

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - LANSING, MICHIGAN

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November 2015



From the Rector

Shifts, New Directions, and Where Do I Look Now?

The unexpected flooding of the lower level of the music wing although problematic and a general pain in our ongoing life, also provided us with an opportunity to ponder some changes in rooms and where certain ministries and people are housed. Temporarily, those in the choir were displaced as their vesting room was moved to the lower level classroom wing – but happily they are back in their space awaiting new fixtures on which to hang their vestments.

As we prepared for the arrival of Susan Carter as our new Associate Rector, we realized the need our Needs Closet had for more space and also the need for an office for Susan – so we moved the Needs Closet into the upstairs Conference Room (which offers plenty of space and a long table for sorting) and you can now find Susan in what was once the Deacon's office. Jeff Walker discovered after two months of settling in as our new Minister of Music, he had a need for a dedicated space that offered privacy for his work, so his office will soon be located upstairs next to Susan's.

But we are not done yet! For some time we have been concerned about the location of the nursery – tucked into the corner of the lower level of the Parish Hall – about as far away as possible from the sanctuary – not easy to find for newcomers. Hopefully in a few weeks, the nursery will be moving into the space next to the Choir Room known as the Vesting Room – a space that is easy to locate and easily accessible for parents. And those who use the Vesting Room – acolytes, chalice bearers and clergy, will soon find their robes and vestments located directly below their current space in the McClintock Room – which is newly painted thanks to John David Hawkins.

For a short time, it will take extra effort on all our parts to discover who is where and in which room to find what we

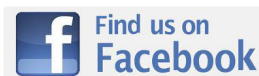
need. The shifting and movement of rooms and people is a pain and yet, the good news is it means we also are changing and growing. One of the greatest challenges for religious institutions is to be adaptable – to adjust to the changing needs of the community and world around them. We like things to stay the same. We like to know that when we go to church, everything will be exactly as it was 50 years ago or even 100 years ago. But to not adapt to the changes around us – the shifting needs and directions of our community – will make us obsolete and no longer relevant to our society.

For this month, and for the next several months, let us pray for patience with one another, and let us pray for the grace to adapt to our community needs while discerning how to maintain the life-giving traditions of our Episcopal faith. May it be so.

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...and more!



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

The Rev. Susan Carter with Chris Couch



The Rev. Susan Carter joins St. Paul's on November 1 as the associate for pastoral care. By now we have heard about her varied background and many accomplishments: professor of journalism at MSU, award-winning news broadcaster, press secretary to a governor, North Pole explorer, holder of degrees in history and law, as well as divinity (including a D.Min in preaching). But the St. Paul's News thought we would find out some other things about our newest staff member.

How did you get into this line of work? When did you feel the call to ordained ministry?

The tug to ordained ministry was a long-standing one. As with many, though, I held off answering it, in part because I didn't feel competent or worthy or prepared. I came to appreciate that any call is not based in worthiness but in faithfulness. My ordination journey began, then, in November 2004.

Is there an inspirational figure that has influenced your spirituality?

There are many, but as a contemporary, I turn most to Desmond Tutu, the Archbishop Emeritus of Cape Town, South Africa. He has been a great force for justice and through the reconciliation process encouraged all of us to acknowledge and accept our faults and apologize for them.

What is your favorite book in the Bible?

The gospels, but I switch back and forth – sometime it's John with his Greek philosophical overtones, and sometimes it's Mark with his rapid in-your-face approach. Then, there is Matthew working to make the links to the

prophets of the Old Testament and Luke/Acts who takes the story out into the world.

Favorite authors, or books, old and new?

Yikes! I have been a great consumer of science fiction and now enjoy (gently) detective stories. Among my favorites: Margaret Atwood, John Updike, E. B. White.

What are some of your interests outside of church and work?

I LOVE being out in God's creation, so physical activities that are outside are cherished. They include skiing and biking, slogging (that's a step slower than jogging) and swimming. I fly an airplane when time allows (single engine) and kayak when possible.

Favorite way to relax?

See above!

Anything that might surprise us to find out about you?

No doubt, we will find many surprises in each other. The joy will be in discovering them.

What do you like most about being priest/Episcopalian?

The openness of the Episcopal Church to all who are wanting to be in a relationship with God is very dear and important to me. As a priest, I am humbled by the call to walk with people on their faith journeys, in good times and sad ones. It is a deep privilege to serve.

Bonus Question: Favorite Beatle?

Ahh... Sir Paul.

Financial Update

By Jeffery Irwin

Financial Information as of September 30, 2015

September 30, 2015 is 75% of the year. Pledge income was \$260,293 for the nine months ending September 30 which is 70.5% of the 2015 budget.

The new carpet has been installed at cost \$18,685. This has been funded by the Capital Campaign.

As of September 30, 2015 \$58,227 has been transferred from various funds so operations has a net increase of \$6,189 for the year to date.

In September there was an additional \$12,576 decline in the value of the investment funds. This makes the year to date a \$16,988 decline in value.

Some Recent Vestry Actions

In recent meetings the Vestry of St. Paul's has, among other things:

- Voted to renew the contract of the Youth and Family Minister for one year, with funding sought from the Shawver Fund, as before.
- Voted to seek Shawver Fund monies for the new position of Associate Rector for Pastoral Care.
- Approved use of new marriage liturgies approved by the General Convention, including for same-sex marriages.
- Approved the design and placement of a new frame to hold banners displaying news of upcoming major events (such as Silver Bells, Christmas services, Easter services, among others.)
- Approved the use of Capital Campaign funds for new carpeting in the church and parish house.
- Appointed outgoing Vestry members as the nominating committee for new Vestry candidates to be elected at the Annual Meeting in January. Candidates need to be in place by the December Vestry meeting.
- Discussed plans and dates for the upcoming pledge drive.
- Heard that insurance will cover the \$40,000 in repair costs from the flooding in late summer, including the costs of asbestos removal and tile replacement in the music building basement.
- Purchased a new computer system with monies from the Capital Campaign Fund.
- Created the Dr. Stephen R. Lange Music Scholarship Fund, funded in part from monies raised during the retirement celebration. This fund is for scholarships for youth choristers and former choristers of St. Paul's.
- Discussed recommendations to review the Vestry committee structure to clarify the purpose and scope of committees and their reporting responsibilities.
- Began work on the 2016 budget with the assistance of Treasurer Jeff Irwin.



Pet First Aid

You love them, now learn to protect them

Dogs and cats are more than pets—they're family. And just like any other member of the family, pets deserve to be cared for and protected. Red Cross Dog First Aid and Cat First Aid courses will teach you how to respond to health emergencies and provide basic first aid for the four-legged members of your family.

Practice and preparation will help you be calm and effective in an emergency, protecting you and your pet from further injury or suffering.



Visit redcross.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS to register for a course today.

- What do you do when your pet eats poison? Did you know that there is a poison control phone number for pets?
- Can CPR be given to cats and Dogs? **YES**
- Can a person do rescue breathing with a cat or dog? **YES**
- Do you know how to control bleeding if your pet is injured?
- Ever wonder whether or not to take your pet to the vet?

These questions and skills are taught by the American Red Cross. But the bad news is that this program will end on Dec. 31st, 2015. The time to take an ARC Pet First Aid class is NOW!

Cat and Dog First Aid classes will be offered at St. Paul's on the mornings (9:00 AM – 12:00 PM) of:

- **December 5**
- **December 12**

Cost of each class is \$17 or \$34 for both cat and dog. Please sign up in the Merrifield room and indicate if you wish Cat or Dog and the date of your preference.

Deadline to sign up is **Sunday, November 15**

Questions? Please contact ARC Pet Instructor Sally Boron at sboron@casair.net or 517-669-9468.

Minister of Music Jeff Walker to Present Organ Recital Nov. 8th

Jeff Walker will play his first organ recital at St. Paul's on **Sunday, November 8, at 3:30 PM**. The program will include works from the German and French Baroque (Bach, Buxtehude, and De Grigny); Ronald Arnatt's Fanfare, featuring the loud tuba stop (tuba is the Latin word for trumpet); a lovely Pastorale by Alexandre Guilmant, which will explore the softer tone colors of the organ; and the Sonata Eroica (heroic sonata) by Joseph Jongen. The recital is free and open to the public. A reception will follow.

Jeff notes: "Our fine instrument, built in 1950 by the Austin Organ Company of Hartford, Connecticut, is inspired by British organs of the twentieth century. In 2005 it was refurbished, and at that time a number of digital stops

were added, most importantly three 32' stops in the pedal which extended the bass range of the organ down a full octave. Despite the side placement of the pipes, the organ projects into the room splendidly, and with our recently improved acoustics (thinner carpet glued directly to the wood floor) the organ sounds truly magnificent. It is ideal for accompanying the choirs and leading congregational singing. It also serves a wide variety of organ repertoire very well."

He adds, "I want to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks for the wonderful welcome you have extended to me. I am honored to be your new Minister of Music."



Well Done St. Paul's!

Thanks to your support and generosity we raised over \$1600 for Church World Services at the 2015 Crop Walk on Sunday, Oct. 11th! And thanks to you walkers: Anna Johnson, Kaitlyn, Aidyn and Marti Narezo, Jim Milne, Jackie Womble, Pat Bellinger, and Barb Heany.

Because we raised over \$1,000 we received a gift card for Carabba's Italian Grill valued at \$50. We raffled this card off with proceeds going to our Noisy Offering Recipient, the Maplewood Center for Women and Children.



Crop Walkers

Children's Sabbath

On Sunday, October 18th we celebrated Children's Sabbath during the 10:00 AM service. The Children did an amazing job leading us in worship! Our outreach recipient

this year is the City Rescue Mission's Maplewood Center, a shelter for women and children. Tiffany Wakefield, the director, joined us to share with the congregation what and who the Center serves. One of the things she shared is the need for volunteers! It was wonderful to have her visit with us! I would also like to say a HUGE 'Thank You' to St. Paul's for all your donations to The Maplewood Center!

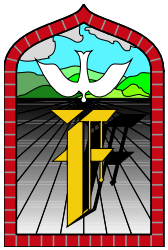


Children's Sabbath Rehearsal

What is The Jesse Tree?

The Jesse Tree is a symbol of Jesus' family tree. Each of the daily Bible readings tell the story of Jesus' family and the symbols on the tree represent each of the bible stories. They create a Biblical family tree for Jesus.

This year we will be creating a Jesse Tree of our own! Each family will be given a Jesse Tree Booklet with the readings, reflection questions, and a corresponding symbol to create. You will be invited to create and bring in a symbol each week to help build our Jesse Tree. The booklets will be available **November 22nd**.



4Fs Presents Discovering Michigan Counties

By Mark Rudd

On **Monday, November 16**, Barb Vandermolen will share fascinating facts in a fast-paced, fun-filled, educational, and interactive program based upon her book *Discovering Michigan County by County: Your A-Z Guide to Each of the 83 Counties in the Great Lakes State*. She will have copies of her book available for purchase.

Plan on joining us in the Hill Room for a very exciting presentation. Take some time out of your hectic schedule to learn more about your state. Lunch begins at noon, followed by a brief Bible study under Karen's guidance, with the presentation starting about 12:45 PM. Please sign-up in the Merrifield Room if you'd like to join us for soup and a salad.

Silver Bells in the City Friday, November 20th

Wow, it's almost time for Silver Bells in the City! We will again be hosting the Handbell Concert and Hot Chocolate reception after the parade and fireworks. Mary Rodeck with direct the Handbell Choir, the Waverly Reflections Choir will sing under the direction of Maureen Nauss, Jeff Walker will play a few selections on the organ, and Larry Clark will lead us in Christmas Carols. Debby Pierce and her merry band of cookie elves will be on hand to warm us up after the concert! Yum! We will be handing out popcorn made in St. Paul's own popcorn machine outside during the parade also! Come join us for a fun evening to start the Advent Season!

Fall Grounds Cleanup Saturday, November 7th

Calling all volunteers to help with the cleanup of the grounds of St. Paul's from **8:30 to 11:30 AM on Saturday, November 7**. Bring gloves and a rake and enjoy hot chocolate, cider, and donuts in the fresh fall air. Children are welcome and encourage to help.

Combining the Spiritual and Legal Stages of Life

By Christine Caswell

The Rev. Karen Lewis, as well as three of St. Paul's estate planning attorneys, will present a series on the spiritual and legal stages of life for three successive **Wednesdays, November 4-18, from 6-8 PM**.

The series will specifically address concerns of newly married couples and young families on Nov. 4; those who are single, including those who have never been married, are widowed, separated, or divorced on Nov. 11; and those either in or facing retirement on **Nov. 18**.

As part of that planning, we will also discuss suggestions on how to leave a legacy—big or small—to keep St. Paul's a vibrant Christian community. Even if you do not necessarily fit into one of these three groups, please feel free to join us for one or more of the sessions, and everyone is invited to bring questions. If you are unable to attend a session, but have legal questions, please feel free to contact Don Lawrence, Peter Sheldon, or Christine Caswell.

St. Paul's Participates in Housing Assistance Fund

Sale of Citrus Fruit, Greens, Fudge, and Poinsettias

Once again parishioners at St. Paul's are invited to purchase oranges and grapefruits, holiday greens, and other goods to support the Housing Assistance Fund, an informal coalition of Lansing area churches dedicated to helping the homeless. This is the 32nd year for the Fund, which is based at All Saints Episcopal in East Lansing. Proceeds from the sales go to two local homeless shelters, Loaves and Fishes in Lansing and Haven House in East Lansing.

Mary Lea Benson (or a designee) will have order forms available in the Merrifield Room until the order deadline – **November 8**. Many St. Paul's parishioners, as repeat customers, get the forms in the mail.

Products available, in addition to boxes of citrus fruit, include wreaths, bows, and roping; poinsettias; locally made fudge; and a recipe book, "Unforbidden Fruits", featuring fruit-based recipes.

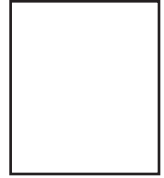
Product pickup will be **Saturday, December 5, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, and Sunday, December 6, from 11:30 AM to 2:00 PM**, at All Saints. There is also an alternative holiday marketplace open during the pickup times.

Calendar

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 ALL SAINTS DAY Christopher away--after 4pm FOOD BANK SUNDAY TIME FALLS BACK 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in Chapel 9:45 AM Church School 10:00 AM Baptism/Worship & Holy Communion in Sanctuary 1:00 PM Handbell Rehearsal 4:00 PM Lange Ensemble 5:00 PM High School Youth Group 6:30 PM Bible Study w/Rev. Lewis	2 Christopher away 9:00 AM Bhutanese Refugee Support Group-Merrifield	3 Christopher away-back late 12:00 PM Worship & Healing Service 6:00 PM Stewardship Ministry Team	4 12:00 PM AA Meeting 1:00 PM Staff Meeting 4:00 PM St. Aelred's Ministry 5:00 PM Planned Giving Dinner 5:30 PM Boys & Grace Choirs/Cherub Choir 5:30 PM Mission & Outreach Ministry 6:00 PM Planned Giving Class	5 8:00 AM Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan 5:00 PM EIP Classes (Drive Defensive) 6:00 PM HS Choir 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	6 OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM AA Meeting	7
8 Baptism Anniversary Celebration UTO Sunday 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in Chapel 9:45 AM Church School 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in Sanctuary 11:30 AM Communications Committee 12:30 PM Handbell Rehearsal 3:30 PM Jeff Walker Organ Recital	9 9:00 AM Bhutanese Refugee Support Group-Merrifield 6:30 PM Building & Grounds Ministry	10 12:00 PM Worship & Healing Service 6:00 PM B & PW	11 12:00 PM AA Meeting 1:00 PM Staff Meeting 5:00 PM Planned Giving Dinner 5:30 PM Boys & Grace Choirs/Cherub Choir 5:30 PM Community Life Ministry - Library 6:00 PM Planned Giving Class	12 6:00 PM HS Choir 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	13 OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM AA Meeting	14
15 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in Chapel 9:45 AM Church School 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in Sanctuary 12:00 PM Handbell Rehearsal 2:00 PM High School Youth Group 3:00 PM American Guild of Organists (AGO) "Historic Downtown Churches" 4:00 PM Lange Ensemble 6:30 PM Bible Study w/Rev. Lewis 11:59 PM SPN Deadline!!	16 9:00 AM Bhutanese Refugee Support Group-Merrifield 12:00 PM Four Fs 6:00 PM Vestry Dinner - Meeting @ 6:30 pm	17 10:00 AM Clericus Mtg. @ All Saints, East Lansing 12:00 PM Worship & Healing Service	18 12:00 PM AA Meeting 1:00 PM Staff Meeting 5:00 PM Planned Giving Dinner 5:30 PM Boys & Grace Choirs/Cherub Choir 6:00 PM Planned Giving Class	19 Rev. Lewis-Fresh Start 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast 6:00 PM HS Choir 6:30 PM Handbell Rehearsal 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	20 A Catered Affaire - Special Olympics OFFICE CLOSED SILVER BELLS IN THE CITY 12:00 PM AA Meeting	21 A Catered Affaire - Special Olympics
22 A Catered Affaire - Special Olympics Christ the King Sunday 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in Chapel 9:45 AM Church School 10:00 AM Baptism/Worship & Holy Communion in Sanctuary 4:00 PM Lange Ensemble	23 9:00 AM Bhutanese Refugee Support Group-Merrifield 5:30 PM Liturgy & Music Ministry 6:00 PM Recycling Ministry Team	24 12:00 PM Worship & Healing Service 6:00 PM Harvest Home Dinner 7:00 PM Harvest Home Service	25 OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM AA Meeting	26 OFFICE CLOSED Thanksgiving	27 OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM AA Meeting	28
29 ADVENT ACTIVITY IN SS & COFFEE HOUR 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in Chapel	30 9:00 AM Bhutanese Refugee Support Group-Merrifield	1 12:00 PM Worship & Healing Service 5:00 PM Lange	2 12:00 PM AA Meeting 1:00 PM Staff Meeting 5:30 PM Mission & Outreach Ministry	3 6:00 PM HS Choir 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	4 OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM AA Meeting	5 8:30 AM Pet First Aid 10:00 AM Lange Ensemble

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



Prayers for Our Parish Family

FROM THE ST. AELRED'S GUILD

Please pray for those who are sick and in need: Bill Millar, Carolyn Pierce, Webb (Tony) Smith Jr., Carol, Jerry Ann Beatore, Marilyn Rider and Emilia Morgan.

Pray for those who have ongoing needs for healing prayers: Mason Hill, Marsha Macholz, Bill, Tom Foltz, Sebastian Cuesta, Joe and Judy Manson, Marilyn, Kathy Bowland, Jim, Ralph and Jo Hoffman, John and Grace Hawkins, Karen C., Julie, Kathy Bowland and Van Anderson.

We pray for and remember those in the Military who are serving in dangerous areas: Brendan Moody