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piscopal Church RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

Oct. 11 • Parish Office closed in observance of Columbus Day

Oct. 16 • 11 a.m. • Memorial Service - William Godwin

Oct. 17 • 8 a.m. • Eucharist at St. Paul's

10:30 a.m. • Parish Picnic/Eucharist Lake Okatibbee, Collinsville - Twitley Branch Park

Oct. 19 • 5:15 p.m. Vestry Meeting

Oct. 30 • 11 a.m. • Memorial Service - Clay Hamilton

Don't Miss the Parish Picnic!

Join us Sunday October 17, at 10:30 a.m. for our annual Parish Picnic. We'll be gathering at Lake Okatibbee/Collinsville Beach -Twitley Branch Park for an outdoor Eucharist followed by a pot luck feast.

Bring your chairs, family, friends and your favorite dishes to share! We will provide the paper plates, cups, ice etc.

There are many ways to arrive at this destination, but the simplest set of directions is this:

- Take Hwy 19 N to Collinsville, MS
- Turn right at 4-way stop -West Lauderdale Rd.
- Take 2nd right, Hamrick Rd. to the dead end.
- Turn left and immediately right into Collinsville Beach -Twitley Branch Park area.

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The Epistle • October 2021

Defined by What We Are Not

"When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning" (John 15:27).

On October 7, 1998, Matthew Shepard, a 21-year-old student at the University of Wyoming, was brutally

attacked and tied to a fence in a field outside of Laramie, Wyoming, and left to die. On October 12, Matt succumbed to his wounds in a hospital in Fort Collins, Colorado.

He was attacked by those who hated what he was not. He was gay. Matthew was not normative and was feared for it. It is still one of the most well-known hate crimes of LBGT in U.S. history and a service was held for him at the National Cathedral in Washington DC.

"If the world hates you ... I have chosen you out of the world."

There is a feast day in the month of October that commemorates two loyal apostles of Jesus: Simon and Jude. Both were defined by who they were not. Simon the less was not the great Simon Peter. And Judas is Judas not Iscariot: which was so confusing to be mixed up with the one who betrayed Jesus that Jude ended up as the patron saint of lost causes.

They are linked because they were sent into the world together, they spread the Gospel together, and were even martyred together in Syria.

Like the apostles before us, we too are often defined by

what we are not. We are called to be not of this world. We do not sit by as the weak and outcast and the poor are forgotten. We do not live for ourselves but love selflessly one another. Two thousand years of this kind of love is still not normative.

In these days, it can feel as though loving in the way of

Jesus feels like a lost cause.
The problems, divisions and hatred in our human family seem too great to take on.
That is why none of us can do this alone. We need the spirit, and we need each other as Simon and Jude before us.

And Matthew wasn't alone either. The police witness who was called out to the scene of Matt's attack says that as she approached the fence, she saw something next to his body, face covered with blood and tears. It was a

deer, lying quietly beside him. It looked like it had been there all night long. She said the deer saw her, stood up and looked in her right in the eyes and then ran away.

"That was the good Lord, no doubt, no doubt in my mind," she said in her report, "that was the good Lord."

"O God, we thank you for the glorious company of the apostles, and especially on this day for Simon and Jude; and we pray that, as they were faithful and zealous in their mission, so we may with ardent devotion make known the love and mercy of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen."

You are loved.



Blessing our Pets!

St. Francis Day Celebration with Blessing of the Animals is set for Sunday October 3, 6 p.m. in St. Paul's Memorial Garden. All animals furry, feathery and scaly are welcome, but please be sure they are leashed or crated for their safety. Is your special pet of



the "plush" variety? Bring those as well — plush animals can receive blessings, too. We will be accepting donations to East Mississippi Animal Rescue during this event. For a complete wish list or to learn more about this organization visit

http://www.eastmsanimalrescue.com. Monetary donations are also welcomed. Checks may be made to East MS Animal Rescue,or to St. Paul's with a designation in the memo line.

All Saints' Sunday November 7

On the altar in honor or memory of loved ones. You can also add someone to the All Saints' "List of the Departed" without placing flowers on the altar. Forms will be available in the Sunday bulletins or call the Parish Office 601.693.2502 with your dedication. Dedications must be received by Monday, Nov 1 to be printed in the bulletin.

Christmas Greenery Time is Near

Our annual Greenery sale is almost here!
The Youth at St. Paul's will be taking orders with proceeds to benefit future EYC trips on the horizon.
Be on the lookout for the "Christmas Greenery mailout" with all information.



Orders will be due by November 5 with an expected delivery date of November 22.

If you have any questions, contact co-chairs: Rainey Breaux, 703.919.6986; Edie Simmons, 601.480.5855; or Mallory Davis, 601.513.1775.



We had a great kickoff for our EYC gatherings this fall. The Mediator hosted a fun event that included a video about EYC's touching pilgrimage to Alaska, an epic game of "Capture the Flag" and yummy burgers and ice cream sundaes! Pictured here is the victorious team from Capture the Flag.



Lots of Halloween Fun Planned

Calling all EYCers! Join us for our October EYC gathering right here at St. Paul's Sunday, October 31 at 5 p.m. As an ode to Halloween, we will be showing "Hocus Pocus" on the big screen in the courtyard. Bring your blankets and get ready for roasting s'mores in the fire pit and popping buttery popcorn in our popcorn machine. See you there!

Come in Your Best Costume!

Join us on October 27 for a spooooky Wednesday Night Supper. Wear your Halloween costume for a costume parade and festive music and food. Pumpkins will be available to paint as an after-dinner activity. Hope to see you there!

We Remember in our Prayers

For our Parish family: Our Parish family: Clay Holladay, DJ Wells, Edgar Morrison, Elaine Sanders, Harriet Simmons, Holly Morgan, Jerry Greene, Jo Van Devender, John Carrier, Kay Milhorn, Margaret Van Dyke, Mary Dunn, Peggy Carrico, Rick Farr and Tadley.

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

Extended family and friends: Alison Ulmer, Amanda Rainey, Andi Kushner, Bill Selman, Brooke, Brooks Moore, Chuck Fishburn, Clancy, Cory Gaylord, David, Diane Dunn, Diane Honeycut, Donna Polizzi, Edesser "Dess" Reid Ward, Rob & Aislinn Ward, Emily Chancellor, Frances, Frank Baker, Frank Barrett, Freddie Bea Watson, George Farr, Jada Dooley, James, Jan, Jane Wacaster, John, Josh, Katie, Ken Fisher, Kylie Temple, Lisa Primeaux, Lou Dubose, Mac Thigpen, Martha Mazingo, Mary Halliwell, Michelle Nelson, Mike Covert, Nell McMullen, Norman, Pat Carver, Patsy Harris, Paul Alfieri, Randy Moore, Rick, Roger, Rosemary Kahlmus, Sandy Carrier, Steve Plier, Taylor & Trey, Tom Schram, Tony Sansone, Wanda Farr, Wanda Scott, Willie Spencer, Wilma Kangery and Zack Martin.

We pray for those who have died especially; Hilda Eloyce Richardson, mother of Sherree Maddox.

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, Nick Mullen and Zack Thomas.

Chin & Stacey Harwell

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

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Cynthia Howarth

Oct. 1Cynuna Howarui	Oct. 17Only & Stacey Harwen
Oct. 2Lloyd & Sally Gray, Rowan Hanschke,	Oct. 18Betty Melton, Merry McCollum Roberts
Don & Bev Pringle	Oct. 19Brad Carver, Hamp Little, Dustin Simmons,
Oct. 3 Edie Simmons	William Tucker
Oct. 4Missy Bailey	Oct. 22Klein Watson
Oct. 5Brooke Lawyer	Oct. 24Edgar Morrison
Oct. 7Jerry & Jan Wayton	Oct. 25John Howell
Oct. 8Sarah Anne Johnson	Oct. 26Joey Martin, Landon Smith
Oct. 10Bob Coffin	Oct. 27Ann Compton, Scottland Sanders
Oct. 11Marsha Miller	Oct. 28Everett Callais
Oct. 12Mallory Davis	Oct. 29Jim Cady, Katie Simmons
Oct. 15Wyatt Bond	Oct. 30Shelton & Alyce Cunningham, Tom Milhorn

Services	OCTOBER 3	OCTOBER 10	OCTOBER 17	OCTOBER 24	
VESTRY COUNTERS	Tim Hanschke & Chris Stump; Lock - Rick Barry				
8 A.M.					
CHALICE	John Carrier	Polly Covert	Malcom Gee	John Carrier	
READER	John Carrier	Polly Covert	Malcom Gee	John Carrier	
USHER	John Carrier	Polly Covert	Malcom Gee	John Carrier	
10:30 A.M.			PARISH PICNIC		
READER 1	Rick Entrekin	Jerome Kittrell	Gary Jones	Wayne Wuestefeld	
READER 2	Bev Pringle	Lloyd Gray	Katie Simmons	Rob Calcote	
PRAYERS	Helen Abraham	Bobbie Rea	Kay Reich	Candy Ward	
USHERS	Reid Davis	Edie Simmons	Marsha Miller	Gary Jones	
	Brandon Dunn	Will Simmons	Jim Miller	Wayne Wuestefeld	
ACOLYTES	Tucker Dunn	Elizabeth Scott Bond	Parish Picnic	Ann Revere Davis	
	Britton Dunn	Wyatt Bond		William Davis	
	Wyatt Purdy	Lucy Simmons		Sellers Breaux	
CHALICE	Gary Jones	Helen Abraham		Lynn Waddle	