



Otey Parish

SEWANEE, TENNESSEE



From the Rector: Returning to In-Person Public Worship!



Otey Parish held its first two in-person public worship services since March on September 6 & 13 at 11:00am. A Bring Your Own Everything picnic followed the service on September 6. The tree-shaded area in front of Brooks Hall is marked off into separate distanced areas for each individual or family. If it is prudent for you attend, we hope to see you there. Weather permitting we will continue to hold the 11am service outside for the time being. Worship will also continue to be offered online.

Now that it is clear that safe distancing can be maintained, the next step is to reintroduce Communion. COVID-19 is not a foodborne illness. While it is most theologically sound to distribute the consecrated bread broken from a single loaf, and to share the consecrated wine from a single chalice, some temporary modifications will be introduced in the interest of public health. In addition to masking and hand sanitizing, both celebrant and communicants will remain at arm's length for the distribution of wafer bread. To offer wine safely, we will use separate chalices (sanitized in advance of the service), for each individual or family household. Thus if you have any chalices you are willing to loan Otey during the pandemic, please contact me at rector@oteyparish.org. Small chalices like the ones used in home Communion kits will be particularly useful.

When Communion is reintroduced in

our services, anyone who is not comfortable attending church for health reasons will have the opportunity for home Communion once per month. It is important that the holy meal continue to unite us rather than create any divide between “haves” and “have-nots.” Again, please let me know.



As the weather cools off, and if public health guidelines don't discourage it, I expect we'll move inside the church building with increased ventilation later in the fall. Thanks go to parishioner Mickey Suarez and Sexton Barb Ford for getting the tilt-pane windows in the church operational again—most had been painted or caulked shut in the years after the church was air-conditioned!



Are all of these changes and adaptations an adventure, or a pain in the neck? Frankly they are both. Bp. Bauerschmidt has characterized this time as a pilgrimage along a wilderness road, where the comforts are few and the sense of familiarity is rare. It calls on us to be patient, to have stamina, and to respond in love when nerves are

frayed. Yet such a pilgrimage, even if not undertaken voluntarily, can be a time of spiritual growth and significantly deepening faith.

Also from the Rector--An Outdoor Gathering Space?



For a number of years I have noticed how, in decent weather, fellowship after the late service tends to divide into 3 groups. One group comes into St. Mark's Hall for coffee, refreshment, and conversation. Another group goes to the playground where children play and their

parents converse. Still another group stays on the sidewalk in front of the church and talks. In the summer we often enjoy coffee hour outside, but shade is scarce.

Being able to unite the 3 groups in the area between the front door of the church and the playground is something I've long been interested in. Yet I did not want to divert focus from the repaying of the debt on St. Mark's Hall. Then we had to make extensive repairs to the bell tower. Then . . . COVID!

Yet COVID also makes it highly desirable to have outdoor meeting space available, as the tents that have sprung up across campus attest. We looked at the possibility and expense of renting or buying a tent or tents, but issues of anchoring and durability were problematic. So Junior Warden Karen Meridith and I met with architect (and priest) John Runkle about the idea, and the Vestry has approved developing a proposal for consideration.

John will take into account the needs of the parish and the contours of our site to propose a structure that harmonizes with our existing buildings. Electrical power and a water spigot (though not full plumbing) are to be included in the plan. The proposed structure will not obstruct the view of the church from downtown or interfere with the 2014 landscaping plan.

When COVID first hit, my initial reaction was to try to avoid any discretionary spending at all. Partway in I realized that adapting to these radically changed circumstances will take some expenditures in order to minister effectively. Your vestry will continue to act in a financially responsible manner. An outdoor gathering space would be useful both during the pandemic and for decades after (God willing) COVID is under control. For a good chunk of the year, coffee hour would be convenient and visible to every person exiting the church, and parents could keep an eye on their children on the playground while enjoying refreshments and conversation with a wider slice of the parish family.

The mission of Otey Parish is:

To worship God,
To proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ,
To serve the world for which Christ died,
To educate and nurture the community, and
To welcome all.

Carrying out these aspects of our mission largely in person is effective, familiar, and satisfying. Finding ways to carry out these aspects of mission at a safe distance is unfamiliar and challenging, but with God's help, need be no less effective.

Vestry Highlights -- Regular Meeting of August 20, 2020 (via Zoom)

- Welcomed the Rev. David Goodpaster to the meeting for the first time as an ordained person. (Assisting clergy have seat and voice but not vote.)
- Heard updates from a variety of committees and ministries.
- Approved payment to architect John Runkle to develop a proposal for an outdoor gathering space.
- Reviewed plans and scheduling for worship and Christian formation in the fall.
- Discussed the parish sesquicentennial and how the observance will have to be modified.



Normally field education students from the School of Theology work in a one-to-one ratio with priests in their ministry sites. Yet the COVID pandemic has made “normally” a term of nostalgia more than of practicality. SoT senior David Boyd did his first semester of field education at St. James in Midway, but COVID severely limited the opportunities for him to participate there. With the approval of Vicar John Runkle and Field Ed Director David Cobb, Boyd will do his second semester of field ed

here at Otey this fall, joining SoT senior Ted Clarkson.

Born and raised in Atlanta, Boyd has experienced a lifelong call to ministry. He grew up in the United Methodist Church before finding the Episcopal Church his senior year of high school. He graduated Centre College in Danville, Ky., earning a bachelor's degree in Religion with a minor in Art History. There he also met his wife, Sarah! He then spent a year serving in the Episcopal Service Corps in downtown Atlanta before coming to Sewanee. David is very excited to learn and grow in faith with the people of Otey Parish over the coming semester!

Please welcome David Boyd to this role at Otey.

Community Action Committee Snippets

In August, a CiMa-Pak sealing machine was purchased and delivered to Otey Memorial Parish. This purchase was made in part through a generous grant from the Monteagle-Sewanee Rotary Club. The machine is located in the Brooks Hall kitchen where, in partnership with McClurg Dining Hall and Rotary, food from McClurg will be sealed into three-compartment trays as packaged meals for those in need. The trays used for these meals are extremely versatile. They can be froze, microwaved, and baked. McClurg and Rotary will be helping CAC with the delivery of this food from McClurg as well as the sealing of the food into ready-made meals. CAC will also be responsible for purchasing the trays and film used to seal the meals and the distribution of these meals to those in need throughout the area. These pictures are from the meeting that took place in Brooks Hall with representatives from the three partnering organizations soon after the machine arrived.





During the month of August, CAC participated in the Grundy County Safe Baby Court Diaper Drive. Your efforts contributed to over 8000 diapers donated during the drive. Thank you so much! CAC is now a distribution site for a substantial portion of these donated diapers serving families with children in the Sewanee/Monteagle area.

Hunger Walk



Walk. Bike. Run. End food insecurity. The Hunger Walk looks a little different this year. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Monteagle-Sewanee Rotary club has decided to hold the 6th Annual Hunger Walk as a week-long virtual event beginning Monday, September 28th and ending on Sunday, October 4th. Anyone may participate. Pick your own route then walk, run, or cycle. Money raised will go toward CAC's fight against food insecurity throughout the greater Sewanee community. You can register

to participate for \$25 (\$15 for students / \$5 for children under 12). The challenge for this year is to log as many miles as you can in a one-week period. Participants can download the Endomondo app to track their distance and to visualize it on the Hunger Walk website. Please help continue to make a difference in our community through the Hunger Walk 2020! Register at: thehungerwalk.com

Student Volunteers

As of August 9th, Sewanee: The University of the South gave the Office of Civic Engagement the authority to approve any student engagement with the community as well as approving any community events. This is good news. Bonner Foundation and Canale Endowment students are now allowed to volunteer with CAC and this includes a more expedited process for COVID-19 protocol approval. For in-person service opportunities, Bonner and Canale

students will primarily be transitioning into working with the CAC/McClurg/Rotary partnership as well as a COVID version of the monthly community meals through Food with Friends.

David Goodpaster, CAC Director & Curate

Christian Formation Updates



Contact: Jeannie Babb, Director of Christian Formation

Text or call 423-255-6479 or email formation@oteyparish.org

Welcome to the Mountain

Do you have new neighbors or co-workers? We are eager to connect with them. If you know anyone who would appreciate a personal welcome and to learn about our ministries to individuals and families, please let us know.

Website

One piece of that new beginning is our website <https://www.oteyparish.org/>. We hope you'll enjoy the fresh new look, and that you'll help us make this a "front door" to Otey. What we have is only a foundation. Here's how you can help:

- Send pictures you have taken of people and events at Otey
- Let us know what you'd like to see on the website; what would help you connect?
- Try out the new Online Giving portal and give feedback on ease of use
- Report any errors, typos, or broken links

Sunday School and Service Times

8:30 a.m. Early Service (Live on Youtube and Facebook)

9:15 a.m. Godly Play (Zoom)

9:45 a.m. Sunday Forum (Zoom)

11:00 a.m. Late Service (Youtube or Facebook)

4:00 Youth Sunday School

Fire on the Mountain: Youth News

Sundays 4-6pm, on the lawn of Brooks Hall. Invite your friends! Parents are welcome to stay for the meeting, or pick up by 6pm.

Fire on the Mountain is the youth group for grades 6-12. Sponsored by Otey Memorial Parish, Fire on the Mountain welcomes young people from all faith backgrounds for fun, emotional and spiritual growth, and service.

What to expect:

Outdoor meeting (social distanced, with masks)

Games & activities

Snacks

New faces

What to bring:

Chair or beach towel

Water

Bug spray
Face mask
A sense of humor

Jeannie Babb
Otey Memorial Parish
423-255-6479



New Youth Ministry Intern

Franklin Lowe is a first-year MDiv student at the School of Theology at the University of the South. Originally from Fayetteville, GA, he graduated from Samford University in 2016, with a BA in History, and from the College of William & Mary in 2018, with an MA in History. This past year, he joined the Community of St. Anselm in London, England for a “year in God’s time” with young people from around the world. He hopes to bring his loves of art, music, creative writing, and storytelling to “Fire on the Mountain” and to reconnect with his wild side as he explores the beautiful Domain.



Register for Godly Play

The Godly Play Sunday school program at Otey Memorial Parish is designed for children at least 3 years old through 5th grade. Due to Covid-19, we are not gathering all the children in the Godly Play room. Instead, the stories are shared on Zoom from the home of the storyteller, from the Godly Play room, or sometimes from

the home of a family with the children of that home in the circle and others joining virtually.

Godly Play Sunday school will take place each Sunday from 9:15-9:45, with work time to follow.

Please use the link below to register for Godly Play Sunday school. If you have any trouble registering, please send me an email.

<https://onrealm.org/OteyMemorialChu/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=YWE2YjQ4ZDUtYjVINy00ZTE2LTk4MDctYWMxNTAxMTUyNTk2>

On Sundays, help your child log in:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81306743310?pwd=NHBKSnb3UnNYS013eS9jZDBvc3ErQT09>

Meeting ID: 813 0674 3310

Passcode: ready

Godly Play kits are available to pick up Friday afternoons on the CAC porch. These are paper baggies containing a snack to enjoy during our closing feast, and a few art supplies that may have something to do with the story. When Miss Julia told The Circle of the Church Year, for example, we included a paper

plate and some construction paper strips that children can use to think about this week's story. For the Creation story, children will receive index cards and construction paper in case they'd like to make their own representation of the days of creation. Scissors are not included. Please check the bags to make sure supplies are appropriate for your child's developmental level. You might also provide supplies for open-ended projects (play-doh or clay, markers, etc.) Please pick up the kits any time after noon on Friday, and give one to each child at 9:45 when we log off.

This ministry is supported by the prayer, time, and energy of volunteers, some of whom are parents of children. We encourage you to let us know if you'd like to contribute space, learn to tell stories, or help with the worktime materials. Ideally, we'd like to have at least one parent volunteer from each family. We'd like to each parent volunteer to participate about once per month.

Godly Play helps children to explore their faith through story, to gain religious language, and to enhance their spiritual experience through wonder and play. Based on Montessori principles and developed using a spiral curriculum, the Godly Play method serves children through early, middle and late childhood and beyond. To learn more about the theory and method of Godly Play, please visit the [Godly Play Foundation](http://www.godlyplay.org).

For more information, contact Jeannie Babb at formation@oteyparish.com, 423-255-6479 for call or text. *(Please note my new email in your address book: formation@oteyparish.org)*



Nursery

The nursery at Otey Memorial Parish will remain closed while we are not having indoor services. Nursery Coordinator Annika Derham and Nursery Caregiver Cara Kitzrow remain committed to the ministry, and are eager to stay connected with our little ones and their families. Please contact us if there is a way we can minister to you and your smallest children during this time.

Help tell the story of Otey, St. Mark's, and St. Paul's!

For our upcoming celebration of Otey's sesquicentennial founding as St Paul's-on-the-Mountain in 1870 - 71, we are planning to add to our archives with memorabilia, create a digital scrapbook, and perhaps a bound hardcover book, to look back on 150 years of Otey's ministries, celebrations, and families. During this quiet time of staying at home, many parishioners have remarked that they are going through boxes of collectibles. This is a great opportunity to look through your scrapbooks and memorabilia to unearth your treasures that might tell part of Otey's story. Please be in touch about items you have that you would be willing for the church to scan and return to you, or that you'd like

the church to have. We may ask you if the church can borrow some items to put on display this coming year, but certainly we want your prized possessions to come back to you.

We are looking for photos, pamphlets or flyers, programs, artwork, costumes, quilts, and the like. We also want to record your stories, spoken aloud to a video recorder or written in your hand. So please take these summer months to do a bit of research on the ways that Otey was instrumental in your life through the years.

For questions or to report what you've found, contact Lisa Howick at lisa.m.howick@gmail.com; Greg Maynard at coachmaynard@gmail.com; or the Church Office at admin@oteparish.org.

Music Notes

Choirs and Congregations

During my four years in EFM, we were trained to use metaphor as a way of exploring a topic with comparison. and contrast. Frequently, as I currently begin to read. I find myself considering a pertinent metaphor. The article I was reading at the time was in a professional music journal. It was discussing how difficulty people in music are having planning for the new year under COVID conditions. It described the angst of missing singing and making music. I was thinking how similar congregations and choirs seem to share commonalities. It demonstrates how we take for granted group singing, until we can't – like now.

We are now in the months were professional musicians are planning and preparing this year's works. Schools are fighting hard to keep educating our children. Businesses are fighting hard to keep open. People are struggling to keep their way of life. No matter how hard we plan and work the answer is very disappointing. Our former normal most likely will not begin the same way again. Our 'singing' is at risk.

And this is where I feel choirs and congregations are experiencing similar pain. Thanks to recordings, we still have access to both. Both are experiencing anguish and disappointment. When you miss a rehearsal or a service, you feel a void, but when you attend the next time, the void is filled and you feel O.k. again. But this has gone on since March. Our deficit is great! Our lack of interaction is apparent no matter if you are a parishioner or a choir /orchestra member.

Not only are we in this together, bur we are dependent on one another for protection and care. This is something that parishioners and music makers share as well. All need to function together, paying careful attention to each other. The choir functions as a whole even if they are singing different notes, it must happen together, not as just a collection of parts. That bonding, transcendent experience is what exhilarates the participants. Congregations too, when they are "feelin' it "during a favorite hymn, have that experience of mutual support, or social bonding, of being held together in the hands of the Holy Spirit. A research project at the University of California Berkeley has found that "music makes us affiliate with groups." Group singing can and does foster that prayerful attitude important during a pandemic, an attitude of prayer.

So even if we are singing through masks, we are singing together, ---even at a distance we are praising God. The peace of the Lord be with all of you.

By Kathleen Sturgis

Sewanee Mask Directive



Beginning Saturday, July 3, Vice Chancellor and Mayor Reuben E. Brigety, II instituted a mandatory mask directive that is in effect for all persons on the Sewanee Domain. This directive applies to all residents, visitors, students, faculty, and staff, and will remain in force until further notice.

All residents of, and visitors to, Sewanee are required to wear face coverings over their nose and mouth when in public or inside buildings other than private residences, with five exceptions:

- When they are alone
- When they are asleep (such as in a residence hall room or hotel room)
- When they are eating or drinking
- When they are maintaining a social distance of six feet or more from any other person, and
- If they have a documented medical condition that precludes their wearing a face covering.

In situations that may be ambiguous with regard to the above exceptions, individuals are asked to exercise their best judgment with regard to their likelihood of spreading the virus to others. If in doubt, individuals should wear a mask. Everyone is asked to have a mask on their person at all times so that they may don it when circumstances require it as outlined above. The Vice Chancellor expresses his gratitude for your cooperation in helping to keep our community safe during this unprecedented health crisis.

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 Otey Memorial Parish

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:

Otey Memorial Parish Church
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.

Realm Connect

Our new 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, Bonnie Babb, David Burnett, Corky Carlisle, Matthew Collins, Catherine Garcia, Lynda Gotko, Ray Gotko, Ariel Jones, Houston King, Cheryl Lankhaar, Mary Lynch, Raymond McCoy, Mary Matlock Newman, Elizabeth Noland, Allen Peek, Jennifer Sturgis Roberts, Russell Stubblefield, Elizabeth Taylor, Van Tucker, Peggy Ward, and those suffering from coronavirus.

September Birthdays

Sophia Patterson, 9/1; Sandy Baird, 9/6; Lauryl Tucker, 9/6, Jane Mauzy, 9/7, Scott Lee, 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, John Greeter, 9/14; Diane Jones, 9/15; Francesca Gray, 9/17; Lauren Goodpaster, 9/19; Bruce Baird, 9/23; Ken Taylor, 9/23; Phoebe Bates, 9/25; Laurence Alvarez, 9/27; Kate Wiley, 9/27; Lynn Stubblefield, 9/27; Neil Patterson, 9/27; May Kamalick, 9/27; Jori Smith, 9/30

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