

THE Apostle

A NEWSLETTER FOR & ABOUT THE PEOPLE OF

Saint Paul's
CHURCH

November 2018

Please drop in!



Wednesday, November 7, St. Paul's Church, in conjunction with Black Arts MKE, has invited the Community to an evening of drama and music from the Bronzeville Art Ensemble's upcoming musical *Black Nativity*. From 5 to 8:30PM, the cast, director, music director and choreographer will give you a behind-the-scenes look at what it takes to prepare for the musical. Please drop in at your convenience.

Black Nativity is a heart-warming and moving gospel song-play by **Langston Hughes**, telling the story of the Nativity through a combination of Bible scripture, poetry, dance and song from the African-American perspective.



All Saints' and Stewardship Commitment Sunday

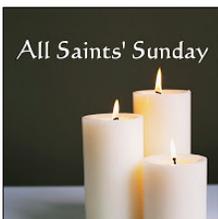
On November 4, at both services, members are requested to submit their 2019 Stewardship pledge cards. If you are unable to attend please send them to the Church office before the fourth. A Festival Coffee Hour will follow both services.

Author James Mercer Langston Hughes (February 1, 1901 -May 22, 1967) was an American poet, social activist, novelist, playwright and columnist from Joplin, Missouri. He moved to New York City as a young man, where he made his career. Hughes was one of the earliest innovators of the then-new literary art form called jazz poetry. Hughes is best known as a leader of the Harlem Renaissance in New York City.

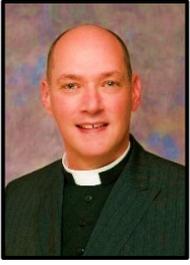
The Bronzeville Arts Ensemble has residency with Black Art MKE and has been a resident theater company of the Milwaukee Repertory Theater. *Black Nativity* is an annually presented musical of the Ensemble. It will be presented December 6 -16, 2018, at the Wilson Theater in Vogel Hall of the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts. More information and discounted tickets for the production will be available at the rehearsal.

There is no charge for the rehearsal. Parking is available in the lot behind the Church and at Lincoln School for the Arts. Please enter the building through the Church entrance on East Knapp Street.

Book of Remembrance...



As is the tradition at St. Paul's, throughout the month of November we will pray for and with the dead. A Book of Remembrance will be placed in the church so that we may add the names of those loved ones who have journeyed with us on our earthly pilgrimage. The book will be processed with the gifts each Sunday until the Feast of Christ the King so that remembered ones may stand with us around the eucharistic table of God's eternal banquet. Their names will also be included in the Choral Evensong at Forest Home Cemetery on Sunday, November 4. There will be a Memorial Tree dedication at 3:45PM and a Choral Evensong Service at 4PM.



From the Rector... When I was a child, the fall marked the time for an annual pilgrimage. It was not great in design. It was grand in destination. Eventually one amber sunlit afternoon, my mother, brother and I would start down the gravel road adjacent to our house. It was narrow and seldom travelled. Once past the meager civilization of houses that populated it, one came to open meadows and thickets of woods. We walked through creeks that drowned it below and crossed over hilltops that seemed like mountains to me. I never knew what lay around the corner or waited over the hill. Each year it was new and unexpected. Though I knew how the scene ahead would look, I discovered something new each year. What strange and beautiful sights they often were.

The one thing I knew for certain was what awaited at the end. Eventually we would round the last bend and there it stood; the grand old persimmon tree just outside the tattered and broken fence of the graveyard. Long before I understood the symbol and meaning those two realities posed, I sensed that before my eyes stood life and death and the meager line that held them at bay and yet allowed one to bleed into the other. Then always came the time of decision – which fruit to take? Regardless of how long I took to decide, it remained a guess all the same. One choice would be sweet and succulent, the other, puckering and bitter. Then, after refreshing and filling ourselves with the banquet of fruit that offered itself to us as gift, we would crawl through the broken fence into the sacred ground of the cemetery. The ground not having been pierced for years, accepted our light footsteps as we carefully trod its leafy floor. As we carefully examined what appeared to remain the same as the year before, time would afford the realization that many things had changed. Headstones had been toppled from the weight of snow and ice that purified them last winter. New plumes of leaves that had sprung up in the spring now offered a new complexion of crimson and gold that had not been known before. And crooked and withered branches and limbs clasped each other to create a natural ceiling of beams as if it could protect what lay beneath its canopy from age. After a due time of calm had set in, we crawled back through that holy gate and into the world of the living. We bade goodbye – good death – to the persimmon tree, knowing that next year our return would welcome a tree that would not be the same.

That road is still there, though paved and more populated. That pilgrimage is long gone though the destination still awaits. Each fall when the first frost arrives, I travel down that road in my mind. I never know what will lie around the corner or over the hill. I do know what awaits me at the end; to quote **Robert Frost**:

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

A Healing Time

One of the most familiar rituals of Episcopalians is the celebration of Anointing of the Sick. While this rich and evocative practice dates to the earliest Christian communities, its celebration still today is mostly associated with the last rites celebrated at the time of death. The liturgical renewal of the 1960's and 70's advocated a renewed understanding that emphasized that rather than being relegated to the end of life, anointing should be a normative practice throughout the entire life of the Christian believer. And more than being reserved only for physical illness, anointing is a most appropriate gesture during times of emotional and spiritual crisis and is intended for care givers and loved ones as much as for the infirm. In fact, an "inward anointing of the Holy Spirit" is perhaps the most effective petition we can make as we move through the natural experience and reality of life and aging.

We will celebrate the healing power of Christ in community on the first Tuesday of each month at Noon. Join us in the Community Room for a simple and intimate Eucharist including Anointing, followed by lunch and fellowship. We hope to see you Tuesday, November 6, at Noon as we hold each other in prayer, concern and thanksgiving.

Zoe, Sebastian and St. Paul's to the Rescue

by Zoe and Sebastian and Janese Christie

As a community service project component of their Junior Black Belt in Taekwondo, **Zoe and Sebastian Plunkett** have been collecting supplies and monetary donations for The Rescue Gang.

The Rescue Gang is a local volunteer run nonprofit organization located at 46th and State Street that rescues dogs of all breeds and ages that have been surrendered for various reasons. The Rescue Gang then finds foster homes for these animals, with the ultimate goal being to find forever homes for them. They have a strong non-euthanasia policy, except in the case of poor health and temperament.

The weekend of October 13, Zoe and Sebastian took a trip to The Rescue Gang to make an initial drop-off of over \$300 worth of supplies and monetary donations from St. Paul's members, for which the organization was most grateful.

During the visit they learned that over 30 dogs had been fostered just within that week, with dogs coming from shelters as far away as

Texas. Zoe and Sebastian had the opportunity to tour the shelter and witnessed the fostering of a very excited, friendly, and energetic dog named Milton. The experience has lit a passion for community service in both Zoe and Sebastian for which they hope to find other outlets to assist as well.

Zoe, Sebastian and The Rescue Gang would like to give a special appreciative thank you and acknowledgment to the following members for their generous contributions to make an animal's life longer, more comfortable, and filled with love: **Toni Soward-Gatford, Patricia Luebke and Kenneth Robinson, and Gerald and Elaine Mainman**

Zoe and Sebastian will continue to collect donations through the end of November. If you would like to assist, the donation box will stay in St. Paul's through November; you may give donations directly to Zoe, Sebastian or St. Paul's.

Additional information can be found about the Rescue Gang on their website, www.rescuegang.org.



❖ MUSIC AT ST. PAUL'S ❖



The Voice of the Clarinet

Frank Almond, Violin, **Todd Levy**, clarinet, **Susanna Philips**, soprano, **Brian Zeger**, piano, November 12, 7PM

Istanpitta



Exiled: Music of the Sephardic Jews and the Middle East, November 17, Pre-Concert lecture 4PM, Concert 5PM

Looking for a chance to serve and feel great at the same time? Join us at The Gathering on Saturday, November 10 from 9:45AM to 1:30 PM. We will be helping prepare and serve a hot, dinner-style meal to guest experiencing homelessness and/or food scarcity. The location is at St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church, located at 924 W State Street. There is ample off-street parking. This is a truly special experience with an opportunity to make someone's day a little brighter. Please sign up in the information center at church or by emailing/texting Kathee Phillipson at katheep@gmail.com or 414-412-6909. Thank you!



The Book Club will meet at 7PM on Tuesday, November 13, in the Old Library to discuss *Why Religion Matters*, by **Huston Smith**



Thanksgiving Eve Eucharist

On Wednesday evening, November 21, at 6PM, we will celebrate Thanksgiving Eucharist in the church. The choir will sing and the Altar will be appointed with the fruits of harvest and plenty. Come celebrate calmness, centering and gratitude in preparation for Thanksgiving Day.



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SUNDAYS

8AM, Holy Eucharist

10:15AM

Holy Eucharist with music

Nursery service available at 10AM

THURSDAYS

Evening Prayer, 5PM

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.

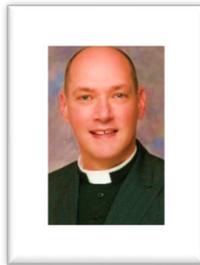
Adult Formation Sessions for November...

All sessions are held in the Community Room and begin at 9AM

❖ November 4 – *The Era of the Holy Spirit, St. Paul's parishioner **Kathy Thome, MA**, with graduate work in Spirituality, completes our 2018 study of the Trinity.*



❖ November 11 – *Faith Formation for All. Fr. Brad Toebben, MA, STL, will explore how growth opportunities can be made available to all in the parish.*



❖ November 18 – *Committee Meetings*

❖ November 25 – *The Work of the Episcopal Church in Haiti. Heidi Ropa, MAT, Director of the Milwaukee Diocese Haiti Project, will discuss the work in Haiti.*

