

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - LANSING, MICHIGAN

Volume 35, Issue 3

March 2016



A Bit of a Challenge

By The Rev. Karen C. Lewis

It is a bit of a challenge to believe that Easter is just around the corner when the snow is steadily falling outside. The never-ending gray sky from morning til night makes it a bit of a challenge to believe that soon the sun will once again rule the day. The dirt and drabness of our yards with winter debris scattered wherever the snow plows push it, makes it a bit of a challenge to believe that new life will soon gently shove its way through the soil as it seeks the light.

It is a bit of a challenge to believe that our Lord and Savior will die and rise out of sheer love for us, with no cost to us. It will happen whether we like it or not. No matter how prepared we are; no matter what sort of mood we are in; no matter how gray and dreary it is outside or inside our souls -- Easter will arrive.

And that is the Good News! It is a God thing – and no matter how hard we might try, God cannot be caged or tamed, but rather operates in a way that is always best for us. And God insists on Easter. We all need it – this joyful reminder that our world is not always gray – that good things happen whether we deserve it or not – that

we are loved beyond our capacity to imagine. Something pretty spectacular had to have happened more than 2000 years ago – it must be so for millions of people continue to celebrate Easter today.

I know it is a bit of a challenge to believe as it does not make much sense. Those of us who think rationally and/or scientifically will be stumped our entire lives and perhaps drive ourselves and others crazy trying to make sense of it all. It can't be done. You see, it is a God thing. And God knows how much these days we need the yellows, purples, greens and other colors of spring to remind us of life and love and goodness and peace. God knows we need to take a few moments to color Easter eggs and hunt for the chocolate eggs the Easter Bunny must have left outside my house. God knows we need a moment to gather at the table and eat the food of new life.

It may be a bit of a challenge, but I think our job this Easter is to just relax and enjoy this day. To celebrate our family, our love and our lives together as brothers and sisters of the Risen One! Happy Easter!

**Daylight Saving Time begins at 2:00 am on
Sunday, March 13, 2016. Spring ahead!!**

Inside this issue....

Ministry Opportunities	2
Lenten Book Reviews	3
Parish News & Events.....	4
Schedule for Holy Week.....	4
Youth	6
Calendar	7

...and more!



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

Ministry Opportunities

By The Rev. Karen C. Lewis

The operating of St. Paul's requires a great deal of assistance from many folks. Believe it or not, things happen at St. Paul's on days other than Sunday. Did you know we are open Monday through Thursday? During the week we welcome many volunteers who keep the ministries of St. Paul's going. For example, we have office volunteers who help with mailings, answering phones, sorting out supply cupboards and straightening out records. Altar Guild members set up and clean up after every service, including our noon service on Tuesdays.

All of us have been given gifts by God to use in this world and perhaps you are waiting to be invited to use your gift at St. Paul's. Perhaps, one of the following ministries is the perfect fit for your God-given gift.

- Buildings & Grounds
- Altar Guild
- Communications & Technology
- Acolytes
- Worship Leaders (lectors, chalice bearers, prayer leader)
- Ushers
- Mission & Outreach
- Choirs – Adult, Youth, Children
- Recycling
- Men's Breakfast
- Prayer Quilts
- Stewardship
- St. Elizabeth's Guild
- St. Aelred's Pastoral Care
- Sunday School teacher
- Business & Professional Women (B&PW)
- Needlepoint Committee
- Greeters
- Parish Life
- New Member Ministry

If you do not see on this list something of interest to you, then perhaps you have an idea for a new ministry. Don't be shy, share that information with Karen+ and we'll see what might be possible. Also, we are looking for some folks who would like to assume responsibility for maintaining our children's worship activity bags – these are the wonderful plastic bags filled with quiet toys and such for children to use during our worship service. Or perhaps God is calling you to be the one to look after our children's library.

If you are interested in any one of these ministries or perhaps a new one we have not yet thought of, shoot Karen+ an email at rector@stpaulslansing.org and she'll connect you with the right folks. My personal thanks to all who give so freely of their time to the functioning and ministry of St. Paul's. Without you life would be very different.

Adult Christian Formation Opportunities

By The Rev. Karen C. Lewis

Save the Date! BCP Class in April In response to many requests and also a promise, the two-week class on The Book of Common Prayer will be offered on **two consecutive Wednesdays in April – the 20th and 27th**. Mark these two dates on your calendar.

Our Lenten Series continues in **March on Wednesday evenings**. Utilizing the wonderful materials generated from the 2016 Trinity Institute series, we will continue our conversation on Racial Justice.

On **March 2nd** we will look at Reparation and Racial Justice – it is a challenge to consider the concept of 'Reparation' without fear and the immediate response of 'how large a check must I write?' Jennifer Harvey provides us a way to have this conversation.

On **March 9th** we will have conversations around Theology and Racial Justice utilizing materials produced by Dr. J. Kameron Carter. Dr. Carter suggests that the journey toward racial justice cannot be fully undertaken without a grasp of the theological implications underlying both its origins and development.

Our final class on **March 16th** will provide us with an opportunity to have conversations on Racism and Racial Justice. Duke University professor Eduardo Bonilla-Silva suggests a new type of racism has taken hold of American society that's subtle, persistent, and dangerous. Please know that if you cannot attend all three, you are welcome to join us for whichever ones you are able to fit into your schedule.

Bible Study Sunday evenings at **6:30 pm on March 13th**. All are welcome as we continue our study of I and II Thessalonians.

Lenten Book Reviews

Four Mondays in February and March

By Chris Couch

St. Paul's is continuing its tradition of Lenten luncheon book reviews this year on four Mondays in February and March. Lunch will be at noon (\$7), with the reviews from **12:30 pm to 1:00 pm**. You should sign up in the Merrifield Room if you plan to eat so we can get an accurate count for food. You are welcome to bring your own lunch. There is no need to sign up if you are not eating but just showing up for the review. Here are the remaining reviews in the series:

March 7 – Sue LeDuc reviews the *Secret Chord: A Novel* by Geraldine Brooks, a novel about the life of King David. The publishers say that "Brooks takes on one of literature's richest and most enigmatic figures: a man who shimmers between history and legend. Peeling away the myth to bring David to life in Second Iron Age Israel, Brooks traces the arc of his journey from obscurity to fame, from shepherd to soldier, from hero to traitor, from beloved king to murderous despot and into his remorseful and diminished dotage."

March 14 – Mark Rudd reviews *The New Jim Crow- Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness* by Michelle Alexander. According to Mark, Professor Alexander makes a strong case that the War on Drugs, specifically targeting black men, has led to their mass incarceration and relegated millions to a permanent second-class status, thus decimating communities of color. She argues that the U.S. criminal justice system functions as a modern system of racial control- a new Jim Crow. In keeping with our theme this year at St. Paul's of learning about and addressing issues of race, this is an especially important message to hear.

Vestry Highlights

February 15, 2016 Meeting

- Brief orientation given to the new members of Vestry: Keeli Baker, Jim Milne & Larissa Clark.
- Karen+ updated the vestry on the progress of our re-vamped sound system with the hope it will be completed before Easter. The mother of one of the installers recently entered hospice care.
- Vestry discussed next steps with Asset Mapping and laid out their thoughts and concerns regarding the timing of the implementation of this process.
- Discussed continuation of the pledge drive and contacting those who have not yet pledged. A letter and pledge card will be mailed to those folks from Karen+.
- After much discussion and a commitment to have a balanced budget by the end of 2016, the Vestry voted to accept the 2016 Budget with a deficit of approximately \$33,000 (although this is expected to be reduced by an estimated \$8,000-\$10,000 in anticipated additional pledges). To increase revenue, a Fund Raising Task Force was created and also a Pledge Drive Task Force.
- Vestry received an update on the bathroom remodeling project. A parishioner has volunteered to pay for a contractor to assist in completing the tasks.

We have received an estimate and we need to decide which tasks on the estimate can be accomplished by parish volunteers in an effort to lower the cost of the entire project.

- Vestry received the completed Audit Report for 2014 and gave its thanks to Brad Deacon, Kirk Lindquist, Libby Richardson, Jeff Irwin and Theresa Milne for their hard work in completing this report.
- Vestry gave its annual approval/commitment to supporting the Diocesan Sexual Conduct Policy.
- Vestry appointed Sally Lawrence as the third lay delegate to the 2016 Diocesan Convention.
- Vestry appointed the members to the new Investment Committee. The Treasurer and Rector are standing members of this committee. Additional members were appointed for the following terms: Jim Huber, 3-year term; Kirk Lindquist, 2-year term; Lyn Zynda, 1-year term.
- Vestry members selected the parish committees on which they will serve as liaisons in 2016 to maintain communications.
- Vestry will gather on Saturday, February 27th from 10 am – 3 pm for retreat and planning.

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Schedule of Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday, March 20th

- 8:00 am Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist in Chapel
10:00 am Liturgy of the Palms; Choral Presentation of the Passion Gospel; Holy Eucharist

Tuesday in Holy Week, March 22nd

- 12:00 pm Holy Eucharist and Healing

Thursday, March 24th Maundy Thursday

- 6:00 pm Friendship Meal
7:00 pm Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday, March 25th

- 12:00 pm Good Friday Liturgy & Communion from the Reserved Sacrament
7:00 pm Good Friday Liturgy & Communion from the Reserved Sacrament
7:00 pm Experiential Stations of the Cross for Children in the Merrifield Room

Easter, March 27th

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist in the Chapel
11:00 am Festal Holy Eucharist in the Sanctuary

Are you Prepared for an Emergency?

by Sally Boron

Emergencies are never expected. They occur suddenly. They can be very upsetting. Do you know what to do? Can you use an AED? Have you learned how to do CPR? Do you know how to stop severe bleeding? Trained responders can assist calmly. Become one! Sign up to take a class. See separate information in the SPN for a class on April 23.

St. Paul's is continuing its relationship with the American Red Cross as an Authorized Provider and can facilitate instruction of CPR, use of an AED, first aid skills including use of an Epi Pen. We have two AEDs in our facilities. We own our own manikins for teaching CPR. Red Cross and American Heart have recently updated their courses based on new science.

The best news is that St. Paul's now has TWO certified ARC instructors! We welcome Mark Rudd to our team. Mark is certified in CPR/AED/FA as a lay responder and is recently certified as an instructor. Mark brings with him experience as a volunteer firefighter. He will work with Sally Boron and transition to becoming the lead instructor. Sally has been an ARC volunteer instructor with Girl Scouts, schools, and the local ARC chapter for more than 25 years and will continue to assist.

CPR/AED/FA Class offering is April 23rd!

Are you currently certified? Persons who hold an unexpired CPR/AED/FA certificate need to renew every 2 years. We are prepared to teach a review class for you. Please let Mark or Sally know if you would like to have a Review class offered.



After flooding destroyed the cabinets in the Choir Vesting Room last summer, Allan Boron came to the rescue, using his carpentry skills to build new storage for the adult choir robes. Still on his drawing board is a similar design for the younger choristers. Thanks Allan!!

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

St. Aelred's Seeks New Members

St. Aelred's is looking for members. We visit parishioners who are unable to attend service, welcome new babies to the church, take meals to those in need, and send cards to spread some cheer.

If you feel called help with this ministry, we would love to welcome you. We meet the first Wednesday of the month at 4PM in the Van Atta room. Contact Chris Krupka at: cekrupka@gmail.com for more information.

Reaching out to Maplewood!

By Sally Boron

Maplewood is a shelter for women and children located on South Cedar Street. It is a service of the City Rescue Mission. Homeless and needy women, many with children, can find refuge at Maplewood. Several years ago the St. Paul's Altar Guild began to collect toiletries for those in need. Since 2012 these collections have been given to Maplewood to help with personal care.

What is needed? Personal care amenities like the ones travelers find in their hotel room and/or small samples that can be purchased at grocery and drug stores are what are needed. Donations must be new and not opened. Examples include: soap, shampoo, lotion, hair conditioners, toothpaste, combs, deodorant, etc.

You can help also! There is a shopping bag on the Needs Table in the cloister where you may place your donations. When the bag is full, the contents are delivered to Maplewood as a gift from St. Paul's.

CPR/AED/First Aid Offering this Spring!



St. Paul's is a registered ARC Authorized Provider of health and safety classes and is privileged to have two instructors - Sally Boron and Mark Rudd.

TAKE A CLASS THIS SPRING!

Step 1 – Register - details listed below. A \$30 fee is payable before the skill session. (Cost of the same class is \$90 at the local Red Cross Chapter.)

Step 2 - Classes are condensed, computer driven and streamlined. Participants take the CPR, AED, and First Aid content on their own computer, at their own pace over a 2 week time frame. Individual differences will determine the time line for on line completion. Allow 2 – 5 hours total. Upon completion, the participant will receive an email certificate of completion.

Step 3 - An approximately 2 – 2 ½ hour hands on skill session with the instructors will complete American Red Cross certification requirements. At this session, skills are reviewed on video and demonstrated by instructors. Participants will practice the skills on manikins and with other materials.

Enroll NOW:

- Register by April 2, 2016 (Sat.) – sign-up sheets in the Merrifield Room or contact one of the instructors.
- Skill class – 9:00 am, April 23, Saturday
- Class size is limited to a maximum of 10, minimum of 6.
- Contact Sally for more information – sboron@casair.net or 517-669-9468.

Prayers from St. Aelred's Guild

We pray for those who have ongoing needs for healing prayers: Bill Millar, Margaret (Peggy) Richardson, Webb (Tony) Smith, Jr., Aleda, Jerry Ann Beaufore, Mason Hill, Marsha Macholz, Bill, Tom Foltz, Sebastian Cuesta, Joe & Judy Manson, Clint Hogue, Kathy Bowland, Ralph & Jo Hoffman, John and Grace Hawkins, Karen C., Julie, Van Anderson, Marilyn Rider, Cindy Hosimer, Allison Green, Arthur Erickson, Janet Baxter, Jim Boulton, John Nevin, Marian Boulus, Juan Carlos Ortiz, Mark Mills, Helen Julier, Sally Boron, and Ruth Farmer.

YOUTH

By Jackie Womble

Good Friday Stations of the Cross for Children

Good Friday can be hard for children to understand. This year on **Good Friday, March 25th at 7:00 pm** while the adults are in "big" church, the children are invited to participate in an Experiential Stations of the Cross. They will experience Jesus's walk as we move through the stations with readings, activities, and a place to write their thoughts.

Easter Scavenger Hunt

All the children are invited to join in the Easter Scavenger Hunt after the 10:00 am service. We will gather at the base of the stairs in the church, where the children will receive their first clue. At the end they will all receive a prize.

Dates of no Sunday School

There will be no Sunday School on **March 27, April 3, and May 29**. May 15th is our Children's Sabbath service, and the children will be leading the 10:00 am service.

Vacation Bible School

Calling all volunteers!!! Vacation Bible School is almost upon us! The theme this year is Egypt: Joseph's Journey from Prison to Palace. VBS will be **June 13-17 from 9:00-11:00 am**. The setup is much like last year, so if you can only help 1, 2, or 3 days there will be a place for you. If you can join us for the whole week, Bonus!!! Volunteer forms are in the Merrifield Room. Karen will be teaching a Safeguarding God's Children class on March 12 at 12:30PM for all volunteers. I hope you can join us for this amazing, Spirit filled week!

CABARET!!!

Saturday, April 16, 2016 at 6:00 pm
Dessert Reception to follow



Dear Parents & Youth:

The season for "Cabaret" is upon us and it is time to sign up, rehearse and get this program started!

Larry and I will be in charge of getting things together. Jeff Walker will be helping with accompaniment and rehearsal of choir numbers. My hope is that you will also want to be a part of this event to raise money for the music program. It will give the Youth opportunities to travel,

study music, and learn to give in a musical way.

We are changing dinner to a "Dessert Reception" which will immediately follow the Cabaret performance. We are asking the High School Youth to serve dessert and help clean up a bit after the reception.

Please contact Larry or me as soon as possible to sign up to perform on the "Cabaret Program"!!!!

The Cabaret will be on Saturday Evening, April 16, at 6:00 p.m. Choir numbers, solos, quartets, piano solos, etc. will be part of the program. Rehearsals will take place during, before, or after youth/adult choir practice and on Sundays after church.

Call us NOW at 517-669-2030 to sign up or email us at Larx2@comcast.net so we can get this program together! We would love to have you!!!!

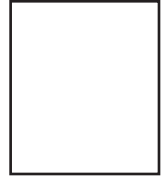
Musically,
Larissa & Larry Clark
Jeff Walker

Calendar

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 ERD BOOK SALE The Rev. Dr. Carter Away 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in Chapel 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:45 AM Church School 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in Sanctuary 4:30 PM Lange Ensemble 5:00 PM Youth Group 6:30 PM Bible Study	29 9:00 AM Bhutanese Refugee Support Group-Merrifield 12:00 PM Lenten Book Study w/lunch	1 12:00 PM Worship & Healing Service 6:00 PM Stewardship Ministry Team	2 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM AA Meeting 4:00 PM St. Aelred's Ministry 5:30 PM Children's Choir 5:30 PM Mission & Outreach Ministry 6:30 PM Lenten Series w/the Rev. Lewis	3 The Rev. Lewis at Repairers of the Breach 6:00 PM Youth Choir 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	4 OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM AA Meeting	5 DIOCESAN COUNCIL
6 FOOD BANK SUNDAY 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in Chapel 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:45 AM Church School 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in Sanctuary 11:15 AM New Members Meeting 4:30 PM Lange Ensemble	7 9:00 AM Bhutanese Refugee Support Group-Merrifield 12:00 PM Lenten Book Study w/lunch	8 12:00 PM Worship & Healing Service 6:00 PM B & PW	9 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM AA Meeting 5:30 PM Children's Choir 5:30 PM Community Life Ministry - Library 6:00 PM Dinner for Lenten Series 6:30 PM Lenten Series w/the Rev. Lewis	10 6:00 PM Trinity Institute Dinner & Webcast 6:00 PM Youth Choir 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	11 OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM AA Meeting	12 9:00 AM Safe Guarding God's People 12:30 PM Safe Guarding God's Children
13 Baptism Anniversary Celebration DAYLIGHT SAVINGS-SPRING AHEAD 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in Chapel 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:45 AM Church School 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in Sanctuary 11:30 AM Communications Committee 4:30 PM Lange Ensemble 5:00 PM Youth Group 6:30 PM Bible Study	14 9:00 AM Bhutanese Refugee Support Group-Merrifield 12:00 PM Lenten Book Study w/lunch 6:30 PM Building & Grounds Ministry	15 12:00 PM Worship & Healing Service 11:59 PM SPN Deadline!!	16 The Rev. Lewis - Clericus 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM AA Meeting 5:30 PM Children's Choir 6:00 PM Dinner for Lenten Series 6:30 PM Lenten Series w/the Rev. Lewis	17 FEAST OF ST. PATRICK 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast 6:00 PM Youth Choir 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	18 OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM AA Meeting	19 8:00 AM Lansing Area Patchers 9:00 AM Altar Guild - Palm Crosses & Meeting
20 PALM SUNDAY 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in Chapel 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:45 AM Church School 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in Sanctuary 4:30 PM Lange Ensemble	21 6:15 AM 4-H Capitol Experience 9:00 AM Bhutanese Refugee Support Group-Merrifield 6:00 PM Vestry Dinner - Meeting @ 6:30 pm	22 Cathedral Chrism Mass - KCL & SC away 6:15 AM 4-H Capitol Experience	23 8:00 AM Planned Parenthood 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM AA Meeting 5:30 PM Children's Choir	24 MAUNDY THURSDAY 6:00 PM Maundy Thursday Dinner 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service	25 FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION GOOD FRIDAY OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM AA Meeting 12:00 PM Good Friday Service 7:00 PM Good Friday Service 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross--Sunday School	26 1:00 PM VanAtta Easter Flower Delivery
27 Christopher Hart away PM EASTER SUNDAY 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in Chapel 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion in Sanctuary	28 Christopher Hart Away OFFICE CLOSED	29 Christopher Hart Away 12:00 PM Worship & Healing Service	30 Christopher Hart Away 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM AA Meeting 5:30 PM Children's Choir	31 Christopher Hart Away 6:00 PM Youth Choir 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	1 Christopher Hart Return AM OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM AA Meeting	2 CONFIRMATION

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



ST. PAUL'S STAFF

Rector

The Rev. Karen C. Lewis

Associate Rector

The Rev. Susan Carter

Minister of Music

Jeffrey Walker

Parish Administrator

Theresa Milne

Youth & Family Missioner

Jackie Womble

Sexton

Christopher Hart

SPN Editors

Hillary Walilko

Chris Couch

Vestry

Lyn Zynda, Sr. Warden

Jeff Kressler, Jr. Warden

Keeli Baker

Susan Boulton

Larissa Clark

Chris Couch

Laura Julier

Sally Lawrence

Jim Milne

Laurie Nevin

Matt Pauly

Kathy Vogel