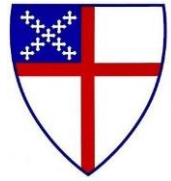


Grace to You and Peace

St. Paul's Episcopal Church



Volume 15 | Issue 6

June 2022

In This Issue

- Pentecost Sunday
- Vacation Bible School
- Reflection from Father Jason
- June Outreach
- From the Senior Warden
- Parish News
- Preschool News



Pentecost Sunday June 5, 2022



We're Having a Picnic!

When: June 5 at 11:30

Where: St. Paul's Courtyard

What do I bring?: Last Names A-M – Side dish

Last Names N-Z – Dessert

RSVP to 662.328.6673 OR officeadmin@stpaulscolumbus.com by June 3

Hot Dogs and Beverages provided!

Vacation Bible School 2022



Here are your clues:

What: Learning about the Parables of Jesus and Spiritual Habits through Stories, Crafts, Snacks, Games, and more!

When: June 13-17

Where: First United Methodist Church (in partnership)

Time: 9:00 - 12:00 noon

Ages: completed 4K - Grade 5

Volunteers Needed!

We need to provide the following:

- Shepherds for groups
- Helpers with object lessons
- Snacks and bottled water
- Helpers with crafts
- Help with decorating
- 2 Liter drinks for VBS staff

Contact Pam Rhea at 662.386.2839 for more information

[Volunteer Here](#)

[Register Children Here](#)

Reflection from Father Jason

Jesus tells us that when we are asked a question, we should make our answer either a simple yes or no. “Let your word be “Yes, Yes” or “No, No”; anything more than this comes from the evil one,” (Matthew 5:37).

Saying I can't do something somehow absolves me of any wrongdoing or guilt. I would much rather tell a panhandler that I don't have any money or that I can't help him, instead of saying that I won't help him, or following Jesus' advice, simply saying, “No.” To say that I won't help him makes me feel guilty, especially because Jesus also tells us to give to all that beg (Matthew 5:42), and saying “No” seems hard and cruel. And maybe that's the point - it feels hard and cruel *because it is*. This is where the justification for saying “no” comes in - why it's right and good to tell a panhandler no, because otherwise she will just keep panhandling. We shouldn't reward deviant behavior, and besides, she's just going to use it for drugs or alcohol. Every day we say that we can't do things, when the truth is that we won't do them. Sometimes we have good reasons for not doing them - if Neville invites me out for beers at 7:00 on a school night, instead of saying I can't go, I should be able to say no, I'll be helping my wife put our kids to bed. Or better yet, if Neville and I are good friends with a shared faith in Christ, I should be able to say, “No,” and that would be the end of the story. Neville would respect the very clear boundary I set down, and we would find another time/way to hang out. But too often, that's not how it happens; when we say no or that we won't, we're asked why, and challenged, and boundaries are totally ignored. Peer pressure doesn't stop in high school. Which is why it's easier to say we can't - that we are stopped by the laws of physics and time from doing whatever it is we've been asked to do, leaving no room for argument.

But we do ourselves a disservice by saying we can't, when what we mean is that we won't. We are able to make our answer yes, yes, or no, no - and if someone crosses the boundary we've made, we can walk away. When we say we can't we are being dishonest with the person we're talking to and ourselves, and it's the latter that's more damaging. Saying we can't sets up certain patterns of thinking and shapes our relationship with the world and with God. I hate telling God I won't do what I'm commanded to do, and so it's much easier to tell myself that I can't. But in doing so, I miss an opportunity to grow in faith. When I tell God that I won't - forgive, forget, help - whatever the case may be, I feel incredibly guilty, because I know that I can do those things, it's just hard and uncomfortable. Which is why God calls on us to ask Him and each other for help. In our baptismal covenant, every promise we make has the caveat, “I will, with God's help.” The community is asked if they will do all in their power to help the baptized grow in his/her life in Christ, to which we reply, “We will.” We aren't created to live out God's word by ourselves - we can't. In order to do it we need God's help, and we need each other. When I tell God that I won't forgive, or help, or live as we are called to live, it brings me up short. I *don't* want to tell God no—it's God, who created and redeemed me, who actively leads and loves me. When I allow myself to be in that space of total honesty and vulnerability, I realize that it is only with God's help that I can live as we are called to live - but to get to that space I have to be honest with both God and myself. Let us make our answer, to each other and ourselves, yes, yes, or no, no.



**GOLDEN TRIANGLE
REGIONAL
HUB**
FOR VOLUNTEERS
& NONPROFITS

**United
Way**

Helping Hands Annual Fan Drive

For more
info contact
Jennifer Garrard at
(662) 328-8301

Starting now throughout the Summer,
NEW FANS may be donated to Helping
Hands Monday-Thursday from
8am-12:30pm. Monetary donations are
also accepted and fans will be
purchased on your behalf.

Checks can be mailed to PO Box 1241
Columbus, MS 39703

Did you know that some residents
of Lowndes County will be without
air conditioning this summer? Let's
help them beat the heat!

**HELPING HANDS
OF COLUMBUS**

From the Senior Warden

A huge thank you, St. Paul's for all your hard work to make our May Luncheon and Bake Sale a success. A special appreciation goes to Bubba Tom Wolford for his generous donation of the BBQ and Boston Butts. We grossed over \$11,000 this year. After expenses along with the profit from last year, the Vestry voted to give SPES, our biggest outreach program, a gift of over \$10,000 to support their growing needs.

This coming Sunday, June 5th, is Pentecost Sunday. After the 10:30 service please join us in the courtyard for a hotdog picnic. Many thanks to Coco Fenstermacher for sharing her artistic abilities and providing our table centerpieces.

Starting on Monday, June 13, St. Paul's joins with First United Methodist Church for Vacation Bible School. If you have a child to sign up, or if you wish to volunteer your help, please contact Pam Rhea at St. Paul's Church.

Enjoy your summer!

Marian Hazard, Sr. Warden

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>

Office Hours

8:00—4:30 M—F

Office Phone

662.328.6673

Church Staff

The Rev. Jason Shelby, Rector

frjason@stpaulscolumbus.com

The Rev. Deacon Pam Rhea,

Director of Christian Education

deaconrhea@gmail.com

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officeadmin@stpaulscolumbus.com

Ellen Hawkins, Organist

music@stpaulscolumbus.com

Ronnie Clayton, Sexton

ronnieclayton@stpaulscolumbus.com

Marilyn Vaughn, Preschool Director

Liza Robert, Preschool Operating Manager

schdir@stpaulscolumbus.com

Website

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 **June 19 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.

St. Paul's serving days are **June 8 and 13**. St. Paul's served **349** lunches during May.



Vacation Bible School

Once again, we are joining with First Methodist Church for Vacation Bible School. We need volunteers to help! Please contact Deacon Pam Rhea for more information.

Men's Club

The next Men's Club meeting will be held in August, co-hosted by Clif Scott and Robert Whitaker. Look for more information in next month's newsletter.

LEGO Sunday School Class

LEGO Class is on vacation for the summer. Look for news about fall classes in the August newsletter!

Preschool News

See page 10 for pictures of our preschoolers in action!

July Newsletter

The deadline for submissions for the July edition of the newsletter is **June 20, 2022**. Please email your information to officeadmin@stpaulscolumbus.com.

June Observances

Birthdays

- 4 David Sanders
Walt Starr
- 5 Jim Pryor
- 6 Tracey Duckworth
- 9 John Barron
Rick Wallace
- 12 Chuck Yarborough
- 13 Jennett Lacey
- 16 Jeremy Clay
- 18 Carrie Mastley
- 20 James Kirkley
- 23 Brandon Cockerham
Chase Hazard
Eddie Mauck
Barbara Miles
- 25 Jean Floore
- 30 Ruth Ann Johnson

Anniversaries

- 5 B.J. and Carmen Montgomery
- 7 Vagn and Marleen Hansen
- 8 Jim and Margaret Mauldin
- 20 Quinn and Amber Brislin
- 29 Rick and Linda Wallace



Intercessions

| | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Mark Clay | Gale Holland | John Simpson |
| Carolyn Laster | Jan Ballard | Matt and Alice Parker |
| Josh Bowman | Beth Rice | Rusty Holleman |
| Rufus Ward | Samantha Turner | Patsy McDaniel |
| Doug Phillips and family | Paulette Frank | Bruce Howell |
| Billy and Jean Floore | Linda Horn | Juanita Trimuel |
| Pat Jones Kinder | Kevin Alexander | Billy Buck Staggers |
| The Sanders Family | Peter Huggins | Wink Wright |
| Axel Durr | Linda G. | Cathy Hatch |
| Bobby | Tammie Damron Dolan family | George Richards |
| Rev. Anne Harris | Lynn Nelson | Kim Sanders |
| Harriet Doyel | Catherine Penick | Maria Pintado |
| Family of Colby Waldon | Faye Tabor | Nancy Smith |
| Lynne Rosamond | Betty Lou Jones | Mallory Caissie |
| Chip Billups | Mollie Hamblin | Allison Whitaker |
| Linda, Amanda, & Bryan Tucker | Valerie Gonzolaes | Dot Breland |
| Rose Loftis | Dudley and Eddie Davis | Eddie Mauck |
| Katherine Kerby and family | Carole Knie | Emily Hayden |
| The Kemp Family | Kevin Hogan | Eugene Blaine and Family |
| Quint | Sandra Mims | B.J. Montgomery |
| Peggy Gentry | Myra Rowzee | Pat Herndon |
| Richard Thomas | Marquita Kirk and Yvonne Sanders | Jamie McCollum |
| John David Hardy | Frances Benton | Martha |
| Bob Drake | Vernon Gregory | James and Ann Masinelli |
| Ramona Jones | Steele Family | Jesse Sparkman |
| Katherine Horton | Teen Stallworth deRoode | Jeana L. Whitacre |
| Jacob Davis | Harrison | John Barron |

Kathleen Atkins

Lee Ann Dorn

The Rev. Don Chancellor

Tina Louise

Mark Lewis

Brenda Caradine

Nursing Home Residents:

Trey Atkin

Presented by the Diocese of
Mississippi Creation Care Task
Force

Rooted In Faith: Caring for God's Creation

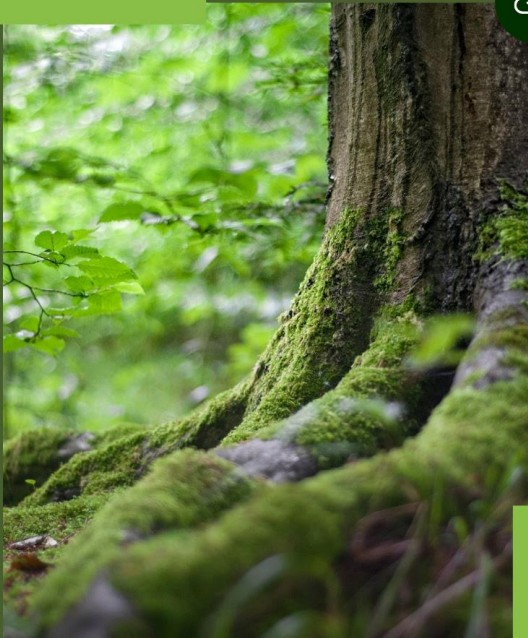
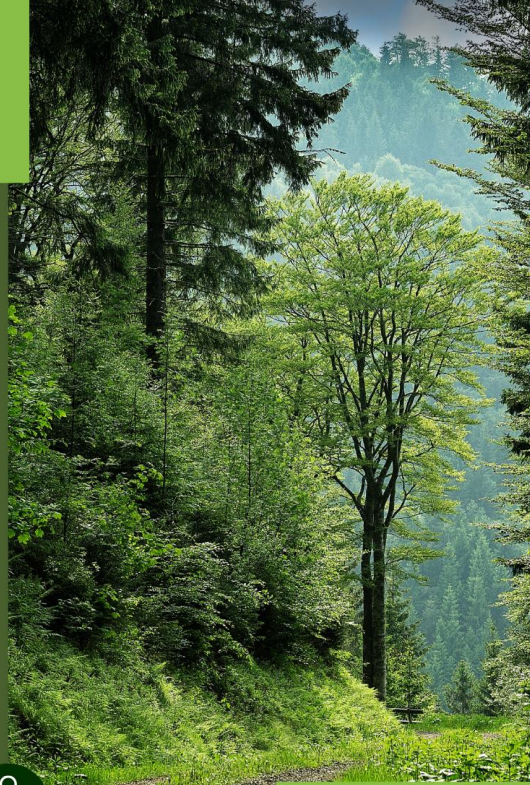
If you are interested in learning about
the problem and solutions:
Contact Tracy Stebbins to schedule
this 45 minute zoom presentation for
your group of 1 or 100



662-341-3123



tracy.stebbins@gmail.com



Why Faith and Care of Creation?

As Episcopalians, living into our faith means
leading on climate change as stewards of
God's creation. Together we can accomplish
so much. Let's start the conversation in
Mississippi.



**CREATION
CARE**

