



The Tentmaker

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Daphne, Alabama

June 18, 2026

Message From Thack

Yesterday, Albert Kennington and I had lunch together. As often happens when two clergy get together, our conversation eventually turned to Scripture. We found ourselves laughing again about last Sunday's Old Testament lesson from Genesis 18 and 21, the story of Abraham and Sarah receiving God's astonishing promise that they would have a child in their old age.

If you missed it, three mysterious visitors arrive at Abraham's tent near the oaks of Mamre. Abraham, now one hundred years old, welcomes them with lavish hospitality. During the conversation, one of the visitors announces that Sarah, Abraham's wife, will bear a son within the year. Sarah is listening from behind the tent flap.

The text tells us that Abraham and Sarah were “old, advanced in age.” Sarah was ninety years old and long past the age of childbearing. Upon hearing the promise, she laughs. Who could blame her?

Imagine hearing that a ninety-year-old woman and a one-hundred-year-old man are about to become first-time parents. Sarah's laughter was not the polite chuckle of amusement. It was the laughter of disbelief. It was the laughter that says, “Surely this cannot be true.” Yet, God has the last laugh.

A year later, Sarah gives birth to Isaac. Significantly, the name Isaac means “he laughs.” The child himself becomes a living reminder that God's promises are often fulfilled in ways that exceed human expectations. Sarah later says, “God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me.”

Notice the transformation. In Genesis 18, Sarah laughs at God's promise. In Genesis 21, she laughs because of God's faithfulness. There is a profound spiritual lesson here.

Many of us live in a weary world. We carry concerns about our health, our families, our finances, our nation, and our future. We grieve loved ones who have died. We struggle with disappointments and unanswered prayers. Some days the burdens of life seem heavy indeed. In such moments, joy can feel distant.

Yet the story of Sarah reminds us that laughter itself can be a gift from God. Not laughter that mocks others. Not laughter that denies the pain. Not laughter that pretends everything is fine when it is not. Rather, holy laughter. The kind that springs from the realization that God is still at work, even when circumstances seem impossible.

The Bible is filled with examples of joy breaking into difficult situations. The Israelites sing on the far shore of the Red Sea after escaping Pharaoh's army. The shepherds rejoice at the birth of Jesus in the midst of an occupied land. The disciples discover that the crucified Christ is alive, and their tears are transformed into joy. Again and again, Scripture reminds us that suffering does not have the final word.

Perhaps that is why laughter is so important. It helps us remember that God's story is larger than our fears. It creates space for hope. It reminds us that grace can surprise us when we least expect it.

I have often noticed this at funerals. Families gather in grief, yet before long someone tells a story about their loved one. Another memory follows. Soon tears and laughter occupy the same room. Those moments do not diminish the sorrow. Instead, they testify that love is stronger than death and that joy can coexist with sadness.

The Christian life is not about pretending that life is easy. It is about trusting that God is present in the midst of life's difficulties. We are Easter people. We believe in the resurrection. We believe that God can bring life out of death, hope out of despair, and laughter out of tears. Sarah's laughter began in skepticism but ended in wonder. Perhaps ours can as well.

So this week, take time to enjoy God's gift of joy. Laugh with your family. Share a meal with a friend. Tell an old story. Smile at a grandchild. Give thanks for the blessings that still surround you. In a weary world, such moments are not trivial. They are holy. After all, we worship the God who gave a ninety-one-year-old woman a baby and named him "Laughter."

Peace, Thack



Spaghetti Dinner

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, June 26, July 24, August 28, September 25th and 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.

VIEW OUR CHURCH DIRECTORY ON YOUR MOBILE DEVICE!

FREE App for iPhone, iPad
& Android



Our church directory is a great resource tool that allows you to get to know our church family better!

Simply go to the App Store, search for *Instant Church Directory*  and download the FREE app to begin.

Enter your email listed in the directory, and click "Send Secure Sign-In Link." Check your email, and click the "Log in to Instant Church Directory" button.

If you're not listed in the directory, OR if you have trouble logging into the app, please contact the church office.



There will be
NO Parish Breakfast
on July 5th,
however, there will
be **Coffee Hour**
in Malone Hall
immediately following
the 10:30 a.m. service.
Everyone's Welcome!



St. Paul's THRIFT SHOP



Thanks to the generosity of our donors, customers, volunteers, staff and clergy, St. Paul's Thrift Shop was honored to donate our **2025** profits during May to the following organizations:



ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVING SUPPORT

- Alabama Free Clinic
- Alabama Sheriff's Boys Ranch
- Anchor Cross Cancer Foundation
- Baldwin County Angels
- Baldwin Family Village Foundation
- Care House
- Camp Beckwith
- Catholic Social Services
- Daphne Fire Department
- Neighborhood Bridges
- North Baldwin Animal Shelter
- Prodissee Pantry
- Seaglass Initiative
- Spanish Fort Volunteer Fire Department
- St. Paul's Episcopal Church Preschool
- St. Paul's Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic
- St. Paul's Christian Ed (VBS)
- St. Paul's Building Fund
- St. Paul's Priest Discretionary Fund
- The Dream Center
- The Exceptional Foundation
- The Lighthouse
- The Shoulder for Men
- The Shoulder for Women
- Under His Wings
- William F. Green Veterans Home
- Willow Farms Equine Rescue
- Wilmer Hall Children's Home
- Women's Care Medical Center
- Women's Health Center

1st Quarter Assistance



More than **50** vouchers processed from local agencies, providing free clothing and shoes to over **100 Baldwin County residents.**



Additional donations of clothing and shoes were provided to a homeless ministry serving those in need in Mobile.



Congratulations
TO OUR
★ ★ **2026** ★ ★
SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS!

1

WILLIAM ERICKSON
St. Michael Catholic High School
Carnegie Mellon University

2

OLIVIA JERNIGAN
Fairhope High School
University of Alabama

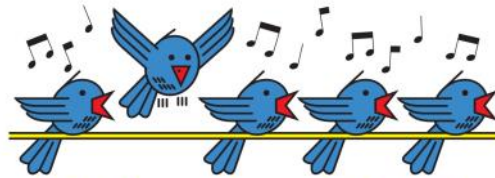
3

HAYLEIGH HAMILTON
Daphne High School
University of South Alabama

These organizations are making a meaningful difference throughout our community, and we are grateful for the opportunity to support their important work.

A heartfelt thank you to our donors, customers, volunteers, staff, and clergy who made these gifts possible. Your support allows us to extend hope, compassion, and assistance to so many in need.

"Together, we are making a difference." ♥



Join the choir

Greetings all!

The parish choir invites you to join us this summer to sing 1 Sunday or all! There's no commitment, no need to read music, no robing, no processing! Easy! If you don't have child care bring the kids along. We have plenty of chocolate and free puppies if they need entertaining!!

Just come to the choir loft at the 8:00 service. Christopher, Dave, Pam and Ed will get you squared away. And for the 10:30, meet us in the choir room at 9:30. We go over the hymns and anthem for the week!!

ALWAYS REMEMBER, SINGING IS PRAYING TWICE!

Caron Richards

Financial Report

<u>June-To-Date:</u>	<u>Year-To-Date</u>
Income: \$43,199.39	\$525,956.02
Expenses: \$65,330.32	\$535,485.35
Net : -\$22,130.93	-\$9,529.33

Quarterly Contributions Statements
will be mailed to you the beginning of July.

Thank you for your generous
support of St. Paul's Ministries!

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY

SUNDAYS

9:15AM IN THE
UNDERGROUND

WEDNESDAYS

6:30 PM IN THE
UNDERGROUND

5TH - TWELFTH GRADE



VBS IS COMING SOON!

Hello Everyone! In just a few short weeks, we will host close to 100 children for 4 days of Vacation Bible School! This is such a privilege and honor to host this event for our parish and community!

It takes a lot of hands to make VBS possible each year, and we have many opportunities to help, even if you can not be there at the time of VBS.

HERE ARE SOME WAYS YOU CAN HELP:

- Set Up on June 28, from 3-5pm**
- Supplies assistant for Bible Adventures (will work with Thack to make sure any supplies needed are ready for him each morning)**
- Collect Paper towel and toilet paper tubes (collecting in Narthex on Sunday, June 21)**
- Imagination Station Leader (June 29-July 2, 9-12pm)**
- Adult Group Leader (June 29-July 2, 9-12pm)**
- Youth Group Leader (June 29-July 2, 9-12pm)**
- Youth Music Leadership (June 29-July 2, 9-12pm)**
- Registration Table (June 29 and 30, 8:30-9:30am)**
- Games Assistant (June 29-July 2, 9-12pm)**
- Craft Station Helpers**
- Pray for all of the volunteers, staff, and children who will be attending VBS!**

If you are available to help in any way, please contact me via email at stpaulspreschooldaphne@gmail.com or call the church office at 626-2421.

Prayer Requests

Immediate Prayer Requests:

Christopher Blackwell, Hunter Bowman, Deanna Cook, Faith Cornett, Tom Davidson, Wayne Davis, Patrick Foster, Gentry Garrett, Laura Ann Gibson, Toni Gray, Jim Gullede, Kay Hardin, Ed Harris, Marilyn Harris, Richard Hatchett, Sharon Hoiles, Shari Hyde, Dave Johnson, Leslie Johnson, Susan Johnson, Thomas Kielek, Tracie Knight, Beverly Koepf, Pat Lieb, Donelle McBride, Sharon McClendon, Bob McKnight, Eileen McSpadden, Jeffrie Morgan, Marcie Morrow, Dorothy Moore, Linda Organic, Harry Davidson Poole, Judy Reeves, Caron Richards, Gayle Robinson, Bobbi Sue Ross, Kem Rutledge, Salem Saloom, Julie Schiffner, Michael Schwarte, Judson Sherrell, Nick Shoultz, Becky Simpson, Robbie Spencer, Avos Stickney, Cleighton Strickland, Mark Taylor, Karen Thomason, David Tiefenthaler, Mary Haston Vest, Tom Walker, Julia Warren, Brandon Webb

Ongoing Prayer Requests:

Betty Borroni, Dakota Burchett, Pat Cannon, Janice Clifford, Jim Clifford, Jennifer Conner, Margie Cowart, Suzanne Damour, Nancy Dziubakowski, Sylvia Forbes, Dee Grantham, Terri Hare, Eddie Hill, Susan Hill, Jossie Hurst, Shannon Kern, Alexander Kielek, Neil Magruder, Angela Mason, Buddy Morrow, Bo Nichols, Sonny Nichols, Sam Pace, Mary Pace, Sara Patton, Janet Penry, Mary Rudolf, Marilyn Russell, Jesse Rutherford, Larry Rutherford, Stephanie Sanchez, Terry Sandlin, Pat Schlimmer, Marie Schreiner, Cathy Slagle, Ken & Genette Stephens, Vicki Thompson, Anna & Bill Waid, Ken Wallis, Bob & Beth Wickwire, Andy Wilson, Kern & Mary Wilson

For the Departed:

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, 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:

June 1-30:

(02) Ginger Miller, (03) Valerie Stickney, Zoe Beckham, (06) Lily Talbert, (07) Mark Mitchell, Drue DeNeefe, (08) Mia Stephens, (09) Pagan Mosher, Georgia McKenna, (10) Reagan McDowell, (11) Becky Spann, Will Brown, JJ Walker, (12) Ronald Waites, Lauren Dedrickson, (13) Mark Costlow, (14) Ellie Dorrough, (15) Vonnie Foreman, Harrison Dimoff, Windham Dimoff, (18) Patricia Harrison, Franklin Harrison, (19) Kay Harden, (21) Diana Spillman, Matt Cassity, (23) Marianne Loes, Paul Thomason, (24) Kimberly Overstreet, Harry Dismukes, (26) Adam Harrison, Thayer Leslie, (27) Pam Schmidt, Elton Ruffin, (28) Logan Dunn, (29) Jim Parker, Barbara Pollock

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

ST. PAUL'S SERVICES:

Sunday

Holy Eucharist, Rite I
8:00 am

Holy Eucharist, Rite II
10:30 am

Monday-Saturday

Morning Prayer
8:05 am

*Live Streamed only on
St. Paul's Facebook page*

Wednesday

Healing Service with
The Holy Eucharist
NOON

*Church Services are live-streamed
on our Facebook Page*

Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday:

8:00 am -- 4:30 pm

Friday:

8:00 am -- 11:30 am

St. Paul's Thrift Shop

Tuesday - Friday

9:00 am -- 3:00 pm

Saturday

10:00 -- 3:00 pm

Donations Accepted:

Thursday - Friday

9:00 am -- 3:00 pm

Saturday

10:00 am -- 3:00 pm
251-626-6102

St. Paul's Preschool

251-626-2774

BIBLE STUDIES

Tuesday

Men's Bible Study
7:00 am
ZOOM Meeting only

Wednesday

Morning Bible Study
Malone Hall
10:30 am

Great Wednesday
6:00 pm
Malone Hall

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult

9:15 am
in Conference Room A

Youth

9:15 am
6th - 12th Grades
in the Underground

Sunday Children's

Chapel

8 a.m. and 10:30 am
in Children's Chapel
K-5th Grades

St. Paul's Vestry

2026-2028

Terms Ending

December 31, 2026

Joe Cook, Jr. Warden
Judi Gullede
Liston Jones
Boyd Miller

December 31, 2027

Richard Foster
Donna Nolte
Marty Ollinger
John Sharp

December 31, 2028

Robert Jernigan
Elizabeth Thomason
Mike Turnipseed
Tom Walker, Sr. Warden

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Martha Lathan
Clerk of the Vestry

Mike Sirmon
Treasurer

Michael Quinn
Finance Committee

Clergy

The Rev. Thack H. Dyson
Rector

The Rev. Judith Comer
Priest Associate

The Rev. S. Albert Kennington
Priest Associate

Church Website

www.stpaulseasternshore.com

Email Address

officestpaulsdaphne@gmail.com

Facebook Page

St. Paul's Eastern Shore

Phone

251-626-2421

Church App

<https://tithely.app.link/st-pauls-eastern-shore>

JULY 2026

DATE	7/5/2026	7/12/2026	7/19/2026	7/26/2026
TIME	8AM	8AM	8AM	8AM
Vergers	Susan Hurst	Tina Erickson	Tina Erickson	Susan Hurst
Chalice	Davis Daniel	Matt Thomason	Leah McTaggart	Joe Cook
Chalice	Court Hurst	Elizabeth Thomason	Tim McTaggart	Elizabeth Kaye
Lector-Scripture	Bella Forrest	Casey Williams	Elizabeth Thomason	Bill Carr
Lector-Prayers	Court Hurst	Wayne Davis	Megrez Rudolf	Frances Coleman
Server-Crucifer	Robert Edward Daniel	Anna Thomason	Mary Claire McTaggart	Susan Hurst
Server-Trainee			Emma McTaggart	
Torch		Emma McTaggart		
Torch		Paul Thomason		
Usher	Davis Daniel	Gaye Wilson	David Kielek	Gary Lathan
Usher	Josh Bond	Jim Jackson	Matt Thomason	Tim Michael
Vestry	Liston Jones	Elizabeth Thomason	Joe Cook	Judi Gullede
TIME	10:30AM	10:30AM	10:30AM	10:30AM
Vergers	Donna Nolte	Richard Foster	Judy Hale	John Sharp
Chalice	Richard Foster	Heather Barnard	Clay Rankin	Robert Jernigan
Chalice	Jim Rivers	Edith Henry	Becky Costlow	John Sharp
Chalice	Barry Taylor	Hayleigh Hamilton	Judy Hale	Mike Turnipseed
Lector-Scripture	Jenifer Morgan	Dean Mosher	Clay Rankin	Frances Coleman
Lector-Prayers	Phil Kelley	Shelby Wilson	Anita Rankin	Sue Ann Turnipseed
Server	Mia Stephens	Allison Hamilton	Leah Hamilton	Olivia Jernigan
Server-Trainee				Caroline Jernigan
Crucifer	Noah Pino	Leah Hamilton	Allison Hamilton	Caroline Jernigan
Torch	Timothy Pino	Lucas Hoeb-Root	Vada Evans	Lila Sharp
Torch	Vada Evans	Lily Wilson	Eley Hetcher	Lily Wilson
Usher	Dean Mosher	Doug Stephens	Mike Koepp	Bob Hoeb
Usher	Coleman Wood	Phyllis Bruce	Meredith Portman	Diane Watson
Usher	Crystal Anderson	Michael Taylor	Dolores Jones	Beverly Koepp
Vestry	Donna Nolte	John Sharp	Boyd Miller	Mike Turnipseed
Altar Guild	Karen Thomason Holly Alves	Elizabeth Kaye Freda McDonald	Becky Spann Valerie Stickney	Anna Thomason Elizabeth Thomason
Flower Guild	Gaye Wilson	Sue Cody	Emily Rasinen	Phyllis Bruce

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

28788 North Main Street

Daphne, Alabama 36526

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36526

Return Service Requested

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

28788 North Main Street

Daphne, Alabama 36526

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 Everette 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.