

—The Episcopal Parish of —  
**St. Mark  
& St. Paul**  
—On the Mountain —

Formerly Otey Memorial

July 2022



### **From the Rector: Open and Safe**

The searing pain of mass shootings in our country was brought close to home by the shooting deaths of three parishioners at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Vestavia Hills, Alabama, on June 16. I reached out to Sewanee Vice President for Public Safety Chip Schane, who has been very helpful in seeing that the Sewanee Police Department keeps an eye out for our security. Chip, son of former Otey rector Cliff Schane, spoke with parish staff (joined by Sewanee Children's Center Director Sarah Ralston Stark) the week after the Vestavia Hills shooting about suitable precautions, and walked the property to develop recommendations.

As a church we always want to be open and welcoming, while at the same time remaining safe and secure. How do we accomplish all of that at the same time? With expert advice and great care, so as to preserve as much of our Sewanee openness as possible while being realistic about the world we live in. A risk management professional from the Church Insurance Company will soon be making a site visit to assess our property and procedures and to make recommendations. We have already taken steps to improve safety and plan to continue to do so.

In a similar vein, our response to changes in Franklin County's COVID status according to the CDC seeks to encourage warmth and togetherness in person consistent with prudent precautions against the spread of disease. The US

seems to have settled for now into CDC-determined community levels of high, medium, or low (red, yellow, or green) updated as new data becomes available. Thus our procedures each Sunday and the following week will be adjusted to the CDC 's Thursday evening updates of Franklin County's community level.

August is an exciting time of year for the church! Christian formation classes resume, we revert to the regular schedule of services at 8:30 and 11, people start coming back from summer vacation, and wonderful newcomers visit. I don't want that excitement to be dampened by worry or fear. Please know that your parish cares deeply about your safety and that of your family, and is being deliberate in take appropriate steps to remain both open and safe.

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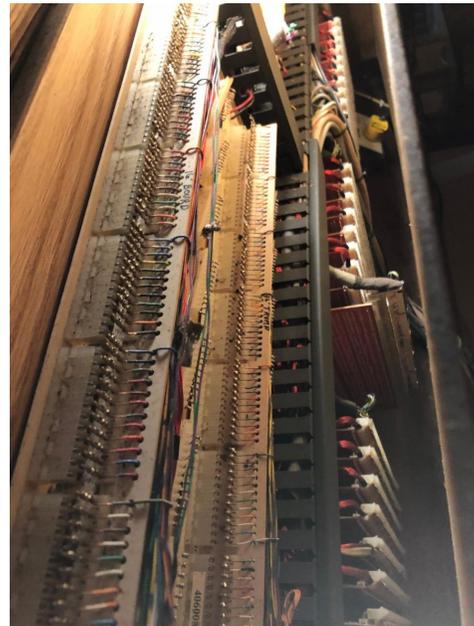
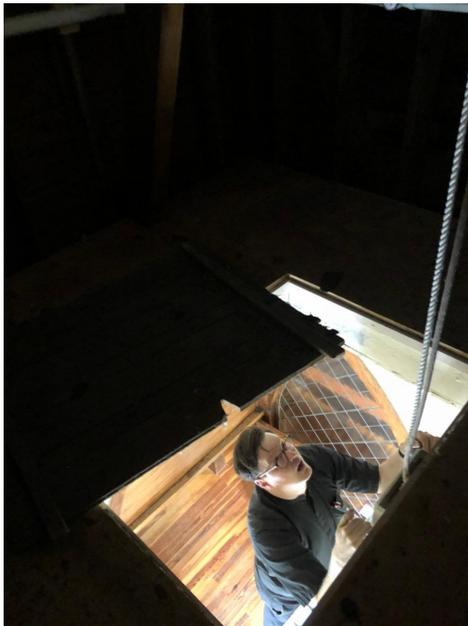
### **Vestry Highlights - Regular Meeting of June 16**

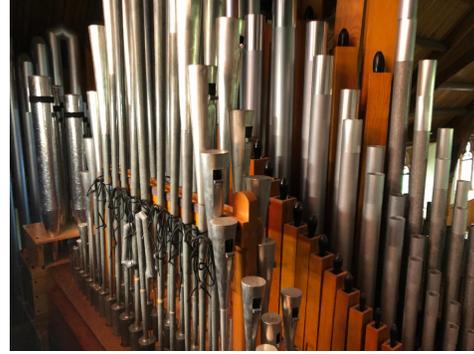
- Accepted, with regret, the resignation of Lauryl Tucker, effective on the selection of her successor.
- Authorized the Rector and Wardens to work with Sewanee Children's Center leadership on appropriate sharing of ongoing utility and elevator maintenance costs. There is no intention to charge rent for the space SCC uses.
- Heard reports on the successful Kitchen to Table and Farm to Table programs operated by CAC.

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### **Organ Restoration**

During the past month Milnar Organ Company has been working hard to get ur organ bac in good shape. We should all give thanks to their hard work.





## Piano Dedication - June 26, 2022

On June 26, St. Mark and St. Paul had a dedication of the beautiful grand piano donated by Lane & Julian Price. The Prices gave the piano in honor of Evie & Brown Patterson and Ruth & George Ramseur.

Following prayers of dedication we heard from Lane and Julian about the piano. Leah Rhys talked about the Browns and the Ramseurs. Then we had a wonderful recital featuring a variety of musicians from our parish and the Sewanee Summer Music Festival. After the dedication and recital everyone enjoyed a delicious reception.

### Photos from piano dedication



Rob's opening remarks



Lane & Julian Price



Leah Rhys talks about the Ramseurs and Pattersons



Theron Masters from SSMF plays Brahms.



Kathy Sturgis, Beth Wiley, Rob Lamborn



Kathy Sturgis, John Gatta, Beth Wiley, Rob Lamborn



Steven Beck from SSMF plays Rachmaninoff. Mr. Beck's performance was so vigorous that one of the (plastic) ivories came unglued!



Suzanne Waddington, soprano, and Theron Masters, piano perform Mozart.



Kathy Sturgis, Brown Patterson,  
George Ramseur.



Reception after the recital.

## **Christian Formation News** **by Jeannie Babb, Director, Christian Formation**

### **VB-U's 2022: Better Angels**

We had a great time working together to be better angels at this year's intergenerational Vacation Bible School for all of Us (VB-U's).

Cara Kitzrow designed and directed the children's program. Cara writes, "During VB-US the children had a wonderful time dining with friends, making tie-dyed t-shirts and angel dolls, drawing and painting, listening to divinely inspired music, singing in the Angel Band, and of course playing on the waterslide." Thank-you to everyone who helped oversee the children's activities, especially Aaron Elrod, Diana Rung, Lisa Rung, Diane Jones, Elizabeth Taylor, and of course Cara!



Debi Hart cooked and served wonderful homemade meals all week long. Kathy Sturgis planned and led the angel-themed music program. A huge thanks to Debi and Kathy for their hard work!

The lecture series, hosted by Karen Meridith and Robin Bates, was enriching both spiritually and academically. The Rev. Becky Wright led a wonderful discussion of angels in the Hebrew Scriptures, and how we might understand angels today. Ross Macdonald gave a fascinating lecture on angels in Paradise Lost. Robin Bates brought us up to date with modern fantasy literature on angels, especially

The Golden Compass trilogy by Philip Pullman.

Each night we collected loose change to help the people of Ukraine through Episcopal Relief & Development. We raised \$582.73, most of it in coins! If you

would like to make additional donations for Ukraine relief, please use [Ukraine Crisis Response Fund - Episcopal Relief & Development](#).

On the final night, we gathered in the church for closing Eucharist. Kathy led the singing and the Angel Band joined with wings, halos, and tambourines! We offered the chain of the prayers we spent all week constructing. Rob Lamborn gave a sermon for children and adults on the topic Better Angels.

The life-size angel wings in Kennerly Hall were painted by Diane Jones and Martha Keeble. You are invited to see yourself as an angel, and post with the hashtags #stmarkstpaul and #betterangels.

Thanks so much to everyone who helped plan, implement, and participate!

### VB-Us Images







**St. Mark & St. Paul Angels**





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## Godly Play

Godly Play resumes August 7

Beginning Sunday, August 7, children will meet in the Godly Play rooms for a story and wondering. Please bring children before 9:45 so the storyteller can begin! Godly Play includes story, wondering, art & reflection time, feast, and sometimes playing on the playground. Pick up children at 10:45 on the playground or in the rooms according to weather.

Masking will depend on the CDC determination. The guideline for each Sunday will be posted on the front door as well as the Godly Play door. Please know that Covid-19 safety continues to be high priority for the parish.

Godly Play 1 is for children who are at least three years old through first grade. In this classroom, children will be hearing stories from the Hebrew Scriptures. After hearing and seeing the story, children wonder aloud with prompts like:

- I wonder what you like best about this story?
- I wonder what is most important?
- I wonder you are in this story? What part is about you?
- I wonder if there is anything we can leave out of the story, and still have everything we need?

Godly Play 2 is for children in grades 2-5. (5<sup>th</sup> graders may choose between Godly Play and Youth Sunday School.) The curriculum used in this class includes enrichment stories and stories told side-by-side. The wondering questions may go deeper for this group, and children may enjoy telling stories or parts of stories.

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## **Tuesday morning Godly Play / Parents' Morning Out 2022-2023 Registration Open Now**

Quick Facts:

For children ages 18 months to 4 years

8:30-11:00am on Tuesdays

Directed by Jeannie Babb

Co-op with parent volunteers

Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/314799633177>

Tuesday morning Godly Play is a wonderful weekly event for preschoolers, and a chance for parents and caregivers to have a break. The emphasis on Godly Play distinguishes the program from other playgroups or co-ops. Godly Play is an imaginative, Montessori-based approach to nurturing the Christian faith. Using symbols and objects as well as words, Godly Play stories value openness and discovery rather than rewarding correct answers. The culture of the Godly Play room encourages generosity and calm. We also spend time outdoors on the playground, engaged in art and other work, and playing cooperative games like Red Light, Green Light and Ring-around-the-Rosie that help children learn cooperation, listening, and following instructions.

Thanks to the generosity of the church's pledging members, Tuesday morning Godly Play / Parents' Morning Out is offered at no cost to families. Parents take turns volunteering several times per semester. Parents who wish to enroll a child in the program should register here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/314799633177>

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## Nursery Notes by Cara Kitzrow

Nursery on the playground is enjoying perfect summer mornings and fun with friends, and have delighted in observing birds, squirrels, rabbits, and turtles that flock to the great mulberry tree in the corner of the playground.

During the summer, nursery care is provided for the 10:00 service only. When Sunday School begins, the nursery times will expand. Parents, let us know at drop-off whether you'd like your child(ren) brought into the service before Eucharist.

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## Youth Sunday School

Beginning August 7, Youth Sunday school meets upstairs in Brooks Hall for Bible study, snacks, and games. We often begin outdoors playing Cornhole or sitting on the screened porch. This is a really great group! If you have a student in 5<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, we'd love to have them! We are also looking for a couple of youth Sunday School volunteers! Please contact Jeannie for questions and interest.

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## Fire on the Mountain for Youth

Fire on the Mountain is open to 5th-12th graders who want to have fun while learning and serving. Our teaching and leadership approach are from an Episcopal perspective; however, students of all faith backgrounds are encouraged to participate. We are an inclusive group, not only in word but in deed. We'd love to have you!

On May 15, we enjoyed a year-end swim party at DuBose Conference Center. This event was well attended and enjoyed by all! We will launch the fall program at the August 28 picnic with registration and games for all ages! See our [Facebook](#) page. We also regularly communicate by text and email. To join the list, please send a text to Jeannie at 423-255-6479 and ask to be added.





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### **Sunday Forum resumes Aug 28** **Life in Community: Foundations, Challenges, and Blessings**

Sunday Forum will resume Sunday, August 28 at 9:45am in Kennerly Hall. This program features spiritual and academic leaders from the local Sewanee community. The forum is open to all parishioners and community members. Lectures and activities are geared toward adults.

Sunday Forum will focus on community this year. In the fall, we will consider the historical and sociological underpinnings of community in general and in Christian community (and communities) in particular. We will then move into benefits and challenges of community, and renewal of community. These topics are tied to Rob's topics of study for his sabbatical in the summer of 2023. The slate of speakers and topic will be finalized soon; watch your email!

The first Sunday each month is reserved for the Rector's Forum, which allows for conversation and reflection on current issues affecting the parish and parishioners.

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### **Reflections on Our Musc** **By Kathleen Sturgis**

Of all the musical instruments that may be employed in the praise of God, the human voice has priority. Theologian Karl Barth points out that singing is not an option for the people of God. It is one of the essential ministries of the church. Human music-making reflects the order, beauty and diversity of God's creation. While at VB-U's this year, I watched the kids as they participated in music making. Our theme was BETTER ANGELS. We all learned so much about angels that we never had encountered before. But when the kids sang their "ANGEL SONG" they sang with joy and abandon. It didn't take too long before the adults were joining in with that same joy of song. The people of God sing!

June 12 was Trinity Sunday. That same great expression of joy came out when the congregation sang "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD GOD ALMIGHTY". And I thought again "the people of God sing!" What a joy to sing together. Song helps

us remember the truths of the Bible. What a joy to hear you all sing!

June 26<sup>th</sup> we dedicated the piano lovingly given to us by Lane and Julian Price. It was dedicated to the Ramseurs and the Pattersons whose ministry to our church has been a real blessing. To celebrate we had a short recital after the 10 AM service. They were several wonderful musicians coming to share their talents. It showed all the different ways the piano will be used in worship. After the program, we went to Kennerly to enjoy a reception together. It was a wonderful Sunday together.

As usual, I will invite anyone who would like to offer their musical talents on a Sunday morning, so just let me know and we will make it happen. I am not the music of our church, I just help to organize it. My music is my gift to God on Sunday. I hope more of you will enjoy that wonderful ministry. I wish you all a relaxing and safe summer. Keep singing!

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### Follow St. Mark & St. Paul on Social Media

We invite you to follow and engage with the parish and one another on social media. We are currently on Facebook and Twitter @stmarkstpaul. We invite you to tag posts and photos with #stmarkstpaul. See you online!

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### Outreach Opportunities Betty Carpenter

I love this definition of Outreach: "Outreach is the practice of looking beyond yourself to the people around you and sharing the love of Christ as you serve and connect with the community."

If you are Interested in Outreach and Mission Trips we would love to hear from you. Tom Phelps is the contact on the vestry and together we are planning outreach opportunities on and off the mountain . Our coordinated efforts with CAC continue as we look to expand outreach opportunities on the plateau and beyond. Plans are on the drawing board for a mission trip to the Mississippi Delta in the fall and we are currently working on putting a team together. Just let us know if this is something. you feel called to do and help us go out and spread the faith.

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**The Flower Guild's** members have dwindled to four and is in need of flower arrangers for the altar. The commitment is two Saturdays back to back once or twice during each six month period. The guild would be deeply grateful for help. If interested, please contact Betty Barton Blythe at [bbblythe43@gmail.com](mailto:bbblythe43@gmail.com) or 931-205-3949.

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### Mental Health Resources

*If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,  
and the light around me become night,"  
even the darkness is not dark to you;  
the night is as bright as the day,  
for darkness is as light to you.*

Ps. 139:11-12

Christians are not exempt from feeling the effects of isolation, loneliness, and fear, especially during these months of social distancing and quarantine. There is no doubt that the COVID-19 pandemic has taken a toll on mental health. While taking care to prevent physical complications of the disease, many neglect to safeguard their mental well-being in the process.

If you or someone you know is experiencing a mental health crisis, there is help available! You can call **855-CRISIS-1 (855-274-7471)** to speak with the State Crisis Line, or **text HOME to 741741**. Just need someone to talk to? Call the Church Office at **931-598-5926** and let us know. We will be happy to lend a listening ear, pray with you, and help connect you with any additional services you might need.

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## **Giving to the Parish of St. Mark & St. Paul**

### **Bill Pay from Your Bank Website**

Use the Bill Pay service provided by your bank. If your bank offers online bill pay services, follow their setup directions to add the church as a payee, and add recurring automatic payments. Use the name and address below for the payee:

Parish of St. Mark & St. Paul  
P.O. Box 267  
Sewanee, TN 37375  
(931) 598-5926

### **By Mail**

Mail us a check, or place cash or check in the offering plate on Sunday. If you are giving toward a pledge, please write "Pledge" on the memo or envelope. If mailing, send to us at the above address.

### **Online Giving**

Convenient and secure -- You can make a one-time donation or set up a recurring gift. Choose credit, debit or bank account payments. If you already have a login for our Realm software, you can either **Give Now** or text "Otey\$75" (or any amount) to 73256. Follow the prompts and manage your account. **More information regarding Realm below.**

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## **Get Connected with Realm**

Let's get connected. ✨

Download our Connect app today.

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- 📅 Create and join events

Let's be the church... together.



Our church management software has expanded capabilities to help

parishioners get connected and stay that way. You can easily update your personal information, see the status of your giving, and set up online one-time or recurring electronic giving. As always, we are still able to receive gifts by check.

Interested or have questions?  
Call the Church Office at 931-598-5926.

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**Prayer List: Prayer Requests:** Jeannie Babb, Phoebe Bates, Paul Cahoon, Leigh Ann Campbell, Corky Carlisle, Bill Davis, Elizabeth Grammer, Ed Hawkins, Sue Hawkins, Armeda Holmes, David Kearley, George Lynch, John Noland, George Ramseur, Sara Margaret Roberts, Don Shannonhouse, Jennifer Sturgis–Cummings, Greg Taylor, Freddie Tucker, those suffering from COVID-19, and the people of Ukraine.

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## August Birthdays



Caroline Lamborn 8 / 1 ; Tom Ward 8 / 2 ; Loulie Frazier 8 / 2 ; Nicolas Borchers 8 / 2 ; John Brain 8 / 2 ; Greg Maynard 8 / 3 ; Frederick Croom 8 / 6 ; Leah Rhys 8 / 6 ; Rev. Roderic Murray 8 / 6 ; Corky Carlisle 8 / 7 ; Alyssa Sumpter 8 / 10 ; Peter Gray 8 / 10 ; Rob Lamborn 8 / 14 ; Remington Rose-Crossley 8 / 16 ; Meghan Mazur 8 / 19 ; Peggy Ward 8 / 20 ; Nicole Noffsinger-Frazier 8 / 20 ; Dixon Myers 8 / 21 ; Lynn Taylor 8 / 22 ; Patton Watkins 8 / 23 ; Alex Bruce 8 / 23 ; Konrad Knoll 8 / 23 ; Carolyn Davis 8 / 24 ; Edwin Keeble 8 / 26 ; Geoffrey Ward 8 / 26 ; Julia Gatta 8 / 28 ; Carrie Mauzy 8 / 30 ; John Reishman 8 / 31 ; Fields Ford 8 / 31

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