

# St. Paul's Episcopal Church

## THE GOOD NEWS

May 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.*

### Dealing with "Garbage Gut"

*from the Rector*

"Almighty God," begins one of the collects for use after the Prayers of the People, "to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only what accords with your will."

At one point last week I was afraid Jenny and I were going to lose our beloved shelter rescue, Hadley Grace. She had scared us during Holy Week, throwing up and refusing to eat or drink. We spent part of Good Friday at the vet for an exam and antibiotics, and were back just hours before the Great Vigil, for more tests and an IV. But when I came home Easter morning, she greeted me at the door with her usual licks and wiggles, Jenny and I shared some genuine Easter joy, hoping she was well.

Then in the middle of the night last week, we were awakened by the sound that every dog-owner knows too well, as the remains of HG's supper ended up on the living room carpet. Nor did that settle the matter as we paced her in and out to vomit over and over, every attempt to get her to eat or drink being quickly turned aside. By the time we could get in to see the vet that afternoon for meds and tests, Hadley was *still* showing the same signs of distress that we *thought* we had overcome before.

After another sleepless night with one hand on our chemically calmed pet to make sure she was still breathing, we got the result of the tests: pancreatitis. The cure? A total change of diet.

Many of you will remember that when I first brought HG home from the Humane Society, I was clear that she was to receive no human food. That lasted a matter of days, with the addition of an egg to her morning routine within that first week. But that's all! Well, to shorten the story, it had gotten to where Hadley expected, because she always got, the last bite off every plate, and then licked the plate. The evening of her attack last week, that included the buttery remnants of my baked potato supper!

I am told that dog owners with much more experience than I sometimes call pancreatitis, "garbage gut."

Now let me get one thing clear: I do not believe for one second that the Almighty God who knows our every need "sends" viruses among us. (or tornados or tsunamis or any *other* manifestation of the brokenness of creation). This pandemic is not punishment for anyone not "covered in the blood of Christ," as I heard one woman say. Cecil B. DeMille had no problem finding such a God of wrath in the Old Testament, but Jesus turned that concept on its ear long since. Nor do I think the Creator that declared all things good (and *especially* humans), has killed off millions of us and destroyed the livelihoods of billions *more*, to let the animals run free down city streets, or to reduce the smog over L.A., or even teach us a lesson on climate change—that's Marvel Comics' Thanos, not God.

But this extended time of socially reinforced fasting, away from what have become the normal rhythms of our lives has brought into the focus of both my thoughts *and* my prayers the things that are of primary importance to me, most especially those who are dear to me, including anyone likely to be reading this page.

This time has also highlighted some of the things I take for granted, many of which are not actually *good* for me: You'd be right to think that includes eating way more than is comfortable. But that also includes the comfort of simple routine and sameness. I live my life with a level of assumed security to which I was never entitled. And I practically wallow sometimes in the privilege of vacillating between trying to prove my value by doing too much, and the sloth of doing way too little.

Perhaps as we continue to live into our extended Lenten Fast, without the luxury of the culmination of Easter, we can take this opportunity to change our diet a bit.

"Those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask," that collect for the Prayers of the People concludes, "grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord." To that, I say, Amen.

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

## Monday-Saturday

9 a.m. — The Act of Spiritual Communion

All other Parish activities are suspended until we have been given the go-ahead by the Bishop of Kentucky and governmental authority.

*(More info on page 5)*

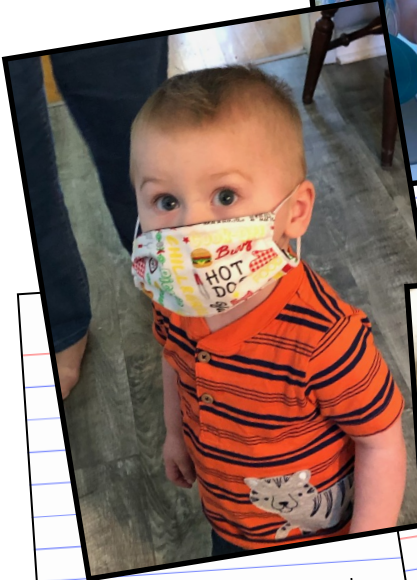
## Around the Parish



Avery Bane is growing as fast as the grass this spring



Stella makes sure James' face is covered in public.



Myles pays attention to Uncle Andy.



Sylvia isn't letting COVID bother her or the cat.



Laila and Lively keep their Papaw busy

## Holy Land Travels – Part 11

from the Deacon

After touring the Shepherd's Field, we loaded the coach about 2:30pm and headed for the Garden Tomb. Jerry our guide announced on the way over, that the Garden Tomb would be our last holy site of the day.

The Garden Tomb is located in the heart of Jerusalem, just outside the Old City walls. There was already a very large group ahead of our tour group. We continued on to this large seating area where we listened to a lecture on the Garden Tomb presented by a Christian lady from Ireland. We were allowed to take a self-guided tour of the garden. You had to walk down several steps to the rock-cut tomb, which was discovered in 1867. Flowers were planted all-around the garden area even leading down to the tomb.

Many Protestants believe the Garden Tomb is the site of the burial and resurrection of Christ. The Protestants also believe that this beautiful garden is the setting of the events described in the four Gospels. I found a quiet place to sit and pray just beyond the tomb for about twenty minutes.

At 4:30pm we boarded our coach and Ruben drove us back to our hotel in plenty of time to shower and have our 7:00pm meal.

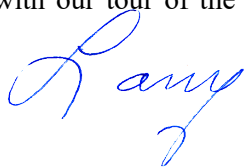
The next morning, day eight of our tour, Ruben drove the coach to Mt. Zion where we toured the Upper Room and King David's Tomb.

The Upper Room is very large with two large columns in the middle of the room with arches extending from the columns to the ceiling. The room has been regarded as the traditional site of the Last Supper since the fourth century. It's built over top a church-synagogue constructed in the *first* century. The current structure of the room is a restoration of a 12th century Crusader Chapel. The Upper Room is where the Last Supper took place and where Jesus washed his disciple's feet. It is where his disciples gathered after his death and where Jesus himself appeared on two occasions after the resurrection. It is also here that Jesus showed Thomas the wounds on his body. In the book of Acts, it is the room where all one hundred twenty believers prayed and were filled with the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost. The Upper Room is the birth place of Christ's own Church. The room is mostly empty, but believe me, you can feel a great presence of humbleness and spiritual divinity within the four walls in this beautiful room!

We walked down the stairs in the corner of the room leading to our next Holy site, the Tomb of King David. Under the Upper Room, this small room of stone is the traditional site of the Tomb of King David. It is one of the holiest places for Jews, Christians *and* Muslims. King David is, according to the Old Testament, a celebrated warrior and King of Israel, and the one who is traditionally credited with writing the Book of Psalms.

I shall continue with our tour of the Via Delarosa next month.

Peace and Love,



### \$100 for Good—

**Becky Carroll**—I totally knew I would have no problem spending the \$100 that Father Rich had given me, and for a good cause. But I wanted to make an impact and get the most bang out of my bucks, so I pondered on it and prayed about it. In the words of Weezer from *Steel Magnolias*, “Yes, I do pray”!

I was so impacted when I went to the Henderson Detention Center for the blessing of the prayer shawls, that I hadn't forgotten how proud and how just being able to make something for others made these ladies feel! I felt some of them were feeling they could make a difference for someone else maybe for the first time in their lives.

So, I bought a hundred bucks worth of yarn and took it to their program director. You would have thought I had bought \$500 worth, he was so appreciative. Now before you all start calling me a bleeding heart liberal, just let me say I truly believe most of those ladies are there not just because they made bad choices but I believe they were not fortunate enough to have supportive parents, grandparents or maybe even friends to come to bail them out when they made those poor choices.

It did my heart good to see such compassion and the change these ladies were seeing in something as simple as crocheting a gift for others! God bless them each and everyone!

### E-Giving Option Available Soon

St. Paul's is establishing an account with Tithely, a service to allow members and visitors alike the ability to give to the Parish from anywhere with an internet connection. Watch your email soon for details.



## Techno-EYC

**Leslie Newman**—EYC has been significantly impacted by COVID-19. Our report for this May edition of the Good News is short. In April, we said Compline from a prayer book written especially for teens, *Call On Me* and we said Compline from the Book of Common Prayer. We also said Evening Prayer from the Book of Common Prayer.

These EYC gatherings were thanks to Zoom, the platform that has become de riger during these times. If you are interested in using Zoom, a free service, for video meetings that can last up to 40 minutes, and you would like to know how to install and use the app or program, ask one of our youth (or Fr. Rich or me) and we will help you get started. Until social distancing restrictions are lifted, EYC will continue to gather using available technology and for that opportunity, we are grateful.

## Techno-Easter Eggs

**Leslie Newman**—In lieu of the Easter egg hunt EYC normally hosts for the children of our parish, I created a downtown photo scavenger hunt for our families to enjoy, in an attempt to give families the opportunity to get out and about for a fun activity on our beautiful spring days. Initially I had difficulty posting the scavenger hunt to our Facebook page for the families' reference and so it went to my newsfeed first.

By happenstance I figured how to post it to our page, and while I haven't heard whether anyone went on the hunt, I hope you will think it was a nice thought. Speaking of which, I continue to search for thoughts about activities our youth might undertake during this time we are restricted from meeting in person. If you have ideas, please share them!

## Techno-Worship Near & Far

**Leslie Newman**—For our youth and for all of you who are on Facebook or have thought about joining Facebook, for better or worse, the better is that there are many worship opportunities available now. First and foremost and for starters, Fr. Rich offers the ringing of the bells at 9 a.m. Monday through Saturday, along

with an Act of Spiritual Communion streaming live from St. Paul's.

All Saints' alums-now-priests offer prayer daily: Rev. Allison Caudill at St. Luke's, Louisville, offers daily prayer at 8:00 and 5:00 (CDT) and a Wednesday morning Bible study via Zoom. Rev. Jim Trimble, at Emmanuel Church in Winchester (Diocese of Lexington) offers Evening Prayer at 6:00 and Compline at 8:00 each evening. Rev. Ben Badgett at St. John's Church, Waynesboro, VA offers Morning Prayer at 8:00 and compline at the other 8:00.

Keep your eye on DioKY Youth Programs page. See the posts on the Facebook page of the Episcopal Diocese of Kentucky. And if you are early for 10:00 service here on Sundays, tune in at 9:30 central for services livestreamed from Christ Church Cathedral in Louisville. Attend services or watch replays of services from Washington National Cathedral.

If you are feeling ecumenical, after St. Paul's 10:00 service, you can join our VBS partners First Christian or Community Baptist for the conclusion of *their* morning services. Finally, our former Presby partner for youth activities, Rev. Becky Durham, posts her sermons after their Sunday Zoom service on the Facebook page of Peace Presbyterian, Fayetteville NC.

If all this seems dizzying, it's because it is! And these suggestions are just a drop in the bucket! The opportunities to pray and to worship with Episcopalians all over the United States, and indeed, all over the *world*, has never been so obvious as they are now. Take advantage of them. Share with your St. Paul's family what you have found. Search, and see what other churches look like and how they are providing for their flocks and for all of us during "these days".

And don't just visit, SHARE! Share St. Paul's page with your friends on Facebook. Invite them to join our services. For those of you to whom evangelism has seemed a difficult concept to embrace, giving newcomers the chance to see what our services look like without them having the trepidation of coming to a strange place and not knowing what to do breaks down a barrier it's often hard to realize exists.

## Get Ready for the Next Step

**Leslie Newman**—Leigh Anne Preston has notified Fr. Rich and me that applications for the Woodcock Foundation scholarship funds for 2020-2021 school year are coming soon. If you are or have a college student who is interested in applying, please let us know.

Also be reminded of the opportunity for the Kohler scholarship funds offered through our Diocese.

## Camp Season Up in the Air

**Leslie Newman**—Stay tuned to learn what the All Saints' board of directors decides about camp during "these times." While it is likely, that summer camp programs this year *won't* be in-person, they are working hard to make sure there will be efforts to engage the youth of our Diocese who love their All Saints' experience and who will miss it so very much this summer.

## Vestry Notes

At their videoconference meeting on Tuesday, April 21, conducted by videoconference due to protective measures, St. Paul's Vestry:

- Received March financial reports showing only minor divergence from previous years' income pattern. Treasurer will look into taxes being paid on investment accounts.
- Asked the Budget & Finance Team to establish a platform to make e-giving possible for pledge payments and for online donations. (*see page 3*)
- Referred the question of when and how to return to in-person worship to the Worship & Music Team, within official guidelines. (*see below*)
- Again commended the Communications Team for getting our Facebook stream going months before it was needed for this emergency, and applauded efforts to strengthen that aspect of our Parish's ministry.
- Advised that a return to Parish meals and in-person work with children and youth be part of only the *final* phase of our return to full programming.

The Vestry will next meet on Tuesday, May 19, again by videoconference.

## Return to In-Person Worship

The Worship & Music Team gathered virtually for their April meeting. Their usual task of selecting hymns for the coming month was pushed aside, however, by the subject of how St. Paul's will return to our beloved rhythms of prayer and praise. Like the rest of the congregation, they are eager to be personally and *physically* present when that is at last possible, and want to have plans in place for when that eventuality is realized.

The schedule for a safe return for public gatherings of any sort is uncertain, and it is likely that when we *do* begin to return to in-person worship, we will do so in phases. It is possible, for example, that the permissible size of gatherings may be small at first and gradually be expanded so that everyone is welcome to be present. Even when that is the case, we may have to modify our seating to engage in best practices for distancing.

Even before that, we look forward to the addition of *music* to our Sunday morning online worship. Our talented and dedicated musicians, Suzanne and Marla are coordinating to bring instrumental reflection to our live-streamed service beginning May 3.

Perhaps even more of an issue for our worship as Episcopalians, as people of Word *and* Sacrament is the question of our return to the reception of Communion. It is likely that when we are once again able to receive the Sacrament physically in addition to spiritually, our

practice will closely follow what we experienced the Sunday before the shutdown. We will receive the Bread of Heaven from a standing station at the foot of the Chancel, avoiding interaction with steps and rails *and* each other. But it will likely be longer still before it will be considered safe to receive the wine, continuing to reserve the common Cup of Salvation for our spiritual communion.

As we navigate the changes and chances of this time, let us look forward to the day when we will once again celebrate our life together face to face.

## Proud of our Graduate

Nick Johnson, son of Jim and Lydia Johnson, graduated from Signature School in Evansville. During his high school years he started the Rainbow Jacket Project, a clothing bank for LGBTQ youth in the region, and was nominated for a Leadership Evansville Award. Nick received a Cox Research Scholarship to Indiana University where he plans to study Arabic and Foreign Relations in the fall of 2020. He hopes to one day work for the federal government.



### Financial Summary as of March 31, 2020

<b>Pledged Income Received to Date</b>	<b>\$26,309</b>
<b>Non-dividend Income from Investments to Date</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Other Operating Income to Date</b>	<b>\$11,904</b>
<b>Operating Expenses to Date</b>	<b>\$58,958</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)

