



Pastor's Message

You are all God's children through faith in Christ Jesus. All of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek; there is neither slave nor free; nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

— Galatians 3:26-28

As we celebrate the 4th of July and all the good things in our country, I'm reading through *How to Heal Our Divides: A Practical Guide*. It is a great series of essays reflecting how recent times have shown the inequities, systems of oppression, and deep divisions in our country. The book gives some

good advice on how to address these issues of division and how to address them in practical ways.

In the essay by Diana Butler Bass, she reminds us that being a

Christian is not about separating ourselves from others, but rather a declaration of our solidarity. The early church was successful because it set out a vision of unity in a deeply divided world. She writes, "Not only did the first Christians proclaim these words (Galatians 3), they practiced them in their communities. They developed habits of including others, of breaking down barriers, of eating with and befriending those whom they once found objectionable."

They were living out the commandment to love God and love others. That's the same call we have today, and it ties in nicely with the creed of the United States, *e pluribus unum*, out of many, one. As the hymn says, "and we pray that all unity may one day be restored."

Peace,
Jeff

Rev. Jeff McDonald, Senior Pastor



Sunday Morning Worship Services

Starting on Sunday, July 4, the 8:30 am Sunday morning worship services will return. Both the 8:30 and 11 am services will be streamed in real time. Watch through this link: www.stpaulshouston.org/stream. No separately produced services will be provided. To attend the in-person services, registration will be required, per COVID protocols.

We will no longer have worship in any form at 9:45 but encourage you to connect with a Sunday School class during the 9:45 hour either in-person or online.

Midweek Communion Services also are back. They are held each Wednesday at noon in the Sanctuary and also are live-streamed. Registration is not necessary, though completion of a health-screen questionnaire and social distance seating are required. The service includes hymns, scripture, prayer, a homily, and the celebration of Holy Communion.

Summer Recital Series Begins July 11

After the Lenten Recital Series of 2020 was cut short by the initial COVID quarantine, and it was canceled entirely in 2021, also due to COVID, the St. Paul's Chamber Music Society proudly presents a Summer Recital Series.

All of the recitals will be free of charge in the Sanctuary on a Sunday at 4 pm. To register or learn more: www.stpaulshouston.org/chambermusicociety. Other considerations for in-person attendance will follow the COVID protocols in effect at the time of each recital. Live-streaming will be available via www.stpaulshouston.org/stream

July 11

Opening the series on Sunday, July 11, will be the Apollo Chamber Players with *American Soundscape* featuring works by prize-winning American composers Julia Smith, Jennifer Higdon, Florence Price, Leo Brouwer

and Arthur Gottschalk, and music by Heitor Villa Lobos (Brazil).

July 25

The July 25, recital will be by

Soprano Emily Wolfe with Joel Trekell on Piano. A St. Paul's staff singer, Wolfe is a music performance graduate of Baylor University and an alumna of St. Paul's Choral Scholars and Treble Choir. St. Paul's Associate Music Director and Organist, Trekell holds a Master of Music in Sacred Music from the University of Houston Moores School of Music.

St. Paul's Chamber Music Society presents

2021 SUMMER RECITAL SERIES

Sundays at 4 pm, in-person and online



JULY 11
Apollo Chamber Players
American Soundscape



JULY 25
Emily Wolfe, Soprano
with Joel Trekell, piano



AUGUST 8
Ben Kerswell, organ
with Amy Elandson, soprano

August 4

The August 4, recital will be by Ben Kerswell on organ with Soprano Amy Elandson. St. Paul's Organ Scholar, Kerswell is a Ph.D. candidate in organ performance at Rice University. A St. Paul's staff singer, Elandson holds a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Music Education from St. Olaf College.



Blood Drive. Friday, July 23, from 9 am to 1:30 pm in Fondren Hall. Sign up through www.commitforlife.org/donor/schedules/name (insert St. Paul's UMC in slot for name). While supplies last, donors will receive a one-of-a-kind beach towel as a thank you gift. See above. Limit of one promotional item per donation; may be substituted for item of equal value.

Green Team, Community Garden

Create, implement, and support environmental stewardship practices at St. Paul's with the Green Team. The team meets fourth Thursdays from 10:30 to 11:15 am via Zoom.

You also can helping maintain the community garden, host the garden table Sunday mornings, and/or harvest produce for the table. The herb table is in the circle drive on Sundays before and after the 11 am service. Upcoming harvest times are July 7 at 10 am, 16 at 10:30 am, July 21 at 1 pm, and July 30 at 10:30 am.



Donations for the herbs benefit the Fe y Esperanza Community Garden members.

For information or to connect, email hspaw@stpaulshouston.org.

Pick-Up Basketball Resumed

Most Mondays from 7:30 to 9 pm in the Activity Center (Gym, 2nd floor, Sanctuary Building). Questions? email prichardskuan@stpaulshouston.org.

Interested in becoming a member at St. Paul's?
You are invited to our

NEW MEMBER LUNCH

SUNDAY, JULY 18
12:15 PM | FELLERS ROOM S-312

Learn more about life at St. Paul's over a meal!
RSVP to nina@stpaulshouston.org by Thursday, July 15.

Those who decide to become members will join together the following Sunday, July 25.

All interested in learning more about St. Paul's Family are invited to attend this lunch on July 18 hosted by Senior Pastor Rev. Dr. Jeff McDonald. Topics will include The United Methodist Church, the Wesleyan Way of Salvation, the Sacraments, and ways to connect and worship at St. Paul's. Those who wish to join St. Paul's are invited to take their membership vows and be received into the congregation during a July 25 worship service. To attend, please RSVP by Thursday, July 15, to nina@stpaulshouston.org, noting childcare or special dietary needs. The lunch will be in the Fellers Room (S-312).

The St. Paul's Methodist Foundation of Houston annual report will be available in July. Questions? email mlportner@stpaulshouston.org.



At left: The Emergency Aid Coalition along with St. Paul's and the Texas Congregational Disaster Readiness, held a second COVID vaccine clinic for Houston's neighbors in need. Accompanied by live music, Have Shears Will Travel gave free haircuts, and hot dogs, popsicles, cookies, and Manna Bags were provided. A big thank you to all the volunteers who made this event possible.



St. Paul's members Yuly and Keith Reeves with garden benches they built and donated to St. Paul's Community Garden. Thank you to Yuly and Keith.

St. Paul's Celebrates PRIDE Month with Indoor Picnic



St. Paul's Family

Baptisms

Mary and Michael Addison presented their son Oliver Perry Addison, born December 10, 2019, for the Sacrament of Holy Baptism during the on-line services of June 6, 2021.

Melissa and Guy Brown presented their daughter, Mary Kathryn Brown, born February 14, 2021, for the Sacrament of Holy Baptism during the on-line worship services of June 13, 2021.

Erin and Scott Reid presented their son, William Robert Reid, born February 1, 2021, for the Sacrament of Holy Baptism during the sanctuary service of June 20, 2021.

Member Wedding

Congratulations to Catherine Smith and Matthew Tindall, who were married Saturday, June 19, 2021, in New Orleans. Matthew is the son of members Carol and Jimmy Tindall.

Births

Congratulations to Ashley and David Gordon on the birth of their son, Jacob Clark Gordon, who was born on May 12, 2021.

Congratulations to Cindy Snow on the birth of her granddaughter, Elizabeth Santina Snow Denton, born June 27, 2021. Parents are Corinne and David Denton.

Flowers

The flowers at the altar on May 30, 2021, were placed to the glory of God by Pat and Jim Walzel in celebration of their 62nd wedding anniversary on May 31.

The flowers at the altar on June 13, 2021, were placed to the glory of God in loving memory of John and Mary Lou Margrave by their children, David and Karen, and their families.

The flowers at the altar on June 20, 2021, were placed to the glory of God in celebration of the 50th wedding anniversary of Lois and Skeets Cartwright on June 19.

Deaths

Deepest sympathy to GERALYN and Jim Smitherman and Wendy Leopoulus on the death of Sylva Pope, GERALYN's mother and Wendy's grandmother, who died on Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021, at the age of 100.

Deepest sympathy to Hazel (Leigh) McRae on the death of her sister, Martha McRae, who died in May.

Who to Contact

for What

To reach any staff, call 712-528-0527 or email info@stpaulshouston.org, and your message will be forwarded.

To inquire about joining St. Paul's or update membership records, contact Nina Hall via nina@stpaulshouston.org.

To schedule a funeral or notify the church of births, deaths, hospitalizations, or other concerns, also contact Nina Hall via nina@stpaulshouston.org.

To schedule a baptism or order altar flowers, contact Dawn Uebelhart via dawn@stpaulshouston.org.

To schedule a wedding, contact Betty Rennell via bettyrennell@gmail.com.

Thanks to the Flower Ladies



The altar flowers not taken after a service by those who dedicate them are re-arranged by St. Paul's "Flower Ladies" and placed throughout the campus.

St. Paul's Methodist Foundation Awards \$126,200 in Grants to 20 Ministries

St. Paul's Methodist Foundation of Houston has awarded \$109,200 to 17 Houston agencies to fund a variety of social service programs in 2021 and \$3600 from the Puckett Fund to the St. Paul's Choral Scholars. The Foundation has also awarded \$12,750 to Emanuel Luz de Vida, our Bolivian mission, from the Wilson and Nora Boots Mission Fund and \$650 to Encounter with Christ in the Caribbean from the Fund for Latin America. The 2021 total of \$126,200 in grant funding is a 25 percent increase over 2020's funding.

While a number of grant funds within the endowment have been established with designated purposes by their donors and are so awarded by the Grant Committee, as we emerge from the turbulence of this funding cycle, a special consideration was to enable agencies to move our neighbors from situations of need to a place of hope.

Following are the names of the grant recipient organizations, their websites, the grant amount, and a brief description of the purpose for which the grant was provided.

- **Amazing Place** www.amazingplacehouston.org. \$7500 for their scholarship fund and general operations.
- **The BEACON** www.beaconhomeless.org. \$3500 to support their work with homeless individuals through their core programs — the Day Center, Beacon Law, Brigid's Hope, and COMPASS.
- **Bo's Place** www.bosplace.org/en. \$2500 to support community education and training programs in grief counseling for children and families
- **Child Advocates** www.childadvocates.org. \$5000 to support the Court Services Program, which recruits, trains, and supervises volunteers who serve as Guardians *ad litem* for children who have been removed from homes due to abuse and neglect
- **Emergency Aid Coalition** eachouston.org. \$10,000 for start-up funding to provide groceries for homeless clients who are able to achieve housing and "Boots to Work" vouchers for housed clients who secure employment
- **FAM Houston** www.famhouston.org. \$5000 to support the growth of the Farm of Peace, a collaboration with Congolese women refugee farmers
- **The H.E.A.R.T Program** heartprogram.org. \$2500 to fund graduation ceremonies for low-income students with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities from their collaboration with CVS Health Training
- **Holly Hall** hollyhall.org. \$2500 to cover the cost of care for residents who are no longer able to do so

St. Paul's UMC has partnered with the Foundation in awarding Main Street Ministries a grant of \$6,000 for the development, pilot, and launch of "Getting Ahead in a Just Getting by World" in Spanish. This brings the total awarded to this project by St. Paul's to \$7500.

- **House of Peace** www.pakhouseofpeace.org. \$5000 to build bridges of understanding between different religions and ethnicities while supporting orphans who survived terrorist attacks in churches
- **Iconoclast Artists** iconoclastartists.org. \$10,000 to support strategic after-school programs reaching 500 students within metropolitan Houston
- **IMGH Meals on Wheels** www.imgh.org/meals-wheels-greater-houston. \$5000 for general operations
- **Justice for Our Neighbors** www.justiceforallimmigrants.org. \$5000 to the Houston office for general operations
- **The Life Center Houston** www.lifecenterhouston.com. \$6600 to general operations for this ministry to the homeless
- **Loving Houston** lovinghouston.net. \$1500 for after-school programs that partner local grade schools with churches
 - **Main Street Ministries** msmhouston.org. \$1500 to support the development, pilot, and launch of "Getting Ahead in a Just Getting by World" in Spanish
 - **Neighbors in Action** www.neighborsinaction.com. \$2500 for their after-school program, La Conexion Junior, which is a mix of Bible studies, crafts, special guest speakers, and service projects for children in the Port Houston community
 - **St. Paul's Choral Scholars** www.stpaulshouston.org/choralscholars. \$3600 for program support
- **SEARCH** www.searchhomeless.org. \$20,000 for the House of Tiny Treasures, a nationally accredited pre-school program that provides developmentally focused early childhood education to children aged 2-5 years who have experienced homelessness
- **Sojourn Landing** thelanding.org. \$5000 to support the youth advocacy program that offers crisis response, case management, emotional support, and family resources to trafficked children and youth
- **Wesley Community Center** wesleyhousehouston.org. \$5000 to implement a new program to help families transition from crisis to financial stability
- **Wellsprings Village** wellspringsvillage.org. \$2500 to provide stable housing and supportive services to formerly homeless women

The St. Paul's Foundation is grateful to all those benefactors whose generosity and foresight have allowed us to bless our community and our global partners again this year.

Congregational Care Lay Ministers Commissioned

On Sunday, June 27, St. Paul's celebrated the commissioning of these seven new Congregational Care Lay Ministers: Carol Archer, Janet Bodet Carr, Steve Flores, Thomas Heffner, Rod Kottenbrink, Sandi Mariani, and Lynn Yeoman

These lay ministers spent 12 weeks studying clinical pastoral care, Benedictine Spirituality, and active listening and crafting their visitation skills.

"I loved teaching this year's class," said Rev. Andrew Wolfe, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care. "I was skeptical that lay ministers could be trained via Zoom, but this group was inquisitive, thoughtful, and never left a stone unturned. It was a joy to see them grow in their faith as they take on this calling, and I cannot wait to see how God will use them at St. Paul's. A special word of thanks to Rod Kottenbrink and all of the experts who shared their wisdom with this year's class."

Starting this summer they will join Rev. Wolfe in providing spiritual care and support to our congregation in hospitals, homes, and senior living communities.

Caregiver Training, Support Group

"Although memories are gradually lost for people living with dementia, people are never lost to the memory of God. Nor should they be lost to their faith communities."

— *When Words Fail*

If you are a dementia caregiver or help support someone who is a dementia caregiver, St. Paul's invites you to a six-week caregiver training offered through Amazing Place with a support group to follow.

Dementia is an isolating disease, not only for the individual, but also the caregiver. On average, family provides 80 percent of dementia care, but they often feel invisible, unheard, and lacking in support.

St. Paul's wants to create a space for families coping with dementia to find meaningful engagement and spiritual connection. This six-week class will cover important topics such as behavior management skills, interactive coaching, feedback, and insights on caregiver support. Classes begin Tuesday, July 20, from 11:30am to 1:30pm via Zoom.

To register or receive more information please contact Rev. Andrew Wolfe awolfe@stpaulshouston.org

Cornerstone Society Voting for Inaugural Grant Funding

Voting is underway through July 6 for the Cornerstone Society's inaugural grant funding. The St. Paul's Foundation Grants committee met in June and reviewed proposals from a number of qualified agencies. (See page 4.) Of these, five were selected as either worthy of funding or deserving of additional funding from the Cornerstone Society. These are briefly described below:

- **Bo's Place.** Serves more than 5,000 individuals annually has requested funding to train 1,000+ professionals and others supporting the bereaved in trauma-informed, bereavement-specific on-line workshops and trainings.
- **Creative Life Foundation.** Connects vulnerable and marginalized children and parents in urban and rural Thailand to critical resources that create a path to freedom and prevent human trafficking.
- **FAM Houston.** Builds community among refugees, immigrants, and local Houstonians, with a particular emphasis on empowering Congolese women as they cultivate a local farm to provide food and income for their families.
- **Justice for Our Neighbors (aka Justice for All Immigrants).** Provides low-income individuals and families with affordable, high-quality immigration legal services. The agency also engages in immigration education and advocacy.
- **Loving Houston.** Advances community transformation by enabling churches to partner with local schools in meeting the physical, emotional, and academic needs of their students.

Funds for Cornerstone Society grants totaled \$15,250, with half being directed to the Foundation's Building and

Facilities Fund and the remaining \$7,625 available to be granted to a non-profit selected by Cornerstone Society members through on-line voting. Each adult Society member has a vote, and children of family members are encouraged to vote as well.

The grant recipient will be announced by e-mail to members of the Cornerstone Society, in the August edition of *St. Paul's Monthly Newsletter*, on the website, and through social media.

The funds will be awarded at the Cornerstone Society Celebration Breakfast on Saturday, September 11. Please save the date. For more information or to join the Cornerstone Society, please email mlportner@stpaulshouston.org.

Healing Circles Continue

Helen Spaw conducts Healing Circles on a variety of topics, some ongoing with entry at any time, some short-term with a self-contained group.

Currently, two Healing Circles are ongoing, both via Zoom. They are the Single Moms Circle on second Tuesdays at 8:30 pm and the Circle for the Healing of Racism, conducted in conjunction with the Center for the Healing of Racism, on second Thursdays at 10 am. To connect with either, email hspaw@stpaulshouston.org.

Veterans Healing Circle

Following the Healing Circle model is a gathering of veterans on Wednesdays at noon in the Youth Center. Lunch is provided. To attend the veterans circle, RSVP to nina@stpaulshouston.org.

Sunday School Lesson Inspires Children's Prayer Team Initiative

This spring as the GROW 2nd-5th graders were studying the Book of Acts, learning how the early Christians took care of each other, the discussion moved to how St. Paul's Family takes care of each other. Among the ways noted was the Prayer Team, and a fourth grader asked if they could also write notes to members who are sick, forming their own Prayer Team or creating cards for the current team to use.

That idea has grown into a Children's Prayer Team, and it is developing in several directions. Some of the



children are designing birthday and get well cards to be used as the need arises. Some children are taking on specific assignments from the church-wide Prayer Team.

An idea under consideration is for the children to design and send cards to other children to celebrate the birth of new siblings. And some of the designs could be transformed into multiple use by others.

As more children transition to in-person Sunday School, they will have the opportunities to create their cards in group activities. In the meantime, this is a way for those attending virtually to feel connected.

To learn more about this new ministry created and directed by St. Paul's children, email Rev. Kate Flint via kflint@stpaulshouston.org.

Prayer Initiative for Children in Foster Care

Cover each child in the Foster Care System within the Greater Houston area in prayer. By praying for each child individually, identified by gender and age, we can pray for a distinct expression of their needs. For more information about this initiative, please go to www.cultivatingfamilies.org/prayer-initiative or email kflint@stpaulshouston.org or pick up packets at the Worship check-in table.

VBS 2021: *Discovery on Adventure Island*

In person or on-line, children ages four years through those who have completed 5th grade are invited to *Discovery on Adventure Island* Vacation Bible School (VBS) at St. Paul's August 2 to 6, from 9am to 12 noon.



Our afternoon care option this year is a Christ-centered sports camp, Armored Sports Camp, from noon to 4 pm.

Extended care options also will be available for children younger than age four whose parents are volunteers.

Through timeless Bible stories and the excitement of the island adventure theme, kids will learn what it means to be strong in the strength of God's power!

Registration brochures are available in the Jones Building Lobby and for downloading at www.stpaulshouston.org/vbs. Make sure to mark which option you prefer — in-person or on-line — and please sign the waiver. Return completed form to Children's Ministry Assistant Kat Denton in the church offices, or email to kat@stpaulshouston.org. Register for the sports camp direct through

their website, www.armored-sports.com. Space is limited.

Ways to Volunteer

VBS can be as much fun for the volunteers as it is for the kids. Check the list of roles below, and if interested in volunteering or want to know more, email Rev. Kate Flint via kflint@stpaulshouston.org.

- Teaching team (age levels: 4 years through 5th grade completed)
- Decorating team
- Snack team
- Storytelling or music
- Missions
- Supply coordination
- Hospitality and Safety

A volunteer meeting for progress check-in will be via Zoom Tuesday, July 6, at 7:30 pm. Others will be set as needed.

In-person volunteer meetings and work days are scheduled for the Jones Basement, Room JB-008, for these Wednesdays: July 7, 14, 21, and 28 from 10 am to noon.

Take-home projects will be available on July 11 for return by July 25.

For more information, including connecting to Zoom meetings, email kflint@stpaulshouston.org.



Children's Schedules

Children's Sunday School: Age 3 through 5th grade meet in person and via Zoom 9:45-10:45 am. for Joyful Noise and GROW assemblies followed by age-level groups. Zoom links in children's e-letter.

Childcare: Provided during worship if reserved when making worship reservations.

Special Needs Sunday School. Meets at 9:45 am. For information, email hspaw@stpaulshouston.org.

Children's Choirs: All but Joyful Noise are off for the summer.

Stay in touch via the St. Paul's Kids Facebook page (www.facebook.com/KidsOfSPUMC) and the *St. Paul's Kids & Families* e-letter, sent Wednesdays and Sundays and includes printables for the season and relevant links To ensure receiving the e-letter, email kflint@stpaulshouston.org.

Volunteers Needed to Support Youth Summer Missions

The greater St. Paul's community will have the opportunity to support Youth Missions in new ways this summer.

Due to the combination of rapidly changing COVID protocols and the lead time necessary to plan out-of-town mission trips that St. Paul's Youth have long conducted, the Youth will be in mission here in Houston this summer from July 18 to 23 (Sunday-Friday). These students, who have completed the 6th through 12th grades, may spend those nights at the church or in their homes.

If you can volunteer in any of these ways to support the Youth's mission work — or would like to know more — please contact Tiffin Wilsford via tiffin@stpaulshouston.org:

- Shower host for a work team to get clean after a long day's work — usually outside — before returning to the church. Can be one day or more.
- Make snacks or meals for the work teams, July 19-22, one time or more.
- Donate money or gift cards to cover cost of food and construction materials.
- Donate dependable work tools.

Everyone is invited to help — whether or not you have a Youth in the program or have had.

Good-bye to Oksana

After three years as St. Paul's Associate Youth Director as part of a Graduate Residency in Youth Ministry program, Oksana Schwack now holds a Master of Arts in Youth Ministry from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, and she is ready to move on to lead a program of her own.

"St. Paul's been blessed to have had Oksana Schwack as our Associate Director of Youth Ministries for the past three years," said Tiffin Wilsford, Director of Youth Ministries.

"She is greatly gifted in ministry and will continue to be a blessing wherever God leads her next. She has formed some deep spiritual connections with our youth that will benefit them the rest of their lives. We thank God for who she is and for the opportunity to share some time with her."



Oksana Schwack, center, with some of the Youth + Tiffin Wilsford.



For much of this summer, St. Paul's Youth have been spending their Fridays in a Day of Service or Recreation. They have worked in the Main Street Ministries Community Garden (above) and with the Hermann Park Conservancy. They also have spent a day at the Houston Museum of Natural Science and at Speedy's Fast Track. They will culminate their Fun Fridays on August 13 at Schlitterbahn Galveston.

YOUTH WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Current to August 15

Sundays:

- Sunday School. 10 am, both in-person & via Zoom
- UMY. 5-7 pm in Youth Center

Tuesdays: Girls Gathering. 6:30-8pm in Youth Center

Thursdays: Guys Gathering. 6:30-8pm in Activity Center

Fun Fridays: Days of Service and Recreation. Usually 10 am-4 pm. Different opportunities each Friday from June 4 to August 13. \$25/person covers activity and lunch

Questions? email tiffin@stpaulshouston.org

Set Live Captions in Chrome Browser

Click on the three vertical dots in the upper right-hand corner, beneath the 'X.' Click on *Help* (near the bottom), then *About Google Chrome*. If you have Google Chrome Version 91.0.4472.114, continue. If not, re-install Chrome.

To activate Live Captions (aka closed captioning), click on those three dots again to open Chrome, then click on *Settings*. Go to *Advanced* (on left or scroll all the way to the bottom of the screen) and click on the downward arrow ▼.

Click on *Accessibility* and move Live Caption button to right, turning it blue. Through the *Accessibility* menu you also can select color, size, and other parameters for your Live Captions.

This is not intended as an endorsement of Chrome, though Chrome is the most-used browser. Closed Captions may be pre-set on other browsers, devices, and individual programs or provide ways for them to be set.

Looking Ahead

Discover & Connect

If you are considering membership at St. Paul's, you are invited to *Discover & Connect*. This two-session class will be held on the Sundays of August 8 and 15 at 12:15 pm in the Fellers Room (S-312, 3rd floor, Sanctuary Building). Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP by August 5 to nina@stpaulshouston.org, noting childcare or special dietary needs.

This class is an opportunity to connect with our pastors and staff and discover what it means to be a deeply committed Christian at St. Paul's. We believe that helping you grow in your faith and discovering the spiritual gifts and talents you've been given by God will deepen your faith and connections, allowing you to experience joy and live out our vision to serve the common good. Join us and begin your journey today.

Discover and Connect is open to those interested in membership as well as those who joined St. Paul's over the past couple of years. Offered quarterly, the next classes will be in November. For more information about membership at St. Paul's, also email nina@stpaulshouston.org.

Advocacy Program

SEARCH Homeless Services presents *How Nonprofits and Congregations Can Effectively and Legally Advocate for Change in our Community*

by Jan Powell

Bolder Advocacy attorney
([www: bolderadvocacy.org](http://www.bolderadvocacy.org))

August 17 at noon

Location to be announced;
check August newsletter and
Chimes e-letter for update.

Save the Date!

**Cornerstone Society
Celebration Breakfast**

(See page 5.)

Saturday, September 11

9 am. • Fondren Hall

All ages are welcome.

Details will be emailed to

Society members
in August.



All Aboard! Locomotion Promotion is headed our way again on Sunday, August 22, for Children and Youth plus Celebration Sunday for everyone.

New and Returning Volunteer Opportunities Coming

As each new school year begins, new opportunities arise — more so than ever this year as the world emerges from COVID quarantines. Among those new and returning opportunities at St. Paul's will be

Rutabaga After-School Program. This long-standing after school mentoring and enrichment program for at-risk children who attend nearby elementary schools will resume soon after school starts. Directed by staff, this program also needs volunteers for a variety of roles. Help one day a week or more. Spanish/English bi-lingual capabilities helpful, but not required. Questions? kflint@stpaulshouston.org.

Telehealth Clinic. This clinic located in Abraham Station, partnered with the Emergency Aid Coalition, and overseen by University of Houston professors and practitioners is now set to open in August to provide basic healthcare services to Houston's under/uninsured population. To learn more about this project, including ways to help, please contact Rev. Wolfe via awolfe@stpaulshouston.org.

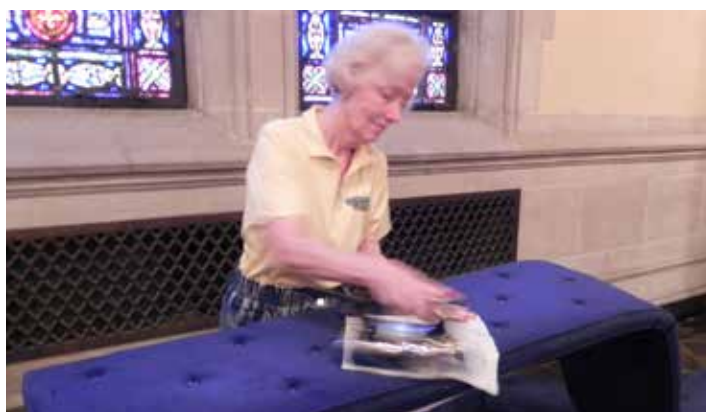
Disaster Recovery Team. This monthly opportunity to help re-build parts of Houston should return in September. Over the summer, we have been blessed to host people from other cities who have been doing this work. Questions? prichards-kuan@stpaulshouston.org. To sign up to be notified of these opportunities, email kat@stpaulshouston.org.

Stay up to date on these and other emerging opportunities through the *Chimes* weekly e-letter.

To subscribe, email adair@stpaulshouston.org.

Also check the St. Paul's calendar:

www.stpaulshouston.org/calendar



Help get wax out of the pew cushions. Work in teams with one at an ironing board and the other wrangling cushions. Also needed for the day are 12 irons, 6 ironing boards, and at least 12 long heavy-duty extension cords. Date in August or late July to be set; if interested, email Nancy Curry via jrcnac@att.net.