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Pastor's Message

In the Old Testament book of Jeremiah we get a glimpse of the prophet's encounter with God in the 29th chapter when God says, "I have it all planned out —plans to take care of you, not abandon you, plans to give you the future you hope for. When you call on me, when you come and pray to me, I'll listen. When you come looking for me, you'll find me. Yes, when you get serious about finding me and want it more than anything else, I'll make sure you won't be disappointed." (Jeremiah 29:11-13, *The Message*)



I'll listen. When you come looking for me, you'll find me. Yes, when you get serious about finding me and want it more than anything

After talking about this hope, Jeremiah talks about prayer. Sometimes I wonder why we don't pray more. Why we do all the talking instead of more listening. We have plenty of time for all sorts of other activities and I believe, like Jeremiah, that God loves to spend time with us. Like all the other items in our busy schedule, let's set aside time to talk to and listen to God.

You may recall me saying that United Methodist pastors are called by God but sent by the Bishop. This system provides for recruiting, training, credentialing, and sending of pastors. We are appointed to our charges annually – at Annual Conference. I am grateful that I have been re-appointed by Bishop Jones to serve with you. I am also grateful that Kate, Bill, Nataly, and Andrew have also been re-appointed for another year; and I'm excited about Trey's new appointment here.

Let's all be in a spirit of prayer about the hope for the future we build together with God.

Peace,

Rev. Dr. Jeff McDonald, Senior Pastor



THE LIBERTY BELL
ORGAN SOLOS AND DUETS FOR
INDEPENDENCE DAY
Sunday, July 3, at 4 pm in the Sanctuary
Enjoy music written by American composers
played by Christopher Betts and Joel Trezell

Celebrate the American Independence Day holiday with marches by John Philip Sousa, Aaron Copland's *Fanfare for the Common Man*, American hymn settings by Leo Sowerby, and some lesser known gems for organ.

Choral Scholars — Present and Past — to Lead Worship during St. Paul's Choir's Residency in England

While the St. Paul's Choir is in residence at Truro Cathedral in Cornwall from July 25 to 31 and leading Evensong at St. Paul's Cathedral in London on Monday, August 1, the music at St. Paul's Houston will be led by a choir comprised of current and former St. Paul's Choral Scholars.

An auditioned ensemble of advanced high-school-age vocalists directed by Matthew Perez, the Choral Scholars periodically lead in worship services during the school year and represent St. Paul's elsewhere.

This opportunity to lead worship during the summer also provides a

time when alumni can to re-join the choir for a Sunday or two.

Many of the alumni have gone on to major in vocal music and are singing professionally. Among them are Matthew Mazzola, who has been with Chanticleer for five seasons, and Vineel Mahal, who has just joined this 12-member Grammy-Award-winning vocal ensemble based in San Francisco. (www.chanticleer.org)

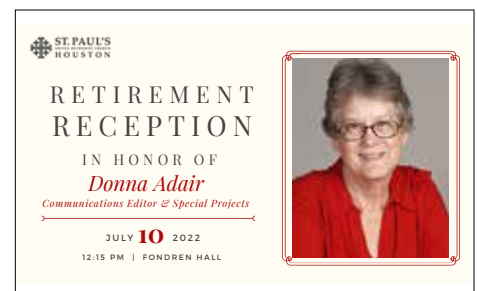
Among the Choral Scholars who are now music educators are head choir directors Greg Goedecke at Porter HS in New Caney, and Lauren Lafferty at Legacy HS in Mansfield.



ST. PAUL'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
HOUSTON

WELCOME RECEPTION
REV. TREY BURNS
DISCIPLESHIP PASTOR
JULY 3 2022
9:30- 11 AM | PARLOR

"Meet" Rev. Trey Burns on Page 7.



ST. PAUL'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
HOUSTON

RETIREMENT RECEPTION
IN HONOR OF
Donna Adair
Communications Editor & Special Projects
JULY 10 2022
12:15 PM | FONDREN HALL

"Say Good-bye" to Donna Adair on Page 7.

The Restoration Team in Action this Summer

Help make a difference with The Restoration Team this summer. Two Opportunities: Saturdays, July 9 and August 13, from 9 am to 2 pm.



Projects can be as varied as mucking, demolition, hanging insulation and sheet-rock, taping and floating, carpentry, flooring, and painting.

No experience is required; it is fun, and you learn skills as you

work. Team leaders will be on site to help you make a difference.

The team will resume regular first Saturday of the month work in September.

For more information or to sign up, email Rev. Nataly Negrete via nataly@stpaulshouston.org.

St. Paul's Family

New Members.

Welcome these new members to St. Paul's Family who joined on June 4, 2022: Josh Miller and the Walley Family of Debbie, Ken, and Tripp.

Births.

Congratulations to Beth and Jim Wiggins on the birth of their granddaughter, Emilia Rios, born June 9, 2022, in Houston. Parents are Louise and Luis Rios.

Congratulations to Cindy Snow on the birth of her grandson, Daniel Riley Snow, born June 13, 2022, in Fort Riley, KS. Parents are Alison and Drew Snow.

Baptism.

Amanda and Andrew Wolfe presented their son, John Hudson

Wolfe, born February 5, 2022, for the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on June 19, 2022.

Flowers.

The flowers on the altar on June 5, 2022, were placed to the glory of God by Pat and Jim Walzel in celebration of their 63rd wedding anniversary on May 31.

The flowers on the altar on June 12, 2022, were placed to the glory of God in loving memory of Mary Lou and John Margrave by their children, Karen and David, and their families.

Death.

Deepest sympathy to Linda and Jeff Klemm on the death of Jeff's sister, Linda Buttram, who died on May 30, 2022, in Las Cruces, NM.



Debbie and Ken Walley



Josh Miller

Summer Art Tent

This summer, St. Paul's Art Tent program is offering take-away Art Kits that include art supplies, a snack, and hopeful messages for our homeless neighbors.

When cooler temperatures return in October, the Art Tent program will return with weekly art-making opportunities for Emergency Aid Coalition clients and volunteer participants.

The fall Art Tent Orientation for volunteers will be on Wednesday, September 28. To volunteer or help provide supplies contact hspaw@stpaulshouston.org.



Who to Contact for What

To reach any staff, call 713-528-0527 or email info@stpaulshouston.org, and your message will be forwarded. For these specific situations, you may wish to contact these people through these means: To notify the church of births, deaths, or hospitalizations, please contact Sarah Patlan via 713-528-0527 or spatlan@stpaulshouston.org.

To schedule baptisms or flowers for the altar or Narthex, contact Dawn Uebelhart via 713-528-0527 or dawn@stpaulshouston.org.

To schedule a funeral, contact Rev. Andrew Wolfe via 713-528-0527 or awolfe@stpaulshouston.org and see www.stpaulshouston.org/funerals.

To schedule a wedding at St. Paul's, email Betty Rennell via bettyrennell@gmail.com and see www.stpaulshouston.org/weddings

Circle of Light

A new circle for women will meet on Thursday, July 14, from noon to 1 pm on the fourth floor of the Sanctuary building.

All women are invited to connect with their own inner guidance, creativity, and peace in a supportive community for sharing and growing. The group will share spiritual, awareness, mindfulness, and intentionality practices, exploring through meditations and creativity exercises.

For more information or to RSVP, please email Helen Spaw via hspaw@stpaulshouston.org



Tour Sanctuary Sunday, July 17, at 9:45 am

Tour the Sanctuary, including the choir loft, on Sunday, July 17, at 9:45 am. Learn about the architectural beauty and rich history of St. Paul's through a docent-led tour of the Sanctuary. This tour for all interested will conclude in the choir loft with a brief organ performance.



Choral Evensong Service July 17 at 4 pm

Choral Evensong Service sung by St. Paul's Choir. Sunday, July 17, at 4 pm in the Sanctuary. This will be the last Evensong Service before the Choir leaves for England when they will be in residence at Truro Cathedral in Cornwall from July 25 to 31 and also sing Evensong at St. Paul's Cathedral in London on Monday, August 1.

Labyrinth Society

Re-Forming

The Labyrinth Society will meet on Tuesday, July 12, at 1 pm in the Parlor.



All who are interested in building the labyrinth community are invited to attend and help make plans for labyrinth workshops, walks, and other events.

For more information, email hspaw@stpaulshouston.org

Blood Drive

Sunday, July 17

9 am to 1:30 pm

Activity Center

Schedule your donation appointment through www.commitforlife.org/donor/schedules/geo

Disaster Readiness

St. Paul's is part of Texas Congregational Disaster Readiness, a comprehensive, collaborative, and coordinated action plan that will change the landscape of disaster relief. (www.txcdr.org)

To help plan prepare and organize for the next disaster response, or if you need help in the next disaster, please contact Rev. Nataly Negrete via nataly@stpaulshouston.org

Coffee with the Pastors

SUNDAY, JULY 10 @ 9:45 AM

IN THE JONES BUILDING LOBBY



Pictures of St. Paul's in June 2022

Despite the specter of COVID hanging around, St. Paul's came together in many ways throughout June. From the top left of this page to bottom right next page, pictures on these two pages show St. Paul's Family celebrating Pentecost with popsicles on June 5; our Youth in mission with U.M. ARMY in Gulfport, MS, from June 12 to 18; our Treble Choir members at the Royal School of Church Music Gulf Coast Course from June 13 to 19; musicmakers at St. Paul's Music Camp "Pipe Up and Sing" from June 20 to 24; and St. Paul's Family at the PRIDE Picnic on June 26.





Summer for St. Paul's Children and Youth

After no Vacation Bible School (VBS) in 2020 and a smaller version in 2021, this year's VBS is back to normal, though a virtual option also will be offered. And, St. Paul's offered a children's music camp for the first time in several years. (See page 5 for Music Camp pictures.)

And after two summers of activities curtailed by COVID, St. Paul's Youth also are having a full summer, including some new opportunities. (See page 4 for U.M.ARM.Y pictures.) Check the schedule below, and see where you can participate.

VBS 2022: *Knights of North Castle*

Armor up with God this summer as the Vacation Bible School (VBS) *Knights of North Castle* explore the power God gives us to demonstrate Truth, Justice, Peace, Faith, and Salvation.

Monday-Friday, August 1-5, from 9 am to 12:15 pm for children from age 4 years through 5th grade (as of 9/1/21). Younger children of volunteers also may attend.

Through timeless Bible stories and the excitement of the quest theme, this summer's VBS invites children to be strong in the Lord and in the strength of God's power by exploring how we put on the armor of God.

Register online through www.stpaulshouston.org/vbs. Please be sure to use the correct form for your situation:

- Children, including virtual (age 4 as of Sept 1, 2021)
- Adult volunteers
- Youth volunteers
- Volunteers' children (childcare for volunteers' children under age 4 as of Sept. 1, 2021)

For more information, contact Rev. Kate Flint via kflint@stpaulshouston.org.

Optional Afternoon Sports Camp after VBS

An optional Sports Camp is available after Vacation Bible School (VBS), operated by Armored Sports, a Christ-centered sports camp for children.

After VBS, children will be escorted to sports camp, and the Armored staff will have lunch with them. After lunch, everyone will transition into Sports Camp mode until 4 pm pick up.

Cost is \$115/child/week. To register, please go to www.armored-sports.com/camps/stpaulsumc.

For more information about Children's Ministry or Music, contact Associate Pastor for Children Rev. Kate Flint via kflint@stpaulshouston.org or Children's Music Director Susie Vanlangdingham via susie@stpaulshouston.org.

For more information about Youth Ministry or Music, contact Director of Youth Ministries Tiffin Wilsford via tiffin@stpaulshouston.org, or Associate Director of Youth Ministries Julianna Reeves via jreeves@stpaulshouston.org, or Associate Music Director and Organist Joel Trekell via jtrekell@stpaulshouston.org.



Vacation Bible School (VBS) and Youth Week

August 1-5. Youth help with VBS in the morning, then go on Youth outing in the afternoon. \$25/day for afternoon activities.

S.P.Y. Academy

- July 11-17. New this year! An intentional, spiritual community created with youth who have completed grades 8-12. Youth will grow deeper in their understanding of the Bible and the United Methodist Church, learn how to plan and lead worship services, and help discern their calling. (S.P.Y. = St. Paul's Youth).
- \$20/day for program outings and meals.

Additional Youth Summer Activities

In addition to the week-long events listed above, these summer opportunities will be available on the dates indicated. They are open to all St. Paul's Youth and their friends who have completed the sixth through the 12th grades:

- **Sunday School.** Sunday mornings at 9:45 am in the Youth Center.
 - **Sunday Lunch Brunch.** Sundays: July 10 and 31. Attend 11 am service together, then go to lunch as a group.
 - **Midweek Get-Togethers.** Wednesdays: July 6 and 27. 5:30 to 8 pm. Evenings begin with Selah in the chapel followed by discussion, a light meal, and recreation.
 - **Friday Fun/Service Days.** Fridays: July 8 and 29, from 9 am to 4 pm. Meet at church for a service project, lunch, and something fun.
 - **Summer Trip Finale.** Sunday, August 7, to Tuesday, August 9, to Schlitterbahn New Braunfels.
 - **Back-to-School Bash.** Sunday, August 28.
- Youth is not meeting on Sunday evenings this summer.

Joyful Noise. This music assembly for children from age 3 to 2nd grade continues through the summer at 9:45 am Sundays in the Jones Building and via Zoom.

Welcome Rev. Trey Burns Sunday, July 3

On July 3 we will welcome Rev. Trey Burns as Associate Pastor for Discipleship with a reception in the Parlor from 9:30 to 11 am. He also will be in worship that Sunday.

A 2017 graduate of Perkins School of Theology, SMU, he has served as pastor of Whitehouse UMC in Whitehouse near Tyler and associate pastor at Faith UMC in Spring.

He grew up in Bellaire, attending Bellaire UMC with his family. While at Rice University where he studied history and psychology, he participated in the Wesley Foundation ministry led by Rev. Emily Chapman when she was an associate pastor at St. Paul's.

To get to know him a bit better, here are few of his favorite things:

- **Favorite restaurant(s)?** Morningside Thai (but literally anything South or Southeast Asian is my jam)
- **Coffee or tea?** Tea
- **Favorite dessert/treat?** On the reg — Bluebell Milk & Cookies. Special Occasions — lemon chess pie
- **Do you have any food allergies/restrictions?** Nope!
- **Are you an early bird or night owl?** Night owl

- **Do you have a pet? If yes, tell us more.** I have 1 dog. Her name is Faith. She's an Aussie Shepherd Rottweiler rescue, and she's the sweetest dog that ever lived!



Rev. Trey Burns
Associate Pastor for Discipleship

- **Top three hobbies?** Running, lifting, and singing (especially in choirs)
- **Favorite indoor activity?** Cards/domino games (but simple ones, because I really just use games as a vehicle for talking)
- **Favorite outdoor activity?** Swimming (or really anything in the water)

- **Best way to relax?** Reading a good book by a window with a view
- **Favorite vacation/retreat spot?** On the reg: Galveston. Special Occasions: London
- **Favorite sports team(s)?** Yeah, I didn't really inherit the sports gene
- **Favorite concert venue/style of music?** Opera or musical theater — both are GREAT
- **Favorite book or author?** Nonfiction: anything Malcolm Gladwell. Fiction: *Wuthering Heights*
- **Favorite movie or TV show?** Movie: *The King's Speech*. TV Show: *Community*
- **Favorite holiday?** Easter (but like, the whole Triduum)
- **Favorite spiritual discipline/practice?** Praying the daily office
- **A cause/mission you care about?** Improving educational access in all communities
- **Something you've always wanted to do?** Take a retreat to Iona in Scotland
- **Something we should've asked you but didn't?** Most meaningful Scripture passage: Song of Songs 2:8-13, 16-17

Thanks for the Memories from Donna V. Adair

After writing about St. Paul's since 1985 (except for a few years elsewhere), it's time to say good-bye from my role as your editor.

Working at a church like St. Paul's — is any other church really *like* St. Paul's? — has been a privilege and blessing. Our family transferred here for our twin daughters to attend St. Paul's School, and the entire St. Paul's Family has nurtured us in many ways since then.

As your editor of the St. Paul's section of the former *United Methodist Reporter*

through to the St. Paul's *Weekly*, now *Monthly*, plus the *Chimes* weekly e-letter, I have striven to provide you with accurate information about the many wonderful opportunities that our clergy and staff plan for us to worship, learn, and serve.

After all the years of telling others about opportunities here and elsewhere, I'm looking forward to participating in more of them myself — starting with Vacation Bible School.

While saying good-bye from my editor's perch,

it is not good-bye to the St. Paul's community. I'll continue to work with Norman Mahan to produce the weekly Lectionary lessons that he augments with related art and produce the *Primetimers'* monthly newsletter. In addition, Rev. Nataly Negrete has asked me to chair the Green Team.

And, to those of you who are accustomed to my unofficial role as "reference librarian," my institutional knowledge won't suddenly go away. You can still call on me.

However, I will go away

physically for a time. Thanks to a generous gift from my daughter who lives there, I will be in Australia this fall.

I've been told that this will be the last publication in newsletter format. In whatever format, it is bound to be well-produced. As I transition away from my staff role, I think I'll most miss being part of a staff known for quality productions in whatever sphere. Also the view from my window and listening to musicians practice.

Thanks for the memories.

Looking Ahead

Primetimers:



Architectural History Tour of St. Paul's Neighborhood

by architectural historian Stephen Fox

Lunch at 11 am in Youth Center before the 2-hour bus tour begins.

Thursday, August 11 | 11 am | Begin in Youth Center

TO RSVP, EMAIL PRIMETIMERS@STPAULSHOUSTON.ORG BY AUGUST 9

Renowned architectural historian Stephen Fox will lead the Primetimers on an architectural history tour of the area around St. Paul's. This two-hour bus excursion will fan out from the church to examine the history, neighborhoods, and varied architecture of Houston's old South End, today's Midtown-Medical Center area. RSVP to primetimers@stpaulshouston.org by August 7.

Start "New Year" August 21

The new school year kicks off on Sunday, August 21, with Celebration/Promotion Sunday, complete with train rides for the children and the young at heart.

Children and youth move up to their next grade levels with the Youth welcoming the incoming sixth-graders to the Youth Center as they begin their year of Confirmation studies.

Rehearsals for the children's choirs — Wesley Singers (grades 1-2) and Choristers (grades-8) also begin that day. See www.stpaulshouston.org/childrenschoirs.

Appreciation Lunch

Near the beginning of the school year, St. Paul's will host an appreciation lunch for the teachers and volunteers at MacGregor elementary. To learn more or help, email Association Pastor of Missions Rev. Nataly Negrete via nataly@stpaulshouston.org or MacGregor Mentors Coordinator Bob Mahlstedt via rmahlst488@aol.com

Mental Health Matters in the Church

One in five U.S. adults experiences mental illness, and people who do experience mental health concerns often turn first to a faith leader.

To equip St. Paul's faith leaders with the tools to recognize the signs of mental illness, develop effective situational responses, and learn to quickly connect those in distress with professional care, a training session will be held on Sunday, August 28, from noon to 2 pm.

All church members are invited to this training conducted by Gateway to Hope. To indicate your interest in attending, contact Helen Spaw, Associate Director of Adult Faith Formation, via hspaw@stpaulshouston.org.

Clinic to Expand Hours in September

The UH Telehealth Clinic at St. Paul's will be open on Thursdays as well as Mondays, starting in September. Previously open half days on Mondays, the hours for both days will expand to 8:30 am to 3:30 pm.

Currently serving individuals age 13 and up, in order to also serve children, the clinic is seeking a nurse practitioner for pediatric care.

These expanded hours and services are being made possible by a \$500,000 grant from the Bert and Mae Dean Wheeler Foundation.

This clinic, which functions in Abraham Station that also houses the Emergency Aid Coalition, is becoming the medical home for people experiencing homelessness. The clinic's nurse practitioners in telecommunications with a medical doctor provide basic medical care and screening

Rutabaga After-School Program Moving

To accommodate clinic's expanded hours, the Rutabaga After-School Program, which has been housed in Abraham Station for many years, will move to the Jones Building Basement where the GROW 3rd-5th-grade Sunday School classes also meet.

The Children's Council is working with a decorator and a team of volunteers to give the basement a fresh look with new flooring and updated design.

Dadurday returns in September.

For more about this fun time for St. Paul's dads and their small children together in a neighborhood park, email awolfe@stpaulshouston.org.

Plan Your Aging Journey

The key to aging well is planning the aging journey, and Amazing Place offers a free, four-week, two hours per week program — *Aging Solo* — to help make that plan.

Topics include getting documents in order, defining a support network, and determining the next steps.

This will be offered at St. Paul's on Tuesdays, August 25 to September 8, from 10 am to noon.

For more information, please contact Mehrnaz Gill, MSG at mgill@amazing-placehouston.org.

To register, please go to www.amazingplacehouston.org/community-education/aging-solo.

Save the Date

October 26 @ 7 pm

Kate Bowler: New York Times best selling author, Duke professor, and "incurable optimist."

For more about her and her work please see www.katebowler.com