# SAINT PAUL'S MESSENGER

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.

May 2019
Messenger Editor: Bess Pallares

# From our Rector: Fr. Larry Ort

Having observed the Triduum and celebrated the Great Vigil of Easter, we are now in the Easter Season where



we will remain through Pentecost on June 9th, a period known as "the great fifty days." This is meant to be a period of rejoicing in the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Although Easter Vigil was not well attended, it was a joyous service. Our Easter Sunday service was well attended; it was great to see so many family members among us! Wouldn't it be great to have that many in attendance each Sunday? Continue to spread the word about St. Paul's community of love and grace!

For the past few years, the Jerusalem offering, collected on Good Friday, has been rather meager. In part that might be my fault for not placing more emphasis on it in prior services. This year I made it a priority, and I appreciate your response. Although I do not have the official count from the treasurer at this time, it appears we collected \$140 for the Diocese of Jerusalem.

Our mutual ministry review is a step closer to reality. As you may recall, this review looks at the overall ministry of the church – both lay and ordained. It considers where things are going well, and where we can improve and take advantage of new opportunities. Mother Jean Mornard and her husband, Michael, a specialist in church planning, have agreed to work with St. Paul's in an exchange of services. Stay tuned for further details.

A special thanks to Bess Pallares and the Hospitality Committee for organizing our first film night following soup supper on April 24th. We viewed First Reformed starring Ethan Hawke. The film is somewhat controversial, but it raised some good issues for discussion. Do you have a film you would like to nominate for viewing and discussion? If so, please let me know. I would like to see us schedule a couple of programs over the summer months when we could combine this program with hamburgers and brats on the patio!

On May 4th, Bob and Marsha Klein, Judy Ort, and Fr. Larry participated in the special convention called for the purpose of electing a new bishop. Rev. Dr. Jonathan H. Folts was elected on the fourth ballot. Jonathan is currently serving St. John's Episcopal Church in Essex, Connecticut. He will assume his new responsibilities on July 1st



Rev. Dr. Jonathan Folts

when The Right Reverend John T. Tarrant retires. Let's pray for a smooth transition.

Save the Date: Niobrara School for Ministry; Evangelism and Hospitality training will take place on May 15th from 5:30 – 8:30 PM at St. Paul's. Fr. Chris Corbin will be our facilitator. Please plan to come for a potluck and program.

Blessings, Fr. Larry

#### More about Rev. Folts

One of four nominees, Folts was elected on the fourth ballot. Folts, the rector of St. John's Episcopal Church in Essex, Conn., received 40 votes in the clergy order and 103 votes in the lay order. Thirty-eight

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RECTOR'S REPORT CONTINUED clergy votes and 96 lay votes were necessary for election on that ballot.

Folts earned his Masters in Divinity and his Doctor of Ministry degree (in Missional Church Development) at Virginia Theological Seminary. He is married to the Rev. Kimberly Folts; they have three children.

"Thank you for your perseverance, thank you for your trust, thank you for being so open to the Holy Spirit," Folts said in addressing the convention via telephone. "Thank you for your generous invitation to serve Christ with you. I am deeply honored, deeply humbled, deeply grateful - and very, very excited for what lies ahead of us!"

Pending consent of a majority of the church's bishops with jurisdiction and the diocesan standing committees, Folts will be ordained and consecrated on Nov. 2, with the Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church, as the chief consecrator. Folts will succeed the Rt. Rev. John T. Tarrant, who has served the diocese since 2009 and will retire in July.

Folts, 51, is a life-long Episcopalian who was raised in a clergy family in the Dioceses of West Texas and Northwest Texas.

- episcopalchurchsd.org



### Visual Arts Ministry: Native American Art

The theme of St Paul's 8th Visual Arts Ministry show is Native American art. All pieces are on loan from Rose Seaboy. The show will hang until November, which is Native American Heritage Month.

The photo shows Chuck Woodard viewing one of the pictures. A brochure describing each print is in the brochure pocket under the display.

When you enter St Paul's you see a star quilt. The star quilt replaced the buffalo robe in Native ceremonial life. The star is Venus, the morning star which stands between darkness (ignorance) and light (knowledge). The morning star leads to understanding and heralds a new beginning—good idea to think about when you enter St Paul's.

In the artwork on display are buffaloes, eagles, circles, feathers and other symbols. Circles represent life. Inside the circle all of life is included: the two-legged, four-legged, finned, winged, all animals, plants, minerals, water. Roundness is seen in the shape of the earth, sun, and moon. Tepees are round. In Talking Circles everyone is equal, and each opinion is valued.

Many Lakota people are dualistic in their world view. Some claim Christ while holding on to their traditions. Lakota spirituality is fully integrated into a life rhythm. At the center of this rhythm is Wakan Tanka, the Great Spirit.

St Paul's Visual Arts Ministry Committee needs members to help solicit photographs, frame and hang shows, and prepare the descriptive brochure. St Paul's is following the national churches visual arts ministry program (https://www.ecva.org/). If interested, please contact Chuck Berry.

*– Article and photo by Chuck Berry* 

#### May Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 2 Dystany Kline
- 10 Chuck Berry
- 14 John Berry
  - **Howard Bonnemann**
- 15 Rosemary Seaboy
- Lynnette Taylor
- 19 Jordan Crawford
- 20 David Dotson
- Diana ChristiansenEmily Malmberg
- 27 Peggy Miller
  Shawn Kratochvil
  Aaron & Kayla Hovelson

# St. Paul's Vestry Minutes: April 2019

Lectio Divina: John 20:19-31 Approval of March 31st Minutes Motion to approve, Lynn Hublou (2nd, Janet Gritzner)

#### Rector's Report (Fr. Larry Ort):

- Fr. Larry reminded us of the Bishop Election on May 4th. Videos of the various interviews across the state are available online.
- Discretionary Fund: opening balance of \$357.41. One dispersal of \$100, leaving a balance of \$257.41.

## Senior Warden's Report (Lynn Hublou):

• Tasi Barondeau has requested the use of the hall for Miles' graduation party after the ceremony in May.

## Junior Warden's Report (Lee Krachtovil):

• Savings of \$300 on April's heating expense for the Rectory. Lee will contact Rainbow regarding chips for our landscaping. Fr. Larry will address the water issue in the Rectory basement this summer.

#### Treasurer's Report (Bob Klein):

• Bob presented the Jan.-March statement. The report was accepted in a motion made by Lee K. (2nd, Janet G.). The Wealth Management account went up \$10,000 in the last quarter, which offsets last year's losses.

#### **Old Business:**

• Fr. Larry contacted Mo. Jean Mornard of Huron. She and her

husband will conduct our mutual ministry review. Fr. Larry sent out an email reminder about the Least Coin Collection on April 28th.

#### **New Business:**

- The Jerusalem Offering was \$140.
- The Vestry discussed the Bless 2019 annual appeal from the Episcopal Church Office of Development. Lynn and Fr. Larry will gather more information before any action is taken.
- Next Meeting: May 20th at 5:30 pm

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Marsha Klein, Clerk of the Vestry

# Palm Sunday Service

Palm Sunday 2019 was held on a snowy but joyful April 14. Photos by Chuck Berry









# **Senior Moments**

At last the leaves are budding out, tulips are blooming, perennials are peeking through, and I'm even

thinking that before too long I can make something with rhubarb. What a long, dreary winter we had, yet we forged through. A number of things are coming to an end, including



Lynn Hublou

school years. How strange that SD-SU's last day of school was the 26th of April, followed by a day when we received three inches of snow! Yet spring is here, a joy to experience and so similar to the joy of Easter following the darkness of Lent.

With school years ending, we also see some of St. Paul's activities ending until next fall. We've enjoyed our last soup supper (we have amazing cooks!), and May saw the last pancake breakfast for a few months. However, the Hospitality Committee is seeing to it that we have something going on this summer, reason to come together for joyful fellowship. On June 12 and July 10, we'll have a cookout with

brats, burgers, salads, and desserts. These picnic suppers will start at 6:00 p.m., and with any luck weather-wise, we can enjoy our time together on the patio. The August picnic will be Mass in the Grass, a date yet to be determined. Mark your calendar now, though, for June and July fun! We've definitely earned the outdoor activities after our long, snowy winter.

And by the way, the Hospitality Committee set the date for next fall's Wild Game Feed, September 29, a Sunday.

Recently some of us enjoyed a movie in the undercroft, First Reformed. This was a rather disturbing film on a few levels, but I know it gave those of us watching it much to think about concerning the environment, personal anguish, relationships, and faith. I hope that this sort of get-together will become a regular activity. Thanks, Bess, for organizing this!

Soup suppers, pancake breakfasts, movies—those who cook, organize, and attend—thanks to you all.

– Lynn Hublou, Senior Warden

#### Rogation tide in May

Rogation tide is the 3-days before Ascension Day May 30. It is a time to bless the fields, and ask for God's mercy on all of Creation. Modern ceremonies also remind us of our obligations to care for the Creation as well as our hope for abundant services from the Creation. <a href="https://www.episco-palchurch.org/library/glossary/rogation-days">https://www.episco-palchurch.org/library/glossary/rogation-days</a>. St Paul's Natural Cathedral Committee is planning

a Rogation event – we might "beat the bounds."

Beating the Bounds is an old English tradition linked with Rogation days. We'll walk around the bounds of our parish grounds. The tour is a way to acknowledge stewardship of the property, remember obligations to the neighbors, and to understand how our own land stewardship travels downwind, downhill, and downstream to adjacent properties and neighbors.



### I took The Pledge

Thanks to Fr. Larry for his Earth Day Sunday message about our stewardship of "God's Garden. St Paul's Natural Cathedral Committee has informed you at after-church coffee time about the national church's (TEC) idea for Earth Day Sunday.

TEC asks that you think of 3 things that you can do for the Creation, and then pledge action. The Pledge and supporting information is here <a href="https://www.episcopalchurch.gog/creation-pledge">www.episcopalchurch.gog/creation-pledge</a>.

I took the pledge and received a "thank-you" reply listing my 3 actions (good to clip for a reminder) and a several suggestions titled "What can you do now?"

The suggestion list has one item that I would like to highlight titled "Pledge Reflection Guide." The Guide is short, and has good Biblical references and interpretations. Psalm 19:1-6, Job 12:7-10, and others.

TEC wanted to have 1000 pledges by Earth Day Sunday. I hope St Paul's pledged our share! This pledge idea doesn't have to end on Earth Day Sunday. It should be a good exercise for anytime through the year.

– Chuck Berry

### News from the National Episcopal Church

# Gender justice rooted in response to violence, degradation and sin

Mary Frances Schjonberg Episcopal News Service

Ten years ago when the Rev. Terrie Robinson was asked to create a women's desk at the Anglican Communion Office, she was not sure where to begin. Then she received an email containing photos of a murdered woman, and it helped to point the way.

The photos came from a bishop who had received them from elsewhere in the world. "Lord, have mercy," he wrote. Robinson, who is leaving her post at the communion's director for women in church and society at the end of May, opened only three of photos. They were enough to show her the sequence of the naked woman's death and dismemberment at the hands of a group of men.

Robinson told members of Anglican Consultative Council April 30 that the photographs depicted "the abuse of power and about rendering another powerless; it was about sin" and "probably taken as some sort of trophy or to spread and circulate fear in a particular community."

Robinson said she realized that the women's desk "could become a point of contact for any woman or any man in the Anglican Communion who was doing something or wanted to do something about violence against women and girls."

She found a number of such

projects scattered across the communion that "needed to be connected somehow, to be properly noticed and affirmed by church leadership."



Rev. Robinson

To this day, the work is under-resourced and usually relies on women to provide the energy and push the work forward, she said.

Robinson's written report summarizes a number of examples of such work across the communion, such as "My Faith Says No!" in which the Diocese of Polynesia coordinated leaders from nine faith and cultural groups to produce a multimedia campaign advocating for an end to violence against women and girls.

Such work is a "huge building block of God's reign on earth as it is in heaven," she said.

"But for real and lasting change, we must tackle and transform the particular social norms, attitudes, scriptural misinterpretations and behaviors that sustain and exacerbate unjust power relationships between men and women, girls and boys, whether this is in our households or in our churches or embedded in the systems and structures that effect our lives," she said.

Robinson said the focus of her efforts have shifted over time to

work with Anglicans and ecumenical partners "to lift up the values of our Christian faith," including the teaching of Christ and the stories of the faithful women who followed him "and were the first to tell the good news of his resurrection." Those values "simply allow no room for ranking power and entitlement according to gender or remaining silent in the face of gender-based violence or devaluing the girl child or being complicit in the stigma that still surrounds victims and survivors of abuse and violence."

One outcome of that shift in focus is a new set of study materials developed by academic theologians from six continents, led by Robinson, called "God's Justice: Just Relationships between Women and Men, Girls and Boys," which she asked the ACC to endorse so that they can be offered to the communion's theological colleges, seminaries and training programs for both lay and ordained ministers. She said that many of those schools and programs "haven't yet touched on just power relations between women and men," even though they are what she called an essential part of such formation and leading a Jesus-shaped life.

Robinson said she hoped that Anglicans will come to the point of always asking how their actions will affect relationships and "what is this saying about power and how power is used."

> The Rev. Schjonberg is the Episcopal News Service's senior editor and reporter.