

Deadline to submit articles for "The Epistle" is the 15th of each month.

June 13 • EYC Float the Chunky

June 15 • Vestry Meeting • 5:15 p.m.

June 28 - July 2 • VBS • 9 a.m.-12 p.m. • for Pre K - 5th Grade

Summer hours June and July

Monday – Thursday • 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Friday • 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

**Save the Date!**  
**We will have an exciting event for**  
**our 6th graders' journey into EYC.**  
**August 6, 2021**



*Mission and Music Festival*

**2021 Event a Huge Success**

Wow! This year's Mission and Music Festival was a huge success. Even though it was modified due to Covid concerns with pickup only, it didn't dampen the day.

There were 476 pre-sold fish plate tickets and another 144 sold the day of the festival. We took in \$2,400 on the baked and frozen food items. After expenses, we made \$5,700 to donate to L.O.V.E.'s Kitchen and Care Lodge.

There are so many people to thank, including all of you who sold and purchased fish plate tickets, contributed frozen and baked goods and showed up the day of the festival to help with setup, cook, serve, ticket sales and cleanup. There was so much energy and enthusiasm. It was exciting to be together and work for a good cause.



A special thanks to Wayne Wuestefeld, who was in charge of cooking catfish and hushpuppies and to Rose Hudson, who made sure we had delicious sides. Melissa Love and Sara

Mason did an amazing job with the very popular frozen and baked items.

Thanks to Missy Bailey and Ann Compton, ticket sales; Mallory Davis and Claire Hanschke, kid's activity bags; Michelle Ray, kid's pizza plates; Susan and Bob Coffin and Page Sikes, drinks; Ducky McCormick, grounds; and

Meredith Roberts, graphics and printing.

Next year the plan is to resume the music, kid's activities and a day to gather together and invite the community to join us.

—Blessings, Marcia Via and Bobbie Rea

**A Moment to Consider the Holy Spirit**

*"But the Advocate (Paraclete), the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you." — John 14:6*

The Holy Spirit is the part of the Trinity most Christians don't talk about very much. Even in our Creeds, the Spirit doesn't get much "airtime."

But the season of Pentecost gives us a moment to consider the Spirit; all the many ways it moves through the Church and in the world. We think of it as a dove, or fire, or both.

Another way to consider the Spirit is to move away from what the Spirit "is" and towards what the Spirit "does." The word for Spirit, or "Paraclete" also means one who defends, comforts, advocates, counsels, helps, aids and consoles.

Gregory the Great was the bishop of Rome in the late sixth century and is known for activating the first recorded large-scale mission from Rome, the Gregorian Mission, to convert Anglo-Saxons in England to Christianity.

*In a sermon, on Pentecost Sunday, June 3, 591, Gregory talked about the Holy Spirit in a way that lasts through the ages:*

"How can I love someone whom I do not know?"

"If we cannot see God, yet we have other ways to carry the eye of our intelligence to God. If it is impossible for us to see it in ourselves, we can see it now in the servants of God. By seeing that they are doing wonders, we become certain that God lives in their minds. We need to know how to take advantage, in these intangible realities, of the experience given to us by those which are bodily: none of us can look directly at the sun by looking at the record as it rises in everything. its brilliancy, for the eyes fixed on its rays are dazzled; but we look at the mountains that the sun illuminates, and we see that Christ is risen.

"Thus, since we cannot see in ourselves the Sun of righteousness, let us look at the mountains that its brightness illuminates, that is to say, the holy Apostles, who shine with their virtues, shine with their miracles and are inundated with the brightness spread by this rising sun, which, although invisible in itself, has become visible to our eyes through them as by so many illuminated mountains. In fact, the power of divinity itself is the sun seen in the sky; the power of the divinity poured over humanity is the sun shed on the earth. Let us look at it then on the earth, this Sun of righteousness that we cannot yet see in the

sky, so that by walking through it on the earth without stumbling in our works, we will one day have to look up to contemplate in the sky.

"But we go on the earth stumbling unless we love God and neighbor with all our mind. For one cannot truly love God without loving one's neighbor, nor truly loving one's neighbor without loving God. And this is why, the Spirit was given to the disciples twice: first when God lived on the earth, then by the Lord when Christ reigned in heaven. God is given to us on earth to love neighbor, from Heaven to love God. But why first on the earth and then in Heaven, if not to give us a clear understanding of this word of John: 'He who does not love his brother whom he sees, how can he love God whom he does not see not?' 1 John 4:20)

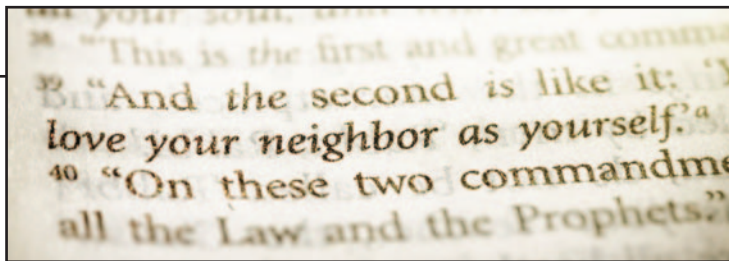
"So, my brothers and sisters, let us cherish our neighbor well; let us love those who are near us, so that it becomes possible for us to love the one who is above us. May our spirit exercise itself in giving to the neighbor what they owe to their God, in order to deserve to enjoy in God a perfect joy with that same neighbor. It is then that we will reach this joy of the inhabitants of Heaven, whose pledge we have already received by the gift of the Holy Spirit. Tendons of all our love towards this end where we will rejoice without end. There lies the holy society of the citizens of Heaven; there, a certain feast; there, an assured rest; there, a true peace, which henceforth will not be left to us alone, but given by Our Lord Jesus Christ, who, being God, lives and reigns with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, in all the ages of centuries."

*Amen.*

"Breathe in me O Holy Spirit  
that my thoughts may all be holy;  
Act in me O Holy Spirit  
that my works, too, may be holy;  
Draw my heart O Holy Spirit  
that I love but what is holy;  
Strengthen me O Holy Spirit  
to defend that is holy;  
Guard me then O Holy Spirit  
that I always may be holy."

—St. Augustine of Hippo (AD 354-430)

We rejoice in the marriage of  
Hannah Morgan Hamilton and  
Collin Nicholas Anderson  
Saturday, May 22 at St. Paul's.



## Vacation Bible School Focuses on Loving Your Neighbor

St. Paul's Vacation Bible School will take place the week of June 28 - July 2. We will be using the "Art Camp" curriculum and focusing on loving our neighbors while having lots of fun. The command to love our neighbor as ourselves is so clear, yet we struggle as a society to truly live into this aspect of God's kingdom.

Camp starts on Monday with a study of the self, then builds outward to establish who the neighbors are that Jesus calls us to love unconditionally. Elementary school children are concrete thinkers, so when we tell them to love their neighbor, they envision the actual people in the houses near their own. They may have learned in Sunday School that, through outreach, we extend our hand to more distant neighbors —the people on the prayer list, the poor, hungry and so forth. This summer school will help campers broaden their definition to fit Christ's true call to us —to love everyone as an extension of our love for the Lord our God.

We will use drama, crafts, storytelling and music to instill this in our campers. We hope to see lots of bright and smiling faces there!

**Volunteers still needed — 5 group leaders and 10 youth volunteers.**  
Please contact Mallory ([mallory@stpaulsmeridian.com](mailto:mallory@stpaulsmeridian.com) or 601.513.1775) to volunteer or for more information.

*Calling all EYCers! Join us to float the Chunky River the afternoon of Sunday, June 13. Chaperones needed.*

A Celebration of Life memorial service for Joseph E. White will be held Saturday, June 5 at 11 a.m. at St. Paul's. Jean and Merrell invite you to join them following the service in the Parish Hall for a simple meal, fellowship, music and a time of remembrance of Joe's life.



## Feed by Faith

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is another in our series of articles highlighting the organizations supported by St. Paul's Outreach Ministry.)

By Lynne Taleff

In December 2020, St. Paul's contributed \$2,000 from the Outreach Budget to the Feed by Faith Ministry.

Feed by Faith Ministry, a non-profit charitable organization, began in 2006 when Peggy Coleman responded to God's call to her to feed the hungry in Meridian. She began with a vision, a calling and a determination to fulfill that vision. She soon attracted others who provided financial support and volunteer labor. Dr. Felix Sutphin was an early and faithful supporter who helped to secure the present building at 4000 5th Street, where they operate today.

Coleman says that they are not simply a food kitchen, but a ministry based on the words of Matthew 25:40:

"...truly I tell you whatever you do for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

She further said, "Anyone who walks through our doors is given a hot meal and a safe and secure place to eat. No one is turned away who is hungry... whether it be hungry for food or hungry for God."

Meals are served Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The average week before COVID-19 saw 300 meals served, but since the pandemic, this number has dropped to 150 to 200 per week. The meals are also prepared and served as carryout meals in response to the pandemic.

Feed by Faith is supported by donations from individuals, churches and businesses. They also receive both monetary gifts and food products to support their endeavor. Monthly monetary gifts are greatly appreciated.

## We Remember in our Prayers

**Our Parish family:** DJ Wells, Edgar Morrison, Jerry Greene, Jo Van Devender, Kay Milhorn, Mary Dunn, Norma Veach, Peggy Carrico, Rick Farr, Rob Calcote and Terry Ivy.

**In our senior living communities:** Joyce Welsh, Lora Jones, Mary Scott and Nita Neville.

**Extended family and friends:** Alison Ulmer, Amanda Rainey, Anna Lauren Ulmer, Betty Harris, Beverly Bryson, Bill Selman, Bob Hill, Brooke, Brooks Moore, Chance, Chuck Fishburn, Clancy, Cory Gaylord, David, Diane Dunn, Diane Honeycut, Edesser "Dess" Reid Ward, Rob & Aislinn Ward, Emily Chancellor, Frances, Frank Baker, Frank Barrett, Freddie Bea Watson, George Farr, Helen Valentine, Jada Dooley, James, Jane Wacaster, Jenny Ladner, Jim Bateman, John, Josh, Joy Richardson, Katie, Ken Fisher, Kylie Temple, Lee Davis Thames, Lisa Primeaux, Lou Dubose, Mac Thigpen, Martha Mazingo, Mary Halliwell, Michelle Nelson, Mike Covert, Nell McMullen, Norman, Rick, Roger, Rosemary Kahlmus, Sandra Nicholas, Sandy Carrier, Steve Plier, Taylor and Trey, Tom Schram, Tony Sansone, Wanda Farr, Wanda Scott, Willie Spencer, Wilma Kangery and Zack Martin.

**We pray for those who have died,** especially Sally Buntin.

**We pray for those serving in the Armed Forces,** for all who serve overseas and their families, especially Andrew Behm, Shum Benson, Connor Covert, Graham Ford, T. J. Melton, Nick Mullen and Zack Thomas.

**We pray for our Bishop Brian** and our Rector Austin and his family.

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

June 2 .....Delena Avara, Katie Hasselle	June 16 ....Woodie & Helen Abraham
June 3 .....Gary & Barbara Boone	June 18 ....Dana Lawyer, Page Sikes
June 5 .....Scotty & Albree Florey, Robert & Lee Loeb	June 19 ....David Fitzgerald
June 8 .....Robert & Missy Bailey, Duncan Chalk, Jim & Cindy McGinnis	June 20 ....Anne Chalk
June 10 ....Michael & Mary Lawrence Crowe, Mary Dunn	June 21 ....Chad & Dixie Tibbetts
June 11 ....Tom & Joy Greer, Karen Rea, Cooper Tibbetts	June 22 ....Larry Nowak
June 12 ....Anthony & Leslie Hiatt	June 23 ....Elaine Sanders
June 13 ....Lisa Howell	June 24 ....Greer Holladay, Jean Merrell
June 14 ....John & Linda Carrier, Caroline Compton	June 27 ....Peggy Carrico, Olivia Lewis, Mary Scott
	June 29 ....Chuck & Bobbie Rea