

# Virtual Epistle

## *St. Paul's Episcopal Church*

### THE SEASON AFTER PENTECOST

The season after Pentecost, according to the calendar of the church year (BCP, p. 32). It begins on the Monday following Pentecost, and continues through most of the summer and autumn. It may include as many as twenty-eight Sundays, depending on the date of Easter. This includes Trinity Sunday which is the First Sunday after Pentecost. The BCP provides proper collects and readings for the other Sundays of the season.



**"If it's not about love,  
then it's not about God."**

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry  
The Episcopal Church

# A MESSAGE FROM FATHER BRYAN:

## SIMMER TIME

If you are boiling an egg, you apply high heat to get the water hot enough to cook the egg. If the pot and stove are left unchecked, the water will boil over, eventually evaporating in steam, the eggs will explode (from experience, this is a stinky mess), and eventually the kitchen may catch fire and burn the whole house down. In this summer time, the season after Pentecost, also called 'Ordinary Time', I encourage all of us to strive for a setting of 'simmer'. A little heat is good, and will cook the food and warm the kitchen. Too much heat, remember the overcooked egg?

The date and circumstances of our return to in-person worship and gathering at St. Paul's remain uncertain. It will not likely be like switching a light switch back on. It will be more like gradually increasing a dimmer switch. Simmer. As we slowly venture back into community and into the world, still concerned about individual and public health, enduring an uncomfortable mask is a small price to actively care about the well being of others. Our simmering will help us transform with big and small changes that benefit the common good. Some things may return to something like normal. Other things will not, at least for a while. A healthy respect, even fear, of COVID-19, just might apply just enough heat to prompt appropriate changes and healthy actions. This pandemic has taught us that we are in the same pot. We simmer together.

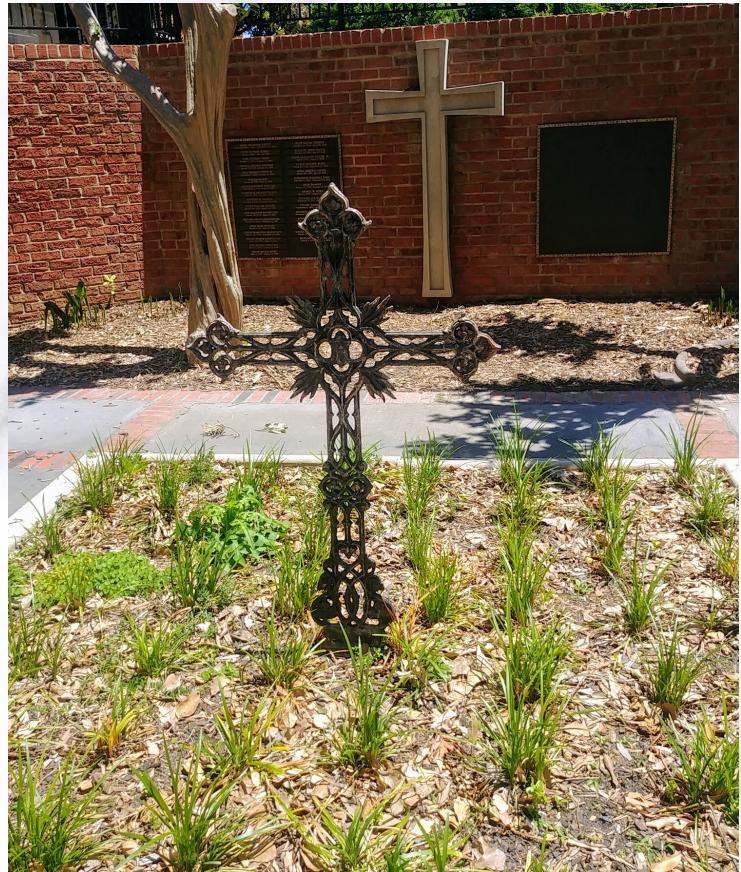
Another kind of heat is also boiling over. There is civil unrest, protests and rioting (which are different, but often conflated), destruction, looting, and violence in the streets. How did it get this hot this quickly? Societal diseases, that are not new on the scene at all, of racism, unheard voices, struggles with authority, abuse of power, tragic violence, and loss of innocent life ... all seemed to burst into flame all at once. We didn't start the fire. It has long been smoldering. It now demands attention. Simmer. To simmer does not mean do nothing. It means to turn up the heat just enough to effect change, without risking an inferno. The discussions on social media seem to reflect what we see on the news ... cars and buildings burning, looting, violence, and chaos. Is any of this moving us closer to God's dream for humanity? However, there are also peaceful marches and protests, conversations, revelations, transformations, changed hearts and minds ... this is the simmer. But shouldn't we all demand equality and justice now? Yes. As the Body of Christ, the family of God, when one suffers, we all suffer. How long must we suffer? One day is too long. But our impatience does not mean that nothing is happening. Simmer.

Each of us can participate, starting with our baptismal vows we renewed at Pentecost. Imagine if every one of us turned up the heat to just the right level, and began cooking up a big pot of seeking and serving Christ in all persons, loving our neighbor as our self, striving for justice and peace, and respecting the dignity of every human being. We may feel individually small and insignificant. What difference can we make? Did I mention we are all in the same pot? Simmer. Extreme heat often causes extreme reactions. High flame will burn the food, making it unpalatable. Moderate heat, evenly applied, will cause transformation into something delicious and digestible. Authentic, lasting change often comes slowly. In our lives, our love for others, our pursuit of justice and righteousness, and in our journey of faith, be an agent of change. Simmer.

# ST. PAUL'S IN PICTURES!



The Abbott's share their "shelter-in-place" project saying, "It took a while but only a few pieces to go!"



## WE MISS YOUR FACES!

THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO SUBMITTED PICTURES & MEMORIES FROM ST. PAUL'S! SEND YOUR PHOTOS & MEMORIES TO OFFICE@STPAULSMACON.ORG

JAMES PRESTON ALDRIDGE JR \*  
205 Castlegate Rd, Macon, GA 31210  
Occupation: President, Aldridge-Dove Enterprises, Inc.  
Spouse: Marcia  
Occupation: High School Teacher, French/Latin  
Children: Libby (21); Thomas (19)  
Grandchildren:

DANNY RAY ALLEN  
6413 Brandywine Rd, Raleigh, NC 27619  
Occupation:  
Spouse:  
Occupation:  
Children:  
Grandchildren:

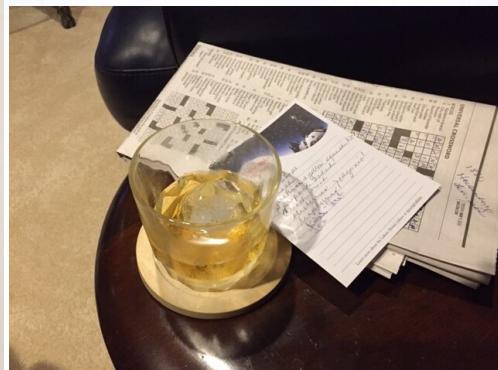
LARRY JULIAN ALLGOOD \*  
Rt 3 P O Box 222, Dayton, TN 37321  
Occupation: Manager, Ladies Hosiery  
Spouse:  
Occupation:  
Children:  
Grandchildren:

FRED MARK ALLRED JR \*  
10622 Looking Glass Rd, Richmond, VA 23235  
Occupation: Research Scientist, Philip Morris Research & Development  
Spouse: Jan  
Occupation:  
Children: Ken (19); Pam (17)  
Grandchildren:

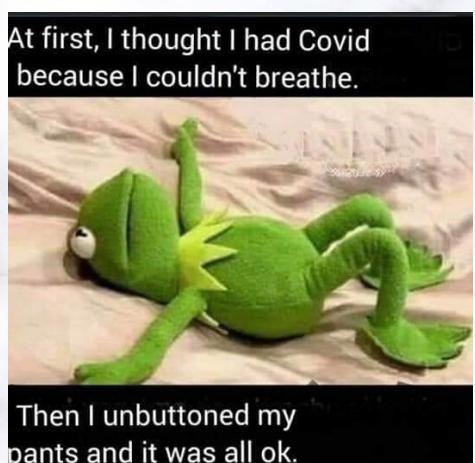
GORDAN GILBERT AMICK  
NO KNOWN ADDRESS  
Occupation:  
Spouse:  
Occupation:  
Children:  
Grandchildren:

MICHAEL MOORE AMICK 'Mike'  
516 Red Barn Trail, Matthews, NC 28105  
Occupation:  
Spouse:  
Occupation:  
Children:  
Grandchildren:

ANDREA AVANT-HALL \*



Preston Aldridge uses shelter-in-place free time to look through old pictures, finding his 1960 high school yearbook (left) he's also discovered an at-home COVID 'treatment' plan (above)



Kathy Sprenger shares a meme that made her laugh while sheltering in place (above)

# ST. PAUL'S IN PICTURES!



The Church Office says "goodbye" to our bookkeeper, Jordan Becker, who has moved to Pennsylvania after graduating college. We will miss her!



Father Bryan, Kathy Sprenger & Danny Greene work hard to record virtual services for St. Paul's Episcopal Church (above and right)



## Familiar Faces from St. Paul's!

Glenn & Kathy Sprenger (above 1)  
Brother & Catherine Liles (above 2)  
Jim & Betty Wilcox (right)



A blast from the past as Matt and Glenn prepare breakfast for fellow St. Paul's parishioners (above)

# STAY CONNECTED

Sign up for E-News  
Updates

First Name

Last Name

Email

Subscribe Now

St. Paul's Episcopal Church was live.  
May 29 at 6:58 PM ·

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Macon, GA Compline 2020 May 29



212  
People Reached

41  
Engagements

Boost Post

6 Comments 1 Share 130 Views

## E-NEWS

E-News will continue regularly on Tuesdays & Fridays. Keep an eye out for special communications throughout the week! If you haven't subscribed yet, go to our website and fill out the E-News contact box (pictured to the left) at the bottom of our homepage.



## FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

Follow us on Facebook and stay connected! Enjoy memes, special messages from the Bishops, Father Bryan and parishioners. We will also be broadcasting Compline **live** every weeknight at 7 pm from Facebook. To find our page, type in "St. Paul's Episcopal Church" on Facebook and hit "like" and "follow". See you online soon!

(<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsmacon.org>)

## VIRTUAL CHURCH AT ST. PAUL'S!

Make sure to check out St. Paul's Virtual Church for all of our service videos and special messages!

To access Virtual Church, go to **stpaulsmacon.org** and click on the "Virtual Church" tab.



# PARISH UPDATES

# WELCOME

Welcome to St. Paul's new treasurer...**Teri Kramer!**

As we say hello to Teri we would also like to thank Peggy DuBose who has graciously served as treasurer for many years. **Thank you, Peggy!**

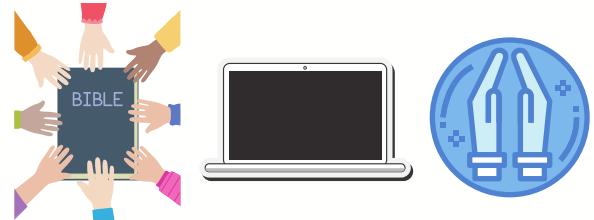
We would also like to welcome Akram Saymeh, our new Bookkeeper. Akram started in late May, when our previous bookkeeper Jordan moved, and is already working hard to keep St. Paul's finances in order. With the work done by Peggy & Jordan and the addition of Teri & Akram the Finance Office is in great shape!

If you have any financial questions, or would just like to say, "Hello & Welcome!" email [finance@stpaulsmacon.org](mailto:finance@stpaulsmacon.org).



## PARISH OFFICE OPEN FOR APPOINTMENTS ONLY

Our Parish Office is currently open for essential activities **only**. You are strongly encouraged to conduct **all church business through email or phone**. If you must physically visit the office, **call to schedule an appointment and always wear a mask**.



## STAYING CONNECTED



St. Paul's is hosting multiple Zoom gatherings every week to stay connected virtually. A link for our **bible study, men & women's breakfasts and any other Parish activity** is sent out weekly via Tuesday E-news.

# PARISH UPDATES

## ONLINE GIVING - TITHING VIRTUALLY

We now offer an Online Giving link to conveniently offer your gifts to God's mission and ministry at St. Paul's. Simply go to our Church Website ([stpaulsmacon.org](http://stpaulsmacon.org)), and click on the "Online Giving" tab, then fill out the form to give your offering via bank account or credit card.

- You may give once or set up your recurring offering
- Choose what type of gift: Pledge or General Donation.
- There is an option to help out with card processing charges by giving a little more. Please consider this option for your giving.

*Offerings may always be placed in the offering plate or sent by mail.*


## NEW AT ST. PAUL'S: STEWARDSHIP 365

Just before all activities at St. Paul's were suspended, a new committee was created to explore stewardship within the church. As such, Preston Aldridge (chair), Bryan Hinson, Ishmael Nwabuebo, Kristen Soles McCrackin, and Glenn and Kathy Sprenger have been gathering via Zoom each month to engage in an educational series entitled "Stewardship365."

The goal of the series is to understand that "stewardship" is more than simply asking for money once a year. Instead, there are six areas of stewardship, which cover all aspects of church life and membership from volunteering, leadership, mentoring and education to financial responsibility.

As the committee moves through this series, we are learning how to engage you as members. We look forward to sharing with you what we have learned in the coming months.

## THANK YOU, PROPERTY & GROUNDS!

St. Paul's would like to thank the **Property & Grounds Committee** for keeping up with the physical work needed on our campus even during these difficult times. Special thanks to Preston Aldridge, David Lucas & Alex Mitchell for taking the lead on this important work.



## HAITIAN HOPE GOLF TOURNAMENT: RESCHEDULED!

The Haitian Hope Golf Committee has made the difficult decision to postpone their annual golf tournament until **September 15th**. If you have already sent in pledges or donations, rest assured that your spot is saved! Haitian Hope will reach out with more details as the event gets closer. As always, they thank you for your dedication & support.

# OUTREACH SPOTLIGHT

MANY OF OUR MINISTRY PARTNERS CONTINUE TO SERVE, ESPECIALLY IN THIS CHALLENGING TIME. IF YOU ARE WILLING, CONSIDER GIVING TO LOAVES & FISHES OR DAYBREAK, MACON.

## A LOAVES & FISHES SUCCESS STORY

Loaves & Fishes was in need of masks until a former client, Brandon stepped in to help. Read his story below:

" Not long ago I was homeless and had no where to go because of substance abuse disorder. I have now been clean from all mind altering substances for 18 months. Now I live a life beyond my wildest dreams. I am truly so blessed to have my own place to be able to grow into the person that God intends me to be. And I am grateful that my Nana got to see me flourish before she passed in Dec. I was given the gift of caring for her during her last year before she transitioned. Loaves and fishes ministry has helped me with food and prescription assistance. I will forever be grateful that this ministry was able to see hope in me and helped me when I was in the darkest place in my life. When this pandemic started, I felt God laid it on my heart to help others. I borrowed a sewing machine even though I have never sewn before. After a few tutorials I got into action and started making face masks for anyone that I could help. I have been able to donate over 1650 masks so far to charity and even shipped them across country to anyone in need. I really have enjoyed being able to give back and sew unconditional love into every mask that I touch. I am very humbled that I am recognized for my act of kindness but when it comes down to it, I have to obey God and do as he wants and to serve his people on his behalf. I am truly beyond grateful and blessed to be able to give back to others with my time. I believe we all just need a little bit of love and it will quickly spread like the ripples in the water after a pebble is thrown in. After I can get a vehicle again, I cannot wait to see what God has in store for me. I may not have monetary value today but I have the most precious gift of all: my time and love. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to give back and thank you for your blessings. May God continue to bless your ministry the same way you have so freely given to me. Thank you for all that you are and all that you have done."



To make a monetary  
donation or see a list of  
most needed items visit:  
[loavesandfishesministry.org](http://loavesandfishesministry.org)



# WORSHIP SCHEDULE

## SEASON AFTER PENTECOST (COLLECTS & SUNDAY READINGS)

Date	Collect	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
06/07/2020 1st Sunday after Pentecost	Almighty and everlasting God, you have given to us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of your divine Majesty to worship the Unity: Keep us steadfast in this faith and worship, and bring us at last to see you in your one and eternal glory, O Father; who with the Son and the Holy Spirit live and reign, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.	Genesis 1:1-2:4a	Canticle 13	2 Corinthians 13:11-13	Matthew 28:16-20
06/14/2020 2nd Sunday after Pentecost	Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.	Exodus 19:2-8a	Psalm 100	Romans 5:1-8	Matthew 9:35-10:8(9-23)
06/21/2020 3rd Sunday after Pentecost	O Lord, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your holy Name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your lovingkindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.	Jeremiah 20:7-13	Psalm 69:8-11, (12-17), 18-20	Romans 6:1b-11	Matthew 10:24-39
06/28/2020 4th Sunday after Pentecost	Almighty God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.	Jeremiah 28:5-9	Psalm 89:1-4,15-18	Romans 6:12-23	Matthew 10:40-42
07/05/2020 5th Sunday after Pentecost	O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.	Zechariah 9:9-12	Psalm 145:8-15	Romans 7:15-25a	Matthew 11:16-19,25-30
07/12/2020 6th Sunday after Pentecost	O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.	Isiah 55:10-13	Psalm 65:1-14	Romans 8:1-11	Matthew 13:1-9,18-23
07/19/2020 7th Sunday after Pentecost	Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.	Isiah 44:6-8	Psalm 86:11-17	Romans 8:12-25	Matthew 13:24-30,36-43
07/26/2020 8th Sunday after Pentecost	O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.	1 Kings 3:5-12	Psalm 119:129-136	Romans 8:26-39	Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

**Thank you** to our Worship Team leaders who are maintaining a schedule so that we may return to in-person worship, when it is safe, as smoothly & quickly as possible.

# P A R I S H   I N F O R M A T I O N

## June Birthdays:

June 1: Lewis Sapp  
June 2: Bill Cadle  
June 3: Jim Wilcox  
June 5: Glenn Sprenger  
June 6: Peggy DuBose  
June 12: Tom Cole  
June 16: Geraldine Williams  
June 17: Robert McCommon  
June 21: Amanda Purvis  
June 22: Sarah Robison  
June 25: Tom Hinson



## July Birthdays

July 3: Peter Crespo & Eleni Economides  
July 6: Kathy Sprenger  
July 7: Mary Alice Webb  
July 7: Ben Sapp  
July 8: Hank Millis  
July 9: Kelli Wilson  
July 10: Julia House  
July 12: Jack Wray  
July 15: Mary Hinson & Allison Ross  
July 17: Caleb Ackermann & Tanya Edge  
July 19: Amelda Chapman & Hill Wilcox  
July 20: Allison Hinson  
July 29: Jean Stafford  
July 31: Marcia Aldridge



## June & July Anniversaries

June 2: Terry & Rebecca Winkel  
June 11: Jim & Betty Wilcox, Eugenia & Richard McWilliams  
June 17: Bob & Johnnie Mills  
June 19: Holly & Terri McDifftett-Mahaffey  
June 25: Bob Rush & Peggy DuBose, Jack & Charlene Kipe  
July 1: Teri Kramer  
July 11: David & Jane Lucas  
July 15: Richard Ackermann & Hillary Ellwood  
July 25: Robert & Nancy Buttermark,  
George & Disa McCommon'  
July 26: Gary & Billie Abbott  
July 29: Bryan & Stacy Hinson  
July 30: Joshua & Amanda Purvis

## PRAYING OUR ST. PAUL'S PRAYER LIST

**We pray for those on our parish prayer list:** Andrea, Anna, Bob, Bob, Brad, Bubber, Carol, Eve, Frances, Gary+, George, Geraldine, the Greene family, Harriette, Helen, Ishmael, James, Jamie, Jim, Jim, Julie, Caleb, Madeline, Matthew, Martha, Melissa, Mike, Nadine, Nathaniel, Nichal, Pam, the Parker family, Phil, Ramsey, Robert, Ray, Roslyn, Roy, the Sanders family, Victor, Walter, William, William

**We pray for those on our long term parish prayer list:** Amy, Becky, Betty, Bess, Bob, Chris, Connie, Cynthia, Danny, Dawn, Debbie, Francis, Hill, Howard, Jack, Jay, Jerry, Jessica, Jill, Jimmy, Jimmy, Jonas, Julie, Karen, Kay, Kelly, Laverne, Mackenna, Marian, Mercer, Mike, Nicholas, Patrick, Rebecca, Red, Rhonda, Richard, Ruth, Shirley, Thom, Toni, Tony

**We pray for our ministries** with Campus Ministry, Daybreak, Haitian Hope, Loaves and Fishes, Path to Shine, St. Paul's Apartments and Village, and Weekend Lunch.