



The Tentmaker

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Daphne, Alabama

March 11, 2026

Message From Thack

If you have watched the news lately or simply listened to conversations around the dinner table, you know that many people are carrying an anxious spirit. Our country and our world seem to be moving through yet another unsettled season. Conflicts abroad, including the conflict involving Iran, the rising cost of living, and the constant stream of troubling headlines can create a steady hum of worry in the background of our lives.

It is easy to feel overwhelmed. Anxiety often grows quietly until it begins to shape how we see the world and even how we see the future. Yet the Christian faith offers a different posture toward uncertainty.

During the season of Lent, when the Church calls us to prayer, reflection, and self-examination, we are invited not only to give things up but also to take new things into our lives. Perhaps this Lent we might consider fasting from anxiety and feasting on peace and hope.

The Scriptures speak directly to the anxious spirit. Saint Paul writes: “Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:6–7, NRSV).

Jesus himself spoke tenderly to anxious hearts when he said: “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life... Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them... Can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life?” (Matthew 6:25–27, NRSV).

And the psalmist reminds us: “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear” (Psalm 46:1–2).

These passages do not deny that the world can be frightening. Scripture is realistic about suffering and uncertainty. But again and again the Bible reminds us that fear does not have the last word. God does.

One practical way to fast from anxiety is to pay attention to the things that trigger it. For many people, the 24-hour cable news cycle functions like a constant drip of alarm. Being informed is important, but saturating our minds with distressing headlines throughout the day can slowly cultivate fear rather than wisdom. Sometimes the healthiest spiritual practice is simply turning the volume down.

Another helpful discipline is to create intentional space for prayer and reflection. The Daily Office from the *Book of Common Prayer* offers a beautiful rhythm of morning and evening prayer that centers our hearts in God's presence. Even a few quiet minutes each day can reorient our spirits.

In prayer we remember something essential: the world may be turbulent, but God remains steady. The peace Christ offers is not simply the absence of trouble, it is the quiet assurance of God's presence in the midst of life's storms. When we pray for peace, we are not withdrawing from the world's pain but participating in God's healing work within it, allowing our hearts, our communities, and even our troubled world to be gently shaped by the reconciling grace of God.

During this Lenten season, consider replacing anxious habits with life-giving ones. When worry begins to rise, pause and pray. Take a walk and notice the beauty of God's creation. Read a psalm slowly. Light a candle and sit in silence before the Lord. Reach out to someone who may be carrying their own burdens.

When we do these things, we discover something quietly remarkable: anxiety loosens its grip when our attention turns toward God.

The world will always have its storms. Yet Lent reminds us that Christians are people of hope. We follow the One who walked through suffering, passed through the cross, and emerged from the tomb with a resurrected life.

So perhaps this Lent our discipline can be simple and profound:

Fast from anxiety.

Feast on peace.

Trust our God who holds the future.

Peace, Thack

Confirmation Classes for Adults and Youth, March 22-23

This spring, St. Paul's will once again offer Confirmation classes for both adults and youth as we prepare for the Bishop's visitation and the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday, June 7.

In the Episcopal Church, Confirmation is the mature and public affirmation of the promises made at our Baptisms. It is a time when individuals claim the Christian faith as their own and reaffirm their commitment to Christ and to the life of the Church. In Confirmation, the Bishop lays hands upon the candidate and prays for the strengthening of the Holy Spirit, marking an important step in one's spiritual journey.

Our classes are designed not only for those seeking Confirmation but also for anyone who would like a deeper understanding of the faith and life of the Episcopal Church. Even if you were confirmed years ago, you are warmly invited to join us for a refresher and renewed exploration of our tradition.

The Adult Confirmation Class will begin Sunday, March 22 at 2:00 PM in Malone Hall. The Youth Confirmation Class will begin Monday, March 23 at 4:00 PM in Malone Hall.

Throughout these sessions, we will explore many aspects of the Christian faith and Episcopal tradition, including:

1. The seven sacraments and sacramental rites of the Church
2. Church history and the development of the Anglican tradition
3. The *Book of Common Prayer* and the structure of Anglican worship
4. The Bible and how Episcopalians read and interpret Scripture
5. What we believe as Episcopalians
6. Liturgy and worship
7. Peace, justice, and the Church's call to serve the world
8. Christian ethics and faithful living

These classes are always engaging, thoughtful, and conversational. They offer a wonderful opportunity to ask questions, deepen your faith, and grow in fellowship with others in the parish.

If you are interested in participating in either class, or if you have already been confirmed and would simply like to revisit these important topics, please call the church office at 251-626-2421 to register.

Whether you are preparing for Confirmation or simply seeking to grow in your faith, we invite you to join us as we learn together and continue our journey with Christ.

Peace, Thack

Dear Fellow Parishioners

Live-streaming church services has become a lifeline for those who, for whatever reason, are not able to attend church services in person. To date, Dave Hale has done the majority of the 8:00AM services and Caron Richards and Sam Thompson the 10:30 AM services and also the noon Healing Service on Wednesdays. We need more 8AM videographers. It would help to have 8:00AM videographers for just one Sunday a month.

Please consider volunteering for this important ministry. The livestreaming process is not difficult. You don't have to be a computer guru. Once you learn it, it does not take away from your worship experience. We will train you and stay with you until you learn the process. Please contact Dave at (251) 422-1244 or Caron Richards at (251) 698-8236 if you could assist in this ministry.

St. Paul's **SEDER** is Tuesday, March 31 from 5:30 – 7:30pm in Malone Hall
... that's just around the corner and already over 100 have signed-up!
...but true to the spirit of Jesus' love, we **will** include all who come!
please help us - **sign-up** by **Sunday, March 22** so we have food enough!

SEDER, meaning "order", is the Jewish meal held during Passover time.
As we experience the symbolic rituals of this evening, we retell the Biblical story of Israel's release from bondage in Egypt (remember the angel of death who "passed over" the blood-marked doors of Hebrew homes as the final plague was given!) and we remember GOD's continual redemptive love given to His people – from then to now and in the time to come! This is a sacred and fun evening to share during our Holy Week.

When you come to the **SEDER** you will be taken to a table by one of our greeters. There will be a time of some symbolic food and wine (or cran-grape) to drink, then a dinner of lamb, potatoes and chick-pea salad will be served. A donation basket will be available to cover cost of everything offered – though donations are welcomed anytime! Come ready to celebrate, sing and learn ... a night you will remember even after Easter!

Thank you to the **TEAM** of amazing helpers in the offering of this **SEDER** – we are so excited about everyone signed-up to attend! A wrap-up meeting for this **SEDER**-team will be held Thursday, March 19 at 6pm in Malone!

Any Qs please contact Linda McNamara - c- 251-610-4959 or e- bamamcs1@aol.com

Financial Report

March To-Date:

Income:	\$45,830.32
Expenses:	\$48,081.62
Net Total:	(-\$2,251.30)

February 2026:

Income:	\$96,751.09
Expenses:	\$94,509.83
Net Total:	\$2,241.26

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

2026 Dominican Republic Construction Mission Update

The 2026-DR Mission was a success! The team of 17-members from the Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast built furnishings for two churches in the Dominican Republic. This included:

La Gran Comision (church) we built:

- An Altar
- 12 – Pews
- 1- Book Shelve
- 2-Altar Chairs
- 1-Bishop Chair
- 1- Shall Pew for the Altar
- 1- Altar Credence Table
- 1-Tabernacle
- 1 – Baptismal Font

Santo Nombre dr Jesus in Bani Church we built

- An Altar
- 2-Altar Chairs
- 1-Bishop Chair
- 1- Altar Credence Table
- 1-Tabernacle
- 1 – Baptismal Font

Both churches are in small villages that are very impoverished. However, the people of the villages were very appreciative of the furnishings and our visit. Below are the members from St. Paul's who participated in the mission. They are Coleman Wood, Sam Thompson & Marty Ollinger. We all collectively want to express our appreciation for your prayers and support.



St. Paul's 2026 DR Mission Team Members

Attention:

For all who want to continue in this season of reflection, gratitude, and celebration... do we have a deal for you!

Beginning April 8th (Wednesday after Easter) Jo Delgado will lead a study based on the book by Brian Recker, *HellBent*. The theme is, "How the fear of hell holds Christians back from a spirituality of love".

- What holds you back from living into that spirituality of love that God created for us?
- What keeps you from loving your neighbor?
- What about loving yourself?

Would you like to explore these ideas with a group of loving, non-judgmental Christians?

All are welcome!

We will meet at the Costlow home in Silverhill (15902 South Avenue); share some snacks and prayers (and some laughter too) each Wednesday at 5:30 and concluding at 7:15 p.m.

Please call Jo Delgado, 352-620-5790, or Becky Costlow, 251-391-8102 to sign up.

HellBent may be purchased on Amazon.

Calling all young ladies of the parish age 7-18!



Do you feel called to do more for your church and local community? Do you want to belong to a community of girls your age who pray daily, serve faithfully, and support one another as you walk in your journey through life? Does the idea of coming together as a group and growing your faith more deeply with Jesus, spark an interest in you?

If you've checked off any or all of these boxes, the Daughters of the King would like to formally invite you to an Inquiry Tea/Q&A Social for The Junior Daughters of the King (JDOK) on March 21st in Malone Hall from 2-3pm. There, JoAnna will have more information on starting the Chapter, and she'll be able to answer questions you may have as well. We look forward to meeting everyone!

RSVP with JoAnna Delgado by March 18th, (352)620.5790, JoAnnaD.jdok@gmail.com

An Exceptional Evening Benefiting The Exceptional Foundation Gulf Coast



Join us for An Exceptional Evening on Thursday, March 26, 2026, from 6–8 PM, at The Fairhope Inn.

Guests will enjoy a chef-curated four-course dinner with thoughtfully paired wines while supporting the George S. Lee Scholarship Fund, which helps ensure Participants can continue taking part in programs that promote life skills, friendship, and community involvement.

This special evening is made possible with support from Platinum Kite Sponsor Kia Daphne.

Tickets, tables, and sponsorships are available now:

<https://exceptionaleveningfairhopeinn.swell.gives>

Attention Graduates!

St. Paul's Thrift Shop is now accepting scholarship applications. We will award at least three \$2,000 scholarships. Applicants must be a member of St. Paul's OR an active Thrift Shop volunteer who has worked for at least one year OR the child of an active Thrift Shop volunteer who has worked for at least one year. All applicants must plan to attend an accredited college, university, or technical trade school, or are currently attending one of these and who have not previously been awarded a Thrift Shop scholarship. Previous applicants who have not received a scholarship are welcome to reapply. Please note, application criteria are based on multiple factors, not only grades, ACT scores, or financial need.

Applications and recommendations must be received by Wednesday, April 15, 2026. No late applications can be considered. We will congratulate the scholarship winners at the graduate Sunday services on Sunday, May 17, 2026.

If you have any questions or would like to receive a copy of the forms by email, please contact Janet Norman at 224-515-6938 or email jmn9210@yahoo.com, Scholarship Committee Chair.

Thank you, Terri!

Hi, Everyone!

We are in the get ready for Easter mode!

Rebecca Dyson recently spoke to Bill Johnson about refinishing the benches in courtyard which he built for us several years ago before Easter. Of course, he said he would do his best. He needs help hand sanding the benches and we need to help him.

His plan is for us to meet at his shop on 1014 Stanton Rd, Suite 2, Daphne, on Saturday March 14th at 9:00 am, and work until approximately 2:00 pm. This will be a come when you can and work until you have to go job. It is going to take multiple sandings with course to fine sandpaper. Power sanders can not be use for this project. We may have to return on the 21st to finish up.

You probably need more information, so call Donna Brown at 251-689-5393 or at the church office Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday before 2:30 pm.

This will be a blessing to you, I promise. Men and women and older teens should have no problem carrying out this project.

God's peace,
Donna Brown

From the Office

When emailing the office, please send all email to **officestpaulsdaphne@gmail.com**. My personal email address is terriannmcmillan@gmail.com. Please delete any other email addresses that you may have for me. They were hacked and no longer used. Please don't email or message me through Facebook or our Facebook page, although I try to check it often, I do not see all of them.

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

~

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>

Hello friends and parishioners from the Howard Wilson Life Center:

Several maintenance items have been addressed in the last month; recently, the emergency keypad on the elevator was replaced. Also, Larry from Absolutely Kleen cleaned all the tile floors on the first floor of the Life Center, including all three bathrooms. We will have the kitchen floor cleaned this weekend. I made a run to the county landfill recently, getting rid of many items that had built up in the area outside the kitchen; this included the old water fountains from the second floor.

This is an ongoing project, as you can imagine things build up very quickly if they are not taken care of on a regular basis. Parishioners can help with this by: breaking down boxes when new material is brought in, placing items in the numerous rubbish cans inside, and, importantly, refraining from parking in the restricted zone outside the kitchen during the 10:30 service. Not only because this area is reserved for handicapped usage, but it also interferes with disposing of the large garbage cans, which are placed in this area for pickup by the city sanitation service on Monday mornings.

Inside the Life Center we are busy with many meetings and functions, including of course Exceptional Foundation, adult and youth Sunday School which meets weekly, prayer groups, Cursillo reunion groups, Thrift Shop Board meetings, Vestry meetings, Al Anon meetings, Daughters of the King, Men's Club functions including monthly parish breakfasts (important note: there will be no parish breakfast next month as Easter Sunday falls on the first Sunday of the month, April 5th; next scheduled Bingo was held last month on February 27th; I counted 98 players. Next scheduled bingo will be Friday, March 27; I hope to see you then!

As always, I am very grateful for all the support from our great parish group, God bless you all!

Thanks,

David Kielek, Sexton

Howard Wilson Life Center

Youth Group

All youth are invited to join us for Bible Study on Sundays at 9:15 AM in the Underground and Wednesdays at 6:00 PM. It is a great time to grow in faith, spend time in scripture, and connect with one another.

In addition, Seagrass Assisted Living is hosting Sundaes on Sundays every Sunday afternoon at 2:00, and our youth will be volunteering to help make and serve the sundaes for the residents. If your youth would like to be part of serving, please text Hali for more information about volunteering. This begins the last week of March!

(251) 300-9289

Thank you Terri.

Hali

Prayer Requests

Immediate Prayer Requests:

Townsend Bessonon, Necie Borroni, Jennifer Conner, Deanna Cook, Linda Crissy, Wayne Davis, Lillian Deason, Sara DeWitt, Mary Jordan Dukes, Julie Evans, Patrick Foster, Laura Ann Gibson, Brooks Gordon, Toni Gray, Catherine Greenslade, Leslie Greer, Linda Hamilton, Kelsey Henderson, Sharon Hoiles, Scott Hollingsworth, Shari and Linn Hyde, Olivia Jernigan, Dave Johnson, Leslie Johnson, Susan Johnson, Phil Kelley, Dennis Kiehna, Doug Kinney, Tracie Knight, Beverly Koepp, Frank Kotarba, Kay Loftin, Tom Marick, Sam Martin, Donelle McBride, Bob McKnight, Mary Michael, Marcie Morrow, Dorothy Moore, Dominick Pines, Malachai Pines, Josh Plotniak, Bob Powell, Judy Reeves, Jerry Richardson, Kem Rutledge, Marie Schreiner, David Robert Scott, Phyllis Dillow Schneider, Stephen Schneider, Nick Shoultz, Fran Siemssen, Tim Smith, Diana Spillman, Mimi Stephens, Cleighton Strickland, Barry Taylor, Mark Taylor, Karen Thomason, Mary-Haston Vest, Nancy Walker, Julia Warren, Myralyn Watson, Katherine Weaver, Brandon Webb, Avery and Rachel Willow, Andy Wilson

Ongoing Prayer Requests:

Marty Adams, Allison Badurak, Christopher Blackwell, Betty Borroni, Dakota Burchett, Pat Cannon, Janice Clifford, Jim Clifford, Joe Cook, Sr., Faith Cornett, Margie Cowart, Suzanne Damour, Nancy Dziubakowski,, Sylvia Forbes, Dee Grantham, Terri Hare, Eddie Hill, Susan Hill, Jossie Hurst, Shannon Kern, Alexander Kielek, Matt & Penny Kratochvil, 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, Cathy Slagle, Ken & Genette Stephens, Vicki Thompson, Anna & Bill Waid, Ken Wallis, Bob & Beth Wickwire, Kern & Mary Wilson, Diane Young, Mike Young

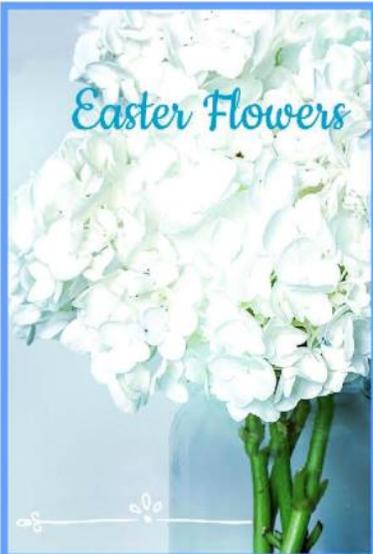
For the Departed:

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, Justin Ramsey, Neil Sevelius, Michael Strohlein, Dan Strohlein, Aiden Walker, Brad Yonkers

For Those with Birthdays:

March 1-31: (01) Dave Johnson, Jessica James, Alisa Brooks, (02) Nancy Dziubakowski, Brittany Norman, Causey Thompson, (04) Phyllis Bruce, Savannah Connell, (06) John Lee, Erica McDonald, Rachael Wetzal, (07) Meredith Portman, Mackenzie Nolte, (08) Matt Lovitt, (09) Owen Dalto, (11) Stephen Barnette, (12) Cindy Hoeb, Jenna Meshejian, (13) Alyson Jackson, (15) Freda McDonald, Valerie Conner, (16) Richard Dodson, Kim Nolte, Dusty DeNeefe, (17) Pat Lieb, Catherine Dorough, (18) Avos Stickney, (19) Bill Carr, Liston Jones, Libbi Crowe, Virginia Harris, (20) Gaye Wilson, (21) Gerry Lester, Jackson Chamberlain, (22) Pat Cannon, Joseph Cox, (24) Dolores Jones, Eileen Head, Jim Gullede, (25) Jack Taylor, Sam Kapeluck, (27) Traci Knight, William Lapeyrouse, David Taylor, Noah Pino, (31) Susan Hurst, Gary Lathan, Karen Thomason



2026 Easter Flowers

To donate toward the Easter flowers, to decorate the church please complete this form and return it to the church office with your payment of **\$30.00** no later than ***Monday, March 23rd*** Questions, call Rebecca Dyson, 251-923-8173. All donations will be accepted and acknowledged in Easter Memorial and Honorarium bulletin insert.

Please complete this information to be printed in the Easter Memorial and Honorarium bulletin inserts:

Please Print Clearly

1. Given to the glory of God in/ memory of/ honor of/celebration of/thanksgiving for:

by _____

2. Given to the glory of God in/ memory of/ honor of/celebration of/thanksgiving for:

by _____

Check # _____ for \$ _____ is enclosed.

Name and daytime phone # of donor:

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, *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.