touch trees or other objects in contact with power lines. During the post storm period, a high degree of "situational awareness" is required. Things that we do without thinking every other day could become extremely dangerous due to downed power lines. Make sure you look before you touch after a storm.

Watch for weakened roads, bridges and tree limbs that could collapse unexpectedly. Be hypervigilant when walking outside or driving.

After power is restored, check the food in your refrigerator for spoilage. And, of course, don't operate grills, camp stoves, or generators indoors.

While I certainly pray that we are not faced with a storm any time soon, I hope these tips have given you some additional safety ammunition. Everyone be careful out there!

## **Chris Ed Update...**

### **Bible on Tap**

Bible on Tap is back! We'll begin meeting again on August 16<sup>th</sup> at Ed's on the Causeway at 6! Please let me know if you can make it by August 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **Preschool Sunday**

Believe it or not, it's time for going back to school! To celebrate, we will host coffee hour in the preschool on August 25<sup>th</sup> @ 9 following the 8:00 service. Come on up and take a look around, check out our playground, meet our teachers, and enjoy fellowship with all of us!

### **Wednesday Night Live**

Wednesday Night Live will be back September 4<sup>th</sup> in the Underground at 6! More details to come! We have exciting plans for our fall and can't wait to get back into the swing of things!

### **Children's Chapel**

8:00 Children's Chapel will resume September 4<sup>th</sup> in the Chapel! This week we will also wrap up our "Summer at the Movies" session and restart our Fall "Godly Play" curriculum.

### **Greetings from the Thrift Shop.**

Summer is quickly coming to an end and school starts this week. The beginning of the school year also means the shop will be preparing for the change over from summer to fall merchandise. Our bag sale will be held the week of Labor Day, September 3-6. The shop will be closed on the September 7th for cleaning and restocking. Everyone looks forward to finding treasures and clothing during this week long sale. And, each day the price of a filled bag will drop until we close on Friday afternoon. As we prepare for the bag sale and change over, please remember to bring your plastic bags and old newspapers to the shop. We are always running short of these items, so we appreciate your sharing these packing items with the Shop.

Our furniture sale will also be held August 24th. Many great furniture items will be available but no sales will be made prior to the opening of the shop at 10 AM on Saturday. This gives everyone an equal opportunity to see the items on Facebook and be able to purchase the item available when the shop opens for business.

This year the Shop has started randomly selecting a Volunteer of the Month. Our August volunteer is Shelly Willett. If you have not met Shelly, she works on Tuesday. She helps with sorting and hanging clothing for the shop. And, if you have a few minutes, drop by the shop and meet her in person.

We will be installing additional awnings on the north end of the shop so that donated items can be kept dry and out of the weather. You may see workers preparing and erecting these structures in the next few days or weeks.

## Prayer Requests

### Immediate Prayer Requests:

Denise Adams, John Bassney, Marilyn Brown, Arnold Bush, Bill Daum, Maybelle Godwin, Ernie Guysinger, Roy Hall, Patsy Weed Hollis, Jossie Hurst, Geoff Jones, Heather Klein, Joy Manuel, Doug Montgomery, Bennie Savage, Sylvia Torp, Margaret Waller

### Ongoing Prayer Requests:

Marie Baggett, Dave Baldock, Chris Blackwell, Christopher Bridges, Pat Brislin, Marsha Butler, Pat Cannon, Jim Council, Margie Cowart, Margaret Cummins, Suzanne Damour, Caroline Elsteroth, Suzanne Galloney, Dee Grantham, Carol Hafner, Wanda Hall, Ray Hamilton, Trevor Hawkes, Susan Hill, Theresa Johnson, Stan Keel, Beverly Koepp, David and Betty Lee, Andy Lipps, Patrick Lynch, Dick McBride, Bob McKnight, Lance Monley, Ross Moore, Lou Morgan, Elsie Mosher, Dan Palmer, Sara Patton, Al Rawls, Loren Rudolf, Mary Rudolf, Zera Roussel, Pat Schlimmer, Cathy Slagle, Matt Snow, Phyllis Springen, Bobbi & Doc Surgenor, Albert Thompson, Julia Warren, Rick Zwickey

*Almighty God, who hast promised to hear the petitions of those who ask in thy Son's Name: We beseech thee mercifully to incline thine ear to us who have now made our prayers and supplications unto thee; and grant that those things which we have faithfully asked according to thy will, may effectually be obtained, to the relief of our necessity, and to the setting forth of thy glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Book of Common Prayer, page 834

### For the Departed: Borden Morrow, Jim Walker

*Father of all, we pray to you for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

Book of Common Prayer, page 498

### For Those Serving in the Military:

Ryan Bowman, Matthew Cheatham, Jackson Deaton, Michael Duchesne, Christopher Dukarm, Chris Evans, Diana Evans, Landis Fouts, Deron Frailie, Steven Grey, Matthew Harris, Rusty Henry, Karen Hubley, Daniel James, Matt Jones, Daniel Lambert, Chris Lessard, David McMillan, Patrick Mong, Bryan Quinn, Neil Quinn, Justin Ramsey, Neil Sevelius, Derek Siegel, Andy Tuttle, James Wallin, Brad Yonkers

*Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Book of Common Prayer, page 823

### For those with Birthdays:

**August 1-31:** (01) Crystal Anderson, (02) Bill Cody, Emily Wilson, (03) Elizabeth Manci, Benjamin Kalra, (05) Anne Brown, Kathy Lovell, (06) David Lee, Terri McMillan, Sarah Hinote, (07) Lee Keel, Alice Gordon, Erin Hendricks, Anna Quinn, (08) Stan Keel, (09) Glenn Boom, (10) Ken Hendricks, Taylor Williams, (11) Jackie Brettel, Sandy Davenport, Lila Sharp, (12) Carol Lambert, Frieda Ward, (14) Clay Rankin, Patrick Lynch, Leslie Esham, Adam Simpson, (15) Marty Ollinger, (16) Deborah Baldock, Judi Gulledge, Dru Nash, (17) Lea Verneuille, (18) Drew Lathan, Melanie Powell, Aiden Walker, (19) Kristina McKenna, (20) Marie Schriener, (21) Sally Clark, Judy Hale, (22) Ray Hamilton, Sid Jackson, David Chavers, Will Kiser, Adriene LaPorte, (23) Jim Green, (24) Scotti Dixon, Eric Smith, (26) Margaret White, Alan Talamo, Adam Holbein, Jane Smith, (27) Art Holbein, (28) Baba Hendricks, (29) Liz Ray, (31) Lauren Erdman, Olen Calhoun

*O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Book of Common Prayer, page 830

**ST. PAUL'S SERVICES:****Saturday**

Community Praise & Worship  
with Holy Eucharist  
(Life Center)  
5:00 p.m.

**Sunday Worship**

Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
8:00 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)

**BIBLE STUDIES****Sunday**

Christian Education  
Adults (Malone Hall)  
9:15 am

**Children's Chapel**

8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

**Tuesday**

Men's Bible Study  
(Malone Hall)  
6:00 am

**Wednesday**

Morning Bible Study  
(Library)  
10:30 am

**Great Wednesday**

(Malone Hall)  
6:00 pm  
Supper and Study

**VESTRY AND  
OFFICERS****Term Ending****December 31, 2019**

Sue Cody  
Alice Frederick  
Michael Koepp, Jr. Warden  
Tom Walker

**December 31, 2020**

Bill Harrison, Sr. Warden  
Liston Jones  
Boyd Miller  
Donna Nolte

**December 31, 2021**

Donna Brown  
Kathy Mallory  
Ken McNamara  
Michael Quinn  
~  
Martha Lathan,  
Clerk of the Vestry  
  
Airrior Norwood,  
Treasurer

**Church Website**

[www.stpaulseasternshore.com](http://www.stpaulseasternshore.com)

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**Return Service Requested**

## St. Paul's Episcopal Church

28788 North Main Street

Daphne, Alabama 36526

The Rev. Thack H. Dyson, *Rector*

Tina Erickson, *Youth Leader*

Elizabeth Faust, *Christian Education*

David Kielek, *Life Center Sexton*

Joan McKnight, *Staff Assistant*

Terri McMillan, *Administrative Assistant*

Elizabeth Faust, Administrator --*St. Paul's Preschool* — 251-626-2774  
Kathy Mallory, Manager -- St. Paul's Thrift Shop -- Telephone: 251-626-6102

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](mailto:officestpaulsdaphne@gmail.com)

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