

- Deadline to submit articles for "The Epistle" is the 15th of each month.*
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- Feb. 4 • 5:15 p.m. — Theology on Tap at Weidmann's*
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- Feb 9 • Morning Prayer 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. No formation.*
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- Feb. 17 • Parish Office closed in observance of President's Day*
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- Feb. 21-22 • Vestry Retreat*
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- Feb. 26 • Ash Wednesday — Services will be at 12:05 and 5:30 p.m.*
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- Feb. 27 • Outreach will be serving at Crestwood Elementary & L.O.V.E.'s Kitchen*
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Change is in the Air

It is February, the second month of a new year in a new decade. The roaring 20s will surely have something for the Holy Spirit to shake up in each of us.

And, time seems to be moving faster. It was only yesterday that we were taking down the greens in the nave and I put our boxes of decorations back in the attic at the rectory. Those New Year's resolutions certainly could not last and already neither did some toys from Christmas. January was when we looked back at the past year and all that was accomplished... or not...

We had a wonderful annual meeting and were challenged to look forward. Jesus told the two apostles on the boat to "Follow me and I will make you fish for all people." This means stepping out of our boats, to move away from our routines and rituals, to walk with our Savior even into the unknown.

And we all share in excitement for the upcoming year. We have called new leaders to serve on our Vestry who come with fresh energy and insights. We anticipate the selection and arrival of a Curate to help guide us on the way. We will look at ourselves this year too; always considering where we can better serve Christ's mission of radical love in the city of Meridian.

When Tiffany and I lived in New York, we witnessed the city constantly built on top of itself. Construction work the noise was so regular it became invisible. Construction in Meridian is different. We take notice, don't we?

Yesterday I walked by the Threeoot Building downtown for the hundredth time and it has been fascinating to see small hints of progress each day. Months ago, there was a long silver tube where workers dropped debris and trash from every floor into the dumpster. Since then the building has been gutted out, there has been flashes of light from the welding going on inside and there is a large crane blocking off the side street. New materials are regularly arriving off the beds of trucks. I imagine soon the

beautiful designs and brick on the outside will be restored to their former glory.

I wonder if the work of the church is similar. We see the needs, we know what is going well, and we also know there will always be areas that could use... and need... some attention. This means our structures within our walls and out need ongoing care.

This coming year the vestry and I hope to look at our vision for the next three years. and find ways to get a little better each day. We hope to expand how integrate new members. I know I am

good about the initial welcome, but I wonder what that welcome looks like after six months or a year or two. We also hope to call more volunteers to help with our young people. Like every ministry, a sound and thriving youth program means we ALL need to be part of that effort, not just a few dedicated souls. Whoever comes as our curate cannot do it alone.

There are plenty of ways to serve and we are all called and capable for this work. We need to decide

how we want to help with our second Mission and Music festival. Our deacon Betty is looking for members to write Lenten reflections. We will soon see wonderful art created by our members for the stations of the cross. We are called because Jesus sees each of us, living out our lives, and asks us to follow and fish for the kingdom.

We are wrapping up the season of Epiphany this month and during the last week will be Shrove Tuesday (Mardi Gras) on the 25th followed by Ash Wednesday on the 26th and then the Holy Season of Lent — all in preparation of the great celebration of Easter. So, there is no better time than now to see in the light of Epiphany what treasures we hold here at the top of the hill in Meridian. I wish continued blessings on us all.

Austin+
Austin+



Artists' Way of the Cross

As we approach this season of Lent, we will soon have the Way of the Cross on display in All Saints' Hall. Each station has been crafted by a member of St. Paul's to portray a different scene on Jesus' walk to Calvary. After the 10:30 a.m. service March 1,

the artists will walk the stations and share their inspirations for their piece. Please join us for a libation and hearing from our own talented members of St. Paul's. Fr. Austin will guide us through the stations every Friday at noon during Lent.



O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven: Be ever present with your servants who seek through art and music to perfect the praises offered by your people on earth; and grant to them even now glimpses of your beauty, and make them worthy at length to behold it unveiled for evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP pg. 819)

Help Us Get the Word Out

In this age of instantaneous social media postings, we are committed to getting Pastoral Notices out as soon as possible, especially when there has been a death. Because St. Paul's has an extended family beyond members (including close family members and friends who might not be members) we ask that you keep us informed if there is a death you wish to report to our Parish via our social media. We will always send Pastoral Notices in the event of a death for extended family members upon the family's request, so always let us know as soon as possible.

Congrats to our JA Queen

We were so pleased that our own Susan Coffin was honored as the 2020 Junior Auxiliary Ball Queen recently. Susan and husband Bob (married 33 years) have two children, Merry Grace Bussey and Robert Coffin. Susan and Bob welcomed son-in-law Anderson Bussey and daughter-in-law Vaughan Coffin as well as their first grandson, Robert Anderson Bussey during the past several years. Susan is the daughter of Nancy and George Arrington.

Giving back to the community is an important dynamic of this family, as witnessed by Susan's continuous commitment to volunteer. Susan is a graduate of Lamar School and earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from The University of Mississippi. She was a member of Delta Delta Delta Sorority and continues her work as an Ole Miss Alumnae, serving on the Tri Delta House Corporation Board for the past 12 years. She served as President of Parents at Lamar School and remains dedicated to supporting her alma maters.

During her time in Junior Auxiliary, Susan was an advocate and instrumental in carrying the vision and hearing screening program to Lamar School. As a



Lifetime Member of Junior Auxiliary, Susan continues to support the mission in Meridian and Lauderdale County. She was "knee deep" in mud to help build Jeannie's Place at Plant Playground and accomplish a dream for children of all abilities.

Continuing her commitment to community and children, Susan serves on the fundraising committee for Mississippi Children's Museum-Meridian and is a member of Mississippi Children's Museum-Meridian-Partners. Susan is a member of Heritage Antique Club and Town and Country Garden Club. She served on the gala committee for the Mississippi Arts and Entertainment Experience. Susan is a former member of the Meridian Symphony Board. She has served as

Chairman for Arts in the Park and on the committee for Lauderdale County Relay for Life.

Susan recently retired after working 30 years as a Certified Occupational Hearing Conservationist for East Mississippi-West Alabama Industrial Hearing Service. She is a lifelong member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

Downtown Lenten Series

This tradition began in the 1990s in Meridian, and gives us a chance to enjoy other churches in the downtown area. Each service begins at noon and lasts approximately 30 minutes, with a meal following. Those needing to return to work are allowed to get to the front of the meal line!

Feb. 27 • St. Patrick Catholic Church

March 5 • First Presbyterian Church

March 12 • St. Paul's Episcopal Church

March 19 • Central United Methodist Church

March 26 • First Baptist Church

April 2 • First Christian Church



St. Paul's Music Series

Feb. 20 • 12:05 p.m.

Marta Szlubowska Ensemble

Congratulations to our newly elected Vestry Members!

Rob Calcote Jr., Warden

Tim Hanschke

Michelle Lewis

Katie Simmons



We celebrated the baptism of Elizabeth Tatum Kauerz January 12. Parents are William Thomas Smith and Brooke Taylor Smith.

We Remember in our Prayers

Our Parish family: Dixie Pigford, DJ Wells, Edgar Morrison, The Rev. Harriett Simmons, Jerry Greene, Jo Van Devender, Ivy Jane Sutton, Milo Joseph Sutton, Mary Scott, Norma Veach, Peggy Carrico, Terry Rush and William Godwin.

In our senior living communities: Deanie Carmichael, Elise Leach, Joyce Welsh, Linda James, Lora Jones and Nita Neville.

Extended family and friends: Alice Miller, Ally Gressett, Amanda Lockey, Amanda Rainey, Anita Sumrall, Anna Meyers, Art Matthews, Barbara Robinson, Baston Geiger, Bill Selman, Bob Hill, Bridget Mann, Brooke, Cathy Parker, Charmin Edwards, Chelsie Abston, Cheryl Drennan, Clay Hamilton, Cory Gaylord, Danny Mackey, David Neville, Diane Dunn, Delroy Ming, Edesser "Dess" Reid Ward, Rob & Aislinn Ward, Elise Higbe, Frank Baker, Frank Barrett, Freddie Bea Watson, Gary Dawkins, George Farr, George Ferguson, Hannah McNichol, Hannah McNichol, Helen Valentine, Jada Dooley, James, James Wooley, Jim Bateman, John, Justin Site, Ken Fisher, Kim Lovette, Kylie Temple, Lee Davis Thames, Leigh Ann Key, Lou Dubose, Marilyn Mohr, Martha Mazingo, Mary Hallwell, Mary Ann Howell, Mary Irby, Michelle Nelson, Mike Lundy, Mike Stanton, Nelson Hall, Noah White, Norman, Patty Fishburn, Rick, Sandra Nicholas, Sandy Carrier, Sallie Gercens, Hannah Thompson, Seth Thompson, Stephanie Turner, Theodore, Tom Schram, Tony Sansone, the Waller Family, Wanda Farr, Wanda Scott, Wilfe Manning and Zack Martin.

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 those who have died especially: Pauline "Pud" Covington Merrell, mother of Jean Merrell; and The Rev. Arnold A. Bush, Jr.

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

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Feb. 2Robert Bailey

Feb. 3Bobbie Rea

Feb. 5Ann Marie Fitzgerald

Feb. 6Gary Jones, Lucy Simmons

Feb. 7Rick Farr

Feb. 8Lilly Graham

Feb. 9Jerry Greene

Feb. 13Gary Boone, Cate Simmons

Feb. 14Rob & Connie Arline, Lillian Green

Feb. 15Norma Veach

Feb. 17Chris & Julie Stump

Feb. 18Rosilyn Holladay

Feb. 20Adrian Page

Feb. 21Woodie Abraham, Luke Carrier,
Chip Harwell, Meredith Roberts

Feb. 22 Dawson Eason, Bob Pigford

Feb. 23Andrea Carver

Feb. 24Cyndy Howarth, Martha Young

Feb. 28Tile Howell

Services

	FEBRUARY 9	FEBRUARY 16	FEBRUARY 23	MARCH 1
VESTRY COUNTERS	February: Page Sikes & Katie Simmons; Lock Wayne Wuestefeld			
8 A.M.	MORNING PRAYER			
OFFICIANT	Linda Deen	Bob Coffin	Gloria Chancellor	John Carrier
READER		Anne Chalk	John Carrier	Margaret Van Dyke
USHER	Linda Carrier	Bob Covert	John Carrier	Bob Covert
10:30 A.M.				
READER 1	Gary Jones	Wayne Wuestefeld	Wayne Wuestefeld	Rob Calcote
READER 2	Sally Gray	Mary Dunn	Jim McGinnis	Bev Pringle
PRAYERS	Candy Ward	Bobbie Read	Stacey Harwell	Key Reich
USHERS	Laura Holladay	Gary Jones	Perrin Burchfield	Susan Nowak
	Clay Holladay	Adrian Page	Chris Burchfield	Larry Nowak
	Will Simmons	Rob Calcote	Michael Crowe	Marsha Miller
	Lisa Howell	Stacey Harwell	Mary Lawrence Crowe	Jim Miller
ACOLYTES	Chris Collis	Cate Simmons	Elizabeth Scott Bond	Hardin Hiatt
	Rowan Hanschke	Lucy Simmons	Wyatt Bond	Henry Hiatt
	Carlyle Breaux	Sellers Breaux	Tucker Dunn	Gibson Hasselle
ALTAR GUILD	Kay Reich	BJ Ray • Rainey Breaux	BJ Ray • Rainey Breaux	Martha Barnett
	Lee Loeb	Kathy Pigford	Kathy Pigford	Connie Arline
	Edie Simmons	Gloria Chancellor	Gloria Chancellor	Stacey Harwell
CHALICE	Gary Jones	William Godwin	Rob Calcote	Rick Entreklin

Shrove Tuesday

LAISSES LES BONS TEMPS ROULER!

Join us Feb. 25 and enjoy a delicious supper of chicken sausage and seafood gumbo over rice, cheesy French bread, hot dogs for the kids and, of course, King Cake for dessert. Price is \$8 per person; a family for or more \$25. Everyone is encouraged to dress in a festive style. There will be a Mardi Gras parade complete with beads, music and moon pies. Proceeds will benefit the youth and children's programming.