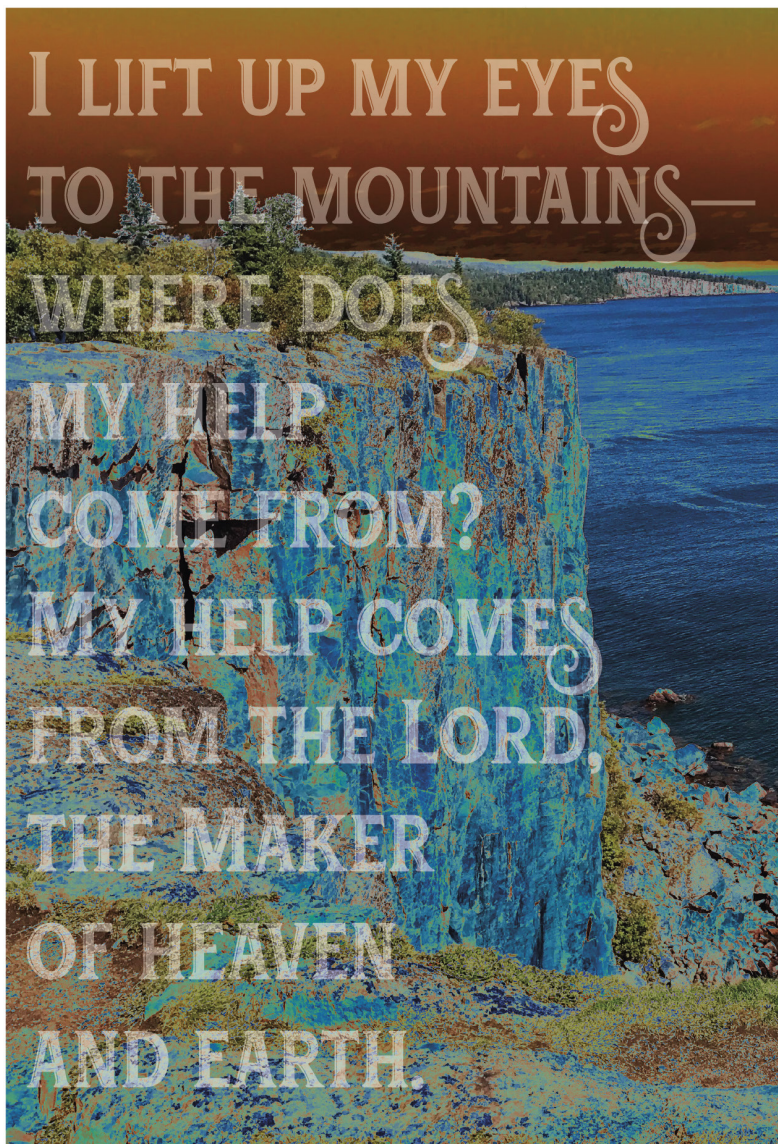


October 2017  
(#437)

*The newsletter of  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church*



PSALM 121

Dear Friends,

The Blessing of the Animals is always enlightening. These creatures who need our care bring out our better selves. I remember so well when I used to come home to my Wheaton terrier, no matter how I had neglected her by my absence, she would greet me with exuberance. If I pushed her away she would come back more eagerly. Scolded her for jumping, she would love me. Yell at her for getting on the sofa, she would love me. She responded to my touch with love. She responded to my ire with love. She responded to my love with love. Am I deserving of such love? I am not. How would you name such love?

Recently I watched again Fred Roger's testimony in front of a Senate Committee as he made the case for PBS. He tells them the words of a song he wrote. It begins,

"What do you do with the mad that you feel  
When you feel so mad you could bite?"

and it finishes,

"I can stop when I want to  
Can stop when I wish.  
I can stop, stop, stop any time.  
And what a good feeling to feel like this  
And know that the feeling is really mine.  
Know that there's something deep inside  
That helps us become what we can.  
For a girl can be someday a woman  
And a boy can be someday a man."

The Senators are visibly moved to tears by the idea that children can be taught self-control like this by calling upon their better nature. The Committee awarded PBS the \$20m they were asking for and Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood, and, in due course, Sesame Street was funded. You can find the video online and it is well-worth watching.

It is not hard to draw a lesson for the time in which we live. We are a society in dire need of an ethic and of self-control. It goes without saying that not matter how angry we are, we should choose not to bite. But I wonder if you can look beyond that truth to something simpler. The simpler, and harder, truth is that we should choose to make neighbors. Make neighbors of everyone, as dogs do, without prejudice, deserved or undeserved, long before the biting starts. That is what God does. That is the gospel, and the work of the Church.

Your friend in Christ,  
Michael

## Vestry Notes

The Vestry met on September 7, 2017, at 6:30PM. The following is a summary of topics discussed.

- On the topic of immediate concern, there was an update of the Pastoral Care group "Love In Action." Fewer volunteers were available, and the future of continuing the group was in question.
- The financial report included the latest update on the puzzle fund raising campaign.
- The minutes of the previous Vestry meeting were reviewed, edited, and approved.
- This year's Stewardship campaign was discussed including brochure design, date to start, and financial goals.
- We saw and discussed the t-shirt designs to be used for sale to the congregation.
- Gary gave a "painting of the church" update.
- Fr. Michael gave an update on the new church website.
- Under the misc. category, Gretchen presented a list of maintenance needed to be done inside and outside of the church.

Meeting ended with prayers and adjournment.

Blessings,

Gary Johnson

### St. Paul's is MAD about Stewardship!

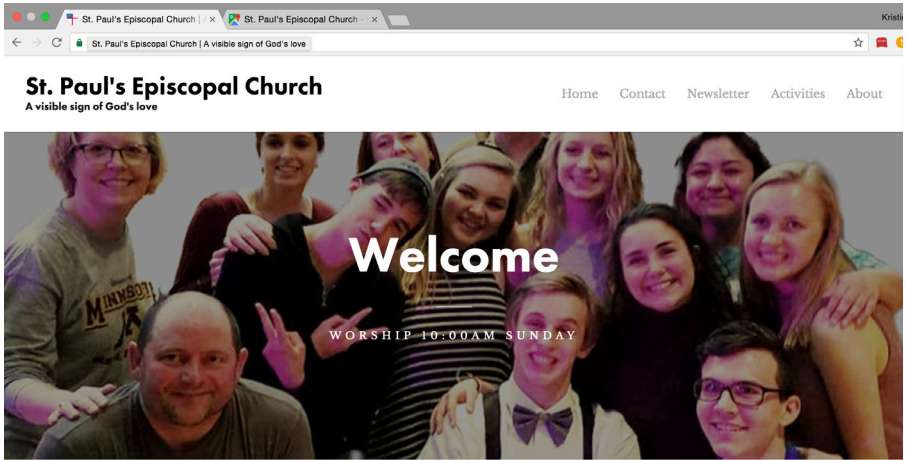
Fill in the blank: This year's Stewardship Campaign is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(adjective)

Be on the lookout for your Stewardship letter and join in the fun!

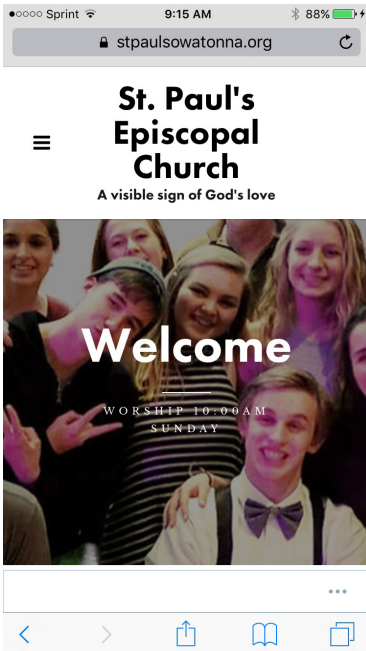


# Introducing St. Paul's New Website

www.stpaulsowatonna.org



Desktop View



Phone View

We heard you say you wanted a website that was easy to navigate from both a desktop and a phone, one that had easy access to activities and social media. You wanted clear information about worship (time and what to expect) as well as contact information for the church and staff. You wanted links to sermons, diocesan information and blogs.

With the launch of our website, we feel we have met MOST of these requirements. Links to sermons are a bit trickier, as we don't yet record them. But we are looking into it. Links to blogs or the creation of our own blog are also still to come.

Please take the time to explore the pages of the new site. It is purposefully spare. If you would like different text or a different image for an activity you are in charge of, please send the text and the image to Kris Warehime at kristin.warehime@charter.net. Together we will make our new site the best it can be to serve the needs of all who use it.





Style A

\$20 each; \$37 for the set.

Pre-Order now; Delivery November 10.

St. Paul's is  
getting new  
T-shirts!



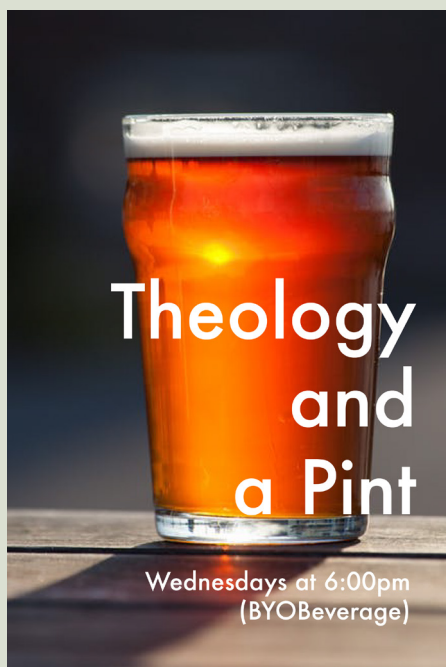
Adult Sizes Medium,  
Large and XL

Youth size Large



Style B





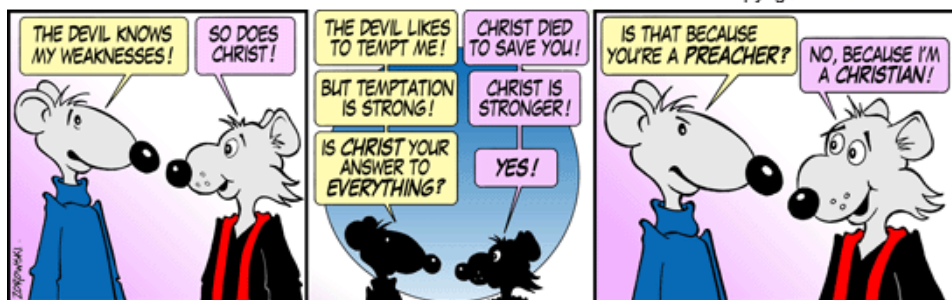
## TEC

Fall TEC is November 10-12. Again and again, St. Paul's youth tell us TEC is one of, if not THE most moment in their faith life. If you know a high school aged teen who would like to attend, please contact the church office. Scholarships are available.

Visit the ECMN website for more information about Episcopal youth programs.

## Church Mice

Copyright Karl A. Zorowski



**A**t a Wednesday evening church meeting a very wealthy man rose to give his testimony.

"I'm a millionaire," he said, "and I attribute it all to the rich blessings of God in my life. I can still remember the turning point in my faith, like it was yesterday:

I had just earned my first dollar and I went to a church meeting that night. The speaker was a missionary who told about his work. I knew that I only had a dollar bill and had to either give it all to God's work or nothing at all. So at that moment I decided to give my whole dollar to God. I believe that God blessed that decision, and that is why I am a rich man today."

As he finished it was clear that everyone had been moved by this man's story. But, as he took his seat, a little old lady sitting in the same pew leaned over and said: "Wonderful story! I dare you to do it again!"

## Cleo's MEWsings

Here it is October already!  
Leaves are starting to turn, time to get out the flannel sheets and plug in my warm electric bed!  
Don't like to see the end of the flowers and vegetables but Janet has been neglecting them lately anyway.

Did you hear Kris Warehime's exciting news? Her project "the Bellagio Hotel and Fountain" which was constructed out of corrugated material, took first place in the National AICC student competition "corrugated as art". She won a free trip to the national conference in Las Vegas. While there she participated in a design lab competition as part of a team of people from the industry and her team took first place! Congratulations, Kris! And Roger was lucky enough to go with her and they both had a great time. (Thankfully they got home before the terrible shooting in Las Vegas.)

But the bad news is that Kris had a retinal detachment and emergency surgery a few days later! Last, I heard she was recovering. Lots of other people need our prayers too. Mike Gjerdahl has been hospitalized several times in the last month, Maggie Dixon and Marty Zinsli have had surgery (both are doing well) and Fr. Michael's

mom has had surgery. Also needing prayers are Myrtle Brittain's daughter, Wendy. She was hit by a car while out walking in Denver, Colorado. She is now on her way back to Oregon where she will need surgery to fix a broken jaw. Also hurt was David Brave Heart who fell while working on his garage! And keep Joanne Peterson in your prayers. She is recovering from surgery for breast cancer (caught very early) but she might need radiation. Check back next month.

There was a small but beautiful funeral service for Helen Durand in September. Keep her daughter Bonnie in your prayers. Also, Steve Judd and his family on the loss of his uncle. Steve was asked to do the committal at Fort Snelling which was at the same time as Hellen's funeral so he missed her service. He was very fond of Helen and she was very fond of our Deacon Steve! Keep Angie Parsons in your prayers too on the loss of her brother-in-law, Joe McDilda. You may remember him and his wife, Johnnie, from their frequent attendance at our Lenten Lunches in past years.

Have you noticed the outside of our Church? Looks like the painting is all done. Also thank

Deb Carlson for weeding and adding mulch to some of our landscaping!

Haven't heard about any trips, except for Mary Levine! She has quite a story to tell! She was visiting daughter, Jennifer and grandchildren who had just moved to the Island of St. Maarten when Hurricane Irma hit. She finally made it home after a stay on Puerto Rico but managed to leave before it was hit by Maria! Jennifer and kids are still displaced so keep them on your prayer list!

Hope you got a chance to wish Bernie Reisenauer a happy birthday. Her kids threw a lovely party for her on her 90th Birthday.

If you are stressed out by all the bad news lately, you can

take a yoga class! Ann Deetz is teaching a beginning class and Mollie Gffrerer more advanced classes in Waseca. Or you can relax at a play. Julianna Skluzacek is playing the lead in "Love Letters" in Faribault presented by the Merlin Players. Dates are Oct 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21.

Knitters took a trip to visit Ruth Searle and her new house in Woodbury. She is still knitting prayers shawls and driving down to Owatonna most weeks to join the group! And the knitters do have prayer shawls on hand if you would like one for a friend or relative who could use an extra hug!

With Love,



THANK YOU to all who prayed for me and for my family during our ordeal with the recent hurricanes in the Caribbean. We have all heard that God can be found in the silence, in the "still small voice". I now know that God is also in the wind, the hurricane - in chaos. And - in the hearts, prayers, and deeds of friends, family - and strangers. Your prayers were strongly felt, and God kept us-- and all in our shelter -- safe. My thanks to you are heartfelt.

Mary



# Lay Schedule

Date	Lay Reader	Lector	Chalice	Ushers
Oct 22	Scott	Gary	Francy	Pete and Maggie
Oct 29	Kristin	Leanne	Steve	Terri and Marty
Nov 5	Jackie	Mary	Janet	Mike W. and Gary
Nov 12	Mark	Matt	Diane	Julie and Gayle
Nov 19	Julianna	Nan	Maggie	Steve and Sheryl
Nov 26	Kristin	Maggie	Francy	Pete and Maggie
Dec 3	Scott	Gary	Steve	Terri and Marty
Dec 10	Mark	Leanne	Janet	Mike W. and Gary



If you make a schedule change,  
please leave a message on the church phone.

## Coffee Committees

### October

Julie Conlin  
Gail Kozelka  
Maggie Dixon  
Deb Buck  
Sheryl Keith  
Carol McKernan  
Jan Robran  
Bernie Reisenauer  
Julia Miller  
Sharon Kramer

### November

Mary Levine  
Mary Wright  
Lynn Seykora  
Barb Judd  
Anne Deetz  
Janet Tippet  
Jackie Ostlund  
Amy Madsen  
Maria Dodd

## Altar Guild

### October

Janet Dixon  
Joanne Peterson  
Steve Judd

### November

Myrtle Brittain  
Lisa Boutelle

**LEAVEN** is published monthly to keep the people of St. Paul's informed and united in thought.

This issue of LEAVEN is made possible by the efforts of:

Fr. Michael Tippet  
Kristin Warehime

## **Got News?**

**If you have an item for  
The Leaven, please have it to  
Kristin Warehime by the fifth  
of each month.**

**[kristin.warehime@charter.net](mailto:kristin.warehime@charter.net)**

For more information on events at St. Paul's, visit our website: <http://stpauls-owatonna.wikispaces.com>



220 S. Cedar Avenue  
Owatonna, MN 55060

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