
◆ News and Views From St. Paul's ◆

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November, 2009

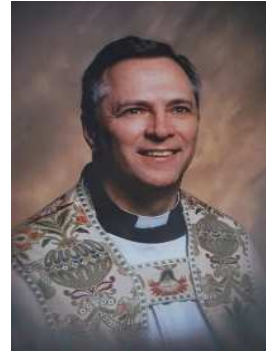
Upcoming Events

- November 1: All Saints Day, Welcome Father Paul Walker
9 AM, Worship at St. Paul's
Welcome Brunch for Father Paul
10:15 AM, Church School
Collection day, Food Bank, and
Women's Resource Center, p. 2
- November 4: 12:10 PM, Wednesday Worship
7 PM, Choir Rehearsal
- November 7: 9 AM – Noon, Fall Cleanup
- November 8: Pentecost 23
9 AM, Worship at St. Paul's
10:15 AM, Adult Forum and Church School
5 PM, Vespers Service and Light Supper, p. 5
- November 9: 5:30 PM Vestry Meeting
- November 11: 12:10 PM, Wednesday Worship
7 PM, Choir Rehearsal
- November 14: 9 AM— 3 PM, St. Paul's Bazaar, p. 5
- November 15: Pentecost 24
9 AM, Worship at St. Paul's
10:15 AM, Adult Forum and Church School
- November 16: Collection day for Feed-A-Friend, p. 4
- November 18: 12:10 PM, Wednesday Worship
7 PM, Choir Rehearsal
- November 22: The Last Sunday after Pentecost
9 AM, Worship at St. Paul's
10:15 AM, Adult Forum and Church School
- November 25: 12:10 PM, Wednesday Worship
7 PM, Choir Rehearsal
- November 26: Thanksgiving Day
- November 29: Advent 1
9 AM, Worship at St. Paul's
10:15 AM, Adult Forum and Church School

Looking Ahead:

- December 2: 12:10 PM, Wednesday Worship
7 PM, Choir Rehearsal
- December 6: Advent II
9 AM, Worship at St. Paul's
10:15 AM, Adult Forum and Church School
- December 14: Interfaith Christmas Bureau
St. Paul's has been requested to
furnish 200 Boxes of Stuffing

Welcome Father Paul Walker



Welcome to our new rector, Father Paul E. Walker, who comes to us from Christ Church in Belleville NJ. A native of Scranton PA, he received his Master of Science degree from Marywood College in Systematic Theology and Christian Education. He also has a Master of Divinity from Bexley Hall. He was ordained as a Deacon at the Church of the Nativity Cathedral in Bethlehem, PA in 1986 and ordained as a priest in 1987 by Bishop Mark Dyer.

Father Walker comes to us from Christ Church in Belleville, NJ, where he served as spiritual leader and head of the parish. Father Walker developed a shared ministry at Christ Church, in which the members share the responsibility of the church and make a difference in the community. He encouraged the parish to renew their involvement in the Interfaith Hospitality Network, a program that uses churches to house homeless families for a week at a time. Additionally, the church has become involved with the Belleville Police Department through the Investing-N-Kids program, hosting a multitude of programs designed to bring children from the neighborhood in off the streets and create a safe and fun atmosphere. They have hosted a Halloween haunted house, a Christmas workshop, and an Easter Egg Hunt. By working with the local school system they were able to link with local teenagers who joined in the efforts and worked with the younger children to make these events a success.

Continued from page 1...

Christ Church also responded to a request from the local police department for a site where those in need could receive a hot meal on Saturdays. The Mary and Martha Soup Kitchen at Christ Church has evolved to being open 3 days a week. By partnering with other churches in the community, hot lunches are served, with special care taken to ensure the dignity of participants by treating them as honored guests, with the belief that the hunger for warmth and companionship is just as real as the need for food. The Care Closet is another endeavor established during Father Paul's time at Christ Church. Similar to our collections for the Food Bank and the Women's Resource Center, the Care Closet helps those in need stretch their limited dollars by providing household cleaning supplies and personal hygiene essentials.

During Father Paul's time at Christ Church, the parish emerged as a center for support and enrichment in the community. In 2000 their services to the disadvantaged and cultural events to enrich the lives of those in the community, led to Christ Church being designated a "Jubilee Center" by the National Church. On September 11th, 2001, Christ Church remained open 24-7 and worked with the Red Cross, the school system and the police and fire departments to help the area cope with the overwhelming tragedy that engulfed the New York area. The church served as a collection point for relief supplies, and participated in various memorial events in the area. All of these accomplishments become even more remarkable when you consider that when Father Paul was sent to Christ Church eleven years ago it was a dying parish that was expected to close within 2 years.

Prior to his time at Christ Church, Father Paul served as priest for the yoked parishes of Grace Church in Scottsville, NY, and St. Andrews Church, Caledonia, NY. He was also a member of the clergy association for both communities and served as the dean of the district for Monroe County for four and a half years. He also was involved with the Rochester Institute of Technology. For three years he served as the school chaplain and was part of its Interfaith Center, where he helped develop the Student Advisory Board. While in New York, he served as vice moderator for the Diocesan Council, chaired the Department of Social Ministries, chaired the task force on AIDS, served as chaplain to the fire department, chaired the Wheatland Police Task Force to determine whether a local police force should be maintained or reliance should be put on the county sheriff's office, and was also trained as a substance abuse counselor for the Wheatland-Chili school district.

It is apparent Father Walker shares our commitment to caring for the needs of the community. He is a strong spiritual leader who draws you into living your baptismal covenants. Father Paul is extremely enthusiastic about our mission and the outreach efforts already established at St. Paul's and looks forward to the start of this new ministry on November 1st, All Saints Day. Join us for this special service and to welcome Father Paul and his family at the reception immediately following the service.

St. Paul's Collection day for the Food Bank and the Women's Resource, November 1, 2009. In honor of Father Paul, please bring an extra item for the Food Bank.

WELCOME Father Paul

We the committees of St. Paul's wish a warm welcome to Father Paul and his family.

Committees/Groups:

- Communications Committee
- Finance Committee
- Garden Committee
- Historiographer
- Pastoral Committee (drive for dr.'s appts.,
Deliver Sunday Flowers, Telephone
shut ins)
- Property Committee (Repairers, spring and fall
cleanup)
- Outreach (Bountiful Blessings, Food Bank,
WRC, Feed A Friend, Music Camp)
- Personnel Committee
- Search Committee
- Stewardship Committee
- Strategic Planning Committee
- Sunshine Committee

Lay Ministry:

- Acolytes
- Altar Guild
- Brotherhood of St. Andrew
- Choir
- Church School
- Coffee Hour
- Counters
- Daughters of the King
- Eucharistic Ministers
- Greeters
- Lectors
- Ushers

Your Vestry At Work Summary Of The October 12th Vestry Meeting

- Authorized mailing 3rd quarter pledge reports to parishioners
- Noted that audits of St. Matthews, Payroll, and the Rector's Discretionary Fund are complete with the General Audit nearing completion
- Authorized moving the Administrative Assistant's Office to the main floor
- Noted fall clean up will take place on November 7th, followed by a joint meal with the Presbyterian Church
- Established a committee to complete a restoration study of St. Paul's
- Noted that the formal Letter of Agreement with Father Paul Walker has been approved by the Diocese

Planned a reception to welcome Father Paul and his family to St. Paul's immediately following his first service on November 1st

Complete minutes of the meeting are posted on the bulletin board in the Guild Room.

Submitted by Sandy Schwab, Clerk to Vestry

Angel Food Ministry at the Bridgewater Baptist Church:

Order

- November 4 - 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm
- November 5 - 11:30 am – 12:30 pm
- November 5 – 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Distribution

November 14 from 8:00 am – 10:00 am.

CRAFTERS' CORNER STORE

WE HAVE NEW CRAFTERS JOINING US
IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

IN DECEMBER WE WILL BE OPEN BOTH FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

IF CRAFTERS' CORNER IS OPEN OUR KITCHEN IS OPEN
(Kitchen proceeds benefit St. Paul's building fund)

JOIN US FOR SOME UNIQUE HOLIDAY SHOPPING OPTIONS
AND SOME GREAT REFRESHMENTS

Friday, NOVEMBER 6th 11:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M.

Friday, DECEMBER 4th 11:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M.

Saturday, DECEMBER 5th 9:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

Trehab's *Feed-A-Friend* Celebrates its 25th Year

It is time once again for our annual Feed-A-Friend Program – **this will be our 25th year!** As in previous years, Trehab is taking part in this very worthwhile program in conjunction with local churches, organizations and agencies as well as WNEP Channel 16. Last year, we distributed over **907 baskets** to needy families in the county. With the recent state budget holdup and more families facing unemployment, we appreciate the donations of food which help to supplement our emergency food program. Through the years we have had folks ask us what kind of food to donate for the holiday baskets. This year we are asking the different organizations, schools, associations to donate specific items pertaining to a Thanksgiving dinner. **We would like churches of Susquehanna County to donate the dessert fixings, such as canned pie filling, box pie crust, box cake mixes and icings. These items will be included in the Thanksgiving baskets. Please review the flyer that is attached. Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated.**

As in previous years, it would be helpful, because of staffing limitations, if all donations of non-perishable food be delivered directly to the closest food bank in your area. Please call the numbers listed should you have a large food donation to make appropriate arrangements for delivery/pickup. Our food Collection Date is scheduled for the week of November 16th. **PLEASE NOTE THE NEW ADDRESS FOR THE MONTROSE FOOD BANK**

For the distribution of the Thanksgiving dinners, the new location of the Montrose Food Bank, Rt. 29 Industrial Park Drive between Montrose and South Montrose (lower brown building on left – Old Trooper Ink Building) will be used for the surrounding Montrose area families. The Oakland Bingo Hall has also graciously allowed us to use their location for the surrounding Oakland/Susquehanna area families for distribution.

Also, if you are aware of any person or family who is need of a Thanksgiving basket, please let us know so that we can add them to the sign up list.

Telephone Numbers: Lynn Senick at 278-5269 or 1-800-982-4045 ext 5269.

Monetary donations should be mailed to TREHAB, 10 Public Ave. PO Box 366, Montrose, PA 18801. **The key point we like to stress is that ALL food and money donations collected will stay right in Susquehanna County to provide a Thanksgiving basket for needy individuals, families, elderly and housebound.**

Annual Bazaar to be Held at St Paul's

The annual Bazaar at St. Paul's this year will be on November 14 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

White Elephants will abound. Crafts will be for sale, and Christmas is coming. We will have our usual wonderful chili and hotdogs. Baked good will also be for sale. We will also have baskets to raffle and some treasures for silent auction.

In addition, this year we will rent tables. Each table will cost \$15. If you want to have an indoor yard sale at St. Paul's rent a table by calling Brenda at 278-2954. She will tell you how to sign up.

This year promises to be the best bazaar yet. Come and enjoy it with us! *Submitted by Jane Chandler*

Jesus Loves the Little Children

When I was a child I learned this song, at least I learned the refrain:

*Jesus loves the little children
All the children of the world.
Red and yellow, black and white,
All are precious in his sight.
Jesus loves the little children of the world.*

I loved the picture this made in my mind: a party with all these many children and Jesus and me. That was it! Jesus wanted all us children to get together for a party! Think about it. Life is a party! Jesus is the host. What a great way to live! Well, time has passed, a lot of time, but the picture is still there. We are all God's children. Jesus loves us all and wants us to join him in happiness and love. He doesn't just love me and you. He loves **everyone!** He loves us no matter how different we are or how much alike we are. We can have all sorts of strange and unusual traits; we can all exist in totally different worlds. He loves us all! He wants us to love each other as well as him. He wants us to join the party! *Jane Chandler*

November Vespers Service November 8, 2009 5:00 PM

The November Vespers service will be held at Historic St. Paul's Episcopal Church, corner of Chestnut and Church Streets, Montrose, PA on Sunday, November 8, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. Alisoun Bertsch is the welcomer and Eleanor McKeage and Dee Butler are the greeters. Father Gerald Safko, Holy Name of Mary Church, Montrose, Pa will sing traditional 'Evensong' as part of the service assisted by Cantor Nathan Oleniacz and organist Jean Starzec. A light supper will be served in the Parish House following the service. All are invited to come and participate in this lovely service that brings the day to a close.

Evensong

From ancient times the church has had the custom of celebrating each day the liturgy of the hours. In this way, we fulfill the Lord's precept to pray without ceasing, at once offering praise to God and interceding for the salvation of the world. There are prayers for different times of the day with the psalms as the center focus. There are other prayers and intercessions each day with Morning Prayer which includes the Cantic of Zechariah, (Luke 1:68-79) and Evening Prayer, the Cantic of Mary (Luke 1:47-55). The Hours can be prayed individually; or if in group, the prayers could be spoken or chanted, alternating sides. When all the prayers were sung at Evening Prayer, it was called Evensong. Prior to Vatican II, the Hours were prayed only by the clergy; Vatican II encouraged participation by the laity as well.

The Church gathers in the evening to give thanks for the day that is ending. In earliest tradition, this began with the lighting of the lamps as darkness fell. The evening psalms and the Magnificat bring the day just past to focus for the Christian. Prayers of intercession are almost always part of the church's liturgy, but those which conclude evening prayer are especially important. As day ends, the church again and again lifts up to God the needs and sorrows and failures of all the world. Such intercession is the daily task and joy of the baptized

Psalms, Music and Hebrew

Psalms were written in Hebrew ... and **sung** in Hebrew. Here's a question, what do they SOUND like in Hebrew? Translations lose some of the artistry of the language from which they originated.

In college I was told of the translation of our English phrase. "Out of sight; out of mind." It was translated into Russian, then back to English. The English-from-the-Russian-to-English translation came back as "Blind idiot." The translation fit the literal words, but totally lost the meaning. I have a feeling the same thing is happening with the psalms and me. So, ... I'll go back to the originals and listen.

This isn't totally bonkers. I almost got my liberal arts degree concurrent with my engineering degree. The only thing missing was my language requirement ... Latin. (Went to work making money as an engineer ... practical!) There was a beauty in Latin that I vibrated to. The old hymns sung in Latin had been tuned and retuned for literally centuries. All the fluff was gone. My favorite was the "Dies Ire", which came from the funeral mass. Why won't I vibrate to the sung HEBREW psalms? (Go Amazon.com! The CD is here.)

Physical Update: By now I've "graduated from my "Cyber-knife class". What a ride! Also, I learned about the Kurds ... You know, the ones in northern Iraq we hear about on the news. The technician that made the mask for my cyber-knife treatment (The mask holds the head in place for an hour or so.) is KURDISH, not Indian. The Doctor is Indian ... she's not. My bad. And I'll bet you didn't know that there are Kurds in Turkey, Iran, Syria and Lebanon as well as Iraq! Annd Afghanistan, Azerbaijan. Israel, Russia, Armenia, Germany, and France! Now you know.

An MRI was done in preparation before the cyber-knife. Showed them what NEEDED to be done. The "after" MRI will be done a month or two after I "graduate" to let the tumor shrink ...time takes time. Truth-or-consequences comes later ... patience for the patient.

I was prescribed some steroids to reduce any potential brain swelling ... low dosage The prescription was 6mg for four days, 4 mg for 4 days and 2 mg for four days ... then off. WOW! This is a low dosage. I was wired! Got more work done than you'd believe. Pray for the ones who self medicate. They are out of their minds. Told everyone their jobs and how to do them better. I'm better now. And keeping my mouth shut!

Back to the psalms. Listened to Dave's tapes of the psalms, It confirmed my suspicion that the psalms are meant to be LISTENED to. (Scott are you listening?) They were performed by Cynthia Bourgeault on three cassette tapes. WOW! Prayer on steroids! I'm not a psalm lover yet, but I'm closer. Lauds, Prime, Terce, Sext, Nones, Vespers, Compline. Where does Matins fit in? One hundred fifty psalms sung in one week by the Benedictines! WOW!

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

"Bringing men and boys to Christ."

The Number Eight



An item in the *October* Newsletter discussed the possible significance of some of the geometric figures represented in St. Paul's Rose Window. The Internet contains literally millions of

references to 'Rose Windows'. Google alone cites more than six million references, and thousands more provide information about 'Gothic symbolism'. Further exploration of a few of these sites has suggested that the 'eight' distinct patterns surrounding the central figure may be as significant as the other numbers represented in our window.

Eight is the number associated with the Resurrection in Christian symbology. Christ died on the cross, was buried and rose from the dead eight days after He entered Jerusalem for the last time. Christ's death and resurrection recapitulate His baptism, and thus, our own, individual baptisms. When we are baptized, we are re-born into new life.

Perhaps most of us had already noticed something I had missed: St. Paul's baptismal font has eight sides, quite possibly in recognition of the significance of the number eight, symbolizing baptism..

Our baptismal font was given in memory of Henry D. Biddle who died in 1898, by his sisters, the Misses Hettie Drinker Biddle and Mary Drinker Biddle, in 1902.

St. Paul's really *is* filled with reminders of our heritage as baptized Christians.

Submitted by Edward A. Stark



Hello, I Am A Newcomer To Your Church

You cannot know the reason why I am here this morning. It may be as simple as a move to your community or as complicated as a personal crisis that leads me to seek strength from God. In either case, I am here. And I will probably remain here and come back to worship with you next Sunday and the Sunday after and the Sunday after that, if you will do some things for me. Won't you please...

Smile at me as I walk in the door. You are my first impression of the church, during the first few moments I am in your building, and this first impression will probably stay with me a long time.

Help me find my place in the service. I will not find your help an intrusion. In fact, I will remember your kindness.

Speak to me during the coffee hour. I know you want to see your friends and settle that piece of committee business. But I may find it hard to believe that you truly care for each other unless I first see evidence that you care for 'the stranger in your midst.'

Tell me good things about your church and your minister. I want to believe that I have come to a place where people love each other and where they believe that they are doing something exciting and important for the Lord.

Notice me- even if I am not a 'family'. I don't want to feel invisible just because I am unmarried, a single parent, a teen-ager, or an older person.

Talk to me again the second week when I come back, and the third and the fourth. I am still not a part of your parish family. Please don't feel you have 'done your duty' by me just because you made a point of greeting me the first week I was hers.

Cont. on page 8...

Cont. from page 7...

Invite me to become part of some church group or organization. I need more than worship every Sunday. I need to know that I am accepted and affirmed by a group of people within the church who know me by my first name and who care about me as an individual.

If you can find it in your heart to do these things for me, I will come back the second Sunday, the third and maybe forever. I will worship with you, and I may join your choir, work at your fair, teach in your church school, contribute to your canvas, and become highly involved member of your church, and in so doing I will find my own life immeasurably enriched.

(Written by the Rev. Christopher Chamberlain Moore, Director of Communication, Diocese of NJ.)

Submitted by Maggie Sock

Bible Stories

Our Adult Forum discussions recently considered the role of “scriptures” in our spiritual formation. These days, many of us rely primarily on other media for our understanding of our religious heritage. How many times did Father Charles remind us of the movies we had seen that dealt with the themes of the Hebrew storytellers and the dysfunctional families they depicted? The author of our textbook, Jenifer Gamber, reminds us: “The word ‘Bible’ comes from a Greek word meaning books. Think library.” At one time this library of sixty-six books encompassed the entire body of knowledge of a whole nation. For the past few centuries our collective memory has grown enormously.

As we teach our children, we begin with the simple stories embedded in our culture. But just as they continue to grow, we ourselves come to see that we grow with each moment of life-experience. We build our own library of stories and experiences. How do we relate these to the Bible Stories that have become so important in the life of the Church?

Several decades ago I came across the following passage in a book entitled *In Search of the Miraculous*:

‘Two or three days after G.’s departure I was walking along the Troitsky street and suddenly I saw that the man who was walking towards me was asleep. There could be no doubt whatever about this. Although his eyes were open, he was walking along obviously immersed in dreams which ran like clouds across his face. It entered my mind that if I could look at him long enough I should see his dreams, that is, I should understand what he was seeing in his dreams. But he passed on. After him came another also sleeping. A sleeping izvostchik went by with two sleeping passengers. Suddenly I found myself in the position of the prince in the “Sleeping Princess.” Everyone around me was asleep. It was an indubitable and distinct sensation. I realized what it meant that many things could be seen with our eyes which we do not usually see.’

Like the author, I was deeply shaken by this realization that I was walking around like a sleepwalker, and that there was more to this world than what could immediately be seen. This little story marked my renewal in relationship with the “life of Christ”.

It seems inevitable that in today's world our spiritual library will include many sources that supplement those included in the corpus of Hebrew and Christian scriptures. We must be attentive and receptive to these contemporary understandings of the life of the spirit. But we can also return to the ancient sources of our faith and learn how these Bible Stories speak of the same concerns we face today. We don't have to look far to come up with scriptural passages that cry out to us: “Sleepers awake”!

(Note: The theme of awakening from sleep is used throughout the Bible. It is found in John 11:11, Romans 13:11, 1 Thessalonians 5:10, Daniel 12:1-2, Psalm 78:65, and elsewhere.)

Submitted by David Plank

September 30, 2009 Financial Summary

<u>Income</u>	Year to date	
Pledges Realized	\$45,018.10	
Plate Offering	\$4,842.56	
Easter/Special Offering	\$816.00	
Flowers	\$1,245.68	
Outreach	\$11,497.56	
Memorial Fund	\$1,383.64	
Capital Fund	\$1,040.00	
Other	\$1,027.42	
Accessibility Ramp	\$25,588.08	
Total Offering		\$92,459.04
Investment Earnings	\$137,170.13	
Total Income YTD		\$229,629.17
 <u>EXPENDITURE BUDGET 2009</u>		 <u>\$237,748.00</u>

Expenditures

Worship	\$3,963.02	
Flowers	\$1,153.06	
Education	\$551.61	
Outreach	\$31,531.59	
Administration	\$16,009.29	
Maintenance and Contracted Services	\$22,906.53	
Capital	\$47,654.14	
Wage and Salary	\$35,318.90	
Withholding and Benefits	\$16,864.74	
Total Expenses YTD		\$175,952.88

Note: At a recent meeting, Bishop Paul mentioned that the DIT income for 2010 will be 5% of the three year average balance. This is an additional 10% reduction in DIT income over and above the 11% loss of the recession. In order to continue our ministries at the same pace, membership offerings will have to increase during the upcoming year and costs of doing business will be evaluated for cost saving options. Hopefully, success in both areas will allow us to continue in God's service.

Richard Schwab, treasurer

November, 2009 Lay Ministry Schedule

Altar Guild

1: Carol Marker
8: Betty Smith
15: Helen Viteritto
22: Esther Welden
29: Alice Wood

Camera and Closing

Ron Chandler

Coffee Hour

1: Judy Ochse
8: Sandy Schwab
15: Betty Smith
22: Helen Viteritto
29: Gwen Zimmerman

Counters

1: Sandy Schwab and Bernie Zalewski
8: Dick Schwab and Jerry Sock
15: Karen Wolfson and Carol Marker
22: Jane Chandler and Ed Stark
29: Warren Morgan and Dick Schwab

Eucharistic Minister

1: Mary Jane Syle and Esther Welden
8: Bernie Zalewski and Bob Arnold
15: Margie Baker and Jennie Bowen
22: Alma Shingler and Jane Chandler
29: Brenda Syle and Mary Jane Syle

Greeter

1: Alma Shingler
8: Maggie Sock
15: Mary Jane Syle
22: Karen Wolfson
29: Alice Wood

Lector

1: Ed Stark
8: Brenda Syle
15: Mary Jane Syle
22: Bernie Zalewski
29: Mary Zalewski

Usher

1: Mike Shingler
8: Jerry and Maggie Sock
15: John Finlon
22: Hap and Tom Syle
29: Bob Arnold