

JULY 2021

Franciscan

a monthly publication of
St. Francis Episcopal Church



Today, July 1st, the Feast of Pauli Murray, is the one year anniversary of my ministry with you. I am grateful to share this date with a hero of mine. I want to share some of their story with you here.

Durham native the Rev. Dr. Pauli Murray was the first African-American woman ordained to the Episcopal priesthood. In 2012, she was named to *Holy Women, Holy Men* by the 77th General Convention of the Episcopal Church and thus became an Episcopal saint. According to her entry, "Growing up as a mixed-race person in the South, [Murray] became an advocate of 'the universal cause of freedom,' and throughout her life she worked tirelessly and with distinction as a lawyer, an advocate for civil and labor rights and feminism through her legal writings, essays and poetry."

Born in 1910, Pauli's own journey to the priesthood was long and winding, especially because until late in her life, ordination wasn't available to her. When Pauli's Aunt Pauline died in 1955. Pauli read to her on her deathbed from *The Book of Common Prayer*. Pauli's autobiography states, "Yet for a long time after her death I felt an incompleteness, as if I had somehow failed her, and I kept asking myself why, in the ultimate crisis of a devout Christian life, I was called upon to render the service that I then believed was authentic only when performed by an ordained member of the clergy. I would wrestle with that question over and over before finding an answer."

In the meantime Murray "articulated the intellectual foundations of two of the most important social-justice movements of the twentieth century: first, when she made her argument for overturning Plessy, and, later, when she co-wrote a law-review article subsequently used to convince the Supreme Court that the Equal Protection Clause applies to women."

Despite her success and considerable impact on civil rights her wrestling with a call to the priesthood remained. Pauli walked out of St. Mark's in NYC in the middle of the Sunday service because she could no longer tolerate the sight of only boys and men filling all the roles except choir member. "The intensity of this assault at the deepest level of my devotional life produced a crisis in faith," she wrote.

She consulted with a priest regarding a possible call to ordination. "Once I admitted the call of total commitment to service in the church, it seemed that I had been pointed in this direction all my life and that my experiences were merely preparation for this calling." Murray was subsequently ordained with the first group of women, known as the "Philadelphia Eleven."

She later preached. "Whatever future ministry I might have as a priest, it was given to me that day to be a symbol of healing. All the strands of my life had come together. Descendant of slave and of slave owner, I had already been called poet, lawyer, teacher, and friend. Now I was empowered to minister the sacrament of One in whom there is no north or south, no black or white, no male or female – only the spirit of love and reconciliation drawing us all toward the goal of human wholeness."

Like Pauli, I have been grateful for all the ways I have been able to bring the strands of my life together in ministry with you. This is a calling I've felt all my life pointing towards. I am excited for what my second year in ordained ministry holds and the privilege of being able to offer you the sacrament of Christ's body and blood that unites us across difference and in mission proclaiming the love of God to an uneasy world.

"A Publication of St. Francis Episcopal Church—'Proclaiming the Good News in word and deed.'"

Liturgy Corner: Participating in the Global Communion of Churches

Beginning Sunday, July 25th, the ninth Sunday after Pentecost and for the four Sundays following, the gospel readings are from John exploring Jesus Christ as the bread of life. You are likely familiar with the primary words used in our liturgy in both Rite I & Rite II at the breaking of the bread, what is called the fraction anthem.

*Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

The *New Zealand Book of Prayer*, the New Zealand equivalent to the Episcopal *Book of Common Prayer*, uses the following words for the fraction anthem, putting an emphasis on this theme that Jesus is the bread of life.

*Christ's body was broken for us on the cross.
Christ is the bread of life.*

We will be using the Eucharistic Prayer from the *NZBP* during these five Sundays when we celebrate that Christ is the Bread of Life. Praying this liturgy is an opportunity for us to remember that we are part of a global communion of Anglicans who are part of the Jesus movement, of which our branch is the Episcopal Church. A prayer from the *BCP* requests of God... *Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of fellowship, and show us your presence in those who differ most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made perfect in our love for all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

One of the treasures of being in the fellowship of the Anglican communion is the treasure trove of prayer books adapted for their particular time and place that offer us new ways to grow in the knowledge of God's love and to approach God in prayer.

The *NZBP* prayers follow the same essential structure as the *BCP*, but the text has been adapted particularly for the people of New Zealand. The chair of their liturgical commission writes that "*A New Zealand Prayer Book* belongs to our environment and our people, reflecting the importance of ecology and environmentalism, the identity of indigenous peoples, principles of treaties between indigenous peoples and the British, equal partnership between women and men, and the centrality of lay ministry." Their prayers reflect this increasing recognition of the ministry of all the baptized people of God ministering in God's name. We know that we can function as more effective disciples in the world when there is no sharp division between those with different functions within the Church. Through their insights we come to new understandings of who God is, and how God acts, among us in our world.

The intention of using these prayers for five weeks is to extend, not break, the richness of our heritage. New words and new voices encourage the exploration of new ways of acting liturgically. The editors of the 1928 version of the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer understood this principle.

We are living in a new world: it is ours, if we are true to the faith that is in us, to seek to make it a better world. ...New knowledge and new ways of life bring with them new customs and forms of speech unknown before. [Preface to the 1928 Book of Common Prayer]

Praying with the *NZBP* for a season reminds us that we can discover new ways to worship our God, who creates, redeems and gives us life. As in the words of the *NZBP*, in our worship let us look expectantly to a *new day, new joys, new possibilities.*

JULY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Barbershop Singers 7:00 pm Alanon 7:30 pm	2 Jazzercise 4:45 pm	3
4 Sunday School 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 10:30 am Summer Performing Arts	5 Jazzercise 4:45 pm	6 Jazzercise 4:45 pm Boy Scouts 6 - 7:00 pm	7 Bible Study 10:30 am Jazzercise 4:45 pm	8 Barbershop Singers 7:00 pm Alanon 7:30 pm	9 Jazzercise 4:45 pm	10
11 Salon Series 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 10:30 am Summer Performing Arts	12 Jazzercise 4:45 pm	13 Zoom Morning Prayer 7:30 am Jazzercise 4:45 pm Boy Scouts 6 - 7:00 pm Vestry Meeting 7:00 pm	14 NO Bible Study Jazzercise 4:45 pm	15 Barbershop Singers 7:00 pm Alanon 7:30 pm	16 Jazzercise 4:45 pm	17
18 Salon Series 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 10:30 am Summer Performing Arts	19 Jazzercise 4:45 pm	20 Zoom Morning Prayer 7:30 am Jazzercise 4:45 pm Boy Scouts 6 - 7:00 pm	21 NO Bible Study Jazzercise 4:45 pm	22 Feast Day of Mary Magdalene 6:30 pm Alanon 7:30 pm	23 Jazzercise 4:45 pm	24
25 Salon Series 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 10:30 am Summer Performing Arts	26 Jazzercise 4:45 pm	27 Zoom Morning Prayer 7:30 am Jazzercise 4:45 pm Boy Scouts 6 - 7:00 pm	28 Bible Study 10:30 am Jazzercise 4:45 pm	29 Barbershop Singers 7:00 pm Alanon 7:30 pm	30 Jazzercise 4:45 pm	31

July Birthdays

Mike Kock on July 14

Anysia Catalan on July 14

Augusto Catalan on July 16

Virginia Culp on July 19

Kate Hamilton on July 21

Loretta Stockstill on July 24

David Culp on July 24

If your name does not appear on our birthday or anniversary list, please contact the church office.



Praying the Daily Offices

Join together every Tuesday morning on Zoom to pray Rite II Morning Prayer. On days that include a commemoration we will remember the holy women and holy men who have gone before us in the faith.

All are welcome to join. The Zoom link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85912344872>

Meeting ID: 859 1234 4872

Morning Prayer starts at 7:30 am and typically lasts thirty minutes. The Zoom Link is recurring and can be used weekly. Bulletins will be provided in the Zoom Chat Box but all services can be joined using a Book of Common Prayer.

7/6 (NO MORNING PRAYER)

7/13 Conrad Weiser

7/20 Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Amelia Bloomer, Sojourner Truth, & Harriet Ross Tubman

7/27 William Reed Huntington

Holy Eucharist on the Feast Day of Mary Magdalene
Thursday, July 22 at 6:30 pm
Memorial Garden (Will hold indoor in the event of rain)

July 22 traditionally marks the feast day of St. Mary Magdalene, observed by Anglicans as well as Lutheran, Roman Catholic, and Eastern Orthodox churches.

All four gospels name Mary as one of the faithful women who went mourning to the tomb to care for Jesus' body. In Eastern Orthodox tradition, Mary is honored as one of the Myrrh-Bearing Women, called Equal to the Apostles. Her weeping for the loss of Jesus strikes a common chord with our grief over the death of loved ones, just as Jesus wept at the death of Lazarus. Jesus' tender response to her grief—revealing himself to her in the garden by calling her name—makes her the first witness to the resurrection. He commissions her: "Go to my brothers and sisters and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." Then as the first messenger of the resurrection, she began to fulfill her responsibilities as an Apostle by telling the other disciples, "I have seen the Lord" (John 20:17-18). Her ministry of service, companionship, and evangelical witness to the crucifixion and resurrection, has long been an example of the faithful ministries of women to Christ.

Join us for this 45 minute outdoor Holy Eucharist service as we commemorate Mary Magdalene, giving thanks for her witness that Jesus overcame death.

**ST FRANCIS' SUMMER PERFORMING
ARTS PROGRAM**

The Summer Performing Arts Program has begun and will go through **August 22**, we will have parishioner volunteers share a gift of their talents before the Offertory on Sunday mornings. Whether you sing, do a dramatic reading or poem, perform liturgical dance or play an instrument, we want to hear from YOU. This offering can be done singly or as a group.

There is now a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex, and please speak with me for any questions or concerns. Thank you! Donna Sprowles, Choir Director.



Parish Photos



All parishioners are invited to come photo ready on **July 25** and **August 8**, immediately following the service. A photographer will be taking photos for a St. Francis' updated photo board.

Digital copies can be provided for yourself, friends, and family upon request.

Mini Refreshment Time

Now that the weather has warmed up, we're trying to reinstate the small cart refreshments outside after church; and we need help. If you could take a turn, please let Ginny Culp know. She can be reached at (937) 409-2893 or vculp@sprynet.com.



Serving Our Neighbors at Canterbury Court

Tuesday, July 6, 10:30 am.

St. Francis is providing lunch and dessert for the residents of Canterbury Court (An Episcopal retirement home in West Carrollton) and we need your help. Meet at Canterbury Court at 10:30 am to serve lunch, fellowship with residents and clean up. Please let Mary Harris know if you will be joining us at (937) 672-7993.

Monthly Food Donations Drive

On Thursday, July 10 from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm at Christ Church United Methodist South Campus in Dayton will be holding a food drive for the Springboro Community Assistance Center who is desperately in need of donations.

If you would like to donate any food items you have to Christ Church United Methodist South Campus, please drop them off at 10227 Dayton Lebanon Pike, Dayton, OH 45458, Phone: (937) 293-3151 ext. 181. Please come and show your support!

BACK TO
SCHOOL
SUPPLY
DRIVE



Outreach Ministry Program

Each month for Ingathering Sunday, there will be certain items that need to be collected. For **July 18 to August 15** please collect any items for the **back to school supplies** and place them in the container in the Narthex.

Outreach Ministry Jars

Please look for jars around the church to throw your loose change in. They will be located on the table in the Foyer, near the coffee pots in the kitchen, and on the table during coffee hour. The donations for **July 18 to August 15** will help to pay for **back to school supplies**.

Summer Salon Mini-Series: Episcopal ABC's

Sunday, July 11, 18, & 25
9:30 - 10:15 am in the Library
All ages welcome

Join together for this three week mini-series where we will explore the history, theology and practice of the Episcopal Church (TEC). This fun and engaging conversation style presentation will be informative if you are new to the church or could use a refresher on all things Episcopalian.

July 11 - Anglican History & Communion How does the history of the church impact us today? What does it mean to be part of the Anglican tradition? What are the gifts of the wider Anglican communion that we can enjoy?

July 18 - Book of Common Prayer How'd the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) come about? How do we use it corporately? How can you use the BCP in your own devotional life?

July 25 - The Episcopal Church What makes TEC distinct as a church from protestant or Catholic traditions? What has informed our contemporary practice of worship? What does it mean to be "The Episcopal Branch of the Jesus Movement?"



READING BETWEEN THE LINES

God Of Our Fathers, Whose Almighty Hand H1982 #718



Six years before his death, Daniel Roberts (1841-1907) wrote, "I remain a country parson, known only within my own small world". This hymn was written while he served a rural church in Brandon, Vermont. He wrote it in 1876 to commemorate the 100th birthday of the Declaration of Independence, and it was sung for the first time at Brandon's Fourth of July celebration.

Because the people of Brandon so liked the hymn, Roberts submitted it to the committee planning the Constitution's centennial celebration. The committee chose it as the official hymn for the occasion and sent it to the organist at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in New York City to compose an original tune. The new tune, which was written by George William Warren (1828-1902), and called National Hymn, was given a dramatic trumpet fanfare which helped to make this hymn unique.

"They did not conquer the land with their swords; it was not their own strong arm that gave them victory. It was your right hand and strong arm and the blinding light from your face that helped them, for you loved them."

~ PSALM 44:3

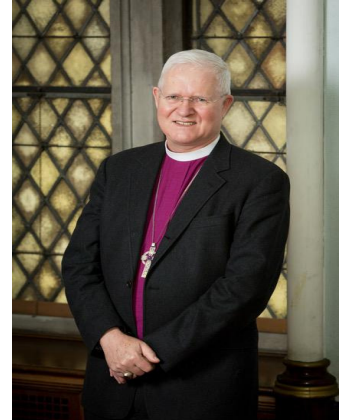


“It’s our connection to God and each other that gives meaning to our lives.”

Dear friends in Christ,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

In our last communication, we shared summaries of the data and perspectives we have gathered from our diocese. The shortest way to summarize what we learned is that while the Diocese of Southern Ohio has a great deal to celebrate, we also have some work to do before we are ready to begin the search for our next diocesan bishop. We will soon share benchmarks that we have developed to help us know when we believe our diocese is ready for this work. For now, we believe that our diocese will benefit from the leadership of a provisional bishop. A provisional bishop has the same ecclesiastical authority and status as a diocesan bishop but serves for a time-limited period. For those of you who know about parishes, a diocesan bishop is like a rector, while a provisional bishop is like a priest-in-charge.



For our diocese to call a provisional bishop, three things must happen. The Standing Committee must identify a bishop who has the necessary qualifications and skills. Then the Standing Committee must consult with the Presiding Bishop’s office on the choice. Finally, the Diocesan Convention must act on the selection. We are pleased to say that after conversations with several bishops, we have identified a superb leader to serve in our diocese. We are recommending that the convention act on the nomination of the Right Reverend Wayne Smith as our provisional bishop. Bishop Smith most recently served as Bishop of Missouri from 2002 to 2020.

Born in Abilene, Texas, Smith grew up in Tuscola, a small town in the nearby farm and ranch country. He studied at Baylor University (BA and MA), Nashotah House (MDiv), and Sewanee (DMin) and was ordained deacon and priest in the Diocese of Northwest Texas. Beginning his parish ministry there, he also served in Western Michigan and Iowa. After thirteen years as rector of St. Andrew’s, Des Moines, Smith was elected Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese of Missouri in 2001 and ordained bishop in 2002. Later that year he was seated as the Tenth Bishop of the Diocese, where he served until 2020.

He and his spouse Debra Morris Smith, married for forty-four years, live in St. Louis. They have three adult children, all married, and three grandchildren. Smith has served the wider Church on various boards and commissions and has chaired legislative committees for the General Convention. For rest and recreation Smith likes to read, walk, bake bread, collect vintage fountain pens, and FaceTime with children and grandchildren. The Smith household includes an aging cat, Dora, and a Kerry Blue Terrier, Molly. Bishop Smith will, of course, live in our diocese during his time as provisional bishop.

You will be able to meet Bishop Smith when he comes to our diocese for a meet-and-greet opportunity at the Procter Center on July 10. This event will be live streamed and recorded for those who cannot attend in person. Watch for more details on this event to come. Later this week, you will receive a formal call for an online special session of the 146th Diocesan Convention to be held on Saturday, July 17. That notice will have all the details of the special session, including who votes and how to participate.

Pending action by Diocesan Convention, Bishop Smith will begin on August 15, 2021. On that date, Bishop Smith will become the Ecclesiastical Authority and we on the Standing Committee will return to our role as a council of advice for the bishop. Bishop Smith has spoken with Bishops Gibbs, Price, and Rivera, and they will continue to serve as assisting bishops. In this capacity, they will be able to join Bishop Smith in making visitations, doing confirmations, and providing pastoral care as bishops.

We are thrilled with this outcome. Our diocese is at an exciting moment as we build on our strengths and address our opportunities for learning and growth. In due course, once the necessary benchmarks are completed, we will appoint a search committee to begin the process leading to the search, election, and ordination of our next diocesan bishop. For now, our diocese will be in excellent hands with the leadership of Bishop Smith. Please do not hesitate to email us at standingcommittee@diosohio.org if you have questions or comments.

Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel the Diocese of Southern Ohio for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessings to you. We are yours faithfully, The Standing Committee
Mr. Larry Hayes, president, The Rev. Philip DeVaul, vice-president, Dr. James Allsop, The Rev. Dr. Ellen Cook, Mr. Barry Feist,
The Rev. Canon Scott Gunn

Christ Church Cathedral calls Owen Thompson as fourth dean

Upon the recommendation of the dean search committee, last evening the vestry of Christ Church Cathedral unanimously elected the Rev. Owen C. Thompson as the next dean. The appointment was also affirmed by Bishop Kenneth L Price, Jr. If he looks kind of familiar, Thompson is the son of late Russelle Cross Thompson and the late Rt. Rev. Herbert Thompson Jr., the eighth Bishop of Southern Ohio. He was ordained to the priesthood at Christ Church Cathedral in 2003 and has spent the last eighteen years in parish ministry in the Dioceses of Long Island and New York. He currently serves as Rector of Grace Church, Nyack. Thompson will begin his ministry at Christ Church Cathedral in early September.



Notice of Special Session of the 146th Convention of the Diocese of Southern Ohio

In a letter sent to the diocese on June 10, 2021, Convention Secretary Ann Sabo has made the announcement of the Standing Committee's call to hold a special session of the 146th Convention of the Diocese of Southern Ohio for the purpose of acting on the nomination of the Rt. Rev. George Wayne Smith as Provisional Bishop, effective August 15, 2021. The special session will be held electronically via Zoom on Saturday, July 17, 2021, beginning at 9 a.m.

The text of the letter follows:

Notice is hereby given that a Special Session of the 146th Convention of the Diocese of Southern Ohio has been called by The Standing Committee under Article VII of The Constitution of the Episcopal Church of Southern Ohio and will be held via Zoom at 9 a.m. on Saturday, July 17, 2021.

The business to come before the Special Session is an action to name the Right Reverend George Wayne Smith as Provisional Bishop of the Diocese of Southern Ohio effective August 15, 2021. The Diocese of Southern Ohio is authorized to name Bishop Smith as Provisional Bishop as an act of Convention pursuant to Title III, Canon 13, Section 1 of The Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church. The Standing Committee of the Diocese of Southern Ohio has consulted with Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and his representatives regarding this action to name Bishop Smith as Provisional Bishop, as required under Title III, Canon 13, Section 1. As Provisional Bishop, Bishop Smith would be authorized to exercise all the duties and offices of the Bishop of the Diocese until a permanent Bishop is elected and ordained.

Pursuant to The Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church of the Diocese of Southern Ohio the delegates and alternates who were elected or appointed for the Annual Convention held November 7, 2020, will serve as delegates and alternates for the Special Session on July 17, however, each Parish may appoint substitute delegates and alternates if the original delegates and alternates are not available to attend. In addition, all canonically resident Clergy in the Diocese of Southern Ohio are eligible to attend this Special Session.

For Parishes receiving this Notice, a list of the certified delegates to the 146th Convention for your Parish will be sent by a separate email to all clergy and wardens. If the individuals on the list are not able to attend the Special Session, please fill out a Change of Delegate Form (found on the convention website, www.dsoconvention.org) before July 10, 2021.

This Notice is being sent by the Secretary of the 146th Convention under Canon III of The Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church of the Diocese of Southern Ohio. June 10, 2021.

Yours Faithfully, Ann Sabo - Secretary of the 146th Convention

Saint Francis Episcopal Church
The Episcopal Church in Springboro
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WORSHIP TIMES

SUNDAYS AT 10:30 AM - HOLY EUCHARIST, EOW

SUNDAYS AT 10:30 AM - SUNDAY SCHOOL

TUESDAYS AT 7:30 AM - MORNING PRAYER ON ZOOM

WEDNESDAYS AT 10:30 AM - BIBLE STUDY

PRAYER FOR JULY

LORD OF JUSTICE AND PEACE, MAY I NOT PAUSE AT THE MARKED STONES OF THE BRAVE TO LEARN OF LIBERTY, BUT MAY I LOOK FOR THE OPPORTUNITIES THAT I MAY MEASURE UP TO BECAUSE OF THEM, AND DO MY PART TO KEEP THE PEACE AND SPREAD THE BLESSINGS OF OUR LAND. AMEN.

STAFF

Clergy Resident - The Rev. Jed J. Dearing

Senior Warden - Stephan Graham

Junior Warden - Joe Spangler

Vestry Clerk - Virginia Culp

Financial Secretary - Sue Starner

Parish Secretary - Alisha Minamyer

Choir Director - Donna Sprowles

Organist - Diana Graham

Sunday School Director - Jenny Catalan

Vestry Members - Stephan Graham, Jenny Catalan, Barb Roy, Chuck Oduah, Jack Emerson, Mary Harris, Ron Thomas, Kimmie Patti, and Virginia Culp.

