



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

THE GOOD NEWS February 2020

The mission of St. Paul's is to be the Body of Christ and instruments of his love and grace committed to serve and nurture this church and community.

Finding Our Why

from the Rector's Annual Report

My presentation for the 2020 Annual Meeting of St. Paul's Parish was a bit of a departure from previous years. Rather than setting the events accomplishments of 2019 into a narrative format, as I have done with the other six annual reports I have given, I gave only a very brief accounting of the whats and hows of our year together, so that I could move on, as promised, to the searching for the fundamental whys.

And rather than offering an excerpt of my annual address, I am going to simply tell those of you that weren't able to be at the Meeting itself that I have made sure Judy can provide any Parishioner with a copy of my remarks, the slides that went with them, and the Operating Budget and financial summary.

I gave over the second half of our time to an exercise based on the work of corporate consultation Simon Sinek, as presented to this year's Diocesan Convention. The idea is that we can only, or at least best get at the values and ideals at the core of who we are, our whys, by recalling and *telling*

the stories of how we came to be who we are.

I asked each participant to recall as many stories as possible of when they first became part of St. Paul's, or of a time here that really *meant* something. Having taken note of as many such stories as they could, each person then chose the story with the strongest meaning and considered that *one* in as much detail as they could remember.

Finally, each person *told* their story to the others at their table, while the listeners noted the themes and impressions that they heard. I gathered those themes and used a program that forms a "word cloud" that assigns weight to words based on their relative frequency. I hope you're no more surprised than I was with how it turned out.

We're going to find other opportunities to gather more of our stories, more of the themes of those stories, more of our *whys*. And your Parish leadership is dedicated to making sure that *everything* we do, and how we do it reflects the loving family that we know ourselves to be.

Peace and joy,



Upcoming Events

Sundays—8 a.m.—Holy Eucharist, Rite I, 9 a.m. Choir Practice, 10 a.m. Choral Eucharist, Rite II, Children's Atrium. Coffee Hour following the service.

Tuesdays—6 p.m.—Saints, Sinners, and Cynics—Rookies

Wednesdays—12:10 p.m.—Holy Eucharist with Anointing for Healing,

Saturday—February 8—9 a.m.—Vestry Retreat at Bill Gentry's home

Wednesday—February 12—6 p.m.—Potluck Supper and Program

Sunday—February 16—CCO Sunday—Shampoo

Monday—February 17—Noon—St. Ann's Guild

Saturday—February 22—9 a.m.—Volunteer & Information Center's Build-A-Bed Project

Tuesday, February 25—5 p.m.—Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Wednesday—February 26—12:10 and 6 p.m.—Holy Eucharist & Imposition of Ashes

Friday—February 28—6 p.m.—Stations of the Cross

Saturday—February 29—10 a.m.—Prayer Shawl Ingathering, Parish Hall

Around the Parish



Momma and Mommy weren't sure they agreed, but Reese made a wonderful little lamb!



Kaylin, the Star Angel announces the good news of great joy.



The cast did a GREAT job presenting the annual Epiphany Pageant January 12.

Holy Land Travels—Part 8

from the Deacon

It was a beautiful morning; the temperature was pleasant as we walked through the ruins of Masada. It was amazing to see that Herod had built huge cisterns for water, swimming pools, a Roman bath house and gardens all on top of massive cliffs. We saw in one of the rooms where the mosaic tile had been uncovered. The remarkably well-preserved storeroom complex of rooms that held their food and weapons sustained Masada's inhabitants. The tall palace on the mountain's edge built by Herod, with several rooms, a central hall, and a terrace with a magnificent view of the desert valley and the Dead Sea below. Masada is a must see if you ever travel to Israel, it is a mystery to me how they built such a fortress and palace on a mountain top!

After riding the cable car back down the 1,300 ft mountain, we loaded onto our coach and Ruben drove us to Qumran, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in 1947. Qumran is located on a raised marlstone hill above the Dead Sea. The southern side of the ruins is a deep gorge that cuts through the stone. Inside the hill are several of the famous caves of Qumran, where the ancient scrolls were found by a young shepherd boy. The temperature had begun to heat up after finishing the tour at Qumran. I was glad to get back on the coach which had been repaired.

We continued on driving to Jerusalem until we arrived at Mt. Scopus, where we had the most beautiful panoramic view to the Old City of Jerusalem. It was from here that we continued to the Garden of Gethsemane. The Garden of Gethsemane was the place that Jesus took his disciples often to visit and pray. It also is the place where Judas found him on the night of his betrayal and arrest. Located at the foot of the Mount of Olives, next to the Basilica of Agony, this small garden is revered by Christians all over the world, and I could feel the quietness and beauty of this simple garden as I walked around it. I felt a very strong presence of serene calm inviting me to pray and meditate, it was overwhelming. But Jerry our guide didn't allow us any time to go in and pray. What a disappointment that was for me! I was beginning to wish our tour guide had called in sick that day.

Our next stop was the Western Wall, also known by the Jews as the Wailing Wall. It is an ancient limestone wall in the Old City of Jerusalem, part of the retaining wall of the Temple Mount in Jesus' time, and it is huge! We were given time here to pray at the wall. Before going to the Wailing Wall for prayer we had to put on the small cap male Jews wear called a *kipa*, but you might have heard it called a *yarmulke*. We were able to pick up our *kipas* as we walked down to the wall to pray and write our prayers on paper to place in the wall. There were Jews continuously praying at the Wailing Wall.

I will continue next month with what we found *under* the wall.

Love and Peace!



Congratulations 2020 Vestry

At the Annual Parish Meeting on January 12, we gave our thanks to Susie Watkins, Mike France, and Ann Street as they completed their terms on the Vestry, and we elected Corey Hill, Susan Sauls, and Connie Spivey to three-year terms.

The new Vestry held their first meeting of the year immediately following the Parish meeting, where they elected Susan Sauls as our Senior Warden and Bill Brodsky as Junior Warden. Susan, Bill, and the rest of the new class, join Becky Carroll, Jesse Gonzales, Marty White, Bill Gentry, and Lydia Johnson as St. Paul's Vestry for the coming year.

Lent Begins

The season of Lent begins a little earlier this year than last, with Ash Wednesday falling on February 26. This year, we will observe this solemn remembrance of our need for repentance and renewal with two services of Eucharist with imposition of ashes: 12:10 if you come during your lunch hour, or 6:00 in the evening.

One of the Lenten traditions in our community is the Lenten Luncheon series sponsored by the Henderson County Ministerial Association. Each week during Lent, another of the area's churches takes a turn providing an ecumenical worship opportunity at noon followed by a light lunch. The first of this year's series will be at First Christian Church at noon on March 4. No ticket is needed, and there is never a cost for the meal, but an offering is collected for the work of the Ministerial Association during the year.

Another of our traditions is our Wednesday evening soup suppers which will begin on March 4 as well. Our program this year will take up in greater depth the invitation from the Racial Reconciliation Task Force of the Diocese of Kentucky to engage in forty days of prayer during Lent "for the liberation of American descendants of slavery." We will be using the short book prepared by the Angela Project from Simmons College, and Fr. Rich will order you a copy if you let him know you'll be participating. Please join us for the study and for the fellowship of our journey together.

Once again this year, Deacon Larry will lead us on the Stations of the Cross at 6:00 on the *first* Friday of Lent, February 28 and on Good Friday, April 10. This devotion of our Lord's Passion may be the key to *your* journey this Lent.

Lent at St. Paul's

Ash Wednesday, February 26

Holy Eucharist Rite I with Imposition of Ashes
12:10 p.m.—6:00 p.m.

Wednesdays, March 4 - April 1

Noon – Lenten Luncheon Series
6:00 p.m. – Soup Supper and Lenten Devotional

Fridays, February 28 and April 10

6:00 p.m. – Stations of the Cross



No Long Winter Nap for the Youth

Leslie Newman—EYC shook off the winter doldrums with fun activities in January. On January 5, which was a beautiful sunny day and actually not too wintery, we opted for the indoors as if it was. We grabbed a Burger King lunch and went to see the newest version of the movie *Little Women* at *Showplace Cinemas*. This youth director thinks it is a good movie when a youth responds she is going to read the book! Then, so we could discuss the movie and enjoy fellowship, we had an after party at the Dairy Queen. It was fun that Hannah Carroll Caudill and her family were at the next table. Having that fun day helped us all ease back into our routines after the holidays.

Thank you and kudos to Susie Watkins and Alexis Purdy for taking charge of the Epiphany pageant on January 12. I was absent, but word has it there was no lack of cuteness from the children who participated. And word has it that Chandler Caudill, the donkey, was still in his costume that Sunday evening!

Thank you to the Youth, to Jacob and Jesse, Mike France, and Dcn. Larry who stayed after the 10:00 service the next week, to help *undecorate* the church from the beauty that is St. Paul's during Christmas, under the direction of the artist of that beauty, Iris Gentry.

On Saturday, January 18, St. Paul's representative Kaleigh Purdy met with the Diocesan Youth Council for their retreat in Louisville to plan for summer camp and other activities for the year ahead. Alexis Purdy was gracious to offer to serve, with Diocesan Youth Director, Mama Doyle, as the second adult for the day.

It was a gray and blustery day when we made another EYC sojourn – this time, on January 19 to *Skateway USA* after a group lunch at *Rockhouse on the River* to “carb up” for the skating. *Skateway* offers a substantial discount for skaters who bring church bulletins and that makes for a special treat. Jesse Gonzalez showed his skating skills along with the youth. Jacob and I did an excellent job of holding the youths' belongings and encouraging them when they passed by.

On January 26, the Parish and the Youth joined the Spivey family at a shower for the newest member-to-be, a girl to be born to Dana Shelton and her husband Jacob, perhaps before the next issue of the newsletter.

And the Year Keeps Rolling

Leslie Newman—February is shaping up to be a full month for our Youth as well. We will be attending an all day Diocesan Youth Dismantling Racism retreat and workshop at Christ Church, Bowling Green on February 15. Interested *adults* are also welcome to join us. Please see me if you are interested as registration is required, though the Parish will cover the fee. We will be leaving Henderson at 8:00 that morning and returning by about 5:00. It means a lot to our youth to get to see their friends from the Diocese throughout the year, and *this* is an opportunity for learning and growing as well as visiting.

Susan Sauls has asked the youth to fill a basket of household necessities for the *Volunteer and Information Center's Build-a-Bed* day on February 22, and to help build beds beginning at 9:00. If you would like to contribute any of the items needed to fill the basket (twin-size comforter set, stuffed animal, pillow, toothbrush and toothpaste, shampoo, lotion, flashlight, or the rectangular laundry basket itself) or to donate money for us to *purchase* items, we will work to make sure one more child in Henderson County has a bed in which to rest his or her head at night.

On February 23, we will be setting up for the biggest event on our calendar—the *Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper!* Shrove Tuesday is on February 25 and we will be serving pancakes and fixings from 5:00 to 7:00. We hope you will bring your family, *and* invite all your friends and neighbors to come out and support this annual fundraiser that benefits our youth activities throughout the year. Our numbers are thin now and we would appreciate all helping hands from any of the Parish Family who can come hang with us and help from 3:00 that afternoon until the last plate is washed. As always, thank you for your support of our Youth and this event.

Another sign that winter won't last forever – applications for counselors to work at All Saints this summer are available and camp dates have been published: Senior High Camp, June 21-26; Primary Camp, June 28-July 2; New Horizons Camp, July 12-17; and Junior High Camp, July 19-24. Counselor-In-Training sessions are during Primary and New Horizons Camps.

Shrove Tuesday
PANCAKE SUPPER

Bring your whole family!
 Invite all your friends!

Eat all you want—and then some!

5:00 to 7:00
 Tuesday, February 25

Vestry Notes

At their meeting following the Annual Meeting on January 12, St. Paul's Vestry:

- Thanked out-going Vestry members Susie Watkins, Mike France and Ann Street, and celebrated newly elected members Corey Hill, Susan Sauls and Connie Spivey.
- Appointed Susie Watkins as Clerk of the Vestry and applauded the appointment of Mike France as Parish Treasurer.
- Received financial reports showing end of year pledged income receipts not only closing the gap in such income, but *exceeding* the budgeted projection, though total income fell short of expenses.
- Distributed responsibilities as Vestry liaisons for the Parish's ministry groups (listed on back page).
- Elected Susan Sauls as Senior Warden and Bill Brodsky as Junior Warden for 2020.
- Received bids from Schmitt and J.E. Scheckel for repair of the HVAC system in the Christian Ed Wing, and approved the bid from Schmitt.
- Discussed how best to account for expenses relating to major repairs and improvements.
- Made plans for a Vestry retreat for visioning and planning for 2020 to be held at Bill Gentry's home, 9:00-1:00 Saturday, February 8. Susie will arrange for lunch that can be worked through.

The Vestry will next meet for their planning retreat on Saturday, February 8 at Bill Gentry's home.

A Child's Real Heroes

As a child, Dave Pelzer, New York Times #1 Bestselling author of *A Child Called "It"* experienced life-threatening abuse and unimaginable trauma. Through determination and resiliency, he overcame these with the help of teachers, a school nurse, the police department, social services and the foster care system.

At 6:00 Thursday evening, February 13 at the Preston Fine Arts Center, you are invited to hear Mr. Pelzer's presentation, *The Real Heroes*, recounting his story of survival and paying homage to the countless individuals who work in the trenches to protect children and give a sense of hope to all.

Lenten Prayers for Racial Healing

This Lent, beginning Ash Wednesday, February 26, the Racial Reconciliation Task Force of the Diocese of Kentucky is inviting each congregation in the Diocese to participate in forty days of prayer for racial healing. St. Paul's will be participating in two ways.

First, for the first five Sundaya in Lent, beginning March 1, you will find an insert in our worship bulletin, excerpts from the book, *40 Days of Prayer for the Liberation of American Descendants of Slavery*. The inserts each give some important information about the scope of the 400-year history of slavery in America, a prayer declaration to add to your prayers during the week, and specific points of challenge and healing to consider as we pray.

And as part of our Lenten Wednesday evenings March 4-April 1, we will delve more deeply into *40 Days of Prayer*. The Diocese of Kentucky provided a couple seed copies of the book for our use. But whether or not you will be able to be part of the five Wednesday evening group discussions, if you would like to follow this deeper path as part of your journey this Lent, we would like you have a copy of the book. Please let Fr. Rich know you'd like to have one and he will add your name to the list.

Needlework Consultation

Susan Sauls—As part of St. Paul's on-going care for the treasures to which we have been entrusted in our beautiful and historical worship space, an excellent opportunity has arisen for us to find out how best to restore and preserve the needlework cushions that adorn several areas of the Nave and Sanctuary. Specifically, I am concerned about the condition of some of our "made with love and lots of time" kneelers at the altar, that are now more than 35 years old. Some of them need to have some work done to them to keep them in good condition, and *all* are beginning to show the wear of their decades of faithful service.

Nancy Lukoskie, the custodian of all needlepoint work at the National Cathedral, has offered to examine photos of our kneelers and cushions, and provide a complimentary phone consultation with us. She has offered to answer our questions, and more importantly, lend us her immense experience and expertise in returning our work to the best condition possible.

Please let me know if you want to be a part of the phone conversation with Nancy. We'll set a date and time for the consult that is convenient for all.

Christian Concert Coming

The popular Christian band, *Big Daddy Weave* has been delighting audiences since the late '90s, and they are coming to the stage of the Preston Arts Center, Wednesday evening, February 19 at 7:00, sponsored by our neighbors at First United Methodist Church. You'll soon be seeing posters and flyers, but general admission tickets are already available for \$20 at First UMC.

Financial Summary as of December 31, 2019

Pledged Income Received to Date	\$163,635
Unbudgeted Income from Investments to Date	\$40,000
Other Operating Income to Date	\$51,525
Operating Expenses to Date	\$252,190

St. Paul's Episcopal Church Staff

The Very Rev. Rich Martindale, Rector
The Rev. Richard Godbold, Priest Associate
The Rev. Larry Courtney, Deacon
Leslie Newman, EYC Director
Judy Duncan, Parish Secretary
Phone—270-826-2937

Service Times

Sunday 8:00 Rite I
10:00 Rite II
Wednesday 12:10 Rite II w/ anointing for healing

Vestry Ministry Teams

Sr. Warden
Jr. Warden
Clerk
Treasurer
Budget and Finance
Worship and Music
Parish Life
Communications
Christian Formation and Youth
Building and Grounds
Outreach
Pastoral Care

*Susan Sauls
*Bill Brodsky
Susie Watkins
Mike France
*Bill Gentry, *Becky Carroll, Mike France, Hugh Hennessey
Fr. Rich, *Jesse Gonzalez, *Susan Sauls, Mike France
*Bill Brodsky, *Corey Hill
*Lydia Johnson, *Jesse Gonzalez
*Marty White, *Bill Brodsky, *Corey Hill, Leslie Newman, Monessa Curry
*Bill Brodsky, *Bill Gentry, *Susan Sauls, Hugh Stone, Michael Minton
*Jesse Gonzalez, *Becky Carroll, *Marty White, *Lydia Johnson, Dcn. Larry
Fr. Rich, Dcn. Larry, *Marty White

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

5 South Green Street

Henderson, KY 42420

www.stpauls-henderson.org

