

SEPTEMBER 2021

St. Paul's Epistle

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL
VOLUME 19



FROM THE RECTOR

When the pandemic shut down life as we know it, I began working to find ways to “be the church.” I started first with making it possible for us to gather virtually for worship on Sundays, on Morning Prayer weekdays and to continue offering a community meal. Then I turned my attention to children’s Sunday School, Education for Ministry, and facilitating members checking on members. I worked seven days a week for months and cancelled my vacation. As you know, though, my life was turned upside down in the fall with the death of our son, Andrew, and Cathy and I getting the corona virus.

This Spring, the effectiveness of the vaccination made it appear the worst of the pandemic was over and we were able to celebrate Holy Week in person. Then the Delta Variant of the virus erased many of the gains we had made filling our hospitals with COVID-19 patients. Once again, we have been advised to wear masks. For many of us, this has been too much. We are overwhelmed and finding it more difficult now than before to find a balance between protecting ourselves and others, and caring for our own mental health.

I confess that I am having more trouble now, than early in the pandemic, of knowing *how* to be the church when we do not meet in person. Some have returned to in person worship, but others continue to join us online and still others may have simply fallen out of the habit of attending church. When we added Facebook, the number of people joining us online increased, but we also lost the ability to know who is joining our worship – unless you make a post a comment or like the service. Knowing who is

worshipping with us online; however, is not the same as being together where we can visit with other members before or after the service.

Given today’s circumstances and the uncertainty of when we might be able to return to “normal”, I feel it is time to refocus on the question – “What does it mean to be the church, now?” Therefore I would appreciate it if you would call or email me your answer to this question, or simply tell me what you want St. Paul’s to be. Put another way, what should St. Paul’s be offering to its members and/or this community?

When this newsletter is published, I will be on a trip I had planned for myself last year and cancelled – a motorcycle journey to New Mexico and back. So don’t expect an immediate response to your email. If you call, please call after Labor Day

One of things I have learned this past couple of months it that I need to take better care of myself. To this end, I have changed my work week. I was taking Mondays off, but most of my day was spent preparing for our Monday evening Education for Ministry Seminar. So, I am now taking Fridays off and scheduling office time Tuesday through Thursday morning. Saturdays is also a workday for me and the day in which I finalize my preparations for Sundays. My scheduled time in the office is limited, but I am happy to meet with you at other times either at the church or in your home. Please feel free to call, email, or text me for an appointment.

Blessings,

Jim+

MEMBER PROFILE: TERRI CRAWFORD



I was born and raised mostly in Heber Springs. There I was baptized at the First Presbyterian Church my family attended, along with many retirees and few children. It was like having a great number of extra grandparents and I have very fond memories of my time there.

In 1987, I moved to Batesville to attend Arkansas (now Lyon) College. I suppose I learned enough to earn my degree, but the events that shaped my life the most happened outside the classroom. My roommate and I were active with the Campus Ministry Board, participating in work trips to Kentucky, South Carolina, and Mississippi. We also made a quick trip to Atlanta to hear Archbishop

Desmond Tutu speak. (It was a little awe-inspiring to receive communion from him!)

Another favorite college organization was Circle K, a collegiate service group founded by Kiwanis International. Dr. Veryl Board was our dedicated faculty sponsor, always encouraging us to have representatives attend the weekly Kiwanis lunch meeting. It was at one of those meetings that I met a young banker by the name of Gene Crawford!

Back then, the college offered an Honors International Program where we studied all kinds of things about the world and took foreign language classes. During our junior year, my trusty roommate Janet and I forgot all about studying German and Spanish and instead flew to Wollongong, Australia for a semester abroad. Wow! It was a wonderfully difficult and amazing experience that permanently changed my outlook on life.

Janet and I returned to Arkansas after six months with sunburnt hair and strange accents to finish our college careers. I earned a BA in Biology and married that banker I met so many months before. Gene was well immersed in the life of St. Paul's, so that became our first church home as a married couple. Father James McLean was serving as priest, and I was confirmed by Bishop Donovan.

In 1994, we moved to south Arkansas, living in El Dorado, Hamburg, and Crossett. During those years, I found my way to the Episcopal Church Women of Arkansas, and they have had my heart ever since. I loved serving on the diocesan board and the national Church Periodical Club. Another exciting experience was serving as a deputy to General Convention in Anaheim, CA. I had the opportunity to meet two presiding bishops, The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori and The Most Rev. Michael Curry! Oh, also during those two decades, Gene was ordained as a deacon for ten years and later as a priest.

We returned to Batesville and St. Paul's in 2017. Gene continues to be a banker and a priest while I have stretched my biology degree to work as the humanities educator at Old Independence Regional Museum. We cherish being part of Lyon's Community Friends program, assisting international students as they study and live here in Batesville. Our older son, Will, and his wife Lauren live and work locally, and our younger son, Sam, has started his senior year at BHS. In my spare time, you can find me hanging out with my parents in Horseshoe Bend or at any beach I can get to. We feel so blessed to part of this wonderful community!



CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES



End of Summer Gathering

On Sunday, August 22nd after 10:30 services our youth had a gathering to celebrate the end of summer. First Presbyterian joined along in the water volleyball games, slip-n-slide fun, and enjoying hotdogs. Everyone is looking forward to a year of fun and learning with our friends at First Presbyterian.

S.L.A.M.

St. Paul's and First Presbyterian church are joining together to offer Children & Youth Ministries this year. SLAM began last Wednesday, August 18 and is held every Wednesday at First Presbyterian from 3:30 to 5:30 pm. The youth will focus on lessons including Serving God, Loving others And Making a joyful noise. All elementary school-age children are welcome to join for games and activities, snack, music and a lesson.



Sunday School

Our Children's Sunday School will resume in person on September 19th following the same safety guidelines being used in our public schools.



Back to School 2021

August has once again brought us the start of another academic school year. Most children, teachers and parents are having to adjust to another year of wearing masks, checking temperatures and social distancing. We all know how hard it adapting to a new

routine can be but our children continue to thrive, building new relationships and learning more than ever. We pray for protection and guidance over all during this unprecedented time.

We have enjoyed seeing all the first day of school pictures and thank you for sharing them with us.

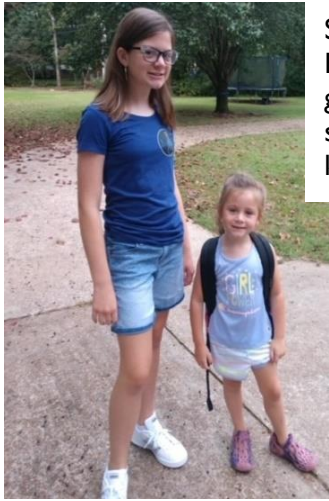


Kambryn Rogers, Linda Arnold's granddaughter, just moved to Batesville, second grade, Eagle Mountain Elementary.



John Todd Stalker, 18, South Arkansas College, playing baseball. Physical Therapy Assistant degree. He is very excited about this new chapter in his life.

Back to School 2021 (continued)



Sophie and Mattie Krug are Fred Krug's granddaughters. Sophie, sixth grade. Mattie, kindergarten.



Karis Bufford Ford, 8, 3rd Grade at Sulphur Rock Elementary.



Cameron Snell, Jo Cargill-Krug's grandson, 10th grade, Batesville High School.



Clara, 7, started 2nd grade at Lakewood in North Little Rock.



Alexander Tenace, 10th grade and is looking forward to running cross-country track in the fall.



Braden Purnell, Judy Purnell's grandson, 18, 2nd semester sophomore of U of A Fayetteville, School of Dentistry.



Logan Warden, 14, 9th grade.
Drew Warden, 11, 6th grade.

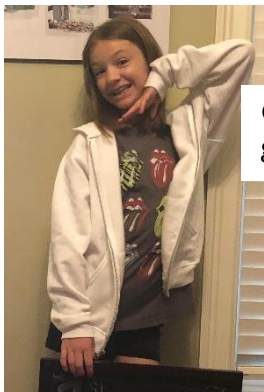


Reese Walker Williams, Judy Purnell's great-grandson, kindergarten, Newport Grade School. Wants to be a crop duster.

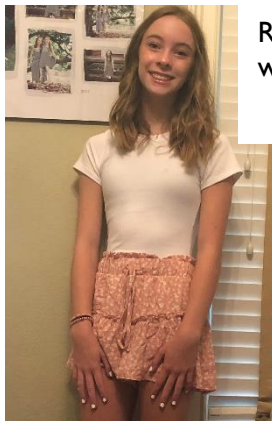


Cameron Hetrick, 10, 5th grade, Eagle Mountain Elementary

Back to School 2021 (continued)



Charlie Mulick, 7th grade.



Ryan Mulick, 9th grade, wants to be a doctor.



Coraline Howerton, Tymina's daughter, 6, 1st grade at Hillcrest Elementary.

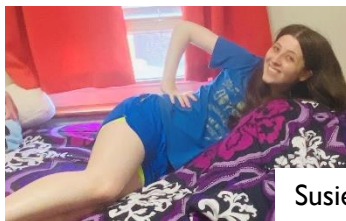


Lola Goodwin, 9, 4th grade at Sulphur Rock

Henry Goodwin, 12, 7th grade, Batesville Junior High



Bradley Howerton, Tymina's son, 11, 6th grade at Hillcrest Elementary.



Susie Bumpers, junior, UCA.



Betsy Bumpers, junior, BHS



Mary Bumpers, 8th grade, BJHS



Sam Crawford, 18, senior at BHS.

ST. PAUL'S CHOIR

A warm hello to the beautiful voices of St. Paul's. I am delighted to lead the choir program this year. Please know that the music ministry here welcomes **all** voices for worship, both in choir and as soloist. Though our choir program restart will be delayed for safety measures, our vocal program this fall encourages members to lend their singing voices for occasional Sunday services. Rehearsals for upcoming music take place immediately following the 10:30 Sunday service in the choir room in Anglican Hall. Please reach out to me for participation as well as music recommendations and comments, <mailto:michael.oriatti@lyon.edu>

-Michael Oriatti

UNITED THANK OFFERING

The United Thank Offering is a ministry of The Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church. United Thank Offering boxes will be distributed to parishioners in September. Through UTO, individuals are invited to embrace a daily discipline of showing gratitude by dropping money into the box to acknowledge the blessings we all receive.

One hundred percent of what is collected will be to support innovative mission and ministry throughout The Episcopal Church and Provinces of the Anglican Communion, according to the UTO website. The boxes can be picked up in the Narthex or mailed to your address upon request. Please make checks payable to 'DFMS' with 'UTO' in the memo line.

The fall in-gathering is planned for All Saints Day in November. For more information contact Ellen Massey.

CAMP MITCHELL FUNDRAISER

Camp Mitchell's Board of Visitors will be hosting an adult fellowship and fundraiser event to support reopening in April of 2022. This event will take place Saturday, September 25th at Camp Mitchell from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Offerings include a camp tour, lunch, silent auction & Eucharist. Masks and social distancing are required during this event. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to CampMitchellBOV@gmail.com by Friday, September 17 for lunch planning purposes.

Giving opportunities now or at event: Checks made payable to 'BOV Camp Mitchell', Joanna Seibert. Sent to 27 River Ridge Road, Little Rock, AR. 72227. Online Giving, go to Campmitchell.org/bov

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER SCHEDULE

5th:	8:00- Ardis Gillespie	10:30- Roger Christiansen
12th:	8:00- Cameron Gillespie	10:30- Danell Hetrick
19th:	8:00- Mike Schmidt	10:30- Brenda Bittle
26th:	8:00- Dave Allen	10:30- Nikki Bittle

USHER SCHEDULE

5th: Pat Mulick & Pam Baxter

12th: Brenda & Nikki Bittle

19th: Gary Perkey & Tim Dunlap

26th: Fred Krug & Fuller Bumpers

ALTAR FLOWERS

5th: Beverly Grigsby

12th: Lloyd & Betty Bess

19th: Julie Dozier

26th: Cindy Allen



CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS

Melissa Castleberry, Lee Conditt, Carol Crosby, Chris Cruse, Dana Davidson, Lachlyn Dore, Lola Goodwin, Cameron Hetrick, Steve Massey, Fr. Jim McDonald, Peyton Olson, Kaye Starling, Drew Warden, Michelle Warden, Kathrine McSpadden.

CELEBRATING AN ANNIVERSARY

Cindy & Dave Allen, Lloyd & Betty Bess, Fred & Jo-Cargill Krug, Mabelle & Roger Christiansen, Mike & Martha Sue Smith, Lee & Sabrina Conditt, Don & Karen Mills.



COMMUNITY MEAL TEAMS

1st: Team Reynolds/ Kipfer

8th: Team Olson

15th: Team Stalker

22nd: Team Mundy/Bittle

29th: Team Strawberry Mennonites

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