A Joyful Community of Faith



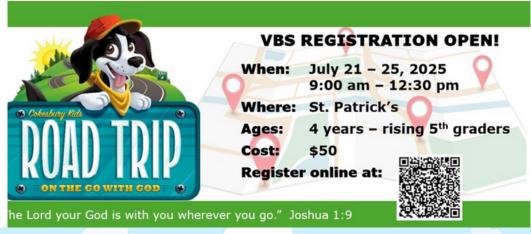
THE BREASTPLATE

The Newsletter of Saint Patricks Episcopal Church

Inside this issue:

Rector's Desk	2
Mo. Catherine's	3
Welcome	3
Spiritually Speaking.	4
Wellness Words	5
Arts & Crafts Fair	5
Bishop White Visit	6
High School Grads	6
College Grads	7
College Grads Bdays & Annys	
•	8
Bdays & Annys	8 8
Bdays & Annys Garage Sale Results	8 8
Bdays & Annys Garage Sale Results Children's Chapels	8 8 9
Bdays & Annys	8 9 9

VBS Road Trip: On the Go with God!



VBS Road Trip: On the Go with God

Join Scout the pup on a road trip with God! Get ready for twists, turns, and excitement as we face new challenges and find strength in God's presence on this unforgettable journey!

We will learn that God is with us whatever we go through: Bible Storytelling, Music, Crafts, Science, Games, Snacks, and more!

VBS Crew News

There are three training options for VBS adult and youth crew. Please mark your calendars to attend one of these trainings.

•Saturday, June 7 10:00 – 11:30 am •Monday, June 30 1:00 – 2:30 pm •Thursday, July 17 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Not yet a part of the VBS crew, but interested? Opportunities are available for youth (rising 6th graders and up) and adults. Please contact Eryn Kindelin to join the team!

VBS Donation Request

VBS is an amazing week where we get to invite kids into our church to learn about God's love! Our volunteers will transform the church into a place of wonder through decoration, science, music, games, snacks and creativity! If you are looking for a way to support VBS, we are asking for Cash and Gift Card donations, supplies from our amazon wish list, or providing breakfast for the crew. These are all great ways to thank our volunteers and create an unforgettable week for our campers. Please use the signup link/QR code below to sign up to support, or drop your cash/gift card donation in the lockbox at the donation station in the foyer. Preferred gift cards include: Costco, Amazon, Kroger,

Giant Eagle, Walmart, Etc. Get your fuel points, and grab a gift card to support a great cause! Thank you!! CLICK or scan QR code to sign up to donate.

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Giving Ourselves Over to Joy, Wonder, and Awe

I remember the stone. I had never worshiped in a stone church before, much less a Gothic style stone church. It was December of 1994, and I was pledging Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia fraternity. My big brother in the pledge process told me, "Be in front of the music building Friday evening. Dress Nice!" So, I dutifully put on my best Huxtable sweater (well...my only one) and pledge pin and was promptly in front of the music building on Friday night. I had no idea what was about to happen, but I assumed it was some sort of hazing thing. Well, my big brother's idea of hazing was to throw me and a couple of my fellow pledges in the back of his car and go to the Lessons and Carols service down at Sewanee: the University of the South.

This was my first experience of the Episcopal church. To say my 18-year-old backwoods Baptist head was swimming is an understatement. I had never been in a space like this, much less a sacred space like it. Then the choir started to sing. Oh! My! God! It was like the sound emerged from the very stones themselves. There was this strawberry blonde in the soprano section. I never met her—never even saw her ever again—but I swear I fell in love. I was overcome the whole night in wonder and awe.

We are on part four of our exploration of ten aspects of Anglican Identity: Giving Ourselves Over to Joy, Wonder, and Awe. This part of our identity is important because it takes humility to be awed. We have to recognize that there is something greater, something more than ourselves, to be awed. We have to rest in our limitations to wonder at the limitlessness of God. Ironically, we feel more joy in wonder and awe than we do in feeling greater than someone or something. I think the joy comes from being in the properly oriented relationship with God. God is God, and we are not. This is in stark contrast to our sinful tendency to think we are God. That's a disoriented positioning of self that distorts our relationships with God and each other. When we wonder, when we are awed, we remember—in our bones—that God is God and we are not. That realization resonates deep in our soul and brings us great joy.

Whether it's the music, the liturgy, the beautiful altar adornments at Christmas, or the compassion of the parishioner three pews over, our worship, learning, and service life together is filled with opportunities for wonder and awe. So, I invite you to give yourself permission to be awed, grace to wonder, and to be filled with the joy that comes from the limitless love of God.

God's Peace, Father Jason+

Page 3 The Breastplate

Mother Catherine's Corner

We will celebrate Pentecost on Sunday, June 8th. This feast day is profoundly significant to our faith as Episcopalians as it marks the day when the Holy Spirit was poured out upon early followers of Jesus. Traditionally, Pentecost marks the birth of the Church, a moment when God's Spirit descended like tongues of fire, empowering the disciples to boldly proclaim the Gospel and carry God's love into the world.

The Holy Spirit remains a vital force in our lives. Just as the Spirit gave clarity and strength to the early apostles, it continues to speak to us through Scripture, prayer, and the community of believers. When we listen to the Spirit, it inspires us to live with courage, boldness, compassion, and faithfulness, guiding our steps and fueling our ministry. If you feel God's presence with you in the day-to-day, that's the Spirit making itself known to you.

Sometimes, the Holy Spirit can guide you to places you didn't think you could go-- that is by design. Places where God leads us are greater than places where we could go alone. Whether we need comfort, direction, or courage, God's Spirit is always present and available, constantly trying to lead us closer to Christ and calling us to be witnesses of His love.

I wonder where the Holy Spirit is guiding you. I wonder if there's a gentle tug to something new, a truth you haven't been naming, a place it's been scary to go but that could be joy-filled and exciting. As a church community, what could we do with the power of the Holy Spirit as the wind in our sails, thinking of things that are greater and grander than seem possible on our own? I'd love to hear your answers and ideas.

Blessings,

Mo. Catherine+





St. Patrick's formally welcomed the following new members to the congregation in May: Andy & Carol Bensing, Andrew & Danielle Raymond and their children, Nicholas, Alexander & Victoria, Christa & Jennifer Carney, Joan Jones, and Debbie Sabo. Page 4 The Breastplate







Friendship with God

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing, but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me, but I chose you. [John 15:12-15]

Last month, we visited the 15th Chapter of the Gospel of John and Jesus as the True Vine. This month, we go a little further into that chapter, where Jesus speaks of friendship. And what of this word "friendship" that we see in this passage?

Willam S. Barry, S.J., in his book "A Friendship Like No Other: Experiencing God's Amazing Embrace" proposes that the best analogy for the relationship God wants with us is friendship.[1] He believes that God created us for friendship, because God "out of the abundance of divine relational life, not any need for us— desires humans into existence for the sake of friendship." This may be something new and challenging to a lot of people, as it was to me when I first heard it.

This idea of God's friendship with us is not new or unorthodox, but one that we can trace through ancient Scripture, from the Creation stories through God's choosing the Israelites to be the "bearers of promise" to the whole world, and God's fidelity to them when they were led astray into destruction and exile. While they are in exile, the prophet Isaiah writes in Chapter 43, "But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine...Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life."

How does it feel when you read these words, "I have called you friends", "I chose you", "You are precious in my sight", and "I love you" as directed from God to you, especially knowing the ways in which your life, like the Israelites and Jesus's disciples' lives, may have fallen short of what God wants for you? Finally, we can also look to our human and personal friendships as an analogy to our friendship with God. As I write this, I am blessed to be among friends. We travel some distance across the country to be with each other, accepting each other as we are, trusting each other with our vulnerabilities, and feeling at home together even if it has been months since we've seen each other. We recognize gifts in each other that perhaps we sometimes cannot see on our own. One friend pointed out that the Spirit speaks to each of us, and also taps our friends on the shoulder so that they might give a human voice to speak what needs to be said to each person.

How might you be experiencing God's desire for friendship? Are you spending time with God? And how might your personal friendships be mirroring the acceptance, love, and fidelity of God's friendship with you? The Easter lily in the picture stood as the symbol of welcome and the presence of the Risen Christ among us at my friend's home. May you be blessed with personal friendships and the friendship of God, **Kim Nelson**

[1] William S. Barry, A Friendship Like No Other: Experiencing God's Amazing Embrace,

Page 5 The Breastplate

Wellness Words

Wellness and Chronic Illness

The journey begins. Some turbulence ahead (think airplane journey) and time will be needed for individuals, family, and friends to grieve for a former life and allowed by transformation to create a new one.

The stages of grief: denial, anger, bargaining, depression and transformation are in the wings ready to come forward. We all experience denial when we hear sad news. "Oh no" said verbally or heartfelt is automatic. The first stage of grief. We begin to assess the loss as soon as we are able.

Denial takes many forms. Doing nothing, doing everything, and all things in between. Denial can delay achieving peace with a new situation. Self-care, when possible, can be helpful here.

Anger is a normal stage in the grief process. It is a common response to loss and there is no one correct way to handle it. The best we can do is be prepared and recognize that family and friends are grieving too. Bargaining? The trick is striking a balance between giving up the search to reclaim your previous life and to develop the changes you need to make now. A wholistic approach can be helpful.

Depression-reactive depression-is a response to an event or a loss. Initially, there may be unrealistic ideas for improvement. Self-care can be a little more complicated when someone is depressed, but it is a good strategy to aid improvement.

Acceptance is usually done out of necessity. It implies a refusal to let the change or illness be in control. New goals are set. Remember, goals should be specific, realistic, and measurable. Limitations are also acknowledged in this stage. Transformation begins when the individual, family and friends, while cherishing past memories, create a new future. Remember, all these steps are being followed by the person with the illness AND their family, friends and acquaintances. All of these people will be in different stages of the grief process. Being alert to feelings and behaviors can assist everyone to approach a potentially very sad situation positively and with recognition of the new road that lies ahead.

Prayers for peace and guidance are a major part of all the changes that are occurring. The airplane has landed.

Rose & Lissa

St. Patrick's Arts & Crafts Fair

We are gearing up for the Third St. Patrick's Arts & Crafts Sale. If you have a special talent, craft or art that you would like to showcase and support ministries, please consider signing up to become a donor or vendor. Donors sell their products and give all the proceeds to the ministry causes. Vendors rent a table to sell their work, donate one item for silent auction, and earn a little cash from sales. Volunteers work behind the scenes for set up, assist with the Meet the Artists evening, publicity, clean up, etc. It's a great opportunity to build community, make friends, and have fun.Last year we raised over \$2400 for Nursing Scholarships in Honduras and school scholarships for Ebola orphans in Liberia.

If you want to be involved, consider showcasing your work as a Donor, a Vendor, or as a Volunteer for this fun and creative event. Contact <u>Julie Myers</u> or <u>John Mascazine</u> for further detail and applications.



Confirmation and reception with Bishop White was a glorious occasion. Welcome to all those confirmed and received into fellowship of this Communion.

Youth Sunday was a wonderful day with Senior Sermon from Maddison Pittsenbarger and the youth participating in most aspects of the 9:30 liturgy! Kudos to our Youth Group and leaders!







Casey is a 2025 graduate of Middlebridge School in Rhode Island where she earned her high school diploma. In the fall, Casey plans to attend Kenyon College to study neuroscience. Casey is the daughter of Beth and Andy Landers.



Maddison is graduating from Dublin Jerome High School with an honors diploma. She is a valedictorian and a member of National Honor Society. Maddison will be attending Ohio Weslyan University in the fall with a dual major in astrophysics and mathematics. Maddison is daughter of Matt & Michelle and granddaughter of Val & Doug Pittsenbarger.

St. Patrick's College Graduates



Emma Hull graduated from Savannah College of Art and Design, DeSole School of Business with a Bachelor of Arts degree. She will be working f with L'Oreal Cosmetics in the Marketing Management Trainee Program in September in either New York City or Los Angeles. Emma is the daughter of Kim & Dan Hull.



Elizabeth Lewis graduated from West Virgina University with a Bachelors of Science in Psychology. She will be a Prevention Specialist at Fayette County Drug & Alcohol Commission and plans to continue her education in the future. Elizabeth is the daughter of Matt & Tawnya Lewis.



Kaydence Rasberry graduated from Ohio University with a bachelor's degree. She will be attending OSU in the fall to pursue a master's in human resources. Kaydee is the granddaughter of Steve & Carole Pearson.



Lindsay Novak competed her PhD in Social Psychology from the University of Illinois, Chicago. Lindsay is the daughter or Jane & Steve Keeran.

Not Pictured: Cam Rich has earned his Masters Degree from the Ohio State University in Food Science. He will be joining Abbott Labs in their research and development team in mid-May. Cam is the son of Chris & Katie Rich and the grandson of John & Louise Rucker.



Tim Yuhas graduated from Texas Christian University with an MBA in Marketing. Tim is the son of Ed & Jo Yuhas.

Page 8

David Alleshouse Jessie Barna Christy Breece Molly Carty Thomas Clark Reese Cline Rosemarie Deschler Michael Dietz Kathy Dunham Brandon Fox Jo Ann Freas **Evie Gates** Julie Gates Mark Hanes Joan Jones Bill Kamb Linda Kender

June Birthdays & Anniversaries

Noah Kindelin
Mathew LaMonica
Emily Lawrensen
Nicholas Lawrensen
Catherine Loveland
Betty Lyle
Bill Lyle
David Mayo
Shannon McCarthy
Charlie McDowell
Rosemary Moore
Julie Myers
Steve Norris
Dana Peacock
Ken Price
Alexander Raymond
Peggy Schildknecht

Evelyn Shields Janet Slack **Becky Stains** John Stains Liz Starns Mike Studebaker **Becky Swift** Amy VanDyke Nick von Sadovszky Caroline Wagner Jim Westman Ryan & Anna Brunswick Chris & Debbie Cline Stu & Jill Collins Jason & Jodie Emerson David & Jo Ann Freas Ben & Susan Givens

The Breastplate

Jim & Nancy Goddard
Susan & Jeff Jack
Jackie & David Jordan
Bill & Mary Lou Kamb
Joe & Laura Leach
Bill & Betty Lyle
Steve & Karla Norris
Lisa & Bernard Palchick
Doug & Val Pittsenbarger
Matt & Michelle Pittsenbarger
Ken & Mariann Price
Dan & Abby Rogowski
Alex & Becci Shields
Jenny & Marc Smith
John & Ann Wells



Garage Sale Update

Many, many thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of our 2025 Spring Garage Sale! We earned over \$14,500, the third best sales that we've tracked. The proceeds go to the building fund with a priority of air conditioning and fire suppression system repairs as well as the commitment of donating 10% to the Endowment Fund, another great ministry of St. Patrick's.

Along with that, this ministry provided outreach to a record of nine [9] organizations. With your donations, we were able to provide needed items to the Dublin Food Pantry, Friends of the Homeless, Catch Court, Buckeye Middle School, Star House Homeless Shelter, OSU Hospital's 4th Trimester Infant Clinic, Vista Village, Garden for All, and UA Homeless Outreach.

Focusing on creation care, the Garage Sale gives us the opportunity to declutter, and in doing so, reduce, reuse, and recycle items rather than add them to a landfill. Our volunteers pick up items that parishioners could not otherwise contribute.

We appreciate all who contributed in any way, from donations of items to food for the workers, you make this sale possible! It truly could not be done without you. Finally, a heartfelt thanks to the adults and youth who donated time and energy during the entire process. The Men's Group and others really increased the manpower and it was felt. Also, as in the past couple of sales, special gratitude to the eager Scouts from Troop 299.

It was a great opportunity for outreach, community building, and friendship-growing. Please consider joining us during our Fall Sale on October 3rd and 4th. There is no time like the present to start setting aside items!

Until then, Peace. - The Garage Sale Team

Page 9 The Breastplate



Thank you so much to our volunteers and parents who helped support a great year of children's chapel in our new format! We will take a summer hiatus beginning Memorial Day Weekend, and will resume following Labor Day. Please feel free to share any ideas, feedback or volunteer interest with <u>Jessica Randolph</u>. Thank you!





The Church office will be closed on Thursday, June 19th in celebration of Juneteenth.

Vestry Highlights - May 2025

The Vestry met on May 14, 2025, and covered a range of updates and initiatives for the life of our parish.

Parish Updates:

Father Jason shared a health update on Kati Glover, our communications minister. She is improving and there is hope. Amy O'Neill will be honored on Sunday, May 18, as she prepares to conclude her time on staff at the end of the month. A new administrator search is underway.

Planning Ahead:

Father Jason plans to take a sabbatical in Fall 2027 and is encouraging long-term planning with a vision of increasing our average Sunday attendance to 350 by the Fall of 2027. The Vestry discussed SMART Goals around three key areas:

- Mission & Vision: Improved communications and hospitality efforts.
- 25th Anniversary of the Sanctuary: Celebratory plans to be finalized by October.
- Outreach & Justice: Focus on immigration, LGBT inclusion, racial reconciliation, and local needs.

Facility News:

Repairs to the fire panel and sacristy air conditioning are moving forward. The Vestry voted to accept a bid from Worthington Air, with funding coming from the Garage Sale Fund. A roof replacement is anticipated within two years.

Financial and Administrative Matters:

The cost for CCD enrollment will be covered by the endowment. The treasurer's report and the minutes of the last meeting were both approved unanimously.

Please keep Kati and our church staff in your prayers as we navigate transitions and plan boldly for the future.

Page 10



Youth Group

Youth Group ended the program year with a number of activities including: prepping for the garage sale, preparing music, readings, and prayers of the people for Youth Sunday, trying out the new labyrinth, and celebrating at Scene 75 with glow in the dark putt putt and games. Check the YG News email for summer updates.

Grief Support

The Grief Support gathering will be Monday, June 16, 2025, at 6:30 pm in St. Patrick's library. Please consider joining us if you have lost your spouse or another significant member of your family for love, support, and understanding as we travel together this road called grief. We have added a Zoom link and will use the OWL if you wish to join us by Zoom. Please let Becky know you want to Zoom and she will send the link. Also contact Becky if you would like transportation to our gathering. Please contact Angel Cinco or Becky Stains with questions.



St. Patrick's had a long journey from establishing a mission in Dublin in 1981 to dedicating a sanctuary for the church on May 21, 2000. As I write, we are less than a week away from the 25th anniversary of that Sunday. Our worship space represents the faith and generosity of the people of St Patrick's, who saw the value of establishing a new parish in a developing suburb and building a permanent church home. This year, the vestry and stewardship team invite all St. Patrick's members and friends to celebrate the 25th anniversary of our sanctuary, with special events and activities beginning on Pentecost Sunday. We will celebrate the past, when traditions were established and foundations built, the present, as we joyfully serve our neighbors and worship God together, and the future, when Christ's church will continue through future generations. Just a taste of what's to come: our celebrations will include a history exhibit, an organ concert, and a celebratory mass and pledge ingathering on all Saints Sunday.

We're kicking things off this month with a donation drive benefitting our friends at the Dublin food pantry. Personal care items are in very high demand at the pantry, so we have an opportunity to snow love for our neighbors in need. These include toothbrushes, feminine pads, diapers, baby wipes, deodorant, adult diapers, and plastic shopping bags. You may drop donations off at the narthex on Sunday June 8 or Sunday June 15 or ship donations directly from our Amazon wishlist—look for this in upcoming Sunday bulletins. We invite you to donate in multiples of 25 in honor of the 25th anniversary it you are able. Whether you were a member of St Patrick's from the mission days or just joined our community recently, our 25th anniversary celebrations are for you! We are all one body in Christ, united across past, present, and future by our shared faith and by the Holy Spirit. And we can't wait to celebrate with you.



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Inside this Issue:

Graduates

Stewardship

VBS Donations

Garage Sale Follow-Up

