

May 2016

Rector announces semi-retirement in letter to congregation...

April 14, 2016



Dear Friends,

Nearly nine years ago I accepted the Vestry's invitation to become the 21st Rector of St. Paul's Church, beginning Sunday, October 7, 2007. As I celebrate birthday 66 and enter year 67, I have given my resignation to the Vestry, who have accepted it with regret and thanksgiving for our ministry together. I shall conclude my ministry with you on Sunday, August 14, 2016.

The decision to resign has been a difficult and rewarding spiritual journey of discernment. When I love people as Karen and I love you, thinking about leaving is both difficult and painful. When I look back over nearly 43 years of ordained ministry, I feel very blessed. Being your rector is an honor, privilege and joy that bring my years of full-time ministry service to a high point and fitting close. I never anticipated the emotions I would feel at this time. We have accomplished much as God has led us: the nave revisions and new organ; increasing membership and financial growth; hospitality people notice; opening again our worship space for musicians to perform, and the community to enjoy the beauty of St. Paul's; expansion of Outreach and funding to support ministries outside our walls; strategic planning processes; and I could go on. You are an extraordinary people.

Regretfully, I have come to realize I have neither the energy to be the Rector I expect of myself nor for the Rector I believe you need at this time. As I come into these final months, I am reminded of a quote from Tennyson a friend recently shared as we talked in reflecting on the privilege of sharing life together, "I am part of all that I have met." I shall work to help us have a closure of thanksgiving and celebration for our years together, giving the Vestry time to put a plan for moving forward together before I leave. I have great confidence in your love for God and others, giving me confidence for St. Paul's future.

Karen and I are in a process to move us to the Raleigh area of North Carolina to be closer to family there. Karen will move her mother in early June to set up our house there. After I move, I hope to find part-time ministry work in a parish in the Diocese of North Carolina. While with the increasing years my energy is no longer youthful, my calling to serve God in the community of Christ's Body is affirmed and stronger by being on this journey with you. Karen and I are forever grateful for this time together, and for our continuing bonds of love and prayers for one other.

I appreciate my tenure in serving as your Rector with our Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Steven Miller, with fellow presbyters and in the councils of the Church. I shall miss the closeness of many relationships, our church support staff, and our ministry leaders Tim and Sheila, our choir, vestry, teachers, and such capable leaders and loving members. With heartfelt gratitude for the honor and privilege of serving God with you, I hold you,

In Christ's love,

Rev. Dr. C. Steven Teague, Rector

Adult Education Forums for May

ALL SESSIONS BEGIN AT 9AM IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM

❖ *What do you want to ask the Rector?* By the time you receive this issue, you should have been presented the opportunity from **Fr. Steve** to pose a question that he will answer at the Adult Forum on **May 1**. What would you like to hear our rector explain or describe?

❖ On **May 8**, **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*.



❖ On **May 22**, come to hear **Robert Connolly** from Common Ground tell us *How St. Paul's Members Help Solve Milwaukee's Social Problems*. Bob is staff director for Common Ground.

❖ On **May 29**, Memorial Day weekend, **Rev. Dr. David Zersen** will be back with us to explore the alternative Christian views to war in a session titled *Are Christian Views of Non-Violence*

Still Relevant?

❖ And, looking ahead to **June 5**, **Chinyere Okoro** (daughter of **Ugo** and **Julie Okoro**) will be home from the University of Virginia (UVA) and share her experience on a mission trip this spring with the Canterbury Club (Episcopal Campus Ministry) at UVA. She was invited to preach and speak about the trip at a Club gathering one Sunday evening. This is a special forum open to all adults and children.

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



MAY IS ENDOWMENT MONTH

from *Jon Barsanti*

May is Endowment Month in the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee. For the past several years Endowment Month and has been celebrated at St. Paul's during May, with a focus on publicizing endowment building efforts at St. Paul's. Watch for a series of short articles in each Sunday's Announcement Bulletin.

One Sunday during May is specified as Endowment Sunday. It is a time to remember our heritage, to remember and give thanks for the gifts and bequests of past benefactors and the stewardship of those gifts. Without such gifts and bequests, St. Paul's would not exist as it does today. This year Endowment Sunday will be celebrated on the May 20. It is a tradition that the open offering on that Sunday be contributed to further build the unrestricted endowment. Please give generously.



It is an opportunity for all to participate in helping secure the Church's financial future. Any checks given as open offerings should indicate Endowment Sunday gift in the memo section.

The Heritage Guild of St. Paul was established early in 2002 to honor those who, by their gifts or by including St. Paul's in their wills or estate plans, have created or will create lasting endowments for the benefit of St. Paul's. Members are remembered each year on Endowment Sunday at both services. A listing of members will be a part of the Announcement Bulletin that day.

Festive Sundays of May

Sunday, May 5 - THE FEAST OF ASCENSION



The Feast of the **Ascension**, or Ascension Day, commemorates the bodily Ascension of Jesus into heaven. It is one of the **ecumenical** feasts (i.e., universally celebrated) of Christian churches, ranking with the feasts of the Passion, Easter and Pentecost. Ascension Day is traditionally celebrated on a Thursday, the fortieth day of Easter (following the count given in *Acts 1:3*), although the observance may be moved to the following Sunday.

Sunday, May 15 - PENTECOST



Pentecost is the Ancient Greek name for the Feast of Weeks, a prominent feast in the calendar of ancient Israel celebrating the giving of the Law on Sinai. This feast is still celebrated in Judaism as Shavuot. Later, in the Christian liturgical year, it became a feast commemorating the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ as described in *Acts 2:1-31*. For this reason, Pentecost is described by some Christians today as the Birthday of the Church. It is suggested that Churchgoers wear red to services on this Sunday!



Welcome to St. Paul's two newest member

On Sunday, April 3, we celebrated the sacrament of Holy Baptism of **Charles James Cronkite**, the son of **Greg and Kelly**.



And, on Sunday April 16, **Kenyon Elijah Bones**, the son of **Juante and Melissa**, was baptized.

We welcomed them into the household of God at St. Paul's.



Calling all Graduates!

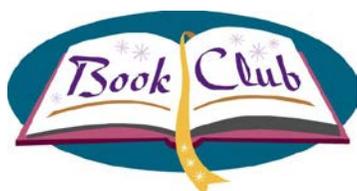
Are you or someone in your family graduating from high school or college, or earning an advance degree? If so, please contact **Fr. Steve** so that St. Paul's can help you celebrate on Sunday, May 29, at the 10:15AM Service.



A great volunteer opportunity...

St. Paul's again has the opportunity to volunteer at The Gathering on Saturday, May 21, from 9:45AM to 1:30PM. Many hands make light work! The sign-up sheet is in the Information Center. Needed are 15 to 18 volunteers.

Please bring ground coffee, milk or cookies for the guests' meal. We are again at St. James Episcopal Church at 833 W. Wisconsin Ave., downtown. Hope you can make it!



The Book Club will meet on Tuesday, May 10 to discuss chapters eight through fifteen of **Jonathan Sack's** *Not in God's Name*.

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Rector

Rev. Sheila Scott, *Deacon*

Carrie Barbee, *Sr. Warden*

Steve Filmanowicz,

Jr. Warden

Gerald Mainman, *Treasurer*

VESTRY

Lindsay Anderson,

Theresa Castor,

Michael Gauger,

Sandra Halgerson,

Ben Johnson,

Margaret Schumacher,

Erik Skoglund,

André Williams, Terry Zimmer

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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.

Memorial Day at Forest Home Cemetery Monday, May 30

❖ 11AM – A Memorial Service will be held in the Landmark Chapel, led by **Rev. Dr. C. Steven Teague**, Rector, St. Paul's Church, with music selections by members of St. Paul's Choir.

❖ Noon – A brat or hot dog, chips and soda lunch will be available for a \$1 donation to a local charity.

❖ Between noon and 2PM several of Milwaukee's most inspiring characters will come to life throughout the Cemetery.

❖ 2:30PM – **Paul A. Haubrich**, PhD, Chair of the Forest Home Historic Preservation Association, will lead a guided tour through the Cemetery highlighting the history of Milwaukee.

