St. Paul's Episcopal Church <u>Building</u> Community 1914 - 2014

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An Unexpected Gift!

By The Rev. Karen C. Lewis

t was a surprise to say the least. One of those surprises that you have always dreamed about but believe is not possible. In August of 2014, one of our parishioners asked if I would like to go to the Holy Land on a pilgrimage – all expenses paid! How could I say no? Not a chance. After filling out applications I was accepted as one of 90 individuals from the United States to travel with one of two groups to the Holy Land for a ten-day trip this year.

The pilgrimage is sponsored by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the USA. In the application materials the trip is described in the following manner, "this is a strenuous educational and spiritual study seminar/historical & cultural immersion experience and not a vacation trip."

After reading our itinerary, I heartily concur with this statement. But what a trip! Imagine! I will be visiting the geographical heart of our faith. Bethlehem, Caesarea, Capernaum, Hebron, Jerusalem, Meggido, Shechem, the Jordan River, the Dead Sea, and many, many other places. A chance to walk on the same ground that Abraham and Jesus and Mary and the disciples trod. A chance to connect all that I have read and studied to land and sea and buildings.

I will be traveling with an ecumenical group – 45 ordained Christian pastors from every branch of our Christian faith. We will be a diverse group, with diverse ideas, opinions, and understanding of Scriptures and how to live out our faith. This only adds to the experience as

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An Unexpected Gift!

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I will be able to hear the various perspectives others have of our Christian beginnings.

In the application materials, one of the questions to which I had to respond was "Upon your return, how might this experience affect your ministry?" In all honesty, I'm not sure. I know that it will be life-changing. I suspect I will return with a new understanding of our faith that will affect my way of living each day – my prayer life – and my way of being your priest.

A gift of such greatness needs to be shared with all of you. I promise to journal each day my thoughts of the sights and sounds and the impact it has on my own spirit. I will try to capture in writing and with photographs the wonder of visiting and experiencing the holiest of places – including the sites of Jesus's birth, death, and resurrection. I ask that you hold me in your prayers during this pilgrimage – that God may keep us safe and enlighten my heart to God's love and plans for our journey as God's people at St. Paul's.

I leave on February 23 and will return on a very early morning flight on March 5. The trip occurs during our season of Lent

- a time that lends itself to reflection and self-examination of our faith. While I am away, the Rev. Susan Carter will provide emergency pastoral care. She is a priest we know well, and I ask that if you have an emergency pastoral care need, you contact the Sr. Warden and she will assist you in contacting Susan. I will miss Sunday services on March 1. Unfortunately, supply priests are very hard to come by in this area, and I have not been able to locate one. Greg Wortley has graciously agreed once again to lead Morning Prayer. My hope is you will support him that Sunday and engage in this worship experience in the same manner you do on all other Sundays.

Lastly, my thanks to the Knights Templar for providing this gift not only to me, but to our congregation and to the other clergy who I will be traveling with on this pilgrimage. I have no words to describe my excitement, nervousness, thankfulness, and pure delight at the opportunity to immerse myself into the roots of our faith. Blessings to all who make this gift possible.

News from the Annual Meeting

By Chris Couch

St. Paul's held its Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 25, after the 10 am service, just as we were going to press, and here are some of the highlights.

- Rev. Karen Lewis, who led the meeting, thanked the outgoing members of the Vestry, Karen Clarke, Sheila Harper, Sue LeDuc, and Carol Miller for their three years of service to the parish. Special thanks to Sue, who served this past year as Senior Warden.
- Four new members were elected to the Vestry: Susan Boulton, Sally Lawrence, Matt Pauly, and Lyn Zynda. More information about this plucky quartet in next month's St. Paul's News.
- Three delegates to the diocesan convention were elected: Mary Lea Benson, Marti Narezo, and Lyn Zynda, with Laura LeDuc as an alternate.
- Larry Clark was the recipient of the Canterbury Award for his many services to the parish.
- Sue LeDuc presented the Senior Warden's report and also provided a timeline for the discernment and mutual ministry review process that will lead to the decision by the priest-in-charge and by the Vestry about whether the priest-in-charge will be called as the rector. This process should be concluded during the first half of 2015. More on this in future issues of the SPNews.

- Jeffery Irwin presented the Treasurer's Report, covering the financial results for 2014 and the prospects for the budget in 2015. In general, Jeff said he is happier about his report this year than he has ever been and sees the probability of a balanced operating budget in 2015. He reported that this year's pledge drive was the most successful in recent years, thanks to the generous response of parishioners, resulting in pledges for 2015 of about \$375,000. See his report on finances elsewhere in this issue of the SPNews.
- Jeff thanked Theresa Milne for her dedication and hard work as Assistant Treasurer this past year.
- Jeff also thanked Bradley Deacon, Christine Caswell, and Susan Kendall for serving on the Audit Committee, which examined 2013 financial records and made recommendations for improvements in procedures.
- Sally Lawrence announced and celebrated the conclusion of the Capital Campaign that began in 2011, which raised over \$520,000 for building needs.
- Rev. Karen Lewis presented her year-in-review report as priest-in-charge. More on this also in future editions.
- At the Vestry meeting immediately after the Annual Meeting, the Vestry elected Chris Krupka as Senior Warden and Chris Couch as Junior Warden for the coming year.

Financial Update.

Financial Information as of December 31, 2014

s of this writing the 2014 accounting was not final. However some highlights for 2014 can reported. At the start of 2014 the operating budget projected a deficit of \$133,000. At the same time there was only \$90,000 available in the Perpetual Fund. To address this deficit, the Vestry took actions which were difficult and perhaps not popular but necessary to bring spending in line with revenue. Staff reductions occurred and compensation levels were reduced. In addition, a second pledge drive was conducted in mid-year 2014. Many members of the congregation increased their 2014 pledge amounts.

Because of these actions only \$40,000 of the Perpetual Fund was used in 2014. The Perpetual Fund has \$53,000 available for future use as of December 31, 2014. Over \$345,000 of pledge revenue was booked in 2014. That is \$18,000 more than budgeted, including the amounts from the mid-year pledge campaign.

Total operating revenues were \$400,000, including pledge revenue, in 2014. A total of \$466,000 was expended in 2014. To fund this difference we used \$74,000 from the designated and restricted funds. Included in that amount was the \$40,000 from the Perpetual Fund and \$21,000 from the Shawver Memorial Fund to support the salary of the Youth Coordinator.

The designated and restricted funds received \$127,000 in contributions in 2014. The most significant being \$120,000 from the estate of Jean Shawver to set up a new fund called the Shawver Memorial Fund #2. This fund stipulates the principal is not to be expended and the earnings from the Fund will be used to support the programs of the Shawver Memorial Fund #1. The designated and restricted funds also recorded \$42,000 in investment earnings in 2014.

The Capital Campaign spent \$9,000 in 2014. The Capital Campaign has collected over \$520,000 in contributions since it started in 2011 and \$474,000 has been expended to improve the church building. At December 31, 2014, \$46,000 in funds are available for additional capital campaign projects.

In regards to the 2015 operating budget, the Vestry continued to take action to cut cost and increase revenues. Again very difficult decisions were made regarding staffing but the Vestry felt it was necessary to address our budget deficit.

The pledge campaign for 2015 was very successful. Over \$371,000 has been pledged for 2015, which is a significant increase in pledge income. After using designated funds to support operating costs, it is expected that the 2015 budget will be virtually balanced and we will not need to use any of the Perpetual Fund.

An audit of the 2013 financial records was conducted by the volunteer team of Bradley Deacon, Christine Caswell and Susan Kendall.

Many people made significant contributions to the financial records for 2014. In particular I would like to thank Therese Milne, who has made a tremendous contribution by taking on the bookkeeper responsibilities on a volunteer basis. I also want thank Chris Strukel, Kathleen Johnson, Karen Lewis, the Finance Committee, the Audit Committee, and everyone who worked on the church's financial and accounting records.

What Hath God Wrought?

By Sue LeDuc, Senior Warden

"What hath God wrought" was the phrase transmitted by Samuel F. B. Morse on his new invention – the telegraph in 1844. But it also apt for our continuing journey together here at St. Paul's. We should celebrate the hard work we have done in 2014 and look forward to 2015 with renewed excitement. Just what have we done you ask?

We changed the questions from "how can we avoid losing what we have?" to "what is God calling us to do?"

We started to envision a future that expands possibilities.

We worked hard to set our fiscal house in order, and this congregation gave generously toward that end.

We built community in all that we did, from worship to mission to Christian formation to fixing our beloved church buildings.

We laughed and sang and played and ate and worshipped together and took care of each other....and we listened to each other with love even when we disagreed.

To my mind, like Samuel B. Morse, who knew that inventing a way to communicate over great distances was not just his work alone, what is happening here at St. Paul's is the hand of God at work, too.

Parish News and Events.

Stock Your Bookshelves for the Coming Year

By Sue Millar

Don't miss out. Be sure to be on hand for the Used Book Sale that comes each year, giving you a chance to purchase great reads at bargain prices while, at the same time, supporting the wonderful work of Episcopal Relief and Development.

Due to an unanticipated schedule change, we will have just two Sundays to offer books for sale. Our two sales will be February 15 and 22. With just two days to search for books for next year's reading, be sure to plan on spending longer than usual those two Sundays.

Come to have a great time seeking and finding great books, and then be extra generous with a donation to ERD in addition to the actual cost of these bargain books.

Thank you to all who donate books, who purchase books, and to the folks who sort and sell them.

Recycling Ministry News



By Mark Rudd

We recycle here at St. Paul's! The Recycling Ministry Team apologies for not getting the "After the Holidays" bottle/ can return fundraiser done in January. With all the fun and excitement over the Holidays, we didn't have an opportunity to do a good promotion for this event like we did back in

October. We have moved our next bottle/can return drive to Sunday, February 15th, so save those returnables after your big Super Bowl party. Look for weekly reminders in the Sunday bulletins. Caring for our environment, which is our gift from God, is what we should all really be concerned about. Recycling things is one sure way to do that. Thank you for your support and contributions.



CPR/AED/First Aid Create a Class

Sign up on the clipboard in the Merrifield Room with your preference of date and time!

Questions? Contact Sally Boron 517-669-9468 or sboron@casair.net

4F'S WINTER SCHEDULE

(Faith, Fellowship, Food, & Fun)



Please sign up for 4F's programs in the Merrifield Room or by contacting Kathleen at the church office (482-9464), or Nancy Sheldon at (517-449-4583) or (ncsheldon5762@gmail.com). Our schedules is:

12:00 Noon- Lunch (\$6.00 lunch from A Catered Affaire)

12:20 to 12:45 pm — Bible Study with Steve Lange: "Using hymns as one of our spiritual resources"

12:45 to 2:00 pm – Program

February 16: "An Insider's View of the Workings of our City and State Governments". Joan Bauer shares with us what she has learned from government service, having held offices on the Lansing City Council from 1995 to 2006 and later in the State House of Representatives. She recently filled a vacancy on Lansing's Board of Education.



Umbrellas!

Just inside the door of the parking lot entrance, you will now find six beautiful navy blue golf umbrellas for your use (thank you Keeli Baker for this donation!). These are for

everyone's use when walking to the parking structure when it is raining. You will note the label on the handle that requests you to please return the umbrella to St. Paul's so that others may enjoy a dry head.

Confirmation Class An Inquiring & Discerning Heart

Karen Lewis+ is inviting all those interested in confirmation, reception, or reaffirmation to join her for conversation and instruction. Confirmation is a sacramental rite for those baptized at an early age to make a public affirmation of their faith and commitment to the responsibilities of their Baptism. Reaffirmation is for those who wish to reaffirm their Confirmation commitments, and Reception is for those baptized/confirmed in a different faith tradition who wish to be officially received in the Episcopal Church. This special service will be on May 9, 2015, in Brighton with Bishop Gibbs officiating. All those interested in any of these rites, please sign up in the Merrifield Room or contact Karen+. We will establish our meeting dates at our first gathering.

Ministry and Mission.

Altar Flowers

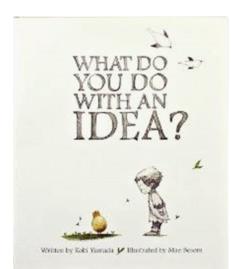
Christmas 2014

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Christmas Flower Fund. The sanctuary was truly expressed the Glory of God!

With Glory To God - Your gift of flowers to the Glory of God provides adornment for our altars and a proclamation of the resurrection. It also serves as a pastoral blessing to those who have flowers delivered to them.



Remember to submit an Altar Flower Dedication Request Form to support this ministry. Request forms are available in the Merrifield room or may be downloaded from the St. Paul's website. Contact Barbara Lindquist (517-347-0367) for additional information.



Reading Corner February Spotlight

By Barb Lindquist

This is the story of one brilliant idea and the child who helps to bring it into the world. As the child's confidence grows, so does the idea itself. And then, one day, something amazing happens.

This is a story for anyone, at any age, who has ever had an idea that seemed a little too big, too odd, and too difficult. It's a story to inspire you to welcome that idea, give it some space to grow, and to see what happens next. With encouragement, both the idea and its maker grow; fed by imagination, amazement, and tenacity ... until our hero/ine finds just the right answer to "what you do with an idea ..." We should all be so joyfully motivated! Here's the enchanting exhilaration to get you started!

Kudos to...

... Barb and Kirk Lindquist for tackling the task of erecting our beautiful Christmas trees and taking them down after Christmas. Not an easy task, and one that involves great amounts of time and ladders. Our thanks for making the altar area beautiful.

... our departing Vestry members who have completed their terms – Sue LeDuc, Sheila Harper, Carol Miller, and Karen Clarke. Your gift of time, talent, and energy has assisted in leading us through our transition. Thank you from all of us.

... all the acolytes, lectors, chalice bearers, ushers, altar guild members, and others who assisted in our extra Christmas services.

... Chris Krupka and Sally Lawrence for bringing to us the Episcopal Store. I suspect there were many Christmas St. Paul's News February 2015

By The Rev. Karen C. Lewis

presents with Episcopal shields on them this year.

... to all who pledged in our 2015 Give Glory to God campaign and to those who have completed their Capital Campaign commitments. It is only through your generosity that we are able to heat the building during these cold days.

... Sue LeDuc and Chris Krupka for their able leadership as our Vestry Wardens this year. God was good to all of us in calling you forth as our leaders.

... our office volunteers, especially Joyce Renfrew, Pat Riley, Bobbie Tisdale, Karen Clarke, and Barbara Richardson.

. . . our Treasurer, Jeff Irwin, and our bookkeeper, Theresa Milne, who volunteer many hours to maintain our financial records in such good order.

By The Rev. Karen C. Lewis

Lenten Offerings.

Lent & the Liturgy for Lent

he paschal mystery of the dying and rising again of Jesus Christ and our participation therein is the theological core of the gospel, and its liturgical celebration is the central event of the church year.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of this season of repentance, penitence, reflection, contemplation, fasting, and self-denial. Our liturgy on this day has its roots in the Old Testament, where covering oneself with sackcloth and ashes was a sign of repentance and mourning. Early Christians also used sackcloth and ashes as a sign of their repentance. The imposition of ashes during this service is intended to give ceremonial embodiment to the theme of penitence. Ash Wednesday was also the day public penitents were admitted to their penitential discipline, so that they might be readmitted to communion before Easter. Taken together, these rites remind us that we stand before God as sinners doomed to die, and that it is only through God's merciful gift that we can hope for anything else.

Since the early days of the Church, Lent has been a time of preparation for deeper commitment to Christ (the preparation of baptismal candidates) and a time of renewal and re-dedication to the promises made in our Baptismal Covenant. I offer you the following for reflection so that your Lent may be a holy experience.

Repentance

The prophet Joel sounds the call in the Old Testament Lesson on Ash Wednesday, "Turn back to me with your whole heart . . . turn back to the Lord your God; for he is gracious and compassionate, long-suffering and ever constant, always ready to repent of the threatened evil." (Joel 2:12-13). Lent is a time of conscious turning to the Lord in honest and sincere ways. It is a time of reaffirming previous conversion experiences and with renewed vigor, to set Christ and the things of God as the central focus of your life. Lent is a time to re-establish priorities. What are your priorities and do they reflect God's presence in our life?

Penitence

When we consciously turn to God, we know we are mortal, frail, weak, and not in complete control of ourselves. We know that we have, in the words of St. Paul, "sinned and fallen short of the glory of God." And so as a mark of the sincerity of our repentance we confess our sins, examine our consciences, deal with the dark side of our lives, and seek God's forgiveness. What are the sins which need confessing so that you might feel the overwhelming love of God's forgiveness and grace?

Reflection

We take time in Lent to reflect on the Word of God in scripture through regular worship and participation in the sacramental life of the Church, as the special means of grace. We study . . . we pray . . . we meditate . . . we listen for God! In Lent we make a special effort to clear our minds of unimportant things and think about ultimate things: sin and redemption; freedom from our idols; our separation from God and our salvation; death and resurrection. What are those things that clutter your mind and use your energy that prevent you from focusing on God and our salvation?

Simplicity

Lent is a special season and calls forth the need for austerity to reflect the themes of penitence. The music, the liturgies, and the simplicity of the altar setting clearly state that Lent is a time when there are changes from our normal way of doing things in the Sunday liturgy.

Worship in Lent

The First Sunday of Lent begins with The Great Litany. The gateway to Easter joy is the acknowledgement of our limitations and the seeking of forgiveness. It is one of the chief ways we prepare for Easter. The Great Litany has been used in the Church for centuries. Today, we join our Christian brothers and sisters who have gone before us as we pray this litany.

Sunday liturgy for Lent 2 through Lent 5

The remaining Sunday liturgies in Lent will begin with the Penitential Order. This draws our attention to our sinful nature and need for God's forgiveness.

Silence

Significant periods of silence will be observed during the service. The service will begin with a silent procession after having prepared our hearts for worship in the silence following the organ prelude. Silence will be observed following the Sermon and during the Prayers of the People. In a noisy world like ours, silence is truly golden and an important part of our liturgy.

I invite all of you into a holy Lent – to consider this a time of change and growth; a time to reflect on your faith life and your commitment to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; a time to prepare yourself to receive God's grace as one of his children, holy and beloved. May all of you find newness of life and forgiveness of sins during our forty days of Lent.

Lenten Offerings. Lenten Series - What is Sin? What is Reconciliation?

three-week Lenten Series on sin and reconciliation – Episcopal-style -- will begin on Wednesday, March 11th at 6 pm. On the nights of March 11, 18, and 25 we will gather to ponder the theology of sin: what is sin, how does Scripture address sin, what does the Episcopal tradition say about sin, and why we don't like talking about it. We'll discuss individual sin vs. "social sin". Plus one cannot talk about sin without immediately following it with conversation on the topic of reconciliation. Why is it so hard to forgive? You do not need to sign up for this series; however, if you would like dinner, which A Catered Affaire will provide beginning at 5 pm, please sign up in the Merrifield Room.

The Lord's Prayer

"Our Father, who art in heaven . . .

ou know the rest, don't you? You recite the "Our Father" every Sunday, and perhaps you recite it to yourself while you are driving, in line at the store, or before you go to bed. You can say the Lord's Prayer without even thinking about it. It's a part of life that can be taken for granted, as sure as the taking of your next breath.

That comfort level can be a good thing. But, it may also be a problem. Maybe sometimes it is too easy to recite and we do not pay attention to what it says or what we are actually saying. Lent is a time for examining our motives, assessing our desires, and adjusting our priorities – it is a sacred time of reflection and self-examination. It is also a time of prayer which makes Lent an especially appropriate time to consider and reflect on the prayer given us by Jesus.

The Lord's Prayer, also known as the "Our Father" and the Pater Noster, can be located in two of our gospels: Luke 11:2-4, and Matthew 6:9-13. The version from Matthew is part of Jesus's Sermon on the Mount, while the Lucan version is given by Jesus in response to a request from his disciples, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." The two differ slightly in their wording and also, no doxology is attached to either one. Scholars suggest the doxology was a later addition to the prayer.

Why this article at this time on the "Lord's Prayer"?

During the season of Lent, we will use the second option of the "Lord's Prayer" found in the 1979 Book of Common Prayer. My reasons for this change are threefold: (1) For all of us to experience the breadth of our BCP; (2) perhaps we have become too comfortable with our current rendition of the "Lord's Prayer" and if we experience a different version, we will pause and consider what we are saying; and (3) the option we will be using is closer to the Scriptural versions in both Luke and Matthew. The version of the "Lord's Prayer" we currently use on Sunday morning is the version imposed upon England in the reign of Henry VIII, and found in our Book of Common Prayer since 1549. From this early version our present text differs only in two very slight particulars: "Which art" has been modernized into "who art", and "in earth" into "on earth". This version became universally familiar and was adopted by the Church for liturgical purposes. In 1977, the Church of England adopted a new text, the one we will be using during Lent, which is also found in our Book of Common Prayer.

It is important for all of us to remember that when Jesus gave the disciples the "Lord's Prayer", he gave them an example, a pattern, of how to pray. It was intended to give us a form for what to include in our daily prayers. I invite you during this holy season of Lent, to pray to God with the 'contemporary' form of the "Lord's Prayer", to slow down and listen to what you are praying, and be patient with what may be an uncomfortable form, knowing that God is pleased we are praying at all.

A LENTEN DEVOTIONAL FOR FAMILIES

By Jackie Womble, Youth & Family Missioner

Lent begins on February 18 with Ash Wednesday. Lent is an old Anglo-Saxon term that means to lengthen and is observed in the Spring as the days begin to get longer. Lent is traditionally a period of fasting and repentance in preparation for Easter. Lent can also be used to focus more on our spiritual needs and less on our physical ones.

This year we have created Lenten Family Devotions to help us focus on our spiritual needs as we prepare for the joy of Easter. The packets will be available **February 8**.



By Barb Lindquist

nthusiasm is a word we don't use too often in church let alone during Lent. But perhaps we should. Do you see the "T-H-U-S" in the middle of the word? If you follow these letters all the way back in time to ancient Greece, they would have looked like this " $\theta \epsilon o \varsigma$ " or in our alphabet, "theos." It means "God." We get the word "theology" from this same word.

Our original word: enthusiasm usually means that we are excited or passionate about something. But if you look at that little Greek root and add the little Greek prefix "en-" meaning "in", you get a bit different definition. Etymologically, "enthusiasm" means "in God." Therefore, when we talk about our passions and excitements, what we are really saying is "these are the ways that I most clearly notice that I am in God."

This Lent, as a congregation, let's get en-thusiastic about supporting our youth (VBS, Episcopal Youth Events, or camp scholarships to name a few) by participating in Lent Madness. Use the discipline of Lent to learn something new, participate daily and have some fun! Simply fill out a Lent Madness Bracket with a donation of \$20 or more to St. Paul's Youth and place in the offering plate or submit it to the church office before February 18 to participate in the St. Paul's contest. A copy of the Saintly Scorecard (includes biographies of the thirty-two saints in this year's bracket) is available.

Levels of Participation

Level ${\tt 1}-{\tt Quickly}$ fill out the bracket, attach to donation, and turn in.

Level 2 – Fill out the bracket using your prior knowledge, attach to donation, turn in, and use Lent Madness calendar to vote online.

Level 3 - Research saints (using Saintly Scorecard), fill out the bracket (make a copy to keep), attach to donation, and use the Lent Madness calendar to vote online each weekday for the saint of your choice.

This is an opportunity for the St. Paul's community to get creative about ways to increase revenue and at the same time support youth ministry opportunities. Show your ENTHUSIASM by participating at any level – Just Do It!

Look for the Big Bracket in the Merrifield room for the saints that move forward each week. Entries will receive a point for each saint they pick correctly. The entry with the most points after the Golden Halo is awarded will win the distinction of being St. Paul's 2015 Lent Madness winner and Guardian of the Golden Halo until the 2016 challenge!

Currently Laura LeDuc is the 2014 Guardian of the Golden Halo. Jenny Humphries and Jim Milne who tied for second place in 2014 are anxious to claim the halo this year!

About Lent Madness

This unique Lenten devotion combines love of sports with the lives of saints.

"The format is straightforward: thirty-two saints are placed in a tournament-style single elimination bracket. Each pairing remains open for twenty-four hours, and people vote for their favorite saint. Sixteen saints make it to the Saintly Sixteen; eight advance to the Elate Eight; four make it to the Faithful Four; two to the Championship; the winner is awarded to the coveted Golden Halo. The first round consists of basic biographical information about each of the thirty-two saints, then things get more interesting in the subsequent rounds as we offer quotes and quirks, explore legends, and even move into the area of saintly kitsch.

Yes, Lent is a sacred time of preparation, penitence, selfreflection, and renewal, but there's no reason a Lenten discipline needs to be dreary as we 'prepare with joy for the Pascal feast.' Taking our faith yet not ourselves too seriously is the essence of Lent Madness, and as it continues to grow and evolve, what won't change is the opportunity to meet some amazing people who have come before us in the faith. What we learn from the saints is they, like us, are flawed human beings through whose lives Christ's love shone brightly. If this love can shine brightly in their lives, perhaps we too can be beacons of the Good News." *

*from Saintly Scorecard



St. Aelred's Prayer List

Those who are sick and in need:

Carla, Jane Diehl, Peggy, John and Grace Hawkins, Jim, Maurice VanAuken, Tom Foltz, Sebastian Cuesta, Joe and Judy Manson, Marilyn, Susan Brewster, Katie Stoltz, Bill Sheldon, Webb Smith Jr, Kathy Bowland, Ralph and Jo Hoffman, Julie Fletcher, Mason Hill, Katie Stoltz, Van Anderson

Those who are serving in the Military: Tyson Carter, Brendan Moody, Erin Ehn

We pray for comfort and peace:

For the family and friends of Ed Benson, who recently passed away.

We pray for those who are expecting: Kary and Mark Miller Menaldo

Dave and Debbie Parks

Rob Gray Returns for Discussions on Race Relations in the United States

By Susan Henderson

St. Paul's Mission and Outreach Committee is partnering with Lansing Community College on four consecutive Tuesday evenings beginning March 17, to offer four short documentary films on "Race in the 21st Century." The films are designed to be a springboard to conversations about structural racism and ways that it is affecting us today. Rob Gray, the originator of the films and currently faculty at the University of South Alabama in Mobile, is a former parishioner of St. Paul's and will be in Lansing to help lead the first session. See the next issue of the St. Paul's News for details.

Calendar.

FEBRUARY 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 FOOD BANK SUNDAY 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in the Chapel 9:45 AM Church School 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion	2 FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION/CANDLEMAS 9:00 AM Bhutanese Refugee Support Group-Merrifield Room	3 12:00 PM Worship & Healing Service 5:30 PM Prayer Group - Chancel 6:00 PM Stewardship Ministry Team	4 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM AA Meeting 5:30 PM Cherubs, Boys & Grace Choirs 5:30 PM Mission & Outreach Ministry 6:30 PM High School Choir	5 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	6 OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM AA Meeting	7 5:00 PM Ed Benson Family Gathering
8 Baptism Anniversary Celebration 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in the Chapel 9:45 AM Church School 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion 11:30 AM Communications Committee 1:00 PM Ed Benson Memorial Service	9 9:00 AM Bhutanese Refugee Support Group-Merrifield Room 5:00 PM New Vestry Members Orientation 6:00 PM Vestry Dinner - Meeting @ 6:30 pm	10 12:00 PM Worship & Healing Service 5:00 PM Buildings & Grounds 6:00 PM B&PW Dinner & Meeting	11 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM AA Meeting 2:30 PM Rev. Lewis @ Clericus Mtg. @ University Lutheran, E. Lansing 4:30 PM St. Aelred's Committee - Van Atta 5:30 PM Cherubs, Boys & Grace Choirs 5:30 PM Community Life Committee - Library 6:30 PM High School Choir	12 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	13 OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM AA Meeting	14
15 ERD Book Sale 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in the Chapel 9:45 AM Church School 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion 11:30 AM Youth Christian Education Committee 11:59 PM SPN Deadline!!	16 Presidents Day OFFICE CLOSED PRESIDENT'S DAY Steve Lange Away 9:00 AM Bhutanese Refugee Support Group-Merrifield Room 12:00 PM 4 F's Luncheon & Program	17 Steve Lange Away 12:00 PM Worship & Healing Service	18 Ash Wednesday Steve Lange Away 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM AA Meeting 12:00 PM Ash Wed Service 5:30 PM Cherubs, Boys & Grace Choirs 6:30 PM High School Choir 7:00 PM Ash Wed Service	19 Steve Lange Away 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast 9:30 AM Rev. Lewis @ Fresh Start Program 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	20 Diocesan Youth New Beginnings OFFICE CLOSED Steve Lange Away 9:00 AM Vestry Retreat 12:00 PM AA Meeting	21 Diocesan Youth New Beginnings Steve Lange Away 9:00 AM Vestry Retreat
22 ERD Book Sale 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in the Chapel 9:45 AM Church School 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion	23 Rev. Lewis Away 9:00 AM Bhutanese Refugee Support Group-Merrifield Room 5:30 PM Liturgy & Music Ministry 6:00 PM Recycling Ministry Team	24 Rev. Lewis Away 12:00 PM Morning Prayer Service	25 Rev. Lewis Away 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM AA Meeting 5:30 PM Cherubs, Boys & Grace Choirs 6:30 PM High School Choir	26 Rev. Lewis Away 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	27 OFFICE CLOSED Rev. Lewis Away 12:00 PM AA Meeting	28 Rev. Lewis Away 9:00 AM Diocesan Vestry Retreat
1 FOOD BANK SUNDAY Lent II Rev. Lewis Away 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in the Chapel 9:45 AM Church School 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion	2 Rev. Lewis Away 9:00 AM Bhutanese Refugee Support Group-Merrifield Room	3 Rev. Lewis Away 12:00 PM Morning Prayer Service 5:30 PM Prayer Group - Chancel 6:00 PM Stewardship Ministry Team	4 Rev. Lewis Away 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM AA Meeting 5:30 PM Cherubs, Boys & Grace Choirs 5:30 PM Mission & Outreach Ministry 6:30 PM High School Choir	5 Rev. Lewis Away 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	6 Diocesan Youth New Beginnings OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM AA Meeting	7 Diocesan Youth New Beginnings