

May 2025

The Good News

A Newsletter of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Louisville, Kentucky



Wherever we are, this is how we love God and God's People

From the Rector's Study

Fr. Andrew, Rector

Beloved,

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to each one of you who dedicated your time and energy to enrich this year's Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. Your active participation in various ministries, programs, gatherings, and engaging discussions has genuinely made a difference in our faith community. I am deeply grateful for your dedication to fostering a community that extends beyond

Sunday worship.

We find ourselves again in a time of transition, following Easter Sunday. According to the New Testament, Jesus met with his disciples several times during the 40 days after his resurrection to instruct them on how to carry out his teachings. It is believed that on the 40th day, he took them to the Mount of Olives, where they witnessed his ascension to heaven. Although the stores have quickly put away Easter decorations and moved on to the

Derby, Memorial Day, and even the Fourth of July, I want us to pause and think of the disciples during this transition period. How did they manage to live out their faith after the day of resurrection, their separation from Jesus upon his ascension, and the welcoming of the Spirit of the Advocate on the day of Pentecost and beyond? I doubt that the disciples in ancient times forgot about His resurrection for the next big event just as easily as we do today. Instead, they lived with the reality of the risen Lord, which changed their lives forever. They learned how to be the church, the assembly of faithful ones, that sought ways to become One Body in Christ, that would go beyond worship.

The church is a peculiar organism where our emotions dictate whether to stay or leave, despite Jesus's teaching of love. It is easy to limit the church to a house of worship that only fosters a personal relationship with God. However, Jesus calls us to be more than that. He charged us to develop a community that extends the love of God by lifting one another. Suppose we limit our focus to a personal relationship with God, rather than learning how to love one another. In that case, it's no wonder we let our likes and dislikes guide us toward a more transactional relationship that only values earthly rewards. Jesus, our

risen Lord, instructs us that we aim for heavenly rewards that are based on love, mercy, and compassion. To achieve it, we must trust God and let the Holy Spirit be our guide, not our personal preferences. The church should be a place where all of us can learn how to become One Body in Christ by lifting each other up. It is hard, ongoing work. I was deeply moved this year during Lent, Holy Week, and Easter, as I witnessed the community continually growing toward a faith-filled, courageous, and loving community.

On May 18th, we have a significant event—the Spring Parish Council. It is not just a meeting, but a platform where we can all come together to shape the future of our church. We will present the progress of the Lift Up Your Hearts project after the 10:30 service. Your vestry and I will solicit your input on creative ways to connect us to St. Paul's of tomorrow through the installation of a new lift. Your ideas and suggestions are not just welcomed, but they are crucial to our collective journey. Be Bold, Trust in God, and Be Fearless; that is how we work with the Holy Spirit. Jesus' disciples also began learning about it during the transition period between Easter and Pentecost. Let's all come together and make this a fruitful and inspiring event.

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Love in Christ,
Fr. Andrew



From the Choirmaster

David Paul Gibson – Organist /Choirmaster

Helen Keller tells us that “Faith is the strength by which a shattered world shall emerge into the light.” I seem to rely on my faith for strength more each day in this “shattered” country in which we live. Honesty, civility, charity, justice, and so many more positive aspects of our society seem to have disappeared and are replaced by lies, divisiveness, brinkmanship, and self-focused prosperity. It is easy to question one’s faith rather than rely upon it. It is easy to lose one’s hope rather than seek solutions. That said, Chuang Tzu reminds us that “Just when the caterpillar thought the world was over, it became a butterfly.”

One beautiful “butterfly” in my life has become the St. Paul’s church family. You are a welcoming, caring and gracious congregation and you should be celebrated as such. I always look forward to our worship together and the many

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opportunities for us to visit throughout the week. Your warmth and support are greatly valued.

I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to thank the wonderful members of our Choir and our Associate Organist, Frank Kirk, Jr., for their dedication to our Music Ministry. These volunteers work each week to provide musical support of the highest quality to our worship together. Along with our fine Schola, good things continue to happen. This was especially true during Lent and at Easter. For this, I know we are all grateful.

Turning again in thought to the many woes of the world in which we live, I am reminded of a quote of Pope Saint John Paul II “Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and Hallelujah is our song.” As Easter people let us sing together – Hallelujah!



From the Preschool

Erin Dykes - Director

St. Paul's Family,

I hope you all are enjoying the beginning of spring despite the rain and allergies common to Louisville. I want to start by sending out a huge "Thank You!" to George Busch and Ray Brown for keeping our building dry during the historic rainfall and flooding our area experienced during the first week of April. Without their efforts, I have no doubt that we would have taken on some water, affecting our ability to start back to Preschool on April 7th following Spring Break. George and Ray, the Preschool staff greatly appreciates you to continuing to devote your time, knowledge, and resources to take care of us!

We are super busy in the Preschool this time of year, every year, as May brings with it all of our end-of-the-year activities. We are preparing for Derby Parades and Races, Family Field Days, and Pre-K Graduation. It takes our entire staff working together to get ready for these fun events, but they are well worth our time and effort. Our hope is that our students and families will create memories here that stay with them for a long time.

Our 2025 Preschool Graduation ceremony will take place on Friday, May 16th. This year we will be graduating 30 children and wishing them the best as they move on to kindergarten. After the ceremony, families are invited to join us in the Parish Hall for cupcakes, photo opportunities, and the chance for some bittersweet "Good Byes" and "See You Later" with their classmates and teachers. Thank you once again to the Prayer Blanket Ministry members for their hard work and continued dedication to providing each of our graduates with a treasured prayer blanket.

Thank you to the Parish members who participated in our Annual Flower and Plant fundraiser. As I write this article we are preparing to receive and distribute our order. It was once again a successful fundraiser. Parish and Preschool families together sold over \$5200 worth of items, and we will net just under \$3000 for the sale. By the time you read this article, perhaps your plants and flowers will already be a part of your garden and landscaping. Thank you!

National Teacher Appreciation Week is May 5th-9th. I want to take a moment to thank our staff of 12 regular teachers and 2 certified substitutes for their continued hard work and dedication to

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providing an outstanding early childhood program here at St. Paul's Preschool. Their inspiration and energy make our program a fun and educational program for the children. I am grateful to be at the helm of such a wonderful team. I can also say that working with these ladies is a truly rewarding experience. We consider ourselves a family rather than just co-workers, and that's just another reason "Everybody Loves St. Paul's!"



Pray, Learn, Serve, and Rejoice at St. Paul's

All newsletter articles are due on the 15th of every month to be placed in the monthly newsletter. Bulletin announcements are due every Monday at noon. Please provide an event title, and a description of 75 words or less.

We Pray

Pray for All

During this challenging time, please be intentional about setting a time to pray. Pray for those on the prayer list. (pg. 8)



We Learn

Sunday Adult Forum (Starting May 4th)

Our Sunday adult forum will begin a new reading and discussion of *How We Learn to be Brave* by Bishop Mariann Budde. Join us from 9:00 A.M. -10:15 A.M. in the conference room. More information on page 13.

Ecclesiastical Bits & Bytes

Technology and Theology with Fr. Andrew

Are you feeling intimidated with your computer, tablet, and smartphones? Are you frustrated with virtual meetings? Greetings, favored one. Do not be afraid for the Lord is with us. Contact the office to set up an appointment.



We Serve

Calvary Episcopal Church Food Pantry

Please join us at St. Paul's Episcopal Church each Sunday from 9 am – 12 pm for the Sunday Service food collection.

All food is counted and delivered to Calvary on Thursday morning after collection. If you would like to volunteer to help with driving and delivery, contact Ray Brown or David Dawkins.

Current Total: 160,037 items donated.

Please be a part of this amazing ministry by bringing items to the Sunday “SERVICE” at St. Paul's or sending in your monetary donation!

St. Paul's parish has generously donated over \$15,251.35 to the Calvary Food pantry since June 2020. Make checks payable to St. Paul's.



We Rejoice

Website

Communication is the key to a successful ministry. Be sure to check out the website to keep up to date on church activities.

Prayers and Thanksgivings

Please contact the office to include names on the prayer list by the 15th of each month. Names will be listed for 30 days (short term prayers) or if requested 3 months (long term prayers). Fr. Andrew and the weekday prayer group prays for each person by name every day.

Healing, Comfort, Relief, Protection, and Hope

Evan Hayen (Friend of Ann Ford), Pamela Sublett (Sister-in-law of Connie Sublett), Pam Dickmann, Andy & Ann Norman (Friends of Mae & James Fleming), Andy & Pam Phillips, Paul Given (Brother-in-Law of Nancy Northrop), Family of Mary Langseth & Valerie Langseth), Lynn Green, Brad Beard, Jerry Nazarro, (Friends of Cindy Miner), Rona Bruce, Bill & Diana Motsch, Dena Rogers (Friends of Peggy Pryse), Carolyn (Grandmother to Angelina Duncan and Mother of Stephanie), David Ford (Son of Ann Ford), Markie June Neal (Granddaughter of Monica Bell), Chola Davis, Jane Boles (Friends of Ann Ford), Family of Ethan & Marsha Reed (Friends of The Miner Family), Penne Wright (Sister of Suzie Aebersold), Carol Fitzpatrick, Ginny Hutchens (Friends of Becky Meyer), Jill Nief (Sister-in-law of Linda Snyder), Brody (Friend of Linda Snyder), Fr. Roger Walker, Bunny & Allen Parnell (Friends of Sue Benner, Donna & Al Smith), Chuck B. & Sandra P. (Friends of Cheryl Young), Sue Brotherton, Emily (Daughter of Ruthe & Jim Holmberg)

Serving in the Military

2nd Lt. Kyle Sears (Grandson of Arlene Buckner), Christopher Neal (Son-in-law of Monica Bell), Anthony Polio (Grandson of John and Wanda Wiegand), John Phipps (Nephew of Ray Keller), Matt Hartmann, Luke Hartlage (Son of Linda Hartlage, preschool teacher), Jennifer & Joe Venghaus, Lt. Erin Jones (Niece of Rex Jones)

Homebound

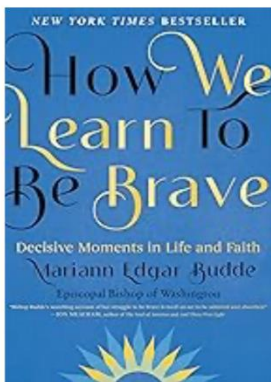
Betty Reed, Mary Ellen Pinto, Mary Langseth, Jo Stuebe
Lorna Larson, Donna Coliz, Jane Delgado-Shadid, James & Mae Fleming

Anniversaries

Don & Mary Greenlee (5/12), James & Jennifer Naive (5/25),
David & Kathy Dawkins (5/30)

Birthdays

Evelyn Berg (5/3), Autumn Miner (5/3), Jennifer Naive (5/4),
Wyatt Derossett (5/7), Joan Holzknecht (5/16), Mary Ann Johnson (5/22), Al Smith (5/26),
Don Babcock (5/27), Pete Womack (5/28), Kathryn Sublett (5/29), Nancy Northrop (5/30)



How We Learn to Be Brave: Decisive Moments in Life and Faith – May 23, 2023

by The Rt. Rev. Dr. Mariann Edgar Budde¹

A NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

***How We Learn to Be Brave* is an inspirational guide to the key junctures in life that, if navigated with faith and discernment, pave the way for us to become our most courageous selves, by the bishop of the famed Episcopal Diocese of Washington, D.C.**

On January 21, 2025, many Americans were introduced to Bishop Mariann Budde thanks to what *The New York Times* called “an extraordinary act of public resistance.” During her prayer service for Donald J. Trump’s second inauguration, Bishop Budde addressed the president directly, imploring him “to have mercy on the people in our country who are scared now,” from those who are part of the LGBTQ+ community to immigrants and refugees.

But for Bishop Budde, this moment was the culmination of a lifetime spent thinking about those pivot points when we’re called on to push past our fears and act with strength. With *How We Learn to Be Brave*, she teaches us that being brave is not a singular occurrence; it’s a journey that we can choose to undertake every day.

Here, Bishop Budde explores the full range of decisive moments, from the most visible and dramatic (the decision to go), to the internal and personal (the decision to stay), to brave choices made with an eye toward the future (the decision to start), those born of suffering (the decision to accept that which we did not choose), and those that come unexpectedly (the decision to step up to the plate). Drawing on examples ranging from Harry Potter to the Gospel According to Luke, she seamlessly weaves together personal experiences with stories from scripture, history, and pop culture to underscore both the universality of these moments and the particular call each one of us must heed when they arrive.

With Bishop Budde’s wisdom, readers will learn to live and to respond according to their true beliefs and in ways that align with their best selves. *How We Learn to Be Brave* will provide much-needed fortitude and insight to anyone searching for answers in uncertain times. (*Amazon*)

The Sunday morning Adult Formation Group will begin this book study on Sunday, May 4, from 9:00 AM – 10:15 AM. The book is available in hard/paper back at Amazon and other book stores including Episcopal book stores. No sign-up needed; just join us in St. Paul’s conference room.

¹ About the author

Mariann Edgar Budde is the bishop and spiritual leader of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, D.C., and the Washington National Cathedral. Prior to her election in 2011, she was a parish priest in Minneapolis for eighteen years. She has appeared on PBS NewsHour, Meet the Press, Good Morning America, and the Today show, among others. Bishop Budde earned her Master’s in Divinity and Doctor of Ministry from Virginia Theological Seminary. To access her work, go to www.mariannbudde.com

Leadership

Senior Class ('26)

Kathy Dawkins
George Busch
Jason Solan

Senior Warden
Buildings and Grounds
Formation

Middler Class ('27)

Suzie Aebersold

Tom Yurt

Junior Warden
Worship
Stewardship

Junior Class ('28)

Connie Sublett
Ruth Ellen Flint
Cheryl Young
DMLO Firm

Secretary
Outreach
Fellowship
Treasurer/Accountant

Robyn Fischer
David Paul Gibson
Erin Dykes

Parish Administrator
Organist - Choir Master
Director of Preschool

The Rev. Pete Womack
The Rev. Roger Walker Priest
The Rev. Andrew Shirota
The Rt. Rev. Terry White

Deacon
Associate
Rector
Bishop of Kentucky

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Return Service Requested