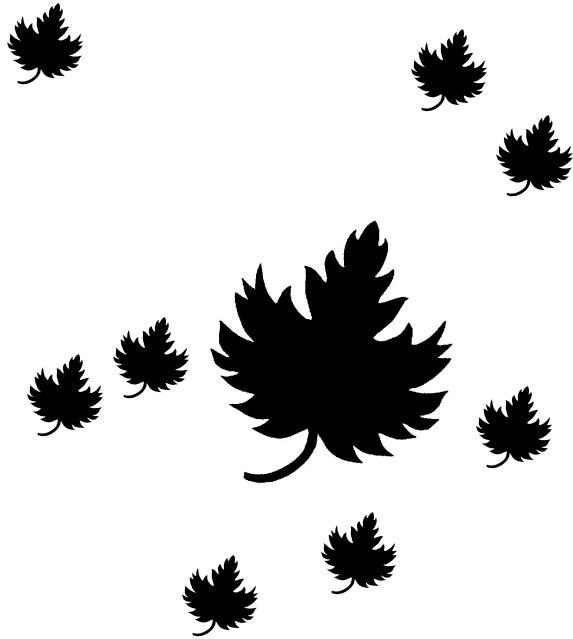


The Mars Hill
PROCLAIMER

October 2009



*A newsletter
by, for and about the people of*

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
DeKalb, Illinois

This month:

- A message from Mother Gwynne
- Upcoming Events and Programs
- Event Calendar
- Committee and Program Reports
- Commentary (Eva Leonard)
- Vestry Highlights (Ellen Anderson)
- News About Our Members
- Transitions

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Two years of planning and hoping and praying and my pilgrimage is now a sweet memory! I do still have to finish the paper... but.... Indeed, it was one of the best trips I've made to the UK. God's hand was clearly in this process. Everything went smoothly. The group was very congenial and several serendipitous things graced our journey. In planning I'd made several contacts that I got to know via e-mail. In person they were most gracious and hospitable. New friends! Seeing places I've visited before through eyes of people who had never been to England before gave me new perspectives. Clearly, the highlight of the trip for me was the privilege of celebrating Eucharist at the Shrine of Julian of Norwich. Ironic that this anchoress spent all of her life in Norwich, and yet the pilgrimage of the Order of Julian of Norwich was welcomed by name at Salisbury, Winchester and Canterbury. Centuries and millennia about from her life, Julian is remembered.

So back to normality! This time of year of course has so many activities in the works. Holiday seasons approach and that means many special events in the parish. Please do check the calendar for those events so that you'll be able to join us. There are many things to enjoy.

You'll notice that the *Proclaimer* is taking on a new format. The Communications Committee has set a goal of making the parish newsletter more standardized in timing and in content. The plan for the *Mars Hill Proclaimer* to come out each month with the deadline being the 15th of the month prior. Please let Brad Cripe know how you think this plan is working.

Our thanks to Marilyn Cleland for her ministry as editor of the *Mars Hill Proclaimer*. She has done a wonderful job of keeping us up to date and helping explain various ministries. Thank you, Marilyn!

For me, it is good to be back at St. Paul's with this wonderful group of loving and grace filled people.

Blessings
Gwynne +

UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

The Men's Breakfast Club will meet on Saturday, November 21 at 8 a.m. at Lincoln Café in DeKalb. All men of the parish are welcome.

The Episcopal Church Women's monthly luncheon will be held on Saturday, November 21. You may sign up in the parish hall. All women of the parish are welcome.

The Salvation Army is holding its Community Wide Thanksgiving Food Drive again this year. Due to the current economic climate, they are estimating the number of needy families to be almost 1,000 - twice the number served last year.

As in past years, we will try to send as many complete Thanksgiving Dinner Baskets as we can. Grocery lists and sign up sheets are on the Fellowship Hall table. The baskets will be delivered to the Salvation Army Sunday, Nov. 22nd. Last year, St. Paul's sent 10 baskets. It would be great if we could surpass that number this year! Submitted by Maureen Gerrity

FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY is always the second Sunday of the month. Upcoming dates are November 8 and December 13. There are so many people in our community who desperately need help right now, and our gifts are an important way to make a difference. Please remember to bring a few nonperishable food items or personal care items to be delivered to the Salvation Army food pantry. Submitted by Vince McMahon

Annual Parish Craft Show: Betsy Pool is once again organizing this great opportunity to share our crafts and hobbies with one another. Next Sunday, November 8 in the parish hall you are invited to display or sell your craft items. Please contact Betsy at 815 895 8271 if you'd like to participate. Submitted by Betsy Pool

African Team Ministries

Two Sundays! November 8 & 15!

For sale in the parish hall: Lovely handcrafted items.

Get your Christmas shopping done!

Your purchases will fund AIDS ministries in Africa.

Bishop Scantlebury Visits St. Paul's!

Sunday, November 15 we will have ONE SERVICE at 9 A.M.

The Right Reverend Victor Scantlebury, Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of Chicago, will preach and celebrate the Holy Eucharist.

Special Dates to Remember

| | |
|---|--|
| All Saints Day | Sunday, November 15 |
| Stewardship Campaign Begins | Sunday, November 15 |
| Craft Fair in Parish hall Betsy Pool, Coordinator | Sunday, November 15 |
| African Team Ministries Handcrafted merchandise for sale in parish hall | Sundays, November 8 & 15 |
| Bishop Scantlebury visits | November 15 One Service, 9 A.M. |
| Diocesan Convention Delegates: Ellen Anderson, Vince McMahon, Mthr. Gwynne | Friday & Saturday November 20-21 |
| Thanksgiving Service The Holy Eucharist | Wednesday, November 25, 7 P.M. |
| Thanksgiving Day | Thursday November 26 Office Closed |
| Advent Begins End of Stewardship campaign | Sunday, November 29 |
| Advent Quiet Day | Saturday, December 4 9:30 A.M. -2:30 P.M. |
| Blue Christmas Service | Sunday, December 20 at 4 P.M. |
| Christmas Eve | Thursday, December 24 Family Service: 4 P.M. Vigil Service: 9 P.M. |
| Christmas Day | Friday, December 25 No service at St. Paul's Office closed |

Harken!

The deadline for the end of November issue of the *Mars Hill Proclaimer* will be Sunday, November 15. Please email your commentaries, articles, or announcements to parishoffice@stpaulsdekalb.org.

Episcopal Church Women (ECW)

The ECW is not a club you join. All we women in the Episcopal Church are members by definition. Some churches have a formal and official organization with monthly meetings, programs and formal reports. Nowadays many more are like us. We have one formal activity, the lobster boil! We have one business meeting with treasurer's report, etc. We each choose our own interest for outreach, and we enjoy a monthly ladies' lunch for fellowship. Some of us would like some regular activity to engage in at the monthly fellowship meeting. A while back two early service ladies joined us for lunch. Pat Brown is a lunch regular. At the above lunch there was interesting discussion on what we would like at the Sunday service. Most expressed a wish that each service include one of the old time popular hymns we grew up with (sometimes in different faith traditions), a hymn everyone can sing. Praising the Lord in song is recommended in the Bible and is one of the ways everyone can feel they are participating. At the last luncheon Rochelle Cripe attended. It would be great if more younger women joined us. That would mean some fresh perspectives and energy.

At the Diocesan ECW Annual Meeting last spring the morning speaker, who talked about outstanding Episcopal women and the important work they did, admitted that nowadays with many young, energetic women in the work force and later retirement the former woman power is lacking. Nevertheless the work we in the diocese are doing is outstanding. Read the *Diocesan Mirror*. St. Paul's ECW receives a copy. Pick it up from the periodicals table. Submitted by Eva Leonard

Last month's ECW Luncheon

We had a delicious and well attended lunch at the home of Dawn Jones in September - if you missed this one you missed a fantastic meal and program!! Rochelle Cripe made an informative and enlightening presentation about her work for the DeKalb County American Red Cross. Thank you Rochelle and Dawn and housemates, Phyl and Connie.

SAFE PASSAGE FUNDRAISER: St. Paul's ECW has agreed to assist with the Safe Passage's major fundraiser, "An Evening of Chocolate" on November 7th by contributing the expense of half of the centerpieces being created by Blumen Gardens. We will also be helping with table arrangements on November 6th. If you are interesting in helping, please contact Sharon Downen.

From the Fellowship Committee

Thanks to everyone who completed the Social/Fellowship Groups & Activities Survey. The data has been compiled, and plans are underway to get groups and activities going!

We have two goals to accomplish before the end of 2009. One is to have a social/fun event this fall (in addition to our regular church events). This will probably be a game/card night sometime in November. More info to come on this. The second is to confirm that the fellowship dinner groups currently meeting would like to continue the way they have been going (we think so, but please speak up if you are part of a group and would like to re-group), an also to form new groups, based on the information on the surveys. There is a good mix of those who prefer dining at homes and those who would rather eat out.

If you would like to facilitate the November event, please let Peggy Newby know right away! Everyone is encouraged to look at the listing of our annual events (on the table in the parish hall), and sign up to help where you can.

If you have further input for the Fellowship Committee, please contact either Peggy Newby or Terry Dickow. Submitted by Peggy Newby

The Magnetic Church Committee

This committee continues to meet and has been discussing ideas for enhancing our membership and publicizing ourselves in the community. We have several proposals we will be putting together and presenting to the Vestry. A couple of these include expanding our outreach to students who walk by our door every day, and creating a quiet space with soft quiet toys and a rocking chair in the back of the church for parents who have active children. We are also working on signage suggestions. Our goal is to become more welcoming and visible. Stay tuned! Submitted by Ellen Anderson

From the Reverend Dawn Jones

Executive Director, United Campus Ministries

I'm excited to give you an update on ministry outreach that St Paul's provides to the beloved NIU community through your support to United Campus Ministries.

As I write it's mid-term week at NIU--half the fall semester already completed--and it's been a busy two months! A belated but heartfelt thanks for the joyous Welcome Back Picnic hosted by St Paul's in late August. There was a great turn-out of students and parish members who all enjoyed the delicious food, games on the beautiful church lawn and warm fellowship.

St. Paul's also hosted the evening meal for UCM and Lutheran Campus Ministry at our mid-week fellowship and worship on Wednesday, September 30. Students are still talking about the effort so many put in to provide us an extremely tasty home-cooked meal! Even more than that, the students enjoyed the chance to talk with members who stayed around to share the meal and worship with them. Plans are in the hopper for St. Paul's to host a campus ministry event at the church in early February--more details to follow.

Our partnered ministry with friends in Lutheran Campus Ministry continues to deepen and broaden. We are grateful that LCM invited us to join them nearly two years ago for joint programming and worship. This semester, besides our Wednesday night gathering of students for fellowship around a meal prior to 9 P.M. worship, we have had two retreats, conducted a Sunday evening meal and study program on the Holy Family, and there is also a men's Bible study group meeting on Saturdays. We expect a good turn-out of students to participate in this year's CROP Walk. Two of our students will be joining me in attending the 172nd Annual Convention of the Diocese of Chicago in Lombard next month. Fundraising is also ongoing to finance our annual Spring Break mission trip to Guatemala in March 2010. Bishop Jeffrey Lee will be joining us for worship on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 2010. Mark your calendar and join us that evening!

More UCM news....

LOCK IN!

Dear Friends: It's time to corral all of those junior high and middle school kids and lock them in for a night. The third annual Lutheran Campus Ministry/United Campus Ministries/Lutheran Youth Organization Lock-in is just around the corner. We hope to give our youth a great time at NIU on November 6-7...NO CHAPERONES from your church ARE NECESSARY...so send your kids and enjoy the fact that college students and high school youth--along with some older adults--are giving your youth leaders a programming break! Contact Dawn E. Jones, United Campus Ministries for registration information. dejones39@aol.com 815.762.3632

UCM and the Pink Flamingos

United Campus Ministries is currently sponsoring a fundraiser, called "Pink Wave" for their spring mission trip that involves having 10 pink flamingos magically appear in your yard. You must pay to have them removed and you can purchase insurance so you don't get them back. The Vestry decided to have the flamingos on the church lawn! We encourage your contributions to UCM. If you would like to make a contribution please make a check out to United Campus Ministries and put it in an envelope marked UCM. Speaking of UCM, thank you to everyone who contributed to our September chili dinner. They were very well fed for several days and were very appreciative of our efforts. Gracias to Bill Cumming, Maureen Gerrity, Kristin Duffy, Ellen Anderson, the Leonards, Sharon Downen, Sue Ouelette, Rosemarie Ostberg, Marilyn Sjöholm and Brad and Rochelle Cripe. Submitted by Ellen Anderson

Music Program Notes

Special music and guest musicians for the combined Sunday service on November 15, for the visit of Bishop Victor

Scantlebury: Our dedicated and incredibly talented choir will be accompanied by Marilyn Parkinson, Organ; Michael Duffy, Trumpet; Kristin Duffy, Oboe; SangHee Han, Piano; and possibly a few other guest musicians. We will be singing G. F. Händel's "Declare His Honor" and the Johann Pachelbel's "Canon of Praise". If you would like to sing with us for this special occasion or any other time during the year, please join us.

The St. Paul's Adult & Youth Choir sings at the 10:30 A.M. service every Sunday and for most holiday services. We rehearse on Thursday evenings 7-9 P.M. We are very excited to be rehearsing new (& some old) anthems and service music. We also hope to begin adding sung psalms and canticles, before if not in the beginning of 2010. Join us for a week, a month, a liturgical season (like Christmas) or a year. Stay tuned for "Notes" in the November *Mars Hill Proclaimer* about special Christmas music in which YOU can participate, whether you are with the choir or in the pews singing. All are welcome!

Submitted by Lorraine Langer, Director of Music

The Mysterious Blankets!

There are MANY new fleece blankets, the kind with the hand-tied knots around the edge, in the closet in the conference room and no one seems to know who made them or what they are for. If you know anything about these please let the office know. Otherwise they will be nice additions to our Safe Passage Christmas gifts!

Christian Education Report

Sunday School classes are going well. We kicked off the year with outdoor games and kite making (how quickly the weather changed!). This year we are using the "Living The Good News" curriculum, which follows the weekly lectionary. On Sunday, October 25, the classes gathered in the sacristies with Mthr. Gwynne, who talked about getting ready for the service. Watch for pictures on our website! Classes for ages 4 - 18 meet from 9:30 - 10:15 on Sunday mornings. Feel free to drop in and say hello!
Submitted by Maureen Gerrity

Commentary

It is a NEW Parish Year and many things are changing. We are returning to a monthly newsletter format. There will be changes to the magazine table. We hope that the changes will communicate our interest in the larger world and tell people about the outreach initiatives we support.

We still receive *God's Word Today* which is informative and helpful in understanding the Bible readings of the month. The November issue is subtitled, "How do we follow Jesus? Stories of Discipleship." The page of comment for each day offers helpful insights. The September issue was "Discovering the depth of GOD'S LOVE: MERCY AND FORGIVENESS IN SCRIPTURE".

Submitted by Eva Leonard

Vestry Highlights

We've been a busy Vestry this fall! In the last few months we have

- reviewed the new website with Lorraine Langer and congratulated her on the outstanding job she did.
- discussed the budgeting process for 2010. We are going to use zero based budgeting system and will be asking our various church groups to provide us with budget requests.
- approved bid for the seal coating of the parking lot. Rhys Prall striping the lot to create specific parking spaces. We agreed to put one accessible parking spot in the front with signs indicating additional spots are in the back of the church
- Approved the bid for the excavation work to stop the water problem in the rectory basement. Some of the work will be done this fall and the project will be completed in the spring.
- Approved the bid for the installation of the new light fixtures in the sanctuary.
- Approved paying Lorraine Langer for the website work she has completed and a monthly amount to keep it updated and attend to all our technical needs.
- The memorial plaque has been hung in the church. Thank you, Vince McMahon, for your research to identify names to be included. The Vestry agreed to establish \$500 as the minimum amount of a memorial to have a name added to the plaque, but exceptions can be made by a vote of the Vestry.

Submitted by Ellen Anderson

NEWS ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

Rita Anderson Nominated for 2009 Athena Award. (Excerpts from the *Daily Chronicle*)

“Eight women were named nominees for the 20th 2009 ATHENA Award. The yearly award is given to a DeKalb resident who demonstrates professional and service accomplishments, and encourage women to strive in their endeavors.”

Among the nominees is our own Rita Anderson, development assistant for the DeKalb County Community Foundation. Anderson told how she, along with her husband, has worked with youth almost all her married life. They also have been foster parents many times over, and they did these things simply because it's the way she was brought up. "I was always taught you have to give to get," Anderson said of her efforts. "I'm just humbled and honored."

The ATHENA Award presentation will be at 6 p.m. Nov. 3 at the Hopkins Park Terrace Room, located at 1403 Sycamore Road in DeKalb. To be nominated is a huge honor - congratulations Rita!

TRANSITIONS

Birthdays

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Roger Larson, Nov. 1 | Jennifer Sitzes, Nov. 3 |
| Clifford Cleland, Nov. 3 | Bob Harkness, Nov. 6 |
| Mary Keleher, Nov. 3 | Nora Duffy, Nov. 18 |
| George Nenonen, Nov. 3 | Bob Lastick, Nov. 30 |

Marriage Anniversaries

Glenn and Sue Ouellette, Nov. 19, 1977

Emily Briant

Emily G. Briant died on Friday, October 9 at DeKalb County Rehab & Nursing Center. Her funeral was on Saturday, October 24 at St. Paul's Church. Emily was lovingly remembered in a tribute written collectively by her family and read by Pat DeBrock. Her daughter, Jocelyn Prall is a faithful member of St. Paul's. Our prayers are with the family.

Emily's spouse, Charles Briant, was the rector of St. Paul's from 1962 to 1986. He died in 2001.