



The Tentmaker

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Daphne, Alabama

October 21, 2020

A Message From Thack

I hope this letter finds you well and that you are experiencing God's blessings in your life. I have greatly missed you during the Pandemic and look forward to the day we can worship and fellowship together again.

It is an understatement to suggest this has been a strange and difficult year for everyone. Between the Covid-19 pandemic, contentious 2020 national and local elections, Hurricane Sally and having to wear masks and practice social distancing, I am ready for 2021 to arrive! I could never have imagined the surreal world in which we now live.

That said, one of the few constants in my life, besides God, my family and friends has been St. Paul's Church. It has been my safe harbor during this storm. In fact, other than three days immediately after Hurricane Sally, St. Paul's has not missed a beat since the beginning of the pandemic. We've not only continued our usual worship schedule, we've been offering Morning Prayer and Compline services online for six days a week. Terri, Joan, Elizabeth, Tina, John, Christopher, David, Judith, Fletcher and I have worked non-stop to keep the ministries and services going in order to keep you connected to St. Paul's during the shutdown. We've faithfully attended to our ministries so you were not bereft of your worship community during the Covid-19 crisis.

Besides our many worship opportunities, Christian education for youth and adults has continued unabated, Tina and St. Paul's Youth have continued to meet for spiritual formation and fellowship; the "Corona-Choir" has continued to meet on Wednesday nights to practice and record music for Sunday worship; the Altar and Flower Guilds have continued to prepare for our worship services; ushers, lectors, acolytes, vergers attend live worship; and the Men's Group has been meeting and prepared Sunday breakfast for the parish on October 4 and will have a parish fish fry on Rally Day on October 25. Finally, the Thrift Shop has been open for business since June and completed the beautiful addition to the building in July. In short, St. Paul's has not only weathered the pandemic, it has increased its ministries and activities.

We have great worship, Christian education, outreach and fellowship, despite the pandemic, because of the faithful staff and members who generously offer their time, talent and gifts to support these programs and activities. I am grateful to the staff, Vestry and all of you who resolved to pull together during this difficult time to continue to keep St. Paul's a holy, welcoming and mission minded community in this Covid-19 world. I am also grateful to the saints who have gone before us whose gifts of time, talent and resources helped to build our parish campus and buildings so that our ministries may be accomplished. They were those who pledged, and in many cases tithed to St. Paul's over the years so there would be a vital parish for future generations. We are the direct beneficiaries of their generosity.

This brings me to the point of this letter. Many of you have been faithful by giving your time, talent and resources despite the Covid-19 restrictions. Thank you for your faithfulness. However, we cannot continue to operate without the help of the entire congregation.

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First, pledging in 2020 is off by a significant amount. Currently, we are \$ 97,988.42 behind in pledges for our Operating Fund. This is the fund that pays the bills, salaries and insurance deductibles on our facilities. We are also \$ 46,174.00 behind in our Building Fund pledges for the year. We cannot operate very long with such deficits. Additionally, many of you do not pledge but have faithfully put your gifts in the offering plates over the years. We count on that revenue as well to sustain our ministries. With so many of you not attending live worship at present, that revenue is lost.

If you pledged to the Operating Fund in 2020, please catch your pledge up as soon as you can. If you don't pledge but have traditionally made plate offerings, you can do so online. Please call Terri in the church office if you need assistance in doing this.

Also, we are now receiving pledges for 2021. Our hope is to have the 2021 pledges turned in by Rally Day which is Sunday, October 25, 2020. We will need to prepare our 2021 budget in early November so it's important to turn in your pledges by October 25. If you do give but don't traditionally make a pledge, please consider pledging this year. This helps us to more accurately plan our budget.

October 25th is also our community ministry fair. Enclosed is a list of our ministries. We will post the ministry offerings online next week. We will also advertise in person and online on Rally Day to help you to decide which ministries you would like to participate in. This is your opportunity to offer your time and talents to the glory of God.

It is now up to all of us to step up and resume our place in St. Paul's to ensure that future generations will also benefit from the ministries that St. Paul's supports. This can only happen if *everyone* is pulling the wagon and supporting the parish through the gifts of their time, talent and treasure.

Enclosed is your Annual Giving Card. Before filling it out, please prayerfully consider your many blessings from God, especially those through your relationship with St. Paul's parish. After prayerful reflection, please fill the card out and either mail it or drop it off at the parish office. You can also place it in the offering plate on Sunday. Even if you choose not to give, please mark \$0 on the card so we will not send a second notice.

Thank you and blessings to you and your family.

Peace,

Thack

St. Paul's Thrift Shop: Many of you have asked about Holiday Shoppe for this year. Sadly, we are another victim of COVID. COVID restrictions prevent us from having large gatherings, plus, we have not been able to price and pack in preparation for our wonderful event. Kathy Mallory has set aside some beautiful items that we will be offering within the Shop between now and Christmas, along with some fantastic Christmas items. Please stop in and take a look. If you haven't seen our amazing new Furniture Showroom, you really must take the time to come see it. Let's all pray that 2021 will be a better year and that Holiday Shoppe 2021 will be possible and our best ever!



**Clean Up Crew at Beckwith
Saturday, October 17, 2020**





Rally Day/Stewardship Sunday Worship Schedule, October 25

We will have **ONE** Service on Sunday, October 25th at 10:30 a.m. The service will be held in the Life Center. Dress is casual and St. Paul's Men's Group will serve a fried fish dinner following the service. You may sign up for ministries for the coming year both before and after the 10:30 a.m. service.

St. Paul's Men's Group will be cooking fried catfish, hush puppies, coleslaw, baked beans and cake for our Rally Day meal.

Don't forget to bring your 2021 Pledge card and Rally Day Ministry Sign-up Sheet with you on Sunday morning. Copies of both forms are included in this Tentmaker.

Since this Sunday is Rally Day, Sunday School Classes will NOT meet. We hope you will enjoy the Rally Day Fish Fry in the Life Center. We will resume classes on Sunday, November 1st at 9:00 a.m.



JOIN US FOR RALLY DAY AND A FISH FRY
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25TH

ONE SERVICE ONLY IN THE LIFE CENTER
AT 10:30 A.M.

FOLLOWED BY A FISH FRY PREPARED BY
ST. PAUL'S MEN'S GROUP

COME EARLY - ABOUT 9:00 A.M. AND BRING YOUR
MINISTRY SIGN UP SHEET AND 2021 PLEDGE CARD



Thank you for taking advantage of the new on-line and texting methods of paying your pledges to the church. If you are unfamiliar with how to use the Text or online methods here is some information:

1. Simply text the word **GIVE** to 844-973-2352. They will respond to your text with a link. Click on the link and they will walk you through how to make your donation.
2. There is a **DONATE button** on the church website and on our new **PHONE APP**. Click on it and it will walk you through how to make your donations. The Church 2021 **PLEDGE CARD** is also on the Website right below the Church Events Calendar. Please fill out your 2021 Pledge Card as soon as possible.
3. We have a secure white metal **drop-off box** right outside the office door. You can drop your offering off anytime.

4. You can **mail** it to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 28788 North Main Street, Daphne, Alabama 36526.
5. You can use **Bill Pay** through your bank. You can do this through your bank's website or by calling them. They will mail a check directly from the bank to the church. You will have to give them the church's address, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 28788 North Main Street, Daphne, Alabama 36526.

Please call or email me if you have any questions. Terri McMillan

'twas a *virtual* evening of **ARTS** for **EXCEPTIONAL FOUNDATION GULF COAST**

October 8th was the evening for **EXCEPTIONAL ARTS 2020** to hold it's virtual live-streamed auction of masterpieces generously donated by amazing local artists – including St. Paul's own Alyson Jackson!! An ~~exce~~**ptional thanks** to artists Shannon Lavinghouse, Bruce Larsen, Nall, Allison Ashurst, Nancy Raia, Annie Neill, and of course Alyson Jackson for their works of art! One additional masterpiece created by EF participants was a collaboration entitled "WINGS"! It was a wild night of live online, call-in and text bidding! Thanks to everyone's support, patience, participation and humor proceeds from this virtual fundraiser totaled just over \$20,000.00 which will remain right here serving the participants. programs and mission of **EXCEPTIONAL FOUNDATION GULF COAST**!

Now EFGC is looking forward to April when hopefully – fingers and paint brushes crossed – **ARTS 2021** will be celebrated and hosted together in person!! Until then ... keep being safe and stay creative!

St. Paul's Thrift Shop: As many of you know, the Thrift Shop opened the doors to our new Furniture Showroom this past Wednesday, Oct. 7. We had an amazing response. Lots of beautiful furniture was sold and went out the doors. This new space is a Blessing to the Thrift Shop and to the Church. In order to keep it operating with the maximum benefit, we need your help. If you are moving in, moving out, redecorating, or just have some nice furniture that you no longer want or need, please consider donating to the Thrift Shop! If you know someone that has furniture to donate, please let them know about us! If you call the Shop - 251-626-6102 - we can arrange to pick up your furniture donations. You can reap the benefit of a tax deductible donation and we get the benefit of beautiful items to sell, and the community and St. Paul's Church reaps the benefits of the donations we will be able to make. If you haven't been in, you really need to stop by. You will think you have walked into a high-end furniture store. It is really lovely!

ST. PAUL'S SERVICES:

Sunday

Holy Eucharist, Rite I
8:00 am

Holy Eucharist, Rite II
10:30 am

Live and Live Streamed
(Must wear Face mask)

Monday-Saturday

Morning Prayer
8:05 a.m.

Live Streamed Only on
St. Paul's Facebook page

Sunday-Thursday

Compline
8:00 p.m.

Live Streamed Only on
Judith Comer's Facebook page

Wednesday

Healing Service
Wednesday
NOON

Live and Live Streamed
(Must wear a Face Mask)

Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday:
8:00 am -- 4:30 pm

Friday:
8:00 am -- 11:30 am

St. Paul's Thrift Shop
251-626-6102

St. Paul's Preschool
251-626-2774

BIBLE STUDIES

Sunday

Christian Education
Adults (Malone Hall)
9:15 am

ZOOM Meeting Only

Tuesday

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

ZOOM Meeting Only

Wednesday

Morning Bible Study
(Malone)
10:30 am

Great Wednesday at 6:00
Supper and Study
(Malone)
6:00 p.m.

VESTRY AND OFFICERS

Term Ending

December 31, 2020

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

December 31, 2021

Donna Brown
Kathy Mallory
Ken McNamara
Michael Quinn

December 31, 2022

Joe Cook, Jr. Warden
Henry Esham
Jim Green
Tim Michael
~
Martha Lathan,
Clerk of the Vestry

Janet Norman
Treasurer

Church Website

www.stpaulseasternshore.com

Email Address

officestpaulsdaphne@gmail.com

Facebook Page

St. Paul's Eastern Shore

Phone

251-626-2421

Fax

251-626-2456

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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Daphne, Alabama 36526

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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 & Preschool Administrator*

David Kielek, *Life Center Sexton*

John Matson, *Choirmaster*

Joan McKnight, *Staff Assistant*

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

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