

January 2016

January...it's time for the Annual Meeting!

The 177th Annual Meeting of St. Paul's Church will be held on Sunday, January 24, following the 10:15AM Eucharist. There will be only one service, followed by a potluck luncheon. Get out those cook books and plan to bring your favorite dish.

The meeting will feature the election of Wardens, Vestry members, Convention Delegates and the Nominating Committee for 2016.

The 2015 Nominating Committee has selected **Carrie Barbee** as Senior Warden and **Steve Filmanowicz**, Junior Warden. Profiles of the Wardens and Vestry candidates will be distributed at upcoming Sunday services.

Delegates and Alternates to the Diocesan Convention are also up for election. Delegate nominees are: **Sandra Halgerson, Peter Larson** and **Terry Zimmer**. Alternate nominees are: **Carrie Barbie, Bill Fry** and **Lela Joscelyn**. Nominations for next year's Nominating Committee will come from the floor.

Endowment news... a technology fund

from John Barsanti

At the December Vestry meeting it was voted to create a new fund to assist in the financing of technological innovations deemed vital to the current and future missions of St. Paul's. For this purpose, technological innovations include solutions designed to support strategic initiatives requiring expenditures for hardware, software or contracted services. This fund will be known as the St. Paul's Technology Fund.

Distributions will not begin until the fund reaches a value of \$10,000. Distributions from the fund will then be made upon the request of the Rector, Wardens and Vestry. Nothing in this resolution limits the distributions as income or frequency. It is the hope, however, that some meaningful portion of this fund will always be maintained as a permanent endowment fund for the stated purposes.

Contributions of any size will be accepted at any time. Any contributions of \$50 or more during a year will afford a donor recognition in the St. Paul's Annual Report as a Builder and Dreamer. Upon the receipt of \$1,000 in contributions, a permanent investment account for the fund will open. It is hoped that this fund will have an appeal to members who would like to see our steps into this new and wondrous world of technology, internet, social networking, etc., facilitated at St. Paul's so that the church might better fulfill its future mission.



THANK YOU...to all
who made
Advent
and
Christmas
meaningful seasons at
St. Paul's:

- ❖ *Thrift Shop Boutique shoppers*
- ❖ *The St. Paul's Choir*
- ❖ *Fr. Steve Teague*
- ❖ *Deacon Shelia Scott*
- ❖ *Lay Readers*
- ❖ *Those who coordinated and brought refreshments for the Lessons & Carols reception*
- ❖ *Acolytes* ❖ *Ushers* ❖ *Altar Guild*
- ❖ *Donors to the flower fund*
- ❖ *Those who decorated the church*
- ❖ *The children who made ornaments for and decorated the Great Hall tree*
- ❖ *The young cast of the pageant at the Christmas Family service*



From the Rector...*A Year of Gratitude*

As one year melts into another, I ponder some of the great mysteries, such as marking temporal time.

At New Year's we often reflect over the past year.

We resolve for the future, at least for a few weeks, to improve health, diet and exercise. My cynical side says we number years for checks, legal documents and bank statements (and other things). Of course scripture suggests we number our days.

The writers of Job and Psalms talk about our days, numbered and a source of wisdom. Receive them as a gift. Days fly by, and the older I grow, the faster they fly. I feel rushed, out of control, and stressed. How do we spend our days, each 24 hour period God gives us as a gift? The most crucial part of keeping time gets squeezed out: the present day/moment.

In the fall we began our Stewardship Pledge Campaign. Our stewardship theme continues into a year-round emphasis: *A Year of Gratitude*. Stewardship is not a seasonal effort to raise monies for the church, though important and needed. Stewardship is first a spiritual gift and discipline for us. We manage what we possess. We are not owners. Remember, we don't take it with us. So how do we manage our lives as Christians? I shall keep coming back to this theme throughout the year.

James A. Autry, a retired Fortune 500 executive, author, poet and leadership consultant, has written the book *Choosing Gratitude: Learning to Live the Life You Have*. "Learning to live the life you have" is a daily choice and continual gift of God. Regretting the past, obsessing over the future, these take us out of the present. Gratitude is a choice we make, a spiritual and not a social or obligatory exercise. Autry says that gratitude is more than the obligatory expression of "Thank you," or "Appreciate it." That's an obligatory response, often without thought and consideration of the gift and giver, not really gratitude. Gratitude is a belief system, a spiritual connection with the Giver of All. Gratitude does not depend on circumstances, especially times when we don't feel grateful. Gratitude looks for things we would overlook in such times, and finds we do have people and things for which we are thankful.

Gratitude connects us to the larger gifts of God: forgiveness of our sins and how we mess up; grace that we don't earn love or forgiveness, which are freely given; and love, a love that always welcomes us and wants us. In times of overwhelming darkness, people often will see only darkness. That's why cultivating a space for gratitude is so essential to our spiritual and physical well-being.

Each day take time, two minutes, to quiet your mind. Then think about a person or something in your life for which you are grateful. Reflect on what that person, event or community of people means to you. Is it nature, family, a significant person, a quiet snowfall? Feel it, don't just think about it. If it's a person, think of their love for you, their concern, or the extension of themselves to you. Just relax and take your time, so gratitude can bubble up from a deeper place than obligation. Ask God to guide you into living and expressing gratitude more fully. I think of the beautiful Christmas season we have been through, and so many, giving various gifts to welcome Christmas and guests among us. I start seeing your faces and your gratitude to God. I am overwhelmed. And I thank God for each and all of us.

Blessings in this New Year, and each new day,
Fr. Steve+

Adult Education Forums for January

**ALL SESSIONS BEGIN AT 9AM
IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM**

❖ **January 17 – Parish Committee Meetings**
No program



Lela Joscelyn, PhD, recently completed a certificate in theology at Mt. Mary University where she is an Associate Professor of Psychology, and will lead the **January 24 Adult Formation Hour** in a discussion titled

Three Theological Issues that Should Fascinate You



Have you ever wondered about the people behind the names at the bottom of the hymnal pages? **Tim Benson**, Music Ministry Director at St. Paul's, Assistant Director of the MSO Chorus and a composer in his own right, will tell us

What Composers Seek to do for the Church in the **January 31** session.



Welcome to St. Paul's newest member...

Harper Sun Lucas received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on Sunday, December 27. She is the daughter of **Mike and Sabrina Lucas**, who were married at St. Paul's in 2012.

Thrift Shop funds to benefit St. Paul's Annual Donations

After a busy year the Thrift Shop was able to contribute \$18,750 to support St. Paul's annual Outreach Donations and Ministries. The following distribution of the funds will be made to:

- ❖ Interchange - \$4,000
- ❖ The Gathering - \$4,000
- ❖ Sojourner Family Peace Center - \$3,000
- ❖ Our Next Generation - \$3,000
- ❖ Hunger Task Force - \$1,500
- ❖ St. Paul's Outreach Endowment Fund - \$1,000
- ❖ Christ Church, Nigeria (roof project) - \$750
- ❖ Repairers of the Breach - \$1,000
- ❖ Episcopal Relief and Development - \$500

The Shop also has paid the property taxes on the Thrift Shop building of \$1,998.71.

Volunteers included: St. Paul's volunteers **Carol Benjamin, Charles Camilli, Florence Dukes, Arista Elder, Joanne Filmanowicz, Pat Foster, Sarah Gramentine, Mary Beth Haubrich, Cynthia Kartman, Christine Krueger, Pat Luebke, Suzanne Matenaer, Pat Roy, Pat Ruttum, Elke Sommers, Dean Thome** and **George Watts**, as well as community volunteers **Susan Conway, Jean Horvath and Pricilla Rutt** and Boutique volunteers **Sandra Halgerson and Paul Haubrich**.

Outreach Committee donations benefit many organizations throughout the Milwaukee community

from Melesa Skoglund, Outreach cochairman

On December 13 the Outreach Committee met and approved a budget proposed by the Outreach Subcommittee to award the remaining 2015 funds of \$18,650 to 11 different organizations making an impact in Milwaukee and around the world. In all the Outreach Committee distributed a total of \$28,039 to 13 non profits last year.

The subcommittee met throughout October and November to create a new process for awarding grants from the Outreach Committee. Champions of each organization represented on the Outreach Committee submitted proposals that were reviewed by the Outreach Subcommittee. The proposals were then used to create a draft budget that was later approved by the entire Outreach Committee.

A special thank you to all who volunteered to serve on the Outreach Subcommittee: **Charles Camilli, Steve Filmanowicz, Jim Gramentine, Sandra Halgerson, Mark Lawson and Melesa Skoglund**, and to the Outreach Champions, for their work in making this new process a success!

Gaming may come to St. Paul's...volunteers needed!

Are you a fan of games...Scrabble, Clue, Sorry, Candy Land, Chinese Checkers, Chutes and Ladders, Life, Chess, Monopoly, Twister, Checkers and...if you are, the Parish Life Committee is hoping to sponsor an event for you and your family.

The tentative date is the evening of Saturday, February 6.

Coordinating the event are **Cathy Simpson** (cathy.simpson30@yahoo.com) and **Ben Johnson** (bdjohnsson@yahoo.com). They are looking for volunteers to help plan this intergenerational evening. Please contact them if you would like to help.

Over 215 guests and members of St. Paul's enjoyed the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols on December 12. The service was followed by a celebratory reception in the Great Hall that was enjoyed by all.



Under the direction of *Jen Pennington* the all-star Sunday School cast shined as the bowtie narrator introduced the angel herald, Mary, Joseph, the star on high, the wise women and man, the shepherds and shepherdess and the visitors from afar bearing gifts.





Ken Klauck... the actor

About three weeks ago parishioner **Ken Klauck** was approached at his local Starbucks, in the Village of Wauwatosa, by two individuals who said they were doing a commercial for the newly designed Milwaukee Art Museum and they wanted him to try out for the role as **Pablo Picasso**. The rest is history. The commercial is now showing at the Marcus Theaters.

It also can be seen on YOUTUBE; the link is: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fpsKhX2I7Os>.

Pictures:

- ❖ (top left) *Ken as Picasso*
- ❖ (top right) *Ken with fellow actors portraying Monet and Andy Warhol*
- ❖ (bottom) *The cast and crew...can you pick out Georgia O'Keefe, the Janitor and Degas?*

Thrift Shop taking a winter break and looking for volunteers...

St. Paul's Thrift Shop will be closed the entire month of February for cleaning and restocking and will open again on Tuesday, March 15, at 10AM.

If you have donations of gently used spring and summer clothing, purses, shoes, household goods, knickknacks or books, you may bring them to Church on any Sunday or deliver them to the Shop on Tuesdays (10AM to 3PM) or the first and third Saturdays (9AM to noon) in January.

Would you like to be a Thrift Shop volunteer? The Shop could use additional volunteers for Tuesday morning shifts. Please contact **Mary Beth Haubrich**, marybethh@wi.r.com if you are interested.

Phone 414.276.6277

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stpmke@sbcglobal.net

Rev. Dr. C. Steven Teague,

Rector

Rev. Sheila Scott, *Deacon*

William Fry, *Sr. Warden*

Carrie Barbee, *Jr. Warden*

Gerald Mainman, *Treasurer*

VESTRY

Lindsay Anderson,

Theresa Castor,

Steve Filmanowicz,

Cynthia Kartman,

Margaret Schumacher,

Erik Skoglund,

Peter Slocum,

André Williams, Terry Zimmer

Christine Krueger, *Clerk*

STAFF

Timothy Benson,

Music Ministry Director

Nevenka & Nikola Dedic,

Housekeepers

Malcolm Soward-Gatford

Pricilla Rutt

Buildings & Grounds Team

Lynne Fields,

Administrative Assistant

Patrice Hansen,

Accounting Assistant



Mary Beth Haubrich, *Editor*

Sarah Gramentine, *Copy Editor*



SUNDAYS

8AM, Holy Eucharist

10:15AM,

Holy Eucharist with music

Nursery service available at

10AM

WEDNESDAYS

7:30AM, Eucharist

12 Noon, Eucharist & Lectionary

Study

MISSION STATEMENT

We are a community of faith being transformed through Christ to embody the

healing presence of God's

love to one another, our city

and the world.

St. Paul's Scholarship Funds are available...

St. Paul's Church Scholarship Program is a project coordinated by the Church's Outreach Committee. The Scholarship Program targets:

❖ **high school seniors** pursuing higher education by attending a school of their choice to obtain a two-year/four-year certification/degree in a field of their interest.

❖ **adults** returning to school to obtain a certification/degree from a two-/four-year college, university or technical school.

It is the goal of the St. Paul's Outreach Committee to award \$500 academic/book stipends to the recipients. Applicants must be **active members** of St. Paul's Church.

Applications are available in the Church office and must be returned by the **first Sunday in April.**



**CHECKOUT THE APOSTLE
ON ST. PAUL'S NEW
WEB SITE...IT'S IN COLOR!**