



THE EPISCOPAL MESSENGER

JUNE 2025

SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



The Howard University Gospel Choir blessed us with a stirring concert on May 18, sponsored by The Exchange.

Adult Education

The next offering for our adult education program will be a change of pace. We'll read the book called ***The Shack*** by William Paul Young. While it's a great story and an engaging read, it also takes the reader through some very difficult questions regarding the nature of God, the Trinity, pain, loss, judgment and redemption.

I think it will be a wonderful way to spend some hours this summer. We'll have discussions on a weekly basis on both Sunday evening via Zoom at 6 p.m. and on Monday mornings at St. Paul's and on Zoom at 10:30. The book can be bought from several vendors and is available in an electronic format. The class will begin June 22/23. – *Deacon Jim Jenkins*

Parish Leadership

**The Rev. Allison Carnahan,
Priest-in-Charge**

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Officers

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Victoria Wilcox, Secretary

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Other Vestry Members

Rachel Bitler

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Treasurer's Report

April 2025

	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget
Carryover	\$ 32,633.93	\$ 32,633.93
Contributions	45,030.88	45,542.79
Other Income	28,178.32	24,901.62
Total Income	105,843.13	103,078.34
 Total Expenses	 87,505.96	 94,116.37
 Income - Expenses	 18,337.17	 8,961.97

While pledged contributions year-to-date are slightly ahead of budget, other contribution sources are lagging slightly. Thank you for your continuing commitment to St. Paul's. As reported last month, year-to-date expenses are under budget primarily due to the delay in the completion of sound system renovation. As always, if you have questions about the church's financial condition, I encourage you to speak with me or any member of the finance committee.

St. Paul's has a new treasurer. The Vestry has appointed Dennis MacMahon to take over the position. Dennis has a professional background that makes him well-suited to the position, and we have been implementing a transition for the past several weeks. I appreciate Dennis' willingness to take over the responsibility and look forward to continuing as his assistant.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Candlish

Outreach

OOM Dessert Mission:

The July – November schedule for “dessert mission” at Our Orangeville Manor is ready to go! If you have thought about signing up, but have never gotten around to it, summer and fall are great times to participate in this sweet mission! It is not necessary to provide homemade items, but it is important to keep the “people connection” that occurs when you drop off the treats.

Dates include:

July 6 and 20, August 3 and 17,
September 7 and 21, October 5 and 19,
and November 2 and 16

In December we will request desserts for the Christmas social.

To sign up, or if you have questions, contact Elaine Pongratz at mdmep@ptd.net

Reminder:

If anyone has events you would like to have listed on either of the Community Aid Calendars – *Find Help* or *Find Events*, please send the name of the event, date, time, and a brief description to Elaine Pongratz (mdmep@ptd.net). The *Find Help* calendar shows free and low-cost community resource events, such as food giveaways, clothing distributions, health screenings, free meals etc. This calendar serves as a central resource, making it easier for the community to find essential information. The *Find Events* calendar is a guide for local events for children.



Introducing Brandon (Brado) Muthika Mulwa

Brado (Brandon) is the newest addition to St. Paul’s ChildFund Mission. Brado will turn 10 years old on November 29th. He lives with his parents, brother and sister in Machakos County, which is in the eastern part of Kenya.

Look for more news about Brandon as the students in our Sunday School class communicate with him through letters and e-mails! – Elaine Pongratz, Outreach Chair

The Messenger will be on newsletter “vacation” during July and August. The next issue will be in September. Watch for special “mini” newsletter(s) with messages and/or articles from Mother Allison. Other time-sensitive news will be shared in “Happenings.”

Altar Flowers

If you would like to provide altar flowers for a special occasion, please send your request to Patty Creasy at the Church Office (Post Office Box 764). Flowers for one Sunday cost \$45, plus \$6 for delivery, but you are welcome to contribute whatever you can.

Please make checks payable to St. Paul's Episcopal Church and mail to P.O. Box 764, Bloomsburg, PA 17815. Please include a note with the following information:

- The Sunday you would like to provide the flowers.
- Notation: The Altar Flowers are given by _____ in loving memory of _____, or in thanksgiving for _____.
- Your name and contact information (phone number, email address, etc.)

June Baptismal Birthdays

Robert Barton Sr. * Sallie Sitler * John Hobbis * Jean Atherton * Eric Hess * Ken Roszel * Robert Barton Jr. * Leigh Ann Hamilton * Meredith DeWald * Megan Hicks * Ian Lowe * Ian Hicks * Ellen Tyree * Jessica Cooper * Lee Nicholas Johnson * Keira Pringle * Molly Elizabeth Cooper

July Baptismal Birthdays

Dan Knorr * Cynthia Matzko * Mary DeWald * Kathleen Mohr * Heather Hyatt * Andrew Fritz * Alexander Lowe * Molly Hopkins * Katherine Staller

August Baptismal Birthdays

Rachel Oberdorf * Elaine Pongratz * Nancy Rupert * Jocelyn Mohr * Lydia Brandt * Elijah Allen Brandt

Lectionary for June

June 8 – Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21 or Genesis 11:1-9
Romans 8:14-17 or Acts 2:1-21
John 14:8-17, 25-27
Psalm 104:25-35, 37

June 11 – St. Barnabas, Apostle

Isaiah 42:5-12
Acts 11:19-30; 13:1-3
Matthew 10:7-16
Psalm 112

June 15 – Trinity Sunday

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31
Romans 5:1-5
John 16:12-15
Psalm 8 or Canticle 13 or 2

June 22 – Second Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 19:1-15a
Psalm 42 or 43
Galatians 3:23-29
Luke 8:26-39

June 24 – Nativity of St. John the Baptist

Isaiah 40:1-11
Acts 13:14b-26
Luke 1:57-80
Psalm 85

June 29 – Third Sunday after Pentecost

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14
Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20
Galatians 5:1, 13-25
Luke 9:51-62

June 30 – St. Peter & St. Paul, Apostles

Ezekiel 34:11-16
2 Timothy 4:1-8
John 21:15-19
Psalm 87

On a musical note

As we come to the close of our first choir season together, my heart is full of gratitude. Our final choral anthem *I Will Sing with the Spirit* by John Rutter captures so much of what this ministry is about:

*I will sing with the spirit,
I will sing with the
understanding also;
Alleluia, alleluia.*

Week after week, our choir has done just that — singing not only with technical skill, but with deep spiritual understanding. Their music has been more than notes and rhythms; it has been worship, testimony, and prayer. I am thankful for their dedication, their flexibility, their laughter, and their heart. Each rehearsal and Sunday morning has been a joy for me as a director, and I know their voices have truly uplifted our worship services and blessed our congregation.

As we enter the quieter rhythm of summer, may this season bring rest and renewal to each of us. Summer offers time to pause, to reflect, and to be refreshed — body, mind, and spirit. In the same way the land needs a fallow season to be fruitful again, so do we.

During the summer months, we invite individuals, duets, or small ensembles to share their musical gifts during worship. These offerings of special music continue to enrich our services and provide a beautiful way to remain connected through music. If you are interested in

participating, please do not hesitate to reach out to me, and I would be honored to work with you as your schedule permits.

May your summer be filled with peace, joy, and perhaps a quiet song of praise in your heart! — *Dr. Alan Hack, Music Director*

‘Noisy’ Collections

In June, the Noisy Collection at St. Paul’s will go to the Bloomsburg Food Cupboard. If you do not have the opportunity to place your coins in the collection plate during Sunday services at the church, you may send a check and write “BFC” on the memo line.

In July and August, the Noisy Collection at St. Paul’s will go to the Women’s Shelter. If you do not have the opportunity to place your coins in the collection plate during Sunday services at the church, you may send a check and write “Women’s Shelter” on the memo line.

Summer hours

Our church secretary, Patty Creasy, will be in the office on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9-11 (with additional hours as needed) during the summer months.

THE EPISCOPAL MESSENGER

A newsletter for the parish family of

St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Bloomsburg

Please send articles and other correspondence to

Doug Hippenstiel * Dch17846@gmail.com

May Vestry Notes

Priest's Report

Would like to re-establish congregation members carrying elements forward during the Offertory. Each Sunday, the usher would ask a parishioner or two to carry elements forward.

Would like someone to organize and tidy the back of the church with shelves and bins

Deacon's Report

Jim will be gone week of June 8th for a Deacons conference

Discussed donation of a new processional cross and voted to accept the gift

Treasurer's Report

Balance Sheet:

General fund looks fairly normal. Assets and total liabilities are much less than we started the year with, but is what we expected. Trust accounts—interesting anomalies in which funds have done better than others.

Budget report

Income

Unpledged contributions continue to be under what was budgeted, probably due to a single family that contributed actively but are no longer involved with the parish

Pledges are above predicted. Plate offering is above what was predicted (baptisms? New people?)

Parking Lot proceeds are less than is budgeted by choice since we haven't needed to take the money out to meet bills

Fundraising income is almost 3x above what was predicted

Expenses

Grounds: looks to be over budget, but is due to an unrecorded voided check.

Under budget for utilities at end of heating season.

Music Fund is substantially under budget for the year

New treasurer appointed

Dennis MacMahon has agreed to be the next treasurer and has been working with Bruce for several weeks. Vestry voted to approve Dennis MacMahon as the next treasurer.

Old Business

Sound system update: all is installed except for the locking cabinet and has been troubleshoot for volume control and hearing impaired device connections to speakers. We will get a bill when the cabinet is installed.

Energy Audit: Vicki will meet with Rachel and Alan (Property) and Strategic Planning Committee to review the recommendations from the audit, and report back to Vestry about actions to take.

Website: The new website has been built, but it is very different from the current website and Vicki requested help proofreading the content of new website before launching it. Katherine, Linda, and Rachel offered to look at the new website and edit content.

(Continued on next page)

Vestry

Discussed and authorized funding for new choir robes. For future, we should do publicity for Celebration of Music Ministry when we get the new robes.

Property: Discussed parking lot paving (deferred to 2026), roof repairs (to be done by John Lapp in August), and sidewalk repair for sidewalk outside the Iron Street door. Getting 3 estimates.

New Business

Discussed pros and cons of having Morning Prayer once a month in place of Eucharist. Input is needed from the congregation.

In Our Prayers

Aaron * Abby * Adrienne * Al * Alaina *
Alan * Alec * Alicia * Allison * Andrew *
Angela * Angie * Anne * Arline * Ash *
Barbara * Barry * Becca * Beth * Betsy *
Betty * Bill * Bishop Curry * Bobby *
Bonnie * Brenan * Brenda * C.M. * Caleb
* Candy * Carol * Casey * Celia *
Charlene Hancock * Chet * Chris *
Christian * Chuck * Cindy * Claudia *
Craig * Dahnya * David * Deb * Debbie *
Dee * Della * Denise * Donald * Donna *
Donnie * Doris * Doug * Dyan * Elaine *
Ellen * Emanuel * Emily Ebert * *
Frances * Franny * Garth * Gene *
George * Gerry * Gini * Gloria * Glory *
Graham * Harry * Hazel * Heather * Helen
Helene * Holly * Ian * Irene * Jack
* Jaclyn * Janet * Janny * Jay * Jean * the
Jenkins family * Jennifer * Jeremy * Jerry
* Jessica * Jessica * Jill * Jim * Joanne *
Jody * Joe * Johanna * John * John

Jeffrey * Johnny * Jon * Jonna * Josh *
Joshua * Judy * June * Justin * Kai *
Kaitlyn * Karen * Kate * Kathy *
Katherine * Kathleen * Kathryn * Kelly *
Ken * Kennedy * Kevin * Kim * Krista *
Kyle * Larry * Laura * Laurie * Laverne *
Leah * Leon * Leslie * Lillian * Linda *
Luke * Lucy * Lydia * Lynda * Lynn *
Madison * Margaret * Maria * Marian *
Mariann * Marika * Marilyn * Mark *
Marsha * Marshall * Marty * Mary *
Matthew * Merika * Mercedes * Michael
* Michelle * Molly * Monica * Myrna *
Nadine * Nancy * Naomi * Nichol * Nina
* Olga * Owen * Pam * Paul * Paula *
Peter * Phyllis * Preston * Ralph *
Rebecca * Richard A. * Richard Orsini *
Rick * Riley * Ron * Rosemary * Russell *
Sam * Sandra * Sandy * Sarah * Saul *
Scott * Sean * Seth * Sharlet * Sharon *
Shirley * Simuel * Sophia * Steph *
Steven * Susan * Tanny * Terry Jo *
Theresa * Timothy * Tom * Tina * Tori *
Tosha * Van * Victoria * Virginia * Walter
* Wanda * Wayne * Wesley * William *
Zulma. The people of Israel and Gaza.
The people of Ukraine.