



# ST. PAUL'S EPISTLE

Jesus said: "I am the vine, you are the branches.  
Those who abide in Me and I in them bear much fruit ..."

John 15:5

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## ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL

501 Pine Street  
PO BOX 753 (29716)  
Fort Mill, SC 29715  
803-547-5968  
stpauls@comporium.net

Issue 8

August 2020

Number 1

## Outdoor Worship

I know that many are anxious to begin worshipping together again. We will soon have that opportunity. Beginning Sunday August 9, we will have Morning Prayer on the second and fourth Sunday of the month at 9:00 am in our parking lot. If it rains, the service will be cancelled. We will gather for scripture readings, prayers, and a sermon. Steav will sing hymns (the congregation will not be singing.) and play the piano. Jane will have a message for the children. We invite you to bring your own portable lawn chair and a face mask. We will all need to be very aware of our distancing. We must keep 6 feet between people of different households. The restrooms will not be open so please come prepared for that. And when you arrive, you will be instructed to park on Pine Street so that we can fit as many as possible in the parking lot. We are also asking that everyone use the driveway to access and depart. We will not have an opportunity for unstructured interaction before or after this service. When you arrive, please remain in your seats and when you leave please go directly to your cars. Please remember that although this is not quite as we would like it, we are taking on these limitations for the sake of others. And these limitations are allowing us to be able to see each other and worship our Lord together. And of course, if you are sick or if you have health concerns, please stay home and watch the liturgy on Facebook Live.

## Morning Prayer in Facebook Live

We will continue to have Morning Prayer every week on Facebook Live. Because the outdoor service will begin at 9:00 (so that we still have some shade), we will move the live service to 7:30 am. If that is too early for you, it will be available to watch on our Facebook page at any time that is convenient for you.

## Streaming Technology

Because of the advances that have been made over recent years, we are able to continue to worship over the internet. That is a real blessing. However, I need help. A few weeks ago, as I preached to the camera on the computer, the screen changed. I couldn't read the message on the screen but I was concerned that I had lost the internet connection. While preaching the second half of the sermon, I didn't know if anyone was hearing me. That was disconcerting. This has highlighted the problem that I have being both liturgist/preacher and internet operator. It would be very beneficial for me to have a team of people who would be responsible for the internet set up on Sunday mornings. I know we have people in the parish who are more proficient than I am with the various platforms. I would hope that we could find two or three people to form a team and rotate being present on Sunday mornings to manage the streaming of the liturgy. This would take a great load off my shoulders. Please contact me if you are willing to help.

*Rev. Sally*

# Christian Education - Children & Youth

## Yes, there are things to look forward to!

We will add a short insight for the children and youth during the second and fourth Sundays in August when we begin worshipping in the parking lot. Please bring the children and youth as I am looking forward to seeing them, and you, during the service.

Beginning Sunday, September 20 and following on the first and third Sundays in October at 10:15, Sunday Thoughts (for those under 18) will come to you via the internet. Parents will receive a letter in the mail with more information.

**Parents' Beverage and Book Club-** Beginning September 16 at 8:15pm, get your favorite parent *juice*, pull up a comfy chair and gather online for some discussion, fellowship, prayer and laughter. You will find the book *Bless This Mess: A Modern Guide to Faith and Parenting in a Chaotic World* provides much needed insight with great humor provided by the authors The Reverend Molly Baskette and Ellen O'Donnell, PhD. This pastor and psychologist duo have written a *real* guide on parenting and faith. You can find a group conversation guide on their website [www.theblessthemessparent.com](http://www.theblessthemessparent.com).

## LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!

"How are you?" I am feeling like that might not always be the best thing to ask these days especially after the last month. I don't think I have to elaborate. For me, Covid mental-syndrome finally hit me and it was ugly. My empathy level has increased exponentially. You see, I was experiencing days when I needed an out-of-body experience because I didn't even like *myself*!

I remembered the first time I used that description. Momma (you knew she would be involved, didn't you?) called me one morning and asked, "How are you?" That was my reply. Her reply? "Ooooo-kaaay. What's going on, honey?"

"I don't know," there was silence. "Honey, I don't mean to sound unsympathetic, but a little more information would be helpful for both of us." Then came the tsunami! I began with a few little things, moved to a couple of bigger issues, and ended with a plethora of little nitpicky, petty complaints. "Well, it sounds like to me you are having quite the pity-party."

I knew what expression was on her face. I was getting *The Look...* chin down towards her chest, glaring at me over her glasses, and eyebrows half-way up her forehead. It came right through 200 miles of phone line and jolted me back to reality though I was 15 again with that voice in my head saying, "Nooooooo!" I knew that I was about to receive her tsunami. I was dumbfounded and hearing myself say, "*What? What did you say?*"

"How is Mrs. B--?" Now, Mrs. B-- was my former landlord of five years. And, please forgive me, for saying all this but you need to understand that she was the meanest, most complaining, bad-tempered, whiny, negative person I have ever known in my *entire* life and... she liked me. The week I moved into her rental, she invited me to dinner and every six to eight weeks for the next five years we had dinner together. Her diatribe was the same every, single time.

"You haven't talked to her since you moved, have you?" Momma had just shot the zinger as I replied, "No, ma'am," and here it came, "When we hang up, you call her and invite her to dinner. I don't want to hear later that she said she couldn't go; we both know she needs you to make a fuss over her. Call me later and tell me what time you will pick her up and say a prayer for both of you before you go. I love you, honey. We'll talk in the morning. Oh, and make a fuss over her and say another prayer for her before you go to bed. Bye-bye." I thought Momma had lost her mind.

Mrs. B-- looked more fragile that night. She didn't whine. As I listened, I didn't hear what I had heard for the previous five years. I felt sad for her. When I called Momma the next morning and described the evening, she said, "I thought so. She needed you to call her. You needed to get out of yourself and focus elsewhere. It's hard to focus on yourself when you are doing good for someone else." How did Momma know?

I found out later that was one of the lessons she felt Jesus taught. We all have our moments and, often those moments feel like they will never end. Jesus showed us that even he needed to get by himself to pray, even he got angry, but then he went on and did for others. I remind myself of that lesson when I am in need of an out-of-body experience.

None of you are Mrs. B--. What you are experiencing is truly unprecedented. You need a phone call and eventually you will be the one who makes the call. Honestly, it is easier said than done. I have some calls to make. "How are you? I hope you are doing well." To God be the glory.

Be in Touch. [Jane Kilpatrick, Director of Christian Education and Family Ministries 704-968-2902](mailto:jane.kilpatrick@christianeducation.org)

# Financial Information

## Monthly Finance Committee Meetings

The monthly Finance Committee meetings will be opened up to anyone interested in St. Paul's finances when it is appropriate to do so. In the interim, if you have any questions about St. Paul's finances, please contact Ed Reuille at 803-547-6559 or [edwardreuille@gmail.com](mailto:edwardreuille@gmail.com).

Through June, contributions continued to hold up reasonably well even though in person worship had been suspended for 4 1/2 months. The monthly schedule on year-to-date contributions below shows that although giving is under what the budget anticipated based on pledges (Pledging Members) and last year's giving (Non-Pledging Members & Guests and Loose Offerings), we only fell behind 2019 giving levels at the end of June.

With the help of technology, St. Paul's is able to continue providing worship opportunities during these uncertain times. Please keep St. Paul's in mind and mail contributions to the church as you can. The Church will continue to have expenses and bills that need to be paid so your continued financial support during this period is as important as ever.

## Contributions

You should be able to use your bank's bill pay feature to send contributions to St. Paul's. Most banks' bill pay services are free to both the sender and receiver unlike online credit card payment processors such as PayPal. For those who have pledged for 2020, if there is no indication on the contribution, it will be applied to your 2020 pledge. If there is another specific purpose for your contribution, a Memo field, if available, may be used to indicate that purpose.

For about 10 years, St. Paul's has used Servant Keeper software to track contributions. This summer we upgraded to the current version of the software - we were 2 versions behind. Once we are comfortable that the data transferred correctly, we plan to make interim contribution statements available - likely in October for giving through September. Look for more information in the September Epistle. If you have any questions, please contact Ed Reuille ([edwardreuille@gmail.com](mailto:edwardreuille@gmail.com) or 803-547-6559).

### 2020 Collections & Offerings

### 2020 through June

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Statement of Mission</u>	<u>2019 through June</u>
Loose Offerings	798.00	1984.00	1,805.00
Members & Guests	86,109.00	98,362.00	79,179.00
Non Pledge Members and Guest	5,810.00	11,350.00	19,970.00
Total	92,717.00	111,696.00	100,954.00

# Ways to Serve at St. Paul's

## MISSION & OUTREACH: Serving Our Neighbors in Fort Mill

### **Classroom Ready**

As of this writing, 0000 packs of index cards have been donated in response to our challenge to provide 350 packs for the summer school supply drive. We are just over 2/3 of the way there so please don't stop now! We would like to be able to deliver the full amount on August 1, but we will continue to collect the cards (*4x6 inch lined*) as well rolls of tape for as long as you continue to provide them. The Fort Mill schools' children and teachers thank you!

### ***The Vivanco family***

As most of you know, Cameron and Roberto Vivanco serve as missionaries "connecting and resourcing the body of Christ through short term ministries, education, leadership development, and music" in Ecuador, under the auspices of the Society of Anglican Missionaries and Senders (SAMS). The Vivancos work in part in association with Education Equals Hope, from whom we recently received an update, including the following.

As we reflect on 10 years of ministry, our hearts are encouraged and inspired by the hundreds of individuals, churches and businesses who have joined in the great work we have been called to do. The Covid-19 pandemic has placed so many into personal and financial uncertainty that has resulted in challenges and disruptions that we could not have imagined. However, instead of viewing this situation as dire, we choose to look at it as an opportunity to create change that makes this world better.

Because of generous donors like you, E=H is making an immediate impact in Costa Rica, Haiti, Ecuador, Kenya, and Rwanda. Since our incorporation in 2009, we have helped more than 10,000 students [318 in Ecuador] work toward a brighter future. . . reach[ing] their dreams of graduating from high school, being the first in their family to attend college, or learning a technical trade.

**The Vivancos depend upon the financial support of people in parishes "back home." If you can contribute, please contact SAMS, PO Box 399, Cambridge, PA 15003 or [www.sams-usa.org](http://www.sams-usa.org)  
Be sure to mention the Vivancos in your memo line.**

For more information about e=h (Education for Hope), their contact is  
Education Equals Hope, 102 Academy Street, Fort Mill, SC 29715  
<http://educationequalshope.org> 803-431-8367

***As always, if you have questions, comments, or suggestions,  
please contact any member of the committee or me at [ginnymarthur@yahoo.com](mailto:ginnymarthur@yahoo.com).***

### **Fort Mill Care Center**

During the first 6 months of this year I delivered 709 pounds of food to the Care Center from St. Paul's. In July I delivered 158 pounds of food. The Care Center has given 66,553 pounds of food to 889 families (2,314 people) so far this year. Every pound we donate does make a difference in our community. Thank you again for continuing to support this outreach ministry. Jan Arnold

**During the month of August please donate Peanut butter and jelly.**

***If you're able to make financial donations please consider:***

Bethel Men's Warming Center      Food for the Poor      American Red Cross      Kanuga Conference Center  
Food for the Poor Emergency Appeal      Fort Mill Care Center      SAMS  
Episcopal Relief and Development Pandemic Response Effort

## Collects and Readings for August

### **August 2 The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-7,16  
Romans 9:1-5, Matthew 14:13-21**

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### **August 9 The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28, Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b  
Romans 10:5-15, Matthew 14:22-33**

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### **August 16 The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**

**Genesis 45:1-15, Psalm 133  
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32, Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28**

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### **August 23 The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Exodus 1:8-2:10, Psalm 124  
Romans 12:1-8, Matthew 16:13-20**

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### **August 30 The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Exodus 3:1-15, Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c  
Romans 12:9-21, Matthew 16:21-28**

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## Collects and Readings for September

### **September 6 The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Exodus 12:1-14, Psalm 149, Romans 13:8-14  
Matthew 18:15-20**

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### **September 13 The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Exodus 14:19-31, Psalm 114, Romans 14:1-12  
Matthew 18:21-35**

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### **September 20 The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Exodus 16:2-15, Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45  
Philippians 1:21-30, Matthew 20:1-16**

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### **September 27 The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

**Exodus 17:1-7, Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16  
Philippians 2:1-13, Matthew 21:23-32**

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

# Prayer List & Milestones

## St. Paul's Prayer List

*May God the Father bless you, God the Son heal you, God the Holy Spirit give you strength.  
May God the holy and undivided Trinity guard your body, save your soul, and bring you safely to His  
heavenly country; where He lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.*

### THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYER

#### Members and Friends

May Hennessy, Will Close, Alyia Strickland, Gene Meyer, Claire Addison, Pete Addison, Bill Bates-Congdon, Dick Adkins, Sally Beyer, Henry Carter, Mark Hawes, Marie Treadwell, Carole Finn and Pam Centea

#### Deaths of Family and Friends

Noelle Congdon (Sister of Steav Bates-Congdon )

**If you are a member of St. Paul's and have a family member or friend who needs to be added to our Prayer List, please contact the Parish Office so that we may add them to the list. Names of friends and family members currently enlisted and serving in our Armed Forces will gladly be added also.**

## Giving Thanks for Milestones ~ August

### *Happy Anniversary*

2 Valerie & Andrew White

9 Adair & Rob Yatko

10 Holly & Rich Russell

20 May & Jack Hennessy

26 Mary & Frank Luzzi

### *Happy Birthday*

2 Harper Lawrie

Alyia Strickland

5 Kim Munday

6 Patrick Kirby

Barbara McQueen

8 Doug Sreen

9 Dan Howland

10 Phoebe Arthur-Connor

12 Amanda McRell

13 Evelyn Allegretti

Joanna Virkler

16 Judson Abraham

Scott Warren

19 Becky Traynor

20 Sandy Lieske

Allyson Thomas

23 Owen Connor

24 Wayne Barschow

Yvonne Schroeder

27 May Hennessy

28 Lauren Barschow

30 Dan Centea

Libby Chambers



*If you have a milestone which is not listed, please let us know. We wish to celebrate with you .*

*Thank you!*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Reverend Sally will be on vacation from August 28 until September 7

While she away, if you should have a pastoral emergency, David Dudley, our Senior Warden can be reached at [daviddudley2@gmail.com](mailto:daviddudley2@gmail.com) or 704.975.9433

### Zoom Dessert and Conversation Every Wednesday Night at 7pm

Throughout the summer we will continue to meet for fellowship on Zoom each Wednesday evening at 7:00pm. Bring your favorite dessert and beverage to enjoy as we gather to see each other and catch up on our lives. This will be an open conversation with no planned agenda. Our August dates will be 5,12,19 and 26. A link will be provided each week in the Einfo for you to join.

### Zoom Adult Bible Study

The adult Bible study will resume on **Tuesday September 15th** with a study based on the book "Original Blessing" by Danielle Shroyer. It will be a 6 week study from 11AM until noon using both the book and a study guide. Contact Doug Spreen for more information. [Douglas.spreen@gmail.com](mailto:Douglas.spreen@gmail.com) or 704.222.1618.

"*Original Blessing* is a beautiful book with a much needed message for today's church. Readers will learn something about the Bible, about theology, and about church history but most of all, after reading this book they will fall in love with God all over again or maybe for the first time." --Ivy Beckwith, author of *Formational Children's Ministry* and Faith Formation Minister, United Church of Christ

"Many of our greatest struggles in life are the result of limited and distorted ways we have learned to see God and ourselves. With the heart of a pastor and the mind of a theologian, Danielle Shroyer invites us to consider the possibility that we are more precious to God and more powerful than we ever imagined. This highly engaging and accessible book challenges commonly held assumptions about sin and human nature with intelligence, clarity, wit, and deep respect for scripture and tradition. You will come away feeling loved and liberated to take new steps to participate in God's unfolding work in the world." --Mark Scandrette, author of *Free: Spending Your Time and Money on What Matters Most*

"Original sin is one of the most hurtful doctrines within Christianity. Hurtful to ourselves and to others. But what if our identities flow out blessing rather than total depravity? Danielle Shroyer's profound and compelling *Original Blessing* is a life-giving paradigm shift that draws us out of fear, shame, and guilt and deeper into joy, love, and grace." --Richard Beck, author of *Reviving Old Scratch*

## VESTRY

Sr. Warden, David Dudley

Jr. Warden, Catherine Lindgren

Betty Allegretti

Ginny Arthur

Dennis Edwards

Chris Krafft

Tiffany Lawrie

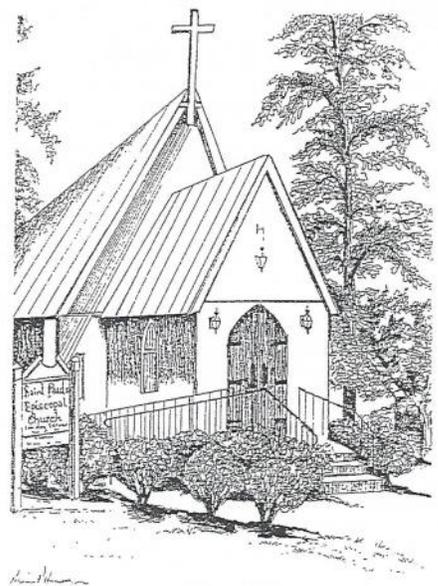
Megan Moore

Sally Weymouth

Treasurer, Dennis Edwards

Finance Commissioner, Ed Reuille

Contributions Secretary, John Connor



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PO Box 753  
(501 Pine Street, 29715)  
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803-547-5968**

**www.stpaulsftmill.org stpauls@comporium.net**

**FB: St. Paul's Episcopal Church**

**Office Hours - 9:00am - 1:00pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday**

**STAFF**

**Rector, The Rev. Sally Franklin  
revscfranklin@yahoo.com**

**Organist/Choirmaster,  
Steav Bates-Congdon  
steavwbc@mac.com**

**Director of Christian Education and  
Family Ministries, Jane Kilpatrick  
stpaulseducator@gmail.com**

**Parish Secretary, Kim Eaddy  
stpauls@comporium.net**

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