

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

Epiphany 2024



The snow that wouldn't melt! Many thanks to Bruce Baird, Jay Fisher, John Gatta, Greg Maynard, Ned Murray, who cleared snow and ice from parish sidewalks when it was needed!

The snow from almost a week before (more critically, the ice it turned into on roadways!) caused us to conduct our worship on Zoom on Sunday, January 21. Episcopal 101 also met on Zoom that day.

Vestry Highlights: Meeting of December 14, 2023

- Welcomed John Gatta, Neil Patterson, and Mary Priestley, who will begin terms in January.
- Adopted the 2024 operating budget.
- Shared a meal in the lovely home of Lynn & Ken Taylor.

Meeting of January 18, 2024 (via Zoom because of winter weather)

- Elected Robin Bates Senior Warden, re-elected Diane Jones Junior Warden, Beth Wiley Treasurer, and Kathryn Bruce Clerk.
- Confirmed the appointment of vestry member John Gatta to a 1-year term and parishioner at large Ned Murray to a 2-year term on the Finance

Committee.

--Agreed to the following areas of responsibility for other members: Jay Fisher--Stewardship, Dorothy Gates--Evangelism & University/Community Relations, Neil Patterson--Christian Formation, Mary Priestley--CAC, Lynn Stubblefield--Parish Life.

New Children's Choir Director

Ken Miller and Rob Lamborn are pleased to announce that Beth Sperry will direct the Children's Choir this spring semester.

A lifelong Episcopalian, and 3rd generation Floridian, Beth grew up in South and Central Florida, has a Bachelor's in Voice Performance from Boston University and a Master's of Science in Nursing from the Massachusetts General Hospital Institute of Health Professions. She lived, worked, and raised her 3 children in Western Massachusetts, until the long winters and the breakup of her marriage brought her back to Sewanee, which she had learned to love as a Sewanee Academy boarding student. (For a time as a highschooler she conducted the Otey Parish Children's Choir!) Beth lives now in Midway and has three large dogs, one black cat, and a large and growing rose garden. She teaches voice locally and also participates in the musical life of St. James Episcopal Church.



"I am excited to move forward with so many bright and talented young folk in this supportive community!" Beth said after accepting the position. Please join in welcoming her to, and supporting her in, this new position. And parents of children interested in joining the choir may email bethsperry5@gmail.com.

Office Hours for 2024

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

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



Let it snow!?

Unless announced otherwise, St. Mark & St. Paul and CAC close when Franklin County Schools close for snow or ice.

Sewanee Children's Center decides and publicizes its own closures.

Episcopal 101

It is not too late to join this class on the hows and whys of practicing Christianity in the Episcopal Church, Sundays at 2:30pm in the Hethcock Room. Please contact Rob Lamborn at rector@stmarkstpaul.org.



Come one come all and let the good times roll for a New Orleans themed celebration in St. Mark's Hall of Claiborne Parish house! Tuesday, February 13 from 5 pm to 6:30 pm, you won't want to miss the Fat Tuesday festivities and feast hosted by the our Parish Life Krewe! Everyone and every age is welcome, so invite all your friends and neighbors!



The menu will delight your taste buds with red beans and rice. A vegetarian offering will be provided. Plus we will have pancakes with toppings and sausage. And King's Cake for dessert! Tea, lemonade, orange juice and coffee will be provided Entertainment will include jazz, Mardi Gras favorites with live music presented by Sewanee Conglomerate, and our very own Rob Lamborn (dancing and beads are encouraged.)

Ash Wed

The Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes will take place at 12:15 and 7:00pm on February 14, 2024.

Diocesan Convention

The 192nd Annual Convention of the Diocese of Tennessee was scheduled for January 19-20 at St. Paul's, Murfreesboro. Winter weather caused the convention first to be reduced to Saturday only, then postponed to February

10. Lay delegates Lynn Stubblefield, Michael Thompson, and Beth Wiley join clergy Betty Carpenter and Rob Lamborn in representing St. Mark & St. Paul.

Christian Formation News
by Jeannie Babb, Director, Christian Formation



Wednesday Nights in Lent

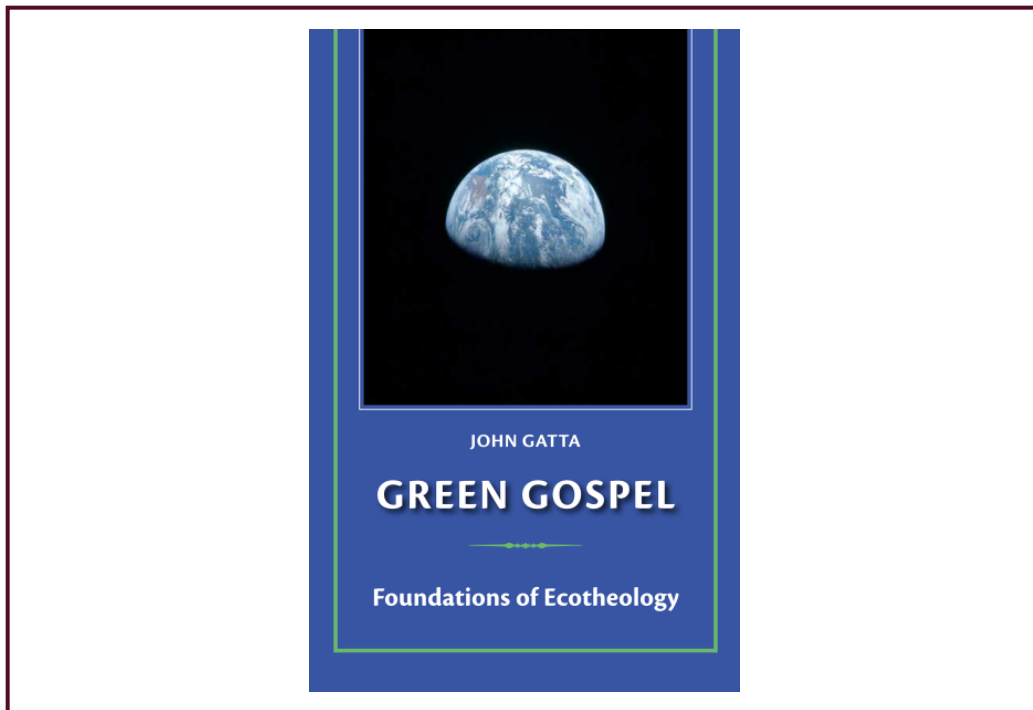
Lenten Soup Series
Green Gospel: Foundations of Ecotheology
by John Gatta
Feb 21-Mar20 in Claiborne Hall, 5:30-7:00pm

Join us Wednesday evenings between Ash Wednesday and Holy Week (Feb 21-Mar 20) for our Lenten Soup Series. A simple meal of soup and bread will be served at 5:30, with the study beginning at 6:00. The meals will be prepared and served by various church committees.

We are reading Dr. John Gatta's new book *Green Gospel: Foundations of Ecotheology*, with the author facilitating discussion. The release date of the book is March 5. Please pre-order and we will supply you with a pdf version to use until your copy arrives.

"Green Gospel opens a window into the developing realm of ecotheology, defining foundational principles and outlining how these tenets can be lived out through worship and individual practice. To help readers connect with otherwise challenging concepts, Gatta's Green Gospel draws on illustrative examples from literary works and liturgical texts to transport readers through these artistic portals to a world lit up by God's grace."

John Gatta is Emeritus Professor of English at the University of Connecticut, Storrs and at the University of the South, where he served as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. He has also taught at the University of Missouri, as a Fulbright lecturer in Senegal, and in South Africa. He is the author of seven books and more than 50 academic articles, having devoted his research to two specific areas: pre-1900 American literary and cultural history, and theological topics including the interplay between religious faith and literary imagination.



2023 Christmas Pageant was a fun success!

On December 18, the children of St. Mark & St. Paul put on our annual Christmas pageant in McCrory Auditorium at St. Andrews-Sewanee School. The Children's Choir sang, with Nora Jane Elrod singing a solo during Away in a Manger. Many thanks to SAS and especially to Lizzie Duncan for making this pageant possible!

The pageant was livestreamed and is available on our Facebook page.



YOUTH NEWS

Youth Sunday School

Youth Sunday School is held each week from 9:45-10:45am, upstairs in Brooks Hall. (Brooks Hall is the big house off to the side of the church.) We are using Gospel Based Discipleship, also sometimes referred to as African Bible Study. This is a simple yet powerful method of reading scripture together.

Rite 13

Rite 13 meets on Sundays, 4-6pm. "Fully revised and updated, [J2A] is centered on inclusive, relational ministry and uses Bible study, prayer, rites of passage, and service projects. There are three modules included in the program: Rite 13, J2A, and 4Ward, each with lessons organized around Self, Society, and Spirituality." is led by Hilary Bogert-Winkler, who is a priest, longtime youth leader, and assistant professor of liturgy at the seminary. Rite 13 is open to youth currently in grades 6-8.

Children's Formation



Godly Play Registration

Godly Play meets from 9:45-10:45 each Sunday in the Godly Play rooms.

Godly Play 1

Feb 4 - Parable of the Leaven - Wendy Howard, Cheryl Lankhaar

Feb 11 - Parable of the Mustard Seed - Cheryl Lankhaar, Wendy Howard

Feb 18 - Parable of the Deep Well - Cara Kitzrow, Aaron Elrod

Feb 24 - The Mystery of Easter - Wendy

Howard, Aaron Elrod

Godly Play 2

Feb 4 - The Story of Esther - Julia Bates, Aaron Elrod

Feb 11 - St. Valentine - Julia Bates, Aaron Elrod

Feb 18 - The Holy Family & The Mystery of Easter - Barbara Prunty, Cheryl Lankhaar

Feb 25 - Parable of the Mustard Seed & Parable of The Good Samaritan - Julia Bates, Barbara Prunty



Please register online using this link or QR Code. Your registration helps us protect and care for your child.

[https://onrealm.org/StMarkStPaul/PublicRegistrations/Event?](https://onrealm.org/StMarkStPaul/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=NWZjNjY2MTEtODJhZi00MTVklTlmM2ltYjA1MzAwZjk4Zjhh)

[linkString=NWZjNjY2MTEtODJhZi00MTVklTlmM2ltYjA1MzAwZjk4Zjhh](https://onrealm.org/StMarkStPaul/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=NWZjNjY2MTEtODJhZi00MTVklTlmM2ltYjA1MzAwZjk4Zjhh)

Nursery Notes

Come play and learn with us! Nursery is now open from 8:15 to noon on Sunday mornings. We are meeting in the middle classroom downstairs in Sewanee

Children's Center. We may also meet on the playground when the weather is nice.

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.

Cara Kitzrow serves as our Nursery Coordinator. Diana Rung is Nursery Caregiver. Substitute Caregivers include Patricia (Cuca) Ramirez-Miranda and Fernando Totti. Thanks to our terrific crew for providing this important service for our youngest parishioners! We are looking to add two more caregivers. Please speak to Jeannie or Cara if interested.



Please register your child for Nursery online:

<https://onrealm.org/StMarkStPaul/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=ZDk4ODBiZWQtNWQxOC00NjM0LWJhMmUtYjA1MzAwZmY1MTdi>

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.

We have an opening for another caregiver who lives locally and is able to serve during summers and holidays. Please talk with Jeannie or Cara if that describes you!

Centering Prayer

by leader Jennifer Michael

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. Having a core of people in the parish who practice contemplative prayer makes a difference.

The Centering Prayer support group at St. Mark and St. Paul's continues to meet faithfully every Monday night. 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. Over the past year we have averaged 5-7 attendees. Two of our long-term members have moved nearer to family, but since adding an announcement in the weekly bulletin, we have gained two people, one new and one who had been part of our group in the past. We hope to host a half-day workshop at the parish sometime in the coming year.

Education for Ministry

by EfM Mentor Wendy Prothro Howard

The EfM seminar meets on Monday nights from 630 until 900 in the Hethcock Room. We are a vivacious group of nine (seven women and two men) covering all 4 years of the EfM program: Year 1 studies the Hebrew Bible, Year 2 studies the New Testament, Year 3 studies the History of Christianity, and Year 4 studies contemporary theology of the Episcopal tradition. Participants from all four years reflect upon various concerns from their readings, the relationship of those themes between each of the four years, and the implications of the theme in today's world. We reflect on these themes through four different perspectives- experience, society (culture), tradition (Episcopal Church), and personal beliefs. The goal of EfM is to deepen faith and to discover expressions of that faith in service to others. EfM will open for new students in Fall, 2024.

CREATING IN GOD'S IMAGE

**SUNDAYS AT 9:45 AM IN KENNERLY HALL
PARISH OF ST. MARK & ST. PAUL**

Jan 7	Rob Lamborn	Rector's Forum
Jan 14	Jeannie Babb	Singing as Non-Violent Resistance
Jan 21		
Jan 28	Ray Gotko	Sewanee Bells: Tunes & Changes
Feb 4	Leslie Todd	Featherworks: Luminescence & Spirituality in 16th century Spanish America
Feb 11	Phoebe Pearigen	Dance: A Healing Art
Feb 18	Russ Heldman	Shakespeare & Faith
Feb 25	Laury! Tucker	Creating with Play
Mar 3	Harriet Runkle	Visual Arts on the Mountain
Mar 10	Robin Bates	"Being Alive is the Magic": The Spiritual Vision that Shapes Francis Hodgson Bumett's Secret Garden
Mar 17	Sister Madeline Mary	Creating in the Garden
Mar 24	--	Palm Sunday
Mar 31	--	Easter Sunday
Apr 7	Brown Patterson	Religion & the Royal Society: Thinking of Nature in New Ways in Early Restoration England
Apr 14	Jon Bauerschmidt	Bishop's Visit
Apr 21	Wyatt Prunty	Faith & Imagination
Apr 28	Scott Lee, Rob Lamborn	St. Peter's Basilica
May 5	Rob Lamborn	Rector's Forum

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: JEANNE BABB @ 423-255-6479



Happy New Year! CAC was full of Christmas joy this season. We were able to share the Christmas spirit with our families through providing Christmas hams, and gifts donated through the Angel Tree Project to local children. CAC was also able to support Operation Noel, which provided food boxes and presents to 43 families right before Christmas. We are so thankful for the support of the parish and greater community in making these CAC programs possible. Check out the pictures below to see what we've been up to!

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



On Sunday, December 10th, CAC hosted an evening of ornament making to support Operation Noel and the CAC Christmas projects. Several families joined to create ornaments and Christmas treasures. As you can see, it was an event for all ages!



CAC volunteers (pictured above, bottom left to bottom right), Dan Amundson, Morgan Jennings, Heidi Siegrist, and Laurel Tucker, took part in the Kitchen 2 Table Program for the last meal packing of the semester. Every Wednesday, CAC volunteers assist in this program to create freezer meals from unused portions of the McClurg Dining Hall on Sewanee's Campus. On this Wednesday, we were able to pack 208 meals, which were then distributed to community members through the CAC Food Pantry.



The Angel Tree Project brought Christmas joy to 15 children this holiday. Each child received around 3 to 7 gifts fulfilling their wishes and bringing them clothing items for the new year. Thank you for your support and generosity in this project!



CAC partnered with the Piggly Wiggly (Monteagle) to purchase hams for our families this season. We were able to distribute over 50 hams to our CAC neighbors so they could share in a Christmas meal with their families.

St. Mark & St. Paul in Pictures



Advent Wreath Making



On December 10 St. Nicholas of Myra came bearing chocolate coins for the children and a message to always remember the poor.





Epiphany Pot Luck





COFFEE HOUR – HOSTS NEEDED

Get your service power through coffee hour!

As one of the churches oldest methods of fellowship, coffee hour serves an enormous purpose. ***We need HOSTS of roasts 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. Coffee is simple to make in the coffee maker. The parish provides the coffee.

EVEN if you forget to bring a snack, St. Mark & St. Paul always has your back with extra snacks you can utilize if necessary.

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



Greetings 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 Frieda Hawkins know in the church office at 931-598-5926 and we will contact you back.

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

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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- Look up members
- Manage giving
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Realm Connect



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: Peggy Bonds, , Lisa Cantrell, Corky Carlisle, Bev Chase, Margaret Edsall, Sue Hawkins, Karen Keele, Pat Kirby, Mike Mattei, Shawn O'Neil, George Ramseur, Jean Stell, Evelyn Taylor, Bill, the people of Gaza, Iran, Israel, Japan, and Ukraine.

February Birthdays



Jeff Lynch 2 / 1 ; Jay Fisher 2 / 6 ; Mac Croom 2 / 9 ;
Beth Wiley 2 / 12 ; Trudy Cunningham 2 / 13 ;
Miree Wood 2 / 14 ; Brenda Matthews 2 / 14 ;
John Gatta 2 / 15 ; Jane Holmes 2 / 16 ;
Jeannie Babb 2 / 16 ; Jimmy Blythe 2 / 17 ;
John Fisher 2 / 17 ; Julia Bates 2 / 17 ;
George Dick 2 / 18 ; Tim Nelson 2 / 19 ;
Maddie Van de Ven 2 / 19 ; Jett Fisher 2 / 22 ;
Liz Camp 2 / 24 ; Samson McClain 2 / 24 ; Hampton Mauzy 2 / 27 ;
Bonnie McCardell 2 / 28 ;

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