

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - LANSING, MICHIGAN

Volume 35, Issue 6

Summer 2016



Are Your Plans Made?

By The Rev. Karen C. Lewis

I have had the honor and privilege of presiding over a significant number of funerals in the last few months. There is no question that these are often moments of intense sadness as we begin to realize what life will be like without the one we love. But these are also times of great joy as we gather our family together to share the stories of those special moments . . . 'remember when' memories as I like to call them. The telling of these stories helps us to discover that our loved one is still alive – in our hearts and in our memories.

One of the first phone calls made after your loved one has died is to the funeral home. And then, hopefully, the next call is to your parish priest. These two work together to create a funeral or memorial service that best enables you and your family to say good-bye and celebrate the life that was and the new life that now is with God.

And sometimes, that can be very challenging. Whether the death was unexpected and a surprise or was anticipated due to a long illness, the emotions are the same. Sorrow, pain, a sense of loneliness, a fear of what your life will be like and what the future holds, and a host of other emotions are felt that may be particular to your situation. And amidst all of this, you now must make a significant number of decisions regarding funeral services, caskets, cemeteries, how many death certificates, scripture readings, flowers, reception, thank you cards, pallbearers . . . the list goes on and on.

To add to that list, if you are the next-of-kin or executor, you will need to be on the hunt for military discharge papers,

wills, trust documents, bank books, stock certificates, passwords for online accounts, insurance policies . . . well, you get the idea.

One of the greatest gifts you can give your family is preparing them for inevitable. As much as we want or hope, death will come to each and every one of us. That is the natural rhythm of life—that is how God created this world and all that is in it. Share with your family your thoughts about death; about your wish for cremation or a casket burial; what you would like as part of your worship service. Let your family know it is okay to talk about this together – that death is not something to fear.

We have a wonderful tool that will help you have this conversation with your family. It is a booklet entitled "Planning for the Future." I encourage you to obtain a copy, read through it on your own, then invite your family to share in answering the questions that are posed to help you make the many and various decisions prior to

Continued on Page 2

Inside this issue....

Interview with Dr. Flynn.....	3
Service in the Park.....	4
B&PW Breakfast.....	4
Youth News & VBS	6
Resolution on Firearms.....	7
Letter from Presiding Bishop.....	9

...and more!



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

Plans *continued from page 1*

death. Questions such as: "Do you have valuable papers that need to be kept? Where are they?" or "What online accounts will your executor need access to? Where is that information?" or "Does anyone have any outstanding obligations to you about which your family or executor should be aware?" or "What Gospel reading do you wish to select from the list?"

My experience has been that those who plan for the future give their family the opportunity to 'say good-bye' without the additional tension and stress of hoping they are making the 'right' decisions. Consider planning your funeral ahead of time. For more information, email Karen Lewis at rector@stpaulslansing.org.

Thank you...

From The Rev. Karen C. Lewis

There are lots of folks to thank for their gifts of time and talent during the past month. A heartfelt thanks to . . .

. . . all involved in celebrating the accomplishments of our graduates Justin Green, Emily Laub and Frankie Nevin. This includes our choirs and those providing the reception during coffee hour.

. . . the dedicated volunteers who are here every Monday morning to work with the Bhutanese community working diligently toward their US citizenship.

. . . Deb McMartin-Finkel's directing and caring for our Children's Choir. It is a joy to see them gathered and singing praises to God on a Sunday morning.

...Deb Pierce for creating our coffee hour baptismal receptions and twice in one month!

. . . those who gave of their physical energy and labor to clean up our church grounds.

. . . the many, many committee volunteers who have worked hard this year and now will get a brief, but well earned break, over the summer.

... the children who once again led a great Children's Sabbath service!

Summer & Worship

By The Rev. Karen C. Lewis

Summer means vacation! Summer at St. Paul's means a substantial number of our community take off for places of relaxation on weekends. Summer also means . . . yes, we go to one Sunday service at **9:00 AM beginning June 26**.

But before then . . . on **June 12**, we will gather at Granger Park for our annual outside service and barbecue at **10:00 AM**. This is a wonderful opportunity for all of us to gather as one body (and pray for sunshine) – therefore **there will be no 8:00 AM service at St. Paul's that day**. We will return to the Church proper for one more time on **June 19, Father's Day**. It will be our last Sunday of two services: **8:00 & 10:00 AM**. This will also be the first Sunday with Dr. Tim Flynn, our acting Minister of Music at the organ.

Each year there are those of us who struggle with moving worship into the Merrifield Room. Air conditioning is a plus on those hot muggy days and a necessity for those who struggle with breathing problems or auto-immune diseases. So we give thanks for the Merrifield Room's air conditioning. Others prefer the beauty of the sanctuary and feel more able to worship our Lord in that setting. Neither space is the right or wrong place to worship – what I think pleases God more is that we gather to worship. This is one of those times when I wonder, "What would Jesus do?" I expect his response might be something like, it doesn't matter as long as you are together – praying, singing, giving thanks and breaking bread. With all of this in mind, we will move into the **Merrifield Room** for worship together beginning **June 26th at 9:00 AM**. Nursery childcare and a one-room schoolhouse for the children will be available.

Q&A with Dr. Tim Flynn

By Chris Couch



Dr. Timothy Flynn will be joining us as Minister of Music this June, and has already met with choir members and choir parents at several events, although choirs are not due back until the fall. He was gracious enough to answer some questions about himself for the St. Paul's News, by way of introduction.

How did you get into this line of work? Who were your early influences?

I began playing for various churches (everything from Baptist to Lutheran to RC) in Falls Church, VA (my hometown) when I was 15 years old. My mother was a very fine pianist and alto (she's 82 and lives with us here in MI now), and I learned a love for beautiful music from her. During undergrad and grad school I always wanted to have a part-time church job in addition to my career as a teacher. I see these things as going hand-in-hand. Also, my time at the National Cathedral was a big influence which stays with me to this day. Singing under Dr. Wayne Dirksen and Doug Major was very formative – great music, great musicians, and a great space, too! A little slice of heaven.

Do you have a favorite hymn? A favorite composer of hymns?

Perhaps one of my most favorite hymns – musically AND theologically – is "All my Hope on God is Founded" (tune: Michael). It was composed by Herbert Howells after the death of his son, Michael. It's #665 in the Hymnal and speaks to me on so many levels. It speaks obviously of God as our hope, but also the futility of trusting in ourselves and in the world. One of my favorite lines – which has become a prayer of mine – is: "Christ doth call, one and all, ye who follow shall not fall!"

A favorite composer of music other than sacred music?

That's like choosing your favorite child!! I love Beethoven – from a music history point of view he is one of THE most important composers. I have had monographs published on Camille Saint-Saëns and Charles Gounod, 19th century French composers who have played an important role in the shaping of modern French music, so you cannot spend years of research on two composers like that and not come away with a great respect and love for what they have contributed.

Favorite book in the Bible?

Funny you should ask! Right now I'm also exploring Bart Ehrman's "Lost Scripture" – the books that did NOT make it into the Bible! From that collection, I'm finding the Acts of Thecla interesting because it shows the important role of women in the early church (wonder why that was omitted from the canon!) and also the Didache. From the books that made it into the Bible, I like the gospel of John – "in the beginning was the word" – it's a very poetic book.

Favorite books and authors not in the Bible?

Right now I am reading Rev. Paul Bradshaw's book on early Christian liturgies (fascinating!) and Geoffrey Wainwright's book "Doxology: The Praise of God in Worship, Doctrine, and Life." I also love biographies and usually juggle several books on my night stand.

What are your interests/hobbies outside of music?

I love to cook, I have an interest in wine (sounds like a euphemism, but time in Sonoma has given me appreciation for the grape!), and I LOVE to travel.

Favorite vacation?

Every other year we travel to Europe. Sometimes it is connected to work – I often present papers at conferences in the EU. I would have to say (at this moment) Paris. I've been there several times (in different circumstances) and even though it's been a few years, it has to be at the top of my list.

Favorite way to relax?

Going on retreat. My spiritual director is an 80-year-old Franciscan nun in Oldenburg, IN who has a Ph.D. in Jungian psychology (well, you asked!) and she is such an amazing and insightful woman. I love to go to the convent campus and spend a few days on retreat. It's a great way to relax AND explore my inner me.

Anything that might surprise us to find out about you?

Hmmm. I LOVE to laugh. If you can make me laugh you'll be my best friend! I love a good sense of humor and I love to make people laugh, too. I might sound serious, but I'm not!

What do you like most about being an organist/choirmaster?

The MUSIC! Liturgical music is sacramental and it can transport us to places that language cannot. It has great power and therefore those of us who play or sing it have a great responsibility. It's not about "performance" – we need to get out of the way and let the Spirit work through music to help others touch and experience the Holy.

Continued on Page 7

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Service in the Park - June 12th

Hours of use:
The general park area is open from sunrise until sunset. After sunset, the trail system is open for walking and jogging only, unless posted otherwise.

The following is NOT allowed:

- *The consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages
- *The possession, sale or use of any drug or controlled substance
- *Dogs or household pets, except in the natural trail area as designated
- *The use of motorized vehicles (including motorcycles, motorized scooters, snowmobiles, ATVs) except on roads or designated parking areas
- *Hitting of golf balls

-See park rules for complete regulations-

Restrooms are generally open from 8:30a.m.-9:30p.m., May 2nd through November 14th, except the west restrooms in Granger Meadows Park which are open all year.

To rent pavilions, call 517-668-1411
To rent rooms at the Community Center, call 517-482-5117

Paved Walking Paths
At Granger Meadows and Valley Farms Park you can walk up to 2.71 miles from start to finish on our paved walking paths. Along the paths you will find monuments marking the distance in three colors. The trail distances are designed to walk West to East. Below is a summary of the trail lengths.

- 1.0 mile - Starting at Granger Meadows Park East (east side of driveway entrance) the blue trail makes a one mile loop back to your starting point.
- 1.94 miles - Starting at Granger Meadows Park West (north of driveway entrance) the red trail proceeds .47 miles to the blue trail, continue on the blue trail and back to your starting point for a 1.94 mile loop
- 2.71 miles - Starting at the Valley Farms Park bathroom building the yellow trail proceeds .385 miles to the red trail, continue on the red trail, then the blue trail and back to your starting point for a full 2.71 mile loop. For an even longer loop start from the Community Center.

Sunday, June 12th is our annual Service in the Park. The service is at the pavilion at Granger Park in DeWitt at 10:00 AM. There will be no 8:00 AM service that day. Lunch follows the service. Bring a salad or dessert to share. This is always a joyful service, and a wonderful fellowship experience.



Michigan State Football Fund-Raiser: Help Wanted

The Fund-Raising Task Force is seeking more volunteers to work at an MSU concession stand during the 2016 football season.

This is our first attempt at something like this and we want to get off to a roaring start. Thanks to those who have already signed on, we already have a solid base of volunteers.

However, we hope to have at least 12 volunteers for each home game and spots are still open. Look at the home game schedule below and see if there is a game that fits in your busy life. We have our two team leaders, Charlie Krupka and Keeli Baker, and need to make sure we have sufficient volunteers to make this venture a success.

There are sign-up sheets in the Merrifield Room for each game. Or email team leader Keeli Baker at keelibaker@gmail.com.

Please consider this opportunity to help us raise much-needed funds and to get to know your friends at St. Paul's a little better. We look forward to a successful football season for the Spartans and St. Paul's!

Except for the first game, which is on a Friday night on Labor Day weekend, all of the games will probably be at noon or 3:30 PM, but the times are not announced yet.

Michigan State Home Schedule:

- Friday, Sept. 2 Furman 7:00 PM
- Saturday, Sept. 24 Wisconsin TBA
- Saturday, Oct. 8 BYU TBA
- Saturday, Oct. 15 Northwestern 3:30 PM
- Saturday, Oct. 29 Michigan TBA
- Saturday, Nov. 12 Rutgers TBA
- Saturday, Nov. 19 Ohio State TBA



PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Business and Professional Women's Guild Corporate Communion and Breakfast

By Jennifer Humphries

Each year, the first Sunday in May, the members of the Business and Professional Women's Guild gather to participate in an event called Corporate Communion. This year, on May 1, the ladies and their guests enjoyed a delicious fellowship breakfast provided by A Catered Affaire. Anna Harris sang a beautiful song titled I Believe as a special treat for those in attendance.

During church services members of B&PW gathered together to take Communion and also received a special blessing given by Rector Karen Lewis. This event is a favorite of the Guild members each year!

The mission of the B&PW is to gather business and professional women for a program of service to the community, worship, and fellowship. Meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month from September thru June at 6:00 PM. Each meeting includes a catered meal, and either an educational speaker on various topics or a service project to complete.

On May 10, 2016, Jeff Harrold, Chief Executive Officer of Auto-Owners Insurance Group spoke to the members of B&PW on the 100-year history of AOIC, as well as the benefits of insurance to the community.



Back Row: Anna Harris, Deb Pierce, Amanda Ross, Marilyn Earley, Karen Clarke, Jennifer Humphries, Nancy Rudd, Ellie Doersam, and Sally Boron.

Front Row: Thomasina Canty, Joanne Boulton, Maria Wawro, Karlene Bach, and Delaine Counsellor.

YOUTH

By Jackie Womble

Vacation Bible School!



It's coming, It's coming! **June 13-17, 9:00 to 11:00 AM Monday-Friday.** This year's Theme is: "Egypt: Joseph's Journey

from Prison to Palace."

Pass the word to one and all! I am looking for volunteers and participants! Come join us for the fun, faith and fellowship!

Here are some items we need for VBS:

- 4 canopies
- 4 area rugs
- 8-10 flat sheets or tables cloths
- 1 large bag of topsoil
- Straw
- Small bottles of water

Thanks for all your help and support!!! We couldn't do this without you! Contact Jackie at youth@stpaulslansing.org.

Summer Sunday School

Our summer session of Sunday School will begin on **Sunday, June 26, at 9:00 AM.** We will be downstairs in the Parish House in the 1st classroom. Come join us for some summer fun!!!

Youth on Retreat

August 26-28, the Rev. Karen C. Lewis and I will (with a few more adults) take the 8th graders to 12th graders on Retreat. This year we'll head to Holland, MI to Geneva Camp and Retreat Center for a weekend of fun, faith, and fellowship!

Teacher Recognition

Please help me say a HUGE Thank You to Carol Laub, Maria Wawro, Marti Narezo, Lyn Kressler and Barb Heany for the love, dedication and commitment to the children of St. Paul's!!!! They give up part of the service to share God's love and grace with our children! They are amazing!!! Joins us on Sunday, June 5th as we celebrate them and the end of the Sunday School year.



Congratulations to this year's St. Paul's high school graduates: Frankie Nevin (left) and Justin Green.

Justin is the son of Sue Boulton and grandson of Jim and Joanne Boulton, and is graduating from East Lansing High School. Frankie is the son of Laurie and John Nevin and is graduating from Okemos High School. Both will be attending Lansing Community College in the Fall. These two young men have blessed St. Paul's with their talents and service, as choristers, as performers in parish musical events, including Cabaret and Godspell, and in many acts of service. For example, Frankie is a licensed chalice bearer who regularly participates in worship services. The congregation celebrated them at the 10:00 AM service on May 22.

A Recent Resolution Prohibiting Firearms

By The Rev. Karen C. Lewis

The four Episcopal Dioceses of Michigan – Eastern Michigan, Western Michigan, Michigan, and Northern Michigan – have recently passed a resolution prohibiting firearms in churches. As a result of this resolution, you will notice signs posted at each entrance indicating that firearms are prohibited in the church building at all times. Below is the resolution passed by our Diocesan Council:

Keeping our Churches and Organizations Safe

The Episcopal Diocese of Michigan does not permit any person, including clergy, staff, clients, students, volunteers and visitors, to carry a weapon on the premises of any property or facility owned or operated by a church. This prohibition does not apply to certain exceptions as allowed by law.

The following are guidelines for keeping our churches and organizations safe:

1. Churches and organizations should post notice at every entrance to a building or campus.
2. Churches and organizations may hire off-duty police officers. These officers are trained in how to respond to threats to safety, including from armed intruders, and understand the degree of force necessary in various situations. When an officer responds, at whatever level, he or she is serving in the capacity of a law enforcement professional, with the legal safeguards that apply.
3. Churches and organizations may consult with local police departments to learn what measures should be taken to prepare for emergency situations, including when an intruder enters the building or threatens harm. The police can assist in the development of a contingency plan including periodic safety drills.

In all instances, churches and organizations should be mindful of safety measures that can minimize the risk of harm to persons entrusted to their care, and should undertake a careful review of applicable policies.

Rationale

We firmly believe that guns have no place in our churches and other Episcopal-affiliated organizations. It is our responsibility as the church to promote peace and safety in our communities. The presence of firearms on church property is inconsistent with our vision of God's dream for all creation.

If you have any questions regarding this resolution or Diocesan Council, please contact either Claudia Hamlin or the Rev. Karen C. Lewis, members of the council.

Flynn *continued from page 3*

What do most people not know about your job?

Well, first of all, in my weekday job (professor of music) people may not know that I have to wear many hats. I conduct the college choir, but I also teach various levels of music theory, all levels of music history, musical composition, upper levels of music analysis, writing and rhetoric, and most recently an interdisciplinary studies course in Civilization Studies (I have even taught French!). While at Olivet I have directed the opera and musical theatre scenes program, and directed various musicals (everything from "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown" to "The Rocky Horror Picture Show.") Then on the weekend....well, don't get me started!! Basically I "work" 7 days a week – but I guess it's not work if you love it!

What have been some highlights of your life and career?

I would have to say my 12 years in Chicago (grad school and afterwards), the good fortune I have had to travel with people I love, my time at the National Cathedral, and

my two books. These have all been highlights, but also in many ways transforming experiences.

About Dr. Timothy Flynn:

A lengthy biography of Tim appeared in last month's St. Paul's News. As noted then, Dr. Flynn comes to us from St. Mary Cathedral (directly across the street from us on Seymour) where he has been the Music Director/Organist since 2009. He is Chair of the Performing Arts Department and Professor of Music at Olivet College. Tim is also a published composer of choral and organ music (Morning Star and Augsburg Publishers) and has recently published two scholarly monographs, one on Camille Saint-Saëns and another on Charles François Gounod, both through Routledge, NY. His book on Cesar Franck is forthcoming from Pendragon Press, NY.

There is a Mission Ministry for Everyone:

Karen Clarke's Sojourn

By Sue LeDuc, Co-chair of Mission and Outreach



In our busy world many of us would like to help more with Mission and Outreach but feel overwhelmed with the schedule of our daily lives. Yet there are so many unmet needs. Your Mission Ministry is convinced there is a mission for everyone.....you just need to find it. It may be a project we are all working on, or something that is of special interest to you...it may be connected to St. Paul's or not. Karen Clarke is good example of a person who found a mission.

Karen, whose family hails originally from Jamaica, stayed in Sosua, on the northern coast of the Dominican Republic, this past winter. It is an area popular with Americans and Canadians who winter there and love the town and its beaches. Surprisingly, between 1940 and 1945, Sosua accepted 800 Jewish refugees from Germany and Austria; their descendants are part of the village. Karen got an apartment and found a non-denominational church. She taught Sunday school and helped with the computer center and food bank. She heard about a mission school in nearby Caraballo, a "sugar cane village" in an area that is one of the poorest in a country that struggles still economically.

In Caraballo, there were not only Dominicans but also people who had fled from "the other side of the island" -- Haiti. Karen began to volunteer at the mission schools there. She helped children learn to read and write, helped adults develop resumes and get government identification cards. This was

especially important for the Haitians. She will tell you: this was much more than a lovely island stay away from Michigan winters...it was a meaningful ministry she will never forget.



Sue Millar (left) and Sue LeDuc are this year's winners of St. Paul's Lent Madness competition. In this worldwide competition, people vote for their favorite saint. 16 saints make it to the Round of the Saintly Sixteen; eight advance to the Round of the Elate Eight; four make it to the Faithful Four; two to the Championship; and the winner is awarded the coveted Golden Halo. This year's Golden Halo winner is Dietrich Bonhoeffer, German pastor, theologian, and WWII martyr. He defeated Julian of Norwich in the finals. Thanks to Barb Lindquist, who organizes this event.

Visit www.stpaulslansing.org for a current events calendar.

THE
Episcopal
CHURCH

May 2, 2016

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

Dear Good People in Christ of St. Paul's,

Greetings to you in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Good news has reached my office about the outpouring of generosity you have provided through the Good Friday Offering. I want you to know how much your help means to the bishops, clergy and people of the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East. In their own lands they continue to be icons of the reconciling love of our Lord Jesus through their parishes, schools and medical programs which serve all people in need throughout the region. They make known the love of Jesus in a part of the world where such love is hard to come by.

We all know that these are very difficult times for our sister and brother Anglicans and for all Christians in the dioceses of the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East. We may wonder when the violence and hardship will end. We may be confused. We may be discouraged. And in the face of it all we know our Lord is the way of peace. In Christ we work for peace. In the life of Jesus we know the face of compassion and mercy, resolve and courage which peace-making requires.

I firmly believe that as members of the Jesus movement we are called upon by our Lord and Savior to create opportunities for all of God's children to live in harmony. The effort you have put forward in prayer and tangible support of Christian ministry in the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East is a statement of solidarity which is nothing less than life-affirming.

Thank you for your participation in the ministry of the Good Friday Offering.

God bless you,



+Michael

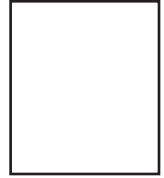
The Most Reverend Michael Curry
PRESIDING BISHOP AND PRIMATE

815 Second Avenue • New York, NY 10017 800.334.7626



P 212.716.6273 F 212.697.5892 • sjones@episcopalchurch.org

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

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
Sue Boulton
Larissa Clark
Chris Couch

Laura Julier
Sally Lawrence
Jim Milne
Laurie Nevin
Matt Pauly
Kathy Vogel