

September 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,

None of us got where we are solely by pulling ourselves up by our bootstraps. We got here because somebody—a parent, a teacher, an Ivy League crony, or a few nuns—bent down and helped us pick up our boots.” I recently quoted this statement from Thurgood Marshall when I spoke about Project CALEB. I firmly stand by his

philosophy, and I find it humbling coming from him.

As the first African American Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court in 1967, at the height of the Civil Rights Movement, Marshall could have rested in self-glory. Instead, he chose humility, remembering the teachers, mentors, and neighbors who shaped him. At a time when society placed great emphasis on self-reliance, Marshall reminded us that greatness comes through unity and interdependence—not for self-

gain, but for the good of others. Such a greatness echoes what the Apostle Paul taught the church in Corinth (1 Cor. 10:17): that we are one body, sharing one bread.

Project CALEB has become a living witness to that truth. It has been just over a month since Caleb's tragic accident, which resulted in his spinal cord injury. You and many others in the community responded. In only a few weeks, your generosity has raised nearly \$9,000, and the fund continues to grow. Yet the most profound part is not the amount—it is the chain reaction of love and solidarity. Together, we are raising hope, funding care, and making a home accessible.

As Caleb, a 15-year-old, works to relearn how to communicate with his body, we stand beside him as the body of Christ—his hands, his feet, his voice of encouragement. Saint Teresa of Avila said it best:

*Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours.
Yours are the eyes with which he looks with
compassion on this world.
Christ has no body now on earth but yours.*

We now invite you to the Sunday Afternoon Musicale on September 7 at 2 pm. This event will feature the talents of St. Paul's Collegiate Schola members—

Anthony, Miles, Jovanna, Gabby, and Oscar—together with guest pianist Denise Whittington. It will be a beautiful opportunity to join Caleb's healing journey. Please come and bring your friends. All proceeds will go to Project CALEB.

The Collegiate Schola is more than a choir; it is a ministry. These college students support our worship each week with their voices, while also learning about servanthood and stewardship. Guided by our choirmaster, David Paul, and inspired by the example of our dedicated volunteer choir members, they are now putting that learning into action—offering their gifts in service to Caleb, even though they have never met him.

To support their efforts, our choir members will host a reception after the concert. Church members will help spread the word by visiting schools, posting flyers in the community, and inviting friends and family. In this way, Caleb's healing journey is teaching all of us how to live as One Body—not for personal gain, but for a greater cause that gives us purpose.

Did you know that September is National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month? The color is lime green. I look forward to seeing you at the Sunday Afternoon Musicale on September 7 at 2 pm. Bring your friends, raise awareness,

and let us continue to walk together with Caleb. His journey may be long, but we will come through it stronger, braver, and united in love—because we are a Community Acting in Love to Elevate Bravery in one another. With love and gratitude,
Fr. Andrew



From the Deacon

Pete Womack – Deacon

In my [sermon](#) delivered on August 17th I talked about what signs of the times we were missing, the ones Jesus refers to in the [gospel reading](#). One of my points was that there is a tendency to respond to social and political problems or issues individually, rather than as a community. I also mentioned that I wasn't going to go into details on the issues during my sermon, but I do want to mention a few examples here.

[Kim Davis](#), the county clerk of Rowan County, Kentucky refused to issue a marriage license to a same-sex couple the day after the Supreme Court ruled that same-sex marriages could not be prohibited in the US. She explained that her religious beliefs outweighed her responsibility as an

elected official. She was sued, found at fault, and has lost several appeals. She is now the face of an effort to have the Supreme Court [overturn](#) the Obergefell vs. Hodges decision that allowed same-sex marriages. Ms. Davis represents a minority of Americans that seeks to impose their religious beliefs on the entire country through legislation and court rulings. The majority of Americans do not see same-sex marriage as a problem. This issue is part of a long-standing debate over where the line between personal freedom and social order lies. My sermon question is to consider who is being hurt by not allowing same-sex marriage, and who is being hurt if it is allowed, and why?

Our president has used the justice system and the power of the executive branch of government to sue, fire, or prosecute people or institutions who have spoken out against him or not followed his directives to his satisfaction. The extent and circumstances of this use of power against others has never been seen before in the presidency. It can be considered an extreme example of exerting the will of the individual over others. The sermon question here is to consider what the response of the community, or the body of Christ, would be to this use of power.

What is being done to whom, by whom, and why?

The myth of the individual that views agreement, cooperation, or tolerance as poor choices is not the only theme present in America at the moment. For 5 years, the community of St. Paul's has responded in Old Louisville by collecting food for Calvary Church's pantry. It has also overwhelmingly responded to the needs of people with limited mobility by donating money to pay for a lift in the building. It is supporting Caleb Dykes and his family during his recovery from a spinal injury, despite most of us never having met him. These scenarios of addressing needs are examples of servant-leadership that are different from the prominent individuals of social and political scenarios mentioned above. But are we limited to acting as the body of Christ for needs only? Or, is an individually driven solution to political or social issues the only appropriate one? What would it take to choose the achievement of a community over the heroism of a conquering individual to address social and political problems?

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From the Vestry

Ruth Ellen Flint – Outreach

Why do I love the Episcopal Church? For one thing, it's a series of systems. Librarians like me feel comfortable with systems. Our worship is structured; our Scripture readings are laid out in order and now include more passages with women in them! And we have the seasons of the church year. But those are not the most important reasons.

I love the Book of Common Prayer. Note: God does not hear us one bit better because we use the BCP. It is a link to our historic past and connects us to the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church through the form of the Mass and the influence of other Christian bodies, particularly the Orthodox (see Prayer D). But those are not the most important reasons either.

I love the fact that while our worship is structured, we have freedom of thought and latitude of belief. The first Queen Elizabeth said she didn't want to make windows into men's souls. We don't quiz people at the door—we greet them. If I want to read church history or theology for a hobby, nobody stops me. Note: it doesn't make me any better than anyone else, or more redeemed. (Actually I have to spend a lot of time on my continuing

education requirement for work.) But those aren't the reasons either.

Here's my most important reason: I have belonged to four different Episcopal parishes. In all of them, I've always found love and compassion. In my original home parish in Richmond, (along with the Lutherans, for whom I have a very high regard) the whole group was instrumental in helping me after I fled my marriage. After graduate school at UK, I moved to Detroit and belonged to the Cathedral there. Barely able to cope with life, I struggled in a difficult job and unfamiliar culture but knew I had church members looking out for me.

When I returned to Louisville, I found my way to St. Alban's and ended up as senior warden for four years. Few can say that being senior warden is a healing experience, but my improbable friendship with our Rev. Elizabeth was just that. And the women of St. Alban's loved me, bringing me out of my nearly-incapacitated state to regain my identity as a human being.

When St. Alban's had to close we all came to St. Paul's. God put us here in the midst of a loving people. In every aspect of the transition, we were generously supported by lay, staff, and clergy. New friends consoled us in our grief, and so

many made it their mission to incorporate us into parish life. I assert that there is no parish anywhere whose members take the teachings of Matthew 25 more seriously than do the people of St. Paul's.

Our collections for Calvary's pantry demonstrate this. The Prayer Blanket makers demonstrate this. Our outreach to our neighbors and their children through the Preschool demonstrates this. I look forward to learning more about the Preschool and being its link in the Vestry. I ask for your prayers for our Vestry as we serve the Lord and you in this place.



From the Organist - Choirmaster

David Paul Gibson – Organist - Choirmaster

September is what I like to call the “will-it-be” month. If you live in Kentucky, you understand why: Will it be hotter than blazes today? Will it be chilly tonight? T-shirt or sweater? Well, you get the idea.

One thing I know for sure is that it will definitely be comfortable in the church on Sunday, September 7th at 2:00pm. That is when the members of our St. Paul's Collegiate Schola will volunteer their time

and talents to present A Sunday Afternoon Musicale in support of Project Caleb. Gabrielle Hillerich, soprano; Jovanna Okyere, soprano; Miles McCormick, tenor; Anthony Hernandez-Greenwell, baritone; and Oscar Pujol, baritone; will be showcasing their many talents accompanied by guest artist Denise Whittington at the piano. Music by Handel, Vivaldi, Schubert, Schumann, Fauré and Tallis will be performed alongside music by contemporary composers. Award-winning author Jovanna Okyere will also present a newly written story for the occasion.

No admission will be charged for the 50-minute program, however, a free-will offering will be taken with all proceeds going to Caleb Dykes and his family as part of Project CALEB: Community Acting in Love to Elevate Bravery.

Plan now to join us for this special Music Ministry outreach event and plan to stay for the reception and time of fellowship. Let's fill the church to support our wonderful young people and Project Caleb. Your attendance will be greatly appreciated!

Wishing you the blessings of God's grace.



From the Preschool

Erin Dykes - Director

We are back to school for 2025-2026! The new school year officially began for us on Monday, August 18th. Our classrooms are beautiful, and our teachers have taken great care to make them excellent learning environments for our students. Prior to the first days of school, we hosted our annual "Welcome Days" during which a parent/guardian joined their child(ren) for the opportunity to meet their teachers and classmates, familiarize themselves with their classrooms, and create some art. That sneak peek gets all of our students and families excited to start the new year.

The Preschool would like to thank the following people for all their hard work in refreshing our playground with new mulch on Saturday, August 9th: six St. Xavier National Honor Society students (represented by Mr. Danny Blaser, a former Preschool dad), two Louisville Male High School JROTC students (represented by Mrs. Leah Zettwoch, a St. Paul's teacher), one Trinity High School National Honor Society student, and a long list of St. Paul's church members and their families. Pam (and grandchildren), Suzie, Cindy, Rex, Tony, Sue, Ray, George, and Fr. Andrew,

”THANK YOU!” Much appreciation goes, as always, to Mrs. Pam Harp for coordinating and overseeing this event in my absence. We cannot understate how appreciative we are of the time and energy these people devoted to making our playground safe and welcoming for our students and the community.

As I write this article, we are four days into our new school year. We did experience some separation anxiety tears those first couple of days, but the children are really settling in beautifully to their new classrooms. We anticipate a busy and fun-filled year as they build new relationships and learn through their experiences at St. Paul’s. I asked our families if they’d like to share a “first day of school” pic with me for consideration to be included with this article. Twenty-four of our families sent 24+ pictures in an afternoon! It was too tough to choose who to feature, so I hope you enjoy the collage of those 24 kiddos.

On a personal note, I’d like to thank everyone who has kept my son, Caleb, lifted in prayer. Thank you to those of you who have expressed an interest in helping us/have already helped us through this time. The number of “unknowns” for Caleb and what his injury and recovery mean for him and our family as a whole, is a big number. What we do know is that our circle is large,

and our circle has really shown up to love and support our son. You forever have love and gratitude from all of us (Jeremy, Erin, Brady, Brenna, and Caleb).

If you have family, friends, or neighbors looking for a preschool home, we still have a small number of openings in our program for two-year-olds and four-year-olds. Send them my way. I would love to schedule a tour and show them why Everyone Loves St. Paul’s!

Please feel free to have them contact me at Preschool@SPPLouisville.com or 502.491.7418.



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. 14)



We Learn

Ecclesiastical Bits & Bytes

Technology and Theology with Fr. Andrew

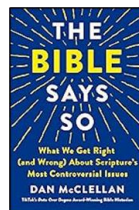
Are you feeling intimidated with your computer, tablet, and smartphones? Are you frustrated with virtual meetings? Greetings, favored one. Do not be afraid for the Lord is with us. Contact the office to set up an appointment.



THE BIBLE SAYS SO!

The Bible Says Jesus is God

The Bible Says Sinners will Be Punished Forever in Hell



The Bible Says That our Group begins on Sunday, September 7, 9:00-10:14 AM

Read on:

We have concluded our reading and discussion of “How We Learn to be Brave” by Bishop Budde. Beginning July 1, the group will be on “vacation” *until the first Sunday after Labor Day, September 7, 9:00 AM*. We have chosen a newly released book by Dan McClellan, Ph.D. (4/25) titled: **The Bible Says So: What We Get Right (and Wrong) About Scripture’s Most Controversial Issues**.

The Bible is the world’s most influential book, but do we really know what it says? Every day across social media and in homes, businesses, and public spaces, people try to cut debate short by claiming that “the Bible says so!” However, they commonly disagree about what it actually does and doesn’t say, particularly when it comes to socially significant issues. For instance, does the Bible say we should be on the lookout for an antichrist associated with the number 666? Does it say women shouldn’t wear revealing clothing? Does it say it’s okay to hit your kids?

Dan McClellan is an award-winning public scholar of the Bible. He has over one million followers on social media, and tens of thousands more tune in to his online classes and his **Data Over Dogma** Podcast. Dan received his PhD from the University of Exeter. He worked previously as a scripture translation supervisor for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and is currently an honorary fellow at Birmingham University's Cadbury Centre for the Public Understanding of Religion. (Amazon)

No registration is required; we will meet at 9:00 AM – 10:15 AM in the first-floor conference room each Sunday beginning September 7, 2025. Participants are encouraged to read the introduction and Chapter 1 prior to group. Your favorite bookstore or Amazon is the place to find this book.

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: 169,275 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 \$16,263.35 to the Calvary Food pantry since June 2020. Make checks payable to St. Paul’s.

Update from Calvary food pantry:

Today's stats of 131 clients receiving 262 bags serving 301 people has blown our average up to over 130 per session! Monday wins the weekly challenge, (134), but Tuesday (130) and Thursday (131) are hot on Monday's heels!! 🐾 We do have fun with this rivalry. Seven bushels of Baptist Tomatoes, 🍇 four of grapefruit, two of plums, a wagonload of KH sweets and salads, gas station chicken, and assorted fruits plus many clothing items also contributed to today's joy in giving. Enthusiastic volunteers included Marianne, Barbara, Sally, Lauren, Susie, Amanda, the St Pauls seven, Bobbie from KH, Brian, Mike, Bill and John from Knights of Columbus, and Don and Suzanne, our Baptist gardeners. Thank you all! I also want to thank Kathy Gapsis for nominating me successfully for the Bell award and emphasize that all of our 74 volunteers and contributing organizations are responsible and deserve the credit- NOT ME! WLKY will be filming our food operations on Monday at 9:30 in preparation for a documentary that will air on channel 32 on October 18 at 8pm. Best news is that our food pantry gets a \$500 prize! The overwhelming stats since Covid onset 3/16/20 are now 111,111 bags of food and toiletries serving 129,075 people. WOW for sure! Our village is amazing!



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.



A Note from Fr. Andrew...

I wanted to pass this along—Charles (a good friend of mine) is mentoring an EfM group at St. Andrew’s. Could be a great fit for some of you!

St. Andrew’s in Highland is preparing to launch a new *Education for Ministry* (EfM) group, and just **two more participants are needed** to get started!

EfM offers a deep dive into Scripture, theology, and Christian life, with both the classic 4-year track and a new 1-year **“Wide Angle” option** available. Tuition is \$367 plus books (discount if 8+ enroll). Mentored by Charles from St. Andrew’s.

Learn more at the EfM website or contact [dorrraith@twc.com](mailto:dorraith@twc.com).





St. Paul's Collegiate Schola presents

Sunday afternoon musicale

Community Acting in Love to Elevate Bravery.



with Guest Pianist
Denise Whittington

An afternoon of music with a mission. Every dollar given will go directly to help cover Caleb's medical costs and the home modifications he needs to live with safety and dignity.

SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 7, 2025, 2 PM
ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
4700 LOWE RD, LOU KY, 40220
FREE ADMISSION - DONATIONS WELCOME

PROJECT CALEB

www.stpaulslouisville.com



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

Steve & Mary Combs, Becky Ritchie (Friends of Cindy Miner), April, Mike & Dorothy (Friends of Linda Snyder), Pam Rossman (Sister of Kelly Yurt), Larry Badgett (Former St. Albans Member), Diane Poffenberger (Friend of Sandi Pierie), Tony Guffy (Father of Cheryl Young), John & Wanda Wiegand, Caleb Dykes (Son of Erin Dykes), Elysse Mattingly (Friend of David & Kathy Dawkins), Jane Ecker (Friend of Donna Smith), Andy Lowe (Friend of Donna & Al Smith), Jane Delgado-Shadid, Becky Hurst (Friend of Ellie Stump), Philip & Cheryl (Brother of Fr. Roger), Maureen & Joe Solan (Parents of Jason Solan), Judy (Friend of Kitty Riney), Andy & Pam Phillips, Carol Schusterman, Dena Rogers, Diana Motch, Rebecca Rupp & Wes Rubble (Friends 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

Anniversaries

John & Wanda Wiegand (9/12), James & Ruthe Holmberg (9/25)

Birthdays

Lisa Allen (9/2), Sue Brotherton (9/6), Donna Smith (9/8), Pat Lightfoot (9/12), Vicki Kurk (9/18), Marilu Derossett (9/21), Pam Phillips (9/26), David Miner (9/27), Autumn Moore (9/28), Jennifer Moore (9/29), Anna Miner (9/30)

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 Shiota
The Rt. Rev. Terry White

Deacon
Priest Associate
Rector
Bishop of Kentucky

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QR Code to Church Website

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SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS



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Return Service Requested