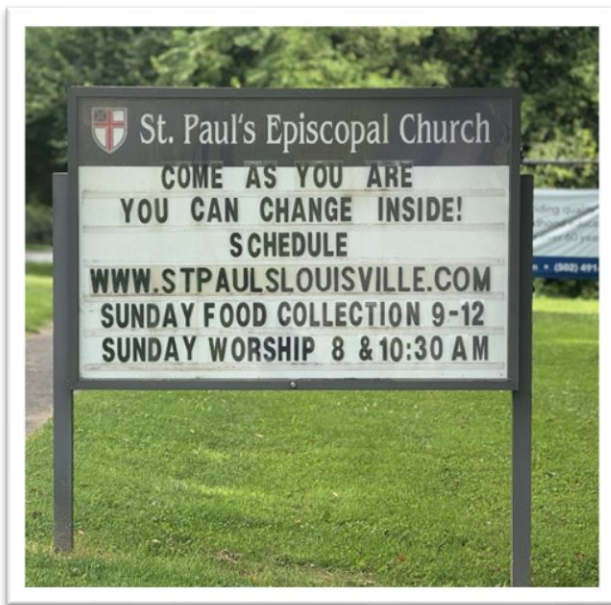


July 2025

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,
Come as you are; you can change inside. I hope you have noticed our church sign by now, after it has been there for a few years. Fr. Roger and Beau used to change the message regularly, but I have been too lazy to change it. I prayed for a church-sign fairy to appear one day and change it miraculously. Wishful

thinking.

"Come as you are; you can change inside" has become my mantra now that I see it every day. The message sparked a few interesting conversations. Some took it as an invitation to give the church a dramatic makeover, with ideas such as upgrading church furnishings, singing more contemporary hymns, or changing worship style with extra gadgets. The uplifting

energy in their sharing ideas reminded me of celebrity gurus on house makeover TV shows. If you just do such and such, the church will attract more of this and that. When we think of changes, we often mean only the kind of changes others must make, but rarely the changes we must make. When considering a solution to a problem, it is usually easier to think of getting something new to fix it or replace the old. If someone could just volunteer to change the sign, a brand-new message will show up every week! I am guilty as charged.

“Come as you are; you can change inside” is intended to convey a spiritual transformation. The message invites us to renew our understanding and appreciation for God’s blessings and mercy. However, such renewal is never easy, as it can trap us in complacency if approached without caution, because we can deceive ourselves with our clever minds. As I faced the same church sign for as long as I could remember, I caught myself being trapped in the very idea of complacency. Renewing my mindset was merely a change from my guilty conscience for leaving it stagnate to justification for my inaction with various excuses; writing this message is a good example. Cough, cough. The devils in the details.

“Come as you are; you can change

inside.” It means boldly acknowledging our shortcomings, trusting in God’s mercy, and wrestling with ourselves to take action to be a better follower of Christ. It means neither being a flashy home improvement guru for someone else’s house nor using our critical thinking skills to justify ourselves to stay complacent. We all have room for improvement within ourselves before critiquing someone else’s messy, cluttered closet. Resistance to change inside is real and always requires challenge. We are a loving, stubborn bunch.

It is for this reason that the Lift Up Our Hearts capital campaign for the installation of a new lift is significant. We, as a parish, boldly acknowledged the rising need, trusted in God’s mercy, and wrestled with ourselves to pitch in and take action, not just for our convenience, but for enhancing accessibility to all who use our building, even though it necessitated an internal change. I am grateful to the vestry for helping us navigate this spiritual journey. We are deeply thankful to you for your generosity in making this project possible. We are making our church building better than we found it, together.

It’s easy to demand change from others. Just as easy is spending energy to justify our stubbornly fixed mindset. Implementing internal changes requires

effort. Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.” (Matthew 16:24-25) Life is too short to hold onto our self-righteousness. As Jesus teaches us, we must deny our stubborn selves by unloading our baggage, so that we can pick up our cross and follow Jesus. That is how we surrender to change inside.

Finally, I agree with you that the sign needs to be updated with a new message. I will leave it as is for July, but I promise to update it more regularly. Thank you for your patience.

With Love,
Fr. Andrew



From the Deacon

Pete Womack – Deacon

We made it to Pentecost, and if you listened carefully, you might have heard a collective sigh. I know I took a deep breath as we entered Ordinary time, also known as the season of Pentecost. The year from preparation during Advent, to Jesus’ birth and revelation to the world at Christmas and Epiphany, to Lent, to mourning his death and celebrating his resurrection at Easter, to being filled with the Holy Spirit at Pentecost is an intense journey. We experience a wide range of emotions and many spiritual moments that are a part of the liturgical year, and it is tiring. I’m ready for a nap.

The thing is, though, it’s not nap time. We’re entering the season where we do the work of the spirit and the church, applying what we’ve learned during the other seasons to our lives between Pentecost and Advent. It’s where we put the pieces together to create a complete picture of our liturgical and spiritual lives. Our liturgical life in the church is so rich with traditions that we are always finding new pieces to fit into our picture, sometimes replacing other pieces that have become worn, or lose their meaning. That means that we discover new

spiritual practices and try them out, or we learn about some new aspect of prayer. This is not necessarily trying out the latest fad, or shopping around for something exciting, or not being truly committed to our faith. It is instead a recognition that the Holy Spirit moves us in different directions at different times as God calls us to a life in Jesus. We have needs that change over time, and new practices may address those needs.

What is most important is not that we commit to a particular form of spirituality or practice as a sign of faithfulness to God, but to finding what brings us to a holy life. The act of searching for that path can't become the center of our spiritual life, where we become perpetual seekers. The latest new or novel thing in spiritual practice shouldn't be followed without asking ourselves why we want to try or adopt it. A search for answers and discovering meaning will lead to spiritual maturity and stability. There's a difference between the excitement of finding something new and fulfillment from discovery, and it is fulfillment from what we've learned during the year that we should look toward as we do our spiritual work during Pentecost.



From the Choirmaster

David Paul Gibson – Organist /Choirmaster

July! Half of 2025 is behind us. I have always heard that as you get older time seems to go by much more quickly, and I can believe it. There is still Christmas music to be filed in the Choir Room!

Rather than looking back, I prefer to look ahead. Music selection is taking place, the Choir is being rehearsed, the Schola trained, the St. Paul's Chimers are practicing, and Frank is hard at work at the organ ... all preparing music for July and beyond to be given in our worship together. There is never a dull moment in our Music Ministry.

Among the exciting things taking place is the addition of a new member to our Schola. Oscar Pujol joined the ensemble in June and is sharing his talents with us. Oscar is a sophomore music major at the University of Louisville, where he is majoring in vocal studies. While he sings bass in choirs, he is actually being trained as a countertenor (a male alto). He has two beautiful voices! Please take a moment to welcome Oscar when you have the opportunity.

We were most pleased recently to receive the St. Alban's Roland electric

keyboard for our choir loft. This will allow the choir to practice in the sanctuary and can be used as a harpsichord or small organ when presenting Baroque and Classical period music. We have also turned the choir to face the nave, allowing the choir to sing forward rather than across the church. I'm sure you can hear the difference.

“To everything there is a season and a time.” My wish for you is to enjoy the blessings of this summer season. Take time to enjoy family and friends, have a picnic or go to a movie, and don't be a “Summer Stranger” at Sunday mass. We would miss you!

+

A promotional poster for National Ice Cream Sundae FunDay. The title "NATIONAL Ice Cream Sundae FunDay" is prominently displayed in a mix of serif and sans-serif fonts, with "NATIONAL" in a small, arched font above "Ice Cream". Below the title, the date "SUNDAY | JULY 20TH" is written in a pink, sans-serif font. The central image is a white bowl filled with vanilla ice cream, topped with a generous swirl of chocolate syrup. Surrounding the bowl are several chocolate-covered wafer cones, some whole and some broken, creating a dynamic, festive feel. The background is white, and the entire poster is enclosed in a thin black border.

NATIONAL
Ice Cream
Sundae FunDay
SUNDAY | JULY 20TH

CHOCOLATE AND VANILLA ICE CREAM WITH A SELECTION OF YOUR FAVORITE TOPPINGS TO CREATE CUSTOM SUNDAES.

IF YOU HAVE AN UNUSUAL TOPPING THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE, FEEL FREE TO BRING IT.

JOIN US AFTER THE 10:30 SERVICE FOR FUN & FELLOWSHIP WITH YOUR CHURCH FAMILY & ICE CREAM FOR LUNCH!

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

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. 9)



We Learn

A Weekday Formation Group

Currently on Sunday morning at 9:00 A.M., an adult formation group has been offered for those who prefer an early morning group on Sunday. Those interested in this setting and time are currently reading and discussing How We Learn to be Brave authored by Bishop Mariann Budde. We have identified the need for a similar group that will take place during the week and at a time that is more flexible. If you are interested in such a group, please talk with or text Fr. Roger to be contacted to learn more about this option for study and growth.

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: 164,054 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 \$15,818.35 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

Philip & Cheryl (Brother of Fr. Roger), Carolyn Johnson (Mother of Stephanie, Grandmother of Angelina), Maureen & Joe Solan (Parents of Jason Solan), Judy (Friend of Kitty Riney), Andy & Pam Phillips, Carol Schusterman, Phyllis Gibson, David Dawkins, Beth Beckham (Neighbor of Fr. Andrew & Fr. Roger), Jeanne & Jerry Powell, Matthew (Friend of Fr. Andrew), Will Bearden (Friend of Robyn Fischer), Evan Hayen (Friend of Ann Ford), Andy & Ann Norman (Friends of Mae & James Fleming), Paul Given (Brother-in-Law of Nancy Northrop), Marsha Reed (Friend of Cindy Miner), Rebecca Rupp (Friend of Peggy Pryse)

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, Jeanne Powell

Anniversaries

James & Mae Fleming (7/2), Pat & Meg Mrozowski (7/10),
Don & Joy Hauss (7/15), Bill & Cile Brooks (7/30)

Birthdays

Becky Meyer (7/1), Meg Mrozowski (7/1), Debby Brown (7/7), Avery Miner (7/7), Sydney Solan (7/10), Nancy Skidmore (7/14), Nancy Fred (7/16), Rex Jones (7/16), Dave Elks (7/18), Mary Greenlee (7/24), Joy Hauss (7/26)



2025-2026

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

Call or e-mail today to
schedule a tour of our
private, play-based program.

Classes for twos, threes, and
fours!

 [502.491.7418](tel:502.491.7418)

 PRESCHOOL@SPLOUISVILLE.COM

Now
Enrolling!

Leadership

Senior Class ('26)

Kathy Dawkins
George Busch
Jason Solan

Senior Warden
Buildings and Grounds
Formation

Middler Class ('27)

Suzie Aebersold
Meg Mrozowski
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
The Rev. Andrew Shirota
The Rt. Rev. Terry White

Deacon
Priest Associate
Rector
Bishop of Kentucky

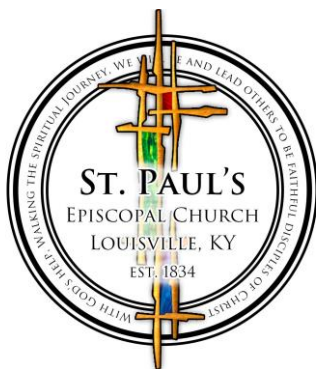
Email
Web
Facebook
QR Code to Church Website

Fr.Shirota@gmail.com
www.stpaulslouisville.com
St. Paul's Episcopal, Louisville, KY



July 2025

SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS



4700 Lowe Road
Louisville, KY 40220

Return Service Requested