



The Tentmaker

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Daphne, Alabama

January 25, 2023

Message from Thack

This Wednesday, January 25, is the feast day of the Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle. We will celebrate his feast day on Wednesday during our healing service at noon.

Paul is an interesting and important figure in the history of the Church. Originally named Saul, he was of strictly Jewish parentage and believed to have been born several years after the birth of Christ in the commercial and literary city of Tarsus in what is now Turkey. His birthright included the rights of a Roman citizen. He received a primarily Jewish education, studying for a time in the school of the Pharisee Rabbi Gamaliel, but was also exposed to Greek literature which greatly influenced his literary style and dialectic method. Paul, a "Hebrew of the Hebrews," was therefore at the same time a native Hellenist and a Roman citizen. This background served him well and endowed him with the skills to be a universal apostle.

Saul was a Pharisee in the strictest sense, which fueled his fanaticism in the persecution of those whom he regarded as heretics. His fanaticism arose from the intensity of his conviction and his zeal for the religion of his fathers. That's why the early followers of Jesus were an anathema to him because he initially regarded Jesus as a false Messiah. To Saul, Jesus of Nazareth was a rebel and a blasphemer who was justly condemned to death. Consequently, the followers of Jesus were no different from the man that was crucified at Calvary.

Acting according to his conviction, Saul took a prominent part in the persecution of Stephen. Not satisfied with this, he procured from the Sanhedrin, the supreme council and highest court of justice at Jerusalem in New Testament times, full power to persecute and arrest the scattered disciples of Jesus. Thus armed, he set out for Damascus, the capital of Syria, which had many synagogues. He was determined to exterminate this dangerous sect from the face of the earth, all for the glory of God.

The irony about Saul is what happened to his life as he was racing up the road to Damascus. While on his mission to Damascus to eradicate the heretics who claimed Christ as the Messiah, ". . . a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?'" (Acts 9:4). That voice was the voice of Jesus. Following the encounter, this devoted Pharisee and committed opponent of the "Way" and its followers became its greatest evangelist. Saul became Paul and helped spread the Gospel to the Gentiles.

Paul's contribution to the Church was significant, not only as an apostle, but as a writer of letters that have helped shaped Christian opinion over the centuries. He was the right person at the right time to continue the work that Christ and his apostles had started. He was truly Christ's devoted servant when his skills were needed most.

Paul's conversion is a tangible reminder to us of the transforming power of Christ's patient love and forgiveness. It is a witness to Christ's abiding love in that he loved Saul despite his fierce hatred and persecution of the early Christians. Christ loved him so much that there was nothing Saul could do to diminish that love. By the same token, Christ is no less generous with his love for us, no matter how many times we turn away from him. As in Saul's case, not only is that patient love an irresistible force, it is transforming as well. Saul the Pharisee became Paul the Evangelist when he encountered unconditional love for the first time. That same transforming love is also available to us. Just wanting it is enough to have that transformation of the spirit that Paul experienced on his way to Damascus.

The story of Paul's conversion is one of hope. It is a reminder that no matter what we have done in this life, no matter who we have hurt, including ourselves, none of us is beyond the reach of God's love. Simply stated, that's what grace is all about. Peace, Thack

Confirmation Classes for Adults and Youth

"Confirmation" is the sacramental rite in which the candidates "express a mature commitment to Christ, and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop" (*BCP*, p. 860). Those who were baptized at an early age and those baptized as adults without the laying on of hands by a bishop are expected to make a mature public affirmation of their faith, recommit themselves to the responsibilities of their baptism, and receive laying on of hands by a bishop (*BCP*, p. 412). The Rt. Rev. George Young, retired Bishop of the Diocese of East Tennessee, will celebrate at our Confirmation service on Sunday, April 16, 2023, at 10:30 a.m.


We will offer classes of instruction to prepare candidates for Confirmation. These Confirmation classes for adults and youth will commence in February. The adult Confirmation class will begin on Sunday, February 12 at 2:00 p.m. in Conference Room A in the Life Center. The youth class will be facilitated by Elizabeth Faust and myself and will begin on Tuesday, February 14 at 4:00 p.m. in Malone Hall. Subjects to be covered include the Holy Scriptures, *Book of Common Prayer*, Church History, sacraments and sacramental rites, liturgy, Anglicanism and history of the Episcopal Church, theology, hymnody, ministry and evangelism, and the catch all question, *Why be an Episcopalian?*

Even if you have been confirmed you are welcome to attend classes to refresh your memory of who we are and what we believe as Christians and Episcopalians. To register, please call Terri McMillan in the church office at 251-626-2421. Thack

Christian-Jewish Dialogue Presentation

The Mobile area Christian-Jewish Dialogue will sponsor a presentation on Thursday, February 2 at 7:00 p.m. in Malone Hall. The title is "Sages, Saints and Seers."

The presenters will be the Rev. Dr. Dick Schmidt and Rabbi Steve Silberman. The program will last about an hour and everyone is invited to attend. Please RSVP through Terri in the parish office.



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper,

February 21st at 6:00 p.m.

in Malone Hall -

sponsored by St. Paul's Youth

Ash Wednesday Services

February 22nd

7:00 a.m.

Noon

6:00 p.m.

NIGHT TO SHINE - coming soon to dazzle Daphne ...

NIGHT TO SHINE, is a prom-like experience for those age 14 on up with special needs, will light up Daphne High's Trojan Hall on **Friday, February 10 from 6 to 9pm**. **NIGHT TO SHINE** is a one-night worldwide event sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation and hosted by local volunteers led by one amazing lady, Keri Harmeier – check her out on **facebook.com/ntsdaphne** – this is her 8th year to “ignite” **NIGHT TO SHINE** in Daphne!!

** Check out **NTS website**: www.timtebowfoundation.org/ministries/night-to-shine*

On this magical night, nearly 150 prom guests – dressed in dazzling attire - will walk the red carpet greeted by cheering paparazzi and enter a space created just for them – to be celebrated as “Kings and Queens” enjoying an evening of fun, friendships and excitement! A variety of activities from limo rides, to posing at the photo booth, playing in the game truck, enjoying food and drinks, grabbing the mic for karaoke and of course **DANCING** – hands-in-the-air-cheering-while-dancing kind of dancing! The evening concludes as each guest is presented a **CROWN** or **TIARA** celebrating them as beloved **KINGS** or **QUEENS** of **GOD's** own creation!! Truly a shining night to remember!!

Contact Keri Harmeier if you know of someone who would like to go as a **PROM-GUEST ntsdaphne@gmail.com*

This event is possible through the generosity and support of over 200 volunteers – yet there are ways **YOU** can share in and support this evening:

- ◆ **DONATE** - mailing checks made to **Night to Shine** to Keri Harmeier 24598 Caleb Ct, Daphne, AL 36526
- ◆ **VOLUNTEER** - (3 different ways) (email Keri for Qs and forms: ntsdaphne@gmail.com)
- ◆ **BUDDY volunteer** – teens age 16 on up are paired with a prom guest and accompany them to all activities (must fill out form, attend orientation, pass background check, hours 5 – 9pm)
- ◆ **STATION volunteer** – age 16 on up work different areas of event - replenish food and drinks, give shoe shines, registration help (must fill out form, attend orientation, background check, hours 5 – 9)
- ◆ **PAPARAZZI volunteer** – cheers guests as they arrive to walk the **RED** carpet into the event – arrive by 5:15pm and leave around 6 - families welcome, no age limit, paparazzi remain outside

I am going as one of many **PAPARAZZI** ... if anyone has questions or needs info please call me (Linda McNamara 251-610-4959) ... ‘cuz I would **LOVE** to have you join the *throngs* in cheering on these **EXCEPTIONAL** prom guests! ‘tis truly a night you can let the **LIGHT** of Christ shine forth!!

Friday, February 10, 2023 ... Daphne High School Trojan Hall ... 9078 Lawson Road, Daphne 36526



Fish Fry! Sunday, February 19! Dine In or Carry Out!

Fellow Parishioners,

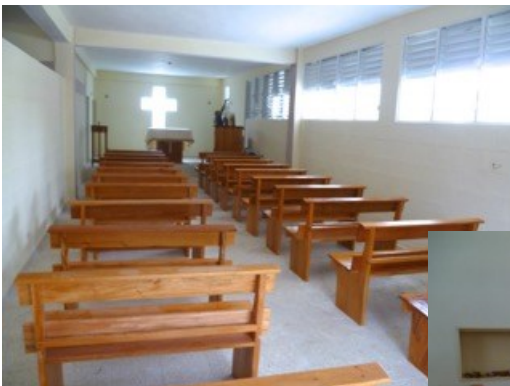
The Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast will resume its construction mission work in the Dominican Republic in March. This will be our first trip to the Dominican Republic since 2019. The 2020 mission was canceled due to the Covid Pandemic. Four St. Paul's members (Marty Ollinger, J.J. Walker, Coleman Wood, Howard Wilson) are among the 14 volunteers from throughout the diocese taking part in this mission.

The Episcopal Diocese of the Dominican Republic includes about 60 parishes and maintains a companion relationship with our diocese. Many of the parishes have schools. Our construction team has made 15 trips to the DR starting in 2007. Our primary task has been to build church furniture for their worship spaces. This has included altars, pews, chairs and baptismal fonts, but we have also built doors and bookshelves. Our team has its own tools and generators in storage at San Andres church in Santo Domingo that have been sitting idle for four years. We are eager to return and get back to work there.

We are holding a fish fry fundraiser for the mission in Malone Hall on Sunday, February 19 following the 10:30 service. This is the Sunday before Mardi Gras. We will serve fried catfish, baked beans, coleslaw, french fries, fried pickles and cake. Take out boxes will be available. Please come!

Thank you.

Howard Wilson



Pictures from past mission trips.



Greetings from St Paul's Youth!

I want to say a special THANK YOU to Dr Jimmie Gavras for donating and delivering an awesome air hockey table for our youth space. We are already enjoying it!

This past Sunday we enjoyed bowling together.

We are in our third week of Sunday school with Father Thack and Ms Crista Spencer. Please join us Sunday mornings at 9:15 grades 3-12.

Senior High youth, I will be reaching out to you in the next week to plan coffee meets on weekday evenings so please stay tuned.

This Sunday we will meet in the underground 4:30-6:30 grades 6-12th.

Have a blessed week!

Much love!

Bonnie



Tracts Talk! The Four Movements of the Eucharist

This very brief pamphlet is not about crossing yourself. It offers a way of thinking about the whole liturgy of the Eucharist. We are all quite familiar with it, but how should we approach it?

First, in our quietness and through the lessons and sermon, God is reaching toward us! And though God is ever reaching toward us, it is in the liturgy that we can concentrate on that, and feel the presence of God in our lives.

Second, as we recite the prayers; confess our sins and acknowledge our brokenness; and make offerings, we are responding to the liturgy.

Third, we partake of bread and wine as reminders of God's sacrifice for us and of God's immeasurable love for us. What an amazing gift: God's love for us! No matter who we are, or where we are in our life's journey, God loves us.

Fourth, we are sent out into the world, carrying the love of God, and sharing that love in the world around us. Taking part in the liturgy gives us the tools we need to carry God's word into the world.

Pick up a copy of ***The Four Movements of the Eucharist*** for further comments.

Vivian Silliman



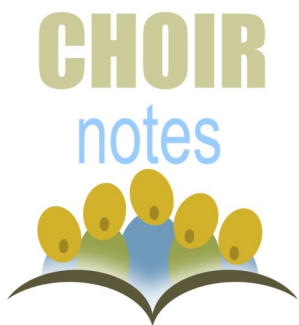
Adult Sunday School class on Forgiveness – January 29, 2023

This DVD/discussion class explores our Christian duty to forgive. The book, "Forgiving Forward" by Bruce and Toni Hebel is our guide. BUT You do not need the book to be in the class.

In our fifth session, we explore "Faith is the key to forgiveness".

Join us Sunday (Jan 29) @ 9:15 – 10:00 in Life Center Conference Room A for coffee, donuts and good discussion.

Mark Costlow, facilitator Mark61342@gmail.com 251-391-1299.
Subsequent sessions will be on February 12, 19, 26



Celebrate Now

Through the years I have played for many funerals/celebrations of life, and most of the music was planned in advance. Folks have special music they would like played or sung at their services.

How about letting me know a special hymn you would like sung during services from now through Lent? I will work it into a service, so you can celebrate your life in music now, while you can participate in person!

Drop me an email at alacoastm2005@gmail.com with the hymn you would like sung.

John Matson, Choirmaster

Want a great family outing now before Mardi Gras beads and moon pies fly?

St. Paul's BINGO is back for the new year ...
Serving up spaghetti, salad, bread, dessert
... and of course winning BINGO numbers!!



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author

Come join family and friends – this Friday, January 27, 2023 at 6pm

begin with a \$5 **spaghetti dinner** ... salad, bread, dessert and drink – wine extra

purchase an **11 game BINGO packet for \$20** ... daubers available for use

play 11 games (each sheet has 3 games to daub!)

regular **BINGO play** ... **plus** fun postage stamp, T, picture frame and blackout games!

during last two games you can **purchase extra tries for \$1 each**

each game ends with increasing **ca\$h prizes** for single – or multiple - winners

Last year one lucky winner paid \$1 for a single extra play ...
and he went home with **BENJAMIN FRANKLIN** tucked in his pocket!!
(now **figure out** how much he won ... then come play ...)

there's nothing quite like **4th Friday BINGO** at **St. Paul's on the Eastern Shore!!**

y'all come!!

BINGO

What's Happening in Chris Ed?, by Elizabeth Faust

What's Happening in Chris Ed?

Last weekend, several of our children celebrated their official first communion! We learned about the sacrament of communion, made bread together, and on Sunday, broke bread together with our church family. Thank you for all of the love, support and community we have surrounding our little ones as they grow in their faith!



*First Communion
Making Bread and
Breaking Bread with
their church family*

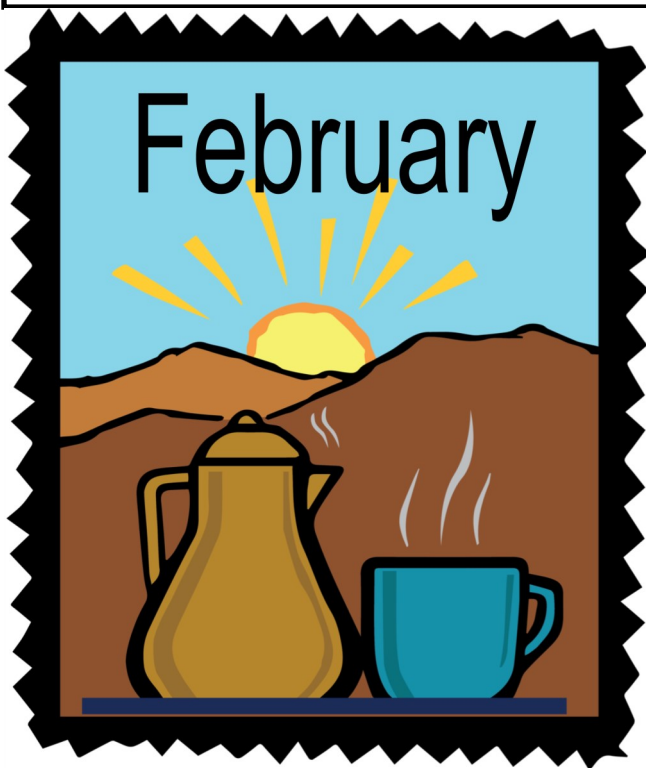


What's Happening In Children's Chapel?

In Sunday's Children's Chapel have begun a new curriculum which follows the lectionary. We also have weekly children's church bulletins so you can see what we're learning about. We will still use Godly Play as our Sunday School curriculum from 9:15-10:00, most Sundays.

SAVE THE DATE for VBS!

JUNE 26-29! More details to come soon!



Parish Breakfast

You are invited to
St. Paul's
February Parish Breakfast
Sunday, February 5th
at 9:15 a.m.
in the Life Center.

The breakfast is prepared for you by
St. Paul's Men's Group.

No charge for children

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 a.m.

Live Streamed on
St. Paul's Facebook page only

Sunday-Thursday

Evening Prayer
5:00 p.m.

Live Streamed on
Judith Comer's Facebook page only

Wednesday

Healing Service with
The Holy Eucharist
Wednesday
NOON

*Church Services are also 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
251-626-6102

St. Paul's Preschool
251-626-2774

ADULT BIBLE STUDIES

Sunday

Christian Education
(Life Center Conf. Room A)
Adults
9:15 am

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

Morning Bible Study
(Malone Hall)
10:30 am

St. Paul's Vestry 2022-2024

Terms Ending

December 31, 2023

Necie Borroni
Alyson Jackson, Sr. Warden
Michael Koepp
Vivian Silliman

December 31, 2024

Edith Henry
Matthew Thomason
Sue Ann Turnipseed
Tom Walker

December 31, 2024

Michael Quinn
Cathy Slagle
Gaye Wilson
Howard Wilson, Jr. Warden
~
Martha Lathan,
Clerk of the Vestry

Janet Norman, Treasurer

Clergy

The Rev. Thack H. Dyson,
Rector
The Rev. John K. Talbert,
Curate
The Rev. Judith Comer,
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>

2023

For the Ministry and Operations of St. Paul's Episcopal Church:

In thanksgiving to God for many blessings,
I/We pledge to St. Paul's OPERATING FUND for 2023:

an ANNUAL amount of \$ _____

and will pay it

\$ ☐ Weekly ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly or ☐ Annually BASIS
(please check one)

and in addition to the above

I/We would also like to pledge to
St. Paul's BUILDING FUND for 2023:

an ANNUAL amount of \$ _____

and will pay the amount on a

\$ ☐ Weekly ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly or ☐ Annually BASIS
(please check one)

Name _____

Address: _____

Telephone Numbers: _____

Email: _____

Would you like Offering Envelopes? Yes No

Please fill out this form and return it either by:

- Placing it in church offering plate or
- Mailing it to 28788 North Main Street, Daphne, Alabama 36526 or
- Emailing it to officestpaulsdaphne@gmail.com or
- Contacting the church office at 251-626-2421

PLEDGES DO NOT AUTOMATICALLY RENEW EACH YEAR.

*PLEDGE CARDS MAY ALSO BE FILLED OUT AND SUBMITTED ON THE CHURCH WEBSITE:
WWW.STPAULSEASTERNSHORE.COM*

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
28788 North Main Street
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*
The Rev. John K. Talbert, *Curate*
Elizabeth Faust, *Christian Education & Preschool Administrator*
Bonnie Hindman, *Youth Leader*
David Kielek, *Life Center Sexton*
John Matson, *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.*