

# St. Paul's Episcopal Church

## THE GOOD NEWS March 2025

*Love God. Love Each Other.*

*It's just that simple.*

—Jesus

### Spring is Around the Corner!

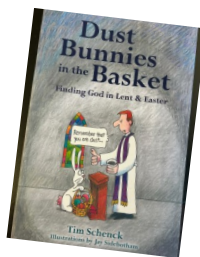
*Susie Watkins*

If you are anything like me, right now I am wishing that the groundhog hadn't seen his shadow! (Maybe next year, I will put an umbrella over his burrow!!) The cold weather has certainly put a few kinks in our plans. As you know, we have had to cancel church and other gatherings and meetings. Twice due to weather, our supply priest has not been able to be here. One thing is for certain, as sure as winter follows fall, spring will be here eventually. Hopefully, we have had the worst of it.

One piece of exciting news is that we have signed letters of intent from both Fr. Ben Newland and Jieun Newland. Once we have details confirmed Fr. Newland will be hired as our rector and Jieun will be our full-time organist and choirmaster. Finally, the end of our search is in sight.

The month of March will be busy. Ash Wednesday is March 5th. Services will be at Noon and 5:30 p.m. March 4th will bring our annual Youth Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper from 5 until 7 p.m. As always, we will need both youth and adult volunteers. Be sure to join us and invite your family and friends. This is a major fundraiser for EYC.

During Lent, we will have a book study and soup supper on Wednesday's. The book is called *Dust Bunnies in the Basket*, which I think you will enjoy. There will also be Friday services with the Stations of the Cross. Then right around the corner are the Lenten services and luncheons.



Of course, we will have a service and luncheon. I have heard that ours is the favorite luncheon of the season. See the schedule in this newsletter.

Canon Jason will be here Palm Sunday, and Fr. Newland is planning to be here for Easter services. Patrick Hauke will be our guest organist for the month. Contact Judy in the office if you want to sponsor a lily for Easter.

We had our first regularly scheduled Vestry meeting on Tuesday, February 25. As part of the business conducted, the various committee positions will need to be filled. If you are interested in serving on any of those committees, let me or another Vestry member know. They are: Budget and Finance, Building and Grounds, Outreach/Fellowship, Worship and Music, Communication, Christian Formation, and Pastoral Care. Outreach donations for local non-profits will be approved. We have already participated in Rotary Trivia night. I have heard the team had lots of fun. Thanks to those who attended. In addition, we have bought a few seats for Runway Red, Matthew 25's annual fund raiser.

There will be lots going on in the coming months. Please try to attend and participate. Some great things are going on here. As a final note, the weather this year has been pretty wicked. If the weather is bad on Sunday, we will send out an email as early as a decision is made to cancel morning worship. Mainly, we are concerned about your safety. If you have any doubts about your safety, please don't take the risk. Stay at home. We want to see you alive and well for a long time.

Stay warm and toasty and God's blessings for all of you and your families.

*Susie*

## Upcoming Events

We are delighted to continue to welcome you to join us for in-person worship. You are also welcome to experience services livestreamed on St. Paul's Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/St.PaulsHenderson>

**Sundays, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 — Morning Prayer with Deacon Larry**

**Tuesday, March 4, 5 - 7 p.m. — Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**

**Wednesday, March 5, Noon and 5:30 p.m. — Imposition of Ashes**

**Wednesdays, March 12, 19, 26, 6 p.m. — Soup Supper and Book Study**

**Community Lenten Luncheons —See Schedule page 4**

**Fridays, March 7, 14, 21, 28, 5 p.m. — Stations of the Cross**

**Tuesday, March 18, 5:45 p.m. — Vestry Meeting**

**Saturday, March 29 —Prayer Shawl Ministry**

## February Happenings



Happy 5th Birthday to Sylvia Shelton on February 26!



Special thanks to Aaron Thomas - (Have Shovel, Will Travel) for shoveling and salting the walks for us in February.



Welcome to our newest Lay Reader, Alfonso Aldana. He began reading in February.

Also, Kathy Gubernot will join the ranks of Lay Readers in March. Her February Sunday was canceled because of the weather.



Happy Birthday to Gisele Purdy on February 5.

## Lenten Season

from the Deacon

March 5th is Ash Wednesday, we begin another season of Lent and we end on Thursday, April 17th. It lasts six weeks before Easter. We observe Lent by fasting on certain days and by practicing self denial and other spiritual disciplines. Lent is the time when we pause and reflect on our relationship with God and to intensify our devotion to reflection, repentance and reconciliation.

Today, Lent is a time when all the baptized are called to renew their baptismal commitment. We are called not just to abstain from sin during Lent, but to a true conversion of our hearts and minds as believers in Christ. We should recall the waters in which we were baptized into Christ's death, died to sin and evil, and begin new life in Christ. A form of penance is fasting, making room for God. By emptying ourselves, even for just a little bit, we make room for God to enter our lives more fully. When fasting and abstinence are hard, we are moved to turn to God in prayer for help. Fasting imitates the forty days and nights that Jesus spent in the desert. Just as Jesus used this time to prepare for his mission on earth, fasting prepares us to continue his mission in the world.

I believe fasting, repentance, and reconciliation puts us in solidarity with the suffering Christ. Whatever small suffering we experience when we do fast, brings us closer to the suffering Christ. And to all people who suffer from hunger, malnutrition and abuse on a daily basis.

On Ash Wednesday I will have services at 12:00 noon and 5:30 pm for those who want to attend. I will also do the Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent at 5:00 pm. I suggest for Lent that you try to attend one of the Friday Stations of the Cross services. I plan on celebrating with a Deacon's Mass on Maundy Thursday this year. It's my understanding that Canon Jason will be with us on Palm Sunday and Fr. Ben Newland will be with us at Easter.

This year I found and read the book, *Dust Bunnies in the Basket*, by the Reverend Tim Schenck, an Episcopal Priest. I believe this will be a great book for our Lenten Soup Supper program on Wednesday nights. Susie Watkins has already agreed to lead our discussions on the book



each week of Lent. The book is about finding God in Lent and Easter with a bit of humor. If you are interested in reading the book, and sharing a meal together, then please join us for a blessing. I'll hand the books out on Sunday March 9th after the morning service.

This will be a special Lenten Season, we have been so blessed by God the past two years. I continually keep my St. Paul's family in my prayers. I believe this will be a true Lenten Season for all of us and that we will experience the Holy Spirit in a very special way this Easter! God bless St. Paul's Church,

Love and Peace

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Randy'.

## February Vestry Minutes Summary

Marty White

Committee assignments were established.

Committee reports were given by each committee: Worship and music reported that Palm Sunday Canon Jason will be here with baptisms and Fr. Ben will be here for Easter.

Christian formation: All Saints camp will be back in session this year.

Outreach programs were identified and some additions will be addressed at the next meeting.

Review of conditions of the hiring of Fr. Ben Newland, the vestry voted to hire him starting September 15.

There was a review of the bylaws and there will be some revisions that will be changed and voted on at the next annual meeting.

A resolution will be created to formally thank the search committee for their work.

## March Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 2 Connie Walaskay
- Bill Brodsky
- 4 Patricia Hennessy
- 10 Rad Mattingly
- 14 Martha Letson
- 22 Jordan Knight
- 23 Liam Deep
- 26 Louis Smith
- 29 Bob Soaper
- 31 Mark Vickers



## Youth News

Leslie Newman—



March for EYC will roar in like a lion! We will see if it goes out like a lamb... St. Paul's annual Shrove Tuesday pancake supper is Tuesday March 4!! Serving will be from 5-7 p.m., eat in and carry out. Please help spread the word by inviting your family and

friends to join us! Ticket prices remain at \$10 for diners over age 12 and \$5 for diners under age 12, for all you can eat pancakes, sausage and eggs (until they are gone), milk, juice and coffee. The kitchen and serving crew will gear up starting about 3 p.m. and will finish by 8 p.m. All hands on deck are welcome to join the crew for a night of fun, festivity and fellowship. Please plan to join us!

We will be setting up the parish hall on Sunday March 2. If you can stay after the 10 a.m. service to help, we will put you to work with appreciation, a pretune of fun, festivity and fellowship and even lunch!

With thanks to St. Paul's support of both our youth and Matthew 25, EYC will enjoy the VIP treatment at Runway Red on March 1 at the Preston Arts Center, complete with dinner and the legendary fashion show. EYC is grateful for the opportunity to attend this fundraiser as ambassadors for St. Paul's, to support the public health mission and community presence of Matthew 25 and to demonstrate our parish's longtime partnership with Matthew 25. If you would like to join us, please contact me and we will work to get additional tickets.

Options for March 1 before Runway Red are attending the Dismantling Racism program at St. Luke's Anchorage OR volunteering at TriState Food Bank in Evansville. Stay posted to see which chance pans out. And let us know if you would like to join us for either!

If we are able to rally forces, EYC or some of us will attend the diocesan leadership conference March 8 at Christ Church Bowling Green.

If we are unable to attend Dismantling Racism at St. Luke's, we have another option, to attend remotely from St. Paul's via Zoom on Saturday March 15. If the weather is too pretty to Zoom on March 15 and if the river waters have receded enough for the event to proceed, the older youth have the option to help with the Ohio River Sweep that morning.

We will gather on Friday nights during Lent for the Stations of the Cross and will do our best to be present for the Wednesday night Lenten soup and learn series. We hope to see and join with our parish family at both.



Easter falls on April 20 this year. It's not too soon to ask our parish family to contribute bags of wrapped candy or money to purchase candy for our Easter egg hunt. You always rally to the cause and EYC appreciates your generosity, even if the parents of the hunters may not!



## COMMUNITY *Lenten Luncheons*

The Henderson County Ministerial Association has announced the Lenten Services and Luncheons for 2025 as follows:

**Wednesday, March 12** at Noon - First Christian Church

**Wednesday, March 19** at Noon - Presbyterian Church

**Wednesday, March 26** at Noon - Henderson First United Methodist Church

**Wednesday, April 2** at Noon - Bennett Memorial United Methodist Church

**Wednesday, April 9** at Noon - St. Paul's

**Maundy Thursday, April 17** at Noon - Community Baptist Church

**Good Friday, April 18** at Noon - Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church

**Easter Sunrise Service, April 20**, at 6:30 a.m. - Greater Norris Chapel Baptist Church

All the services and luncheons and free of charge. An offering will be taken for the Good Samaritan Fund.

# St. Paul's Calendar March 2025

SUNDAY	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1
<b>2—Last Epiphany</b> 10—Morning Prayer with Deacon Larry -  Patrick Hauke - Organ	3	4 <b>5 - 7 p.m.</b> <b>Shrove</b> <b>Tuesday</b> <b>Pancake</b> <b>Supper</b>	5 Noon and 5:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Services	6	7 5 p.m. Stations of the Cross	8
<b>9—1 Lent</b> 10—Morning Prayer with Deacon Larry -  Patrick Hauke - Organ	10	11	12 Noon - First Christian Church  6 p.m. Soup Supper & Book Study	13	14 5 p.m. Stations of the Cross	15
<b>16—2 Lent</b> <b>10—Morning Prayer</b> <b>with Deacon Larry</b>  Patrick Hauke - Organ	17	18 5:45 p.m. Vestry Meeting - Rector's Study	19 Noon - Presbyteri- an Church  6 p.m. Soup Supper & Book Study	20	21 5 p.m. Stations of the Cross	22
<b>23—73 Lent</b> 10—Morning Prayer with Deacon Larry  Patrick Hauke - Organ	24	25	26 Noon - First United Methodist Church  6 p.m. Soup Supper & Book Study	27	28 5 p.m. Stations of the Cross	29 Prayer Shawl Ministry
<b>30—4 Lent</b> 10—Morning Prayer with Deacon Larry  Patrick Hauke - Organ	31					

Services in person and livestreamed  
on St. Paul's Facebook page.  
[facebook.com/St.PaulsHenderson](https://facebook.com/St.PaulsHenderson)

# Lay Ministry March 2025

Date & Lessons	Altar Guild <i>Altar Flowers</i>	Ushers	Acolytes	Lay Readers	Coffee Hour
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<b>2 -Last Epiphany</b> Exodus 34:29-35 Psalm 99 2 Corinthians 3:12 - 4:2 Luke 9:28-36	Gisele Purdy     <i>Leslie Newman</i>		The Purdys Caroline White	Mike France, Susie Watkins	Please sign up for Coffee Hour
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<b>9-1 Lent</b> Deuteronomy 26:1-11 Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 Romans 10:8b-13 Luke 4:1-13	Susan Sauls Ella Thomas   <i>No Flowers During Lent</i>			Cooper Lilly, Leslie Newman	Coffee Hour needs you.
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<b>16-2 Lent</b> Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 Psalm 27 Philippians 3:17 - 4:1 Luke 13:31-35	Alexis Purdy		The Purdys Caroline White	Susan Sauls, Kathy Gubernot	Meet new people, host Coffee Hour.
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<b>23 - 3 Lent</b> Exodus 3:1-15 Psalm 63:1-8 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 Luke 13:1-9	Marilyn Dixon Ellen Redding			Cooper Lilly, Alfonso Aldana	Try out a new recipe, host Coffee Hour.
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<b>30 - 4 Lent</b> Joshua 5:9-12 Psalm 32 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32			The Purdys Caroline White	Susan Sauls, Marty White	Got an old favorite recipe, host Coffee Hour and share it with your church family.
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## Youth News (Looking Ahead)

More good news! Our loyal All Saints' board member, Bill Gentry, reports there will be camp this summer. All Saints is excited to offer a week of camp for rising 7th - 12th graders hosted at All Saints Center June 15-20. The Rev. Dr. David Carletta, rector of Trinity Church in Owensboro, will serve as camp director. Full registration and more details will be shared soon.

More good news! It looks like Community Baptist Church will host VBS for our partner churches this year, the week of June 2. So please mark your calendars for those two weeks of June! We will keep you informed as we learn more~

All this and we haven't even talked about February!

We squeezed all we could out of the month in light of the inclement weather that hindered our plans. EYC met in February to brainstorm ideas for the year ahead. Good news/bad news – our list of possibilities may be longer than the weeks in the year! If you have ideas for or would like to be part of our plans, please talk to the youth or me!

We held our aforesaid brainstorming session on February 9, after taking advantage of some of the month's more moderate weather picking up ice storm debris from the church yard, in an attempt to help Michael Minton, who did the yeoman's work. Thank you, Michael!



EYC met after church on February 9 to write Valentine cards for St. Paul's family we don't see often enough, with hopes of assuring them they are remembered and thought of with love. And then Caitlin, Avery, Kaleigh

and I made Valentine gift bags for the residents of Henderson Manor. Becky Carroll, who spearheads the Christmas party for the Henderson Manor folks, kindly delivered the gift bags.



We wrote a birthday card to 100 year old World War II veteran and Slaughters resident, Richard Kolodey. Mr. Kolodey flew over 100 missions as a US Marine gunner on a Grumman TBF Avenger dive bomber. He engaged in all three major battles of the Solomon Islands in the Pacific theater. Mr. Kolodey is also known for having 70 years of perfect Sunday school attendance in 13 states and over 100 churches. Thank you to Gisele for bringing this hero and his milestone to our attention. When you see his photo in the newsletter you will never believe he is 100 years of age! You can google to learn more about him. The next card we send him will be an invitation to attend Godly play at St. Paul's.

On February 22, we gathered after church, sustained by the Gubernot's breakfast casseroles, to work on plans for the pancake supper before we adjourned to the youth room to watch Ruby Bridges, the story of the first African American child to integrate a white school in New Orleans in 1964. The story resonated on many levels, including the resiliency of this six year old girl and the role of her and her family's belief in the teachings of Jesus and the strength of her prayers and faith in facing hate and cruelty. If you don't know the story of Ruby Bridges, EYC recommends you google her, read her biography and watch the 1998 movie free. Then talk to our youth about your memories of integration and how our society has evolved and how it has not in the sixty years since Ruby changed schools.

What we didn't do in February: We had planned a Saturday morning visit February 15 to the Evansville African American Museum timed with their free admission during Black History month; that outing was cancelled due to torrential rain.

We had planned a bowling party at Diamond Echo lanes for the afternoon of February 16 but when church was cancelled due to the snow, our plans were postponed until a date to be determined. It's not too soon to dust off your bowling ball and shoes and plan to join us.

### **Financial Summary as of January 31, 2025**

<b>Pledged Income Received to Date</b>	<b>\$1,495.00</b>
<b>Non-dividend Investment Income Transferred</b>	<b>(\$15,000.00)</b>
<b>Other Operating Income to Date</b>	<b>\$14,301.00</b>
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses to Date</b>	<b>\$18,146.00</b>

## St. Paul's Episcopal Church Staff

The Rev. Larry Courtney, Deacon  
Leslie Newman, EYC Director  
Judy Duncan, Parish Secretary  
Phone—270-826-2937

## Service Times

Morning Prayer - Sundays 10 a.m.

## Vestry Ministry Teams

Sr. Warden  
Jr. Warden  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Clerk

Susie Watkins  
Mitch Deep  
Bill Gentry  
Mike France  
Marty White

Budget and Finance  
Worship and Music  
Communications  
Christian Formation and Youth

Marilyn Dixon, Mike France, Bill Gentry  
Marilyn Dixon, Mike France, Marty White, Connie Spivey  
Bill Brodsky  
Alexis Purdy, Miranda Purdy, Leslie Newman, Marty White,  
Monessa Curry  
Marty White, Mitch Deep, Russ and Kathy Gubernot, Joe Mattingly  
Becky Carroll, Susie Watkins  
Dcn. Larry, Marilyn Dixon, Susie Watkins, Marty White

Building and Grounds  
Fellowship/Outreach  
Pastoral Care

## St. Paul's Episcopal Church

5 South Green Street  
Henderson, KY 42420

[www.stpauls-henderson.org](http://www.stpauls-henderson.org)

