

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

THE GOOD NEWS

July 2019

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.

*The Way of
Love
Turn
Learn
Pray
Worship
Bless
Go
Rest*

My Holy Land Experience

from Lydia Johnson

Sometimes when I take a trip, the memories I make and the lessons I learn are different than what I had anticipated. My trip to Israel in May was no different. I had expectations that were met, in so many wonderful ways, but I also returned home thinking about things I hadn't expected.

One reason I went on the trip was to gain a deeper understanding of the Bible and ancient Israel. I'm a very visual and tactile person, so I learn best through experiences. I now know how the Romans conquered the last of the Jews holding out at the ancient fortress of Masada in the year 73 AD. They built a ramp out of rock, still visible today, to help them scale the cliff. I don't think I'll ever forget what that ramp looked like, or the remains of the Roman camps that circled the fortress. I also saw the Sea of Galilee and was surprised at its size. It's not as big as what I had expected. I stood on one side looking at the mountain range on the other and could visualize Jesus walking along the shores calling out to the fishermen to "follow me."

So many of these and other stories I've read have been brought to life after my trip. I followed the route Jesus took when he rode the colt and wept as he approached Jerusalem. I stood near the area where tradition tells us Jesus spent his final hours in the Garden of Gethsemane before being taken prisoner. The sites and city look different today, of course. The elevation of the city has risen as each conquering nation destroyed and then rebuilt on top of the rubble. The unmistakable Dome of the Rock, plainly visible from the Mount of Olives, wasn't around during Jesus' time either. I imagine the topography to be nearly the same, however, and archeologists continue to uncover areas that were from Jesus' time. So it wasn't hard for me to feel as if I had been transported back to that era.

I also took the trip hoping it would strengthen my faith and draw me closer to God. I visited Joppa, Caesarea, Bethlehem, Tiberius, Jerusalem, and more, all cities that were before only words on a page. In a way I was like a "doubting Thomas." I needed to see these places in person to understand at a deeper level that they were real. It's hard for me to comprehend a place that's on the other side of the world.

I would like to return to Israel one day and see the sites that I missed. I still don't understand all that I read, and I know I have room to grow in my faith. But returning isn't necessary. Hearing a volunteer curator read from the Bible at one of sites we visited reminded me of that. We were visiting the Garden Tomb where some people believe Jesus was buried and rose. "He is not here, but has risen," the volunteer read. I've thought a lot about that passage since returning, something I hadn't expected. You don't need to go to Israel to experience Jesus. He's here. He's here when we visit a sick friend. He's here when we give someone a ride, call a parent, walk someone's dog, babysit, help with someone's bill. The list of things we can do to show our love for our neighbor is endless. Visiting Israel was nice, and I saw many sites I had only dreamt about. But seeking the living Christ is better. That's what I want to remember most.



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 during July—12:10 p.m.—Noonday Prayer

Sunday thru Thursday—July 7-12—New Horizons Camp, All Saints Camp

Sunday thru Friday—July 14-19—Jr. High Camp, All Saints Camp—

Monday—July 15—Noon—St. Ann’s Guild

Tuesday—July 16—5:30 p.m.—Vestry Meeting in Rector’s Study

Sunday—July 21—CCO Sunday—Lotion

Saturday—July 27—10 a.m.—Prayer Shawl Ingathering, Parish Hall

Around the Parish

Charlie Crabtree was honored for his 80th birthday with a party at the LST ship in Evansville.



Holy Land Travels—Part 2

from the Deacon

Thanks for all the wonderful feedback on my last article. I am so glad that it brought laughter and joy into your daily lives. I hope that this article will be just as enjoyable for all.

I ended with Fr. Rich and Kyle arriving one hour later at the Grand Beach Hotel. Fr. Rich arrived without any luggage and according to Kyle, Rich barely made it on the plane to Tel-Aviv.

We decided to eat at one of the restaurants on the board walk facing the Mediterranean Coast. We found a delightful new restaurant after walking about twenty-five minutes. The meal was served with fresh hot bread and several salads with the main course being baked fish and boiled potatoes. We were all stuffed and ready to make our way back to the hotel for a night of restful sleep.

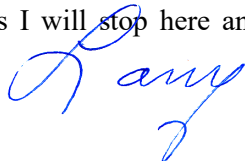
The following morning, we had breakfast in the hotel dining room. I could smell the coffee as I got off the elevator. What a welcoming aroma! The breakfast buffet extended at least over half the room filled with all sorts of food. But to my dismay there were no biscuits and gravy! I took a second look and decided on fruit and a very delicious date and nut pastry with caramelized icing.

After breakfast we walked on the beach and to other sites there in Tel-Aviv before returning to the hotel. On our way back we stopped at the money exchange so we could exchange our money for shekels. I exchanged \$50.00 dollars for 170 shekels. I needed the shekels for the crosses I had planned on buying to make the rosaries for the D.O.K. Our hotel was conveniently located close to the Tel-Aviv Center with all the shopping and attractions and restaurants within walking distance.

Once we were back at the hotel, I retired to my room and read over the itinerary for our tour and of course fell asleep. When I awoke from my nap it was time for supper with the gang in the dining room. I feasted on mostly vegetables and a beef mixture over rice which turned out to be very tasty.

I returned to my room around 7:30 and used the Whatsapp I had down loaded on my phone to video chat with Michael. After chatting with Michael for 30 minutes, I decided it was time to pack for my next hotel stay.

The next morning our tour bus arrived on time to pick everyone up for our day of touring. Our tour guide, Jerry introduced himself and introduced us to our bus driver for the week, Ruben. Jerry also let us know that Ruben sold bottled water for one dollar when we needed something to drink. Finally, the last bag was loaded on the bus and we were on our way to the old port city of Jaffa! Jaffa is an ancient port city in Israel famous for its association with the biblical stories of Jonah and Saint Peter. Ok, folks I will stop here and continue with Jaffa next month.



East End Back to School Family Picnic

From Connie Walaskay

Last year St. Paul's threw a party and EVERYONE came. We served lunch, had games with "awesome" prizes, Dr. Smith gave dental checkups, we had the Brain Bus, and much, much more. The estimated attendance varied between 500 and 600 people. Our guests were hungry and polite and very grateful that our church was doing what we do best, giving back.

This year's picnic is August 3rd at noon. Again it will be held at the Audubon Kid's Zone on the corner of Letcher and Powell. We will have a short work day at the church on Friday, August 2, from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. for last minute food prep as well as ironing out the final details.

There will be a sign up sheet in the Parish Hall Sunday, July 7 and 14, AND if you need a St. Paul's tee shirt you can sign up for that as well.

Prayer hands up that this is another happy success.....and that it's 72 degrees with a gentle breeze.

Two St. Paul's Alum Nominated for HCHS Academic Hall of Fame

Marian Spivey Estrada and Sara Cobb Ferchichi were nominated to the Henderson County High School Academic Hall of Fame by former teacher, Roy Pullum.

Marian Spivey was working with AID in Sudan taking food to starving refugees when she was shot in the face. Marian lost an eye, but continues to help with individuals who need the services of the Red Cross. Her husband works with individuals in crisis as well.

Pullum says, "I am so proud of Marian. She was one of my youth club kids, and she was always showing her heart for the needy." Marian is the daughter of Connie Spivey and the late Dan Spivey.

Sara Cobb Ferchichi was a distinguished president of the North Jr. High Jr. Optimist. Sara got a job with the state department and was training to go to South America and work in an embassy there. 9-11 happened and Sara was sent to language school where she was taught Arabic. As per her past, she was facile in languages. She mastered Arabic quickly and has spent most of 18 years far from home.

Sara has had numerous hardship postings. On one of those postings in Saudi Arabia, she helped a princess organize the first school for girls. That was no small accomplishment with the extremely conservative religion in Saudi Arabia.

When in Bahrain, Sara spent days identifying bodies of Americans lost in a ship wreck, arranging their return home and handling the world of paper that must precede that return. Sara has distinguished herself wherever she has been sent. She is the granddaughter of Charlie and Kim Crabtree.



A Month for Kudos...

Leslie Newman—

It's a month for kudos!

Kudos to Raiko for representing St. Paul's for the planning and execution of VBS as our representative to the group who tackles the project! Our partners are the Presbyterian Church, First Christian Church and Community Baptist Church.

Kudos to Community Baptist Church for hosting VBS this year and to their parishioners who, because they couldn't help with evening VBS, volunteered to decorate the spaces we used. Rest up now, folks, because next year is St. Paul's year to host!

Kudos to the parishioners who contributed to the supplies needed for Vacation Bible School!

Kudos to the Purdys for attending VBS training!

Kudos to the families who rallied for an impromptu gathering of our youth and the Presbyterian youth to make pompom sheep, decorate balloons with lamb faces and enjoy lunch and good fellowship all the while, the Sunday before VBS started!

Kudos to John Henderson and Christy Mattingly and whoever else hauled the makings of VBS.

Kudos to the youth and adults who stepped up to help with VBS, with activities, meals and presence!

Kudos to the parents who made sure their children attended this wonderful opportunity for Christian formation. The crew leaders and the adults learn right along with the children, and by doing.

Kudos to the Presbs and the Hoeys for hosting a relaxing and fun after party, barbecue, wrap up session on the Friday night after the hectic week of VBS, and for listening to our youth talk about their experiences with and suggestions for VBS. Our plans to go from the Presbyterian Church to Audubon Mill Park to enjoy the kickoff of the library's summer reading program in Audubon Mill Park were thwarted by wind but it was magical as families stayed in the park and played and enjoyed gathering on such a beautiful, if windy, evening.

Miranda Purdy is volunteering at the library this summer. **Kudos to** Miranda for helping with this project!

And then All Saints season started!

Kudos to the vestry for helping with transportation and to the adults volunteering their time to assure our youth and young adults are able to participate in camp. We have seen this week the living testament of what All Saints means to our children and youth.

Kudos to St. Paul's for providing the support to make sure our kids can attend All Saints, and kudos to the memory of Margaret Stanley who began the tradition of making camp possible for all of them.

Kudos to Bishop White, Mama Katherine Doyle, Fr. Matt Bradley and our All Saints camp and to Dcn Larry, our parish, vestry and Judy for rallying to wrap your loving arms around the family of Madeline Hayes during this unimaginable time of grief, loss and sorrow. Madeline brought light to our parish and to all our lives from the time she was a baby until the recent Sunday she brought her beautiful son Apollo to be with our parish family. All young parents know what it takes to prepare and get a baby to church on Sunday morning and I know I speak for all who were there that morning how blessed we are that she chose to come and be with us that morning.

The congregation gathered for her funeral experienced the depth, love and joy of Maddie's All Saints family as they served, spoke, sang and played at her service and the reception following. Madeline's passing is a reminder that we never know the shoes another person is wearing or what it takes for each step they make and it is a lesson to us all, of every age, to extend to all the care, kindness and understanding you can muster. I believe this is what Madeline would remind us.

If you were unable to attend Maddie's funeral on Monday, please take time to revel in Mama Doyle's homily, which you can find at <https://thesixdoyles.blogspot.com/2019/06/a-sermon-for-maddie.html?m=1>

And even if you were there, you will appreciate the opportunity to absorb it again. Please keep Apollo, Anna, Sophie, Kris, Tim, David, Iris, Bill, Imogene, Chris and all Madeline's family and friends in your prayers.

Kudos to God for the faith which frames these prayers.



Vestry Notes

At their meeting on June 18, St. Paul's Vestry:

The Vestry: approved minutes of the previous month

- Reviewed the financial report
- Volunteers needed to transport campers to and from All Saints camp. We need drivers and a second. Agreed to rent a van from Woodring's for this purpose.
- The communication committee is working to update website and keep social media outlets up to date
- Voted to accept a bid from Crowley's to redo the parking lot
- Discussed other issues related to church maintenance including replacing/repairing signage at the church
- Agreed to send \$50 to the Chamber for help with expenses for their night at an Otters game. In return they sent us 25 tickets to be distributed to those wanting to attend
- Heard the pastoral report
- Deacon Larry donated his certificate of ordination to the church. The Vestry applauded his work and dedication to the ministry not at St. Paul's but wherever he is needed. It is hanging in the entry hall.
- The next Vestry meeting is July 16, 2019 at 5:30 in the Rector's study



Marty White's new ministry was blessed by Fr. Richard and Dcn. Larry on a recent Sunday. (above)



Members of St. Ann's Guild, and other parishioners, including Prissy the Clown, entertained residents of Henderson Manor earlier this month. What started as a Christmas party for the residents has now become a summer-time party as well.



Parish Finances

Please keep in mind that church expenses continue during the summer months. Your pledge helps keep the lights on!! And helps to continue the many activities that take place during the summer.

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 Members

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

Susie Watkins
Mike France
Becky Carroll
Susie Watkins, Bill Gentry, Becky Carroll
Marty White, Ann Street, Bill Brodsky
Mike France, Bill Gentry
Jesse Gonzalez, Becky Carroll, Lydia Johnson, Deacon Larry
Mike France, Jesse Gonzalez
Marty White, Bill Brodsky
Ann Street, Lydia Johnson
Hugh Hennessy

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