



The Tentmaker

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Daphne, Alabama

February 25, 2026

Message from Thack

On Ash Wednesday we gathered to receive the ashes on our foreheads and hear the ancient words, “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return” (*BCP*, p.265). Ash Wednesday marked the beginning of the season of Lent.

Lent is the Church’s forty-day pilgrimage patterned after Jesus’ forty days in the wilderness (Matthew 4:1–11). It is a season of holy recalibration. It is a time to pause, examine the compass of our hearts, and ask a bracing question: Since last Lent, where have I drifted from God? Where has my love cooled?

The Greek word the New Testament uses for repentance is *metanoia*. It does not mean groveling in shame. It means a change of mind, a turning and reorientation. It is the moment when the prodigal son “came to himself” (Luke 15:17). Lent invites us to come to ourselves again in God.

Lent is not about spiritual theatrics. It is about alignment. It is about rediscovering what is essential. To this end, the Church, in her wisdom, gives us tried and true spiritual practices to help us with this realignment of our souls:

Prayer

During Lent, deepen your rhythm of prayer. The Daily Office from the *Book of Common Prayer* offers a steady structure of Morning and Evening Prayer. You can read this on your own or can join us as we read Morning Prayer Monday through Saturday on our parish Facebook page. Whatever prayer discipline you use, try to set aside a time each day for prayer and intentional silence. Sit before God without an agenda.

You may find that stillness feels awkward at first. That is often a sign that your soul has been running at full speed. Lent teaches us how to slow down.

Fasting

Fasting creates space. It is a spiritual practice of self-denial, repentance, and preparation for the resurrection. It helps believers detach from worldly comforts and deepens their reliance on God. When we abstain from food, social media, cable news, noise, or habits that dominate us, we discover what truly controls us. Please understand that fasting is not punishment. It is training. It reminds the body that the soul is meant to lead.

Reconciliation of a Penitent (*BCP*, pp. 447-452)

The Sacrament of Reconciliation, also known as Confession, is one of the Church's most underused treasures. Speaking about our sins aloud before God in the presence of a priest often breaks chains we did not realize we were carrying. In Reconciliation we discover grace is not theoretical, it is spoken, declared, and received. The rule about Reconciliation of a Penitent in the Episcopal Church is, "all may, some should, none must."

Scripture Immersion

Spend intentional time reading the Gospels. Walk with Jesus toward Jerusalem. Notice what He says, whom He touches, and how He responds to opposition. Let His life interpret your own.

If Lent is to be spiritually edifying and transforming, it must be intentional. Choose one or two spiritual disciplines and begin your journey. As you engage these disciplines, ask yourself: What has subtly taken God's place in my life? Where have I become reactive instead of prayerful? What relationship needs healing? What fear needs surrendering? And then act.

Transformation in Lent is rarely dramatic. It is more like a slow thaw after a hard winter. The ground softens and the roots begin to move again. Something long buried begins to breathe. The goal of Lent is not to feel bad. It is to become free. If we give ourselves honestly to this season, Easter will not simply be a date on the calendar. It will be an eruption of light in a soul that has been prepared to receive it.

May this Lent be the season where we rediscover who we are in Christ, lay down what no longer serves His kingdom, and walk steadily toward the joy of resurrection.

Peace,
Thack



St. Paul's invites you to come and enjoy a SEDER meal
on Tuesday, March 31 of Holy Week
in Malone Hall from 5:30 - 7:30pm.

A sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex,
it is important to both sign-up and then be sure to attend,
since we are limited to 75-80 seats.

A donation will be asked to cover food and other expenses.

So ... what is a **SEDER** you ask?

SEDER, which means "order", is the Jewish ceremonial meal held during Passover, and is the oldest Festival of the Hebrew liturgical calendar. We will follow a program written in collaboration by Jewish and Christian scholars. Through the rituals of the SEDER we retell the Exodus story of Israel's release from bondage in Egypt (think of the time the angel of death "passed over" the houses of the Israelites during their captivity in Egypt). We do not come to SEDER for a history lesson, or re-staging of the Last Supper, but rather as sharing together in recognition of our common Jewish-Christian Biblical roots (think Old Testament book of Exodus), and with thanksgiving acknowledging GOD's constant redemptive work through His people – from then to now and in the time to come.

This is a sacred yet fun evening as we share, through readings, rituals and song the greatness of our GOD ... especially as we continue Holy Week and await the dawn of the SON at Easter! Please come be a part of this evening ...

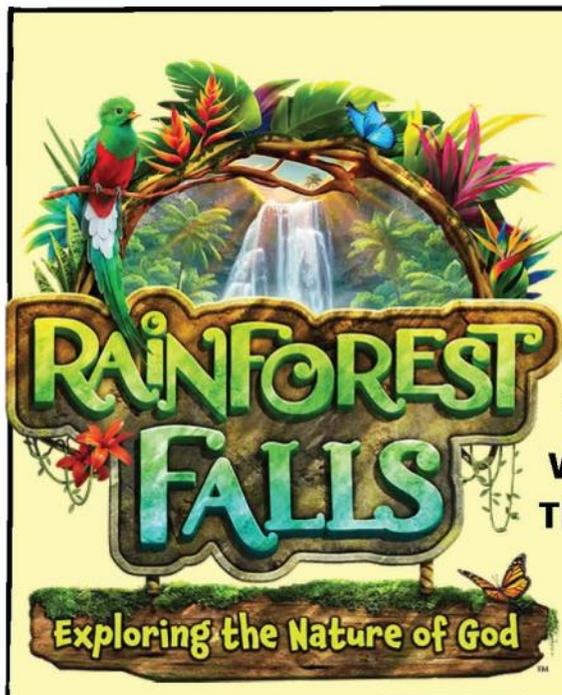
for questions contact Linda McNamara (c-251-610-4959 or bamamcs1@aol.com).

SHALOM



We need a second Videographer for the 8:00 a.m. services. Please contact Dave Hale, 251-422-1244, or Caron Richards, 251-689-8236, if you are interested in this important ministry.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL



**SAVE THE DATE FOR
VBS!
JUNE 22-25**

**EMBARK ON A WILD,
CREATURE-FILLED
AMAZON ADVENTURE
THROUGH THE PSALMS,
WHERE KIDS WILL DEEPEN
THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH
GOD, THEIR LOVING
CREATOR.**

WE'RE LOOKING FOR A SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER!

**PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER BECOMING A SUNDAY SCHOOL
TEACHER FOR OUR K-5TH SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS FROM
9-9:45 AM! FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT
ELIZABETH @ 626-2774.**

COMING SOON!

Vacation Bible School Planning Meeting: April TBA!
Please consider volunteering with the oversight and planning of a station at VBS! We will have a "box opening" meeting and brainstorm on ideas to make this the best VBS yet!

Collect for the First Sunday in Lent

BCP, p. 218

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

If this doesn't give us hope, I don't know what will! According to the Gospels, Jesus himself was tempted by Satan. This collect lets us recognize that we "are assaulted by many temptations." Don't we know it!? It would be an interesting – and revealing! – exercise this Lent to keep a list of the temptations that assault us. By the end of forty days we might have a pretty long list. The collect also lets us rejoice in God's power to help overcome our weaknesses and not give in to those temptations. It would be spiritually powerful for us, as we list those temptations for forty days, to thank God that we don't have to resist them alone. The same Spirit that led Jesus into the wilderness and protected Him also holds us, wages war on our weaknesses, and helps protect us from temptations. Let us recognize, rejoice in and thank God for the power of the Holy Spirit. What a revelation we could have come Easter!

Vivian Silliman

PRAYER FOR CAREGIVERS

JESUS, YOU CHOSE THE COMPANY OF THE POOR AND THE SICK.
AS I CARE FOR THE HOLY PERSON WHO SUFFERS,
WORK THROUGH ME TO EASE THE PAIN MY LOVED ONE ENDURES.
HELP ME TO KNOW MY LIMITS AND ACCEPT MY FEELINGS AS I COPE
WITH THE DIFFICULTIES AND STRESS. WHEN I AM SADDENED,
LET ME OFFER MY SMILE. AND IN DOING SO, MAY I GLORIFY YOU
AND ALL THE SAINTS IN HEAVEN. NOTHING IS MORE POWERFUL
THAN REAL GENTLENESS. LORD JESUS, YOU HEALED WOUNDS
AND DISEASE OF ALL KINDS WITH A LOVING TOUCH AND A HEART FULL
OF COMPASSION. TEACH ME YOUR WAY OF HUMBLE SERVICE. AMEN.

Laminated Prayer Cards are available on the tract rack in the narthex

or contact

Bill Carr, 251-689-4404.

LENTEN QUIET DAY FOR WOMEN

Women of St. Paul's are invited to a Lenten Quiet Day on Saturday, March 14, 2026, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. In Malone Hall. The day will be led by The Rev. Martha Kreamer on the topic of "The Eucharist as Prayer." We will have coffee and tea in the morning; soup and bread for lunch; and conclude the day at 2 p.m.

Raised mostly in the South, The Rev. Martha Kreamer graduated from Central High in Memphis, TN and completed her BA in Molecular Biology from Vanderbilt. She and her late husband, Paul, moved to Eufaula in 1993 from Morehead City, NC. Having raised her family and being healed (!) from careers in Biochemistry Research, Real Estate Sales, and Bookkeeping in previous states, Martha began life in Alabama by entering what she would now recognize as discernment, going through the ordination process in the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast. Upon receiving her MDiv with High Merit at Sewanee, she served as Vicar of St. Michael's in Ozark, then received a call in 2004 to be the first full-time priest with a new mission of St. Paul's Foley in Lillian, Alabama. Worshipping in a quadruple-wide, multi-purpose space affectionately as "St. Doublewide," The Episcopal Church of the Advent was able to construct a new permanent worship space, consecrated in 2012.

While at Advent, Lillian, Martha served as a member of the Standing Committee of the Diocese of CGC, was elected Deputy to the General Convention of the Episcopal Church three times and wrote several successful 5 figure grants that benefited Church of the Advent. She retired in 2014, chaired the Board of Directors at the Refuge for Women, and served as an interim in 2019, when Paul died. Since then, she has been doing supply Work, painting icons, raising orchids and her toy Aussie Lilly, and traveling to see her family and the world.

The Order of the Daughters of the King, Founded in 1885, is an order for women who are part of the Episcopal church, and the Anglican, Lutheran ELCA, and Roman Catholic churches. We have members worldwide, but most members live in the US. The mission of the order is to spread the Kingdom of Christ especially among women and girls, through prayer, service and evangelism.



AGES 2-6

ST. PAUL'S
PRESCHOOL
SUMMER
CAMP

REGISTRATION LINK:



WEEKS AVAILABLE:
JUNE 8-12
JUNE 22-25
JULY 13-17
JULY 20-24
9-1PM OR 8-4:30PM

COST:

- \$25 REGISTRATION FEE PER CAMP SESSION
- \$125 PER WEEK 9-1PM
- \$75 PER WEEK EXTENDED DAY

SPACES ARE LIMITED!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
251-626-2774
STPAULSPRESCHOOLDPAPHNE@GMAIL.COM

The Shroud of Jesus

My friends the best Christmas present I received this year was a fascinating book entitled *The Shroud of Jesus*, by Dr. Gilbert Lavoie. In it, this doctor of medicine, a specialist in internal and occupational medicine and public health, lays out his 40-year long forensic and scriptural study of the Shroud of Turin, looking at the abundant amount of evidence from a forensic medical view. What he has found is truly mind-boggling due to how closely it lines up with the biblical accounts of the passion and crucifixion of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ.

The case is laid out with a great deal of scientific precision, illustrated with many photographs and illustrations of the actual physical reality of the Shroud. For example, microscopic analysis of the scourge marks, the wounds from the crown of thorns and the spear wound that Jesus suffered, all line up exactly with the biblical report of the crucifixion.

For just a few more examples (because space is limited), Dr. Lavoie documents numerous details that the man whose image is on the Shroud was crucified, the reason why the Shroud image isn't mentioned in the Gospels, significant studies that demonstrate why the Shroud cannot be a painting or some other kind of forgery, and basically how the Shroud corroborates the Gospel accounts of the death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus. Dr. Lavoie conducts his own independent investigation to determine how human blood transfers from a body to cloth by applying his experience in treating trauma patients and observations from autopsies to unveil intriguing insights about the image and blood on the Shroud; he details other experts' hands-on observations of the Shroud at microscopic, biological and chemical levels, and how this evidence attest to the authenticity of the Shroud of Turin.

Is it definitive, incontrovertible evidence? No, believers will still believe and skeptics will still, skept? But this book lays out the scientific, medical case that the Shroud of Turin is indeed authentic. It is a really fascinating read, and I highly recommend it. In subsequent articles I will talk more about the evidence for the Shroud of Turin, probably the most intensively studied religious artifact, indeed of any artifact, in history. I highly recommend you give it a read.

Thanks for reading,
David Kielek, Sexton
Howard Wilson Life Center

Great Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. will

resume on March 4th

in Malone Hall.

FEBRUARY TO -DATE FINANCIAL REPORT

Parish Finances at a glance:

FEBRUARY TO-DATE INCOME: \$92,914.36

FEBRUARY TO-DATE EXPENSES: \$87,621.03

FEBRUARY NET: \$5,293.33

Thank You for supporting St. Paul's wonderful ministries.

Thrift Shop News



The Thrift Shop Board

We would like to introduce the members of the Thrift Shop's 2026 Board of Directors: Top Row L Board to R: Gaye Wilson, Chairman; Edith Henry, Vice Chairman & Chairman of Physical Plant Committee; Janet Norman, Treasurer & Finance Committee Chairman; Roxanna Carpenter, Secretary. 2nd Row L to R: Cindy Hoeb, Chairman of Volunteer, Personnel & Hospitality Committee; Linda Monley, Chairman of Communications Committee; Elizabeth Kaye; Janice Miles. 3rd Row L to R: Debi McClary; Sam Thompson; Judy Hale; Judy Ollinger.



Our Staff Spotlight for February features Tom Walker!

Tom and his wife live in Daphne, have 2 daughters and 4 grandsons so they spend a lot of time playing and babysitting. After 25 years with Daphne Fire Dept., he retired in 2015 but still works part time for DFD. For the past 20 years, Tom has also served as Logistics Chief for the Alabama Disaster Medical Response Team and has deployed many times to disaster areas all over the U.S. and its territories. At St. Paul's Episcopal Church, he has served on the Vestry and as the Senior Warden along with serving on the Bingo Committee, Altar Guild, Cooking Ministry, Men's Group and as an assistant to the Parish Nurse on wellness and defibrillator issues. As both a staff member AND a volunteer at the Thrift Shop, Tom is a jack of all trades. He drives the truck, manages the warehouse, sorts donations, stocks the men's department and so much more. A favorite with customers, volunteers and staff alike, he always has a big smile for everyone. Thanks for all you do, Tom!

St. Paul's Men's Group

During our annual meeting at Champy's on February 12, we discussed fundraising efforts for the coming year, disbursed funds to numerous projects, planned upcoming workdays at the church and tasks we could accomplish, and Marty Ollinger gave a report about our 2025 Porkfest.

The Men's Group has four breakfast cooking teams who rotate months and provide a delicious breakfast to parishioners on the first Sunday of each month. We appointed team leaders for the teams and they are:

Team 1 Bob Hoeb

Team 2 Lee Richards

Team 3 Alastair Henry

Team 4 Tim Op't Holt

Thank you to the gentlemen who help with this ministry.

Tom Walker

St. Paul's Men's Group



St. Paul's Youth

Valentines Day!

The seniors at Seagrass in Daphne loved their valentines made by the youth at St. Paul's! Thank you to all the youth who participated!



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper!

Thank you to everyone who showed up and helped us with the Shrove Pancake Supper! The youth loved flipping pancakes to prepare us for this season of Lent.



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

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>

Prayer Requests

Immediate Prayer Requests:

Bobby Acosta, Townsend Bessonon, Necie Borroni, Jennifer Conner, Deanna Cook, Linda Crissy, Wayne Davis, Lillian Deason, Sara DeWitt, Mary Jordan Dukes, Julie Evans, Patrick Foster, Joann Gibson, Laura Ann Gibson, Brooks Gordon, Toni Gray, Catherine Greenslade, Leslie Greer, Linda Hamilton, Mary Ann Hampton, Stewart Hampton, 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 Koepf, 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, Nick Shoultz, Fran Siemssen, Tim Smith, Diana Spillman, Mimi Stephens, Cleighton Strickland, Mark Taylor, Karen Thomason, Mary-Haston Vest, Nancy Walker, Julia Warren, Myralyn Watson, Katherine Weaver, 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: Herb McDonald, Mike Smith, Marilyn Owens, Tyler Brown

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 Strohle, Dan Strohle, 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 Wetzel, (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 Dorrough, (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

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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Daphne, Alabama 36526

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36526

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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.