

Saint Paul's Messenger

September 2018

As faithful stewards of God's Grace, our mission in Christ is to foster community through spiritual growth, witness, and service in the Episcopal tradition

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Messenger Editor, Janet Gritzner

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

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FROM OUR RECTOR - FR LARRY ORT

On August 23rd, Rhonda Morse and Bol Daniel Maduk visited Brookings. A few people involved in Rebuilding South Sudan Through Education were able to meet Bol Daniel. We learned a cease fire is in affect in South Sudan. The parties are now working toward an official peace treaty. Prospects look good for the cease fire was initiated at the grass roots level. Bol Daniel will be the new school master in Pajut, and he is excited about this opportunity. He and his family have been living at the Kakuma refugee Camp in Kenya and are looking forward to returning home. His biography appears below. As you can see he, is an impressive young man who has overcome many hardships!

Let's review our practice of hospitality. Our hospitality reflects our love for others. Hospitality is always important, but there are times when it is

critical – e.g., weddings and funerals, those times when St. Paul's has many guests. Thorburn Hall comfortably seats 50 people. Sometimes we have 80 – 90 people in attendance who are invited to a luncheon or reception. On such occasions, let's commit to seating and serving our guests first. Let's be the body of Christ. This action sends a clear welcome message that is not soon forgotten; our guests may decide to visit us again. Some may even choose to become part of our family.

On August 30th several of us attended the Mayor's Annual Award Reception at McCrory Gardens. It was a wonderful evening which truly reflected Brookings vitality. St. Paul's was presented the Mayor's Historic Preservation Award for Stewardship. Mark and Lee Kratochvil received the award on behalf of St. Paul's. In their remarks, they acknowledged the commitment, dedication, and work of our past and present members, and noted their belief could those who built the church 100 years ago see the facilities at present, they would be pleased. Thanks to all who lovingly care for our facilities – for your countless hours of work and your support of the capital improvement fund. And, special thanks for the Bonnemann Matching Bequest which has enabled us to accomplish many projects.

Our regular fall programming will soon be under way. Please note the Wild Game Feed will be held on Sunday, September 30th.

We presently have a couple of opportunities for involvement and service. We need a

replacement for the Jr. Warden, Ben Leigh, who has had to spend considerable time in Norfolk, VA. We also need another church school teacher who could work with Patty Kratochvil and Tasi Barondeau. Both positions are critical in that they represent the care of our facilities, and more importantly, the care of our children. I encourage you to step forward and become involved.

Mass in the Grass took place last Sunday, August 26th, at Oakwood Lakes State Park. Aside from exceedingly high humidity, the weather cooperated. Following lunch, Jonathan Lacher-Starace helped Fr. Larry captain the Sweet Sara on a cruise of East Oakwood; fellow passengers included Janet Gritzner, Mike McCarley, Judy Ort, and Ken Tjaden. The cruise was warily monitored by several cormorants, gulls, and pelicans.

Please mark your calendar: First, on September 13th at 7:00 PM, Linda Funsch will present a program for the South Dakota World Affairs Council titled “Oman’s Role in Promoting Peace in the Middle East” at the Woster Celebration Hall, SDSU Alumni Building, 815 Medary Avenue. Several members of the community met at St. Paul’s on three occasions to discuss *Oman Reborn*. Fr. Larry was instrumental in securing the grant from the Sultan Qaboos Cultural Center of Oman and has been working diligently on this project.

Second, On September 17th at 7:00 PM, Dr. Bart Ehrman will present a lecture at the Performing Arts Center titled “The Greatest Stories Rarely Told: Biblical Scholars and the Discrepancies of Scripture.” Dr. Ehrman is a well-known biblical scholar from UNC – Chapel Hill.

Blessings,

Fr. Larry

SENIOR MOMENTS

By Lynn Hublou, Senior Warden



Fig.1. Lynn Hublou in her “senior moment”

The irony of what occurs at this time of year never escapes me. The beautiful, long summer days begin to fade. Leaves start to turn, the days shorten, and we know that the end of what we had enjoyed for several months is at hand. At the same time, we notice all sorts of start-ups, especially school and its related activities, along with the church’s related activities. Soon, soup suppers, church school, and pancake breakfasts will resume. Ah, the circle of life: endings and beginnings in its various forms.

At the last vestry meeting, members began and ended various discussions. An ongoing discussion we’d been having related to the furnace situation in the rectory. Heating bills in the rectory were costing Fr. Larry and Judy many hundreds of dollars each month over the winter. As senior warden, I was determined, as was the entire vestry, to remedy this situation and to make the rectory more comfortable and to make living there more affordable. This discussion began the minute I assumed the role of senior warden. The discussion ended last Monday night when Scott from Preferred Mechanical presented a proposal to the vestry to alleviate the high cost of heating the rectory; the vestry approved the proposal and

work will begin within the next few weeks. In addition, two leaky doors at the rectory will be replaced, thus greatly reducing draftiness. How rewarding to start discussions of these types and to see them conclude (we hope) so successfully!

However, that particular discussion is of a practical nature. What we do as a parish goes far beyond that. Fr. Larry is highly active in the community with the Ministerial Association and with the South Dakota World Affairs Council. St. Paul's also participates in local, diocesan, and world-wide outreach. Sometimes what St. Paul's actually does remains behind the scenes, if you will. One way to keep track of these kinds of things, of course, is through reading the Messenger, reading the minutes of the vestry, and participating in activities at St. Paul's, including but not limited to serving on the vestry.

Last Monday at our vestry meeting, we began a discussion of who might next serve as a vestry person. Serving on the vestry is vital to the life of the church. We meet once a month to make all kinds of decisions about and beyond St. Paul's. I'm aware that few have the life goal of becoming a vestry person. Assuming the role of senior warden was not at the top of my list of things to do. Truthfully, meetings are not my favorite way to spend time. But I find that after each vestry meeting I come home with a strong sense of satisfaction, a renewed spirit of fellowship with Fr. Larry and others serving on the vestry, a stronger tie to St. Paul's, and a feeling of accomplishment that we're doing good work. These feelings only serve to deepen my commitment to St. Paul's and to the good work God calls us to do. The beginning of this discussion, then, applies to you. Ask yourself if you are ready to begin a journey as a vestry person. That door is wide open. Let the talks begin.

AUGUST VESTRY MEETING

Rector's Report (Fr. Larry Ort):

- Mark and Lee Krachtovil will accept the Mayor's Award for Stewardship on behalf

of St. Paul's at the reception on Aug. 30th at McCrory Gardens.

- We received a thank-you note from Jennifer Lacher-Starace and Erica Tritle for the use of the church hall for their rummage sale.
- Fr. Larry attended the Clergy Listening Day in Pierre on Aug. 3. Clergy met with a consultant in preparation for the search for a new bishop for SD.
- The new organ books have arrived and are being used. The Walk in Love book is on back order. The book discussion on Oman: Reborn has its final meeting on Aug. 28. Fr. Larry will be meeting with author Linda Funsch, who will be featured at the Festival of the Book in Brookings on Sept. 13th.
- Mass in the Grass was held at Oakwood State Park on Aug. 26. Although it was successful, we might need to be more organized regarding who is responsible for the paper products, etc. St. Paul's purchased hot dogs and buns.
- Discretionary Expenditures were \$170, leaving a balance of \$684.92. Fr. Larry will send \$300 to the Ministerial Association's discretionary fund (already in our budget).

Senior Warden's Report (Lynn Hublou):

- Lynn was delighted that a new heating system for the rectory has been bid and approved. (See more in Junior Warden's Report)
- Lynn wanted to know to whom one directs people in need. Suggestions included "My Neighbor", the Department of Social Services, and Brookings Family Self Sufficiency.

Junior Warden's Report (given by Fr. Larry):

- Fr. Larry cleaned the chimney base, installed wire mesh, and plans on mortaring the base. Estimated cost is about \$250.

- Scott Staniszewski of Preferred Mechanical visited with the Vestry earlier in the meeting. He recommended a boiler that would hang on the wall next to the current furnace. Down the road, a mini-split could be installed on the main floor. The cost of the boiler alone is \$8,760, and the mini-split would run a bit less than \$4,000. We would keep the electric heat bank in case natural gas prices go up. Jean Lacher moved (2nd by Tiffany Heyduk) that the Vestry approve this bid and that the work be scheduled prior to November. The motion carried.
- Grant Loeffelbein has submitted a quote \$278 for rerouting the eavestroughs and adding another larger size downspout on the north side of the church, and an additional \$70 for cleaning. The cleaning portion may be less depending on need.
- Fr. Larry wants to tear the roof off the shed and re-shingle it. Mark and Lee Krachtovil have volunteered to help.
- Chuck Berry is working on shelving for the Vesting Room.

Treasurer's Report (Bob Klein):

- Bob's report included detail of what has been spent on capital improvements. Bob posted the first 6 months of the wealth management account at First Bank & Trust.
- The Vestry discussed expenditures from memorial funds.

Old Business:

- The check for the easement for SDDOT has been received.
- Chuck Berry sent a list of historical objects that belong to St. Paul's. There was discussion on how these might be displayed, but no action was taken.

New Business:

- Ben Leigh contacted Fr. Larry about tendering his resignation from the Vestry. His position was deemed vacant,

according to the by-laws. There was discussion as to how to proceed to fill the position.

- Fr. Larry will look into the possibility of a camera system to protect the church building and grounds.
- Bob Klein commented on a seminar on active shooters held by BATA for its employees. He felt it was beneficial and would be a good thing to attend if it were ever back in Brookings.
- Judy Ort's 80th birthday will be celebrated with a party on Sept. 9th.

The next meeting of the Vestry will be September 24th at 5:30 pm.

Mass in the Grass

By Natural Cathedral Committee

A good crowd gathered for our annual Mass in



the Grass at the picnic shelter at Oakwood State Park. Did you know that St Paul's has a long history of going to Oakwood? The 1920 photo shows a church school picnic at Oakwood. The photo was given to St Paul's by Mary Fulweiler Swank, granddaughter of Rev Fulweiler, the first Priest to live in the current Rectory.

I suppose there were gravel roads all the way to the lake. There was no state park in those days. Lake Campbell is closer!

About Mass in the Grass, Fr Larry reminded us that one of the reasons we meet in the out-of-doors is to walk away from the group into the Natural Cathedral

to appreciate its beauty and messages for us.
Messages??

“...and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good“ (Genesis 1:12).

In the park (wilderness) on the Sabbath, we stop work and production, and rejoice in life and relationship. We see the real St Paul’s church - **the people**, apart from the issues of buildings and property that we sometimes think of a “the church.” Like the buildings, the people need “maintenance.”

In the park (wilderness) we can also appreciate our good fortune to have shelter, food and other comforts to return to. Think of the hungry person who has no shelter tonight.

In the park we can be mindful of the Natural Cathedral, its ecological relationships and the diversity of life. The surroundings have a diversity of colors and forms, like a tapestry. A tapestry is interwoven. There is a connectedness between the plants, water, and animals, and with us as *dependents and stewards*.

During the time in the service for announcements, Chuck Berry said that we could learn from trees, and then he plowed ahead to describe the lessons from trees.

When looking at the trees in this Park, you might get one or more of the following messages:

- Remember your roots... as we did during the 100th anniversary
- Go out on a limb... as we did when we started an investment fund for outreach
- Stand tall and proud,,, as we do when we speak to visitors about St Paul’s



- Sink your roots into the Earth... as we do within the our community
- Be content with your natural beauty... as we care for our parish landscape and buildings
- And drink plenty of water!

ECW FALL MEETING

The ECW Fall Meeting will be held in conjunction with the Diocese Convention in Pierre. The meeting will be Friday, September 28, 2018 beginning at 11 am (CST) , Trinity Church Pierre. The ladies will be joining other Convention attendees for “It’s Great to be an Episcopalian Picnic” at 11:30am. After lunch the business meeting and program will follow. All women in the Diocese of South Dakota are encouraged to attend as all women are considered to be mem

Mass in the Grass at Oakwood State Park, August 26, 2018.

This year we will electing a new Secretary and Treasurer. The officers will be elected by ballot and are asked to serve for two consecutive terms. The secretary keeps records of all meetings and the treasurer is responsible for receiving and distributing all funds of the organization except for United Thank Offering (UTO) and Church Periodical Club (CPC). Please contact a member of the nominating committee if you or if you know of someone who would be interested in serving in either of these offices. The Nominating Committee members are: Robin Bowen, june22_1959@yahoo.com and Vicki Sweet, sweetmomsg@gmail.com

Margaret Vranesh, South Dakota ECW Honored Woman of 2018, will be recognized at this meeting. Please come and meet Margaret.

We hope to see many of you at this meeting. If you have any questions regarding nominations for the officers, please contact Robin or Vicki.

BIOGRAPHY OF BOL DANIEL MADUK

Mr. Bol Daniel was born as a normal child of James and Mary on 13/03/1984 in southern

Sudan; however, Bol was attacked by polio infections at age three and lost both lower limbs.

Bol Daniel's vision is changing the world around him through education as one major goal. Also, he wants to set an example to people who become disability challenged in his society and inspire others by constructive actions.

Daniel began his nursery school right away after recovering from sickness regardless of paralysis. His elder sisters and brothers used to put him in a wheelbarrow to take him to school and back home after classes.

In 1993, Bol was admitted to Kongor Primary School, where he used to crawl for a distance of approximately 15 km (9 miles). But in 1998 Daniel was transferred to his homeland of Duk County where he was born and joined class five at Jolong Primary School.

In 2002, Bol Daniel came to Kakuma Refugee Camp in Kenya as a result of a series of attacks in Duk County. In Kakuma his life became a bit simpler because he was provided with a tricycle by the International Rescue Committee (IRC) to attend classes. Bol successfully finished his Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) in 2005 and enrolled to high school.

Between 2007 and 2008, there was forced repatriation for South Sudanese, which led to closing down of some schools in the camp. This forced Bol to transfer to Falling Waters Secondary School with the help of friends, who paid school fees. He completed Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) in 2009.

In 2010 Daniel joined online learning programme at Regis University, USA to pursue a three year diploma in Liberal Arts. This was provided by Jesuit Refugee Service-JRS as scholarship to refugees in various camps in the world. Bol graduated successfully in 2013. In 2013, Bol was awarded a full Bachelor's Degree scholarship by Windle Trust Kenya-WTK to Masinde Muliro University of Science and

Technology (MMUST). Daniel pursued B.Ed Arts and graduated successfully in 2017.

Bol Daniel offers professional volunteer service to fellow refugees in the camp. For instance, Daniel is serving as a special needs care assistant to persons with disabilities, teacher at Kakuma Refugee Secondary School and finally a volunteer lecturer at Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology, Kakuma campus. Mr. Bol is a lecturer of history to primary school teachers in the camp.

Bol Daniel provides other volunteer community services in counseling, preaching in both local and international languages, and in leadership services such as settling disputes among the refugees. Mr. Bol is physically challenged but took courage to finish university and become a productive member of society. He is a teacher, counselor, preacher, mediator, and a leader in Kakuma refugee camp.

In 2018, Daniel was selected as representative of South Sudan to the Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leadership in the USA. This program took him to University of Minnesota for six weeks with program emphasis on public management and to Washington DC for one week to connect with international businesses and organizations, US government officials, and training in life skills.

During his time in the USA, he connected with Moses Joknhial II, who also was born in Duk County of southern Sudan. With similar visions to change their homeland of South Sudan and peoples' lives through education, Daniel is joining the nonprofit organization Rebuilding South Sudan through Education, founded by Moses in USA, to oversee and facilitate the organization's projects on the ground in Pajut, South Sudan. Bol Daniel lives with his wife Mary, daughter Angelina, and son Nelson in Kakuma Refugee Camp, Kenya, but hopes the peace agreement signed in August, 2018, in South Sudan, will allow him to take up his work of education in Pajut, South Sudan.

COLLAGE



MANDELA WASHINGTON FELLOWSHIP
FOR YOUNG AFRICAN LEADERS

Daniel Maduk Bol

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South Sudan

University of Minnesota
Public Management

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Rev K. Hall

From the Argus Leader, November 16, 1986.

Brookings woman to become state's 1st Episcopal priest

By Lisa Gutierrez

The Episcopal Church of South Dakota will ordain a mother of four as its first female priest tonight. The ordination services at St. John's Lutheran Church in Madison. Karen Elizabeth Hall of Brookings will become an Episcopal priest. The ordination comes 10 years after the national church began the process to allow women to become priests. It is taking place in a Lutheran church as ecumenical gesture between the two denominations. The bishop of Episcopal Diocese of South Dakota, Craig Anderson called Hall's ordination an historic event, one that will be observed closely within the national church and in the worldwide Anglican union.

"Karen Hall's ministry as a full priest in this diocese will serve to expand our understanding of the ordained ministry and broaden our awareness of the priesthood of all Christian believers," Anderson said.

Not only will Karen Hall be the first female priest in the state, but she and her husband, Steve, a priest in Brookings, will be the first married couple to serve as Episcopal priests in South Dakota. She will be pastor of three churches, St. Stephens in DeSmet, Grace Episcopal in Madison,

and St. Mary's Our Blessed Redeemer in Flandreau. He leads the 150 member congregation in Brookings.

Since April, Karen Hall, 44, has been an ordained deacon in the church, a cleric rank, just

below priest. As a priest she will perform sacraments such as Communion, marriages, and absolutions.

UPCOMING EVENTS

St Paul's Game Feed – September 30, 2018

PHOTOS

Mass in Grass, Oakwood State Park

August 26, 2018



Fig. 1. Fr. Larry presides (Photo by C Berry)



Fig. 2. Let's begin. (Photo by C Berry)



Fig. 3. Checking out the toad. (Photo by C. Berry)

Meanwhile Back at the Ranch



Fig. 4. Two Grandmoms (Photo by C. Berry)

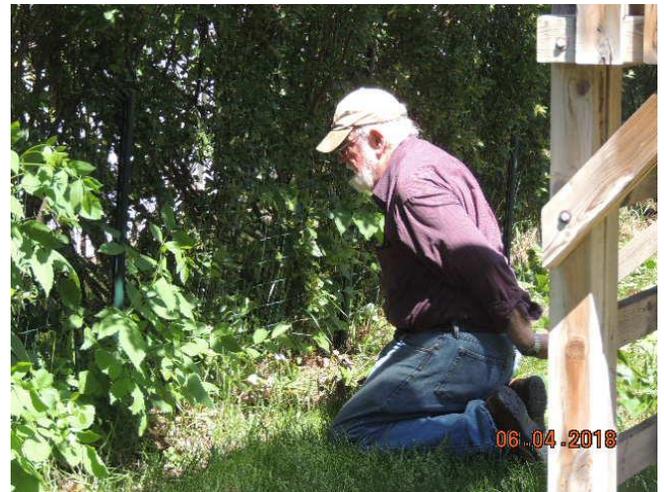


Fig. 5. What you doing, Larry? Praying or contemplating a weed.(Photo by C. Berry)



Fig. 6. Nice bike. (Photo C. Berry)



Fig. 7. Our very own trumpet vine. (Photo by C. Berry)