

St. Paul's Newsletter February 2016



FEBRUARY AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday Worship - 8:00 & 9:30 AM

Vestry – 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 PM

Adult Forum - 9:00 AM - Church School - 9:15 AM

Wednesday Eucharist - 12:10 PM in the Chapel

Choristers - Thursdays at 4:00 - 5:00 PM

Choir Rehearsals - Thursdays at 7:00 PM

Healing Prayer Group

February, 2 at 7:30 PM

Boy Scout Troop 4 - Spaghetti Dinner

& Silent Auction Fundraiser

Friday, February 5, 2016 - 5:00 - 7:00 PM

\$7 per Person, \$5 Seniors & \$25 Family of 4

Girls' Friendly Society Meetings

Saturday, February 6 at 9 AM

Tuesday, February 16 at 6:30 PM

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper with Races & Games

Tuesday, February 9 - 5:00 - 7:00 PM

*\$7 for adults & kids over 12, \$4 for kids 5 - 12
and kids under 5 still eat free*

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 10, 2016

7:00 AM Holy Eucharist & Ashes

12:00 Noon - Holy Eucharist, Ashes & Music

7:00 PM Holy Eucharist, Ashes & Music

New this year: Ashes to Go!

Lenten Wednesdays

February 17 & 25, March 2, 6 & 16

6:00 - 8:00 PM

St. Paul's 275th Anniversary Committee Meeting

Tuesday, February 19 at 7:00 PM

Church Open for Prayer & Reflection

Wednesdays, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Dear Companions in Christ,

Here I am still enjoying poinsettias both at church and home, yet Lent is near – beginning on an early Ash Wednesday of February 10.

Check inside this newsletter for more on our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper – complete with pancake races and other games – on Tuesday February 9. Show up between 5:00-7:00 PM for a full dinner and fun as we enjoy the tradition of “clearing out the larder” before the solemn season of Lent.

Of course Lent begins bright and early the following day of Ash Wednesday with services at 7:00 AM, 12:10 PM and 7:00 PM. All services include the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist; music will be at the latter two services (complete with choir in the evening).

In addition to these traditional services, the Vestry has encouraged us to offer Ashes-to-Go in front of the church on Main Street to expand our mission to those who might not come to a full service. This has been practiced by many Episcopal churches in recent years and is intended to help us live up to the charge to “go where the people are.” If you’d like to bundle up and help with this exciting effort, please let me know right away. Hot beverages provided!

Once Lent begins, we’ll offer our “Souper-Study” on Wednesday evenings February 17 and 25, and March 2, 9 and 16 from 6:00-8:00 PM. We begin with a simple meal, followed by study and worship. This year’s topic is *Sensing the Gospel: The Spiritual Gifts of Touch, Sight, Taste, Hearing & Smell*. We’ll have Bible study and experience reflection inspired by this theme. What I love about this approach is that it urges us to keep celebrating the Incarnation – the Word made flesh – from Christmas into Easter. Alleluia! (Let’s say it while we still can...)

I hope you’ll consider participating in this unique midweek Lenten program, especially if you’ve not done so before. Think of it this way: It’s a total of *ten hours* out of your busy life -- and it just might help you make new friends, enjoy a meal (you don’t have to cook), learn something new and expand your spiritual life. For this, you likely do have time.

Breathlessly getting ready for an early Lent,

Dee Anne+

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 10, 2016

7:00 AM - Holy Eucharist & Ashes

12:00 Noon - Holy Eucharist, Ashes & Music

7:00 PM Holy Eucharist, Ashes & Music

New this year: Ashes to Go!

Readers – Ushers – Crucifers – Acolytes – Chalice Bearers!

Please check your schedules for services and times you are serving. If you are unable to fulfill your obligation, please obtain a substitute for yourself! If you would also inform the parish office of any changes it would be greatly appreciated!

Thank you.

Vestry Update – January 2016

Our January meeting's focus was on the budget, the annual meeting, our upcoming vestry retreat, and bidding a fond farewell to our departing class of members.

Treasurer's Report: A motion was made and seconded to accept the report as submitted. The deficit for the year came in \$10,000 less than forecasted, but the deficit amount was still over \$58,000. The budget as compiled by the finance committee for 2016 was presented for review. A motion was made and seconded to accept the budget with a projected pledge amount of \$220,000 and some minor changes. With the new gas fired boilers we are hoping to achieve savings greater than what we are projecting which is 40% of what we spent for oil last year.

Committee Reports –

Technology: St. Paul's web site is up and running thanks to Chris and Donna Regan. It is a work in progress but we are adding to it each week. Please check it out and forward any suggestions to the Vestry. An instant messaging system has been put in place to inform us of service changes, closings due to weather, etc. If you would like to be included, please submit your cell phone number to Donna Regan or send it to the church office.

Stewardship: Over 100 pledges for \$205,000 had been received as of our meeting. There are still over 20 pledges outstanding for which the stewardship committee will follow up. Based on past experience we are projecting pledge income of at least \$220,000.

Property: A contract has been signed and painting of the church will commence in February with a goal to be completed before Holy Week. Repairs will also begin to replace a section of the drain pipe from the 3rd floor lavatory that had developed a significant crack.

Finally, we bid a fond farewell to our departing members, Don Brennan, Scott Kennedy, Diane Simpson, and Amy Grant with a cake provided by Dee Anne from Alyssa's Cakery. With the departure of the class of 2013 we finalized plans for the annual meeting and brunch and discussed our upcoming retreat on February 6th at St. John's in North Haven.

Your Wardens, Amy Foster & Chuck Maynard

BOY SCOUT TROOP 4

Spaghetti & Meatball Dinner & Silent Auction Fundraiser

Friday, February 5th, 2016

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

65 North Main Street, Wallingford

\$7.00 per person

Senior Citizens \$5.00 - Family of four \$25.00

So, what are we having for supper? Pancakes!!

That's right, pancakes. **St. Paul's Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper** will be held this year of **February 9th**, from 5pm to 7pm. Price is \$7 for adults and kids over 12, \$4 for kids 5-12, kids under 5 still eat free! All proceeds will go toward helping defray the cost of the Nicaragua service trip. On the menu this year will be pancakes, bacon, fruit salad that can't be beat, and the company of some really great people. All are welcome. For more information or if you are able to help out at this event contact Bill Merric. See ya there!



Pancake Races & Games

The pancake dinner will be on February 9th from 5-7pm. This is a family friendly event and so much fun! The pancakes are delicious and there are many toppings to choose from. Just think, no need to cook dinner and the children are sure to provide you with entertainment as they race their little hearts out at our pancake races! Please note: races will be held at 5:30 and 6:30PM. We will be doing our traditional race and also a three legged race, so grab a partner and bring your "A game!" There's no better way to

spend a Tuesday night.

Sensing the Gospel: The Spiritual Gifts of Touch, Sight, Taste, Hearing & Smell

Lenten Wednesdays February 17 & 25, March 2, 9 & 16

Please come enjoy a simple supper with study and reflection on these five short evenings in Lent, from **6:00-8:00 PM**. We'll use our God-given senses to explore select Bible passages with the goal of becoming better acquainted with Jesus -- the Word made flesh. To help our planning, please reserve your place in advance by calling (203-269-5050) or emailing rector@stpaulswallingford.org the Rector, or simply signing up on a list posted in church. This should be quite an *experience* (get it?)!

Lent Madness: Who Will Win the Golden Halo?!?

Why wait for "March Madness" when you can jump into "Lent Madness" right now?

This is a fun (yes, it's allowed) way to observe Lent daily and from the comfort of your computer while learning about (and voting on!) the Saints. (Much to the rector's chagrin, Francis of Assisi beat out Brigid of Kildare for the Golden Halo last Maundy Thursday.) This could be an engaging activity for the whole family -- just remember to play nice. Check out lentmadness.org to sign up and look for more information at church too. Good luck!

Confirmation class begins -- The organizational meeting of this year's Confirmation Class is Sunday, January 31 at 4:00 PM in Wilkinson Hall. The gathering will include dinner, games and hopes/expectations for the class. Please bring your calendars! RSVP to the parish office, or Sue Rourke. The normative age for this mature and public profession of faith in the Episcopal Church is age 16.

Serving Schedule

The next schedule for those serving at St. Paul's Church will include four services during Holy Week as well as Easter Sunday. Due to the large number of services, many people will be needed to serve. You will not be scheduled ONLY if I receive your non-availability by February 18, 2016 and NO LATER in order to complete scheduling. If you are scheduled and cannot serve, it is your responsibility to secure a substitute. To obtain a list of those who serve, contact the church office and one will be provided to you.

Thank you,
Jane Smith

St. Paul's 275th Anniversary Committee Meeting

The date and time of the next meeting is February 16, 2016 at 7:00 pm. Anyone interested is welcome to attend!

Church Open for Prayer & Reflection **Wednesdays 10 AM - 1 PM**

Since mid-August Gene Gervais has been opening the church for prayer and reflection on Wednesdays from 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM. During this holiday season, take some time for reflection and prayer on Wednesdays. ALL are welcome to come and stay for as little or as much of the time as needed. Help spread the word!

Please advise us of - change of address or telephone numbers
- illness, hospitalizations, deaths
- requests for baptisms, weddings, etc.

Healing Prayer Group will meet on February 2nd at 7:30 PM.

St. Paul's Girls' Friendly Society
February 2016- Meetings and Events



All girls age 5 years and up are invited to join! Contact Karen Rowe if you have questions

Saturday February 6 – Meeting - 9:00 am – 11:00 am, “Valentine’s Day” theme. The girls will be learning about St. Valentine, write out Valentines to some special people, and do a Valentine inspired craft for themselves!

Tuesday February 9 – Event - **Parish Pancake Supper, 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm**– *PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS NOT A REGULAR GFS MEETING.* Our Junior High girls will be serving at this event! Any of our younger GFS girls who attend with their families, must be supervised by their parents. There will be pancakes with tons of different toppings to choose from and kids activities courtesy of Becky Scalesse, our Christian Education Coordinator! Come and enjoy before our season of Lent begins.

Tuesday February 16 – Meeting - 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm, “Mid-Winter” theme. Along with other activities, we will introduce our new Diocesan mission project, IRIS.

IRIS – Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services, located in New Haven, is a program of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut and is an affiliate of Episcopal Migration Ministries and the Immigration and Refugee Program of Church World Service.

The program was created by the Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut in June, 1982 as the Diocesan Refugee Services Committee. New Haven became the permanent home in 1995. In 2007, the name was changed to IRIS.

IRIS is looking to increase the number of refugee families it plans to resettle in 2016 from 240 to 500. About 300 would come from Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan. The remaining would come from South Sudan, Eritrea, and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The refugees that arrive have gone through several rounds of interviews and security screenings over a number of years. They must prove refugee status and once approved, must buy their own plane ticket to the United States.

Our three branches of GFS in Connecticut will focus on the educational needs of the refugee children. After families arrive and are settled in housing, the children must be registered for school. IRIS provides each child with a backpack containing basic school supplies so that they will have a good start to their school experience.

We will be collecting: binders, loose leaf paper, spiral notebooks, folders, calculators, scissors, rulers, erasers, pencil boxes, highlighters, glue sticks, pencil sharpeners, boxes of colored pencils, crayons, pens, pencils. In addition, we are also collecting: Learn to Read books, coloring books, toy cars, Barbies, etc.

IRIS gives backpacks all year long as new families arrive, so our collection of supplies will be ongoing, all year long.

(NOTE: Kate Adams, Education Coordinator, is our contact at IRIS, as well as Jane Smith’s granddaughter and a former GFS-er herself!)

- Happy Valentines Day!
- Karen Rowe, Branch Advisor, Beverly Chevalier, Leader,
- Jane Smith, Leader



Nicaragua Service Trip (July 30, 2016 – August 7, 2016) – Contact Rob Page for more information.

Please continue to keep putting spare change in our "Change for Change" jars located in the church to help us as we look forward to next year's trip, as we help those less fortunate.

PASTORS OF THE EARLY YEARS

We heard of Rev. Theophilus Morris and how he met with a group of Anglicans and formally started the church in Wallingford. Now lets look at some of the other men who ministered to this small group.

Rev. James Lyon succeeded Rev. Morris, and he served the church until about 1750. The Rev. Ebenezer Punderson preached to a "pretty congregation, and baptized three children." on 18 October 1750. Rev. Punderson ministered to six parishes in New Haven County

Next month Ichabod Camp.



Holy Baptism

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism will be celebrated on the following Feast Days: Easter Eve (March 26, 2016), Pentecost (May 15, 2016) and All Saints' Sunday (November 6, 2016). Preparation for this celebration of Christian initiation includes a formal application and participation of parents and godparents in our Baptism Workshop and Rehearsal. Please direct any inquiries to the Rector at 203-269-5050 or rector@stpaulswallingford.org.

Walking Together

Living God's Mission: Annual Mission Conference of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut - March 5th, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Huntington, CT.

There is something for everyone at this year's conference - world renown speakers, a variety of speakers on the subject of getting started in missions, youth on mission, cultural sensitivity, funding opportunities, teaming up with NGOs, refugee resettlement, asset-based community development and more. For more information, please see Rob Page or visit to companionsinmission.net.

Registration is free at

<http://2016missionconference.eventbrite.com>.

THRIFT SHOP NEWS

It might look & feel like Winter outside, but the gals at the Thrift Shop are getting ready for Spring/Summer! We are in need of seasonal decor items, framed prints, sheets/bedding, curtains & paperback books. If you are doing any cleaning out of the closets, please remember us! Drop your donations off during our business hours Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 AM - 1 pm or on Monday mornings from 8:30-Noon when we are there pricing/sorting. Please also be sure to share our Facebook page with family & friends and spread the news - It's FREE advertisement!!!! Thinking of a new Volunteer Goal for 2016? Please consider a few hours at the Shop! Contact Alesia Manicone (203)537-1506 for more details. We have lots of exciting things happening in the year 2016!!!!!!

Times for St. Paul's Sunday Service

Comcast Cable Channel 18

Frontier Channel 99

www.WPAA.TV - WPA on the Internet

Sunday - 5:00 PM

Monday - 8:00 AM

Wednesday - 1:00 PM

Saturday - 6:30 PM

St. John the Evangelist in Yalesville has a weekly ministry on Wednesdays at the Masonic Home. Volunteers are needed to transport residents to the Masonic chapel for church service and Holy Communion then back to their rooms. The church service begins at 10:30 AM, but those who will be transporting residents should arrive at 9:45 AM. Feel free to try it once or twice, and there are classes which you will have to take to continue. A free lunch is provided afterwards. If you are considering this ministry, get more information and please call Cynthia Ayers at 203-427-3643

DEADLINE FOR THE MARCH NEWSLETTER IS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

SAVE THESE DATES...

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Wallingford CT
275th Anniversary**

Saturday, April 23, 2016 at 7:00 P.M.

**Community Celebration in
Words, Music and Art**

*Telling our story with artists from the Wallingford Symphony,
the Mariachi Academy, guests from neighboring choirs,
the St. Paul's Choir, Choristers and more,
plus an anthem composed by Music Director James T. Lindsay
commissioned especially for this event.*

**Saturday, April 30, 2016 Dinner-Dance at Wallingford
Country Club**

Tickets must be purchased by April 10, 2016.

Sunday, May 1, 2016 Festive Worship at 9:00 A.M.

(NOTE NEW TIME)

*Cherishing the Past, Celebrating the Future!
The Rt. Rev. Laura Ahrens, celebrant and preacher.*

*Watch for notice of other events, opportunities and
surprises
throughout our 275th Anniversary year!*

*Join the planning effort.
Contact the Rector or Anniversary Chair Karen Hlavac*