

April 2026

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,

Is this all there is?
Perhaps it has been a while since you last felt a sense of spiritual affirmation. What once brought deep joy has begun to fade, and you find yourself wondering what has changed. Maybe

something has shaken your conviction. Or perhaps you have lost someone dear and are now learning how to live without them.

Whatever the reason, you may find yourself wandering in a kind of spiritual wilderness, quietly asking, *"Is this all there is?"*

I wonder if the disciples felt the same after they lost their master. They had left everything to follow Jesus. They witnessed miracles—feeding the multitude, healing the sick, raising the dead, calming the sea. They walked alongside him, shared meals, and listened as he spoke of the kingdom of God. They belonged to his inner circle.

What must it have been like to journey with him through those final days—and then to watch him take his last breath on the cross? Without the one for whom they had given up everything, surely there was a profound void. Did they, too, find themselves asking, *“Is this all there is?”*

The Good News is that their journey did not end there—but it did change.

They continued without his physical presence, holding on to his teaching and to the hope of his promise. Some days were marked by courage; others by uncertainty. Like us, they lived in the tension between what had been and what was yet to come.

A life of faith is never linear. It unfolds with twists and turns, moments of clarity, and seasons of doubt. Yet even in what feels broken or stagnant, something within us is still being formed. Change is

not the enemy of faith—it is often the very place where faith takes root more deeply.

This April, we experience that truth together as a community, as we step into several meaningful changes in our shared life.

We are blessed to welcome Joseph Reese, a member of Calvary and currently in the discernment process for the priesthood, who will be with us for a six-month internship.

We will also gather on April 19th to receive the faithful legacies of St. Thomas into our memorial garden, joining their story with ours. This sacred moment will take place immediately after the 10:30 service, and will be followed by a reception. As St. Thomas Church on Westport Road prepares for its final Eucharist, I ask your prayers for all its members as they enter a new chapter in their congregational life.

In all these moments, we are reminded that change is not the end of the story. So the next time we find ourselves asking, *“Is this all there is?”* we remember this: in Christ, our lives are not ended—they are transformed. Even in uncertainty, even in loss, even in change, God is still at work—forming us through prayer, learning, serving, and rejoicing. All that is not the end of the story. It is the beginning of

resurrection. Happy Easter!

Faithfully,

Fr. Andrew

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From the Deacon

Pete Womack – Deacon

On a Wednesday Lenten program session, we saw a video of Sr. Josephine Garret talking about her Lenten experience. She said something that struck me, that there is a tendency to dig too deeply and diagnose yet another sin we have committed. In her experience, she has seen this become an obsession that obscures what Lent is truly about (redemption and transformation) and focuses on the brokenness. I have seen this as well, where we adopt a perverse identity based on what's wrong with us, rather than including what is right with us. As we age, we inevitably pick up diagnoses as chronic illnesses develop: cardiovascular disease, diabetes, arthritis, and so on. They become part of our daily lives, and we say, "I'm a diabetic" as easily as we say, "I'm a parent" or "I'm a golfer." I have noted, though, in my children's generation that there is a "pathologization" (if I may invent a term) of their lives. There is a tendency for some

to look at diagnoses as a definition of who they are and a validation of some difficulty they have experienced. They may be frustrated by a lack of a diagnosis of something and accuse the medical community of failing them or not listening to them. In some cases, this is true and should be called out to ensure everyone receives the attention they need. What I'm referring to is people who have self-diagnosed after reading about certain illnesses, both physical and mental or emotional, and talk about them as if they had been diagnosed by a medical professional. To have a diagnosis that allows them to say "I'm a ___ic" is better than to have no status, no identity at all. A diagnosis is their salvation from nothingness or failure.

This is true, too, of us in our spiritual lives. It can be preferable to be labeled an abject sinner than to continue to search for an identity, or struggle with how we could possibly be God's children when we are so flawed or unfinished. I recall saying in exasperation to a family member dealing with emotional problems, "Can you see yourself something other than a broken person?" I think we hear that, too, from the people around us who care about us, and from Jesus himself, in so many words, when he delivers the

Beatitudes. It can also become a perverse badge that we show, trying to outdo each other, not in zeal as Paul mentions in Romans 12:11, but in how bad we are and how much more we need to be saved than the person sitting next to us. In the end, building an identity around a diagnosis of sin or a medical condition is a step into self-centeredness because love and support are not perceived, or are truly absent.

The way out of this attitude and identity is to choose a path that starts where you are now and leads you where you want to go. That is the hard part, knowing where you want to go that leads to wholeness rather than more brokenness. All the different paths start at the same place, though: that you are loved and valued as a child of God as you are, by God. Through Jesus, God shows us how to become the best that we can be. We will make mistakes. We are imperfect. Those attributes are what makes us human and captivating to God, rather than being uninspiringly perfect. We are more than just our faults and misdeeds, diagnoses and limitations. Jesus didn't come to diagnose and fix. He came to show us the goodness that we possess but are not yet aware of, and that faith in him and in ourselves is what heals us.

From the Organist - Choirmaster

David Paul Gibson – Organist - Choirmaster

Martin Luther King Jr. once shared: "Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime."

Easter and Spring are both upon us. This should be a joyous time of hope. Hope is much needed in this world of ours, where we are constantly bombarded with news of the hopelessness of war and its death and destruction, divisive politics, and financial insecurities. Sometimes we need to unplug from it all, seek a quiet place, and muse over the promise of the resurrection and the greening of the world around us. There is restful peace to be found there. I wish that for each of you.

I am pleased to announce the promotion of one of our Collegiate Schola members, Anthony Hernandez-Greenwell. He has been promoted to the position of Associate Choirmaster. Anthony is completing his junior year in the University of Louisville Department of Music, where he has had the opportunity to perform under numerous conductors, including composer-conductor Eric Whitacre, and in performances with the Louisville Orchestra. Anthony has been a

member of the Schola for four years, where he has shown leadership and dependability. He will work closely with me in the selection of music, seasonal planning, directing the choir, working with the Schola, and accompanying as needed. I look forward to sharing with Anthony the skills needed to succeed in the field of Liturgical Music.

Our choir has worked especially hard to gift us with beautiful music this Lent and for Holy Week and Easter. Our thanks go out to each member for their continued contributions to our mass each week. Also, a big thank you to Frank Kirk Jr. for his beautiful music from the organ throughout the season of Lent. Frank's music is always thoughtfully selected, prepared, and beautifully rendered.

Wishing each of you much happiness this season of Easter and Spring.

David Paul Gibson



From the Preschool

Erin Dykes - Director

Who is ready for spring? All of us at the Preschool are ready for winter to make her exit.

We are all excited for sunshine, green grass, and more comfortable temperatures.

Springtime also means the arrival of our annual Flower & Plant Sale fundraiser. We look forward to this event every year, and I promise you will be amazed at the quality of the plants you order. See page 2 of the newsletter for more information. We hope that many of you will participate!

I hope you've been taking the time to read our "Staff Spotlight" feature in each newsletter to get to know all of the staff members that make St. Paul's Preschool the wonderful program that it is. By the end of the school year you will have met all of us!

Enrollment for 2026-2027 has been strong! Thank you for your referrals to your friends and families! There are only a few select spots remaining in some of our

classes, and we are sure to fill most of them in the next couple of months. Morning with Mom is right around the corner, and we are looking forward to hosting that event for our moms or other special grown-ups.

Believe it or not, the end of the 2025-2026 school year is fast approaching, and that means a very busy schedule for us all!

Erin Dykes, Director



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. 10)

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We Learn

Ecclesiastical Bits & Bytes Technology and Theology with Fr. Andrew

Technology and Theology with Fr. Andrew
Are you feeling intimidated with computer, tablet, and smartphones?

Are you frustrated with virtual meetings?

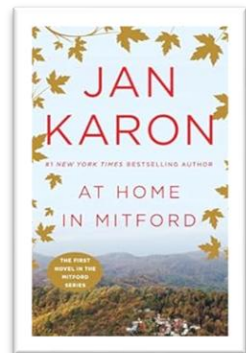
Greetings, favored one, do not be afraid for the Lord is with us. Contact the office to set up an appointment. Fr. Andrew will help you with the process.



Wednesday Book Club At Home in Mitford, by Jan Karon

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM Conference Room

This book is a warm, character-driven novel set in a small North Carolina town, centered on the gentle and thoughtful Episcopal priest Father Tim Kavanagh. Through everyday moments, humor, and quiet faith, the story explores themes of community, grace, and unexpected love. It's a comforting, uplifting read that celebrates ordinary life and enduring relationships.



Adult Formation (Sunday)

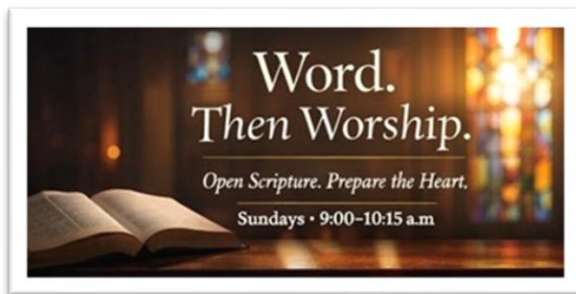
Sundays | 9:00–10:15 a.m.

Before we lift our voices in prayer and song, we gather around the Word.

Each Sunday morning, we explore the appointed lectionary readings for the day — Old Testament, Psalm, Epistle, and Gospel — listening for themes, asking honest questions, and discovering how God’s Word is speaking into our lives right now.

This is not a lecture, but a conversation. Together we prepare our hearts for worship by dwelling deeply in Scripture. Whether you are new to Bible study or have been reading the lectionary for decades, your presence and perspective matter.

Come early. Open the Scriptures. Let the Word shape your worship. All are welcome.



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: 191,007 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 \$19,643.35 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.



Upcoming Events

Sunday, April 19th

The welcoming of faithful legacies of St. Thomas into our memorial garden, joining their story with ours. This sacred moment will take place immediately after the 10:30 service and will be followed by a reception.

Sunday, May 17th

St. Paul's Parish Picnic: more information to come out soon!

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

Rose Manella (Friend of Linda Snyder), Carolyn Latimer, Family of Jimmy Cunningham (Nephew of Ray & Debby Brown), Family of Hudson Paul Suiter (Son of Ryan & Allison Suiter, grandson of Paul & Elise Suiter), Family of Jerry Johnson (Suzie Aebersold's Uncle), Wendy, Alex & Maddie Rediker, Laura Johnson, Joe Cain, Frank Kirk, Marcelino (Gerold's father), Neil (Stephanie's friend), Sandy Breashar, Hunter Herring (Friends of Carol Schusterman), Wanda Wiegand, Mary & Don Greenlee, Alan & Barbara Johnson, Sue Benner, Tricia Wimberg (Friend of David & Kathy Dawkins), Beverly & Janet (Friends of Donna Coliz), Allan & Bunny Parnell (Friend of Sue Benner, Donna & Al Smith), Takako, Yoshi, Haruki, Hamu, Yuichi, & Matthew (Friends of Fr. Andrew), Caleb Dykes (Son of Erin Dykes), Maureen & Joe Solan (Parents of Jason Solan)

Serving in the Military

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

Homebound

Betty Reed, Mary Ellen Pinto, Lorna Larson, Donna Coliz, Jane Delgado-Shadid, James & Mae Fleming, Andy & Pam Phillips, Vincent & Verbal Angelico, Sue Brotherton, David & Loretta Roscoe

Anniversaries

Birthdays

Jill Berg (4/7), Mary Ellen Pinto (4/7), Frank Kirk (4/8), Mae Fleming (4/9), Linda Snyder (4/9), Rick Robbins (4/10), James Fleming (4/12), Connie Albrecht (4/15), Andy Graves (4/20), Anthony H. Greenwell (4/21), Cile Brooks (4/23), Barbara Johnson (4/26), Ruthe Holmberg (4/27), Phyllis Gibson (4/28)

Leadership

Senior Class ('27)

Suzie Aebersold
Meg Mrozowski
Tom Yurt

Senior Warden
Worship
Stewardship

Middler Class ('28)

Connie Sublett
Ruth Ellen Flint
Cheryl Young

Junior Warden
Outreach
Fellowship

Junior Class ('29)

Jerry Powell
Carol Schusterman
Penny Southwick

Secretary
Formation
Buildings & Grounds

DMLO Firm

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

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St. Paul's Episcopal, Louisville, KY



April 2026

SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS



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Return Service Requested