



The Tentmaker

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Daphne, Alabama

September 6, 2017

A Message from Thack

I met with our Stewardship Committee co-chairs this week. Bill Harrison and Davis Daniel will be coordinating our stewardship efforts and you will be hearing from them soon. Please know September is stewardship month and we should use this time to seriously examine how we use our time, talent and treasure.

I realize that to some, stewardship is a dirty word in the Episcopal Church. Even though we are mandated by Scripture, Church tradition and reason to be good stewards of all that God has given us, many folks turn a deaf ear when someone mentions tithing or reports the beginning of another stewardship campaign. Yet, stewardship is a critical responsibility of all of us who call ourselves “Christians.”

This, then, begs the question—why should we offer our time, talent and treasure to God? I believe the reason the Lord wants you and me to make an offering of our resources is for one reason alone—so that we can show our gratitude to God for our many blessings.

Stewardship is the belief that all that we have, and the entire creation in which we live is truly “on loan” to us. It’s an awareness that we will be called to give an accounting of whether we have used God’s gifts for God’s purposes. Inherent in this is the belief that such giving is “thanks-giving.” This is, giving that proceeds from our sense of gratitude for all that God has done and is doing for us and for all people. This is not a giving out of a sense of obligation, but freely as a result of a thankful heart. Stewardship is a thankful response to God’s graciousness to us. It is an opportunity to praise God with our lives in thanksgiving for the blessings of creation.

The business of being a steward involves every aspect of each person’s life—twenty-four hours a day; seven days a week. And the same is true of the life of every local church as well. How we think about and how we deal with the things that God has given us says everything about “whose” we think we are. If we see ourselves as independent, autonomous beings without any relationship or obligations to the One who created us, then there’s no need to even talk about stewardship.

Stewardship can only proceed from a conviction that we belong to God. If we truly do see ourselves as inextricably tied to God, we will be more willing to work with God as co-creators who can decide how best to utilize this world’s resources to achieve the purposes that we and God are seeking.

What are those purposes? Our Bible and *Book of Common Prayer* tell us about reconciliation, healing, unifying, and celebrating. We are given a picture of a God who wills and works to bring all people and all things together. We see a God who yearns to put an end to walls, war, and want. If we are God’s own people then we, like Jesus, must be about the Father’s business. So, no matter what aspect of life you want to talk about—how you spend your money, what kind of a job you do for your employer, the raising of children, recycling trash, or how much time you volunteer for others—it is precisely in these ordinary, everyday things of life that we signal our allegiance, either to God or to our own personal comfort and convenience. However, to be good stewards, our allegiance must always be to the One who “brung” us to the dance we call life. As it says in the Gospel of Matthew, “No one can serve two masters . . . You cannot serve God and wealth.” (6:24).

Stewardship, therefore, encompasses and embraces everything we do and say. It's not just a once-a-year fund drive to support your local church. The scope of stewardship is infinity, an issue with literally eternal dimensions, both here on earth and forever in God's Kingdom. Unless we're clear about that reality, our view of stewardship will always be too small.

In October you can show how much God's blessings mean to you by giving some of these blessings back in the form of your time, talent and treasure. Before next month, take stock of the time you give to St. Paul's doing the work of ministry. Ask yourself, "Is there something more I can be doing to help build God's Kingdom? Am I freely using my God given gifts to further the purposes of God in this community?" If you find that there is more you can do, then volunteer for another ministry on Rally Day on October 8. You should do the same kind of self-examination when responding to the every-member canvas. Before determining your pledge, ask yourself, "Am I working toward the biblical tithe of 10 percent, or is my pledge an arbitrary figure that has no correlation to the blessings God has given and continues to give me?"

Treat these questions as food for thought in the coming weeks. As you ponder your responses, give the matters to God in prayer and ask for a grateful heart. If your responses are based in gratitude, they will be the ones that truly honor God.

Peace, Thack

Chris Ed Updates...

Bible on Tap – Sunday, October 1st!

Save the Date for Bible on Tap! This time we will meet on Sunday after church at 12:15 on October 1st at Daruma near Daphne Publix and childcare will be available in McCann Hall for a small donation. We will provide pizza for the kids for lunch! Please RSVP (251-404-0537) if you would like to join us!

What's happening in Chapel?

8:00 chapel is now back in full swing and both 8:00 and 10:30 services are studying Exodus this month. The kids have had a great time playing and acting out the story with our Godly Play sandbox in chapel! 10:30 chapel drop off is in McCann Hall where they can play and fellowship until everyone arrives, then we have a snack and walk down to the chapel for our service and lesson. This is working out very well for us!

Coming Soon...

Christmas Pageant Practice begins for our older kids on November 8th from 6:00-7:00 pm. We have some big changes and surprises coming and that is why we will need to begin practicing earlier than usual! 4th graders through High Schoolers will begin practicing on the 8th and our younger guys will be invited practice our last couple of practices before the big night! All kids are welcome to be a part, even if they do not attend practices.

Our Christmas Pageant is held on Christmas Eve at the 6:00 service.

HOLIDAY SHOPPE: It is already time for us to start planning for our Holiday Shoppe 2017. This year that will be November 17 - 19. We will need all the help we can get for the Gala on November 17. Please consider helping out this year! This is the largest fund raiser we have at St. Paul's, and it truly takes the entire Village to make it a success. We will start selling tickets the first of October. We are working on a plan to discount tickets for those who work, and to provide child care for children of those workers. This year, we plan to have a couple of training sessions several days prior to the Gala, so you will know what your duties are and how to perform them. We are excited about the prospect of our best event ever, and with your help, it will be! Please pray about this and look for more information that will be coming out about ways you can help. Thanks from all the Holiday Shoppe Gang!

Junior High and Senior High Dinners for Sunday Nights:

Hi, All! I am currently seeking volunteers to feed our junior high and senior high kids on Sunday nights (usually about 14 or 15 kids). If we get enough volunteers, each person would have to cook only once during the year. Don't cook? Supply pizza or fried chicken. I cooked last time. The meal I supplied took me about an hour to prepare. I made a 7-layer dip, chicken enchiladas, a salad, and a roll of chocolate chip cookies. Cheap and quick! Our kids so appreciate this! If you are interested, please shoot me an email, and I'll add you to the list. Thank you in advance, Beverly Koepp

Save the Date:

Trunk or Treat is Sunday, October 22 from 2-4. Invite your friends, and if you want to decorate a trunk let Mary Alice know, maryalice.mathison@gmail.com

October 1st -- Parish Breakfast

The Parish Breakfast which is prepared by our amazing Men's Group will be held in the Life Center on Sunday, October 1st at 9:15 a.m. Everyone is invited. Children eat free.

Thank you!

Thank you to all that helped with Robert (Bob) Hillerby's funeral. Thack...you did a wonderful job talking about Bob.

Sincerely,
Amy Hillerby

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



Flu Vaccine Clinic

Sunday, Oct. 15, 9am – 12pm

Life Center

- Zero Copay for all Medicare Part D and most private insurances
- \$25.99 for cash or private pay (some vouchers will be available)
- Must bring insurance or Medicare card for billing
- Ages 7 and over

For more information contact Donna Nolte – 251.680.7367 or email parishnursestpaulsdaphne@gmail.com

+
**KEEP
CALM
AND
GET YOUR
FLU SHOT**

This time of year brings so many things I love – cool weather, college football, fall softball, long sleeves and fires in the fire pit. The first day of the Fall season will occur on the 22nd of this month. But with the fall season is one thing I don't like: the Flu Season. I'd like to dispel a few flu urban legends and share some facts about why influenza vaccination is so important.

- 1) "I took the flu vaccine a few years ago – I'm good": Unfortunately, you aren't. The flu viruses continually mutate and change so each year the vaccine is different. With many different virus strains out there, researchers spend a tremendous amount of time predicting which strains will most likely be active for the upcoming season. The flu vaccine generally contains vaccination against two Flu A strains and one or two Flu B strains. Additionally, the body's flu immune response decreases over time so an annual boost is needed.
- 2) "I'm young and healthy, I don't need the flu vaccine": so stay young and healthy...get the vaccine. The flu virus is an equal opportunity virus – it does not discriminate based age, race, sex, national origin, or religious affiliation. Everyone ages 6 months and older should get vaccinated unless it is determined to be contraindicated by their healthcare provider.
- 3) "When I took the flu shot, I got the flu": this is simply not true. If a person gets the flu after receiving a flu shot, they were exposed before the vaccine and would have gotten sick regardless of vaccination status. The flu shot is made with either an inactivated ("dead") virus or a synthetic virus response. Neither of these are capable of producing illness. In previous years, a nasal vaccine ("flu mist") was made with a live but weakened vaccine. It was recommended for very specific populations of patients who should have a strong enough immunity to trigger the immune response but not illness. Some of the side effects of this vaccine did resemble a short course (<1 day) of the flu but these patients did not test positive for the flu. The flu mist has not been recommended since the 2015-2016 season by the CDC and therefore not currently manufactured.
- 4) "I'll wait and see if the season is bad and then I'll get it": nope – too late. Your body needs about two weeks to develop sufficient immunity to the flu from a vaccine. If we are in the height of the flu season or a pandemic like 2009, lots of luck going two weeks without getting exposed.
- 5) "I'm allergic to eggs": the latest CDC recommendations are that patients with a reaction to eggs that is not more severe than hives or rash may take any flu vaccine that is otherwise appropriate for their age and health. In a Vaccine Safety study done by the CDC, only 10 persons had a severe allergic reaction out of more than 7.4 million doses of flu vaccine. Only 3 of these were determined to be due to egg allergy. The actual egg protein content in the vaccine is extremely small. Patients who have had severe egg reactions (facial swelling, shortness of breath, dizziness, or vomiting) should still receive the flu vaccine but it should be done in a healthcare setting such as a doctor's office, outpatient clinic, or hospital where there is a healthcare provider who can recognize and respond to a severe allergic response. Additionally, there is a recombinant vaccine (Flublok) that is completely egg free available.

- 6) “I’d rather just get the flu”: No. No, you would not. Trust me. Each year the flu claims tens of thousands of lives in the U.S. alone and results in the hospitalization of hundreds of thousands. Several hundred children die each year of the flu. During my career, I personally have taken care of a number of patients who died of the flu – some that were very young and otherwise healthy. The flu is no joke. And even if it doesn’t make you sick enough to be hospitalized, why go through 7 days of misery, risk passing it to your friends and family, and miss a week of work or school if it can potentially be avoided?
- 7) “The flu shot is all I need to do”: the flu vaccine is a great first line of protection. But there are other important things you should do during the flu season (really ALL the time).
- a. Be aware of hand hygiene – wash your hands frequently and keep your hands below your chin (not around your face).
 - b. Don’t share dishes, glasses, and eating utensils.
 - c. Carry hand sanitizer and use it after coming into contact with high touch surfaces such as public doors and bathrooms, stair railings, coffee pot handles, water cooler handles, restaurant tables, and work phones.
 - d. Expand your “personal space” zone – avoid close contact other than with direct family members. Remember Patrick Swayze in the movie *Dirty Dancing*: “this is YOUR dance space and this is MY dance space”?
 - e. Stay home when you are sick. If you’ve had the misfortune to get the flu, take precautions to not pass it on.
 - f. Call your healthcare provider if you have flu symptoms such as cough, sore throat, fever, runny nose, muscle or body aches, fatigue, and headaches. Your provider can determine if it is the flu or a cold and can treat the flu with an antiviral medication that can lessen the course and severity of the illness. But the medications have to be taken early in the illness.

If you have other questions about influenza and the flu vaccine, there is a tremendous amount of information on the CDC’s website at <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/index.htm>

You can also contact your healthcare provider or reach out to parishnursestpaulsdaphne@gmail.com

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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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.***