

January 2017

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

- ❖ Thrift Shop Boutique shoppers and item donors
- ❖ The St. Paul's Choir
- ❖ Fr. Virgil Robinson
- ❖ Deacon Sheila Scott
- ❖ Timothy Benson
- ❖ Lee Erickson
- ❖ Lay Readers
- ❖ Those who coordinated and brought the 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 readers at the Christmas Family service
- ❖ Homilist Terry Zimmer



It's Annual Meeting time...

The 178th Annual Meeting of St. Paul's Church will be held on Sunday, January 29, following the 10:15AM Eucharist.

There will be only one service, followed by a potluck luncheon. Time to get out those cook books and bring your favorite dish.

The meeting will feature the election of Wardens, Vestry members, Convention Delegates and the Nominating Committee for 2017.

The 2016 Nominating Committee has selected **Carrie Barbee**, Senior Warden, and **Steve Filmanowicz**, Junior Warden, to be reelected. **Lela Joscelyn** (see page 4 for her profile) is nominated for a three-year term on the Vestry and **Margaret Schumacher** will accept a second three-term.

Leaving the Vestry is **Teresa Castor**, who has served two three-year terms. THANK YOU, Teresa, for your service.

Lela was selected to compliment the gifts of the returning members **Michael Gauger**, **Sandra Halgerson**, **Paul Haurbrich**, **Ben Johnson**, **Kenneth Robinson**, **André Williams** and **Terry Zimmer**.

Discernment update....

from Carrie Barbee

The Discernment Team and Vestry are currently in the most active and exciting part of our Discernment Process. They have received the names of some candidates and selected an interview team who will conduct interviews in January.

By late January or early February, they plan to start the next steps of visiting priests in their congregations and having them visit us here. Stay tuned for more exciting updates. Updates will be posted online. Please contact **Steve Filmanowicz** or **Carrie Barbee** if you would like additional information about the discernment process or the current priest search.



St. Paul's OUTREACH UPDATE...

Making a bigger impact through Outreach

from Steve Filmanowicz, Outreach Chair
and Junior Warden

Thanks to St. Paul's commitment to a goal established by the Vestry in 2010, the funds contributed to our outreach partnerships have grown every year since then, moving closer to the targeted amount of "tithing" or devoting 10 percent of pledges and weekly collections to serving and engaging those in need.

In 2016, that figure was 7 percent or \$30,100, which was supplemented by approximately \$6,150 from an endowment fund supporting outreach and funds donated through the efforts of the Thrift Shop (see separate story).

The committee met in November to make annual contributions to partner organizations. Guided by a subcommittee that considered assessments completed by a St. Paul's champion for each partnership — thanks, champions! — the committee approved year-end contributions to the following organizations:

❖ Diocesan Haiti Project	\$2,500
❖ Hospitality Center in Racine	\$1,250
❖ Interchange Food Pantry	\$3,500
❖ Our Next Generation	\$2,500
❖ Pearls for Teen Girls	\$3,000
❖ Repairers of the Breach	\$3,500
❖ Running Rebels	\$2,000
❖ Sojourner Fam. Peace Center	\$2,000
❖ The Gathering	\$3,500

The committee also contributed \$895 in remaining funds to the United Nations High Commission for Refugee Relief and \$400 to the local organization Saint A for holiday toys for foster children rescued from crisis situations. And, the group authorized the release of \$2000 in previously committed funds for a re-roofing project at Christ Church, our sister parish in Oforola, Nigeria. This end-of-year funding also followed donations earlier in the year for Common Ground dues (\$3700), personal supply purchases for Outreach guests (\$1500) and re-

sponses to emergencies: \$2500 for Haitian hurricane relief, \$1250 for Ecuadoran earthquake relief and a previous \$1250 for refugee relief.

Just as importantly, the committee ended 2016 with a December full of more personalized ways to make a difference. That included filling out more than 155 Christmas cards for guests of the Hospitality Center and sponsoring new hoodies and gift cards for teens from Our Next Generation. The committee also rallied around a plan presented by **Kathee Phillipson**, our Gathering champion, to create bagged lunches four times per year to help keep meal program guests fed between their warm meals on Saturday and Sunday. The many cards received from partner organizations at the end of the year express heartfelt gratitude to everyone involved in outreach at St. Paul's.

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

After a busy year, the Thrift Shop was able to contribute \$19,840 to support St. Paul's annual Outreach Donations and Ministries. The following distribution of the funds were made to:

- ❖ Interchange - \$4,436
- ❖ The Gathering - \$4,436
- ❖ Sojourner Family Peace Center - \$3,000
- ❖ Our Next Generation - \$3,000
- ❖ Hunger Task Force - \$1,718
- ❖ 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 \$1,965.17.



HAPPY NEW YEAR\$\$\$

from Gregory Kostka, Chair Planned Receiving/Planned Giving Committee

We're off on another new journey into the "world of outreach" for the new year. At the time of this writing and with the stock market cooperating, the permanent investment in our Outreach Endowment Fund as of December 31, 2016, will slightly exceed our previously announced goal of \$200,000. Distributions from this fund in 2017 will amount to approximately \$7,260 for our Outreach Committee to distribute to causes near and dear to our hearts. The 2017 St. Paul's budget will provide another \$33,300, bringing the total available to the Committee for 2017 of \$40,560 to distribute to our outreach efforts.

This will make a wonderful gift to help the homeless, the helpless, the needy, and the hungry of the various communities, both locally, nationally and world-wide that our Committee seeks to assist by the issuance of grants championed and shepherded by individual members of the parish.

For 2017, we will be giving eight percent of our pledge and open offering receipts for outreach. For the last eight years, we have been increasing that amount each year by one full percentage point so that in two years, God willing, we will be tithing a full 10% for outreach. This tithe is enhanced by the additional distributions made available by the Outreach Endowment Fund.

St. Paul's Outreach Fund was established in December 2001 with an initial gift of \$3,000 and a preference that distributions be used to support parish involvements in feeding the hungry, serving the homeless, and other organizations serving the needy. This fund is regularly supported by contributions from the Thrift Shop, "Lenten Discipline" efforts, gifts to the "Birthday Club" and from other interested members of the parish. Over the years, it has grown to something in excess of \$200,000, with a current goal of reaching \$250,000 by the end of 2018.

During 2017 we pray that those of you who have not previously contributed will join with those friends and members who have done so. Gifts are designed to be modest but

yet effective: Birthday Club members contribute an amount equal to the number of years given them each year; Lenten Discipline participants (watch for an upcoming announcement as Lent is coming) contribute accumulated daily offerings set aside during the days of Lent. These and others have also chosen to make special gifts from time to time as events make them thankful for all of God's blessings and happy to give a portion of those blessings to those in need in need. No amount is too small. Such contributions should be described as "Birthday Club", "Lenten Discipline", or "Outreach Endowment" when submitted.

New Outreach opportunity

from Kathee Phillipson, Chair of The Gathering Team



At the December Outreach Committee meeting funding was approved for making bag lunches for The Gathering's downtown site four times next year! We will be providing bag lunches for 200 guests as they leave the hot meal on Saturday. This is in addition to our dates for preparing and serving the hot lunches. The bag lunch preparation will take place late afternoon/early evening on four Fridays, to be distributed the next day. This will probably take about at least two hours, depending on the number of volunteers present. The first few times may take longer as we get our "system" down.

We are still working on figuring out a time that works best for our volunteers, so the exact time is yet to be determined. Here are the dates for this new Outreach opportunity in 2017:

- ❖ **Friday, April 28**
- ❖ **Friday, July 28**
- ❖ **Friday, Sept 29**
- ❖ **Friday, Dec 29**

Thanks for all your help and interest. Feel free to email (katheep@gmail.com) or call (414-442-1522) Kathee with any questions, concerns, comments, input, etc.

Meet the Candidate! Vestry Candidate (three-year term)

Lela A. Joscelyn, PhD



A member of St. Paul's Church for 13 years, Lela founded the Daughters of the King St. Angela Merici Chapter at St. Paul's. She began mentoring the Education for Ministry program in 2005, retiring from this program last December. Presently serves as a member of the Parish Life Committee and as a Thrift Shop Volunteer.

Lela retired as a Professor of Psychology from Mount Mary University and a few years ago earned an undergraduate degree in theology at Mount Mary. She is a proponent of Servant Leadership and as president of Province V of the Daughters of the King is familiar with strategic planning.

Lela is divorced and the step-mother of an adult son who is an engineer living in San Antonio, Texas.

According to Lela, "St Paul's has a richly diverse, well-educated congregation; this draws many of our parishioners from a distance. While we are an urban church, we need to find ways to attract our neighbors as well as those from the suburbs."

Welcome all Stitchers and Crafters!



We meet in the St. Paul's Community Room the second Thursday of every month at 9:30 AM, for conversation, help with projects, ideas and just plain fun! Next gathering is January 12.

Questions? Contact **Kathy Thome** or **Joanne Filmanowicz**.

Library news...

from Kathy Thome

St. Paul's Library in the Community Room is thriving. Quality new donations come in regularly (lately, thanks to **David Zersen**). **Ken Bernoska** vets and organizes the collection. Books waiting to be sorted are kept in the old library room. If you would like to donate, put books on the bottom shelves of either location.

The library focuses on Christianity, other faiths, ethical issues, scripture, prayer and fiction/poetry that speak to these concerns. Most bibles, commentaries and biblical studies, as well as music and CDs, are in the old library.

Feel free to browse, check items out on the clipboards and take advantage of this opportunity to build your life of action, study and prayer.

Lenten Retreat at the DeKoven Center in Racine...March 3 to 5, 2017

Political unrest, war, disease, conflict...all real now, and even worse in 14th century England when **Julian of Norwich** lived. In spite of all this, and her own near fatal illness, she was able to affirm: "All will be well, all will be well and all manner of things will be well." How? What did she know? Can her insight inform our lives? In this retreat, we will seek wisdom from this great English mystic and theologian and, praying with her, learn to see the world in the light of Jesus. Retreat reception begins on Friday at 5PM, followed by dinner and continues through brunch on Sunday. Cost: \$200.

Retreat conductor: Rt. Rev. **Matthew Gunter**, bishop of the Fond du Lac diocese, earned a degree in history, then taught high school English and history in California before going to seminary. Questions? Contact: **Kathy Thome**

Deacon's Corner

This past year was a challenging year for us at St. Paul's. We bid farewell to **Fr. Steve** and **Karen** after their many years of faithful service to our church community. They left a big hole in our hearts, but we learned to lean on each other for support in this uncertain time of rector transition.

I am blessed to be serving such a loving and caring church community. While we hope 2017 will bring us our new rector, our challenges will not end there. We will have to continue to be a beacon of support to our community, and recommit to being an open, welcoming and diverse church congregation that takes Jesus' commandment to love our neighbor to heart as we counter the culture of hate with LOVE for ALL God's children.

Happy New Year to you all!

Blessings, *Deacon Sheila Scott*



Adult Formation Sessions for January

All sessions are held in the community room on Sundays and begin at 9AM

❖ January 22

When Can We Finally Use Guitars and Praise Bands?

Timothy Benson, St. Paul's Music Ministry Director will explore the church's musical challenges in the light of current trends.

❖ January 29

Why did you become a member of the Episcopal Church?

A Guided Conversation...Reasons why the Episcopal Church is a choice for so many from other traditions!



When do we celebrate the season of Epiphany...

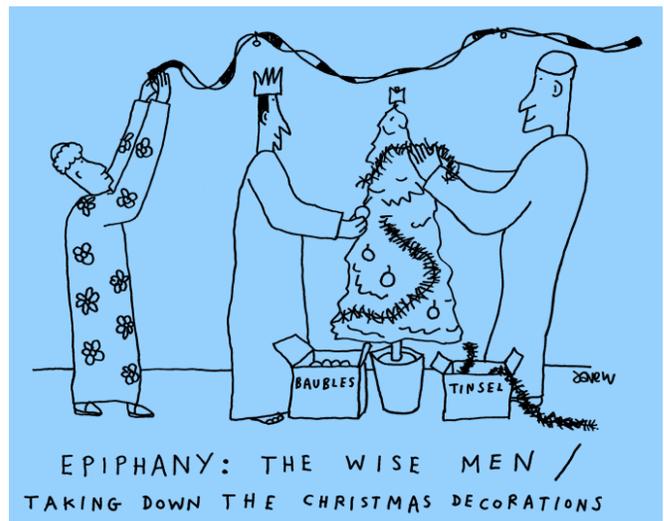
A season of four to nine weeks, from the Feast of the Epiphany that falls on January 6 through the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. The length of the season varies according to the date of Easter.

The gospel stories of this season describe various events that manifest the divinity of Jesus. The coming of the Magi is celebrated on the Epiphany.

The Baptism of our Lord is observed on the Sunday after Epiphany. The gospels for the other Sundays of the Epiphany season describe the wedding at Cana, the calling of the disciples, and various miracles and teachings of Jesus.

The last Sunday after the Epiphany is always devoted to the Transfiguration. Jesus' identity as the Son of God is dramatically revealed in the Transfiguration gospel, as well as the gospel of the baptism of Christ.

We are called to respond to Christ in faith through the manifestations of his divinity recorded in the gospels of the Epiphany season.



Phone 414.276.6277

www.stpaulsmilwaukee.org

stpmke@sbcglobal.net

Rev. Sheila Scott, *Deacon*

Carrie Barbee, *Sr. Warden*

Steve Filmanowicz,

Jr. Warden

Gerald Mainman, *Treasurer*

VESTRY

Theresa Castor,

Michael Gauger,

Sandra Halgerson,

Paul A. Haubrich

Ben Johnson,

Kenneth Robinson,

Margaret Schumacher,

André Williams, Terry Zimmer

Christine Krueger, *Clerk*

STAFF

Timothy Benson,

Music Ministry Director

Nevenka & Nikola Dedic,

Housekeepers

Malcolm Soward-Gatford

Priscilla 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

12 Noon, Bible 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.

Thrift Shop taking a winter break...

St. Paul's Thrift Shop will be closed the entire month of February for cleaning and restocking and will open again on Tuesday, March 14, 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 in January on Tuesdays (10AM to 3PM) or the first and third Saturdays (9AM to noon) in January.

Prior to the Shop's Spring reopening, on Sunday, March 12, at 9AM the Shop will sponsor a style show during coffee hour in the Great Hall.

If you would like to see the Apostle in color, then consider changing the way you receive it. Subscribers are encouraged to receive notice of the monthly newsletter through their email... once you open the notice you will be able to click on the address to the issue and read the whole newsletter and view the pictures/art work in color.

Your subscribing to the email method will conserve paper and cut the postage costs.

To subscribe to the email method, simply email your request to lynn.fields@stpaulsmilwaukee.org