St. Paul's EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Grounded in Faith, Growing to Serve

Each fall we invite your household to consider your estimate of giving for the upcoming year. Our giving campaign does more than fund our operating budget; it deepens our relationship with God, helps us grow in the likeness of Christ, strengthens us as disciples, and enables the Church to care for those in need. Estimate of giving cards have been mailed to all parish households. Pledges for 2027 can be made online (scan the QR Code), dropped into the offering plate, mailed to our office, or through a phone call with our staff. On October 18, we will pray over all pledge cards received and ask God to bless the ministries you support. Any questions contact our parish administrative officer, Heather, at office@stpaulsmurfreesboro.org.

Vestry Nominations are open!

This is your chance to help shape the leadership of St. Paul's. If you know a fellow parishioner with the energy, perseverance, and drive for prayerful leadership, please nominate them. (Self-nominations are welcome, too!) Email the church office your nomination at frontoffice@stpaulsmurfreesboro.org or pick up a paper form on the credenza in the narthex or from the church office. Nominations close October 23.

Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 4, 4:00 p.m.

Join as we celebrate our annual Blessing of the Animals service! Bring your pets to receive a blessing in the Parish Courtyard.

Over 70 Birthday Luncheon

Tuesday, October 20, 11:30 a.m.

Senior parishioners (70+), please mark your calendars for the Senior Luncheon, celebrating you! You can RSVP by signing up on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall or via the link in the weekly eNewsletter. For more information about the luncheon or how to help, contact Kelly Goodman at kellyogoodman@comcast.net.

Alpha Retreat

Saturday, October 17

At the Alpha Retreat, we set aside time to abide in the presence of God and ask to be filled with the delight and love of the Holy Spirit. Alpha community, please join us at the Goodman Family Farm on October 17.

Bishop Electing Convention

Saturday, October 24, Christ Church Cathedral

Information on the current slate of Bishop nominees as well as Meet-and-Greets can be found at the Diocesan website. https://edtn.org/bishop-search/

Food Drive Sunday

Sunday, October 25

Bring your non-perishable food items or donate to support Nourish Food Bank.

Angel Tree

Begins Sunday, October 25

The St. Paul's Angel Tree will again partner with the Boys & Girls Club of Rutherford County for the 2026 season. Adoptions begin on October 25 in the Parish Hall on Sunday mornings! If you have any questions, contact DeAnna Bartsch at dsimms514@comcast.net.

Baptisms

All Saints' Day, Sunday, November 1

Baptism is the Sacrament of Regeneration, whereby we are grafted into the Church and adopted as Sons and Daughters of God by the Holy Spirit and receive the forgiveness of sin. If you or your child have not been baptized, we look forward to receiving you into "the household of faith." Contact our baptism shepherds, Mallory and Matt Uhles by October 1, at baptism@stpaulsmurfreesboro.org, for more information.

Newcomers' Brunch

Sunday, November 8, 9:45 a.m., Adult Christian Education Rooms

Newcomers, we are so pleased you are here and want to get to know you. Please join our newcomers team for brunch, where we will visit and share about St. Paul's mission. RSVP to Joyce Adkins at joycea1010@gmail.com.

Annual Craft & Bake Sale

Sunday, November 22

Come do some Christmas shopping at our Annual Craft & Bake Sale after all services in the Parish Hall. For over 30 years, this event has supported our priests' discretionary funds and the CONNECT Ministry. If you have any questions, contact Alice Gibson at 615-972-4890.

Thanksgiving Service and Meal

Thursday, November 26, 10:30 a.m.

Join us on Thanksgiving Day for our Thanksgiving Eucharist. Following the service, there is a luncheon in the Parish Hall. Please sign up to bring a dish to share. More information forthcoming in the weekly parish eNewsletter.

From the Flower Guild

- ***Poinsettias/Christmas Flower Dedications*** need to be submitted by December 6. ***Evergreen Wreath Dedications*** need to be received by November 15 to be included in the First Sunday of Advent bulletin.
- ***Cut Evergreens*** will gladly be accepted the week of Thanksgiving.
- Envelopes and instructions will be posted on the Flower Guild board in early November. Contact Sudi Luboniecki at sudi624@gmail.com with questions.

Upcoming Events

October

Thursday, October 1
✠ Men's Club, 6pm

Sunday, October 4
✠ No Christian Education
✠ Cheese Party, 10am
✠ Blessing of the Animals, 4pm
✠ Alpha, 5pm
✠ No SNL

Monday, October 5
✠ CONNECT, 9am - 11am

Thursday, October 8
✠ Ladies' Night Out, 5:30 pm

Sunday, October 11
✠ Alpha, 5pm
✠ SNL, 5pm

Friday, October 16
✠ Parents' Night Out, 6pm

Saturday, October 17
✠ Alpha Retreat

Sunday, October 18
✠ Stewardship Sunday
✠ Alpha, 5pm
✠ SNL, 5pm

Monday, October 19
✠ CONNECT, 9am - 11am

Tuesday, October 20
✠ Over 70 Birthday Luncheon, 11:30am
✠ Vestry, 6pm

Saturday, October 24
✠ Bishop Electing Convention

Sunday, October 25
✠ Food Drive
✠ Alpha, 5pm
✠ SNL, 5pm

Saturday, October 31
✠ Arts, Crafts, Tea, & Toast, 11am
✠ SNL Hike, 10am

November

Sunday, November 1
✠ All Saints' Day
✠ Baptism Sunday
✠ Alpha, 5pm
✠ SNL, 5pm

Monday, November 2
✠ CONNECT, 9am - 11am

Thursday, November 5
✠ Men's Club, 6pm

Sunday, November 8
✠ Newcomers' Brunch, 9:45am
✠ Alpha, 5pm
✠ SNL, 5pm

Thursday, November 12
✠ Ladies' Night Out, 5:30pm

Sunday, November 15
✠ EDTN Youth Retreat, 11am- 4pm
✠ Alpha, 5pm
✠ No SNL

Monday, November 16
✠ CONNECT, 9am-11am

Tuesday, November 17
✠ Senior Brown Bag Lunch, 11:30am
✠ Vestry, 6pm

Friday, November 20
✠ Parents' Night Out, 6pm

ADVENT AT ST. PAUL'S



Advent Wreath Party
Sunday, November 29, 5:00 p.m.
Join us on the first Sunday of Advent. We'll share a meal, make wreaths, and anticipate the coming of Christ together. This multigenerational event is a special gathering not to be missed! Look for signups in the eNewsletter in November.

A Cup of Christmas Tea
Tuesday, December 1, 1:30 p.m.
Join us for an opportunity to share light refreshments and memories of those who are important in your life but are no longer with us. All are invited to attend. Those who have experienced the death of a loved one in the last year will receive a special invitation. For more information, contact Jerry Redditt, 615-364-8700 or Mary Jane Young, 615-347-9935.

Parents' Group Christmas Party
Friday, December 11, 6:00 p.m.
Come out for an evening of fellowship while your kids are at Parents' Night Out! The annual potluck Christmas party will be at the downtown home of Anna and Greg Stewart. Bring a dish to share. Wear your favorite Christmas costume or sweater. The more spirited, the better!



Salvation Army Red Kettle Bell Ringing
December 14-18
Volunteer to ring the bell at Kroger Rutherford Crossing, 2050 Lascassas Pike. Supplies including the kettle, bells, and signage will be provided. Look for a Sign-Up link in the e-newsletter. For more information contact Katie Enzor, 334-488-5970 (cell) or 615-895-7071. Thank you for helping spread holiday cheer and support those in need!

Christmas Candlelight Tour
Saturday, December 12, 4:00 p.m.
St. Paul's has been invited to participate in the 43rd Annual Christmas Candlelight Tour benefitting the ongoing preservation of Oaklands Mansion. This special holiday event features a tour of eight selected downtown historic homes and churches for interested community members. If you are interested in volunteering during the Candlelight Tour contact the parish office at frontoffice@stpaulsmurfreeboro.org. Information on tickets for tour will be shared in November.

Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
Sunday, December 20, 4:00 p.m., Prelude begins at 3:30 p.m.
Please join the St. Paul's Choir and Choristers for a Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols. The service includes readings from the Bible with anthems and carols sung by the choirs and congregation. There will be childcare available for the service and a reception follows in the Parish Hall.

"Abide with Me" Longest Night Service
Monday, December 21, 6:00 p.m.
For many of us, holiday cheer is tempered with melancholy. We are only too aware of the brokenness of the world and of ourselves, yet Christ's love and light shines even into the darkest, longest night. Join us in the Chapel for a candle-lit service of music, anointing, and healing prayer as we seek to abide in the love of Jesus, our Emmanuel.

CHRISTMAS AT ST. PAUL'S

Join us as we celebrate the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord

Christmas Eve
- 4:00 p.m. with the Christmas Pageant during the service
- 10:00 p.m. with candlelight Holy Eucharist (Musical prelude starts at 9:30 p.m.)

Christmas Day
- 10:00 a.m. for Holy Eucharist.



Christmas Pageant
During Christmas Eve Service, 4:00p.m.
The annual St. Paul's Christmas Pageant will be during the 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service in the Nave. Parents, keep watching the eNewsletter for further communication about rehearsals! For more information on how your child can participate contact Cindy at cindy.guevart@stpaulsmurfreesboro.org.

Year-End Gifts

As the 2026 calendar year comes to a close, we want to share our gratitude for your continued generosity. We also want to remind our parishioners that for donations to be counted in the 2026 tax year they need to be either physically received at the church (either in the plate, in our mail, or processed online) by Thursday, December 31, 2026, or received via mail the first week of January 2027 postmarked December 2026.

Upcoming Events

November cont.

Sunday, November 22
✠ Craft and Bake Sale
✠ No Christian Education
✠ Final Alpha, 5pm
✠ No SNL

Wednesday, November 25
✠ Office Closes at 12pm

Thursday, November 26
✠ Thanksgiving Day Service and Luncheon, 10:30am

Saturday, November 28
✠ Arts, Crafts, Tea, & Toast, 11am

Sunday, November 29
✠ First Sunday of Advent
✠ Advent Wreath Party, 5pm

December

Tuesday, December 1
✠ A Cup of Christmas Tea, 1:30pm

Thursday, December 3
✠ Men's Club, 5:30pm

Saturday, December 5
✠ Baptism Seminar, 9am - 11am

Monday, December 7
✠ CONNECT, 9am - 11am

Thursday, December 10
✠ Ladies' Night Out, 5:30pm

Thursday, December 11
✠ Parents' Night Out, 6pm
✠ Parents' Christmas Party, 6pm

Saturday, December 12
✠ Candlelight Tour, 4pm

Tuesday, December 15
✠ Senior Brown Bag Lunch,11:30am
✠ Vestry, 6pm

Sunday, December 20
✠ Lessons and Carols, 4pm
✠ Holiday Reception
✠ SNL Ice Skating, 5pm

Monday, December 21
✠ CONNECT, 9am - 11am
✠ Longest Night Service, 6pm

Thursday, December 24
✠ Christmas Eve Service with Pageant, 4pm
✠ Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 10pm

Friday, December 25
✠ Christmas Day Service, 10am



Sunday, December 27
✠ One Service, 10am
✠ No Christian Education
✠ No SNL

Thursday, December 31
✠ Office closes at 12pm