

The Reverend Cynthia A. Sever, Rector

The Episcopal Parish of Alton has as its mission: To live and show Christ in our midst.



As I write this, Mother Cindy is still at home as she recuperates from her back surgery done August 9th. Since her surgery, she has discovered that she needs more time to heal before being able to return, so she will be gone three Sundays altogether (August 14th, 21st, and 28th) as opposed to the two Sundays mentioned in last month's newsletter. She does plan to be present for Mondays@7 on August 29th and for Vestry on August 30th, and says she will ease herself back in to work in the office that week as she is able. Because the August Vestry meeting is scheduled to be held after Mother

Cindy's return, there has not been a meeting since the last newsletter (my schedule dictates that I distribute this newsletter a few days early, so I cannot wait until after the Vestry meeting to write this). I'm sure that there will be information from Vestry for me to report next month.

On August 21st, we welcomed The Rev. Canon Mark Evans as our supply priest at Trinity and St. Paul's, accompanied by his wife Sandy Moore for the service at St. Paul's. Canon Mark is a part of the diocesan staff, working closely with Bishop Burgess. Having guests is always a motivating factor for me when it comes to cleaning and straightening, so I was very pleased with the response when I told Vestry members that I was going to vacuum the carpet at St Paul's and asked if anyone else would like to help clean. The day before our supply priest arrived, seven of us were at St. Paul's cleaning floors and counters in the parish hall, dusting and vacuuming in the church, doing the restrooms, and putting away a lot of "stuff" that had accumulated in various places. Joining me were Dereck Cook, Irene McLaughlin, Mimi Almonroeder, Connie Terry, Donna Fisher, and Thom Harris. Many thanks to all of them! And I can't forget Diane Martin, who keeps the conference room and offices clean. Not to overlook Trinity Chapel, I saw the weeds in the garden beds were getting pretty tall, so I weeded them myself! We will have to get a team together to trim the bushes there soon.

If you have not yet filled out the form with information for our new directory, please do so (see page 5 of this newsletter). Our last parish directory was published in 2018, and there have been a lot of changes since then. We want to have everyone's current information, including YOURS!

Susan Lukasik, Senior Warden

Major Feast Days of the Episcopal Church To Be Celebrated in September

As mentioned in last month's *Angelus*, at the request of the Bishop to all clergy of the Diocese, Mother Cindy will begin celebrating the Principal Feasts and Major Feasts of the liturgical Calendar with Holy Eucharist on those days, or in the absence of a priest, Morning Prayer led by a worship leader. **These masses will be held at noon at Trinity Chapel.**

Here is information about the Feast Days celebrated in September, with material taken mostly from *Holy Women, Holy Men: Celebrating the Saints* (Church Publishing, 2016), prepared by Diane Martin.

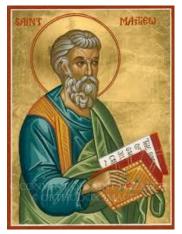
Holy Cross Day-September 14th

On this day we give honor to Christ's self-offering on the cross for our salvation. The collect for the day recalls that Christ was "lifted up high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world unto himself," and prays that "we, who glory in the mystery of our redemption, may have grace to take up our cross and follow him" (BCP, p. 192).

From *The Hymnal 1982* #473, verses 3-4: "O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree, as thou hast promised, draw the world to thee. So shall our song of triumph be: praise to the Crucified for victory!" Lift high the cross!



Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist-September 21st



St. Matthew was a tax collector working for the Roman government in Capernaum. It is said that when Jesus passed him by, Jesus invited him quite simply with the words, "Follow me!" At once, Matthew left everything, followed Jesus and gave a dinner for him. Matthew became a loyal disciple and evangelist. Levi was his original name, but "Matthew," meaning "gift from God," was given to him after he became a disciple.

The Gospel of Matthew has been attributed to him even though some scholars have insisted that it seems so unlikely that this gospel could have been written by a former Galilean tax collector. However, the sayings, parable and teachings of Jesus are accurate. Through Matthew's gospel, Jesus speaks not only of eternal life, but emphasizes our duties toward one's neighbor, family and even enemies.

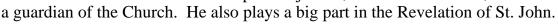
Matthew is venerated as a martyr; however, the time and circumstances of his death are unknown. He is seen as the perfect response to Jesus' calling of "Follow me!"

Feast of St. Michael and All Angels—September 29th

The word "angel" (Greek: *angelos*) literally means "a messenger." Only four angels are called by name in Scripture: Michael, Gabriel, Uriel and Raphael. Angels are pictured in many ways in Christian art—wings, with or without swords, dazzling raiment or as mythical beasts. Angels can assume human and non-human forms and are powerful agents of God.

The Archangel Michael is the powerful angel who "wards off evil from God's people and delivers peace to them at the end of this life's mortal struggle." Angels in many forms protect us, defend us, lead us, and watch over us.

Michaelmas, a feast in England as well as other countries, is a popular celebration in the Christian year. Michael is the patron saint of many churches and is considered a champion of justice, a healer of the sick, and a guardian of the Church. He also plays a hig part in the Payalatian of St.







Greetings, Parish Musicians!

We will be starting choir and bells again sometime after Labor Day. I will be sending out more info later to everyone that has

participated with us in the past. We would welcome anyone to join us that would like to be part of St. Paul's worship music - alternating choir, bells, solos during the services. Feel free to message me or drop me an email at <u>brierbankfarm@juno.com</u>! See you all soon!

Gay Anderson

Our Sincere Condolences to:

--**The Dunnagan family**, on the death of Jeff's mother, Letha B. France.

--Mary Molloy and family, on the death of her mother, Delores Molloy.

--Elizabeth Bumbacher, on the death of her brother-in-law, Phil Bumbacher.



Your Help Requested in Special Plans for Upstairs Parlor Wedding Wall

Have you sent in your wedding photo yet? It's not too late!

We're asking that you please dust off your wedding album and pick a favorite photo to share with us. We have special plans for the wedding photos of our present or former parish members! With your permission, the Restoration Committee would love to copy and enlarge your photo and have it placed on a canvas which will then be displayed in the upstairs parlor, where future brides and bridal parties will prepare for weddings. We may have been forced to renew the space because of the fire, but we can still keep our past memories alive! Our wedding photos will add warmth to our welcoming parlor for any bride, her family, and her bridesmaids. To the members of the Episcopal Parish of Alton, the photos will acknowledge our past, honor our special memories, exemplify our parish family, and help to bridge the time before the fire with the present.



If you were married in St. Paul's or in another church, we

would love to have your photo included in our display. The photo can be anything associated with your wedding: just the bride, groom, newlywed couple, bridal party, first dance, cutting the cake, reciting vows, flower girl and ring bearer, or candid photo...select your favorite one! Please note that once copied, the copied photos will be turned into black and white photos, if they are not already black and white. Nothing will be done to damage or change your original photo. The better the quality of the photo, the better it will work to enlarge it. This may help you decide which photo to select.

Your photo can be dropped off at St. Paul's. As this is a precious memory to you, please make sure we know who the photo belongs to so we can notify you when your photo has been copied. For our records, please include the name of the individual(s) in the photo, clearly printed on a separate piece of paper, and also include your name and contact information so to be able to return the photo to you.

If you have access to a digital scanner, you may wish to scan your photo and send it to us through email. Photos sent in this way may be sent to Mimi Almonroeder <u>diamondzoe@charter.net</u>.

Mimi Almonroeder

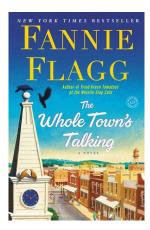
We would like to update information for a new Church Directory and birthday list. If you have not already done so, please fill out the following form, even if we already have your information. We are starting from scratch! Note that 1. and 2. refer to two adults in the same household. The numbers carry down to each individual's email and cell phone information. If the second adult has a different last name, just write it in with the first name. If you would like some of your information to NOT be published, please note that at the bottom of the form.

Copies of this form will be available at St. Paul's and Trinity Chapel, or you may print this from the newsletter. Please drop the completed form into the collection basket, or take or mail it to the church office.

Episcopal Parish of Alton Church Directory Information

		and
Last Name	1. First Name	2. First Name
Address		
City	State	Zip Code
1. Email	2. F	mail
1. Cell Phone	2. Cell Phone	Home Phone
1. Birthday	2. Birt	hday
	Family Members—Child	en Living at Home
Last Name	Family Members—Childu , First Name	en Living at Home Birthday
Last Name Last Name Last Name	, First Name	Birthday

Book Club



We will meet on Wednesday, September 28th at 9:30 a.m. at LuciAnna's on Broadway for our September Book Club. We will be reading *The Whole Town's Talking* by Fannie Flag. Following is a brief synopsis:

Elmwood Springs, Missouri, is a small town like any other, but something strange is happening at the cemetery. Still Meadows, as it's called, is anything but still. Original, profound, The Whole Town's Talking, a novel in the tradition of Thornton Wilder's Our Town and Flagg's own Can't Wait to Get to Heaven, tells the story of Lordor Nordstrom, his Swedish mail-order bride, Katrina, and their neighbors and descendants as they live, love, die, and carry on in mysterious and surprising ways.

Lordor Nordstrom created, in his wisdom, not only a lively town and a prosperous legacy for himself but also a beautiful final resting place for his family, friends, and neighbors yet to come. "Resting place" turns out to be a bit of a misnomer, however. Odd things begin to happen, and it starts the whole town talking.

With her wild imagination, great storytelling, and deep understanding of folly and the human heart, the beloved Fannie Flagg tells an unforgettable story of life, afterlife, and the remarkable goings-on of ordinary people. In The Whole Town's Talking, she reminds us that community is vital, life is a gift, and love never dies.

Please join us for lively discussion and wonderful food!

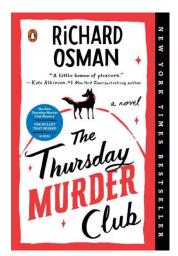
Education Commission

Book Club Sneak Peek for October:

The Thursday Murder Club by Richard Osman

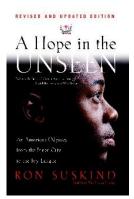
In a peaceful retirement village, four unlikely friends meet weekly in the Jigsaw Room to discuss unsolved crimes; together they call themselves the Thursday Murder Club.

When a local developer is found dead with a mysterious photograph left next to the body, the Thursday Murder Club suddenly find themselves in the middle of their first live case.



As the bodies begin to pile up, can our unorthodox but brilliant gang catch the killer, before it's too late?

Book Club Sneak Peek for November:



Hope in the Unseen by Ron Suskin

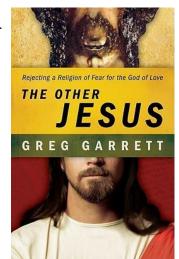
In 1993, Cedric Jennings was a bright and ferociously determined honor student at Ballou, a high school in one of Washington D.C.'s most dangerous neighborhoods, where the dropout rate was well into double digits and just 80 students out of more than 1,350 boasted an average of B or better. At Ballou, Cedric had almost no friends. He ate lunch in a classroom most days, plowing through the extra work he asked for, knowing that he was really competing with kids from other, harder schools. Cedric Jennings's driving ambition—which was fully supported by his forceful mother—was to attend a top college.

In September 1995, after years of near superhuman dedication, he realized that ambition when he began as a freshman at Brown University. But he didn't leave his struggles behind. He found himself unprepared for college: he struggled to master classwork and fit in with the white upper-class students. Having traveled too far to turn back, Cedric was left to rely on his intelligence and his determination to maintain hope in the unseen—a future of acceptance and reward.

News from the Wednesday Book Discussion Group

Our Wednesday Evening Discussion Group is beginning its next book selection—*The Other Jesus: Rejecting a Religion of Fear for the God of Love* by Greg Garrett. Greg is a novelist, a professor of English at Bayer University and a writer-in-residence at the Episcopal Seminary of the Southwest. His book relates his personal experience of growing up (and ultimately leaving) a disapproving conservative church and his long journey, finally, to the kind of Christianity and Christian community that is "communal, missional, just and loving."

As with our previous selections, we will be reading this book together, chapter by chapter. Anyone may participate with or without a book. We meet in person in the Conference Room at St. Paul's at 7:00 p.m. every Wednesday. Books are now available in the Parish Bookstore for \$20 per



book, which includes tax. A Sunday morning discussion group may also be made available in the Conference Room at St. Paul's between Sunday Masses.

Please join us in reading *The Other Jesus: Rejecting a Religion of Fear for the God of Love* as we learn about Garrett's quest to find a way to worship and glorify a loving God. For more information, please contact Diane Martin at 618-225-2676.

Education Commission

Join the Coats for Kids Campaign for Riverbend Head Start

Fall isn't far away, and the hot days of summer will soon give way to cooler temperatures. To help those in need who may not have a warm coat to protect themselves from the cold, we will participate in Riverbend Head Start & Family Services' *Coats for Kids* Campaign.

Since writing the article in last month's Angelus, we



found out that the agency has decided to no longer do a coat COLLECTION; instead, they are doing a *Coats for Kids* FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN. They prefer to get money so they can buy coats in the exact sizes needed. So, there will not be any collection boxes for coats. Instead, we are asking you to donate by writing a check to St. Paul's Church and marking "Coats for Kids" on the memo line. Our fundraising will go through the end of October.



Riverbend Head Start and Family Services is a non-profit on a mission to empower children and families to develop positive skills to meet life's challenges. Madison County families with children between birth and age 5 and expectant mothers are eligible for the agency's Head Start and Early Head Start programs if they live below the federal poverty line, have a child with a disability, or are involved with the Division of Children and Family Services.

For more information, please contact Susan Lukasik.

Evangelism and Outreach Commission

Thank You for Supporting Crisis Food Center!

Our baskets are back in the Narthex at St. Paul's and Trinity to collect food donations for Crisis Food Center. So far, our parishioners have been very generous in donating non-perishable food items! Monetary donations are very much appreciated as well. You may use your donation envelopes or just write a check to St. Paul's Church with "Crisis Food Center" on the memo line. There is even a place to donate to Crisis Food Center on our parish website! Thank you so much for your generosity!



Evangelism and Outreach Commission

Serving Area Kids (S.A.K.) Wraps Up Season

Serving Area Kids (S.A.K.), a lunch program designed to provide free meals to kids during the summer months, has wrapped up for the season. Four individuals from our parish participated as volunteers this year, including Marti LoRusso, Charles Buxton, Tony Springman, and Nancy Weiss-Hayes.

Between June 6 and August 15, the program distributed 8,216 meals to children in the Alton area. Lunches were distributed at five different



locations on Mondays and Thursdays: Enchanted Village, Main Street Methodist, Hellrung Park, Killian Park, and Camelot. The Camelot site was discontinued at the end of June due to lack of children utilizing the service and was moved to West Elementary School. Lunches were also furnished for summer programs held at the YMCA, Boys and Girls Club of Alton, and Greater Glory Baptist Church.

Meals consisted of one fresh lunch from LaMays Catering (located in the old Riverbend Billiards building), two Lunch Mates (on Mondays), four snacks, and a fresh fruit. On Thursdays, they received only one Lunch Mate instead of two. The fresh fruit was donated by the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Charles Buxton has been volunteering with S.A.K. for many years. Marti LoRusso has been a volunteer for six years and a member of the S.A.K. Board for five of them. Tony Springman and Nancy Weiss-Hayes volunteered this year for the first time and are looking forward to returning next year. We are always looking for good, reliable help—it only takes one to two hours a week, and you meet so many interesting and diverse people. Maybe you would like to join us next year!

Evangelism and Outreach Commission



PAWS

(Pets are Welcome Service)

Sunday, September 4, 2022 2:00 p.m. St. Paul's Conference Room Inside the Market Street doors





Our next Pet Food Pantry is scheduled for Sunday, September 4. The pet food pantry is open one hour monthly on the first Sunday of the month from 12:30-1:30 p.m. No food

will be distributed at any other time. Enter St. Paul's through the

Market Street entrance to participate. Pets are welcome!



Our mission is to feed the pets of the hungry in order to keep pets from being surrendered to shelters; keep pet parents and their beloved pets together; and improve the nutrition of the



hungry, those who suffer from food insecurity, and their precious pets.

The 4PAWS Pet Food Pantry runs strictly on donations of pet food or money from the public, so participation from our community will be

key to the success of this project. Pet food can be dropped off during pet food pantry hours at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 10 East 3rd Street in Alton, or put into the designated baskets at St. Paul's and Trinity Chapel. We would also gladly accept monetary donations, as this will allow us to purchase the food that is most needed at any given time. Checks can be made payable to St. Paul's Church with "pet pantry" written on the memo line.

Together we can improve the lives of our neighbors and their precious animal companions!

The Rev. Cynthia Sever+

MONDAYS@7!



Our Monday evening time of worship and fellowship continues every Monday at 7:00 p.m. at St. Paul's.

It is simple worship involving reading from Scripture and other sources plus prayer, interspersed with music and or quiet singing. Each week has a theme from the Twelve Steps or Scripture, or other sources. The program is attended by those both in Twelve Step programs and those who are not. Following worship, we have as short social time with snacks and discussion. It is a very peaceful time! All are welcome! For more information, contact

Mother Cindy or Diane Martin.

Address or Phone Changes?

If you or someone you know has a change of address or phone number, please let Mother Cindy or Diane Martin know (in addition to filling out the form for our new directory). Thanks!



If you (or someone you know) are not currently on our parish email distribution list and would like to be, please send your email information to Mother Cindy at <u>episcopalalton@gmail.com</u>.



Your help is need in offsetting the cost of altar flowers at St. Paul's Church and Trinity Chapel. Monetary donations are being accepted.

FIOWERS If you wish to give flowers in honor or memory of a loved one or to mark a special occasion, these options are available: Bouquets are currently \$40 each or \$80 for two. If you wish to supply your own

bouquet, the flowers must be fresh cut, which would exclude any artificial flowers, silk flowers, ribbon, ornaments, etc. Glass vases are available for arranging. Flowers must be coordinated through the Altar Guild Director at 618-830-3046. Any help is appreciated. Thank you!

Nancy Weiss-Hayes

Altar Guild Director

Mark your Calendars ...



Blessing of the Animals in the Garden at St. Paul's Church Sunday, October 2, 2022 2:00 p.m. More information in next month's Angelus!

A Look Ahead...



A Tribute to Bud Summers

Bud Summers was a long-time member of our parish and a talented musician, singing in the choir and occasionally playing his classical guitar, which was always a treat at the early Christmas Eve service. Let's join the community in honoring Bud by attending this tribute to him. Put it on your calendar now and look for more information in next month's *Angelus*.

Date:Saturday, October 8th 1:00-6:00 p.m.Location:Liberty Bank Amphitheater
1 Riverfront Drive in Alton

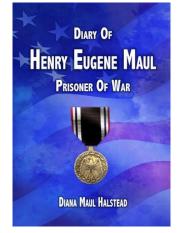
Admission is free!

The following information is taken from the Great Rivers & Routes of Southwest Illinois website:

Join the 2nd annual tribute to Bud Summers October 8th, brought to Liberty Bank Amphitheater by the Upper Alton Association. Bud Summers passed away December 2019. Bud will be remembered most as an outstanding musician. When he played, the music came from his heart and soul. Bud remained humble and felt as if each supporter was just as important as the other. On breaks he would circulate and try to talk to those that had come out to support him. The tribute will feature songs from Bud's set list focusing on classic rock and folk favorites.



Book about Former Church Member Released



The memoir of life-long Alton resident and former member of our parish, Henry Eugene "Gene" Maul, has been recently released. A marker in memory of his wife Dixie can still be found in the garden at St. Paul's.

Diary of Henry Eugene Maul, Prisoner of War, is a compilation by Diana Maul Halstead, the eldest of the three daughters of Henry Eugene and Dixie Davis Maul.

Gene Maul was influenced and angered by the Dec. 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor. Shortly after graduating from Marquette Catholic High

School, he enlisted in the Army Air Force, training to take on one of the most dangerous positions as a waist gunner. A member of the 96th Bomb Group and the 338th Bomb Squadron, he completed eight missions before his plane was downed by enemy fire on May 8, 1944, causing him and his crew to be captured by German scouts.

This diary is not a story told in the typical day-to-day accounting of time, but a visual drawing-by-drawing, poem-by-poem, note-by-note diary. Gene Maul used the intense solitude of POW life to draw his thoughts, his observations and his fears. Within each drawing, poem and note is symbolism of what he, his crew and his fellow POWs were enduring.

Included in this book are letters from home, photographs, and formerly classified documents regarding Allied Prisoners of World War II in Germany. The documents describe how POWs were treated — from starvation to appalling food, loneliness, poor hygiene, and the community the men built.

From when Diana and her sisters were children, they were told to never ask their dad questions about his time in the war. They never did. Her journey to creating this memoir started as a small project to protect the war diary she had never seen and only knew existed for the past few years. Once she saw it for the first time, reading her dad's poems and touching the pages of each drawing, she knew there was more to her dad's story than the words and drawings before her.

She set out to learn this never mentioned story of her dad's journey as a POW. Her own journey taught her more about World War II, Nazi Germany, what man can endure if he has family, faith, and comradery, and why her dad did not want to relive or share his hell with his daughters. This man, the quiet soul that barely spoke but always listened, was one of the bravest men she would ever know, and dearly love.

Diary of Henry Eugene Maul, Prisoner of War is available at various online booksellers. A copy is also available to read at the Hayner Public Library in the Genealogy Department.

September Calendar

Sunday, September 4th Offering for Rector's Discretionary Fund
8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist at Trinity Chapel
11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist at St. Paul's
12:30-1:30 p.m. Pet Food Pantry
2:00 p.m. PAWS

Sunday, September 11th 8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist at Trinity Chapel 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist at St. Paul's

Wednesday, September 14th Noon Holy Eucharist at Trinity Chapel—Holy Cross Day

Sunday, September 18th

8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist at Trinity Chapel 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist at St. Paul's

Wednesday, September 21st Noon Holy Eucharist at Trinity Chapel—Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

Sunday, September 25th 8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist at Trinity Chapel 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist at St. Paul's

Wednesday, September 28th at 9:30 a.m.—Book Club at LuciAnna's

Thursday, September 29th Noon Holy Eucharist at Trinity Chapel—Saint Michael and All Angels

--Mondays@7 meets every Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. at St. Paul's.

--The Wednesday Book Discussion group meets every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. at St. Paul's. We are no longer meeting via Zoom.







September Birthdays

- **3** Nancy Weiss-Hayes
- 4 Bill Terry
- 5 Tim Foley
- **11 Liam Downey**
- 16 Lily Mills
- 22 Victoria Sever Wagner
- 24 Anna Potter
- 29 Linda Dunnagan
- Mary Almonroeder Mills
- **30 Diane Martin**



We apologize to those whose birthdays we have missed! We know our list is not complete, and that is why we are creating a new birthday list along with updating our parish directory. Please fill out and submit the form on page 5 of this newsletter. Thank you!!!

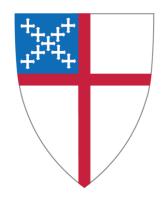


Many thanks to those who have kept up their giving as pledged. In addition to writing a check or putting money into the offering basket, you may also donate online by going to the church's website at episcopalalton.org.

> Please also remember to include the church in your will!

Vestry

Mother Cindy, Rector Susan Lukasik—Rector's Warden Jean Downey—People's Warden Judy Jones—Treasurer Diane Martin—Clerk of the Vestry



Vestry Commissions:

Education: Jean Downey and Mimi Almonroeder
Evangelism & Outreach: Bruce Bayer, Irene McLaughlin, Connie Terry and Susan Lukasik
Liturgy & Music: Susan Lukasik and Donna Fisher
Parish Life: Mimi Almonroeder, Donna Fisher, Jean Downey and Tom Wrausmann
Property & Maintenance: Dereck Cook, Anna Potter and Judy Jones
Public Relations & Publicity: Tom Wrausmann and Irene McLaughlin
Finance & Insurance: Judy Jones, Anna Potter and Connie Terry



The deadline for the October Angelus is September 20th. Please email your articles and photos to <u>episcopalalton@gmail.com</u>.

The Episcopal Parish of Alton



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