

Volume 33, Issue 1 January 2014

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### Jesus was Revealed!

By The Rev. Karen C. Lewis

Although I do enjoy Christmas and all of its celebrations, the Feast of the Epiphany is more to my liking. It is the day when we discover who Jesus really is – it is the day in which Jesus is revealed as the Son of God – it is the day when the Magi bring their gifts to our Lord and confirm that Jesus came for all. It is the day when we eat the King's Cake, bless chalk for our households, and begin the Carnival season. Even Bach appreciated this feast day as he composed two cantatas for the occasion. All in all, it is a great feast day!

Epiphany is one of the oldest Christian feasts and has been celebrated since the second century – even before our Christmas holiday was established. Like many of our feast days, the Church appropriated Epiphany from an old pagan festival. As early as 1996 BCE, the Egyptians celebrated the winter solstice (which then occurred on January 6) with a tribute to Aeon, the Virgin.

In many ways, Epiphany and its accompanying season (which lasts until the first day of Lent) marks for me the beginning of the Church year. Yes, Advent is technically the beginning of our liturgical year, but for me, Epiphany marks the beginning of our church calendar year. It is the season in which we hold our annual meeting – where we give thanks for what was and plan for what will be. Epiphany is the season of revelation – when we pray and strive to discover what God has in store for us and what efforts and resources we will commit to making God's plans happen.

I suspect there are a large number of us who make New Year's resolutions in the hope that we will change our lives for the better – whether it is losing weight, spending more time in prayer, saving more money, being nicer to others, increasing our exercise time – we commit to change in the hope we can improve our faith, our lives and the lives of others. I urge all of us to consider Epiphany as the time for St. Paul's to make its own resolutions for the coming year.

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### Senior Warden's Column

By Mark Rudd, Senior Warden

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It's hard to believe that my term as your senior warden is coming to a close this month. On the one hand, I am relieved. Three years on vestry and one year as senior warden is a big time and energy commitment. On the other hand, I am sad to be leaving this leadership position at what I believe is going to be the most exciting time in St. Paul's history. Big changes are on the horizon under Karen's ministerial guidance. Ones long overdue and necessary for the survival of not only this beautiful old church, but more importantly, for the community of parishioners currently worshiping at St.

Continued on Page 3

What might these look like? Hmmmm . . . perhaps you might consider attending church one more Sunday a year. Or, contributing one more dollar a week. Or, perhaps, you might join the crew one Thursday to serve lunch at Open Door? Or, spending five more minutes a day in prayer or reading Scripture. Maybe you will commit to gardening an hour or two a week in our Memorial Garden. How about adding St. Paul's and its ministries to your daily prayer? Or select someone in our congregation to pray for – not because they asked for it – but because it will help you form a closer connection to that person. Possibly you may resolve to say something nice once a day to someone who is need of a kind word. Perhaps God is asking you to lend your voice and gifts to one of our many ministries? I could go on . . .

Epiphany opens our eyes to the wonder of Jesus Christ and to his ministry to our world. His revelation offers us all an opportunity to resolve to be more faithful in one small way or another – to God – to each other – and to God's people. May Epiphany be for you a time of revelation! May Epiphany be to all of St. Paul's a time of new opportunities, new resolutions and new ministries yet to be revealed! May Epiphany be the time when it is revealed to you your own place in God's Kingdom!



### Treasurer's Report Information as of November 30, 2013

By Jeff Irwin

2013 is drawing to a close. We will have a deficit in 2013 as we expected in our 2013 budget.

From a financial perspective a lot of good things did occur in 2013.

Based on the numbers to the end of November, it appears that we will exceed our 2013 pledge budget.

We have had positive growth in the investment value of assets held in the restricted funds.

Over \$228,000 was spent on building renovation by using the capital campaign funds. These include, most significantly, the completion of the roof repair and a tuck point project. Also, a new phone and security system was installed as well as interior painting.

A draft of the stewardship resource plan (budget) for 2014 was presented at a meeting of the congregation on December 8, 2013. It was noted that the 2014 pledge campaign resulted in more pledges than in the prior year.

However, the operating budget as presented showed a potential 2014 operating deficit of \$150,000. It was also noted at the meeting that we have had operating deficits for many years and have used the Perpetual Fund to cover this deficit. The Perpetual Fund is significantly depleted and we need to address this issue.

A lot of good conversation took place at the meeting, and many good ideas were presented.

An audit report for the financial statements for the year 2012 has been received by the finance committee and the vestry. Many areas of weaknesses in the churches accounting system were noted in the audit. The finance committee made recommendations to address these issues which will need to be implemented during 2014.

Paul's, and for new ones who will be attracted by an evangelical purpose focused on living Jesus' mission of helping others less fortunate, in our case, in the Lansing area.

Is this enough for me to stick around for another three years on vestry? Are you crazy? I'd like to share the wealth and give others an opportunity to lead the church. As Karen often reminds us in our meetings, we're in the business of developing leaders and disciples. Perhaps you've felt God's call recently, or have been tapped on the shoulder. Don't ignore it; if not this year, maybe next. Remember what happened to Jonah.

Besides, it isn't as if I'm going away. I'll happily mentor others with what I've learned, and be used in whatever capacity that the Holy Spirit (and Karen) can use me.

I want to thank all of you for your support this past year. It has been a challenging year for us. With Reverend Northcraft's resignation a little over a year ago, there was great uncertainty of who God would send us to take her place. Fortunately, the Good Lord, through Bishop Gibbs, sent us a redhaired tornado of a priest. Working closely with Karen this year, I have learned so much, and have faith that she will lead us to be the kind of church God intends us to be, for our congregation, and for the mid-Michigan community. And from a personal standpoint, I appreciate all the love and support I received from you as my father struggled with the last stages of bone cancer, and passed on November 22nd. May God bless you all.

As I prepare to finish my term, there are a few things I've learned this past year and some thoughts that I would like to share with you.

Would it make a difference if St. Paul's doors closed today? This question

posed by Reverend Susan Carter to the Worship Committee as we planned a group forum on diversity scared me to death. Of course, it would make a difference, to me and to my friends in church. But her question really raised a bigger issue. How is the community of St. Paul's worshipers (you and me) serving the Lord's mission in meeting the needs of the local community, especially the poor, homeless, and the spiritually disconnected? While I didn't have a good answer for her, it got me thinking.

We have spent some time this past year discussing what it means to be a "welcoming church." As visitors and newcomers show up in the pews on Sundays, we have made an intentional effort to welcome them to St. Paul's and invite them in for coffee hour. Once there, we share with them the wide variety of ministries we have- Adult and Children's Choir, the Mission and Outreach Ministry, the Business & Professional Women's Guild, etc., and wouldn't it be great if they joined one. We proudly promote the great programs we have for any age. We have every right to do so; they are great and something to be proud of.

It's been my observation that this is often not enough of an incentive to draw them back to St. Paul's on a more permanent basis. Why? Could it be that God is telling us to do something else? Perhaps, using a variation of an old phrase, it's simply "If the mountain won't come to St. Paul's, then St. Paul's must go to the mountain." If we want people to enjoy the excellence we know we can offer at St. Paul's, we need to go out into the community. Not to recruit new members, but to do God's workhelping those less fortunate- or, to employ Karen's reference from the Old Testament, the "widows and orphans of Israel." The energy and joy in living this mission will invariable attract people

who likewise hear God's call. I believe that in creating new disciples, we can truly justify keeping St. Paul's doors open.

The good news is that we have already started this process through our Mission and Outreach Ministry and the youth service projects (raking leaves, the Crop Walk, to name a few). I mentioned last month, the joy I had in being able to serve the homeless lunch at the Open Door Ministry. We have financially supported individuals and families with money, clothes, towels and bedding. There are a lot of other great things happening through these and other ministries, so I encourage you to learn about them and get on board.

I also realize that many of you are already involved in doing great things for the local community. I thank you for your service, and ask you to share the wealth with others in our church; ask someone to join you. It is incumbent on each of us to live and grow this mission, from the youngest to the oldest members of our church.

Karen has a plan. We've discussed it extensively, and I am excited to be a part of it. So as you see, I'm not "retiring," only moving on to another job. I'm kind of like a bad penny; you can't get rid of me.

It has been my privilege to serve as your senior warden this year. I thank you for your advice, support, and willingness to seek me out over your concerns. I thank Karen for her patience in working with me. I especially want to thank my wife, Nancy, for all the love and support she's provided me in some difficult times. May the Good Lord bless the community of St. Paul's, now and into the future. May the peace and grace of God, and His Son, Jesus Christ, be with you and your family always.

# Parish News

## **Our Annual Meeting**

By The Rev. Karen C. Lewis

Yes, it is that time of year again! On January 26 we will gather as the household of St. Paul's for our annual meeting following the 10:00 a.m. worship service. This is the one time of the year when we gather to conduct the business of the church; we will review the year of 2013 and look forward to the new opportunities of 2014. We will elect four (4) new vestry members and three (3) delegates to our diocesan convention. We will eat good food, enjoy good conversation, and give thanks for God's blessings on us for the past year.

Each year the same question arises: Who can vote in our annual meeting? If you are 16 years of age or older and a communicant in good standing, then you are eligible to vote. So, you ask, what is a communicant in good standing? This is someone who is not only a St. Paul's member, but also someone who attends worship regularly and is a giver-of-record during the past year. And, since our meeting lands on the day after the Feast of St. Paul, perhaps there will be a trivia game or two that will challenge your knowledge on our patron saint.

My hope is you all attend and give voice to your thoughts regarding the significant ministries and future of our life together in God's Kingdom.

#### Seeking Delegates for the 2014 Diocesan Convention

By The Rev. Karen C. Lewis

Seeking Delegates for the 2014 Diocesan Convention

This year, St. Paul's will be electing its delegates for our annual Diocesan Convention during our Annual Meeting. You may be called to this ministry if . . .

- you are interested in how the larger church makes decisions.
- you enjoy gathering with several hundred folks to hear stories of unique and life-giving ministries
- you wish to learn new ways of engaging in ministry
- you want the voice of St. Paul's to be part of the church's decision-making process

St. Paul's will be electing three (3) delegates for this year's convention, which will be held in Lansing, Michigan, on October 24 and 25. Yeah! You don't need to spend the night in a hotel room. Please contact either Karen Lewis or one of our wardens if you wish to be a delegate.

#### When do we do Baptisms?

Baptism is the rite of initiation into the Christian Church. As Episcopalians, we understand baptism to be one of our primary sacraments. Baptism is also the sacrament that grants access to all the other sacraments of the church.

Anyone can be baptized at any age. In the early church, only adults were baptized after a three-year training period; and baptisms only occurred once a year at the Easter Vigil. Over the ages our tradition changed and the baptism of infants became the norm and occurred anytime throughout the year. Private baptisms were not unusual and often occurred when the family could all gather at once for the celebration.

With the advent of the 1979 Book of Common Prayer, our theology shifted significantly. We re-captured the early theological understanding of baptism as the rite of initiation into the church. We removed the opportunities for private baptism as we came to understand that baptism is initiation into the Body of Christ and thus should occur when the community is gathered together for worship. During the Rite of Baptism, the entire community responds "We will" to the question "Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?".

And, the church designated several feast days of the year as most appropriate for baptism. During 2014, we will celebrate the Rite of Baptism and renew our own baptismal vows on the following dates:

January 12 The Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord

April 19/20 Easter Vigil/Easter

June 8 The Day of Pentecost

November 2 All Saints' Sunday

In addition to the dates above, baptisms may occur on other Sundays during our worship services. If you or someone you know, is interested in being baptized, please contact The Rev. Karen Lewis for more information on preparing for baptism.

# Parish News

## **Stewardship Ministry Team**

By Ree and Jim Huber

Keep them coming on in! It is never too late to hand in your orange pledge cards!! And, yes! Your pledge envelopes are here! We have received 103 pledge cards so far this year in the Annual Pledge Campaign for 2014. Now our children will begin bringing their pledge boxes to the altar starting in January. The current monetary amount of \$279,412.00 is the total amount received thus far.

Thank you to each one of you for your generous contributions in helping support St. Paul's. This is where our dear friends go to church. This is where we meet with caring, devoted people to hear and learn about the "Good News" of Jesus. This is where we all want to be to help do God's work. Your time, your talents, and your contributions

make St. Paul's the vibrant, loving, and spirit-filled place we all call "My Church."

The greeters for January will be the Business and Professional Women's Ministry. February greeters will be the Men's Breakfast Ministry.

Leaders please send the names of the greeters to Kathleen so she can put them into the Sunday bulletin.

#### **4F'S UPCOMING EVENTS**

(Faith, Fellowship, Food, & Fun)



12:00 Noon Lunch (\$5.00)

12:30 PM Bible Study (with Steve Lange)

1:00 PM to 2:00 PM Program

Please mark your calendars now for these dates.

**January 20** St. Vincent's Catholic Charities "Providing Help, Creating Hope". St. Vincent's Foster Home for Children will share with us the many facets of their ministry and give us some insight as to how their facilities provide a safe haven for children in our community.

**February 17** Lagu Joseph Rekpe, a member of our congregation and one of the "Lost Boys" will tell us about life for a young Sudanese in a small village in the Sudan.

March No 4F's programs - Lenten Book Reviews will be held every Monday from March10 through April 7

**April 21** We'll have a special tour of the Broad Art Museum on the Michigan State University campus. The exhibits are changed throughout the year, so even if you've been there before, a docent will give us a look at the mission of this wonderful building.

May 19 Picnic, Book suggestions, and Planning...place to be announced at a later date.

#### **Save Your Books for ERD!**

By Sue Millar

We encourage you to collect books for our spring Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) Used Book Sale. Bring in the books you no longer wish to store! And don't hesitate to ask friends and neighbors if they might have donations. March 2 we will invite you to bring them to church and on March 20 we begin the sorting process prior to our first sale on March 23. Let's all exert extra effort to assure the best support yet for ERD!

# St. Paul's Ministries

# Misson & Outreach Parish-Wide Celebration Sunday, January 19th

By Carol Miller

Each Sunday in our liturgy, scripture calls us to "Let your light so shine before all that they may see your good works and glorify God in heaven". How fitting that in this season of Epiphany, St. Paul's family celebrates our partnering with others to help those in need. Thanks in part to a grant from St. Paul's, a welldigging project will soon begin in South. Sudan, under the direction of Daniel Kuol. He will visit St. Paul's on January 19 and give sermons at both the 8:00am and 10am services. Following the latter, a reception and presentation by Daniel will take place in the Merrifield Room. Everyone is invited!

St. Paul's first engaged in direct ministry with Sudanese folks locally in 1998 with the arrival of a family who fled war-torn Sudan. Two years later, we welcomed several Sudanese "Lost Boys" (refer to "What is the What?" by Dave Eggers) into our family. Generous parishioners helped these young men adjust to American life. Eventually, many Sudanese moved to Grand Rapids for work and formed their own worship communities. St. Paul's role then focused on supplying used cars and assisting with school tuition for family members remaining in Sudan.

Several Sudanese friendships have continued over the years. One of them is Daniel Akech Kuol. Since coming to Michigan, Daniel has been working and going to school at Western Michigan University. He has received his bachelor's degree in Health Care Management with a minor in Social Work. In addition, he has a certificate in patient care.



Daniel Akech Kuol

These studies have been for a clear purpose: Daniel is committed to creating a health care clinic in Aliab, his home area in South Sudan. The first steps have already been taken. For the past several years, Daniel has returned to Aliab during the summer months, taking with him a stock of "over-the-counter" medications. While there, he works with two trained local volunteers teaching better health practices and providing simple medical care to his people.

A year ago, Daniel, with help from parish friends, created a non-profit 501(C)3 organization by the name of South Sudan Aliab Medical Organization, or

SSALMO. Chuck Millar is a member of the board and serves as its treasurer. SSALMO's first project is to bring the first pure water to Aliab. Presently, the people of Aliab rely on unsafe surface water sources brought by foot from hours away.

While in South Sudan last summer, Daniel interviewed and obtained proposals from three different well-boring contractors, and SSALMO's Board selected Hydro Water Well (SS) Ltd. as our preferred contractor. Hydro has served in the past as a contractor for UNICEF water projects and offered the best financial and performance commitments. To provide reliable and safe water, the well, of necessity, will be deep, and the pumping apparatus will be hand-powered and sturdy.

The Mission and Outreach Committee and the Vestry have approved a \$6,000 contribution to the welldrilling project from presently available funds appropriate for the Committee's purpose and work. St. Paul's contribution will be matched by the Seventh Day Adventist Academic High School in Battle Creek. The goal is to begin boring the well this spring. Please participate in celebrating this wonderful event at St. Paul's on Sunday, January 19, meet Daniel, and learn more about the project. Let our Lights Shine!

# St. Paul's Ministries

#### Altar Guild ~ Altar Flowers



The beauty of flowers plays an important part in our worship at St. Paul's. Your gift of flowers not only provides for the adornment of our altars and proclamation of the resurrection, it also serves as a pastoral blessing to those who receive the flowers delivered to them after our worship – typically those who are shut-in by virtue of illness or crisis or those

with some milestone celebration. It is truly a multi-faceted gift.

Thank you to the following people for the part you play in adorning the altar with flowers to celebrate the beauty of God's creation.

#### January 2014 Altar Flower Dedications

January 5, 2014 The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God and for the blessings and love of their family by George and Kay Gallup.

January 12, 2014 The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of William J. and Eva B. Clark and Frederick Clark I by the James W. Clark family.

January 19, 2014 The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of their parents and grandparents, Lt. Col. and Mrs. Lee F. Donaldson from their daughter Lyn and granddaughter Leigh and in loving memory of Ruth Helmer by her husband Bruce and her family.

Please remember to send in your monetary donation to St. Paul's.

If you would like to make a donation, simply fill out and submit an Altar Flower Request Form that is found on the sign-up table in the Merrifield room, and on the St Paul's website. All dedications for a particular Sunday will be honored.

### Youth/Christian Education

#### Save the Date for VBS!

It is never too early to start talking about Vacation Bible School! VBS will be June 16 to 20. Our theme this year is Weird Animals. It talks about how Jesus loves us even if we are different. If you would like to see the curriculum, see Jackie Womble. ALL volunteers are welcome!!!

Epiphany Celebration!

Please join us on Sunday, January 5 after the 10:00 am service for an Epiphany Celebration! There will be a King's cake and other fun activities as we welcome the Kings!

#### Parish Life

By Jackie Womble

#### **January Recognition**

Do you enjoy researching your family's back ground and learning about who and where you come from? During the month of January we will be celebrating our heritages. Please bring in any photos, books, charts or mementos from your family. We would love to learn more about all of you! There is a display table set up in the Merrifield Room for your items.

#### St. Aelred's

by Chris Krupka

St. Aelred's Pastoral Care continues to visit members who are unable to make it to church. We have expanded our services to include bringing meals to those that are recovering from illness or surgery. If you would be willing to take a meal to a parishioner in need please, contact Chris Krupka @ cekrupka@ yahoo.com or 517-204-5303. We also need you to be our eyes and ears.

If you know of someone in need, please assume we are unaware and let us know by calling Karen directly @ 517-482-9454. If she is not available, ask to leave a message on her voice mail. In the pews, please find cards that may be filled out if you have a prayer request. These may be put in the offering plate or put in the church mailbox.

We are also looking for someone who has time to help out in the church office. If your schedule would allow you to come into the church office to answer the phone, it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for all you do and please continue to pray for those who are in need.

# Children's Library ~ Why Celebrate Epiphany?





The joyful energy of Epiphany has always inspired games and pageants, music and meals. It's a multi-cultural celebration because the Three Kings who followed the star to find the Holy Child came from different cultures and continents.

Epiphany comes at the end of the Twelve Days of Christmas—on January 6th. Although American tradition focuses on Christmas Day as the primary day to give and receive gifts, in some southern European and Latin American cultures, Epiphany is actually the accepted time for gift-giving. Instead of expecting Santa Claus to deliver presents on Christmas Eve, children wait for the Three Kings to bring them gifts on Epiphany. And if, by chance, you are separated from your children (or grandchildren) on Christmas itself,

you still have the chance to share this very special holiday together.



by Mary Lee Wile



Imagine being a child during the time of Jesus' birth. What would you do if you saw the star? What if you had a chance to see the infant Jesus? Star of Wonder invites children and their families to enter the joyful mystery of Epiphany through the story of Jesse, a young shepherd. Jesse's amazement after seeing the star is reflected in whimsical watercolor illustrations by award-winning cartoonist Sage Stossel. Star of Wonder will fill your heart with the joy of receiving the greatest gift of all.

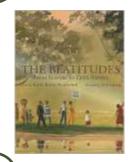
#### Children's Library Epiphany Books

Small Camel Follows the Star (Epiphany) Old Turtle and the Broken Truth (John 1: 1-9, 10-18)

God's Dream (1 Corinthians 1: 1-9) Follow the Drinking Gourd (Matthew 4: 12-23)

Theology: As God's creation we have a responsibility to love and care for one another. Life in Christ commands us to be devoted to one another through care, honor and sincere love. We are to put the needs and care of others above the care of ourselves, as God did for us through the life, death and resurrection of Christ Jesus. God demands justice and righteousness for all of God's creation. God despises when we are complacent and ignore the needs of our Christian brothers and sisters. Isaiah 49: 1-7

#### The Beatitudes: From Slavery to Civil Rights



By Carole Boston Weatherford

This is a story of African American history in the United States from slavery to present day. The author highlights 13 historical figures and shares a bit about their story through the lens of the Beatitudes. The illustrations are specific to each story shared, portraying life-like portraits and accurate accounts of the stories of each person. The book begins with an overview of African American history and the sharing of the Beatitudes from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, and then carefully moves through the unique stories of the historical figures.

# Becoming the Household of God

The following is a great opportunity for those who are able to attend . . .

Starting with the Breath of God (Ruach, in Hebrew) as it blew over the formless void, we learn from the book of Genesis that our relationship with God is not always the peaceable kingdom we would hope it to be. And yet, as Christians, we are called to share the Peace of the Lord with one another each and every Sunday. But what do we do when circumstances bring us into conflict with one another? How do we respond to the need for change when things aren't going well? How can we approach a time of transition with the faith given to us in the resurrection?

Join us for a two-part conference this year to hear from amazing leaders in change and reconciliation.



## Session 1: Opening Deadlock: God's Work, Our Practice

The Very Rev. Dr. Michael Battle
Saturday, January 18; 1:00-6:00; Christ
Church Cranbook, Bloomfield Hills
\$25 for the event; \$15 to join us online;

\$40 for both BHoG events

How do we practice reconciliation in a world full of violence? How do we love someone at work who seems hell-bent on sabotaging a successful career? And how do religious people resolve differences when religious interpretations seem to lead to righteous indignation rather than reconciliation? We practice reconciliation by affirming that God is present and acting on that belief, even in the midst of something that looks more like the devil's work. Michael Battle, who has worked with Desmond Tutu in South Africa, draws on his knowledge of biblical texts, as well as contemporary scholarship, to examine the ways in which each of us can practice being reconciling people.

Michael Battle founded the Peace Battle Institute focusing upon peacemaking, transformation, and spirituality. Much of Battle's life is shaped by Archbishop Desmond Tutu, having been ordained by and lived with the Archbishop in South Africa for two years. Battle has written out of these experiences as the author of nine books including his latest work: Black Battle, White Knight: the Authorized Biography of Malcolm Boyd. He has served in many capacities: as Chaplain to both the Episcopal House of Bishops and the 2008 Lambeth Conference, as Vice Chairmen of the Board of the Gandhi Institute, in academic positions at Duke University and Virginia Theological Seminary, and in the Diocese of Los Angeles. He was the first American to receive the "Six Preacher Award" given by the Archbishop of Canterbury. Currently, Michael resides in Raleigh, NC with his wife and three children.



#### Session 2: Tradition Meets Innovation: Church and the Practice of Change

Pastor Amy Butler

Saturday, February 22; 9:00-2:00; Cathedral Church of St Paul, Detroit

\$25 for the event; \$15 to join us online; \$40 for both BHoG events

"If we could only get things back to the

way they used to be!" That's a sentiment every church leader hates to hear. But more than that, it's a theologically flawed lament. The truth is that it's part of our calling as followers of Jesus to live boldly into God's constant invitation to rebirth. How does the church answer God's invitation when our human institutions resist change with a forceful and almost always involuntary impulse? And what is our role as spiritual leaders in facilitating a faithful institutional response to God's ongoing transformation of the world...and even of the church? Amy Butler will tell the story of ten years of ministry in a congregation undergoing transition and rebirth. She'll get honest about the realities of being the church in American culture today. And she'll help us explore some ways in which we might boldly lead and live into the future of the beloved community.

Amy Butler has served since 2003 as Senior Pastor at Calvary Baptist Church in Washington, DC. Urban engagement is Amy's passion, finding her life at Calvary to be an adventure of living relationship with God, transforming us individually and our world as a whole. Amy earned a BA in political science and religion from Baylor University as well as an MA in church history. She was trained in Zürich, at the International Baptist Theological Seminary. Most recently Amy graduated in 2009 from Wesley Theological Seminary with a DMin in preaching. She is a contributing author for many books and writes regularly for various Baptist publications, including a bi-weekly column for the Associated Baptist Press. Amy lives with her family in Washington, DC and maintains a blog called www.talkwiththepreacher.org.

You may register on-line at the Diocesan Website – edomi. org.

# St. Paul's Events Calendar

#### **JANUARY 2014**

| Sunday  | Monday   | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday  | Saturday  |
|---|--|---|--|---|---|---|
| Rev. Lewis Vacation 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion 9:45 AM NO Church School 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion   | <b>30</b> Office Closed  | 31<br>Office Closed<br>12:00 PM<br>Worship & Healing<br>Service   | 1<br>FEAST OF THE<br>HOLY NAME<br>Office Closed<br>12:00 PM AA<br>Meeting  | <b>2</b><br>Office Closed   | 3<br>ANNUAL<br>REPORTS DUE<br>Office Closed<br>9:00 AM Fire Pro<br>- Kitchen Repair<br>12:00 PM AA<br>Meeting | 4   |
| 5 Blessing of the Chalk EPIPHANY SUNDAY 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion 9:45 AM Church School 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion 11:30 AM Epiphany Celebration 11:30 AM Youth Group Meeting 5:00 PM Lange Choral Ensemble 6:00 PM EFM Meeting - Van Atta Room                     | 6<br>FEAST OF THE<br>EPIPHANY  | 7 9:00 AM St. Vincent Refugee Program - Merrifield Room 12:00 PM Worship & Healing Service 5:30 PM Prayer Group - Chancel 6:30 PM L.A.E.P. @ St. Davids   | 8 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM AA Meeting 4:30 PM St. Aelred's Guild-Van Atta Room 5:30 PM Cherubs, Boys & Grace Choirs 5:30 PM Finance Committee 5:30 PM Parish Life Committee 6:30 PM High School Choir | 9<br>10:45 AM Open<br>Door - Serving<br>Lunch<br>6:30 PM<br>Handbell Choir<br>7:30 PM Chancel<br>Choir    | 10<br>Office Closed<br>12:00 PM AA<br>Meeting   | 11  |
| 12 Baptism Anniversary Celebration Baptisms 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion 9:45 AM Church School 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion 11:30 AM Communications Committee 11:30 AM Youth Group Meeting 5:00 PM Lange Choral Ensemble 6:00 PM EFM Meeting - Van Atta Room             | 13<br>5:30 PM Liturgy<br>& Music Ministry<br>6:00 PM Vestry<br>Dinner @ Meeting<br>@ 6:30 pm       | 14 9:00 AM St. Vincent Refugee Program - Merrifield Room 10:00 AM Executive Vestry Committee 12:00 PM Worship & Healing Service 5:30 PM Buildings & Grounds Committee 6:00 PM Business & Professional Women Dinner & Mtg. | <b>5:30 PM</b> Mission<br>& Outreach - Van<br>Atta Room<br><b>6:30 PM</b> High<br>School Choir   | 16 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast 10:00 AM Rev. Lewis @ Fresh Start 6:30 PM Handbell Choir 7:30 PM Chancel Choir | 17<br>Office Closed<br>Youth Winter<br>Retreat<br>12:00 PM AA<br>Meeting                                      | 18<br>Youth Winter<br>Retreat<br>1:00 PM<br>Household of God<br>- Christ<br>Cranbrook |
| 19 MLK, JR. DAY 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion 9:45 AM Church School 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion 11:30 AM SSALMO Presentation 11:30 AM Youth Christian Education Committee 11:30 AM Youth Group Meeting 5:00 PM Lange Choral Ensemble 6:00 PM EFM Meeting - Van Atta Room | 20<br>MLK, Jr. Day -<br>Office Closed<br>12:00 PM 4 F's<br>Luncheon &<br>Program @ St.<br>Vincents | 9:00 AM St. Vincent Refugee Program Merrifield Room 12:00 PM Worship & Healing Service 6:00 PM Vestry Dinner - Meeting @ 6:30 pm  | Jackie Womble<br>Away<br>10:00 AM Staff<br>Meeting<br>12:00 PM AA<br>Meeting<br>5:30 PM<br>Cherubs, Boys &<br>Grace Choirs<br>6:30 PM High<br>School Choir   | 23<br>6:00 PM Quilty<br>Kats - Hill Room<br>6:30 PM<br>Handbell Choir<br>7:30 PM Chancel<br>Choir         | 24<br>Office Closed<br>12:00 PM AA<br>Meeting   | <b>25</b><br>FEAST OF ST.<br>PAUL   |
| 26 ANNUAL MEETING 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion 9:45 AM Church School 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion 11:30 AM Annual Meeting 11:30 AM St. Paul Feast Brunch 11:30 AM Youth Group Meeting 5:00 PM Lange Choral Ensemble 6:00 PM EFM Meeting - Van Atta Room                  | 27   | 28<br>9:00 AM St.<br>Vincent Refugee<br>Program -<br>Merrifield Room<br>12:00 PM<br>Worship & Healing<br>Service  | 29<br>10:00 AM Staff<br>Meeting<br>12:00 PM AA<br>Meeting<br>5:30 PM<br>Cherubs, Boys &<br>Grace Choirs<br>6:30 PM High<br>School Choir  | 30<br>6:30 PM<br>Handbell Choir<br>7:30 PM Chancel<br>Choir   | 31<br>Office Closed<br>12:00 PM AA<br>Meeting   | 1<br>Vestry Retreat @<br>St. Paul's   |

St. Paul's Episcopal Church 218 W. Ottawa St. Lansing, MI 48933



<u>We pray for those who are sick and in need</u>: Kathy Bowland, Katie Stoltze, Dave, Debra Staal, Tara Farhat, Kent Riley, Tony, Adam, Ashley, and Orville.

We pray for those who have ongoing needs for healing prayers: Mason Hill, Marsha Macholz, Bill, John & Grace Hawkins, Tom Foltz, Jake Cook, Sebastian Cuesta, Max Sutton, Joe & Judy Manson, Marge Cook, John Sleight, MaryLea & Ed Benson, Marilyn, and Ellie Doersam.

We pray and remember those in the Military, who are serving in dangerous areas: Andrew Foltz, Jeff Doorlag, Sam Foltz, Zachary Bellinger, Tyson Carter, and Sam Montie.

We pray for peace and comfort: for the family and friends of Jan Bigham, Mary Perry, Lowell Rudd, and Felipe Zamora who recently passed away.

We pray for those expecting: Anna & Ben Hoffman and Jennet & Isaac Francisco

We pray for and celebrate the birth of: Mason Scott Nichol to parents Tara and Scott Nichol.

<u>We pray for</u>: The Most Revd. Dr. Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop; Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury; Wendell N. Gibbs, Jr., our bishop; Karen C. Lewis, our priest-in-charge; and all other worship ministers and staff at St. Paul's.