

April 2016

Are you ready for St. Paul's

GAME DAY

All are Welcome!

Saturday, April 30

2-5PM

Snacks

RSVP by April 25

to

Ben Johnson

(bdjohnson@yahoo.com)

or

Cathy Simpson

(cathysimpson@wi.rr.com)

include

name(s) and number(s)

of those planning to attend

Accolades for St. Paul's Church...

In the February issue of *The Gathering Newsletter* there appeared an article discussing the quarterly donations of Gathering suggested goods.

As parishioners you have made very generous donation and with the added \$500 from the Outreach Committee, St. Paul's has donated nearly 500 personal need supplies since 2014. This is beyond the annual funds from the Church and Thrift Shop.

The article states: "Our guests are blessed by the generosity, commitment and creativity of our friends from St. Paul's."

Making Sense of the American Spiritual Landscape

On Saturday, April 9, 2016, St. Paul's Church, will sponsor a workshop that will explore the status of spirituality in America today. The event will run from 9AM to 3PM and will include lunch for \$10. There is no registration fee. If you are a spiritual leader or you are simply trying to make sense of your own faith in conversation with those around you, this workshop is designed for you.

The presenter, **The Reverend Dr. Frederick W. Schmidt, Jr.** will discuss how the high-tide denominationalism of the fifties and sixties quickly gave way to a new American spiritual landscape at the end of the twentieth century. Under consideration will be:

- ❖ What are the dominant trends on that landscape?
- ❖ What do they tell us about the church's future?
- ❖ How do we orient ourselves spiritually in this new world order?

Schmidt holds the Rueben P. Job Chair in Spiritual Formation and directs the Rueben P. Job Institute for Spiritual Formation at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois. An Episcopal priest, spiritual director, and retreat leader, he has written seven books, including *When Suffering Persists*, *What God Wants for Your Life* and his most recent *The Dave Test: A Raw Look at Real Faith in Hard Times*. He also served as Canon Educator and Director of programs in Spirituality and Religious Education at the National Cathedral. Having divided his time between the church and the academy he has thought at length about the challenges facing the church and has grappled with them in "the real world." Additional information on Rev. Schmidt can be found on

www.patheos.com/Frederick W. Schmidt.

A registration form can be found on the St. Paul's website, click on "The March Apostle is here" on the home page, then click on "Read it now" the *Apostle* newsletter will come up, scroll to the registration form and print. You can also pickup a form at church.





From the Rector...

On Saturday, April 9, St. Paul's hosts the **Rev. Dr. Frederick W. Schmidt, Jr.** for an important workshop in Milwaukee, "Making Sense of the American Spiritual Landscape,"

from 9AM until 3PM. Check the *Apostle* on the church web site for details. All members are encouraged to be present, and invite friends to join you. Fred's presentation will be vital for St. Paul's and the church at large to address the church's future. The landscape is changing and the needs to be re-imagined in our day.

Fred asks a crucial question of Christians today: "How do we orient ourselves spiritually in this new world order?" St. Paul's has a wonderful opportunity in front of us. Education and conversations about our changing spiritual landscape will bring you into understanding better the world the church must address. Based on what you learn and discern the vestry looks to your input for the VIVA process, Year 2. You are crucial to the church's future, knowing the landscape and helping plan for it. We shall talk and plan out of this workshop, try small experiments, learn from them. We shall take risks, because a risk-averse church will fade away. We must embrace the Holy Spirit's leadership, and we need to listen for the Spirit among us individually and together.

In addition to St. Paul's, parishes from the Metro Convocation, the Diocese, churches in our neighborhood and other denominations in our region are being invited.

All of us face the same landscape. The future of the church is not "stand alone" entities, but will be networked and in partnerships with other churches and missions that are coherent with our mission and dream.

Again, our mission is not to fix the church, to grow in membership or attendance, to increase giving, or even to do outreach. These will happen when we return to God's mission. Our mission is to go into the entire world, the world beyond our walls, and make disciples. We need to relearn how to do that, recommit ourselves to Jesus, and learn how to speak with people who share our hopes and dreams, and unsure where to find answers.

I encourage you to read about Fred. Go to www.patheos.com and *What God Wants for Your Life*, Fred's articles. The story of his brother Dave's funeral service three years ago (March 6, 2016) gives insight into his pastoral heart. I also recommend: (October 6, 2015) *The Making of Zombie Theologians: Catechesis, Spiritual Direction, and the Future of the Church*; (Aug. 26, 2015) *Seven Things the Holy Spirit May Be Trying to Tell You*; (April 29, 2015) *Dear 'Rev*; and (Mar. 20, 2015) *Reimagining the Church*. You will get a good sense for the April 9 workshop, have some insight into the changing spiritual landscape. I hope your passion for God and St. Paul's as an outpost of God's mission will cause you to invite other people to join you for this important opportunity for their church, too – for ultimately it is our shared passion for God and our love for others who hunger and thirst.

Blessings in Easter, Fr. Steve+

Adult Education Forums for April

ALL SESSIONS BEGIN AT 9AM IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM

❖ April opens with **Kristin Selear** (daughter of **David** and **Julie Zersen**) on the subject of *The 21st Century Family: Changes, Choices and Challenges*. Kristin is a social worker in the Washington County Child Welfare System. She will join us on **April 3**.

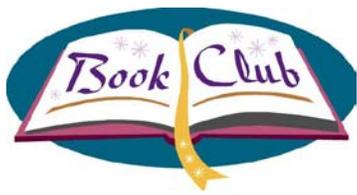
❖ On **April 10**, **Garwood Anderson, PhD**, professor of New Testament and Greek at Nashotah House, will be with us with *Three Issues I Wish You Would Be Thinking About*.

❖ **Pat Luebke, PhD**, and **Kenneth Robinson**, both active St. Paul's parishioners will discuss *Education Options in Milwaukee: What's Best for our Children* on **April 24**. Pat is Interim Dean of Education at Alverno College and Kenneth is retired as a School of Liberal Arts and Sciences Instructor at MATC.

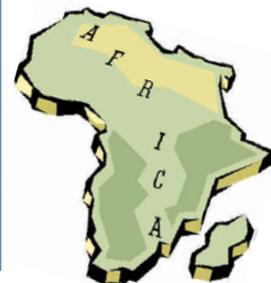
❖ On **May 1**, **Deirdre Dempsey, PhD**, Associate Professor of Old Testament and Semitic Languages at Marquette University, will share *The Biblical Vision of Marc Chagall: An Illustrated Pilgrimage*.

You are encouraged to bring guests to enjoy the wealth of insight and perspective in each session.





**St. Paul's
Book Club
will meet in the
library on
Tuesday, April 12,
at 7PM
to discuss
chapters one
through
seven
of
*NOT IN GOD'S
NAME*
by Jonathan Sacks**



A festive potluck luncheon hosted by the African-American members of St. Paul's was held on February 28, to celebrate African-Heritage Month and the diversity of our congregation.

Parishioners were invited to bring a dish or desert of their ancestral heritage.

The event was coordinated by **Florence Dukes** and **Ugo Okoro** seen in the top picture with the altar frontal that was designed for St. Paul's along with hanging for the pulpit and lectern for the 2015 celebration.

Paulette Kelly (center; in the lower picture) brought guests.

Thrift Shop news...

The Shop was closed all of February and reopened on Tuesday, March 15, just in time for Easter shopping. On that Tuesday and the following Saturday the Shop sold \$2,016 in merchandise.

During the closed period volunteers packed up the unsold merchandise and sent it off to the Salvation Army. The Shop was then given a thorough cleaning and restocked.

Your donation of spring/summer clothing would be greatly appreciated. Please clean out your closets! Small, clean appliances are also welcome. We do not accept computer equipment, old TVs or used grocery bags.



Calling all those who can speak in tongues...

On May 15, Christians across the world will celebrate Pentecost. It is generally honored in liturgical churches: Roman Catholic, Anglican, Lutheran, Eastern Orthodox, and in Pentecostal and Charismatic churches, and in many other Protestant churches as well. In many ways, Pentecost is the birthday of the church.

For Christians, Pentecost is a holiday on which we commemorate the coming of the Holy Spirit on the early followers of Jesus. Before the events of the first Pentecost, which came a few weeks after Jesus' death and resurrection, there were followers of Jesus, but no movement that could be meaningfully called "the church." Thus, from an historical point of view, Pentecost is the day on which the church was started.

This event is recorded in the New Testament book, *The Acts of the Apostles*. Chapter 2 begins, "And when the day of Pentecost had come, [the first followers of Jesus] were all together in one place" (2:1). All of a sudden, a sound came from heaven, like a strong wind, filling the house where the people had gathered. Something like tongues of fire rested on their heads. "And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit gave them the ability to speak" (2:4).

If you can read in a language other than English, please consider volunteering to participate in St. Paul's Pentecost celebration at either the 8 or 10:15AM services. In unison volunteers will do read each in a different language. Please contact **Fr. Steve** to volunteer.

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Rev. Dr. C. Steven Teague,

Rector

Rev. Sheila Scott, *Deacon*

Carrie Barbee, *Sr. Warden*

Steve Filmanowicz,

Jr. Warden

Gerald Mainman, *Treasurer*

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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.



***Many people were involved in
welcoming guests and offering their gifts as
part of our
worship together during
Lent, Holy Week and Easter Sunday***

- ❖ Those who provided dinner for the Tuesday Lenten Sessions.
- ❖ Ushers and Altar Guild were faithfully present.
- ❖ The choir was magnificent.
- ❖ Our cooks for the Easter breakfast between the services once again did a wonderful job.
- ❖ The children who returned the Alleluias from the tower to the church during the Easter Sunday Processional.
- ❖ The Flower Guild made arrangements that lifted our hearts on Lateral Sunday, Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. Thank you to those who donated the funds.