

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Building Community

1914 - 2014

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Past. Present. Future.

The Episcopal Church at Work

By The Rev. Karen C. Lewis

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This summer, The Episcopal Church will gather for its triennial meeting, known as General Convention, in Salt Lake City, Utah. The General Convention is the governing body of The Episcopal Church. It is a bicameral legislature that includes the House of Deputies, with more than 800 members (up to four clergy and four lay persons from each diocese); and the House of Bishops, with over 300 active and resigned bishops.

The work of General Convention includes adopting legislation of concern to the Church; amending the Book of Common Prayer, the Constitution, and the Canons of the Church; adopting a triennial budget for The Episcopal Church; and electing candidates to offices, boards and other committees. The legislative process of General Convention is an expression of The Episcopal Church's belief that, under God, the Church is ordered and governed by its people: laity, deacons, priests, and bishops. General Convention acts through the adoption of resolutions. A resolution only becomes an Act of Convention after both houses adopt it in the same form and at the same General Convention.

Why does this matter to us? Well, several important things will happen at this 78th convention. A new Presiding Bishop will be elected to a nine-year term. We will be saying goodbye to the Most Rev'd Katherine Jefferts-Schori, who has led us ably through some significant international conversations and conflict. Also legislation will be considered that addresses how The Episcopal Church is structured and functions. Discussion will be held on changing the 1979 Book of Common Prayer. Although it may seem like none of this stuff has anything to do with our day-to-day ministry, it really does and we will spend time discussing much of the legislation following General Convention.

For now, please hold the thousands of Episcopalians gathering in Salt Lake City in prayer as they seek to be faithful to God's calling and make decisions regarding our future as The Episcopal Church.

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We're on the web!
www.stpaulslansing.org

Our New Parish Administrator

By The Rev. Karen C. Lewis

She is someone who needs no introduction as she has been a familiar face around St. Paul's for many years. She is a gifted person who is well-versed in the skills necessary to keep a very busy office and building running at its best. She knows computers, finances, bookkeeping, and how to make things happen. As a volunteer, she has been involved in various committees and recently resigned from the Vestry to accept this position.

I am pleased to introduce to you our new Parish Administrator, Theresa Milne. Please welcome her as you would any new member of our congregation. Please also grant her some time to learn all that needs to be learned as we work hard not to overwhelm her during her first month or two. In the church there is always the discussion surrounding whether or not to hire a parishioner as an employee – good reasons exist on both side of the conversation why and why not a church should do so. But, when you have someone with the gifts and skills to excel at this ministry as Theresa does, how can you not accept this gift from God?

So . . . welcome Theresa! I am thrilled to have you joining our great staff!

Have you signed a fabric square for BOTH Kathleen and Steve? It is not too late to be part of the signature quilts that are being made for each of them. The deadline to sign for Steve will be **June 14**. Deadline for Kathleen will be **June 28**. Signatures will be taken during each coffee hour.

Financial Update.

By Jeff Irwin, Treasurer

Financial Information as of April 30, 2015

For the first four months of 2015 the church is doing well financially, and the cash in the bank account is in good shape. Please keep in mind over the summer if you travel or are otherwise away from church that our expenses still continue.

So, please keep your pledge payments current.

A Gentle Reminder

By Theresa Milne

This is a gentle reminder that the church office is open **Monday through Thursday from 9AM to 2PM**. There is much to do and it's important to focus so all that needs to be accomplished is done in a timely and efficient manner. Deadlines help us stay on task with tight schedules. As each of us go about doing "the business" of the church, please remember that any reimbursements or payments by St. Paul's will require the completion of a check request form (available in the church office). Check requests and supporting invoices/receipts should be submitted to the office by Tuesday morning to receive a check that week. Checks will be cut on Tuesdays. Most check signatories are not on site and they come in to the office when notified. Bear in mind that these individuals have careers and busy lives as well. All checks will be mailed or delivery arranged by close of business on the following Thursday.

EMTs have been called to St. Paul's TWO consecutive Sundays in April. Do you know what to do if you witness an injury or medical emergency? Don't delay – get trained!

Training at St. Paul's is only \$30 (Red Cross is \$90). Course content is done online at your convenience. Skill session will be offered weekends or evenings. **SIGN UP IN THE MERRIFIELD ROOM**. Need more information? Ask Sally Boron, sboron@casair.net, 517-669-9468.

Parish News and Events.

Grand Celebration for Steve Lange on Sunday, June 21st

By Chris Couch

Join the St. Paul's community in celebrating Dr. Stephen Lange's 45 years as music minister, and in thanking him for the manifold, meaningful ways he has touched our lives. On **Sunday, June 21**, a special 10 AM worship service will be followed by a party for Steve and Nancy in the Merrifield Room, as part of a grand send-off, as Steve heads into retirement.

Steve has invited all present and past choristers to join in singing the Sunday service. A special rehearsal will be held Saturday, June 20, at 10 AM to learn the service music and a special anthem, as well as a piece Steve has written for the choir.

The celebration committee hopes you can join in this special day. There is a St. Paul's Choristers Group on Facebook, which is providing updates on preparations for the activities scheduled for that day (some of which are not being shared with the honoree).

Stay tuned for further announcements in bulletins, via email, on the St. Paul's webpage, and on the Facebook site. Contact Martie Repaskey for further information.

Music Minister Transition

By Larry Clark

Following Steve Lange's announcement of his June 30, 2015 retirement, Karen Lewis asked me to chair the Music Minister Transition Task Force, a team of St. Paul's members engaged in the search process to find our next minister of music. Task force members include Emma Clark, Jeff Kressler, Sue LeDuc, Deb McMartin-Finkel, Jim Milne, Laurie Nevin, Barbara Richardson, AJ Walilko, and myself. In our first two meetings, each of the task force members shared their personal hopes and fears about the future of musical leadership at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, and we made plans for the process of selecting the right individual, or individuals, for the position. We agreed that we should not expect to find another Steve Lange. The combination of Steve's enormous talent, spiritual connection and leadership, love for teaching, and heart for service cannot be duplicated. I believe I speak for the entire task force, however, when I say we are confident that God will guide us to find the right person, or persons, to continue our tradition of excellence in worship through music. As my language here indicates, we realize that if a single candidate with all the desired skills cannot be found, we must be open to the possibility of splitting the organist and choir director responsibilities between two people. Again, I am confident that God will provide, as always.

Karen Lewis, Jeff Kressler and I have contacted music departments at various colleges and universities in Michigan, and a few out-of-state schools as well, providing them with copies of the applicant invitation and position

description. Announcements have also been sent to the American Guild of Organists. We have requested that applicants submit their resumes, transcripts, and recordings of their recent performances to Karen Lewis by June 15, 2015. The task force will meet several times over the summer to review submissions from applicants and whittle the list down to a select few to invite for interviews and auditions. Auditions with each candidate will be held, including an opportunity to see/hear the candidate(s) play the organ and direct a choir. The task force's goal is that by the end of the summer we will be able to recommend one or two candidates to Karen Lewis and the Vestry for final consideration.

I ask that you keep the Music Minister Transition Task Force in your prayers during the months ahead, as we travel on this journey of discernment on behalf of St. Paul's. If you have any recommendations the committee should consider for the position, please talk to me at church or contact me via phone (517-420-1817) or e-mail (larx2@comcast.net). And, please join me in expressing deep gratitude and appreciation to Steve Lange for his many years of excellent service to the church, as well as in congratulating him and wishing him a most enjoyable retirement.

Parish News and Events.

Debriefing on “Why We Still Need to Talk about Race” Program

By Susan Henderson

When the “Why We Still Need to Talk about Race” program ended at LCC, a number of participants expressed the desire to find a way to not let that be the end of the dialogue we had begun.

Program participants from St. Paul's have been invited to meet in the Van Atta Room for about an hour after the 10 a.m. service on Sunday, June 7, to talk about what the program meant to us, what we learned, what's changed or hasn't since then, and whether or what we might like to do next.

If you were unable to attend the program at LCC but are interested in the conversation, **please join us on June 7.**

For those not familiar with this program, on four consecutive Tuesday evenings, March 17 through April 7, St. Paul's Mission and Outreach Committee partnered with Lansing Community College, Antioch Full Gospel Church, and The Catholic Community of St. Jude to

host a documentary film series for the Greater Lansing Community on “Why We Still Need to Talk About Race.”

Serving as a springboard for conversation, each film in the series took a hard look at the different ways racism continues to pervade structures and institutions in 21st-century America. Each week drew seventy-five to one hundred participants, many of whom attended all four sessions. Film director, and former St. Paul's parishioner, Rob Gray, and our own Judi Brown Clarke opened the first session. Other community leaders helping to facilitate the program were our own Judge Hugh Clarke, Prosecutor Stuart Dunnings, Lansing Police Captain Daryl Green, the New Citizens Press Publisher Rina Risper, LCC Professor Shawn Smith, LCC Black Student Union President Eddie Wol, Sheriff Gene Wrigglesworth, and Lansing Police Chief Michael Yankowski.

Baptizing Our Recycling Bins

by Chuck Millar

Paper recycling bins have been available in several places around the church for some time now. More recently, Allan Boron was spotted loading his van with flattened cardboard boxes from Catered Affair. At coffee hour, compostable paper cups are being given a trial run as a replacement for polystyrene cups. And you may also have heard that a parish recycling and environmental issues committee has been formed. What is going on here?

Peter Sawtell, a Presbyterian minister and the author of Eco-Culture Notes (ministry@eco-justice.org), describes with blunt words the issue these activities address: “Humans are living out-of-whack with the earth. We are living in a distorted, dysfunctional relation with the rest of creation. We don't have an environmental problem, we have a human problem.”

I agree. Seen as a human rather than a technical problem, conserving the earth's limited biological, mineral, energy, and water resources is profoundly relevant to both the Christian message and the Church's experience.

To quote Peter Sawtell again:

“When we see the environmental crisis as a human problem, religious communities suddenly become very important. If we're struggling with a warped notion of humanity's place and purpose in creation, then faith communities have vast expertise in dealing with that problem. In religious communities we know how to deal

with the question of what it means to be human, and thus (we) are superbly positioned to address the human problem at the heart of our current crisis. At the core of our mission, we focus on the meaning of life and on what really constitutes the good life. For centuries, we have been addressing relationships and community---not always getting the answers right, of course, but always circling around those themes. We deal with matters of justice and ethics. Perhaps most importantly, we claim to bring transformation to individuals, communities, and society, precisely by inviting people to adopt new understandings of our relationship with God, with the whole human family, and with creation.”

So the recycling bins, the cardboard collection, the effort to avoid polystyrene cups, and the formation of the recycling committee and other actions to come are very legitimate activities for our St. Paul's community. By “baptizing” them, by embracing them as part our church community, we will be making St. Paul's a little less “out of whack with the earth.”

Almighty God, in giving us dominion over things on earth, you made us fellow workers in your creation: Give us wisdom and reverence so to use the resources of nature, that no one may suffer from our abuse of them, and that generations yet to come may continue to praise you for your bounty: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Ministry and Mission.

Mission & Outreach

by Carol Miller

LET US GIVE THANKS

AJ Fletcher, a longtime parishioner, presented a well-crafted and moving account on April 19 during coffee hour about her January 2015 participation in the Holocaust Remembrance Ceremony in Auschwitz, Poland. St. Paul's and individual parishioners supported AJ through monetary donations to help offset travel expenses. We wish her well as she begins an exciting job in her field in northern California.

Also, in early spring, parishioners, through the efforts of BPW, donated a suitcase filled with over-the-counter medications which Daniel Kuol has carried to S. Sudan to disperse to patients through the Southern Sudan Medical Clinic.

Many thanks, too, to Libby Richardson and all who helped save lives with another successful Red Cross Blood Drive on April.

The Bedding, Towel, and Diaper Needs Closet outreach continues thanks to contributions by many of gently used items and the vigorous response (thirty six pillows) to the Pillow Drive! Our Mission and Outreach Ministry is deeply grateful to The Episcopal Diocese of Michigan for granting our Bedding, Towel, and Diaper Needs Closet a \$1,000 Social Service Grant to help purchase additional diapers, mattress covers, and other needed items.

LOAVES AND FISHES SPECIAL NEEDS DRIVE

Please donate cleaning supplies and personal needs items for residents living in and transitioning out of this vital homeless shelter by **June 28**. Items needed include brooms, dust pans, mops, buckets, dish soap, Pine Sol, dish cloths, laundry and bar soap, disposable razors, lip balm, lotion, pocket tissue packs, feminine hygiene products etc. Please place donations on or near the Needs Closet table in the church cloister. Thank you.

Helping Hands Day of Service, June 27, 9:00 AM - 3:15 PM St. Paul's parishioners are invited to participate in this community event sponsored by Lansing Parks and Recreation Department and Lansing Area Church of the Latter Day Saints. This year's projects, in part, include mulching at eight city playgrounds, upgrading Gier and Davis Ball fields, clearing unwanted vegetation at Grand River Park, and cleaning out rain gardens along Michigan Avenue. More information on how you can help, a complete list of projects, and information about this exciting outreach is available where you can sign up to help in the Merrifield Room.

75th Holocaust Remembrance Day Presentation

By Barb Heany

On April 19, Alexandra "AJ" Fletcher gave an outstanding presentation of her journey to Auschwitz as a participant in the 75th Holocaust Remembrance Day Memorial this past January. During the 30-minute presentation AJ shared pictures and insight as to what it felt like to be amongst a dwindling population of some 300 Auschwitz survivors in the very place where so many others faced their demise.

AJ's tour was led by champion human rights activist, Eva Mozes Kor who along with her twin sister, Miriam, were subjected to human experimentation under Josef Mengele at Auschwitz. Eva has gone on to publish books on the power of forgiveness in healing. AJ pointed out that the Auschwitz survivors have urged the world not to allow a repeat of the crimes of the Holocaust. We must remember and make sure this never happens again. AJ stated that she "is profusely grateful" for the love, prayers, and financial support that St. Paul's gave her as she prepared for this journey.

The following are a couple of links to video clips that AJ was hoping to share in her presentation, but was unable to because of technical difficulties.

<http://www.candleholocaustmuseum.org/>

<https://prezi.com/efegzemlkoqx/auschwitz-70/>

Altar Flowers

By Barb Lindquist

*Thank you for your support of
St. Paul's Altar Flower Ministry*

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| April 26th | <i>Chuck and Sue Millar</i> |
| May 3rd | <i>Business and Professional Women Guild</i> |
| May 10th | <i>Sally and Allan Boron, Lille Foster and Win Stebbins, Ree and Jim Huber, Annette and Ron Irwin, Barbara and Kirk Lindquist, Marilyn Maloney, Pat Riley, Jan Trumball, Lyn Zynda and Leigh Henrys</i> |
| May 17th | <i>Keeli Baker</i> |
| May 24th | <i>Barbara and Kirk Lindquist</i> |
| May 31st | <i>Web and Pat Smith</i> |

Remember to sign up for Altar Flowers! All dates are open for your special dedication.

YOUTH

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

By Jackie Womble

COMING TO A CLOSE

Our Sunday School year ended with a fun party on May 17. We had a great year, averaging about 20 children a week in class. We began the year with a new curriculum and after some adjustment, it has worked well. We will resume classes on Sunday, September 14. Have a fun and safe summer!!!

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

We will begin our Summer Sunday School curriculum on June 28 at 9 am. The children will be in class through the service. This year we will hold our class downstairs in the preschool Sunday school room. We will continue to use the "Feasting on the Word" curriculum that we have used during the year.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Thank you so very much to Carol Laub, Maria Wawro, Marti Narezo, Lyn Kressler, Barb Heany, and Rick Laub for sharing your faith journey and your dedication to the children of St. Paul's!

COME PLAY WITH US!



Vacation Bible School is June 15-19 from 9 to 11 AM. Our theme this year is "Hometown Nazareth; Where Jesus was a kid!" All are welcome to join us

as participants (three years to sixth grade) or as volunteers (no age limit). We will sing, dance, learn, eat, and create projects! Come join the fun!!!

ONE WORLD, MANY STORIES

By Barb Lindquist



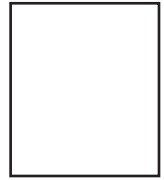
St. Paul's Youth Library

Enjoy the summer! Checkout some books to share as a family with your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, or significant children in your life! Stories can widen our worldview in which our faith is lived.

Calendar.

JUNE 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 GRADUATION SUNDAY St. Paul's 100th Bldg. Steve Lange Away 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in the Chapel 9:45 AM NO Church School 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion 11:30 AM Graduation Coffee Hour	1 Steve Lange Away 9:00 AM Bhutanese Refugee Support Group-Merrifield 5:30 PM Liturgy & Music Ministry	2 Steve Lange Away 12:00 PM Worship & Healing Service 6:00 PM Stewardship Ministry Team	3 Steve Lange Away 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM AA Meeting 5:30 PM Mission & Outreach Ministry	4 Steve Lange Away	5 OFFICE CLOSED Steve Lange Away 12:00 PM AA Meeting	6 St. Paul's Neighborhood Garage Sales Steve Lange Away
7 FOOD BANK SUNDAY Steve Lange Away TEACHER RECOGNITION 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in the Chapel 9:45 AM NO Church School 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion	8 Steve Lange Away 9:00 AM Bhutanese Refugee Support Group-Merrifield	9 Steve Lange Away 12:00 PM Worship & Healing Service 5:00 PM Buildings & Grounds 6:00 PM B&PW Dinner & Meeting	10 Steve Lange Away 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM AA Meeting 4:30 PM St. Aelred's Committee - Van Atta 5:30 PM Community Life Committee - Library	11 Steve Lange Away 10:45 AM Open Door - Serving Lunch 7:00 PM VOA Memorial Service	12 OFFICE CLOSED Steve Lange Away 12:00 PM AA Meeting	13 Steve Lange Away VBS Set Up
14 Baptism Anniversary Celebration FEAST OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST NO 8 AM SERVICE 9:45 AM NO Church School 10:00 AM PICNIC IN THE PARK 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in the Park 11:30 AM Communications Committee	15 9:00 AM Bhutanese Refugee Support Group-Merrifield 9:00 AM VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 6:00 PM Vestry Dinner - Meeting @ 6:30 pm 11:59 PM SPN Deadline!!	16 9:00 AM VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 12:00 PM Worship & Healing Service	17 9:00 AM VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM AA Meeting	18 9:00 AM VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	19 OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 AM VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 11:00 AM VBS Luncheon 12:00 PM AA Meeting	20 Lange Reception Set Up
21 FATHER'S DAY STEVE LANGE RETIREMENT RECEPTION 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in the Chapel 9:45 AM NO Church School 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion 11:30 AM Youth Christian Education Committee	22 9:00 AM Bhutanese Refugee Support Group-Merrifield 10:30 AM Kris Morris w/Rev. Lewis 5:30 PM Liturgy & Music Ministry 6:00 PM Recycling Ministry Team	23 12:00 PM Worship & Healing Service 12:30 PM St. Elizabeth Guild	24 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM AA Meeting	25	26 OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM AA Meeting	27 Mission & Outreach Day 10:00 AM Alice Slater Memorial
28 9:00 AM Church School 9:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in Merrifield Room	29 9:00 AM Bhutanese Refugee Support Group-Merrifield	30 12:00 PM Worship & Healing Service	1 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM AA Meeting 5:30 PM Mission & Outreach Ministry	2	3 OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM AA Meeting	4



Summer Worship Schedule

The warm weather is the signal of an upcoming change in our worship schedule. Please read and note the changes in worship time and space that start occurring this month. We don't want any of you not to make it to Sunday worship because of schedule changes. They are as follows:

- **June 14** – our annual Sunday worship and potluck in the park. NO 8:00 AM service. We will gather at Granger Meadows for our 10:00 am worship followed by a great potluck.
- **June 21** – we will have both an 8 & 10 AM service. The 10:00 AM service will include our celebration of Dr. Lange's 45 years of ministry among us with a special coffee hour afterwards.
- **June 28** – Service time moves to 9:00 AM – one Sunday service only. Our worship moves into the Merrifield Room, where we may stay cool and comfortable while we celebrate the Eucharist. We will continue this schedule through Sunday, September 6.

We will return to the large Sanctuary on Wednesday, September 9, for our Celebration of Ministry and New Rector, with the Bishop presiding at our worship. We will return to two Sunday services on Sunday, September 13.

