



# The Tentmaker

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Daphne, Alabama

July 12, 2017

## *A Message from Thack*

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Our daughter Virginia and grand-daughters Elise and Marian are visiting us for the next couple of weeks. Our home is especially lively and loud! Yet, it has been a joyful noise and blessing to have them. Even our dog Teddy is having fun with the girls. He has a discerning spirit and is shy around most strangers. However, he sensed right away the girls were safe and accepted them immediately. Now he is an integral contributor to the noise and hyperactivity and is having fun playing with them.

Do people feel safe around you? That's a loaded question because many of us cannot be objective about ourselves. I suspect that most people want to believe they are approachable and exude a non-threatening presence. If that is indeed how most of us think about ourselves, then why is there so much contentiousness in the world? If we are such warm and friendly folks, then why are so many people at odds with each other? Could it be that we aren't always as kind and accepting as we like to think?

If you still think you are a compassionate, nonjudgmental presence, then try this simple test. Is there anyone in your family, circle of acquaintances, co-workers, or Christian community that makes you cringe at the sight of them, or even at the mere mention of their name? Do you know people that when you see them you will intentionally avoid eye-contact? Do you trade in negative anecdotes about certain individuals that you have no use for? If you answered in the affirmative to any of these questions, then there is a distinct likelihood that you are not a totally safe place for others.

Did you fail the test? I did. Frankly, I didn't even have to take the test to know the ugly truth about myself. I bet many of you already knew about your judgmental spirit before taking the test as well. The reality for most of us is that we are a safe place to those we like, or seem to like us. But when we come across those who don't agree with us, or have an unpleasant personality, or are markedly different from us, we will be quick to judge and find fault with them.

The sad truth is that we spend an enormous amount time and energy making up our minds about other people. Not a day goes by without somebody doing or saying something that evokes in us the need to form an opinion about him or her. Yet judging others is a heavy burden. Everything we think or say reacts on us like a boomerang. When we send out judgments in the form of criticism, fury, and other attack thoughts, they come back to us. Our enmity toward others only generates further enmity toward ourselves.

Yet, by the same token, every positive thing we think or say also comes back to us like a boomerang. When we send out only love, it comes back to us. In fact, I have found that when I have let go of my need to judge others, I experience an inner freedom.

Let's try to remember that we were not sent to this world to judge, condemn, classify or label. Jesus said, "Be merciful, just as your father is merciful. Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned." (Luke 6:36-37, NRSV). When people know that we have no hidden agendas or unspoken intentions, they will recognize us as a safe presence. To this end, I suggest that we try to suspend the need to judge people for at least one day a month. Though one day a month may not seem like much of an effort, I am a realist and believe we should start this life altering behavior with baby steps. Therefore, let's spend the first Tuesday of each month suspending all judgments and instead spend that day accepting people. After a couple of months, see if the first Tuesday of each month isn't one of the better days of the month in your life.

Peace, Thack

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## **FAMILY PROMISE**

For the last several years I have had the privilege of coordinating the Family Promise program. For those of you that are unfamiliar with this ministry St Paul's hosts up to 4 families and 16 people for a week 4 times year due to their being temporarily homeless. This a ministry where the volunteers get to have direct contact with those we are helping. It also offers the youth of our church to participate. The kids in the program love to have our youth come and play with them. If you have not volunteered before please consider becoming involved.

This year I made the decision to give the opportunity to some dedicated women who want to continue the Family Promise program. Before I give up the reins entirely I want to thank all the **FAMILY PROMISE VOLUNTEERS**; the cooks and the hosts. The food is always delicious. We get compliments on it every time. The hosts have been caring and very helpful in making the guests feels comfortable and welcome. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO THIS PROGRAM.** I know you will continue to be involved with **FAMILY PROMISE**.

Please contact the two new coordinators:

Melissa Kielek melissa@melclaire.com 303 815 6484 **FOOD COORDINATOR**

Jessica Sawyer jessicasawyer@gmail.com 712 5607 **HOST COORDINATOR**

They will be hosting starting August 6th.

**THANK YOU AGAIN.**

Nancy Dziubakowski

## Baptism ...banners, water and new life

*"We thank you, Almighty GOD, for the gift of water ..."* and with those words Thack pours the water, the Holy Spirit comes, we respond and another Child of GOD is welcomed into our family!

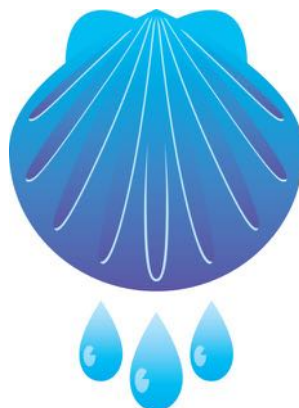
Baptisms are a wonderful and worshipful experience as the history of our Faith, seen in the gift of water - from creation, to liberation, to redemption, to salvation – enters the font as sanctified water of renewal to receive into the household of GOD this new Child!

We have gathered around the font at St. Paul's many times in recent months to share in this ancient service. Every Church has unique ways of honoring this event in the life of their faith community. Some place a rose on the altar; some share cake at a reception; some sing special music ... and we at St. Paul's have banners! The altar guild places the banner near the font on the day of Baptism and the family takes it home as our gift!

Many years ago Ann Quina brought the idea of a special Baptism banner to St. Paul's and over time we continue to make banners as gifts for each Baptism! The banner itself is cut from felt, a wooden dowel – cut, painted and sanded – is inserted at the top. The name, baptism date and cut-out Baptismal symbol – the shell with three drops (you guessed it ...Father, Son and Holy Spirit) – are ironed on (you crafters know the joy of wonderunder!), then finally three ribbons complete the banner. Each banner takes about three hours to make – plenty enough time to pray for the child, their family and for us, as Church family, to receive and respond with the Faith passed to us, through the gift of water and the Holy Spirit!

So, as we celebrate the service of Baptism, recite the history of our Faith, claim this new brother or sister in Christ as one of our own, and share in the joyful splash of water ... may we each remember our own baptisms and thankfully "live wet" each day for we are now sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked as Christ's own FOREVER!

by Linda McNamara



## **New Sunday School Series—Beginning Sunday, July 30th**

Thack will begin a new Sunday School series on Sunday, July 30. We are postponing it to the 30th due to Marcia Rydin's 100th birthday celebration. The series is entitled, "Experiencing God and Partner With the Holy Spirit." In this series we will learn how to engage consistently with God through prayer, study and worship. By practicing these disciplines, we should increase our ability to hear and discern God's voice, discern where God is working in our lives, discover our giftedness and calling, and risking action in steps of faith and service. The hope is that this will lead us to be more intentional about actively living out and embracing the Kingdom of God around us.

The class will meet in Malone Hall at 9:20 on Sunday mornings beginning July 30.

### **A note from the Finance Committee**

The vestry met on July 10 and voted to accept the financial reports as of June 30. It was noted that contributions are a bit lower due to the summer holidays. Our building fund could always use a little extra cash too. If you want your contribution earmarked for the building fund, please indicate this on your check. Reminder that pledges are annual. Thank you for your support. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at (251) 644-5026 or jmn9210@yahoo.com.

Janet Norman, Finance Committee Chair

### **BINGO**

We are continuing to have great turnouts for Bingo! Some of the Supper Clubs may be planning to join us soon! If you want to reserve a table for your group or for a birthday or other special occasion, just let us know! We will fix you up! Your next opportunity to enjoy a delicious homemade spaghetti meal and play an exciting game of Bingo will be **Friday, July 28th**.

Dinner is only \$5 and is served at 6 pm. Bingo will begin at 6:30. 11 games of Bingo are \$20 for the packet of cards. Everyone is invited! We hope you will join us for this great time of fun and fellowship! Remember, all proceeds go to help pay for our wonderful Life Center!

## St. Paul's Website—

**Did you know that when you visit St. Paul's website at  
[www.stpaulseasternshore.com](http://www.stpaulseasternshore.com):**

1. You can download ***Sunday Sermons*** to view and print.
2. You can listen to ***Morning Prayer*** every day of the week.
3. You can make ***Online Contributions*** that will be posted to your contribution statement. *This is a great help to keep up with your pledges if you're away for the summer.*
4. You can download the ***Church Directory*** to view or print. If you're not in the directory, please send us your picture and we will make sure your are included. *You will need a password, so call the office and we will share it with you.*
5. You can see what is happening ***This Week at St. Paul's.***
6. You can view and print the ***Tentmaker.***
7. You can view the monthly ***Server's Schedules.***
8. You can access the ***Church Calendar*** or check on a specific date and view ***Upcoming Events*** by a simple click on any particular date of interest.
9. You can view ***Our Weekly Service Schedule*** right on the Home Page.
10. You can get ***Telephone Numbers*** for the office, Thrift Shop and Preschool.
11. You can view a ***Gallery*** of pictures taken at church events.
12. You can get links to :

***The Episcopal Church***

***The Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast***

***The Episcopal News Service***

***The Anglican Communion News Service***

***The Coastline***

***Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD)***

**Be sure to scroll down on the HOME PAGE to view everything!**

## **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](http://www.stpaulseasternshore.com)**

### **Email Address**

**[officestpaulsdaphne@gmail.com](mailto:officestpaulsdaphne@gmail.com)**

### **Phone**

**251-626-2421**

### **Fax**

**251-626-2456**

## **Parish Nurse News**

### **Donna Nolte MSN, CCRN**

What do the years 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2001, 2004, & 2005 all have in common? What about the names Alberto, Opal, Erin, Danny, George, Allison, Frances, Ivan, Jeanne, Dennis, and Katrina. In those 8 years, those 11 major storms directly impacted our central Gulf Coast. In the US alone, they resulted in over \$130.7 billion in damage and 1318 deaths (1200 of those were from Katrina and that is just the best estimate). Those of us who have lived here most, or all, of our lives have a great respect for dangers associated with these storms.

It's hard to believe that we have effectively been spared from any major storms since 2005. While that is a blessing for us, we should be mindful that emergency preparedness is a skill – and like any other skill, it must be practiced to remain effective. To that end, I'd like to share some tips for a good hurricane emergency preparedness plan and encourage you to take a little time to make sure your plan is in order. The Federal Emergency Management Agency has a great website ([www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)) to help you with your plans.

Before we are under the threat of a storm, make sure you have a basic plan:

- Create contact information for your family, close friends, healthcare providers, schools, and service providers. Make sure to include phone numbers and email addresses. Identify an out of state contact who can act as a central point to help your household reconnect if needed. Remember that emails and texts are more likely to transmit after a disaster as they require less bandwidth. Also, it might be easier to call long distance than it will be to call locally as local phone lines can become jammed after a disaster.
- Make sure you and your family are signed up for emergency notifications from schools, workplaces and the Baldwin Emergency Management Agency.
- Identify a place for your family to go for protection or to reunite.
- Each family member should store at least one contact in their phone listed as “ICE” or “In Case of Emergency”. First responders will look for this contact if a cell phone is present.
- Commit important contact numbers to memory. Too often we rely on our phone contacts. If your phone battery dies and there is no power, a landline might be your only option – you'll need to know the number to dial.

- Build a basic disaster supply kit including items such as nonperishable foods, flashlights, batteries, chargers, cash, first aid supplies, battery operated radio, matches, wet wipes, and pet food. (A funny story: I was discussing this topic with my dearest friend who is a retired Navy nurse and I told her how much fun and entertaining the MREs (military Meals Ready to Eat) were after Katrina. She said they aren't nearly as much fun after you have eaten them in the desert for a year!)
- Keep a thermometer in your fridge in order to check food temperature when power is restored after a storm.
- Prepare your home by removing any dead trees or branches, secure loose gutters, and consider obtaining a portable generator.
- Consider a water / fire proof container for important items including sentimental items that cannot be replaced.
- Consider having 5/8" plywood cut for window coverings.

When a storm impact is likely, move to imminent preparedness mode:

- During the Hurricane Watch period:
  - o Review your evacuation route should it be needed.
  - o Review your disaster kit and add prescription medications or other last minute items.
  - o Get as much cash as possible or enough to last approximately 10 days – ATMs won't be working nor will debit / credit card machines.
  - o Fill your car tanks with gas and stock up on water and other long or nonperishable food items (the worse that can happen is you will have a lot of bagels and peanut butter to eat!).
  - o Charge battery packs, solar chargers and other alternative power sources.
  - o Fill propane tanks and have a plan to cook using a gas grill or camp stove. Be prepared to try and use your refrigerated food first.
  - o Refill any special prescriptions.
  - o Make sure you know how to turn off water and gas to your house in the event of damage to utilities.
- During the Hurricane Warning period
  - o Stock your vehicle with supplies and changes of clothing. You might have to leave quickly so be prepared.



- o If you are in a flood prone area, consider moving valuable items to an upper story if possible or off the floor.
- o Cover furniture and move it away from windows.
- o Secure your yard and / or outside of the house. Bring loose, lightweight objects that could become projectiles inside (patio furniture, garbage cans, etc). Take down hanging plants, wind chimes, and yard art.
- o Cover all of your home's windows. Permanent storm shutters offer the best protection but plywood coverings are sufficient.
- o Fill bathtubs with water for washing, flushing toilets and cleaning.
- o When a storm is 6 hours from impact, turn your refrigerator and freezer to the coldest setting and open only when necessary. Food will last longer if you lose power.
- o Secure boats and other outdoor vehicles
- o Move cars into garages or near buildings, away from trees.
- o Leave a porch light on so that utility crews can quickly determine effectiveness of their efforts after the storm.

While this is not meant to be an all-inclusive list, I hope it has given you some thoughts and ideas for ways you can be better prepared to protect yourself and your family. Next time, we will look at safety practices for during and after a storm.

Peace and health to you all!



## **MAD CAMP**

**GRADES 6 & UP**

**9AM-12PM**

**JULY 17, 19, 21**

## **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

**9AM-12PM**

**JULY 24-27**

**VBS** and **MAD** Camp registration is going on right now and you can pick up a registration form in the Narthex at any time!

We are also excited to announce that we will be offering an **extended day program** for **VBS** Campers from 7:00am-5:30pm for those in need of a full day offering. Please contact Elizabeth Faust (626-2421) or Mary Haulard (626- for more information!

# VBS 2017 – Cave Quest

Following Jesus, the Light of the World

## JULY 24-27 9:00-12:00

(Before and After care ALSO AVAILABLE)

Must be 3 years old and fully potty-trained to attend. Nursery Available for volunteers only

Student's Name

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Parent/Guardian Name

---

Address

---

E-mail Address

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Phone Numbers – Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

Age Information

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Last school grade completed \_\_\_\_\_

Home Church

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Allergies/Medical Information/Other

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Emergency Contact

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Dismissal Information

Name(s) of person(s) who may pick up this child from VBS

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**St. Paul's Episcopal Church**

**28788 North Main Street**

**Daphne, Alabama 36526**

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36526**

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# **St. Paul's Episcopal Church**

**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.***