



The Tentmaker

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Daphne, Alabama

August 2, 2017

A Message from Thack

As I've mentioned before in some of my sermons, one of my many growing edges is my need to "fix" things. This aspect of my character is probably why I was drawn to the legal profession. As a lawyer, much of my practice was devoted to fixing things, usually after someone had gotten in trouble, or had been hurt, or was trying to resolve a marriage or business deal that had soured. I was quite comfortable in the role, and it met my need to make things right.

This aspect of my personality did not end when I left the active practice of law. I recognized this when I was serving as a chaplain at Georgetown University Hospital the summer after my first year in seminary. Under the supervision of Father Jim Shea, a Jesuit priest, I was accused of having a "salvation complex" because of my need to "fix" terminally ill patients by trying to help them get right with God before they died. I became so obsessed with their salvation that I began to "suggest" that they should seriously consider giving their lives to God before it was too late. During a supervision conference, Father Shea expressed his own frustration with me and asked, "Who made you God? How do you know these people you are trying to save aren't calling out to God in the early morning hours while you aren't around? How do you know where they are in their relationship with God? Don't you trust that God is capable of turning their hearts?"

Father Shea was right, of course. I was so caught up in my own need to fix and control things that I started acting like clueless Peter when he told Jesus that he didn't know what he was talking about when he said he was going to Jerusalem and die. (Matthew 16:21-28).

I learned a valuable lesson from this experience. That lesson is that we should spend more time praying for someone rather than actively coercing them to come around to our understanding of things. Steadfast, consistent, and prolonged prayer gives us both hope and patience. Praying for people helps us focus on what the Lord wants for them rather than on our ideas of what they should be or do. Intercessory prayer is not for the purpose of getting the Lord to accomplish our vision for people. Rather, we are to allow God to show us what God wants to do in their lives.

I have since discovered that when I commit people to God and ask for God's vision, what I begin to see is much greater than my wishes or agendas. If I pay attention to what God reveals to me, I am better able to discern when I should speak in God's behalf, and when it is better for me to be silent.

Faithful Christians want everyone to experience the joy of being in relationship with our Lord. To this end, well-meaning Christians are a lot like lawyers because they want to "fix" those who don't seem to have that same relationship. If you feel the urge to "fix" someone, remember that there is but one God and it's not you. Trust that our Lord is at work in the people for whom you pray. With infinite wisdom, God is influencing people's thoughts and creating a desire within them to change. Finally, let God use you as God sees fit and listen for God to show you when it is appropriate to speak in God's behalf.

Peace, Thack

Parish Nurse News

Donna Nolte MSN, CCRN

In the last Tentmaker, we reviewed some important things to include in a hurricane emergency preparedness plan. In this edition, let's look at things you should be aware of both during and after a storm. While most of this is good common sense, it never hurts to review!

Before you decide to shelter in place during a hurricane, make sure you are aware of your location's ability to withstand wind and the storm severity level that the construction is rated for. Know your location's elevation level and if it is flood prone. Knowing how your property or location is situated with respect to storm surge and flood levels will help you make the decision to stay or leave.

If you decide to ride it out, there are some important things to be aware of. The greatest threat to personal safety during the storm is due to high winds downing trees and creating flying debris. Stay inside and away from windows, skylights, and glass doors. An interior room on the ground level will provide you with the best protection from falling trees. If your windows are not protected by shutters or plywood, cover the openings inside with sheets. This will at least slow down any flying glass if the window takes a direct hit. Turn off major appliances and the AC if your home loses power to reduce the risk of damage. Power often comes back on but not at full capacity ("brown out") which can damage large appliances and electronic equipment.

Lightening is another serious risk during the storm. While I don't recall ever seeing lightening during a hurricane, it is a documented fact that it occurs and something that all safety experts warn about. Don't use your landline or take a shower / bath during the height of a storm.

If flooding threatens, turn your electricity off at the main breaker. Even if the power is already down, turning the breaker off will ensure that the power remains off until the threat of flooding is over.

Don't go outside until an official "all clear" is given. If the eye of the storm passes overhead, it is easily mistaken for the end of the severe weather. Don't be tempted to "see what the wind feels like"...the risk of injury from flying debris is significant.

After the storm, the most common cause of injury and death is due to drowning or near drowning. Most of these avoidable deaths occur when motorists drive into floodwaters thinking they can safely drive through. As little as one foot of moving water can sweep a car off the road. Six inches of moving water can sweep an adult off their feet. A good rule of thumb is that if you can't see the bottom, don't walk or drive through the water.

Don't touch fallen or low hanging wires under any circumstances and stay away from puddles with wires near them. Don't touch trees or other objects in contact with power lines. During the post storm period, a high degree of "situational awareness" is required. Things that we do without thinking every other day could become extremely dangerous due to downed power lines. Make sure you look before you touch after a storm.

Watch for weakened roads, bridges and tree limbs that could collapse unexpectedly. Be hypervigilant when walking outside or driving.

After power is restored, check the food in your refrigerator for spoilage. And, of course, don't operate grills, camp stoves, or generators indoors.

While I certainly pray that we are not faced with a storm any time soon, I hope these tips have given you some additional safety ammunition. Everyone be careful out there!

Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer is available for you every day on our website. It is recorded by our very own parishioners. If you've recorded in the past and would like to read again, please let us know. **Everyone** has done a wonderful job so far and it is very much appreciated. It only takes about 20-30 minutes. We have everything outlined to make it as easy as possible. If you would like to read and record for us, please call Terri to schedule a date and time convenient for you, Monday-Thursday.

Church Directory

I am making a plea to everyone who is not in our church directory to please send me an individual picture of yourself along with your contact information so I can include you. If you are already in the directory and would like to update your picture or contact information please do so. We have a wonderful directory through *Instant Church Directory*. It is available on our website, (you will need a password to access it) and also through an app on your smart phone, which is very easy to access. You must be in the directory to access it via the *Instant Church Directory* app, which is a security measure. If you are not sure if you're in the directory you can view a pdf version on our website or call or email me, 251-626-2421, officestpaulsdaphne@gmail.com. Thank you, Terri McMillan

Bible on Tap

Bible on Tap will be at Papa's Place on August 11th at 6:00 p.m. BYOB. Childcare is available for a small donation. Please contact Elizabeth Faust at 251-404-0537, or ea.fst@hotmail.com to RSVP.



VBS 2017
Watch
for more
pictures
in the
next
Tentmaker

ST. PAUL'S SERVICES:

Sunday Worship

Holy Eucharist, Rite I
8:00 am

Christian Education
(Life Center and Malone Hall)
For Children and Adults
9:15 am

Holy Eucharist, Rite II
10:30 am

Wednesday Worship

Holy Eucharist, Rite I
7:00 am

Holy Eucharist, Rite II
with Healing Service
Wednesday
12:00 pm (Noon)

3rd Thursday

of each month

Taize Prayer
(Narthex)
7:00 pm

BIBLE STUDIES

Sunday

Christian Education
(Life Center and
Malone Hall)
For Children and Adults
9:15 am

Tuesday

Men's Bible Study
(Malone Hall)
7:00 am

Wednesday

Morning Bible Study
(Library)
10:30 am

Great Wednesday

(Malone Hall)
6:00 pm
Potluck Supper and Study

VESTRY AND OFFICERS

Term Ending

December 31, 2017

Donna Brown
Nancy Dziubakowski
Tim Michael,
Sr. Warden
Howard Wilson,
Jr. Warden

December 31, 2018

Roxanna Carpenter
Davis Daniel
Jim Jackson
Janet Norman

December 31, 2019

Sue Cody
Alice Frederick
Michael Koepp
Tom Walker
~
Walker Jackson,
Youth Representative

Martha Lathan,
Clerk of the Vestry

Airrior Norwood,
Treasurer

Church Website

www.stpaulseasternshore.com

Email Address

officestpaulsdaphne@gmail.com

Phone

251-626-2421

Fax

251-626-2456

Prayer Requests

Immediate Prayer Requests:

Ellie and Paul Anderson, Chris Blackwell, Sylvia Brown, Clare Castleman, Connie Gonser, Jeffrey Grizzle, Richard Harper, Theresa Johnson, Barbara Knotts, Jim Lonnergan, Donna Lott, Richard McCord, Allen McKnight, Bob McKnight, Lance Monley, Donna Och, Al Rawls, Eleanor Reeves, Grantham Lawrence Poole Reneau, James Roberts, Robert Seale, Phyllis Springen, Louise and Jack Vuyovich, Debbie Wilson, Gaye Wilson

Ongoing Prayer Requests:

Glenn Addison, Marie Baggett, Jean Bolton, Lil Brown, Dawn Cort, Jim Council, Margaret Cummins, Jerry DeLoney, Jean Erwin, Trevor Hawkes, Susan Hill, Carol Keeney, Olen Lambert, Hunter Lee, Andy Lipps, Dick McBride, Clare Moran, Sam Pace, Joey Pecarrere, Kaygan Pologruto, Loren Rudolf, Ruth Skaggs, Cathy Slagle, Steven Stack, Gene Stealey, Jed Steber, Albert Thompson, Sallie Thornton, Bill Waid, Jane Watkins, Caroline Yearty

For Those Serving in the Military:

Matthew Cheatham, Jackson Deaton, Michael Duchesne, Christopher Dukarm, Chris Evans, Diana Evans, Landis Fouts, Deron Frailie, George Garner, Steven Grey, Matthew Harris, Rusty Henry, Karen Hubley, Daniel James, Matt Jones, Daniel Lambert, Chris Lessard, David McMillan, Patrick Mong, Bryan Quinn, Neil Quinn, Justin Ramsey, Taylor Santa Cruz, Neill Sevelius, Derek Siegel, Andy Tuttle, James Wallin

For those with Birthdays:

August 1-31

(01) Crystal Anderson, (02) Bill Cody, (03) Elizabeth Mancini, (04) Joseph Owens, (05) Anne Brown, Kathy Lovell, Kelley Lyons, (06) David Lee, Andy Burton, Terri McMillan, (07) Lee Keel, Alice Gordon, Erin Hendricks, Anna Quinn, (08) Stan Keel, Mary Haulard, (09) Glenn Boom, (10) Ken Hendricks, Wendy Davis, Taylor Williams, (11) Jackie Brettel, Sandy Davenport, (12) Carol Lambert, Frieda Ward, (14) Clay Rankin, Lynn Anderson, Patrick Lynch, Leslie Esham, Adam Simpson, (15) Marty Ollinger, (16) Deborah Baldock, Judi Gulledege, Dru Nash, (17) Lea Verneuille, Paul Haulard, (18) Drew Lathan, Melanie Powell, Lucy Martin, Aiden Walker, (19) Kristina McKenna, (20) Marie Schreiner, (21) Sally Clark, Judy Hale, (22) Sid Jackson, David Chavers, Will Kiser, Adriene LaPorte, (24) Scotti Dixon, Eric Smith, (26) Margaret White, Adam Holbein, Jane Smith, (27) Art Holbein, (28) Baba Hendricks, (29) Liz Ray, (31) Lauren Erdman, Olen Calhoun

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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Daphne, Alabama 36526

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Return Service Requested

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28788 North Main Street

Daphne, Alabama 36526

The Rev. Thack H. Dyson, *Rector*

The Rev. Mary Alice Mathison, *Curate*

Paul Anderson, *Church Musician*

Elizabeth Faust, *Christian Education*

Terri McMillan, *Administrative Assistant*

Joan McKnight, *Staff Assistant*

Mark Costlow, *Life Center Sexton*

Mary Haulard, *Preschool* —251-626-2774

**Office Hours 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. (Monday-Thursday)
8:00 a.m. — Noon (Friday)**

Church Telephone: 251-626-2421 Fax: 251-626-2456

E-mail: officestpaulsdaphne@gmail.com

Thrift Shop Telephone: 251-626-6102

***We worship together as we seek God, serve God,
and share God with love and acceptance for all.***