

#### April 2025



# From the Rector:

# Our Capital Campaign

Almost a year of preparation and a few months of the campaign itself have borne wonderful fruit! In recent weeks we gave thanks for our parish, celebrated our ministries, renewed our connection with God through prayer, and reflected on how all we do as a church is lived in faith.



As of this writing, three-year pledges/gifts to the campaign have been received from 71 households, totaling \$1,042,144. This exceeds our goal of \$900,000, but we warmly welcome additional pledges, which will allow us to build a larger endowment and complete additional building projects.

In addition, written planned (estate) gift intentions have been received from 9 households where the younger member is at least 70, totaling

\$372,000. Additional intentions have been received from five more youthful households. Both 3-year and planned gifts support the strength of our ministries over the long term.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the campaign by pledging, giving, and volunteering! Particular thanks go to chair Jay Fisher, whose expertise and tireless efforts made the campaign a greater success than it would have been without him!

# Also from the Rector: Addressing Clergy Misconduct

A number of you have become aware via the *Chattanooga Times Free Press* of the removal from ordained ministry of Bradley Whitaker, retired Rector of St. Paul's in Chattanooga. That part of the state is a different diocese from ours; my awareness is limited and I have nothing to add about his case. It does provide an opportunity for a reminder of what safeguards are in place to prevent misconduct and how alleged wrongdoing is handled.

All parish clergy, staff, vestry members, and certain other leaders are required to undergo background checks and to complete training in the prevention of sexual misconduct. Other best practices include windows on office doors, not having an adult alone with a minor, and having church offerings counted by two people. The church is made up of sinners--clergy included. Despite these precautions, sexual and non-sexual transgressions--though rare, occasionally occur.

An entire section of <u>church canons</u> deals with the discipline of clergy. It begins: By virtue of Baptism, all members of the Church are called to holiness of life and accountability to one another. The Church and each Diocese shall support their members in their life in Christ and seek to resolve conflicts by promoting healing, repentance, forgiveness, restitution, justice, amendment of life and reconciliation among all involved or affected. This Title applies to Members of the Clergy, who have by their vows at ordination accepted additional responsibilities and accountabilities for doctrine, discipline, worship and obedience.

Because (thankfully) the disciplinary process is not often needed, it is unfamiliar to most. More information may be found at <u>titleiv.org</u>. Church discipline is both similar to and different from our secular justice system. If an allegation of criminal behavior is made, secular prosecution proceeds separately from church discipline. The church process seeks to treat accusations seriously, while providing due process for the accused. Complaints of misconduct are received by a designated intake officer (in our diocese <u>the Rev. Kristine Blaess</u>). When the intake officer determines an allegation, if true, would constitute a material violation of church canons, the matter goes up the chain to be addressed by one or more panels. Among the possible outcomes are investigation, trial and sentencing, an order of disciplinary sanctions, an accord agreeable to all parties, or dismissal of the charges. Pastoral care is offered to all involved.

"Sunlight is the best disinfectant," the saying goes. Everyone in the church should be aware of the policies and procedures in place to prevent misconduct, as well as the process to report it if it occurs. The mission of the Church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ. Truth is the bedrock foundation of accountability, reconciliation, and healing, even when the truth is painful. As John 8:32 says, "The truth will set [us] free."

# Vestry Highlights (meeting of April 17)

--Elected Cheryl Lankhaar to fill the position vacated by Michael Thompson until this November's Annual Parish Meeting. Cheryl will serve as liaison to the Parish Life Committee.

--Received an update from Jay Fisher on the progress of the Capital Campaign. --Heard from Rob Lamborn that Sewanee Children's Center would like to develop a lease more formal than the current Memo of Agreement, and from Mary Priestley that the University has announced that the University Child Care Center will close and early childhood education will consolidate at the Sewanee Children's Center.

**Constant Contact Newsletter Email:** When you get to the bottom of your email you may see "[Message clipped] <u>View entire message</u>". To see the full newsletter click on "View entire message."



# A Busy Month at St. Mark & St. Paul!

Beginning with the annual visit of Bishop Bauerschmidt, confirmation of Jaxon Rudder, a celebration of Brown Patterson's 95th birthday right on through a joyous Easter celebration, much has happened in the Parish.



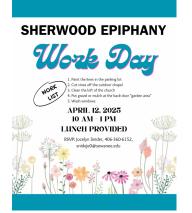
Rev. Rob Lamborn ,Jaxon Rudder, Rev. Betty Carpenter, Drew Richaud, the Right Rev John Bauerschmidt, Rev Jocelyn Snider, and Sarah Edmonds prepare to process.



Jaxon Rudder's confirmation.



Rev. Hilary Bogert-Winkler, Rev. Molly Short, Rev. Robert Lamborn, Jaxon Rudder, Rev. Betty Carpenter, Rev. Jocelyn Snider and the Right Rev. John Bauerschmidt after the confirmation.





Volunteers from St. Mark & St. Paul pitched in to help our neighbors at Epiphany Sherwood with some spring cleaning and fixing.

Deacon Betty does windows, too!



A few of our volunteers who helped out in Sherwood.

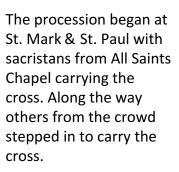
Palm Sunday and Good Friday Stations of the Cross





The Stations of the Cross procession drew a large crowd on Good Friday.







The procession stepped off from St. Mark & St. Paul on its way to All Saints Chapel. Along the way the group stopped to observe the Stations of the Cross.

## **Easter Egg Hunt**

What a crowd of children we had for services and the egg hunt on Easter Sunday! A hearty THANK YOU to our Rite 13 students, who spent an evening filling eggs, to all the volunteers who helped hide, and to the wonderful families who made this a joyous and easily managed occasion. Thanks especially to Cara Kitzrow for directing the crowd from place to place through a series of three age-grouped hunts, so families could watch all their children participate. Eggs for Next Year

If you still have some plastic eggs you don't need, there will a collection basket between the Godly Play rooms for the next couple of weeks. We will bring them back out and fill them next year!





















# **Christian Formation**

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

## **Honoring Our Graduates**

Sunday, May 4th

Sunday, May 4th, we will pray for our graduates by name in both services. This includes those graduating from all programs, from preschool through doctorate and non-degree programs such as EfM. Please email your graduate's information to Jeannie at formation@stmarkstpaul.org and include their name, relation to you if they do not normally attend church, school, program, and whether they will attend with you on May 4th. We will pray for all of them during Prayers of the People. During Coffee Hour we will have a special gift for those who are present.

## Rite 13

This summer, the Rite-13 group will be traveling to Perry County, Kentucky, to work with the Appalachian Service Project. The youth are doing several fundraising projects to help raise money to keep individual participant costs low. Please help us in our efforts to serve communities in southern Appalachia!

# Hot Dog Lunch Sunday, May 4th

Support the Rite-13 Mission Trip: To help raise money for this effort, the youth will be hosting a hot dog lunch on Sunday, May 4, after the 11:00 service. The suggested donation is \$10/person. Please support our efforts to help those in need in Southern Appalachia! If you have any questions, or would like to know how else you can help, please reach out to Hilary Bogert-Winkler

## (hbwchurch@gmail.com)

# Parent Night Out Saturday, May 10

On May 10, from 530-930 PM, the youth will be hosting a Parent Night Out. Bring your children (ages 11 and under) to Kennerly Hall for pizza, snacks, games, and a movie with the Rite-13 group. Suggested donation is \$30 for the first child in the family, and \$20 for each subsequent child. Note: this is during commencement weekend, so if you've got family or friends coming into town with young kids who might enjoy the opportunity, please spread the news!

Rite-13 is for youth currently in grades 6-9, and we meet from 4-6 in Brooks Hall every Sunday evening. Leaders are Hilary Bogert-Winkler (hbwchurch@gmail.com) and Aaron Elrod. This fall, we are excited to add a Journey to Adulthood program as some of our Rite-13 students graduate and move up to that program.

# **Sunday Forum**

Sunday Forum has hosted so many fantastic speakers this year! We have been moved and amazed, time and again. At this writing, we have just two more sessions:

<u>April 27</u> – Michael Sturdy on "Livingston, Vatican II, and Pentecostalism: A Story of Christianity in Malawi". Come out for this special opportunity to hear from our senior seminarian. Michael will share his insight into how seemingly very different influences are intertwined in the spirituality of the church in Malawi, where he traveled with Bishop Tengatenga as part of his seminary experience. Michael is a candidate for holy orders in the Episcopal Diocese of Texas. He holds an M.A. in history from Baylor University and expects to complete his M.Div. this spring. His worked has been published in the *Anglican Theological Review*.

<u>May 4</u> – Christopher Bryan on Mary of Nazareth. Christopher Bryan, C. K. Benedict Professor of New Testament, Emeritus, at the School of Theology, will join us by Zoom. He is a priest, a scholar, a novelist, and the author of numerous works on biblical studies, Christian theology, and the historical context of the New Testament. His most recent work is *Mary of Nazareth: The Mother of Jesus as Remembered by the Earliest Christians.* 

Sessions will resume on the last Sunday of August, with a new theme for the 2025-2026 academic year.

# THIS FRAGILE EARTH, OUR ISLAND HOME

# Sundays, 9:45-10:45 in Kennerly Hall Parish of St. Mark & St. Paul

_	1 411011	01 51. Mark & 51. 1 401
Jan 5	Scott Lee	Guess Who's Buried in the Basilica Basement?
Jan 19	Rob Lamborn	Music of the Civil Rights Movement
	& Wyatt Poe	
Jan 26	Sean Rowe	A Visit from the Presiding Bishop
Feb 2	Rob Lamborn	Rector's Forum
Feb 9	Becky Wright	Can the Prophets Teach Us Anything about the Natural World?
Feb 16	Jim Peters	Tolkien's Christian Reverence for Birds (and all of God's Creation)
Feb 23	Elise Kikis	Human Health, Aging & the Environment
Mar 2	Jocelyn Snider	Reciprocity: Indigenous-Inspired Relationships with Creation
Mar 9	Mary Priestley	Embracing the Seasons with Mary Oliver
Mar 16	Michael Sturdy	Bishop Mackenzie, I Presume: The Christian Heritage in Malawi
Mar 23	Bran Potter	The Fragile Earth through the Lens of Music and Lyrics
Mar 30	Andrea	Reflecting on the Sabbath and This Fragile
	Sanders	Earth, with Wendell Berry and Other Writers
Apr 6	John	Bishop's Visit
	Bauerschmidt	
Apr 13	Palm Sunday	No Forum
& 20	Easter Sunday	1
Apr 27	Michael Sturdy	Livingston, Vatican II, and Pentecostalism: A Story of Christianity in Malawi
May 4	Christopher Bryan	Mary of Nazareth

# 216 University Ave. | Sewanee, TN 37375 | stmarkstpaul.org

## VB-Us 2025: I Will, With God's Help

Monday-Thursday, June 2nd-5th 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Come join us for this special program, affectionately called VB-Us rather than VBS, because it is intergenerational. The program incorporates dinner and lectures with camp-style worship and children's activities like storytelling, tiedying, games, and crafts.

The theme this year, "I Will, With God's Help" is all about our baptismal covenant. Special guest speakers will help us explore what it is we promise to do, with God's help, and how will that play out in 2025 and beyond? On the last night, we will have a closing Eucharist and a party.

Want to help us make this happen? We need volunteers in the kitchen, with music, and with the children. Email Jeannie at formation@stmarkstpaul.org for details.

## Thanks for a great Lent Soup Series!

Around thirty people attended each night in the series "Lord, Let Me Know My End: Facing Mortality with Wisdom and Grace." The meals were simple, delicious, and filling. Thanks to our speakers who graciously gave their time and expertise, and to all who attended and shared deep conversation on topics that can be difficult to discuss. We worked through spiritual and practical aspects of the end of life, and came away the richer for it.

# **Nursery Notes – Help wanted**

We have openings for additional Nursery staff for summer, and for the 2025-2026 school year. Please share the word, and contact Jeannie Babb to apply or inquire.

Nursery continues to meet from 8:15 to noon through the month of May. When the church switches to summer schedule, Nursery will meet for second service only. We meet on the playground when the weather is nice. Otherwise, nursery meets in the middle classroom downstairs in Sewanee Children's Center. 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.

# Sunday School for All Ages

# Children's Sunday School will continue through the month of May.

With a dedicated cadre of teachers and helpers, the parish offers classes for the Christian formation of babies, children, tweens, teens, and adults. Please register online for children's Sunday School:



Please register your child for Nursery online: <u>https://onrealm.org/StMarkStPaul/PublicR</u> <u>egistrations/Event?</u> <u>linkString=ZDk4ODBiZWQtNWQxOC00NjM</u> <u>OLWJhMmUtYjA1MzAwZmY1MTdi</u> 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.

**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.

**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, maybe playground.

**4th/5th Class** takes children in grades 4 and 5 beyond Godly Play. This class meets in the Hethcock Room, and is brand new this year. Recently, these students led a class for all the children and youth, beginning with centering prayer and then presenting the story of Jacob and Esau in a dynamic way for discussion. Currently they are thinking about their own "code of life" based on "The 10 Best Ways" and loving our neighbor. Rising 4th graders and their parents are invited to visit the room one Sunday morning in April or early May and speak with the leaders (Julia Bates, Matthew Mitchell, and Jocelyn Snider).

**Youth Sunday School** It has been a fantastic year in our Youth Sunday School class! We've been blessed with a consistent and enthusiastic group of young adults who have continually impressed Andrea and me with their maturity, thoughtfulness, and willingness to engage in meaningful conversations.

Throughout the year, our discussions have covered a wide range of topics from Understanding the Book of Common Prayer to Sibling Rivalries and the pressing social issues that many of our youth encounter in their daily lives at school. These conversations have sparked thoughtful dialogue and fostered a strong sense of community within the group.

Our final meeting before the summer break will be on Sunday, May 18th. As the school year comes to a close, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to Max, Seanna, Cayleigh, Jaxon, and Drew for their continued dedication and active participation. Their contributions have helped shape a welcoming and engaging environment for everyone involved.

Our group has truly become a fun, supportive community, and we always welcome new faces! If you or someone you know is interested in joining us, we would love to have you. Paul Richaud.

Youth Sunday School offers middle schoolers and high schoolers a time to encounter God and get to know one another. Paul and Andrea Richaud have led the class all year with a fresh, relational style based on teachable moments. This group is deeply involved in the life of church, from serving at the altar to seasonal events like pageants and Annual Meeting. Help Wanted. The Richauds have had a great year with the class and plan to teach again next year, with your help! We are seeking additional teachers to lead or assist the class on a rotational basis (you can specify once or twice a month) so all the teachers can continue their own formation as well.



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/PublicR egistrations/Event? linkString=NWZjNjY2MTEtODJhZi00MTVkL TlmM2ltYjA1MzAwZjk4Zjhh

#### **Tuesday Lectionary Class**

On Tuesdays from 3:30-4:30, this Lectionary Class will meet 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@sewanee.edu.

#### **Education for Ministry**

by EfM Mentor Wendy Prothro Howard

Three of the Sewanee EfM Team will be graduating in May: Susan Horton, George Horton, and Kathy Pack. We will be having an in-house celebration at our last meeting on May 19th. Susan and George are members of St James and Kathy is a member (and Deacon) at Epiphany.

Steven Charleston's book-<u>The Four Vision Quests of Jesus</u> was our topic of discussion for EfM's second book retreat held at the School of Theology at the beginning of April.

EfM is a four year program of study which explores a wider concept of ministry by examining life through a theological lens. Participants from all four years, divided by their topic of study (Year 1- Hebrew Bible, Year 2 -New Testament, Year 3-History of Christianity, and Year 4- Contemporary Theology) 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. Reflection on these themes is perceived through four different perspectives- experience, 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.

Registration for 2025-2026, including a newly revised curriculum celebrating 50 years of EfM, will take place in late summer.





#### COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE

## **CAC Information**

The Community Action Committee (CAC) is open Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM. Neighbors are able to visit the office during this time to pick out groceries in the pantry and inquire about assistance with utility bills. The work of CAC is not possible without the support of the Parish of St. Mark & St. Paul.

#### Final Community Meal of Spring 2025

CAC will host the final Community Meal of the semester on Friday, April 25th at 12:00 PM in Kennerly Hall. We are so grateful for everyone coming out to the meals this semester, and we hope you can make it out for this one. The students are preparing breakfast for lunch, and YES, there will be pancakes. The Community Meal is a free meal for all. Please join us for this final meal, and to honor our graduating seniors!





## CAC and the South Cumberland Farmers Market

As we move through the Spring season, CAC continues to partner with the <u>South</u> <u>Cumberland Farmers Market</u> 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. These donations have allowed CAC to purchase eggs, fruits, and vegetables weekly for our neighbors. Just search "Community Action Committee" when filling up your cart to make a donation.

# **Our Wonderful CAC Volunteers**

CAC is strongly supported by all of the wonderful volunteers who dedicate their time. As we approach summer, CAC will no longer have the students working in the pantry, and will need more volunteers to keep things running smoothly. If you are interested in helping this summer and being on our volunteer list, please contact Sarah at <u>cac@stmarkstpaul.org</u> to see how you can get involved!



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 <u>cac@stmarkstpaul.org</u>.



# **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**





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:** Larry Barker, Julia Bates, Peggy Bonds, Steve Burnett, Corky Carlisle, Margaret Edsall, Brady Hall, Anita Larson, Mike Mattei, Brenda Matthews, Waring McCrady, Elizabeth Nolan, Tom Phelps, Jean Stell, Evelyn Taylor, Freddy Tucker, Myron Van de Ven, Kim Zabbia, the people of Gaza, Israel, Kursk, Lebanon, Myanmar, Sudan, Syria, and Ukraine



# **April Birthdays**

Beth Chamberlain 4/1, Christianna Taylor 4/1, Rod Smith 4/1, Elliott Sowell 4/1, Heidi Siegrist 4/5, Benjamin Sowell 4/6, Brown Patterson 4/8, Jack Howick 4/8, Andrew Thompson 4/10, Beth Sperry 4/10, Doris Carlisle 4/12, Adam Tucker 4/13, Hubert Cook 4/13, Russell Mainord 4/13, Peter Keeble 4/16, Ian Tucker 4/16, Joseph Gray 4/16, Everest Kitzrow 4/18, Carolyn O'Connor 4/19, Pamela Macfie 4/19, Jeff Frazier 4/19, Amy Patterson 4/24, Fiona Osborne 4/25, Rachel Suarez 4/27, Susan Roberson 4/27, Allison Bruce 4/28, John Solomon 4/28, Seanna Mainord 4/30Office Hours for 2025The Parish of St. Mark and St Paul9:00am-4:30pm Monday,<br/>Wednesday & Friday216 University Avenue<br/>P. O. Box 267<br/>Sewanee, TN 37375<br/>(931) 598-59269:00am-1:00pm Tuesday &(931) 598-5926

www.stmarkstpaul.org



Thursday

The Parish of St. Mark & St. Paul | 216 University Ave P.O. Box 267 | Sewanee, TN  $37375~\rm{US}$ 

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