

The Diaper Project | Bishop Bill's Final Visit | Outreach Highlight: CASA | and more...

THE CROWN

April 2024



BISHOP

The Rt. Rev Dr. Bill Atwood

RECTOR

The Rev. Wes Gristy

DEACON OF PARISH MINISTRIES

The Rev. Kevin Vailes

RECTOR EMERITUS

The Rev. Chuck Filiatreau

DEACONS

The Rev. Barbara Reed

The Rev. Terry Blakley

DEACON OF SPIRITUAL FORMATION

The Rev. Nan Thomas

MINISTER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Olivia Abernathy

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Dr. Jordan Tang

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Matthew Cook

LEAD CHILDREN'S CATECHIST

Katie Beavers

NURSERY COORDINATOR

Robin Wright

FINANCIAL DIRECTOR

Donna Taylor

Common Prayer

our common life together consists of our worship of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Common Learning

our common life together consists of teaching one another how to be obedient to Jesus in all things

Common Service

our common life together consists of loving one another and the world as Jesus loves us

Attention Graduates

Please let the church office know if you are graduating this year from high school, college, or a graduate school program, so that we can recognize you on Sunday, April 28 and highlight your graduation in the May edition of the *Crown*. Let us know from where and when you are graduating, and what your future plans are.

A Note from Judy Doyle

Dear Church Family,

I am writing to express my deepest gratitude for the incredible outpouring of love and support I received from all of you during my recent skin surgery recovery.

Your kindness truly helped me through a challenging time. The delicious meals you delivered were a lifesaver, taking a huge weight off my shoulders during my recovery.

The constant stream of prayers warmed my heart and gave me immense strength.

Your visits and well wishes brought a smile to my face and reminded me that I am surrounded by a loving and caring community. It meant the world to know I wasn't alone in this journey.

Thanks to your support, my recovery is going well, and I am feeling stronger each day. I am so grateful to be a part of such a wonderful church family.

May God bless you all abundantly.
With my heartfelt thanks.

Judy Doyle

Adult Formation Hour

Our Adult Formation Hour gives us time to slow down and prepare ourselves to encounter God through a time of community, learning, and prayer. We hope everyone will continue to take advantage of this opportunity afforded us by our new building. Here's the upcoming schedule for our reflection time during the Adult Formation Hour:

April 7
The Second Sunday of Easter

Lydia McGinnis

April 14
The Third Sunday of Easter

Fr. Ben Williams

April 21
The Fourth Sunday of Easter

No Formation Hour
Breakfast with the Bishop

April 28
The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Jason Crawford



Join in Our Common Life

Morning Prayer

MON-THUR | 8:15-8:45 AM
ALL SAINTS | NAVE

Considering going deeper into our practice of Common Prayer by joining us for Morning Prayer, Monday through Thursday at 8:15am in the Nave.

Healing Prayer

EVERY TUESDAY | 12:00-2:00 PM
ALL SAINTS | NAVE

Members of our Healing Prayer Crew are available to offer prayers to anyone in need. No appointment necessary, and feel free to invite others. Everything is confidential and done with care.

Centering Prayer

THURSDAYS | 9:00-9:30 AM
ALL SAINTS | NAVE

A new weekly opportunity to practice centering prayer with others meets every Thursday morning from 9:00 to 9:30. You are invited to participate whenever you are able.

Youth Encounter

WEDNESDAYS | 5:45 PM
ALL SAINTS PARISH HALL OR HOST HOME

All students 6th-12th grade are invited to join for a time of teaching, fellowship, and food each Wednesday evening. Contact Dn. Kevin Vailes for more information.

Ladies Koinonia

SUNDAY, APRIL 14 | 6:00-8:00 PM
SHEILA WILLIAMSON'S HOME | 32 COUNTRY CLUB CV.

The ladies of All Saints are invited to gather together for a time of fellowship and meaningful discussion around the TV series, *The Chosen*.

Men's Monkly

SATURDAY, MAY 4 | 9:00 AM-12:00 PM
ISAAC LANE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL | 746 LEXINGTON AVE.

Our next Men's Monkly is a service project for our PIE Partner school Isaac Lane Elementary on Saturday, May 4. We will meet at the school at 9:00 am to knock out a variety of needed projects before heading over to Hub City Brewing for lunch. More details coming soon.

Debt Service Snapshot

The Vestry is aggressively working to pay down the \$500K loan (an interest-only loan until August), as it has a higher interest rate, so that we can give our full attention to the \$3M loan.

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| \$3M Loan Balance | \$2,871,715 |
| \$500K Loan Balance | \$273,482 |

Thank you for your generosity toward paying off our building loans. Please let us know if you have any questions, and be sure to make our debt service a matter of regular prayer.

JOIN US for an IMMIGRATION UPDATE

APRIL 8, 2024
6:00-7:00 PM

212 McClellan Road
in the Parish Hall

Hear from our Board Chair and Director as we discuss our important work among the West TN immigrant community with Q&A to follow.

 **ASIS** | All Saints
Immigration
Services

The Diaper Project

Why a Diaper Bank?

by Olivia Abernathy

Bringing a baby home for the first time is both beautiful and terrifying. As a young parent, I quickly learned that parenting is a never-ending series of choices.

- Do we breast feed or bottle feed?
- Homemade baby food or canned?
- Should I switch to two naps yet or stay at three?

The early years are full of hard choices. As a young mom, I was also a social worker and working with other moms in our community, many of whom were living in poverty. I learned that the choices they were having to make were very different than the choices I was making day in and day out.

The stress of living in poverty often means making choices between basic needs: pay for food or keep the lights on? Sleep on a friend's couch with a baby or move into an apartment where you don't feel safe? Bus pass or medicine? My choices were based on preference, not basic needs, and that was a luxury not every mother has. I think of the teenage mother who brought her baby into my office, sat down, and wept at the stress of life. Her rent was due and she was short. But her baby was on her last diaper and it was clearly very full. She wouldn't get paid for another week and had no idea what to do. It's hard to admit that it took looking in this mother's eyes for me to realize that not everyone could afford a basic necessity that I took for granted—diapers.

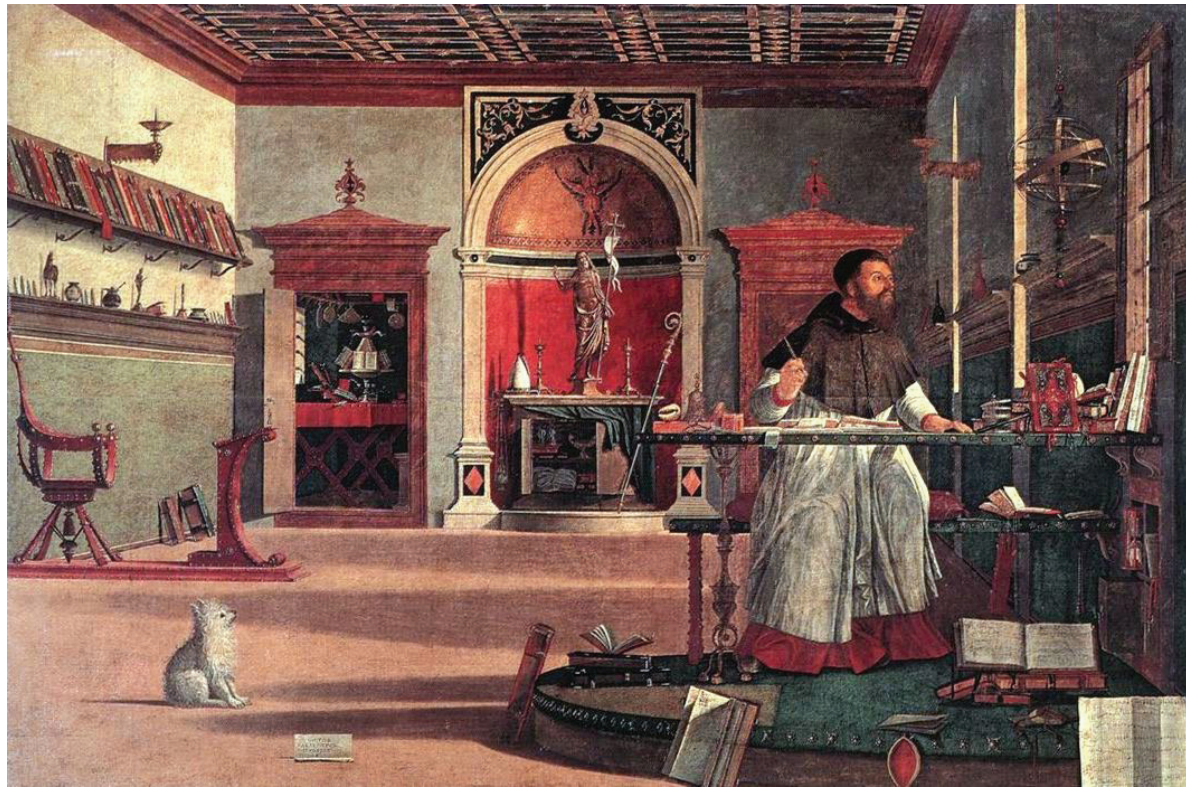
A National Survey in 2023 found that 47% of families struggled to afford enough clean diapers. Infants use on average 10-12 diapers a day, and the

cost of diapers has increased 22% since 2018. Social Safety Net programs like SNAP and WIC don't cover diapers. With the rise in cost of living, more parents than ever are struggling to afford to meet their child's basic need for clean diapers. But this isn't just about diapers; it's about health and dignity. Lack of clean diapers can lead to infections, rashes, and long-term health issues. The shame and stigma harm maternal mental health and hinder parent-child bonds crucial for secure attachment. Diaper need can also affect employment and education, trapping families in poverty. I wonder what could have changed for that teen mom I met many years ago if I could have handed her a month's worth of diapers and relieved her of at least one impossible choice. I wonder how her life would have changed to know she and her baby were loved and cared for by a community of faith.

Now with a financial investment from *100 Women Who Care*, we can do just that. All Saints was selected as the winner of a \$10,000 grant to start a community diaper bank, a proven way to meet the diaper need. We will use the funds and the next three months to plan with the goal of opening for diaper distribution in June. This new community diaper bank will be the first and only to serve rural West Tennessee. There are still many details to work out, but the possibilities for ministry are exciting.

There are many ways you can get involved. The Outreach Committee has designated this year's Easter Offering to go towards supporting the new diaper bank ministry. You can also let us know if you'd like to volunteer in the future by scanning the QR code and completing the form at the link.





Just One Thing

Augustine of Hippo

by Dr. David Thomas

After Paul the apostle, there is no more influential Christian leader than Augustine of Hippo. Catholics, Orthodox, Anglicans, and the wide-ranging Protestant traditions all stand on his shoulders (not, of course, in total agreement). We can pick up almost any issue in the church today—justice, human nature, the sacraments, grace, perseverance through suffering, redemption, epistemology, human sexuality, education, the tenacity of evil—and find arguments and themes, questions and answers in Augustine that still carry weight today.

I have space to say only one thing, so let me suggest this: of all the ancient literature I have read (ok, I haven't read that much), *Confessions* may be the most startling, most profound material outside of the Scriptures themselves. It is worth reading, and reading slowly.

Confessions is a confession, a declaration, a revealing. Augustine, this great man of God, unveils his convoluted, sinful, path to Christ. His quest for glory, his sexual dalliance, his betrayal of his mother, his philosophical wanderings, and his early disdain for Scripture, are all on display. Sometimes abstract and

“Nevertheless, to praise you is the desire of man, a little piece of your creation. You stir man to take pleasure in praising you, because you have made us for yourself, and our heart is restless until it rests in you.”

– Saint Augustine. *Confessions* (Oxford World's Classics). Translated by Henry Chadwick, Oxford University Press, p. 3.

difficult, and regularly challenging, he is still one of us, rescued, redeemed, and healed by the grace of God.

Confessions is a prayer to God. We have all learned how to pray using the Psalms and the great prayers of the gospels and the epistles. (If this is new to you, please pray through Ephesians 1:15-19a on my behalf.) Augustine can similarly teach us how to pray. Modern Christians, educated, sensible Christians like ourselves, often prefer prayers that are sensible and educated. Augustine goes there, of course, but what is sensible for him is often startlingly intense, full of desire and longing for God. He reveals an affection for God of far greater depth than I am used to or comfortable with. His prayers stretch me. For Augustine the transformation of the heart was the crucial matter; he shows us how rightly ordered love deeply desires the source of all love, the God who is love.

Confessions is filled with questions, questions that probe the limits of human understanding, unafraid of our stark need for revelation. “Who are you, my God?” “Who will enable me to find rest in you? Who will grant me that you come to my heart and intoxicate it, so that I forget my evils and embrace my one and only good, yourself?” “In your mercies, Lord God, tell me what you are to me.” (I.iv.4; I.v.5) His questions themselves are prayers and can articulate things which for us had been inarticulate. He gives words to questions we didn't know we had.

Augustine can be daunting, no doubt. Perhaps it is helpful to remember that he was a pastor first. Theologian, yes; philosopher, yes; bishop, yes. But a shepherd first. He models for us the pursuit of and love for God. He embodies for us grace in action and transformed, fully engaged lives in service to our neighbors. He shows us what it is to be discontent with our failures to seek and find truth, and yet continue to seek. He demonstrates what it is to receive God's love and abide with the One whom our hearts long for most fully.

Book One opens with a confession of restlessness: “You have made us for yourself, and our heart is restless until it rests in you.” Book Thirteen ends with resolution: “you will rest in us, just as now you work in us. Your rest will be through us, just as now your works are done through us. . . Only you can be asked, only you can be begged, only on your door can we knock.” Augustine's *Confessions* is one of the great ones; by all means, pick it up and read.

For more, see Augustine's *Confessions*. The quotations above are from Henry Chadwick's classic translation. Thomas Williams's translation is also excellent and has particularly strong marginal notes to Augustine's Scripture references. See also Peter Brown's biography, *Augustine of Hippo*.

Bishop Bill's Final Visit to All Saints

Bishop Bill Atwood has served as our bishop for the last fifteen of our twenty-year history. His leadership and ministry have made a long-lasting impact upon our congregation, and the words he has spoken over so many of our people during their confirmation continues to comfort and encourage. As Bishop Bill approaches his quasi-retirement this June—he still plans to continue some international work through the Diocese of the Southwest as an assisting bishop—we have the opportunity to enjoy one more episcopal visit from him on the weekend of April 20–21. Mark your calendars! We can expect a teaching session, an ordination service, the consecration of our new nave, and confirmations.



What is Confirmation?

As stated by our catechism, “Confirmation is the laying on of the bishop’s hands with prayer for strengthening by the Holy Spirit, followed by a period of catechetical formation. In confirmation, I make a mature confession of faith, publicly renewing the vows and promises made at my Baptism.”

Confirmation is therefore rightly likened to a lay ordination, when one receives a blessing from a bishop to be a witness for Christ and his kingdom in the world by immersing oneself in the life of the Church. Confirmation, then, is a gift to be desired, a sacramental encounter with God.

An additional unique feature of confirmation is “the laying on of hands by a bishop.” This is what connects a person’s faith commitment with the apostolic Church, having received a blessing from a bishop for lay ordination, from one who represents the apostolic witness as well as the historic, global Church. A person is therefore only confirmed once in their life.

While someone can be a member of All Saints without having received confirmation, in the sense of one who is viewed by the local church’s leadership as being under their pastoral care and oversight, only confirmed members can serve on the Vestry, be licensed as Lay Eucharistic Ministers, and serve as delegates to our regular diocesan synods (gatherings).

Schedule

Bishop’s Teaching

SATURDAY, APRIL 20 | 10:00 AM

Everyone is invited to join our confirmands as they receive teaching from the bishop on the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Ordination Service

SATURDAY, APRIL 20 | 2:30 PM

Lord willing, Dn. Kevin Vailes will be ordained to the priesthood. All are invited to attend.

Breakfast with the Bishop

SUNDAY, APRIL 21 | 8:45 AM

In lieu of our Formation Hour, we will be offering a Potluck Breakfast with the Bishop in the Parish Hall. We invite you to attend and express your appreciation for him for his ministry to us.

Consecration of the Nave & Confirmation Service

SUNDAY, APRIL 21 | 10:00 AM

Come celebrate the consecration of our new building as well as those receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. For those who are able (and weather permitting), we will start this service outside in front of our nave before moving inside. Reception to follow.





Outreach Highlight: CASA

Every year All Saints sets aside at least 10% of its annual budget to go towards outreach. This year, the vestry designated 12% to go towards outreach totaling just shy of \$73,000. You can read last month's Crown to learn how we decided which organizations to support with these funds. Each month we will spotlight one of the organizations we support financially so you can learn more about their work and how you can get involved.

Since April is "Child Abuse Awareness Month", we want to focus on the work of CASA of West TN.

CASA of West TN

During his ministry, Jesus showed his love and special concern for children saying, "for to such belongs the Kingdom of God." A Christian vision of the Kingdom of God imagines every child in a safe and nurturing home, yet that is not the reality today. When we care for children, we participate in God's redemptive work of building the Kingdom of God on earth as it is in heaven.

In 2023 there were over 1,000 cases of child abuse in Madison County alone. CASA of West TN advocates for safe, permanent, and nurturing homes for abused and neglected children by providing specially selected and trained community volunteers, called CASAs.

What is a CASA?

A Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) is a compassionate volunteer who stands up for the rights and wellbeing of children involved in cases of abuse and neglect. In a complex legal system, a CASA acts independent of the family and the state, to advocate for the child's best future.



How Can I Get Involved?

1. Become a CASA Volunteer!

The best way to get involved in the work of CASA of West TN is to become a CASA volunteer. After a period of training, CASA volunteers spend an average of one hour a week investing in children as their advocate.

2. Join CASA of West TN in Prayer

April is Child Abuse Awareness Month. CASA of West TN has created a prayer guide for churches across the region to pray for children, families, and organizations like CASA throughout the month of April. You can

pick one up at the Welcome Desk starting March 31. CASA of West TN's Executive Director, Hannah Snowden, will join us on April 7 to share more.

3. Learn more about CASA of West TN

You can learn more at casawesttn.org. If you'd like to talk more about All Saint's partnership with this organization, reach out to our Minister of Community Engagement, Olivia Abernathy.



APRIL *at a glance*

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| EASTER SUNDAY Formation Hour <i>8:45am</i> Holy Eucharist <i>10:00am</i> Birthday's Anniversaries | Morning Prayer <i>8:15am - 8:45am</i> | Morning Prayer <i>8:15am - 8:45am</i> Healing Prayer <i>12:00pm - 2:00pm</i> Choir Rehearsal <i>7:00pm - 8:30pm</i> Arthur Krebs Micah Psungo | Morning Prayer <i>8:15am - 8:45am</i> Youth Encounter <i>5:45pm</i> | Morning Prayer <i>8:15am - 8:45am</i> Centering Prayer <i>9:00am - 9:30am</i> Caitlin Wright | | Debbie Colgrove Charlotte Slack Melisande & Mike Rowe |
| 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Formation Hour <i>8:45am</i> Holy Eucharist <i>10:00am</i> | Morning Prayer <i>8:15am - 8:45am</i> ASIS Update <i>6:00pm - 7:00pm</i> Will Slack | Morning Prayer <i>8:15am - 8:45am</i> Healing Prayer <i>12:00pm - 2:00pm</i> Choir Rehearsal <i>7:00pm - 8:30pm</i> | Morning Prayer <i>8:15am - 8:45am</i> Youth Encounter <i>5:45pm</i> Jondavid Box | Morning Prayer <i>8:15am - 8:45am</i> Centering Prayer <i>9:00am - 9:30am</i> | | Catechism Class <i>9:00am - 12:00pm</i> |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| Formation Hour <i>8:45am</i> Holy Eucharist <i>10:00am</i> Ladies Koinonia <i>6:00pm - 8:00pm</i> | Morning Prayer <i>8:15am - 8:45am</i> Evening Prayer <i>5:30pm</i> Vestry Meeting <i>6:00pm</i> Jason Strandquist | Morning Prayer <i>8:15am - 8:45am</i> Healing Prayer <i>12:00pm - 2:00pm</i> Choir Rehearsal <i>7:00pm - 8:30pm</i> Miles Moore | Morning Prayer <i>8:15am - 8:45am</i> Youth Encounter <i>5:45pm</i> | Morning Prayer <i>8:15am - 8:45am</i> Centering Prayer <i>9:00am - 9:30am</i> Marcelo Psungo | Cameron Huelin | Bishop's Teaching <i>10:00am - 12:00pm</i> Ordination Service <i>2:30pm</i> Eloise Camp |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| Breakfast with the Bishop <i>8:45am</i> Building Consecration & Confirmation Service <i>10:00am</i> | Morning Prayer <i>8:15am - 8:45am</i> | Morning Prayer <i>8:15am - 8:45am</i> Healing Prayer <i>12:00pm - 2:00pm</i> Choir Rehearsal <i>7:00pm - 8:30pm</i> Ben Burleson | Morning Prayer <i>8:15am - 8:45am</i> Youth Encounter <i>5:45pm</i> Lyn Fields Cornelia Tiller | Morning Prayer <i>8:15am - 8:45am</i> Centering Prayer <i>9:00am - 9:30am</i> | | |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| Formation Hour <i>8:45am</i> Holy Eucharist <i>10:00am</i> Finnegan Beasley Jack Priddy | Morning Prayer <i>8:15am - 8:45am</i> | Morning Prayer <i>8:15am - 8:45am</i> Healing Prayer <i>12:00pm - 2:00pm</i> Choir Rehearsal <i>7:00pm - 8:30pm</i> Joyce & Pat Heffernan | Morning Prayer <i>8:15am - 8:45am</i> Youth Encounter <i>5:45pm</i> | Morning Prayer <i>8:15am - 8:45am</i> Centering Prayer <i>9:00am - 9:30am</i> | | |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

Give an Online Gift

We have transitioned to a new online giving platform called Pushpay. If you would like to give a recurring or one-time gift to the ministry of All Saints, you can do so by scanning the QR code below or by going to allsaintsjackson.com.

With your help, we were able to successfully transition all online gifts from Tith.ly to the new platform! As always, thank you for your continued generosity to the ministry here at All Saints.



All Saints Anglican Church
<https://pushpay.com/WFKT88EYcQ>



ALL SAINTS

ANGLICAN CHURCH

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