

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

June 2026



From the Rector:

I was a child when America celebrated its Bicentennial, and remember the widespread excitement that seemed to be everywhere. Perhaps because I'm older (or maybe because it's harder to pronounce), I haven't noticed nearly the same anticipation of our nation's **Semiquincentennial**. Whatever the reason for the difference, this year's Independence Day presents an opportunity to give thanks for the rich blessings bestowed upon our nation, and to reflect on where we still need to grow more fully into the egalitarian ideals of our founding.

St. Mark & St. Paul will have a number of activities related to the celebration. On July 4, please plan to visit our youth hot dog stand in front of Elliot Hall near the corner of Tennessee and University Avenues 11am-4pm (or when they run out of product!). All proceeds from the sale will go to support the upcoming youth mission trip to Appalachia. Those who want to donate directly to the trip without buying anything may do so there, or here at church. I invite you to join me in supporting this transformative experience for so many youth. We are again hosting the Cake Contest in Kennerly Hall. I'm excited to say Wyatt Poe will play a free organ concert of patriotic works in the church 12:30-1pm. We welcome and encourage people to watch the parade from the comfortable shade of our leasehold. The Evangelism Committee will be distributing free water and popsicles.

Since before we were the Episcopal Church, we were the Church of England, churches and clergy had some tricky waters to navigate after July 4, 1776. The then-current Book of Common Prayer stipulated prayers for the British monarch. On July 5, 1776, the Virginia House of Burgesses adopted a resolution to remove references to the king and royal family from prayers where they appeared, substituting "rulers" or "magistrates." Since July 5, 1776 was a Friday, they had a couple of days to get the word out before Sunday services!

On July 5 we will celebrate both 8:30 and 10:00 services as similarly as practical to what would have taken place in churches in the early days of independence. (We won't, however, follow the custom of having the entire service of Morning Prayer, and the Great Litany, before the service of Holy Communion!) Consider inviting your friends to this service of living worship in a form from around the time of our nation's founding!

Collect for the Nation (Book of Common Prayer, p. 258)
Lord God Almighty, you have made all the peoples of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace: Give to the people of our country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Sunday service times in June and July:

The Holy Eucharist will be celebrated at 8:30 and 10:00am in June and July.

Vestry Highlights: Regular meeting of May 21

- Authorized up to \$20,000 from the capital campaign building fund to replace an aging HVAC condensing unit whose compressor failed.
 - Received a report from the Evangelism Committee about its activities, including initiatives to make the church more visible on July 4.
 - Expressed gratitude for the ministry of the Rev. Kelly Ramer Moody.
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Constant Contact Newsletter Email: When you get to the bottom of your email you may see "[Message clipped] [View entire message](#)". To see the full newsletter click on "View entire message."

Happenings

Music Program

The Adult Choir wrapped up the program year participating in the May 24 service. The choir will resume in August.



Wyatt Poe's Next Chapter

On Pentecost Sunday we celebrated the ministry of our Organist and Choir Director, Wyatt Poe. It was also an occasion to celebrate his transition to the pursuit of an M.Div. from the School of Theology and discerning a call to the priesthood.









Farewell to Kelly

The first Sunday in June marked the end of Kelly Ramer Moody's curacy at St. Mark & St. Paul.





EPISCOPALOOZA!

Episcopalooza 2026

What happens when you invite all the Episcopal people within a 40 mile radius and have good food, good hymns, and good conversations.

Episcopalooza!

The fourth annual brought friends together and Kennerly Hall was rocking!

If you missed it there is always next year!




The Holy Ukuleles

Newcomers (whether you just picked up a uke or a seasoned veteran) are welcome to join in the fun.



A casual group of musicians gathers on Sundays after coffee hour to learn the ukulele and enjoy making music.

The 4th of July at St. Mark & St. Paul



**St. Mark and St. Paul
Episcopal Church
216 University Avenue**

**JULY 4TH
CELEBRATION**

**Watch the parade under the
comfort of shade trees**

Free popsicles and water

**30-minute patriotic organ
concert at 12:30**



From the *Mountains*

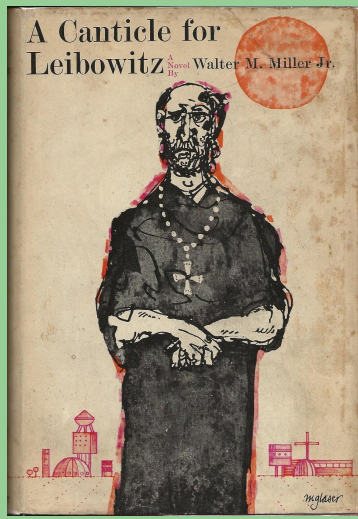
A 4th of July Organ Concert

Wyatt Preston Poe, organ

St. Mark & St. Paul
216 University Ave.
July 4, 2026
12:30-1 p.m. in the nave.

Christian Formation

By Jeannie Babb, Director of Christian Formation
formation@stmarkstpaul.org 423-255-6479 cell



June Book Study: Canticle for Leibowitz by Walter M. Miller Jr.

Tuesday nights, 5:30-6:30pm. June 9 - 30 in Brooks Hall.

Published in 1959, it won the 1961 Hugo Award. The novel is divided into three parts, and is known for its blend of humor, tragedy, and profound commentary on human fallibility. Everyone is welcome even if you have not had a chance to read the book yet. There will be light refreshments.

Here's a link to a free online version:

[https://ia800500.us.archive.org/13/items/calibre_library_68.132.22.122.231/A Canticle for Leibowitz - Walter M. Miller_803.pdf](https://ia800500.us.archive.org/13/items/calibre_library_68.132.22.122.231/A_Canticle_for_Leibowitz_-_Walter_M._Miller_803.pdf)

July Book Study -- The Little Prince by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry (use any translation)

Study led by Jeannie Babb

Tuesdays 5:30-6:30 in Brooks Hall

July 7-28

Please bring a drink or snack to share. Do you have a book you buy any time you come across it in used books? *The Little Prince* is one of mine. The themes are deep and symbolic without (I would argue) straight-up allegory. The simple, poetic writing invites contemplation. Join me for a journey with the Little Prince and his pilot friend as they consider wisdom, folly, and true friendship.



Looking ahead to the 2026-27 Program Year

Below is a printable quick reference of kickoff dates for the new program year. Stick it on your fridge, next to your calendar, wherever it can best serve as a reminder.

Important Fall Firsts – 2026

In August we resume our regular schedule:

8:30 First Service
9:45 Sunday School*
11:00 Second Service
Nursery 8:20-12:00



**Start dates vary, see below*

Aug 2 – Children’s Sunday School begins

Aug 9 – Back to School Blessing during both services
(Students of all ages, bring your backpack or satchell)
Ice Cream Party on the playground after 2nd service

Aug 12 – (Wed.) Children’s Choir Practice begins

Aug 23 – Fall Kick-off:

Youth Sunday School begins (Brooks Hall)
Sunday Forum begins
Welcome Picnic after Second Service

Sept 13 – Rite 13 & J2A begin (Sunday afternoons)



Support Our Youth Mission Trip

June marks the end of our school program year and our final preparations for the mission trip. This year, we will be working with Appalachia Service Project in Buchanan County, Virginia. We’ve got 18 youth and 6 adult chaperones ready to go, and we’re looking forward to a great week of service, growth, and fun.

That said, we are still working on raising funds to support the trip. The van rentals alone cost almost \$3000, and adult registrations run \$1800, so every bit we can raise helps to offset these costs, and every bit we raise over that will help fund our trip next summer.



To those who participated in our t-shirt fundraiser, THANK YOU! We raised just over \$1000 on that fundraiser. If you ordered a shirt, we will have them at church on Sunday, June 28.

If you're interested in helping us raise the remaining \$3800, there are a couple of ways you can help.

The easiest thing to do is to give directly to the youth group trip fund. This can be made via cash, check, or through the online giving site [<https://onrealm.org/stmarkstpaul/-/form/give/now>]. If you click on the drop down menu that says "Annual Pledge Payments" and scroll all the way down, you will see Youth Fund Raiser. You can give to our fundraiser that way.



4th of July Fundraiser

This year, we'll be having a food booth during Sewanee's Fourth of July celebrations! You can find us in front of Elliott Hall selling hot dog plates for donations to the trip. Spread the word to those you know—you can get lunch, enjoy the parade, and support our youth!



Rite-13 is for students in grades 6 & 7. In fall of 2025, we launched Journey to Adulthood (J2A) for students in grades 8-10. Both groups meet Saturday afternoons, 4-6pm in Brooks Hall. This group is having a blast, growing in faith, and planning another mission trip! For more information, contact Hilary at: hbwchurch@gmail.com.

Nursery Notes – Help wanted

We have openings for nursery caregivers! Training and background check provided. Please see Jeannie Babb or Cara Kitzrow for more information.

Nursery services are offered during church services, and during Sunday School and choir practice as needed. We meet mostly on the playground. We also use a children's classroom downstairs in inclement weather.

Children are usually brought into the church during announcements to participate in Eucharist with their parents. Please communicate with staff about this at drop-off. For more information, talk with our nursery coordinator Cara Kitzrow.

During June and July (when there's no Sunday School and the service schedule changes), Nursery is held during the second (10am) service only.



Please register your child for Nursery online:

<https://onrealm.org/StMarkStPaul/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=ZDk4ODBiZWQtNWQxOC00NjMOLWJhMmUtYjA1MzAwZmY1MTdi>

Please be sure to sign in on the Nursery clipboard, and indicate whether you'd like your child brought into the church during announcements to participate in Eucharist.

Tuesday Lectionary Class

The lectionary class meets Tuesdays from 3:30-4:30 in Brooks Hall to talk about the Gospel lesson for the upcoming Sunday. Led by the Rev. Scott Lee, this class is open to everyone in the community. It's a place to consider the lesson more deeply and reflect on it together.



Centering Prayer

*Mondays at 7pm with Jennifer Michael
Tuesday afternoons at 2:30pm with Scott Lee*

Centering Prayer is a method of silent prayer through which we consent to God's presence and action within us. Those who practice it do so not in place of corporate worship and service, but rather as a necessary complement to those modes of

engaging with God and with neighbor. With chairs encircling a candle at the front of the nave, we have a brief check-in about our prayer practice and anything else going on in our lives, and then we have a meditation session (what we call a "sit") together. For more information, contact Jennifer Michael jmichael@sewanee.edu.

Sunday School for All Ages

Godly Play will meet through Pentecost (May 24). All other Sunday School classes are on summer break until August.

Godly Play 1 is for children aged 3 to 5. The basic Godly Play stories are introduced and considered. Learning is enhanced with art, music, and play. At times, this class will be combined with Godly Play 2.

Godly Play 2 offers children in grades 1-3 an opportunity to learn enrichment lessons and go deeper into the story. This classroom has the same structure as Godly Play 1 – story, wondering, work, feast, and sometimes a romp on the playground.

4th/5th Class takes children in grades 4 and 5 beyond Godly Play. This class meets in Brooks Hall to read and talk about books, applying Scripture to fictional situations and their own lives. The schedule also includes time for food, fellowship, and fun with art, Legos, etc. The first book for this year is Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli. Class leaders are Julia Bates and Matthew Mitchell.

Youth Sunday School offers middle schoolers and high schoolers a time to encounter God and get to know one another. Paul and Andrea Richaud lead this class with a fresh, relational style based on teachable moments. (See notes above for our current focus on Confirmation.)



You can also register your child for Godly Play online using this link or QR Code. Your registration helps us protect and care for your child.

<https://onrealm.org/StMarkStPaul/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=NWZjNjY2MTEtODJhZi00MTVklTlmM2ltYjA1MzAwZjk4Zjhh>

Sunday Forum

The theme for 2026-2027 is "Narratives that Transform." The program runs on an academic year schedule, August through May, featuring excellent speakers from the community and beyond. We have some exciting plans for fall, and will share more as the schedule comes together!

Education for Ministry

by EfM Mentor Wendy Prothro Howard



As Henri Nouwen, Dutch Catholic priest, theologian, professor, and author, wrote; Education for Ministry (EfM) provides an opportunity for people to "grow stronger in the spirit." EfM is a space for curiosity and community, while viewing life through the lens of our relationship with God. It enables individuals to navigate this journey in this complex world with faith, hope, and love.

EfM Wide Angle, a 36-week (one year) program is being offered here at St. Mark & St. Paul this fall 2026. Registration for this seminar begins in mid July 2026 with details coming soon. Meanwhile, for more information, please contact wendyprothrohoward@gmail.com, your local Sewanee mentor.



CAC Information

More than a food pantry, the Community Action Committee (CAC) meets the basic human needs of those living in crisis in and around Sewanee. CAC offers neighbors quality food and emergency financial assistance. An outreach ministry of the Parish of St. Mark and St. Paul, CAC seeks to make Christ's love manifest in the world through service, relationship, and dignity.

The CAC Office is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM. Stop in, visit our website: www.cacsewanee.org, or email Sarah at cac@stmarkstpaul.org to learn more!

Last Month at a Glance

In May, CAC continued its mission of supporting neighbors in need throughout the community. During the month, the food pantry served 124 unique households, representing 301 individuals. Most visits came from residents of Sewanee, Tracy City, Winchester, Monteagle, Decherd, Cowan, and Sherwood. Overall (including repeat visits), the food pantry distributed food to 224 households, helping feed approximately 587 individuals. CAC welcomed 25 new families during the month of May.

In addition to serving neighbors through the food pantry, CAC provided utility assistance to 16 neighbors. This support included partial payments to help offset the costs of electricity, water, and rent, offering relief to households facing financial challenges.

Remember to Round Up!

A few cents can make a meaningful difference for a neighbor in need. If you are a customer of the Sewanee Utility District (SUD), we invite you to enroll in Project Help by rounding up your monthly water bill to the nearest dollar. The spare change from participating customers is pooled into the Project Help fund and donated to CAC, where it provides assistance to local families struggling to pay their water bills. To enroll in Project Help, call the Sewanee Utility District at (931) 598-5611. Thank you for helping care for our neighbors, one bill at a time.

Show Your CAC Support at 4th of July

For the third year in a row, CAC will be represented in the Sewanee Fourth of July Parade! We're excited to take part in this year's G.O.A.T. Show theme and will have candy and favors to toss to the crowd. To make it happen, we need your help. We are looking for volunteers to walk with us, ride in the trucks, and help cheer on CAC throughout the parade. It's a fun way to celebrate the holiday and support our neighbors. Reach out to Sarah at cac@stmarkstpaul.org if you would like to join the fun!



Farm 2 Table - Thank You!

CAC continues to partner with the [South Cumberland Farmers Market](#) to bring fresh produce to the food pantry for our neighbors. If you are a farmers market customer you can donate directly to CAC's Farm 2 Table program by adding a donation to your shopping cart with



your other purchases. Donations have allowed CAC to purchase fresh strawberries, eggs, cabbages, potatoes, onions, and so much more for our neighbors just this season. Search "Community Action Committee" when filling up your cart to make a donation. Any amount is appreciated!

Social Fabric - Weekly Crafting Circle

Social Fabric, a group of people who gather from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM, on Tuesdays, to do handwork together, has added fun sewing projects for kids for the summer. Each week, participants are invited to try that week's project if they don't already have something they're working on. Projects may include but are not limited to: a felt softie, pencil case, finger puppet, sock doll, book jacket, embroidered flowers, pocket mouse, and doll clothes. Social Fabric, which is sponsored by CAC, has moved from the Hospitality Shop to Stirling's Coffeehouse for the summer. Anyone is invited to join. Children should be accompanied by a parent. For more information, contact Sister Felicity Parks at maelpa11@gmail.com or Mary Priestley at mpriestley0150@gmail.com. Hope to see you there!



Three Eras of CAC Leadership

Thank you for your continued support of CAC and our work in the community!

If you are interested in learning more about CAC, and how you can help, please contact Sarah at cac@stmarkstpaul.org.

Cub Scout Corner Sewanee Pack 152



In May, Cub Scout Pack 152 and families gathered at Lake Cheston to celebrate the advancement of 25 Cub Scouts, with our oldest Scouts earning the rank of Webelos and moving on to Arrow of Light (the last level of Cub Scouting).

We had an amazing year, full of learning and fun. We went on numerous hikes, explored creek life in Abbo's Alley, made solar oven s'mores, dissected owl pellets, and much, much more. It was a great re-start to Cub Scouting in Sewanee, and we can't wait to see what next year brings.

If you're interested in helping out (we are *always* in need of den leaders and assistant den leaders), please reach out to Pack Committee Chair Hilary Bogert-Winkler (hbwchurch@gmail.com).

The new Scouting Year will start in late August, but leaders will be meeting in the coming weeks to discuss next year.



COFFEE HOUR – HOSTS NEEDED

Get your service power through coffee hour!

As one of the church's oldest methods of fellowship, coffee hour serves an enormous purpose.

We need HOSTS to continue this fellowship flow.

No need to bake a cake or shop until you drop for this - simply provide a small snack to serve with coffee after the 11am service in Kennerly Hall. *EVEN if you forget* to bring a snack, St. Mark & St. Paul always has your back with extra snacks you can utilize if necessary.

Coffee is simple to make in the coffee maker. The parish provides the coffee.

PLEASE consider signing up on the board in Kennerly Hall TODAY!



A Note from your Altar Guild

We wish to extend a warm welcome to our new parish members and a continued "thank you" to those who have been around a while.

The Altar Guild ministry is open to everyone – including men, as you may have noticed in the weekly bulletin listing those serving each Sunday. Some families like to get involved and that is certainly encouraged. We like to utilize everyone's particular skills. Some like to polish brass/silver while some like to wash linens for the Eucharist. I personally like the satisfaction of seeing the altar setup for the service –

everything in its place and ready for the ministers to use during the service.

Like everything else, altar guild service is not for everyone. We welcome you to try it out for a month or two to see if it is as fulfilling for you as it is for those of us currently serving. We promise we will be there to walk you through everything and we utilize checklists, post photographs or diagrams of altar setups and provide manuals to help us all remember what to do.

What type of time commitment is involved? For our regular services we schedule 2 members a Sunday. They usually meet on Sat. morning to polish and get the vessels setup for Sunday. On Sunday morning, one person comes prior to the 8:30am service (around 8:00am) and sets out the prepared items. After that service both members clean what was used and resets for the 11:00am service. After that service the second member cleans and puts everything away. Of course there are special services such as funerals or seasonal services where we all pitch in according to our availability.

Interested and/or have questions? Please let Dan Amundson know in the church office at 931-598-5926 and we will contact you in a timely manner.

Lynda Gotko and Dorothy Gates – Co-chairs of Altar Guild

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.**

Get Connected with Realm

Let's get connected. ✨

Download our Connect app today.

- 👤 Update your personal information
- 🗣️ Communicate with groups & teams
- 📅 Follow church announcements
- 🔍 Look up members
- 💰 Manage giving
- 📅 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.

Prayer Requests: Nancy Burnett, Camilla, Edward Curry, Brady Hall, Emily Hauze, Kim Heitzenrater, Phebe Hethcock, Rebecca Gayle Howell, Mike Jones, Duane, Brenda Matthews, Mike Mattei, Greg McNair, Rick Reuhling, Isaiah Shelby, Gene and Lynda Stephenson, Lynn Stubblefield, Evelyn Taylor, Freddy Tucker and those who are suffering the effects of war or violence.



June Birthdays

Lee Stapleton 6/1, Wendy Howard 6/2, Matthew Mitchell 6/2, Pierce Myers 6/4, Cheryl Lankhaar 6/4, Ann McNair 6/4, Lynda Gotko 6/6, Max Leffler- Mitchell 6/6, John Willis 6/7, James Woodard 6/11, Julian Elrod 6/12, Robin Bates 6/12, Dottie Mainord 6/13, Alec Moseley 6/14, Annette Smith 6/16, Kat Carpenter 6/16, John McCardell 6/17, Helen Wilson 6/18, Lane Beaumont 6/23, Jean Butler 6/23, Janet Cooper 6/24, Alex Hoole 6/26, Charlie Womelsdorf 6/26, Drew Richaud 6/29, Charlie Reynolds 6/29, Jerry White 6/30

Office Hours for 2026

9:00am-4:30pm Monday,
Wednesday & Friday

The Parish of St. Mark and St Paul
216 University Avenue
P. O. Box 267
Sewanee, TN 37375
(931) 598-5926

9:00am-1:00pm Tuesday &
Thursday

www.stmarkstpaul.org



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