

# St. Paul's Episcopal Church

## THE GOOD NEWS

June 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.*

### Why I Wear a Mask

*from the Rector*

No doubt about it, I made a *big* mistake back at the beginning of May. Living and working downtown, I have tried to support the local restaurants during the shutdown. Three blocks from home, *Tacoholics* seemed like a clever choice for our supper on *Cinco de Mayo*. So having relocated the menu online, after a few busy signals, I placed my order, and was told our supper would be ready in about an hour. Thinking myself clever should have been my first clue that things would *not* work out as planned.

When I got to the 100 block of First St. I found that the curb-side pick-up line stretched back around the corner. I later heard that it stretched down Water and around the corner at Washington. I pulled my truck into a space opposite the Post Office and walked back up the block, putting on one of the masks that I have received from kind Parishioners, to join the nearly-as-long line of people waiting on foot. Most were wearing masks, but the sense of anonymity was furthered and made nearly comical by the fact that we all identified each other, not by name, but by our order number.

To make a more-than-two-hour-long story shorter, my number was called, and I moved to the side of the big red food-truck to pick up my order. As they gathered my food, an *un*-masked fellow marched past all the others waiting there, and standing close enough to step on my foot, announced that he was a delivery driver and demanded they give him *his* order.

Standing as we were right next to the big sign that read, "Be the Fix—Stay at 6," I stepped back as far as I could without invading someone else's space, I offered, "Oh, I'm sorry not to give you the proper distance." "I'm not going to live in fear of that %&\*@!" he literally spit at me, and launched into what I am sure would have been an increasingly colorful political commentary. I was saved from much of it by the server's apologetic look as he handed me my food along with his relieved thanks.

I have thought of that encounter many times in these past few weeks as we have carefully begun to open up from the shutdown. I know that in our Parish Family, as in many families, we have the entire spectrum of political opinion, so without resorting to any *sort* of "%&\*@!" let me just say that I wear a mask in public, not for me, but for you.

We all now know way more than we ever wanted to about personal protective equipment (PPE) that doctors and nurses and other first responders need to keep them safe around infected folks. The mask I wear, however, is only designed to keep my droplets to myself. I do not "live in fear" of the virus, but I do not want to be the one to give it to you.

Most of you know that before I was a priest, I was an Army medic. I am not a scientist, but I have very good reason to believe what those who *are* have to say about this pandemic. I monitor my temperature and other symptoms any time I am going to be near others, but I know that I could be asymptomatic and *still* give the virus to you, so I wear a mask.

Though I do not trust politicians any further than I could throw them, as a former soldier and a good Episcopalian, I do favor good order. So I stand in line rather than cutting, and when the authorities say that the way to help those around me is to wear a mask, I don't feel like anyone is trying to control me, I feel like I am making a contribution to the community I love.

I fervently look forward to the day when we can let down our guard and take off our masks. Until then, I will wear a mask not because I am weak, or scared, or stupid, or controlled, but because it is not just about me. I wear a mask because Jesus said that all God's commandments are summed up in two: "Love God," he said, and "Love Each Other." I wear a mask right now because I want to love all of you the best I can, and I want to love a whole *bunch* of folks I don't even know.

Peace and joy,

## Upcoming Events

In this time of deliberate physical distancing, all services will be livestreamed to St. Paul's Facebook page"

<https://www.facebook.com/St.PaulsHenderson>

### Sunday

8 a.m. — Holy Eucharist, Rite I

10 a.m. — Holy Eucharist, Rite II

### Wednesday

12:10 p.m. — Holy Eucharist, Rite II with intentions for healing

All other Parish activities are suspended until we have been given the go-ahead by the Bishop of Kentucky and the Rector and Vestry of St. Paul's.

## Around the Parish



Connie and Dave greet their guests at Dave's drive-by 80th birthday party.



Miranda receives her honors at her drop-by eighth-grade graduation at SMS.



Marty and Caroline sporting their colors to take in online Pentecost worship.

## Holy Land Travels – Part 12

*from the Deacon*

It was about 10:00am when we reached the entrance to the Loin's Gate. Where we entered into Old Jerusalem City to walk the Via Dolorosa, known as the Stations of the Cross. Our first stop was at Church of St. Anne, Both the garden surrounding St. Anne's and the church itself are beautiful.

Before leaving the Church grounds, Jerry our guide asked that as we begin the stations for all of us to stay together during the tour. I found that to be almost impossible because there were so many people touring the Stations of the Cross and Ramadan was being observed by the Muslims. I have never experienced being around so many people from all over the world. Moving though the crowded, narrow streets and the colorful bazaars was a nightmare.

The first station was just a few yards ahead on the left marked with a medallion indicating the station in Roman numerals. It is believed that it was here where Jesus was condemned to death. Station two wasn't very far, it is where Pilate gave his famous, "Behold the Man" speech, and where Jesus takes up his cross.

I almost missed station three, trying to help my new friends Mike and Rick keep-up with our group. Jerry was moving us through the crowds as quickly as possible. I had to pay attention, because the stations are easy to miss! So, I kept my eyes opened as we continued to walk the crowded streets.

The third station was right after we made a left turn at our first intersection. This location marks the first time Jesus falls according to tradition. This is where the stations got confusing for me, you really have to keep watching for the disc.

After you turn another left, station four is on your left-hand side, the site where Jesus met his mother on his way to his execution.

It took us a few minutes to reach the fifth station because getting there was a bit tricky. This was one of the biggest twists on the street. The fifth station was on the corner of the next street on the right. The fifth station is where the Roman soldiers forced Simon of Cyrene to carry the cross for Jesus.

It was starting to get a little warm and there wasn't any air moving in the streets, thank goodness we were in the shade of the buildings. We had a few steps to climb before reaching the landing where the sixth station was located. The sixth station, according to tradition, is where Veronica wiped the face of Jesus.

This is where Mike and Rick decided to wait for me while I climbed the steps to station seven and eight. Their wives were just in front of me, though, so we continued on together our climb up the uneven steps.

As we reached another landing there was a beautiful red door which is the seventh station where Jesus falls a second time.

I'll stop here and finish stations eight through fourteen next month.

Peace and Love,

*Randy*

## \$100 for Good—DYW Kentucky

Marty White—When Fr. Rich challenged the vestry to choose a local organization or program to donate our \$100, I immediately knew who I wanted to share our outreach money with. I have been involved with the Distinguished Young Women, formally known as The Junior Miss Program for over 30 years in various capacities serving on the local, state and national levels. This program is a nonprofit scholarship program. So I have chosen the Distinguished Young Women program of Henderson County for my donation.

Distinguished Young Women of Henderson County scholarship program, is an official local preliminary of Distinguished Young Women, a national scholarship program that promotes and rewards scholarship, leadership and talent in young women. In addition to earning scholarships for college, those who participate in the Distinguished Young Women program develop friendships, self-confidence and other life skills that pave the way for future success.

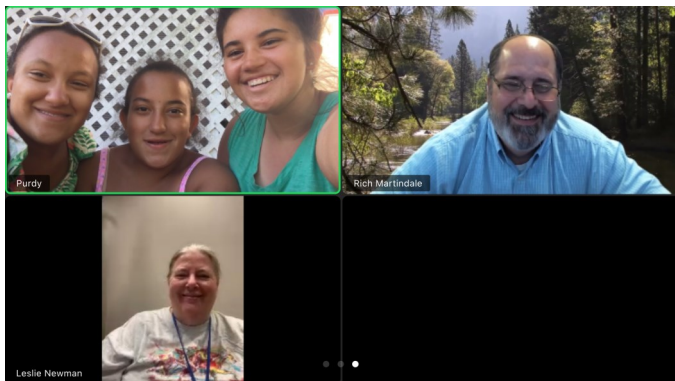
The Distinguished Young Women experience is open to every eligible senior high school young woman and there is no cost to participate. The competition for scholarships begins at the local level in communities like ours. The local winner advances to the State Distinguished Young Women of Kentucky competition in Lexington, Ky. The young woman selected as our state representative then competes in the Distinguished Young Women National Finals competition in Mobile, Alabama.

The legacy and history of our Henderson County program is incredible. In 1959, the Henderson County Jaycees sponsored the first Junior Miss program in Henderson. That year, Nancy Williams Long, was named our Henderson County Junior Miss. The first Kentucky Junior Miss program was also held in Henderson that year, and the state winner was Henderson County's own, Nancy Williams Long.

I am incredibly proud to be part of this program that recognizes excellence in our young women.

The local Chairperson for the Henderson Program is Karla Beckgerd and the current representative is Maddy Pressley.





## Celebrating Milestones

**Leslie Newman**—All these weeks with little to do, St. Paul’s honored two others of its own with drive-by parades to honor their milestones – and both were at the same time, the evening of May 18, as it turned out. Dave Walaskay celebrated his 62nd anniversary of his 18th birthday, and Miranda Purdy celebrated her graduation from South Middle School.

Congratulations to both Dave and Miranda!

## EYC Zoompline

**Leslie Newman**—EYC has continued to meet remotely on Sunday evenings at 6:00 using the Zoom platform. It has been a pleasure for Fr. Rich and Ms. Monessa to join us, and it is not only fun but good for our youth and our adults to connect and hear how everyone is doing as we hunker down. Fr. Rich has invented a new term, “Zoompline,” for our gatherings (*n.b. he stole it*), where we have said both evening prayer and compline. Compline, the fourth and last service of the daily office from the *Book of Common Prayer*, is a shorter service and with our time spent visiting, it is what we have tended towards. There is an opportunity for all our youth to participate in the service and if a prayer book is not handy, [bcponline.org](http://bcponline.org) is. We have even attempted group singing! We have talked about how the youth will miss their chance to attend All Saints’ Camp this summer (and there is talk from the staff about how there might be some sort of gathering, still).

## Keep Our Kids in Your Prayers

**Leslie Newman**—Please keep our children and youth in your prayers. These times are difficult for grown people, and they are difficult for young people. As adults and families have had to learn how to live with our new normal, so they have had to impart their wisdom and knowledge to our young people. Their resiliency and good cheer, despite having had their school year, extracurricular activities, summer plans and jobs, and social and church lives disrupted.

We know how much it is for us. Please remember we can’t always see how it is for youth and children, and that makes your prayers that much more needed. And not only the pandemic, but issues of social and racial justice, and unrest swirling, and without what we think of as more normal outlets to process their thoughts and feelings, they need our prayers, love and guidance even more. Thank you for remembering them.

## Another Grad You Know Well

**Leslie Newman**—Will White, son of former St. Paul’s Rector, the Rev. Dr. Beth Macke, is a 2020 graduate of Henderson County High School.

Many folks will remember when Will came to St. Paul’s as a young boy and those who have not seen him will have done a double take at the tall young man who has accompanied the Walaskay’s to St. Paul’s several times this year, recognizable by his big, warm smile. Will is a member of St. Mary’s, Madisonville now and has fond memories of his time here, and especially serving as an acolyte with Anna and Sophie Hays.

Will received honors for being college ready, work ready and for having taken the engineering pathway at HCHS. He was a member of the TSA (Technical Student Association) and would have gone to the state robotics competition, but for the pandemic. COVID-19 also disrupted his third season on the HCHS Tennis Team.

He especially missed the chance to tell his friends good-bye at the end of their senior year, but he was quick to say that the graduation ceremony crafted by HCHS ended up much better than he expected!

Will joins Warner and Reade Mattingly as recent recipients of esteemed rank of Eagle Scout. Will’s project was to rehabilitate the raptor rehabilitation center at John James Audubon State Park, an important area of the park the public doesn’t normally see.

Will earned his private pilot license about the same time he got his drivers’ license, and he’s now working on his instrument rating. And Will is going to parlay his love of flying into his college career. He will be attending Middle Tennessee State University to study aviation maintenance management with the goal of earning his commercial pilot license. The Mufreesboro Municipal Airport partners with MTSU for the program Will has chosen. And now he awaits the announcement of how his freshman year of college will commence in the fall.

If you wish to send Will a card to commemorate this milestone, his address is 4713 Housebridge Road, Corydon KY 42406.



## Vestry Notes

At their meeting on Tuesday, May 19, conducted by videoconference due to protective measures, St. Paul's Vestry:

- Received April financial reports showing continued consistency with previous years' income patterns, with nearly the same. In the first quarter, investment accounts posted a very substantial unrealized loss, which is expected to eventually rebound with the overall economy.
- Rejoiced that music has returned to streamed worship. Next step—adding a reader.
- Commended Leslie Newman for finding a way to continue youth gathering online.
- Received update on new video and sound equipment to improve the quality of our livestream worship.
- Continued to discuss the careful return to in-person worship, with ideas to make our space safer as that is accomplished. (*see article on this page*)
- Expressed desire to be measured in our efforts to re-open Parish worship, and eventually other activities, to continue to value not only public health issues, but the concerns and anxiety of our loved ones.

The Vestry will next meet on Tuesday, June 16.

## VBS Canceled

**Leslie Newman**—The first week of June is when St. Paul's would have been hosting Vacation Bible School with our partner churches, the Presbyterian Church of Henderson, First Christian Church and Community Baptist Church. Fr. Rich reports St. Paul's will maintain its place in the rotation and that we will be hosting VBS in 2021.

## Zoom Coffee Hour with the Bishop

When the Bishop of Kentucky's June 14 visit with us had to be postponed, the Vestry quickly raised the idea of using technology to allow us to gather anyway, and Bp. White *immediately* accepted our invitation.

So at 11:00 on Sunday, June 14, following our Facebook Live worship, Bp. Terry will join us online for a live Zoom Coffee Hour. You can stay in your jeans, or even your PJs, bring your own coffee and goodies, see each other's faces for the first time in a long while, and ask coffee-hour questions until we're tired of it.

We're unlikely to exceed our 100-person limit, but log-in credentials *are* needed for participation, so you'll need to register by calling Fr. Rich or the Parish Office ahead of time. If you can join us, don't miss this unusual opportunity for conversation with our Bishop

## Slow and Careful Return

Following the Governor of Kentucky's recommendation for closure of churches by a little more than a week, it was Fr. Rich's letter on March 19 that suspended in-person worship and other activities at St. Paul's under the authority granted the Rector by the Canons of the Episcopal Church (III, 9.6(a)(1)). The same canon says that the Rector exercises that authority subject to "the pastoral direction of the Bishop," and Bp. White issued such direction a day later requiring essentially the same measures already taken at St. Paul's, a directive that continues, "until further notice." The Rector's suspension remains in place with modification only for the inclusion of music and a reader. While the shut-down was abrupt, it is likely that re-opening will be phased, both in activities provided, and in the number of people that can gather.

In the meantime, the Vestry has been busy trying to anticipate how we can help keep us safe when we *are* able to return. The first consideration will be what we know as "social distancing" to reduce person-to-person transmission of the virus. Our worship space was built for a much larger congregation than ours is now, so we can easily designate every other pew for seating. We will provide masks when closer contact is unavoidable. Signs will ask that one person at a time use restrooms, and that we use disinfectant on the surfaces we touch.

We also have to look at all the ways we touch objects and share materials. A bulletin expanded to include the whole service will replace Prayer Books and Hymnals, for now. A plate at each entrance will receive our offering so it need not be passed from hand to hand. And the top of pews, door handles, and railings will need to be wiped down even between services.

Finally, we will have to accommodate our worship itself to the need to prevent transmission. For as long as most of us remember, the Eucharist and Communion have been the primary worship at St. Paul's, and we have managed to retain Eucharist throughout this time, though with only Spiritual Communion. It is possible that may continue after we are able to return in person, or that we will be able to receive the bread before it is safe to share the cup. The Peace will be exchanged with a nod or a wave. And as important as it is to many of us, with its forceful projection of breath, may be the last element of our worship to return.

St. Paul's is blessed to have been little affected by the costs of the pandemic, and we have found ways to *be* Church in spite of not being *at* church. We now face a *different* challenge as we prepare to come again into the spiritual home that means so much to us all. May God continue to give us the abundance of his grace.

## Financial Summary as of April 30, 2020

<b>Pledged Income Received to Date</b>	<b>\$39,119</b>
<b>Non-dividend Income from Investments to Date</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Other Operating Income to Date</b>	<b>\$11,120</b>
<b>Operating Expenses to Date</b>	<b>\$81,451</b>

## 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 *(\*indicates Vestry liaison)*

Sr. Warden  
Jr. Warden  
Clerk  
Treasurer

Susan Sauls  
Bill Brodsky  
Susie Watkins  
Mike France

Budget and Finance  
Worship and Music  
Parish Life  
Communications  
Christian Formation and Youth  
Building and Grounds

Mike France, \*Bill Gentry, \*Becky Carroll, Hugh Hennessey  
Fr. Rich, \*Jesse Gonzalez, \*Susan Sauls, \*Connie Spivey, Mike France  
\*Bill Brodsky, \*Corey Hill, \*Connie Spivey, Susan Sauls  
\*Lydia Johnson, \*Jesse Gonzalez  
\*Marty White, \*Bill Brodsky, \*Corey Hill, Leslie Newman, Monessa Curry  
\*Bill Brodsky, \*Bill Gentry, \*Susan Sauls, Hugh Stone, Michael Minton,  
Joe Mattingly

Outreach  
Pastoral Care

Dcn. Larry, \*Jesse Gonzalez, \*Becky Carroll, \*Marty White, \*Lydia Johnson  
Fr. Rich, Dcn. Larry, \*Marty White

## St. Paul's Episcopal Church

5 South Green Street  
Henderson, KY 42420

[www.stpauls-henderson.org](http://www.stpauls-henderson.org)

