

February 2020

St. Paul's to celebrate African Heritage Month in February

February is African Heritage Month at St. Paul's. The planning committee has lined up a speaker for a special Adult Formation Session on February 9, and special guests to participate in the Sunday morning 10:15AM Eucharist, on February 23; there will be only one service followed by a reception.

The February 9, 9AM Adult Formation Speaker is **Dora Clayton-Jones, PhD.** Dora is president of the International Association of Sickle Cell Nurses and Professional Associates and an assistant professor and Arthur J. Schmitt Leadership Fellow at the Marquette University College of Nursing. She will dedicate her tenure as president of the Association to increasing awareness of sickle cell disease while elevating patient care and advocacy.

On the last Sunday of the month, February 23, the Paradise Jazz Band, who played for Diversity Sunday in July, will be back to play for some parts of the Eucharist service and provide a festive "New Orleans" Postlude at its conclusion.

Following the service there will be a festive luncheon reception hosted by the African-American members of St. Paul's to celebrate the diversity of our congregation. It will be held in the Great Hall. The luncheon is potluck and folks are invited to bring a dish or dessert of African origin to share. There are several available on the internet; give it a try! The Paradise Jazz Band will also offer various Mardi Gras pieces during the reception and the MSOE Barbershop Singers will provide a few sweet tunes for our enjoyment.

From Coordinators of the St. Paul's team for The Gathering...

Another year of hot lunch is upon us, and we want to thank each and every one of you for your wonderful help with The Gathering.

This month we are looking for 12 volunteers to help February 8, from 9:45AM to approximately 1:30PM.

Remember The Gathering location has moved! They are located at Running Rebels, 1300 W. Fond du Lac Avenue (corner of 13th and Vine). The site is on a cul-de-sac, and street parking is on 13th Street, next to the building.



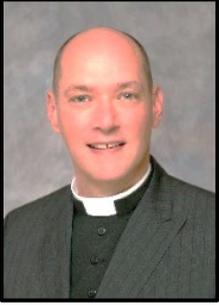
If you can help, let us know by signing up in the Information Center or contacting us at lisaandmelva@gmail.com.

Thank you in advance for your assistance!
Lisa and Melva

P.S. upcoming dates: April 4, June 13, October 17, and November 28, 2020. Please, mark these dates!!



ASH WEDNESDAY EUCHARIST SERVICES
February 26, with the imposition of ashes at both services
12 Noon and 7PM



From the Rector...

Can you do that?

...he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.
(Matthew 4:22)

The call of Jesus finds us in our ordinary lives. It recognizes us. It is alarming and provocative. It calls us in a new direction. If we can do that, we are liberated. And, we can become liberators.

During a recent vacation, I spent time with dear friends and their grandson Jake. He is a young adult who embodies for me the identity of a disciple. Though he does not attend church, his is a spiritual journey. He is a plumber attending college for a degree. He is also a fisherman.

His life is deeply centered while remaining open to change and the possibility the future holds. This might not have been the case. At a very young age he was caught in his parents' painful divorce. He endured the selfish and addictive focus of his sisters' lifestyle. Jake turned from that to become a disciple of thoughtfulness, integrity and compassion.

He shared with me a poem written by his grandfather. I believe this is the story of his call:

Fishing with Jake

That summer everything changed.
The police took you from your Dad.
Your adolescent sister left you behind in childhood.
I gave you a few good mornings fishing Takhlakh Lake

Our canoe bit across the black morning waters
as Klickitat warmed to a rose reflection in the sunrise.
An osprey soared above us, biding its time
'til its need was caught in a shaft of perfect light.

A juvenile rainbow caught my line,
Swallowing the lure deep into its gills.
I took too long and tore out the hook.
The little beauty lay glassy-eyed in my frantic hand.
I plunged him over the side into cool, clear waters
where others had redeemed us by flipping free,
but this one turned belly-up and still.

"This isn't a good sign," I said. You agreed and went on fishing.
I didn't let go, and he turned upright, gills heaving,
Heart pounding in my hand, a tendril of ripped flesh
floated from the side of his mouth.
I held him in six inches of water off the stern of our canoe.
He breathed. I prayed.
You fished for something you never caught.

"Papa, are you going to let him go?"
"I can't, it would be a waste of his life."
Fifteen minutes I held the young rainbow in my hand.
"Jake, I can't do this much longer."
"Is your hand cold Papa?"
"Maybe he should be breakfast for the osprey."
And with that, the rainbow kicked with vigor
Once, then twice and swam away.
Can you do that Jake?

Greg Harris

Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people."

Brad+



The Thrift Shop is 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 17, 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 February on Tuesdays (10AM to Noon) or the first Saturday (9AM to noon).

Please keep in mind, if you feel you would not give the items you are donating to a family member or friend, then most likely the items would not interest our customers. The Shop does not accept computers, printers, televisions, telephones and used plastic grocery bags

A message from...

St. Paul's Leadership

PLANNING OUR FUTURE TOGETHER!

The Vestry of St. Paul's Episcopal Church is inviting you to complete the Church Assessment Tool (CAT), an on-line instrument that will help leaders gauge the strength, vitality, and trends in our church. The information gained from this assessment will be valuable in helping church leaders as they make decisions about the future of St. Paul's.

You will receive an email with a unique link to the CAT. Beginning February 1, we are asking you to go online by clicking on the link provided and tell us about your experiences in, and priorities for, our church. Please do not discuss the survey or your

answers with others, as this may influence their answers.

If you need a paper copy, please contact the church office and we will provide one for you along with a self-addressed stamped return envelope.

All answers are strictly anonymous. We have no way of matching any assessment to a particular person, so please feel free to candidly share your perceptions, opinions and experiences. Our future together is dependent on your participation and honest answers.

If you have questions, please contact **John Bauer** at 920-248-9213 or john.bauer@bauerj.com.

All book lovers, get ready...

St. Paul's Book Club will begin its new season in February. The Club began approximately 11 years ago, and one Tuesday a month the participants gather in the Community Room at 7PM to discuss a book that they chose as a group to read. All who enjoy reading and sharing their thoughts are welcome to join.

The Group will begin its "Spring Semester" with **Richard Rohr's *The Universal Christ***. The Group will discuss the book over two sessions, Tuesday, February 11 and Tuesday, March 10. The discussions will be led by **Deacon Sheila Scott** and **Anne Vogel**, who attended a convention concerning the book at Rohr's Center for Action and Contemplation in New Mexico last year. Please join up! All are welcome!



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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.*

Please keep in mind...

❖ Sunday morning refreshments

Please check the signup sheet found in the Information Center in the hallway, and volunteer to bring refreshments for the coffee hours held after the services. Several people could coordinate to bring refreshments on the same Sunday.

❖ Sunday Flowers

If you wish to give flowers in memory or to honor someone, you may use the signup in the Information Center or contact the Church office. Your gift will be acknowledged in the announcement bulletin on the Sunday for which the flowers are given.

❖ Staples for Interchange Food Pantry

On the second Sunday of each month, members are asked to bring non-perishable foods for the Interchange Food Pantry that is supported by St. Paul's Outreach Program. A box for your donated food can be found next to the Information Center.