



# THE BREASTPLATE

The Newsletter of Saint Patricks Episcopal Church

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Since we had so much fun last summer, The kids are going to sew again! If you know a young person, 9 years old or older, who is interested in learning to sew, please contact us. We will find an appropriate date to meet. We will be making a Christmas project. Check your stash for holiday fabric [scraps will work] to donate. Thank you for encouraging the next generation of Sewists!

Becky Stains  
beckystains421@gmail.com

## Organ Concert

September 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm



## We Are One Body

St. Patrick's Sanctuary  
25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Join us for an evening of beautiful music featuring Jennifer Bell and guest organist Jeff McConnaughey. The program will include a selection of their personal favorites, ranging from contemporary hymn-based compositions to the timeless works of J. S. Bach.



SAVE the DATE !! Women's fall retreat, November 15th. Right here at St Patrick's to be lead by Miriam McKenney, diocesan missionary for beloved community. More details to come soon. Hope to see you there.



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Breastplate should be  
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As we return to our exploration of Anglican Identity, this month we turn our attention to a characteristic close to my heart: "Living a healthy, balanced life with God and in relation to others." It's close to my heart because it's a constant challenge for me. In a world that often pulls us in countless directions, finding equilibrium in our spiritual and communal lives is a constant, yet rewarding, endeavor.

One of the most profound guides in this pursuit is the 17th-century Anglican priest and poet, George Herbert. His exquisite verse, deeply rooted in personal experience and theological insight, offers a gentle yet powerful encouragement towards a life of integrated faith. Herbert's theology is not abstract; it is lived and breathed, full of the very human struggles and joys of faith.

Consider his celebrated poem, "The Pulley." Here, God pours out blessings upon humanity, holding back only "rest." The reason? So that we might constantly be drawn back to God, realizing our ultimate need for divine connection. This isn't about denying ourselves peace, but rather understanding that true rest and balance are ultimately found in God. Herbert reminds us that our earthly endeavors, even our good works and relationships, can become idols if they do not lead us to the Source of all good. A healthy life, in Herbert's view, begins with acknowledging our dependence on God and allowing God to be the center from which all other relationships flow.

Yet, Herbert's poetry is far from solely focused on individual piety. His work also beautifully illustrates the give-and-take of human relationships and the importance of service. In poems like "Love [III]," the divine love that meets us at the threshold invites us not only to partake but to serve. This is where balance truly takes shape: a life of prayer and contemplation fuels our capacity to love and serve our neighbors. We are called not to retreat from the world but to engage with it, bringing the grace we have received into our interactions.

Herbert's own life, as a devoted parish priest, embodied this balance. He was deeply committed to his parishioners, to the beauty of the liturgy, and to his spiritual discipline. His poetry reflects the rhythm of a life lived in intentional communion with God and active engagement with His people.

So, as we strive for a healthy, balanced life, let us take a cue from George Herbert. Let us cultivate a deep, abiding connection with God, understanding that true rest and purpose are found in God. And from that wellspring of divine love, let us flow outwards, nurturing our relationships and serving others with grace and compassion.

God's Peace,

Father Jason+  
Rector

## ***Mother Catherine's Corner***

Each year, from September 1 through October 4, the global church observes the Season of Creation, a sacred time when Christians across traditions pause to celebrate, lament, and recommit to the care of the world God has made. It is more than an environmental campaign; it is a time of sacred observance in which the beauty and vulnerability of earth become part of our prayers, preaching, and shared witness. In a season when the news so often emphasizes scarcity and loss, these weeks invite us to notice the holiness that persists in sunrises, rivers, neighborhood trees, and the neighbor whose life is most affected by ecological change.

Acknowledging creation is not peripheral to our theology, but rather central to who we are as people of faith. Scripture opens with God speaking the cosmos into being and closes with a vision of a renewed creation; between those bookends, Jesus is described as the one in whom all things hold together [Colossians 1:15–20] and Paul reminds us that creation itself waits with eager longing for redemption [Romans 8:19–22]. To care for creation is to observe God's fingerprints more carefully, to practice gratitude for gifts we did not make, and to live out the conviction that salvation has cosmic dimensions — restoration for all creation, not only human souls.

Observing the Season of Creation is both contemplative and concrete. To that end, we weave creation prayers and preaching into our Sunday services, offering a blessing to beloved animals, and plan to spend more time outside to be present to God's handiwork.

The overall aim of marking this season together is a deepening of our faith by seeing God's presence in the ordinary and fragile, engaging in an embodied and communal form of discipleship, and practicing a hope that commits to ecological repair and healing. I invite you to join in whatever way you can.

Warmly,

Mo. Catherine+



# **SEASON OF CREATION**

## Children's Chapel returns Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>!

We Hope Everyone has had a wonderful Summer! We can't wait to welcome everyone back to **Children's Chapel beginning Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> during the 9:30 service.** As a reminder, come directly to the children's chapel room when you arrive for a lesson, craft, and fun with friends then we will return to the service for communion. Children's chapel is open to our pre-K and elementary aged kiddos.

**KICK OFF PARENT MEETING:** We will host a welcome/kickoff immediately following the service on September 7<sup>th</sup> in the Children's Chapel. We will answer any questions you may have about Children's Chapel and share information for interested parent/youth volunteers!

**Children's Chapel is possible thanks to our volunteers!** If you are interested in volunteering this year, please sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0C4AA9A722A75-57520433-childrens> or reach out to Jessica Randolph [Jessica.L.Chambers@gmail.com] with any questions. Volunteers help welcome the kids, guide crafts and discussions and share our love for Jesus! We need one adult each week, but also welcome rising youth volunteers.

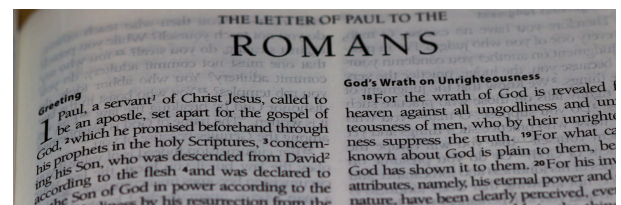


You can also use the QR code for a quick and easy way to sign up



## A Series on Paul's Letter to The Romans

You're invited! Mark your calendars now, because everyone is invited to read and discuss Paul's letter to the Romans in a four-part series on Sunday Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>, Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>, Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>, and Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>. This letter is considered to be the most significant letter in the history of Christianity. New Testament scholar N.T. Wright says that Paul's writings can "startle us, excite us, and puzzle us." Yes, this letter does that, and so much more, because it shares the good news of God's faithfulness and mercy to all people, embodied by Jesus. In our first session, we'll also be talking about who Paul was, his life's work, and the context in which he wrote. Bring your open minds and hearts to what promises to be a lively discussion of Paul's greatest letter. We'll meet in the sanctuary after the 9:30 service, from about 10:50 until noon. Reading Romans in advance will help you get the full benefit of our time together. Kim Nelson will facilitate.





Frances Alleshouse  
Laurie Anthony  
Pam Austin  
Betsy Barnhouse  
Aidan Behrens  
Rita Bowers  
Jim Bratton  
Amani Carew  
Laurah Carlson  
leif Carlson  
Lindsay Dawson  
Bob DeWeese  
Chad Dunham  
Jason Emerson  
Michelle Fox  
Michael Greenfield

Michael Greenfield  
William Gunthorp  
Jonie Gyorkey  
William Hamilton  
Suzanne Holiday  
Anderson Hoseus  
Jackie Jordan  
Jane Keeran  
Amanda Kennedy  
Laura Leach  
Meghan Magee  
Blair McGinnis  
Ellie Morgan  
Declan Mooi  
Pierson Mooi  
Tyler Norris

Francesca Oliveti  
Bernard Palchick  
Lynette Palmer  
Carole Pearson  
Michelle  
Pittsenbarger  
Ellie Randolph  
Ross Righter  
Debbie Sabo  
Corrina Seaborn  
Becci Shields  
Renee Stains  
Helena Von  
Sadovszky  
Lucas Weiss

David & Frances Alleshouse  
Bob & Mary Kay Arbogast  
Jim & Lisa Brown  
Dianne & Steve Clay  
David & Elisha Cofer  
Billy & Brenda Eddy  
Christian & Michelle Fox  
Fred & Kathleen Graff  
Kim & Nick Machesky  
Charlie & Nancy McDowell  
Amy & Peter O'Neil  
Danielle & Andrew Raymond  
Jan & Tim Redman  
David & Morgan Tiemstra  
Ed & Jo Yuhas





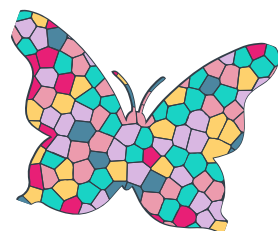
## Arts & Crafts Market - Nov. 7 & 8, 2025

**Calling all creative parishioners:** We invite you to participate in this fall's Arts & Crafts Market on Friday and Saturday, November 7 & 8 in the parish hall. We still need people willing to: donate their creations [**Donors**], sell their creations [**Vendors**], and **Volunteers** to help this event go smoothly.

We invite artists and creative parishioners to sell / donate their beautiful work which may include: paintings, fabric, wood, pottery / ceramics, baked goods, canned goods, etc.

**Funds raised will benefit Nursing Scholarships [in Honduras] and the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund.**

Please consider sharing your artistic gifts with our parish and neighborhood community. We'd also like it if you'd help spread the word about this event. For more information, please contact: Julie Myers [ [juliemyers14@aol.com](mailto:juliemyers14@aol.com) ] Becky Stains [ [beckystains421@gmail.com](mailto:beckystains421@gmail.com) ] or John Mascazine [ [twineducation@yahoo.com](mailto:twineducation@yahoo.com) ]



## Sacred Circle 1

Will be meeting on the second Tuesday of the month beginning on Tuesday, September 9 at 7:30 pm in the St. Pat's Library. We will be deciding at our first meeting the direction for our Spirit-filled discussions for this program year. All women are welcome to join us. If you have questions, please contact Val Pittsenbarger or Julie Righter. We look forward to a year full of sharing.



S-Share  
A-Abundance  
C-Care  
R-Real  
E-Engage  
D-Dedication

C-Concern  
I-Interest  
R-Respect  
C-Comfort  
L-Laughter  
E-Elevate



## Knitting Nexus:

When I walk past our knitting basket in the hallway, I smile. The bright colors, the hat designs and, of course, the mittens bring to mind your talent and generosity as well as the much-needed warmth they will provide for the ladies of CATCH/ Freedom and the children of Daniel Wright School during the cold months ahead. In addition to thermal warmth, they bring the warmth of the love you knit into each stitch. Latest count shows we have 20 adult hats, 36 hats for children and 9 pairs of mittens to gift this Fall. Beyond the mittens and caps, you have contributed several headbands and baby/toddler hats. As we head into the final months before cold settles in, additional hats and mittens [mostly for the children] would be very welcome as the need is significant. [Remember, 100% acrylic yarn should not be used for children's mittens. It "holds" water and freezes, unlike wool or wool blends.] Joining our ministry is simple...use your knitting/crocheting skills to make needed cold weather gear throughout the year and drop off the results in the basket! Questions? Contact me by phone, email or text. Please Note: Under the table holding our basket is a tote with yarn generously donated to us by a fellow parishioner. Take a look to see if you spot a yarn that speaks to you for your next hat or mittens.





### *Love is the Way*

What I learned that day, preaching in the presence of Her Majesty, The Queen—and, it turned out, an audience of billions—is that we are hungry for love. No matter our state or condition. Beyond our national identities and loyalties, beyond our political sympathies and ideologies, beyond our religious and spiritual convictions and commitments, there is a universal hunger at the heart of every human being: to love and to be loved. It connects all people of faith, hope, and good will. That love is truly ecumenical, truly universal. That love knows no borders, no limitations, no divisions or differences of race, class, caste, nationality, ethnic origin, political affiliation, or religious conviction. That love can break down every barrier that blocks the way to the realization of God’s dream of the beloved community.

Bishop Michael Curry, from *Love is the Way: Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times* [p.9]

Bishop Curry wrote his book, *Love is the Way*, in 2019 during his tenure as the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church. He was clear that our task as Christians is to witness to the all-encompassing way of love that comes to us from the teachings of Jesus. One of the questions about love that he addresses is “How do we find the energy to keep loving when the world seems to be going the other way?” I’ve asked this question many times, and it certainly isn’t new. He drew on the wisdom of his elders, who had lived lives of unspeakable sorrow and hardship along with many others, but had still found life and joy. He offered three suggestions in his answer to this question:

1. Tradition— We don’t have to start from scratch. We can learn from those who came before us who tried to walk with God, and build on the paths to faith that have stood the test of time, letting those paths evolve for the realities of our present time.
2. Imagination—Bishop Curry teaches us that freedom movements always begin when someone imagines a possibility greater than the current reality. What does the reign of God look like?
3. God—Bishop Curry describes God as the “loving benevolence behind Creation, whose judgement supersedes all else.” He teaches us that our prayers matter because they bring God into the realities of our lives, a source of hope and new possibilities for both our individual lives and our communities.

May your prayers bring you to the way of love,  
Kim Nelson

## ***Vestry Highlights***

The Vestry of St. Patrick's met on August 13, 2025. Chris Nelson presented the results of our annual audit report. Everything checked out, and the team left us with two recommendations: that the Vestry develop a formal expenditure policy that clearly defines the dollar threshold for unbudgeted expenditures, and that the Endowment Committee formally present a summary of investor activities annually to the Vestry.

Joseph Gannon presented his Eagle Scout Project Plan to construct three wooden benches to surround the spiritual labyrinth complete with a directional sign. Father Jason asked if the project fit with our mission statement. The Vestry agreed it did and approved the proposal with a picture of the sign and benches to follow.

Vicky Bratton led us in a book discussion of our next chapter in Lauren Winner's book *Wearing God*. Father Jason asked us to read the distributed materials on "How to Prepare for a Parish Capital Campaign" with a reminder that the Rev. Derrick Fetz will join us in September to discuss these materials.

We revisited our discernment of hiring an Associate Priest. Father Jason informed us that we do not qualify for a Curate due to the Sabbatical year in 2027. Therefore, we need to focus our discussion on the feasibility of hiring an Associate. Many questions were raised about timeline and budget. We will continue this discernment in September.

The Declutter, Accessibility and Evaluation team led by John Johanssen will continue their evaluation with input from various ministries. They presented a preliminary list of possible future projects to be addressed in the church.

The Rector's Report was circulated stating the long-range sermon planning in September for The Season of Creation. Also included was Bishop White's Pastoral Word on "Pray, Speak and Act." Father Jason also informed us Jasmin's last day will be August 28 with Kati returning September 2.

Mother Catherine's report shared her delight in being able to spend time with many members of the Congregation and being able to address Pastoral needs. She also reminded us of the new program year for The Way of Love series focusing on the Parables of Jesus. We also have Newcomer's Class starting November 14.

The Senior Warden's report shared updates from the Stewardship Team with a timeline of St. Patrick's history and an organ concert Sunday, September 7. There will be a Parish-wide dinner to kick-off the "We Are One Body" pledge campaign. Alex shared new program year information from the Adult and Youth formation ministries.

The Junior Warden reported the Columbarium Committee requested estimates for the expansion of our columbarium space. Blair also shared a proposal from the Ahlum & Arbor Tree Preservation. The Vestry will invite Cindy Doan to the next Vestry meeting for further discussion. Blair also reported the Altar carpet will be replaced since the repairs came in a different dye lot. Blair explained the leak on the North side of the building was due to a sprinkler system. Tim Carty will investigate and advise on repair.

The treasurer reported revenue was good in June and July leaving us over-budget for the year. Expenses were higher in June due to repairs, but below budget in July. Overall, it was a good first half of the year.

The meeting adjourned in prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Jan Redman  
Clerk of the Vestry



## ***A look to the future...***

As you may have seen in the vestry summary last month, Mo. Catherine's Residency/Curacy will conclude next June [2026], and she'll be moving on to exciting new opportunities. We are profoundly grateful for her ministry, eagerly anticipate what the Holy Spirit will call her to next, and will offer continuous prayer for her discernment.

We are now entering a vibrant season of discerning and searching for our next associate priest. Having a second priest on staff is invaluable, as it wonderfully increases our capacity to welcome and include people on the journey of faith through the power of the Holy Spirit. We have all certainly experienced the energy from Mo. Catherine's excellent ministry, and it's vital that we build on the momentum of growth she's helped create.

Furthermore, we are excited to move toward having an associate that we fully fund and support. The diocesan curacy/residency program is a two-year commitment. By not seeking a resident/curate from the diocese, we can seek an open-ended commitment from a priest, which significantly broadens our pool of wonderful candidates. Perhaps someone just coming out of seminary is precisely who the Spirit has in mind for us, or maybe someone with years of enriching experience, or even someone nearing retirement. The Spirit will guide us toward that person.

Speaking of listening to the Spirit...over the next few months, your vestry and I will be prayerfully discerning what we need in this position and embarking on an exciting search. After the first of the year, an advisory team, including vestry members and congregants, will participate in the interview process to offer counsel and advice.

Lastly, a wonderful opportunity before us is ensuring we have the capacity to fund this position. As we joyfully celebrate 25 years of worship in the sanctuary, we fondly remember all the past associates who blessed us with their ministry: Grant Wiseman, Cricket Park, Cameron O'Reily, to name a few. This celebration is also our stewardship drive for 2026, and a key goal for the drive will be to fully fund this vital associate position. So, I lovingly ask you to start praying now, both that the Spirit guides us to our next associate, and pray for what God is calling you to pledge for 2026 to fully fund God's vibrant ministry through St. Patrick's.

God's Peace,

Father Jason Emerson+

Rector



VBS 2025 was a HUGE success!

At Road Trip VBS, our children learned that God is always with us wherever we are. Along with our mascot, Scout, our young Travelers learned that "The LORD your God is with you wherever you go," as we are taught in Joshua 1:9. Through Bible Storytelling, Music, Crafts, Science, Games, Snacks, and more, we explored God's goodness and presence everywhere!

Of course, this week was the result of MANY dedicated volunteers putting in a great deal of time and energy. The VBS Core Team was made up of Father Jason Emerson, Kim Machesky, Jessica Randolph, Emily LaMonica, and Tawnya Lewis ... and started meeting in February to plan logistics and make crucial decisions to make the week of VBS go smoothly.

Our Adult Crew was incredible, making sure that each station was engaging and each child was well attended. Thank you: Barbara Altenburg, Lissa Barker, Mother Catherine Duffy, Father Jason Emerson, Dick Gehman, Terri Glisson, Liz Gunthorp, Charlotte Jones, Joan Jones, Susan Jones, Amanda Kennedy, Bonnie LaFleur, Beth Landers, Matt Lewis, Tawnya Lewis, Karen Mason, Blair McGinnis, Deby McGinnis, Dan O'Neill, Lindsey Peterson, Maddi Pittsenbarger, Jessica Randolph, Jan Redman, Tasia Sicker, Becci Shields, Becky Stains, and Jo Yuhas.

And last, but certainly not least, VBS was blessed to have a dedicated Youth Crew to jump in and make everything possible! These Middle and High Schoolers decorated, cleaned, and made the kids feel so comfortable. Thank you: Reese Armstrong, Graham Bethune, Amelia Coontz, Audrey Coontz, Lena Coontz, Lexi Craven, Paisley Essex, Quinn Essex, Annie LaMonica, Liz Mason, Claire McCarthy, Evelina O'Neill, Jaxon Reissig, and Lauren Richard.

Let's do it again next year :)  
Eryn Kindelin



**2025 VBS Crew**

**VBS 2026 INFO!**



**VBS 2026**

July 13-17, 2026

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church  
- Dublin, OH -

Registration opens Easter Week! Check [pats-dublin.org](http://pats-dublin.org) for details.

# Wellness Words

## September 2025

How many steps did I get today? What's my heart rate after that exercise? Who is texting me? Did I just get a new email? These are some of the questions that are now answered by looking at your wrist. It seems everyone [OK, Lissa the dinosaur doesn't] has a "smart watch" that logs the steps you take, monitors your heart rate, tells you if you've fallen, and reminds you to do, well, something important. Those little computers on your wrist or your finger are amazing pieces of technology.

According to several studies out of the Mayo Clinic about wearable devices, there have been some findings about what is most useful and trustworthy about them. The studies indicate that all of them do a decent job of tracking daily steps (so does a \$15 pedometer). You can also modify the program in some of the devices for what exercise you are doing such as water aerobics, land exercise classes, etc. The higher end devices can also monitor your heart rate and rhythm, as well as your VO-2 max [that's the volume of oxygen you need to accomplish a movement like going up stairs]. A reading of 30-35 means you are in pretty good shape and can probably climb stairs without getting winded.

An interesting finding is that these devices are exciting at the beginning, but people tend to lose interest in their data collection around six weeks to 12 months. This is too bad, as the data can be really helpful IF one follows some easy steps that Mayo recommends:

- Respond to movement reminders like "it's time to stand up"
- Move the goals for your steps. If you look at your average number of steps a day, set the goal for an increase of 50%. When you reach that goal for a 2 week period, move the goal again until you are satisfied with the intensity of the activity.
- Share those milestones with activity partners or family members. This can result in more incentives to stay with the exercise routine.

Many of the devices also state that they can estimate your calorie count, sleep stages and heart rate variability. This can result in needless anxiety as they can be off as much as 93% (like the calorie counter). According to the studies, "the hype is ahead of the science", says exercise physiologist Thom Rieck from the Mayo Clinic. The best advice is to listen to your body, if you're concerned, then talk to your provider. Don't ignore the warnings but check them out, the warning is NOT a diagnosis.

All in all, these are neat devices AND they can tell time as well 😊! Just remember that listening to your body is the best indicator of your status.

Happy September!  
Lissa and Rose



## Garage Sale – It's almost here!



### Key Dates:

- Donation drop-off: September 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
- Parishioner Preview Sale: October 2nd, 5pm - 7pm [prices are doubled]
- Sale: October 3<sup>rd</sup> from 8:30am - 2:00pm [8:00 early entry for \$10.00]  
October 4<sup>th</sup> from 8:30am - 1:00 pm

### Quick notes:

\*We need volunteer signups in several categories, such as pickup trucks and helpers [for the September 27th Pick up Day], and helpers throughout the entire week. Please take a moment after church to head to the parish hall and sign up if you can help! Or just email Rick Sicker [rick\_sicker@att.net] and let him know how you can help.

\*When you drop off your donations, if you can help us sort your items onto the correct tables that would be fantastic. It's such a big help!

\*If you have a working computer, tablet, or laptop that you plan on donating, please contact Charlie Horton [charliehorton6983@gmail.com] to arrange.

### Excited and ready to help with the sale right now? You can! Here's how:

\*When boxing or bagging your donations, box or bag them by category when you can [for example, kitchen items in one box, holiday items in another]. This may result in a few more boxes overall, but it is a HUGE help for the sorting and organizing volunteers. Also, we re-use every box we get for the sale itself, too.

\*Clean, clean, clean. Having items already cleaned and prepped to be sold is also a big time-saver for the organizing volunteers.

\*Place items with multiple parts in Ziplock or other bags so that it's obvious to the sorting crew that they go together.

### Items we don't take for the sale:

\*Large or heavy items that typically require two people to carry. Examples that we don't take include: Armchairs, couches, loveseats, entertainment centers, large China cabinets. Contact Rick if you're not sure about a large or heavy item.

\*Old-style [CRT] TVs or the heavy Plasma TVs [We do take the thin-style, LCD TVs for the sale].

\*Used Mattresses

**New Opportunity:** We are now accepting donations of needed garage sale supplies. We are looking for masking tape, thick rubber bands [to pair shoes together], black Sharpie markers [fine point], and Ziplock bags [gallon, quart, and sandwich sizes]. Please place items in the box located in the Narthex. Thank you!

Questions? Contact Rick Sicker [rick\_sicker@att.net]





# Troop 299

The scouts of Troop 299 had a busy summer with several boys attending a high adventure program and many participating in annual Summer Camp activities, too. In late June, two crews of scouts and adults traveled to Philmont Scout Ranch to participate in a two week trek through the Sangre de Cristo Mountains in Northern New Mexico. After arriving in Denver, the crews toured The Garden of the Gods park and the Air Force Academy grounds in Colorado Springs before heading to Cimmaron, NM for their adventure. After loading up with several days of food and water, the crews set off on their respective itineraries of hiking, adventure and fun. During their treks, the scouts took part in back-country programming such as panning for gold, rock climbing, blacksmithing, shotgun shooting, and learning about native american dwellings. The crews covered over 100 miles by foot and summited several mountains over 12,000 feet above sea level during their two-week treks.



In July, the troop traveled to the hills of Western Pennsylvania to stay at Camp Conestoga for a week of camping and working on merit badges. The weather was a little wet but all of the boys kept a good attitude and had a great time. Over 30 boys and 8 adults attended, enjoying the cool nights sleeping in tents in the mountains and hiking in the forest between activities. The boys earned many merit badges such as Swimming, Emergency Preparedness,, Forestry, Metallurgy, Fishing, and Wilderness Survival, First-year scouts participated in a program designed to train them in basic scout skills such as knot-tying, fire safety, cooking, and the principles of Scouting. In addition, several boys were inducted into the Order of the Arrow, the Scouts BSA honor society, recognizing leadership and a commitment to Scouting values.



Overall, it was a fantastic summer for the Troop and the boys are looking forward to their fall activities including their Back-to-Basics backpacking trip and the annual Shoot-O-Ree, where they learn firearm safety. For more information about joining the Troop, contact Jim Bratton.



## Inaugural College for Congregational Development Gathers Teams from Twelve Southern Ohio Communities

*The intensive, two-year program forms practitioners of congregational development*



The Rev. Meredith Day Hearn, canon for congregations, coordinated the launch of CCD in our diocese and served as director-in-training. She reflected, "It was an absolute joy to see this thing that we've been dreaming about finally come to life. Deep connections were made between church leaders and clergy across our diocese as participants worked together, learned together, and prayed together over these transformative six days. I'm looking forward to witnessing the continual work of the Holy Spirit in our diocese and to sharing these models and tools more broadly as we seek to help our congregations of all sizes, conditions, and locations become more faithful, healthy, and effective communities of faith."

Last week, about fifty people from across the Diocese of Southern Ohio gathered at Procter Center for the inaugural session of our new College for Congregational Development [CCD]. Nine congregations were represented by lay and clergy teams as well as groups attending from the Church Foundation Trustees, diocesan staff, and Procter staff. The nine-person training team included trainers from our diocese as well as the Dioceses of California, Indianapolis, and Newark.

Participants spent time in worship, plenary sessions, small groups, and congregational teams, learning and practicing specific tools and facilitation skills that they will apply back home. At the conclusion of the week, congregational teams met to plan "interventions": specific projects or opportunities for listening and reflection in their congregations. These "Year A" students will return next summer for "Year B," after which they'll graduate from the College.



The College for Congregational Development is a comprehensive training program seeking to nurture and develop congregational development practitioners within congregations, clergy and laity. It was created in the Diocese of Olympia by the Most Rev. Melissa Skelton [retired archbishop of the Diocese of New Westminster in Canada] and now exists in thirteen dioceses across The Episcopal Church. Registration for the 2026 DSO CCD will open to first-year and second-year participants this fall.



Our bishop, the Rt. Rev. Kristin Uffelman White, was a trainer and a director for the College and began the CCD program now running in the Diocese of Indianapolis. Participating as one of nine trainers last week, she reflected that the desire for something like CCD was one of the things that had drawn her to our diocese when first reading our diocesan profile for the bishop search.

Bishop White wrote, "The Rev. William Sloane Coffin has a blessing, asking that God would give us the grace to risk something big for something good. It was a prayer realized that people in this diocese had the desire to give deeply of themselves for the church they love. Last week was a big commitment on the part of all participants and the churches present-- people showed up, they were faithful and real in their conversations, and they now go home equipped to lead and serve in ways that will build up the body of Christ. I can't wait to see what the Holy Spirit has in store for us in the Diocese of Southern Ohio."



## Introducing St. Pat's First CCD Project!

Senior Warden Alex Carter, Vestry member Kelsey Sicker, congregation member Mike Kennedy and Father Jason recently attended training on our Diocese's new College for Congregational Development program [please see the separate BreastPlate article describing the program]. With the first week of training completed, we are kicking off year one of the two-year program equipped with data gathering tools, modeling techniques and customized organizational skills all designed to help St. Pat's be an even more faithful, healthy, and effective congregation living out God's call.

This work is done on a project-by-project basis. For our first project, the team plans to interview attendees of our 4pm Sunday service to learn more about what works and what we may add or change to enhance the service as desired. So, if you've attended our 4pm service in the past, Alex, Kelsey, or Mike will be reaching out to you in September to set up a few minutes to get your input. Importantly, if you would like to provide input and are not contacted, or if you have not yet attended the 4pm service, but would like to provide input, please reach out to one of the three via email [see Realm for email addresses].

When the data is gathered, the team will generate a read-out to share with the congregation. Stay tuned!



## Habitat Volunteer Options

There are several opportunities available to support our efforts with Habitat Humanity:

Volunteer builders! St. Patrick's Build Days: Saturdays Oct. 11 and Nov. 8.

- \*We need a minimum of 6 enthusiastic volunteers.
- \*Work Hours: 8:15am – 3:30pm; please bring your own lunch.
- \*No prior skill needed, we will probably be doing finishing work, i.e.: painting, cabinet doors, etc. no heavy lifting or building.
- \*Volunteers must register in advance.
- \*Please RSVP to Brenda Eddy by September 15.

### More Builders!

\*Playhouse Kit builders -There is still one opening for a volunteer to help build playhouse kits that are sold to raise funds for future house builds. One workday per month: 2nd Thursdays, 9:00am -2:00pm at the Habitat warehouse.

\*Still want to build? There are openings for Tuesday and Thursday build days on our house.

Donate a Cross to recently released prisoners

\*One of our Northside Partnership board members builds beautiful wooden crosses to be given to recently released prisoners to help support them in their new life.

\*Donation: \$25

### St. Patrick's Lenten Fish Frys

\*Volunteer – Sponsor – Eat!! It's a great time, and all proceeds support our pledge to Habitat.

\*February 27, March 13, March 27

Contact Brenda Eddy

614-946-3482 [bkledy1@gmail.com](mailto:bkledy1@gmail.com).

# Events

Grief Support gathering will be Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM in St. Patrick's library, facilitated by Angel Cinco and Becky Stains. 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.



🎵 Grace Notes 🎵 - We got a head start!

The official St. Patrick's Program Year begins September 7, but the handbells and choir will already have begun their "New Years" by then. Would you like to join us and get a jump on what's happening with music at St. Patrick's? No special training is required, just a desire to work together to learn and share special music, of all kinds, composed especially for the church.

The Handbell Ensemble meets Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.  
The Adult Choir meets Thursday at 7:30 in the basement choir room.  
Jennifer





## A Letter from the CEO at Freedom a La Cart:



Hi Freedom Friend!

Each year, as we reflect on the journey we've taken together, I'm reminded of one simple truth: when a community believes in Freedom, incredible things happen.

Because of your support, lives are being rebuilt, opportunities are opening up, and futures are being reimaged — every single day.

I think you'll be proud of all that your generosity has made possible:

- 357 survivors served
- 84% staying out of incarceration
- 57% of annual revenue generated from our social enterprise
- 7-to-1 return on investment.

I'm honored to share with you our [2024 Annual Report](#), on our website at [www.freedomalacart.org](http://www.freedomalacart.org), which celebrates not just milestones and growth, but the powerful transformation made possible through your partnership.

Thank you for standing with us, for believing in the strength of every survivor we serve, And for being part of this mission to build lives of lasting freedom.

With Gratitude,



# September Calendar

## Monday, September 1<sup>st</sup>

Labor Day Office Closed

6PM AA Meeting

## Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>

7AM Men's Group [First Watch]

## Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>

10AM St. Arbuck's

10AM Staff Meeting

10AM Men's Group

10:30AM Spiritual Direction

12PM Holy Eucharist &

Sacrament of Healing

12:30PM Chicken Salad For the Soul

## Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup>

10AM LITDS

10AM Purls Of Wisdom

## Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>

Kick Off Sunday

8AM Holy Eucharist

9:30AM Holy Eucharist

10:30 AM Chapel Parent's Meeting

4PM Holy Eucharist

6PM Organ Concert

## Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup>

9:30AM EFM Extension

6PM AA Meeting

## Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>

7AM Men's Group

1PM DRV Bible Study

## Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>

10AM St. Arbuck's

10AM Staff Meeting

10AM Men's Group

10:30AM Spiritual Direction

12PM Holy Eucharist

7PM Vestry Meeting

## Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup>

10AM LITDS

10AM Purls Of Wisdom

10AM Catch Court

12PM Holy Eucharist

7PM Vestry Meeting

## Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>

8AM Holy Eucharist

9:30AM Holy Eucharist

11:30AM Sacred Circle

4PM Holy Eucharist

## Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup>

9:30AM EFM Extension

6:00PM AA Meeting

## Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>

7AM Men's Group

1PM Sacred Circle 3

## Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>

10AM St. Arbuck's

10AM Staff Meeting

10AM Men's Group

10:30AM Spiritual Direction

12PM Holy Eucharist

## Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup>

10AM LITDS

10AM Purls of Wisdom

## Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup>

8AM Holy Eucharist

9:30AM Holy Eucharist

4PM Holy Eucharist

4:45 Youth Parent Meeting

## Monday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>

9AM Friendship Quilters

9:30AM EFM Extension

6PM AA Meeting

## Tuesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>

7AM Men's Group

## Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>

10AM St. Arbuck's

10AM Staff Meeting

10AM Men's Group

10:30AM Spiritual Direction

12PM Holy Eucharist

## Thursday, September 25<sup>th</sup>

10AM LITDS

10AM Purls of Wisdom

## Friday, September 26<sup>th</sup>

9AM Garage Sale Drop Off

## Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup>

9AM Garage Sale Drop Off

## Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup>

8AM Holy Eucharist

9AM Garage Sale Set Up

9:30AM Holy Eucharist

11:30AM Sacred Circle

4PM Pet Blessing

## Monday, September 29<sup>th</sup>

9:30AM EFM Extension

6PM AA Meeting

## Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup>

7AM Men's Group







Diocese of  
Southern Ohio

# This is our Story, This is our Song

## 150th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

SEPTEMBER 27, 2025 at PROCTER CENTER

Join Episcopalians throughout the Diocese of Southern Ohio at Procter Center as we celebrate 150 years of ministry as a diocese!

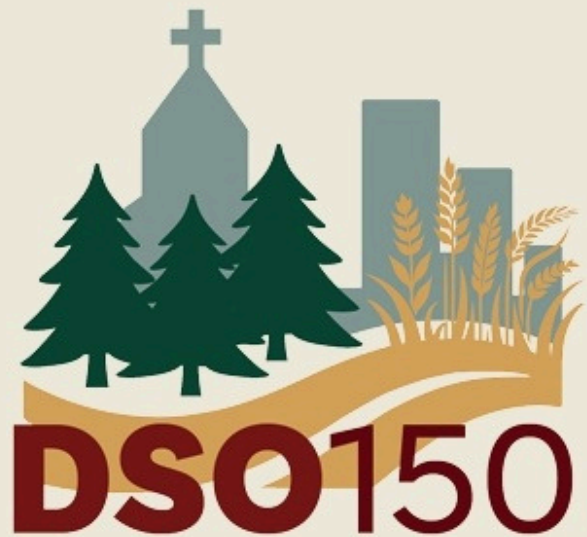
We'll honor our legacy, create new connections, and tell the story of our shared history. Together with our bishop and other key diocesan leaders (past and present), we'll worship, break bread, learn, and play during this festive celebration for all ages.

Our Celebration Eucharist will include the Rt. Rev. Kristin Uffelman White, bishop of Southern Ohio, as celebrant; Miriam McKenney, missionary for Beloved Community, as preacher; the Gospel Choir of St. Margaret's, Trotwood, and an all-diocese Drop-in Choir directed by Stephen Sollars!



### JOIN THE FESTIVITIES

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| 10 AM    | Arrivals<br><i>Parking offsite with shuttles to Procter Center running all day.</i><br><br>Farm Tours, Exhibits, Church Storytelling Stations |
| 11 AM    | Dedication Prayer & Time Capsule  |
| 11:30 AM | Welcome & Presentations   |
| 12:30 PM | Picnic Lunch with Sweets & Meats<br>BBQ Food Truck  |
| 1:30 PM  | Exhibits, Church Storytelling Stations, Farm Tours, Tractor Rides, Boating, Fishing, Games, Drop-in Choir Rehearsal                           |
| 3:00 PM  | Holy Eucharist<br><i>Faith communities are invited to bring a small container of water from a local source.</i>                               |
| 4:30 PM  | Benediction & Send-Off  |



#### RSVP NOW!

This is a free event for all in the DSO!

Please RSVP no later than September 7th.





St. Patrick's  
Episcopal Church  
7121 Muirfield Drive  
Dublin, OH 43017  
Tel: 614-766-2664  
Fax: 614-766-4490

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**SEPTEMBER**