

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

Formerly Otey Parish

Late August/September 2021



From the Rector -Not Again!

Wasn't (the early part of) summer fantastic? The fear of COVID loosened its grip as vaccination rates increased, CDC guidance moderated, and we got to be together in ways not possible for more than a year. Family and friends reconnected in person, we dispensed with masks at our indoor service for those vaccinated, and we made plans for things to get back to normal!

Yet somebody forgot to tell the virus. As I was traveling to and from vacation on Delta airlines, the Delta variant of COVID was getting its passport stamped in more and more countries. This more infectious strain has sent cases sharply upward in our nation, state, and county. The variant has broken through to cause disease in, and be transmitted by, a relatively small number of people who have been vaccinated. This doesn't mean that vaccines are not worth getting, but that we need to exercise heightened vigilance again.

Thus face masks are again required inside all parish buildings (except for staff members alone in their own offices), regardless of a person's vaccination status. The 8:30 service for vaccinated people remains indoors, but with

masking and reduced singing, while masking remains optional outdoors including at the 11am service open to all. At all services, chalices to share among one's household remain available, but the option of the common cup is suspended. We are taking extra precautions with our classes and other offerings, making use of the beautiful outdoor parish campus wherever possible. How (and whether) we celebrate Oktoberfest will depend on conditions.

While it is hugely demoralizing to be going backwards right now, I do take some comfort in the hope that our increased scientific understanding and experience with precautions over the past year and a half will make things better than they were in 2020 and early 2021. Please know that we are continually monitoring conditions, and will adapt as needed in ways that are no more restrictive than is prudent.

COVID-19 itself is not the only threat to people's well-being. The strain on hospital capacity makes things more difficult for staff and for people who need hospitalization for other reasons. Elevated levels of chronic stress can manifest in depression, relationship conflict, substance abuse, and physical illness. As before, just when anxious times make us need human connection more, the virus causes us to isolate.

As with every peril we face, I am confident we will make it through this one **together and with God's help.**

[Jesus said,] "I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5 NRSV)

Please renew your prayers for the parish clergy, staff, and lay leadership that we may be guided by the Holy Spirit through this troubled time. Please be extra kind to one another, since others likely feel at least as much stress as you do! Please be aware your own well-being and that of people around you, and reach out to the clergy or someone else who can help if you have concerns. Please be patient and flexible as we seek to navigate territory that is now barely-charted. Please make the extra effort to stay connected with your sisters and brothers in Christ!

Open us to your healing power, O God. We entrust ourselves to your care, knowing that you are doing for us and for all the world far better things than we can ask or imagine. With you as our companion and guide, strengthen us to hope for all that is good, and to fear no evil. For your love is stronger than death, and your faithfulness reaches to the heavens; and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and to the ages of ages. Amen.
(The Book of Occasional Services, p.176)

Sunday Service Schedule

8:30 am Holy Eucharist in the church for those fully vaccinated plus at least 2 weeks. Masking is required indoors. **The 8:30 am service is also livestreamed**

on our Facebook page. It is available there and on our YouTube channel at 11am and afterward.

11:00am Holy Eucharist outside for all (in case of rain, the 11:00 service will take place in the church with open windows, and curtailed singing.)

Vestry Highlights

At its regular meeting on August 19, the Vestry:

- Participated in prayers led by the Rev. David Goodpaster.
- Received an update on COVID-19 protocols.
- Approved the 2020 audit.
- Restored Parish Administrator Frieda Hawkins to full-time status for the remainder of the year. (Frieda previously volunteered for a temporary reduction of hours because of COVID-related budget constraints.)
- Approved a contract with Chittum Roofing to replace the weather-damaged ridge of the church roof with copper (the majority of the cost covered by insurance) and approved payment for materials to be used to upgrade the lightning protection of the church. Thanks go to Mickey Suarez for his expertise and planning of the upgrade.



Welcoming Picnic: After the 11am service on Sunday, August 29, we'll have our annual picnic outdoors for newcomers and long-term members alike! We will share fellowship in a way that is warm and healthy! Because of COVID, we are limited in our offerings again this year. Please bring your own food. Bottled water and dessert will be provided. For children, cheese pizza and apples will be available.

Betty Carpenter Celebration

When the Rev. Betty Carpenter retired last year as CAC Director (but not as Deacon of the parish), it was the early months of COVID and we were unable to have the type of public celebration befitting her years of outstanding service. Thus we plan to recognize and give thanks for her ministry with CAC on Sunday, September 19, after the



11am service. This celebration is planned to take place outside, and to include food, music, and words of gratitude. Please mark your calendars for this important occasion, and be ready for any adaptations we may need to make because of COVID.

Extension of Ministry for David Goodpaster

Since July 2020 David has served as Curate of the parish in addition to Director of the Community Action Committee. While the position of CAC Director is paid, his work as curate is non-stipendiary. Paid or not, it is the nature of curacies that they normally tend to last a year, two, or three, during the time immediately after seminary graduation.

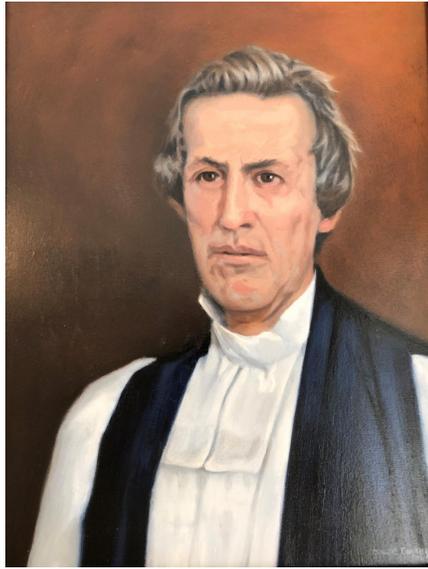


Now David has been called to the position of Associate Priest with Southeast Tennessee Episcopal Ministry, and will exercise his priestly ministry primarily at Christ Church, Tracy City. This position with STEM is part-time, so David will remain as CAC Director just the same as now. What's more, he will be able to be with us about one Sunday morning per month through the year!

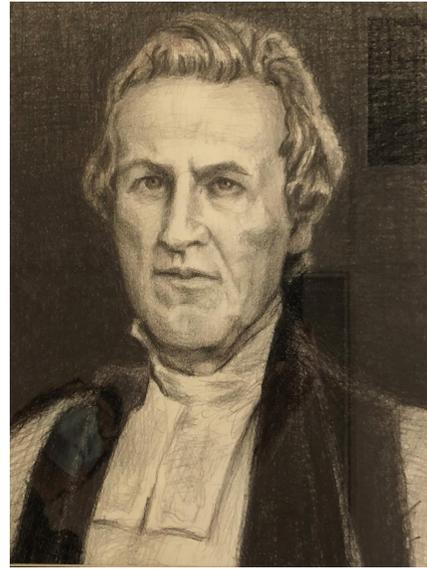
We are very grateful to David for his excellent and hard work as Curate. During this time of COVID he has done whatever has been needed with enthusiasm and skill, exhibiting wholehearted dedication to God's work. David's last Sunday as Curate will be August 29, and he will start his monthly Sundays back here on October 10. David's experience over the coming weeks will clarify his weekday schedule performing his CAC duties. Please join in thanking David for all he has done, and will continue to do, here.

Presentation of Bishop Otey Portrait





This Sunday, August 29, we will formally unveil the portrait of Bp. Otey by Claude Buckley (C'81) commissioned by John Bratton. This oil painting will hang in the hallway of Claiborne Parish House to anchor a larger display of pictures of our parish history.



We will also be pleased to present (at John's recommendation) the sketch Mr. Buckley made as a study for the painting to Otey biographer Howard Lotti, who has spoken on the bishop's life at the parish on a number of occasions.

Christian Formation News

Family News

Outdoor Nursery

In June we opened an outdoor nursery during the 10am service. Babies and preschoolers are entertained on the church playground. They are brought back to parents during the Peace so families can receive Eucharist together.

At this time, only children who can wear masks can be inside the building. This severely limits our ability to hold nursery indoors. We have a room downstairs near the playground that we will use when guidance allows. Many thanks to Jeanell Weintraub and others who have sent books and toys for our new room!

Annika Derham continues to serve as Nursery Coordinator, with Cara Kitzrow as Nursery Caregiver. We have three substitutes, Jo Gressley, Cheryl Lankhar, and Diana Rung.

Connections for Parents

Parents and caregivers gathered outside for conversation three Sunday mornings in August while children were in Godly

Play. The Rev. Giulianna Cappelletti Gray, Priest Associate, facilitated the gatherings to get to know one another, learn a bit about how to support each other, and reflect a bit about hopes for our kids this fall! In addition to conversation, the group took time to reflect on scriptures that discuss the fruits of the Spirit.



Godly Play Sunday school began August 1 on Zoom, and on August 8 moved to the playground. We have two circles for storytelling, wondering, and feast. The children also enjoy reflection time and free play. Godly Play outdoors is going even better than expected! And we have covered areas in case of rain. We have had up to 30 children per week.

Godly Play 1 is for children who are at least three years old through first grade. In August, this group is learning foundational stories from Genesis and Exodus. In September, they hear the story of Jonah and learn about the books of the Bible as well as the ark, the tabernacle, and the temple.

Godly Play 2 is for children in grades 2-5. Many of these children have years of experience in Godly Play. They know the basic stories well enough to delve into more detailed Enrichment Stories and side-by-side presentations of two stories. After starting with the Circle of the Church Year, Creation and the Falling Apart, and the Great Family, they are now progressing through the stories of Abraham, Sarah, Hagar, Jacob, and Joseph.

Storytellers include Jeannie Babb, Julia Bates, Cheryl Lankaar, Meghan Mazur, Barbara Prunty and Beth Wiley. Many thanks to doorkeepers Lane Beaumont, Betty Carpenter, Annwn Meyers, Jennifer Michael, and especially Aaron Elrod who graciously said, "Put me down for every week."

We need two doorkeepers and two storytellers each week. Would you like to learn to tell Godly Play stories? Or perhaps you feel called to provide support as a doorkeeper? In the coming year, we will be training and Safeguarding additional teachers. Please check with Jeannie about this vital ministry.



**Tuesday morning Godly Play / Parents' Morning Out
2021-2022 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/152156272507>

Our first day back to Tuesday Godly Play / Parents' Morning Out was August 17. However, we still have room for more children. We are currently operating completely outdoors, using spaces such as the playground, porches, lawn, and quad.

Tuesday Morning 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/152156272507>

If you have questions, please contact Jeannie by email formation@stmarkstpaul.org or 423-255-6479.

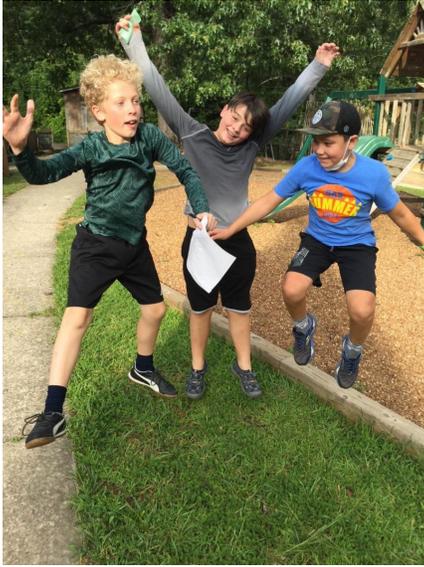
Youth Sunday School

Youth Sunday school resumes August 29, 2021. We will meet on the upstairs porch of Brooks Hall for Bible study, snacks, and games. This class is also in need of volunteers. All youth and children volunteers will receive training and have background checks. Please contact Jeannie for more information.

Fire on the Mountain for youth

August 22, 2021, was our back to school party with a scavenger hunt, pizza, and many games. Our next regular meeting is tentatively scheduled for 4-6 p.m. on September 12, 2021. We are putting together our complete fall calendar now, and will send it out to participants by email as well as posting events on the website and our [Facebook](#) page. We also regularly communicate by text. To join the text list, please send a text to Jeannie at 423-255-6479 and ask to be added.

Fire on the Mountain is open to all 6th-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 and welcome everyone.



Sunday Forum Resumes August 29

The theme for the 2021 - 2022 Sunday Forum is: *Listening to the Voices of Our Once & Future Patron Saints*

The Forum is held from 9:45 am to 10:45 am in Kennerly Hall. Below is the schedule.

Sunday Forum 2021-2022 Sundays, 9:45-10:45 in Kennerly Hall



A Year with St. Mark & St. Paul
Listening to the Voices of Our Once & Future Patron Saints



August 29 Rob Lamborn	A Year with St. Mark & St. Paul <i>Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23</i>
September 5 Karen Meridith	Be Opened <i>Mark 7:24-37</i>
September 12 Peter Gray	A Sprint Through Mark's Gospel <i>Mark 8:27-38</i>
September 19 Julia Gatta	Servant Ministry <i>Mark 9:30-37</i>
September 26 Lauryl Tucker	Dorothy Sayers, Theologian <i>Mark 9:38-50</i>
October 3 Rob Lamborn	Rector's Forum <i>Mark 10:2-16</i>
October 10 Cindy Crysdale	Spirituality and Ethics <i>Mark 10:17-31</i>
October 17 Rob MacSwain	What Do Saints Tell Us About God? <i>Mark 10:35-45</i>
October 24	Stewardship Sunday
October 31 Giulianna Gray	The Greatest Commandment <i>Mark 12:28-34</i>
November 7 David Goodpaster	All Saints <i>Mark 12:38-44</i>
November 14 Tam Parker	Images of Violence in Religion & Culture <i>Mark 13:1-8</i>
November 21	Parish Annual Meeting
November 28 Rob Lamborn	Rector's Forum <i>1 Thessalonians 3:9-13</i>
December 5 Deborah Jackson	Prayer & Service <i>Philippians 1:3-11</i>
December 12	Our Lady of Guadalupe <i>Philippians 4:4-7</i>

Sunday Forum 2021-2022 Sundays, 9:45-10:45 in Kennerly Hall

December 19 Paul Holloway	Paul or Not Paul? <i>Hebrews 10:5-10</i>
January 9 Rob Lamborn	Rector's Forum
January 16	Anti-racism Work at All Saints <i>1 Corinthians 12:1-11</i>
January 23	Who was Paul? <i>1 Corinthians 12:12-31a</i>
January 30 Jim Turrell	Theological Education in a Changing Church <i>1 Corinthians 13:1-13</i>
February 6 David Stark	Preaching Grace in a World That Prizes Success <i>1 Corinthians 15:1-11</i>
February 13 Becky Wright	First Fruits: Giving the Best <i>1 Corinthians 15:12-20</i>
February 20 Celeste Ray	Sacred Landscape <i>1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50</i>
February 27	Decolonizing Evangelism <i>2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2</i>
March 6 Yuri Rodriguez	Decolonizing Church Music <i>Romans 10:8b-13</i>
March 13 Rob Lamborn	Rector's Forum <i>Philippians 3:17-4:1</i>
March 20 Richard Cogill	The Struggle for Full Inclusion in Church & Society <i>1 Corinthians 10:1-13</i>
March 27	Eucharist as the Threshold to the New Creation <i>2 Corinthians 5:16-21</i>
April 3 Sr. Hannah	A Spiritual Journey <i>Philippians 3:4b-14</i>
April 24	
May 1	

August 24, 2021

Reflections on Recent Conferences By Kathleen Sturgis

During June and July, I attended the Association of Anglican Musicians Conference and some of the Sewanee Church Music Conference via Zoom. The Rev. Dr. Neil Alexander was a part of both events. The first sessions talked about the effect the pandemic has had on all of us. Uniformly, both conferences agreed the thing they missed most during the pandemic was SINGING! He referenced the book, *SONGS MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME*, by Presiding Bishop Michael and then referenced what his Moravian background meant to his love of music and its great influence on his life.

He talked about his father who would read hymns as meditation. It seemed to speak to his heart. Have you ever noticed how a tune will stay with you? Bishop

Alexander said “music carves a hymn text into the heart like a scalpel”. Have you ever noticed when you try to recite the text of a hymn and had a memory slip? As soon as you start to sing it, it comes right back because the music ingrains it in our hearts.

When the 1982 hymnal was being done, the focus of the liturgical commission was to make the hymns “WE” hymns, not first person when ever possible. This is because music is for everyone. What is what corporate worship should be about. If someone has a spiritual experience and is moved to do a personal testimony, then that tends to fit in a less formal setting. These personal testimonies may be a bit “wobbly” in both text and tune, but still have their place.

How do you tell a healthy congregation according to Bishop Alexander is its singing? A singing congregation has vitality connected to its congregational singing regardless of its size. He said he always looked for that when he made his pastoral visits as an indicator. So, he urges all of us to help our congregations sing better. He encouraged us to teach the songs of the hymnal to avoid the “soulful disconnect” that can happen when a congregation doesn’t know a hymn.

He quoted John Westerhoff’s book, WILL OUR CHILDREN HAVE FAITH. He said perhaps we should really ask, “Will our faith have children?” Music helps to indelibly print our children. A singing church has vitality, is a missional church and will look for opportunities to grow and influence its community.

One thing he would like to see are more, Singstugas (hymn sings) monthly, or do the hymns of a season at the beginning each church season. If the people know the hymns they will sing with joy. Moreover, the hymns embedded in our heart can be of great comfort when going through a hard time. Families that sing together, will tend to know each member’s favorite hymn, text, etc. How much richer are funeral celebrations that contain the words and music that were close to your loved ones. If you don’t know, perhaps that would be a great question for the next family gathering. What is your favorite hymn(s)? Bottom line – CHRISTIANS SING!

The other things we learned over the conference sessions were mostly specific to music professionals, but the Rev. Barbara Cardin and Bishop Alexander left me with some great ideas for us here at the Church of St. Mark and St. Paul. Lastly, a special thank you to John Kilkenney and the Summer Music Festival for the beautiful music during July. What a lovely gift to us. Hopefully they will join us again next year. Also, thanks to all of you who are helping with the set up, ushering duties and clean up of the outside service. It means so much to have us all work together to make worship possible. God bless each of you.

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.

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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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 List: Abu-Ali Abdur'Rahman, Phoebe Bates, Paul Cahoon, Alison Cane, Corky Carlisle, Barb Ford, Catherine Garcia, Anne Griffin, Jane Holmes, Misty Isbel, Ariel Jones, David Kearley, Michelle King, Sandy Woodard McLelland, George Ramseur, Jennifer Sturgis Roberts, Karen Throneberry, Agnes Wagner, Faye and Francis Walter, Estelle, the people of Haiti, and those suffering from COVID-19.

September Birthdays



Sophia Patterson 9/1; Sandy Baird 9/6; Lauryl Tucker 9/6; Jane Mauzy 9/7
Scott Lee 9/7; Declan Sweeney 9/7; Peggy Peterson 9/8; Mary Ming Lynch 9/8 Sally Hubbard 9 / 8; Joshua Mauzy 9/9; Matthew Mauzy 9/9 ; Mary Davis 9/12 ; Diane Jones 9/15; Francesca Gray 9/17; Lauren Goodpaster 9/19; Bruce McMillan 9/22; Bruce Baird 9/23; Ken Taylor 9/23;
Phoebe Bates 9/2; Laurence Alvarez 9/27 ; Kate Wiley 9/27 ; Lynn Stubblefield 9/27 ; Neil Patterson 9/27 ; May Kamalick 9/27 ; Jori Smith 9/30 ;



The deadline for submissions for the October 2021 issue of *St. Mark & St. Paul Notes* is: 3pm Monday, 20. Please note on your calendar.

Email submissions to:
admin@stmarkstpaul.org

The mission of the Parish of St. Mark & St. Paul is

to worship God,
to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ,
to serve the world for which Christ died,
to educate and nurture our community,
and welcome all.

Staff:

The Rev. Robert C. Lamborn, D. Min., Rector, rector@stmarkstpaul.org
The Rev. Elizabeth Carpenter, Deacon, deacon@stmarkstpaul.org
The Rev. David Goodpaster, CAC Director, Curate, curate@stmarkstpaul.org,
Frieda Hawkins, Parish Administrator, admin@stmarkstpaul.org
Kathy Sturgis, Organist, music@stmarkstpaul.org
Jeannie Babb, Christian Formation Director formation@stmarkstpaul.org
Jan Stevens, Financial Administrative Assistant, finance@stmarkstpaul.org
Annika Derham, Nursery Coordinator
Randy Rogers, Sexton, oteysexton@gmail.com
The Rev. Giulianna Cappelletti Gray, Priest Associate, giuliannagray@gmail.com

Vestry:

Beth Chamberlain, CAC
Joel Cunningham, Finance
Susan Holmes, Sr. Warden & Newcomers
Karen Meridith, University/Community Relations
Sue Moseley, Christian Formation
Tom Phelps, Pastoral Care
Annette Smith, Junior Warden
Lynn Taylor, Parish Life
Lauryl Tucker, Stewardship
Alec Moseley, Treasurer
Julia Bates, Clerk

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