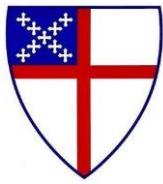


# Grace to You and Peace

## St. Paul's Episcopal Church



Volume 16 | Issue 9

September 2022

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QuotesIdeas.com

### Outreach for September

Anyone who would like to contribute to efforts to provide bottled water to Jackson Residents may do so by donating to the Bishop's Discretionary Fund which can be accessed through this link:

[Give to My Church](#)



You must use either Safari or Google Chrome as your browser. Once you submit your information, you will be directed to PayPal. There are 3 payment options: log in to your existing PayPal account; create a PayPal account if you do not have one; or you can pay with your debit or credit card as a PayPal Guest.

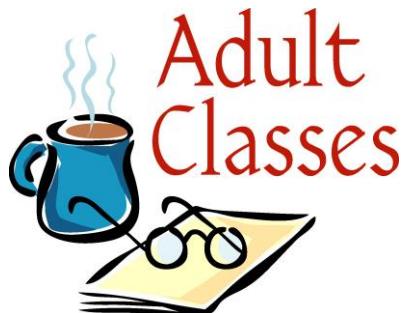
**\*Please select the Bishop's Discretionary Fund in the Church Designation menu\***



**Christian Education:** Continues Sunday, 9:15 - 10:00.



- **Ages 2 - PK 4** will meet in the Noah's Arc room
- **K5 - 5th grade** will meet in the Moses room.
- **Youth class: 6th - 12th grade** will meet in the EYC room (upstairs)



Adult Sunday School with Father Jason: God's Call to Us.  
Class meets in the Earline Robertson Room.

## Reflection from Father Jason

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"Let go and let God!" I was serving as a hospital chaplain the first time I heard this phrase; we were in the chaplain's office in the basement of the hospital, and it was proclaimed by one of the Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) mentors who was doing a three-year hitch as a chaplain. It was her response to one of the summer student's complaints about how hard it was to be a hospital chaplain. "Yes!" I thought, "Let go and let God handle it!" It was a novel concept, this idea of letting God take control of my life - of handing control over to my creator and redeemer, and letting Him sustain me so I could focus on what was in front of me. The idea hadn't come up in my discernment process or first year of seminary, and at first I thought that Lenora had coined the phrase, if not the concept...

It was tight quarters in the chaplain's office; there were the three, three-year chaplains who were working to become CPE supervisors, and nine seminarians who were doing their 10 week, mandated tour of duty in the hospital. Our one Roman Catholic dropped out after the first week, which left us with varying degrees of protestants. Lenora was a member of the Church of the Brethren; she was cheerful but not saccharin, and wise without being pedantic or smug. She genuinely liked to help people, and while she wasn't afraid to admit when things were difficult or soul wrenching, she didn't mire in it either. She didn't just say "Let go and let God," she lived it. The first time I heard her say it I didn't notice the Missouri Synod Lutherans smirking, but Lenora said it a lot, and as she said it, I noticed it wasn't just the MSLs that were smirking, it was most of the seminarians. I let myself be swayed by their distaste for the phrase and practice of giving control to God; I remember one of them saying, "I wish she would just stitch that dumb saying on a pillow and be done with it." Dumb saying? "Oh yeah, totally dumb," replied the Presbyterian chaplain. "It's like, 'I don't know the answer or how to deal with what's going on in my life, so I'm just going to put my head in the sand and say that I'm giving it to God.' Just a bunch of garbage in my opinion." I didn't like that at all - I didn't want to put my head in the sand; this wasn't a time for doing that, this was a time to be asking all of the questions—and demanding answers!

When I returned to seminary that fall, I learned just how trite and awful it was to say, "Let go and let God." It was something that Episcopalians didn't say; it was nearly as bad as asking someone if they had found or knew Jesus. When I hear it now I inwardly cringe. But why? Why were the other chaplains so against the saying and concept, and why do so many people roll their eyes when they hear it? Why did I let myself be swayed by the naysayers? Because it's incredibly difficult to let go of control, or rather, the illusion of control; it's difficult to trust that God has my best interests at heart, that He will be there to catch me when I fall - or at least console me and help me up. It's much easier to belittle and degrade than it is to trust and have faith. Most of the people I know who say to let go and let God tend to be cheerful and upbeat, which can flat be annoying when I'm convinced that everything is awful and it's only going to get worse...not a good attitude for a priest or any person of faith.

My life doesn't suddenly become easier or less complicated when I acknowledge that God is in charge, but it definitely becomes more palatable and joyous. I'm able to see the trees that make up the forest; I'm not overwhelmed by the neverending list of things that need to be done, and my eyes become open to the good that is happening in the world. I become less anxious and more forgiving, more focussed and mindful of how I spend my time. Letting go and letting God be in charge is not trite or naive; it is the essence of the first request made in the Lord's Prayer, "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven..." If we let go of our plans, wants, and notions, and give control to God, then God's will will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Let go and let God. Life won't get easier, but it will be far and away better.



## August Bookended by Baptisms

St. Paul's officially welcomed three new people into the household of God during the month of August. We welcomed Luke and Clara Young on August 7th at the 10:30 service, and Cruise Branch on August 28th at the 8:00 service. Russell Young is the father of Luke and Clara, Harrison and Stephanie Branch are the parents of Cruise, and Bill and Virginia Branch are Cruise's grandparents. Let us welcome the newly baptized!



L to R: Grandparents Rick and Melinda Young, Russell Young with Luke and Clara.



L to R: Stephanie and Harrison Branch with Cruise and Fr. Jason.



Grandparents Bill and Virginia Branch with Cruise

## From SPES Board President

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As a lot of you know, we are in the process of trying to rebuild enrollment at SPES back to our pre-Covid numbers. We have hired new teachers, made some improvements to the rooms, and purchased new carpet. We will be re-landscaping and adding new playground equipment and an awning in the next two months. All of this is great, but the number one thing that we struggle with is teacher retention. I am going to ask for your help with supporting the teachers a couple of different ways. The first is to do a once-a-month breakfast for them. I am looking for volunteer teams (2 or 3 people each month) to do a simple breakfast with beverages. We have also purchased a small refrigerator for their break room, and I would like to stock it with beverages and some healthy snacks. The following is a list of some of their favorite items: Dr. Pepper, Sprite, Coke, bottled water, Citrus Lipton Tea, Diet Citrus Lipton Tea, Diet Dr. Pepper, yogurt and fruit cups. If you would like to help with either of these endeavors, please text me at 662-425-9122 or email [pridmorehelen19@gmail.com](mailto:pridmorehelen19@gmail.com)

Thank you,

Helen Pridmore  
Board President

**The MS Episcopalian:** Due to the rising cost of paper, printing, and decreasing availability of supplies, The MS Episcopalian is encouraging as many as possible to receive the electronic version. To do so, please contact the editor, Rev. Dr. John Switzer, 228-235-4400, or [MissEpiscopal@gmail.com](mailto:MissEpiscopal@gmail.com).

## SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES

8:00 am — Eucharist

10:30 am — Eucharist

All services are recorded and may be found online at  
[https://stpaulscolumbus.dioms.org/  
Sermons/sermons.html](https://stpaulscolumbus.dioms.org/Sermons/sermons.html)

### Office Hours

8:00—4:30 M—F

### Office Phone

662.328.6673

### Church Staff

**The Rev. Jason Shelby, Rector**

[fjason@stpaulscolumbus.com](mailto:fjason@stpaulscolumbus.com)

**The Rev. Deacon Pam Rhea,**

**Director of Christian Education**

[deaconrhea@gmail.com](mailto:deaconrhea@gmail.com)

**Lori Mitchell, Office Administrator**

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**Ellen Hawkins, Organist**

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**Ronnie Clayton, Sexton**

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**Juwana Jenkins, Preschool Director**

**Liza Robert, Preschool Operating Manager**

[schdir@stpaulscolumbus.com](mailto:schdir@stpaulscolumbus.com)

### Website

[stpaulscolumbus.com](https://stpaulscolumbus.com)

# Parish News

## Deacon's Mass

The Rev. Deacon Pam Rhea will lead a service of Communion from the Reserved Sacrament, also known as a Deacon's Mass, on the second Sunday of each month at 5:30 pm in the chapel. This is meant to be a "come as you are" service in a relaxed atmosphere.

The next mass will be held on **September 11 at 5:30 pm.**

## Loaves and Fishes

Loaves and Fishes needs 20 - 25 packages of Bear Creek Soup to serve one meal. There is an **urgent need for Vegetable Beef Soup and Minestrone Soup.** Your assistance is needed as we continue our mission to help feed those in need. To volunteer, contact Ann Sparkman at **662.328.2133**.

St. Paul's serving days are **September 12 and 14.** St. Paul's served **554** lunches during August.



## Wednesday Night Bible Study

Join Deacon Pam Rhea for a study of Wisdom Literature. Topics include What Is Wisdom Literature, Proverbial Wisdom, Wisdom and Creation, Wisdom and Women, Ecclesiastes, Job Prologue and Dialogues, and Speeches from the Whirlwind. The class meets each **Wednesday evening at 5:30** in the Earline Robertson Room.

## Men's Club

Many thanks to Clif and Becky Scott for hosting the August 25 supper and to Clif Scott and Robert Whitaker for sponsoring the quarterly event. Our next gathering will be **November 16.** We are looking for volunteers to host the main course; group members will bring sides, drinks, and desserts.

## Parish Breakfast

The next Parish Breakfast will be held on **September 11** between the two services. Watch your service bulletin for more information.

## Sunday School

Classes are back in full swing! Please refer to the information on p. 2 for times and locations of classes for children, youth, and adults.

## September Newsletter

The deadline for submissions for the September edition of the newsletter is **September 28, 2022.** Please email your information to [officeadmin@stpaulscolumbus.com](mailto:officeadmin@stpaulscolumbus.com)

## September Observances

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### *Birthdays*

1 Arthur Fitzner  
Cara Pridmore

3 Fairfax Davis

5 John Davis

7 Tyler McShan

8 Ruth Berry

9 Bill Wycoff

10 Kenny Frye  
Linda Rood

11 Kathy Hodson

16 Charon Hardy

18 Mike Killian

20 Charlie Clemons  
Julia Bennett Windham

21 Ann Barham  
Dawn Bryant  
Parker Sumrall

22 David Lee

26 Archie Shelby  
Sam Yarborough

28 Marleen Hansen

29 Gina Thompson

### *Anniversaries*

4 John and Charon Hardy



## Intercessions

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Harriet and Cleatus Doyle	The Kemp Family	Vernon Gregory
Carmen Montgomery	Peggy Gentry	Steele Family
Donalyn Pieschel Cissell	Richard Thomas	Teen Stallworth deRoode
Walter Stubbe	John David Hardy	John Simpson
Dan Waldrop	Katherine Horton	Matt and Alice Parker
Sue Monesmith	Jacob Davis	Rusty Holleman
Taylor Fields and family	Gale Holland	Patsy McDaniel
Teresa Miller	Jan Ballard	Bruce Howell
Eric Niebuhr	Beth Rice	Juanita Trimuel
Don Callaway	Samantha Turner	Billy Buck Staggers
Billy and Linda Ross	Paulette Frank	Wink Wright
Gina Swartz	Linda Horn	Cathy Hatch
Mark Clay	Kevin Alexander	George Richards
Carolyn Laster	Peter Huggins	Kim Sanders
Josh Bowman	Linda G.	Nancy Smith
Rufus Ward	Tammie Damron Dolan family	Mallory Caissie
Doug Phillips and family	Faye Tabor	Allison Whitaker
Jean Floore	Betty Lou Jones	Dot Breland
Pat Jones Kinder	Mollie Hamblin	Eddie Mauck
Axel Durr	Valerie Gonzolaes	Emily Hayden
Bobby	Dudley Davis	Eugene Blaine and Family
Harriet Doyel	Carole Knie	B.J. Montgomery
Family of Colby Waldon	Kevin Hogan	Pat Herndon
Lynne Rosamond	Sandra Mims	Jamie McCollum
Chip Billups	Myra Rowzee	Martha
Linda, Amanda, & Bryan Tucker	Marquita Kirk and Yvonne Sanders	James and Ann Masinelli
Rose Loftis	Frances Benton	Jesse Sparkman

Jeana L. Whitacre

Lee Ann Dorn

Brenda Caradine

John Barron

The Rev. Don Chancellor

**Nursing Home Residents:**

Kathleen Atkins

Tina Louise

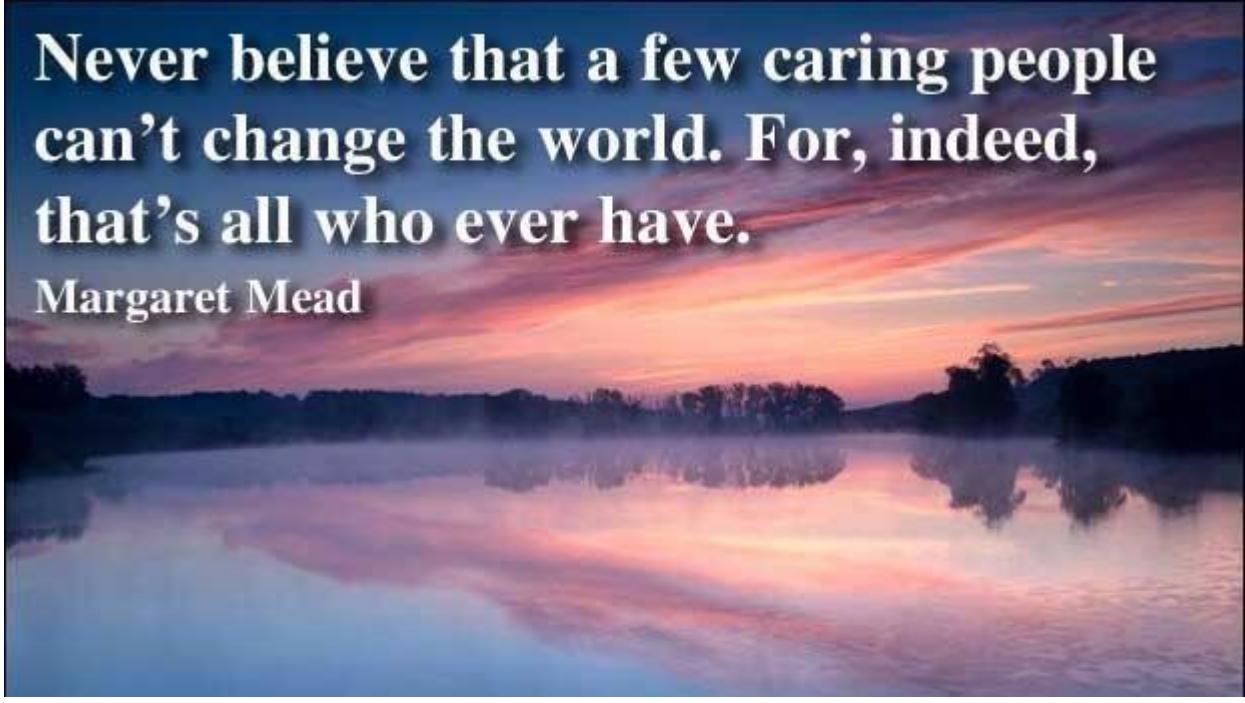
Trey Atki

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## Thank You!

The parish would like to thank those who attended the funeral service for Edwin Porter, son of Lorinda Porter – Guyness. Lorinda has been a long-time teacher and director designee for St. Paul's Episcopal School. Thank you to those who contributed to the love offering of \$2300 given to Lorinda.

Look for the St. Paul's advertisement in *Report to the Community* published by the Junior Auxiliary of Columbus. Revenue generated from sales of ads funds projects sponsored by the JA in service to the children of Lowndes County.



**Never believe that a few caring people  
can't change the world. For, indeed,  
that's all who ever have.**

**Margaret Mead**

# SPES Director Spotlight

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## Ms. Juwana Jenkins, SPES Director

St. Paul's is pleased to welcome Ms. Juwana Jenkins as the new director of SPES. She is compassionate, has a wonderful sense of humor, and arrives every day with enthusiasm and passion for our children.

Q: How long have you worked in childcare?

A: 8 years

Q: What led you to this career?

A: *Raising twin boys while working at a restaurant*

Q: What is the best part of your job?

A: *Watching the children learn*

Q: What is your most treasured possession?

A: *My relationship with God*

Q: What is your personal motto?

A: *Live, love laugh, and be happy*

Q: What advice would you give your younger self?

A: *No matter how hard it gets, stay focused*



## SPES Pictures

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