

◆ News and Views From St. Paul's ◆

Vol. 12 Issue 4

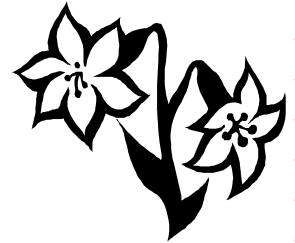
April, 2009

Upcoming Events

- April 1: 12:10 PM, Wednesday Worship
7 PM, Choir Rehearsal
- April 5: Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday, →
9 AM: Blessing of Palms & Holy Eucharist
- April 6: 10 AM – 2 PM, Ingathering Food ~
Bountiful Blessings
- April 7: 10 AM – 2 PM, Bagging of
Bountiful Blessings
- April 8: 10 AM – 2 PM, Distribution of
Bountiful Blessings, p. 6
12:10 PM, Wednesday Worship
7 PM, Choir Rehearsal
- April 9: Maundy Thursday
5:30 PM: Covered Dish Supper
7 PM: Holy Eucharist & Stripping of Altar
- April 10: Good Friday
Noon: Ecumenical Walk with The Cross
7 PM: Liturgy of the Day ~
The Solemn Collects
- April 11: Holy Saturday/Easter Eve
10 AM, 3rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt
5 PM: Lighting of Pascal Candle,
Baptisms & Holy Eucharist
- April 12: Easter Sunday
9AM: Festive Choral Eucharist of Easter
- April 13: 5:30 PM, Vestry Meeting
- April 15: Healing Service & Wednesday Worship
- April 19: Sunday, II Easter
9 AM, Worship
10:15, Church School,
Drawing with Mr. Chandler, p. 5
- April 22: 12:10 PM, Wednesday Worship
7 PM, Choir Rehearsal
- April 26: Sunday, III Easter
9 AM, Worship
Fr. Charles last Sunday at St. Paul's, p. 3
- April 29: 12:10 PM, Wednesday Worship
7 PM, Choir Rehearsal

Looking Ahead:

- May 3: Welcome The Rev. Janet Watrous, p. 3
- May 9: Spring Clean-up Day, p. 7
- May 17: Annual Parish Meeting, p. 3



Holy Week and Easter At Historic St. Paul's

Worship Services

- April 5: Palm Sunday
9 AM: Blessing of Palms &
Holy Eucharist
- April 8: Wednesday in Holy Week
12:10 PM: Healing Worship Service
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM:
Bountiful Blessings Distribution
- April 9: Maundy Thursday
5:30 PM: Covered Dish Supper
7 PM: Holy Eucharist &
Stripping of Altar
- April 10: Good Friday
Noon: Ecumenical Walk with
The Cross
7 PM: Liturgy of the Day ~
The Solemn Collects
- April 11: Great Vigil of Easter
10 AM: Easter Egg Hunt in the
Memorial Garden
5 PM: Lighting of Pascal Candle,
Baptism & Holy Eucharist
- April 12: Easter Sunday
9AM: Festive Choral
Eucharist of Easter

April 2009

My dear Friends,

In his book *Unfinished Business*, Halford Luccock, who taught at Yale Divinity School, tells of a dinner conversation where one of the guests tells the story of Flagstaff, Maine.

When the townspeople heard that their small town was to be flooded as a part of a dam project, they stopped all improvements and repairs to their property. The town quickly fell into ruin. Why take care of your house if it is soon to be under water? The dinner guest opined, "Where there is no faith in the future, there is no power in the present."

How true this is. In the Book of Proverbs we read, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." (29:18)

Without faith in the future the present is paralyzed.

We all know of people who, when they no longer have a vision of the future, spiral downward physically, emotionally, and spiritually. And, we know of groups that do the same. They wither and die. Alas, this is true of church congregations, too.

The most active, alive congregations are those that have a vision and trust in the future. They are aware of their call by God to be active participants in their community. They make sure their worship, as well as their buildings, is accessible to all ages and conditions of people. They are inclusive and welcoming of new gifts and talents. They are energized and supported by the power of their vision. They are drawn by a hope the future bestows.

"Where there is no vision, the people perish."

This is my last letter to you as Priest-in-Charge of St. Paul's. The past three years have been quite an adventure. What a joy it has been to be your pastor, teacher, and priest. I take away many wonderful memories, friends, and a quiver full of discoveries.

Never take your eyes off your future, my dear friends. The present should be seeded by your future vision, not your past history. When you embrace your future, you have planted the Kingdom of God in your midst.

God bless you all. The best is yet to come.

Charles A. Cesaretti

Dear friends,

It is a busy time at St. Paul's. We lie in anticipation of events to come—wishing our dear friend Father Cesaretti well as he embarks upon a retirement, opening our doors and hearts as we welcome the Reverend Janet Watrous as our summer liturgical leader, and keeping up with the busiest time of the Search process. Following is a bit of an update. Please ask questions whenever needed.

1/ On March 21, the search committee had a fruitful meeting with the Reverend Canon Jane Teeter, our link to the Diocese in the search process. She provided comprehensive training for the committee on reading profiles, as well as visiting and interviewing the candidates. The committee was then given about ten names that they will review and, when the profile indicates a potential match, begin to schedule visits.

2/ On Monday, March 30, the vestry will conduct an exit interview with Father Charles. This one hour meeting will provide an opportunity for us to reflect on our time together, noting what we have accomplished and what goals we want to prioritize in the future. Then, April 26th will provide an opportunity for the parish and community to bid Charles goodbye as our liturgical leader.

3/ The vestry will meet on May 11th with the Reverend Janet Watrous. During this meeting, we will solidify plans for the Annual Meeting, scheduled for May 17th, and plan the calendar for the summer and fall. The exit interview, the experience and commitment of Janet, and our continued commitment to grow in God's love and in our ministry, will help us to stay focused and determined as we move forward.

Finally, a few words on being open to God's calling and participating in a greater plan. In May of 2005, I accepted the request from the Reverend Elizabeth Moulton to be the Senior Warden of the vestry. In her words, it was time to see and approach things differently at St. Paul's. In the past three years, that has been a founding principal. The presence of Father Charles during this time of renewal and growth as been our own miracle. In our midst, he has encouraged, cajoled, planted seeds, and helped us to see that busy people and busy churches GET THINGS DONE.

So, though it is with great sadness and loss that I approach April 26th, it is also with a profoundly grateful heart. Though I will miss the daily infusions of Father Charles (the emails, the phone calls, and the terrific Sunday worship), I also know that there is a plan out there and this is one more step on the pathway. Though I feel a tremendous sense of loss, I know that in the greater plan, in God's plan, forward is the way to go. I never knew four years ago how rich my life could be; I am glad I said yes to the position of Senior Warden and had the remarkable opportunity to work so closely with Charles. I am deeply grateful.

This is the day the Lord has given; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Rachel

**You're Invited To celebrate the interim ministry of
Father Charles Cesaretti**



Father Charles' ministry to St. Paul's began in earnest when he was appointed Interim Rector in 2005. During the three years of his tenure, he has led with the conviction that 'open doors, open hearts'. With his leadership and vision, St. Paul's has begun to think about worship, ministry, and community leadership in new and inspired ways. We hope you will join us to share our deepest thanks and our warmest wishes as he embarks on his retirement.

*The vestry and wardens invite you to a special liturgy and reception at
9 am on April 26, 2009*

Joy shared is twice the joy. Sorrow shared is half the sorrow.

TV Ads Spotlight Episcopal Church in Northeast Pennsylvania

Starting April 1, three ads will begin showing on WNEP-TV featuring the Episcopal Church in Northeast Pennsylvania. Reilly Shingler, a St. Paul's Church School Scholar, narrates one of the ads.

The recent Diocesan Convention gave a resounding endorsement to a unique evangelism opportunity for the parishes in the northern and central parts of our diocese. We have a chance to do something together that no single parish could do alone.

The groundbreaking program, utilizing the extensive viewing area of WNEP-TV, is to develop and broadcast a series of four 30-second television ads over the course of one year. During WNEP's daily newscasts the station reaches 82% of adults age 25-54 in our area of the diocese. No single parish will be highlighted. Rather, "The Episcopal Church in Northeast Pennsylvania" will be in the spotlight so that every parish can benefit.

Along with the ads, the popular television announcement "Good Things are Happening" would be our entry to occasional live coverage of local parish events, and access to the station's website. This website would provide a link to every parish website in the area, and if your parish does not have a website, this scheme will help build one, even if it is a simple page with name, address, and times of worship.

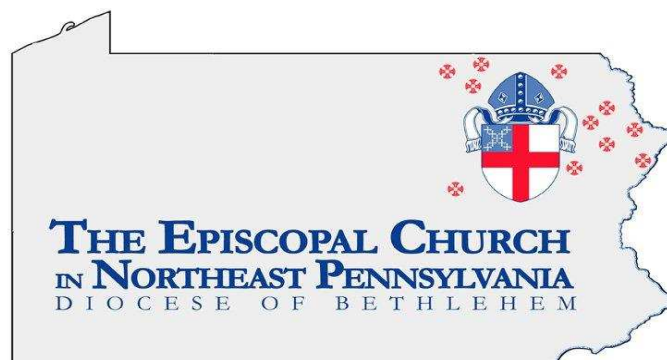
With the encouragement of Bishop Paul, and for the purposes of marketing we have developed a logo "The Episcopal Church in Northeast Pennsylvania." A copy of our new logo is attached. Churches that participate will have permission to use this logo in their local newspaper and advertisements.

The goal of the strategy is to do the following:

- Enhance the perception of the Episcopal Church in Northeast PA;
- To share the good news of every parish; and,
- To celebrate the positive mission and ministry of worship and service.

We are 42 parishes strong in the northern and central part of our diocese. We have much to share and celebrate. We are a vibrant and faithful community. Together we can get the message out that our Episcopal Churches are here to make a difference in Northeast Pennsylvania!

We are working to have the ads on the St. Paul's website: www.stpaulschurchmontrose.org.





Church School Update April 2009

After a bit of a break through the cold, icy, and overscheduled winter months, the church schoolers have returned in full force to prepare for Lent and the Easter season.

Mrs. Leigh visited the class in March to show some different and creative ways to work with art supplies.



We did a yummy kitchen project using cooperation to make delicious apple turnovers. The group has a unique bond that both honors their friendship with one another and helps them to really welcome others into their midst.

On March 29th, the children will lead the Children's Sabbath and help to welcome the Children's Community Choir. They are also preparing to sing on Palm Sunday and at the Saturday Easter Eve service.

As we move into April and May, the children will be working on a special project: each child will complete their own representation of a special worship space. We will present these projects in early June.



Come and grow....

PRAYER FOR A NEW RECTOR

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: look graciously on your church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for St. Paul's, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for our people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Search Update

Your Search Committee is rapidly moving forward. In mid-March we received training and were presented with a list of 10 names of potential candidates. It is now the task of the committee to review and analyze the information provided, and carry out visits and interviews of strong candidates. A short list of the candidates determined to be the best fit is provided to Diocese for an intense background check, following which the Search Committee may do follow up visits and interviews and hopefully find in this group the individual that we can recommend to Vestry for our next Rector.

We are now entering the confidential phase of the search process. What does this mean and why can't we speak openly about something that impacts everyone at St. Paul's?

What can we tell you? We can share generalities that keep you up-to-date on the search process.

What can't we tell you? We cannot share with you the names of candidates, where they are from, the position they currently hold, or any other information contained in their profiles. We cannot discuss information gained through the interview process. In other words, we cannot discuss individual candidates. **Why?** In this case, churches are not unlike any other employer. Personnel information is highly confidential and violation of these regulations could derail the search process, potentially impact the future of a candidate, and create conflict at St. Paul's.

Where did the names come from? The key qualities for the future rector of St. Paul's were fed into a computer program containing profiles of all Episcopal clergy in the United States. Names generated, plus any names arising through our advertisements, undergo a preliminary background check by the Diocese. All individuals under consideration have advised the Diocese they are willing to be considered for this position.

What can you do? If you have questions, ask, however, do not ask us to break confidentiality requirements. Most importantly, pray for guidance for the Search Committee, the process, and for the future Rector of St. Paul's.

Your Search Committee

Community Rallies to Support Bountiful Blessings Volunteers Needed

Just four years ago Bountiful Blessings served 500 dinners. This year, during challenging times, the list of families and individuals in Susquehanna County in need approaches 700. The good news is that County residents and groups are joining to meet the needs.

Bountiful Blessings, a team of church, school, and other volunteers, continues to prepare for the fourth annual distribution of Easter dinner to families and individuals in need. The dinner consists of a ham, potatoes or macaroni and cheese, vegetables, fruit, bread, a dessert and some extras. In the founding year of the project, 500 dinners were prepared; a mere four years later, and during challenging economic times, the list of families in need approaches 700.

This increased need has been met with additional community support. The program has expanded to include food collection sites at almost every school district in the county. The Montrose churches have risen to the challenge by providing more volunteers and continued organizational support. Churches in New Milford and Forest City have called upon their volunteer corps to provide alternate distribution sites on April 8th. And, the community has rallied around the program with monetary donations to cover the costs of the ham and bread.

Wednesday, April 8 is the day for the distribution. Volunteers are needed for Monday and Tuesday in preparation for the distribution.

We are still seeking the funds to cover the project expenses. Over half of the \$7000 needed to buy hams has already been sent to Bountiful Blessings. Those wishing to contribute to the Easter Dinner Project, Bountiful Blessings, may send a check to St. Paul's Church, 60 Church Street, Montrose, PA 18801-0314.

Volunteers are needed for the week of the distribution. If you are interested in assisting with the program, please call the Parish Office at 278-2954.

ST. Paul's Aluminum Can Drive

The men of St. Paul's are having a monthly aluminum can drive as a fundraiser to offset the cost of our access ramp. We will start with aluminum cans and later progress to plastic bottles.

The first collection will take place on Saturday, April 18th from 10:00AM to 12 noon, at St. Paul's Chestnut Street entrance. Please help us with this fund raiser by saving your aluminum cans.

Please help us and tell your friends and neighbors about it.

For questions, please contact :
Dick Schwab at 967- 2315 or
Jerry Sock at 833-4586

It is More Blessed to Give Than to Receive

Maybe I'm watching too much television. I have seen stories of how people who used to give to Food Banks are now taking food from them because they have lost their jobs. Wait a minute. I give to the food bank. All of a sudden **empathy** rears its ugly head. Or maybe not so ugly. That could be me!

This is getting serious. There but for the grace of God go I. Did I ever think I would be glad that I'm old? I don't have to have a job. I'm retired. At least so far the state is coming through with my pension. Do states go bankrupt? That could be me!

I am very glad; I praise God that I **can** give. I would much rather give than receive. Easter is coming, and so is Bountiful Blessings. I want to work with people to give out food. I also am extremely happy that I **can** give money to the effort. That could be me!

Submitted by Jane Chandler

Junior Warden

Accessibility Ramp

The building permit for the accessibility ramp is in the cloister window. If everything goes well, work will begin the first or second week of April. The 3% loan application has been forwarded to the Diocese for approval.

New Rectory

I understand there are some concerns whether we should or should not purchase a new rectory. If we purchase a new rectory, for example, at \$125,000.00 at 5.25% interest, and for a period of 20 years, our mortgage payment would be around \$839.00. It would be paid off in 20 years. Granted there would be maintenance, and upkeep, etc. Compare that to the salary of a rector. Just say, and this is only an example, that our new minister has an annual salary of \$31,000.00. If we do not provide a rectory, the Diocese of Bethlehem states that we have to pay the minister a housing stipend of 46% of his cash salary, which would amount to a yearly stipend of \$14,260.00 or \$1,188.33 every month. If his or her salary goes up, the housing stipend goes up. The big question is do we pay \$125,000.00 +/- for a new rectory that will be paid off in 20 years, or pay an annual housing stipend of \$14,260.00 (the amount will increase with annual salary increase) from now until the end of his/her tenure?

Spring Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday May 9, 2009, 9:00 AM to Noon.

Montrose Church Women United Formation Meeting, May 9

You are cordially invited to a luncheon meeting on Saturday, May 9th at the newly reopened Montrose House, now the Inn at Montrose, beginning at 12:00 noon, to discuss the formation of a local chapter of Church Women United.

Church Women United (CWU) is a national organization formed in 1941 to focus the work of church women more specifically on missions. It brought together 100 women from 3 interdenominational organizations: the Council of Women for Home Missions, the Committee on Women's Work of the Foreign Missions Conference and the National Council of Federated Church Women. Over the years, CWU has maintained its autonomy and is not structurally related to any denomination; it is recognized as a non-governmental agency by the United Nations. Its mission:

"Church Women United is a racially, culturally, theologically inclusive Christian women's movement, celebrating unity in diversity and working for a world of peace and justice."

Because the Montrose area has many churches and is historically grounded in mission work, this organization provides an opportunity for women to come together in the spirit of ecumenical unity and share in a broader mission of the church in the world.

We envision a monthly luncheon meeting with speakers to engage us in conversations about today's missional church and how ministry is being envisioned in a rapidly changing world. On May 9th we also will be discussing plans for the first year and hope you will help us think through ways to make the organization a valuable experience for women of all ages in the area.

Guest Speaker: Dr. Freda Gardner

Dr. Gardner is professor emerita of Christian Education at Princeton Theological Seminary and was elected moderator of The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA). She was the first woman to serve as a tenured faculty member at Princeton Seminary; teaching there from 1961 until her retirement in 1992. She is an ordained elder and served as clerk of session at the Nassau Presbyterian Church in Princeton. She is a popular speaker, teacher, writer (*Living Alone*) with Herb Anderson and continues to serve on a variety of boards. Freda is one of the outstanding Christian lay women of her generation, and Montrose is indeed honored to welcome her to the community.

April Saints

The history of the Church is filled with people who have 'made a difference' many of them are included, for special attention, in the Church calendar. A half-dozen appear in the calendar for the month of April, and this year, of course, they share the calendar with Holy Week and Easter. One, George Selwyn was the first Bishop of New Zealand; another, Archbishop Anselm, in the twelfth century, quarreled with a couple of British kings; and Catherine of Siena, a nun in the 1300's, is said to have 'perfected the art of kissing the Pope's feet while simultaneously twisting his arm'!

However, in the twenty-first century, our own Interim Rector has helped us to remember that we are, in effect, 'saints-in-training' and to act on our baptismal commitment, to be active ministers in Christ's church. As we pursue our own ministries, we are reminded of the many, many saints who have made St. Paul's a unique and valuable part of the community, the Church and the world, for almost two hundred years.

When you walk past the organ chest on your way to the altar rail, for example, take note of the plaque commemorating the ministry of the Rev. Mr. Edward Augustus Warriner. Mr. Warriner was a well-known theologian, novelist and poet when he served St. Paul's in the latter part of the nineteenth century. In addition, he was the ancestor of numerous 'saints' who have helped to make, and are still making, this parish a valuable part of our world.

Speaking of plaques: Several plaques and stained-glass windows commemorate people who made unique contributions over the years, but the spirits of many others inhabit these walls, and many continue to influence our lives and the lives of those around us. The Daughters of the King; the Brotherhood of St. Andrew's; the New Hope campaign; the Children's Choir; Bountiful Blessings; the Sunday School; the Newsletter; the Garden; cleared sidewalks in the winter; paint, plaster, and various forms of Outreach, and the Weekly Update all testify to hundreds of 'saintly' acts throughout the day, the week and the year, characterizing St. Paul's as the home of a dedicated Christian flock. Think of these people, as you reflect on your own career as one of the saints of God; you can hardly find better examples to emulate.

Submitted by Edward A. Stark

HYMN STORY:

Of the Father's Love Begotten (Hymn 82)

In the early centuries of the church, there was a serious dispute regarding Jesus' divinity-- whether Jesus was, in fact, God or merely human. The Council of Nicea (325 A.D.) settled the matter, stating unequivocally that Jesus was fully divine. The Nicene Creed grew out of the findings of that council. This is part of what the Nicene Creed has to say about Jesus:

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, one in Being with the Father.

Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius was born in Spain a few years after the Council of Nicea. He became a successful lawyer and statesman, but retired to a life of poverty in his later years so that he could devote those years to writing Christian poetry.

This hymn, "Of the Father's Love Begotten," was one of his poems. He wrote it to express his faith that Jesus is, indeed, divine -- the Son of God -- not like the rest of us, who are children of God, but uniquely the Son of God -- begotten by the Father's love -- the Alpha and Omega -- the beginning and end -- evermore and evermore.

In this hymn, Prudentius calls us to praise Jesus, our God and king. He says:

Let no tongue on earth be silent,
Every voice in concert ring,
Evermore and evermore.

Let us do what Prudentius asked. Let us lift our voices in the singing of this hymn of praise.

The Millennium Plus Two More Titles

So I've given up my superman's cape. I can do that. Just because I'm down on one knee at McDonald's doesn't mean anything. Then I saw the doctor ... and retire. Growing old sucks.

Got an MRI. It was confining and noisy. A week after the MRI and no one has told me that I've had a stroke. Therefore I infer that I've not had one and that my supposition of too much medication holds. But I am no longer feel immortal. After two weeks, review MRI. Still not immortal ... enlarged pituitary. One month later, haven't spoken to the specialist yet. News next month, God willing and the creek don't rise. All will be well.

If I used word association and said the word "Julian" what word would you have come back with? Until I began reading "Julian of Norwich" for Lent, it would have been "calendar." If you really would like to learn more about the "Julian calendar", you can "google" the subject. There is a nice 11 page summary about the Julian calendar, if you are so inclined, on Wikipedia. For me, I've begun reading about "Julian of Norwich". Good reading.

Julian's famous quote is "All will be well." This is the title of the spiritual book I'm reading. It starts the day, gives a one-sentence thought for the day and ends with an evening prayer. Good companion to "Revelation."

Haven't said evening prayers since my youth. Besides being a good idea in itself, evening prayer is a good idea, especially after I've surrendered my cape. Hedging a bet is always a good idea. The title of the series is *30 Days With a Spiritual Teacher*. Good series. Hildegard of Bingen, Julian of Norwich, Meister Eckhart, Frances de Sales, Thomas a Kempis, Francis of Assisi, Theresa of Avila, John Chrysostom...good people. Read one or more of them ... or "Revelation." You've been nudged.

We've been sidetracked due to my REALLY retiring ... and Lent. Back to "Revelation."

Chapter 20 is where the **premillenialists**, **postmillenialists** and **amillenialists** come into their own.

Chapter 21 – New Heaven/New Earth/New Jerusalem and

Chapter 22 – River of the Water of Life/Warnings. (Remember, I've just begun my journey. You might have better titles ... if you are reading it.)

Study.

Submitted by Al Leigh(BoSA) BoSA (Brotherhood of St. Andrew) = f(prayer, study, service)

Women's Resource Center Needs

Baby Items:

- Baby Wipes
- Diapers Sizes 4,5 & 6
- Baby Wash
- Baby Lotion
- New Strollers
- New Crib Sheets
- Pacifiers
- Electrical Outlet Covers
- Bibs
- Plastic Baby Bottles
- Baby Bath Tub
- Vaporizer
- Disposable Ear Thermometer Covers
- Baby Crib Bumper Pads
- Baby Powder



St. Paul's Episcopal Church Women and Men's Group

What a meeting we had on March 15th. Formation of these groups met with enthusiasm and generated great ideas. Our goals: fund raising, fellowship, and outreach with activities carried out through a team concept wherein everyone helps with some things, but no one is stressed by having to be involved in everything. Here is a list of current ideas and volunteers to date. **Please pick an activity and volunteer!** Contact the church office or Sandy Schwab to volunteer.

Science/nature fair in garden: This may include a variety of interesting and fun displays, activities and items for sale related to animals, reptiles, hunting, wildlife, plants, etc. **Team Leader Volunteer:** Elsie Brunner **Team Volunteers:** Dick Schwab, ___

St. Paul's Cookbook – For sale at St. Paul's Arts and Crafts Festival, coinciding with the Blueberry Festival. **Team Leader Volunteer:** Sandy Schwab **Team Volunteers:** Dick Schwab, ___

50-50 tickets for sale at various events **Team Leader Volunteer:** ___ **Team Volunteers:** Dick Schwab, ___

Hoagie sale – create a flyer for local businesses, take orders, make hoagies – maybe even do local deliveries **Team Leader Volunteer:** ___ **Team Volunteers:** Dick Schwab, ___

Parish picnic (in addition to the September gathering at St. Matthews) **Team Leader Volunteer:** The Schwabs have offered to host a picnic at their home **Team Volunteers:** ___

Furniture Auction – collection of decent furniture for sale by local auctioneer who takes % of final sale **Team Leader Volunteer:** ___ **Team Volunteers:** Dick Schwab, ___

Bag lunches – Provide food to those who are having a difficult time making ends meet – prepare bag lunches and set them out on a table at Interfaith **Team Leader Volunteer:** ___ **Team Volunteers:** Dick & Sandy Schwab, ___

Friday pizza night at St. Paul's – St. Paul's can become a Friday family dinner gathering place where pizza can be purchased by the slice, along with beverages such as soda and coffee. Another idea – expand pizza night to include game options, possibly including indoor miniature golf; **Mother/Daughter Tea** in the garden; **Lenten luncheons;** **Children's Christmas Craft Fair** – Various stations are set up with simple crafts for children to make and take home; **Theme events** with a focus on our local history; **Pre-parade organ recital** on July 4th – leave our doors open so that people can wander in and out at their leisure as they wait for the start of the parade; **Guest speaker** events; **Bike race or triathlon** sponsored by St. Paul's; **Clam bake;** sell clam chowder; **Children events** – events for the enjoyment of children as well as events where children can perform;

Golf tournament to establish a scholarship fund for St. Paul's graduates; **Father and son walk;** **Lawn care raffle** – we purchase a storage shed, and get donations of yard tools/supplies, then raffle off shed and tools; **Memorial weekend yard sale:** Memorial weekend is community yard sale weekend in Montrose – we could rent table space outside for people to set up their yard sale; we can sell refreshments; **Mentoring activities for our youth;** foster grandparents, etc.; **Dinners;** **Utilize the expertise of our retired** to tutor, mentor, provide guidance to the young, their parents, those struggling with unemployment, etc.; **Read to children** – coordinate with library; **Shower room:** Construction of a shower room downstairs that will be made available to the homeless; **Clothing closet:** Establish a clothing closet of donated articles that can be made available to those utilizing the shower facilities; **Helping hands:** Through Trehab, identify a person or family that needs help – cleaning, repairs, gardening, etc. and then utilize parish volunteers to provide the needed help.

MAHS Senior Project Benefits Bountiful Blessings

Katilin Spickerman wants to be a music manager. The Montrose Area High School (MAHS) student took as her Senior Project the planning and presentation of a band concert to benefit a local help program – Bountiful Blessings. Not only was the concert a great success, it raised \$451 for the feeding program.

Kaitlin is a junior at MAHS, where she is active on the Volleyball Team. She is a member of Bridgewater Baptist Church, and an enthusiastic supporter of the local band Count Us In. She is the daughter of Kevin and Liz Spickerman of Montrose.

“I found out that being a music manager is a lot of work,” reflected Kaitlin. “I had to develop and plan, contact all the bands, arrange for the hall, and do the publicity. “Then, I had to deal with things when they came apart, and I had to make new arrangements.” The concert went off without a hitch at St. Paul’s Parish House on Saturday, March 21. “I am a basically a shy person, so I had to act in a different way, and I learned that you need your family and friends. Over all, I learned that sometimes when things don’t go as you planned, you just have to jump in and go for it.”

Kaitlin chose to support Bountiful Blessings, which is the Susquehanna County-wide effort to provide an Easter Dinner to 700 individuals and families. “We are deeply grateful to Kaitlin for her generosity,” reports Nancy Finlon, who helps direct the project, which is supported by churches, schools, organizations, and individuals from across the County. “We need to raise at least \$7,000 to support the effort,” continues Finlon, “and Kaitlin’s donation is a big help. We hope that inspires others to help.”

Information about how to support Bountiful Blessings is available by calling St. Paul’s Church, 278-2954.



Kaitlin Speckerman, center, donated the proceeds from her MAHS Senior Project to Bountiful Blessings. She is joined by her sister Mercedes, right, in presenting a check for \$451 to Nancy Finlon (left), who helps direct the Easter Dinner Project in Susquehanna County.

April, 2009 Lay Ministry Schedule

Altar Guild

5: Carol Marker
12: Betty Smith
19: Helen Viteritto
26: Esther Welden

Camera and Closing

Ron Chandler

Coffee Hour

5: Sandy Schwab
12: Carol Lasher
19: Carol Marker
26: Colleen McAleer

Counters

5: Sandy Schwab and Bernie Zalewski
12: Nancy Finlon and Dick Schwab
19: Karen Wolfson and Richard Marker
26: Jane Chandler and Ed Stark

Eucharistic Minister

5: Bob Arnold and Margie Baker
11: Alma Shingler and Bernie Zalewski
12: Jennie Bowen and Jane Chander
19: Alma Shingler and Brenda Syle
26: Mary Jane Syle and Esther Welden

Greeter

5: Maggie Sock
11: Margaret Burgh
12: Mary Jane Syle
19: Karen Wolfson
26: Alice Wood

Lector

5: Ed Stark
11: Fraser Moffat
12: Brenda Syle
19: Mary Jane Syle
26: Bernie Zalewski

Usher

5: Dick Schwab
11: Ed Ochse
12: Mike Shingler
19: Jerry Sock and Maggie Sock
26: John Finlon