

This is the day the
LORD has made.
Let us rejoice and
be glad in it.

Psalm 118:24

Dear Friends,

For four Wednesdays between 20 and 25 of us have gathered with the Brave Heart family for a meal and Evening Prayer. Dakota song, prayer, flute, and burning sweetgrass have helped bring us closer to our Sioux relatives, who (I forgot to mention) funded and built half of our Cathedral in Faribault before they left this state. We have worked through an Episcopal curriculum aimed at becoming conscious of the role of the church in displacing the Native people of this country. It became clear that, 150 years after the US - Dakota war, the issue is not very far from our collective memories, and works in the background of almost everything we do. The way we have treated one another forms us. The trauma plays out in the descendants of the 10% of Indians who were left alive, in ways that are well-known. How the trauma persists in the white descendants is less clear. That it all begins with a Papal Bull declaring any non-Christian and their property to be fair game for seizure, dispossession and enslavement, and continues with ideas of manifest destiny is obvious. What dumbfounds me is that those Indians believed we were all related, while the Christians struggled to treat them as our neighbors. We have work to do to repair the breach. Thanks be to God that we have some opportunity to do it.

Separately, speaking last week to a parent about a child's intuition of God, we were amazed by the little girl's understanding that everything is related through God. Essentially she told us what Presiding Bishop Michael Curry said at Niobara last month; since we all come from one God, that means "I am your brother." One of the great tasks of parenthood is to nurture what the child knows instinctively, and to help it grow. How do we as a community help parents in this critical task? So that the child grows in the knowledge and love of God? These are old questions, but they require very immediate answers, for before we know it the child has grown beyond what they knew instinctively and it is lost. And the parents are left wondering what they might have done differently. Later this summer we'll spend a couple of evenings on the subject, with some ice cream, because that is bound to help the process.

Until then, let us remember what we say every Sunday, with Christians across time and continents for 2 millennia : "We believe in one God..." Therefore, I am your brother, and these are my children.

Your friend in Christ,
Michael +

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Safe Church

Training to prevent the abuse of children, the vulnerable, and staff.

First, the dates: the evenings of August 12 and 19

Second, who should attend: anyone in a position of leadership or oversight, or on staff.

Third, why? This is not about stopping me or you from doing something inadvertently wrong. It is about raising our awareness so that we can recognize vulnerable people and situations, and keep them safe. Your eyes will be opened. You should come.

Questions or suggestions?

Talk to a vestry member:

Gary Johnson, Senior Warden
Mike Gjerdahl, Junior Warden
Steve Smith
Betty Kristo
Julie Conlin
Gretchen Zinsli
Drew Meyer
Mary Levine
Terri Hottman, Clerk*
Sheryl Keith, Treasurer*

**Appointed by the vestry, these members do not vote*

Parish Bylaws

Some of you will find this fascinating. Every 10 years our bylaws need to be revised. Steve Smith is chairing the committee, and he's looking for helpers. What are they? You can find them linked through the Vestry page on our website.

Scholarships and Music

It took a little arm twisting, but in the end Ellie Boisen submitted an application letter that made a couple of us catch our breath and smile.

Her violin playing in church did the same, and has been a highlight of worship recently. Next week, Jackie and Ellie will play harp and violin for us, and Jackie has arranged a second piece for voice as well.

Speaking of music, we are hoping to award small scholarships to help some of our youth attend ECMN Music Camp next month, and we are discussing the possibility of establishing an organ scholarship for a talented young keyboard player.



Feeding Each Other and Feeding Our Spirit

Food takes a special importance this time of year; when school is out of session, food needs increase. St. Paul's Food Pantry has grown to provide nearly 80 bags of food per year, valued at about \$40 each. As the church is now staffed more hours per week, we are able to serve more needs.

How can you be involved?

Donate food, money to buy food, gas cards (HyVee cards are good for food and gas, \$10 is best), bus tokens, reusable grocery bags. Pray for this ministry and the people we serve.

What are our current food needs?

Supplies vary over time, so please check with Carol McKernan or Sheryl Keith for updates. Our current food needs are:

soup
pasta sauce
mac 'n cheese
peanut butter
jelly
pork 'n beans
canned meats
toilet paper

We are well stocked for now with everything else.



History Group Introduces Self-Guided Tour August 6

On Sunday, August 6th, the History Group will introduce St. Paul's first ever self-guided tour. The Group has been researching significant items in the Narthex and Sanctuary. Many months of detailed research have resulted in the creation of a tour brochure complete with a map of the church, introduction, research information, and additions to St. Paul's over the years.

The service on August 6th will be shortened, so that the Group will be able to invite the congregation to tour the church after the introduction. Refreshments will be served.

We hope that over time, everyone will be able to learn about and enjoy the rich history of St. Paul's Church.

Educating Our Kids

We are hoping to schedule two evenings to speak about caring for our children. Probable dates are in early August. Hoping to hear from parents about what works. Oh, and did we mention there will be ice cream? Talk to Fr. Michael or a vestry member if you have questions or would like to help.



Outreach

Love in Action is proving to be a wonderful ministry to the neediest amongst us. If you'd like to know more speak with Francy, Mike, Mary, Gary, Leanne, Bobby, Jim, Sheryl, Carol... the list goes on, and we'd like it to grow.

Two other areas of ministry are at the front of our minds at the moment: the *Free Clinic* (Gretchen, Sheryl), and *Lily Sparrow House*. Lily Sparrow provides accommodation for needy families, especially women and children is undergoing an institutional makeover. We believe it will emerge as a 501c3 non-profit, with a properly constituted board, and we are wondering how we might contribute. We have considerable of institutional wisdom of beginning similar undertakings (Contact, the Crisis Resource Center, Ivanhoe, the Food Shelf, Transitional Housing, amongst others). If you have thoughts, wisdom, discernment about these things please share them with the Vestry.

Jigsaw

Thank you so much to everyone who contributed to our spring fundraising. To date about half the jigsaw pieces have been returned. We have enough money to paint the exterior of the church, and to avoid drawing down from our investments mid-year, which is a wonderful thing and usually never happens.

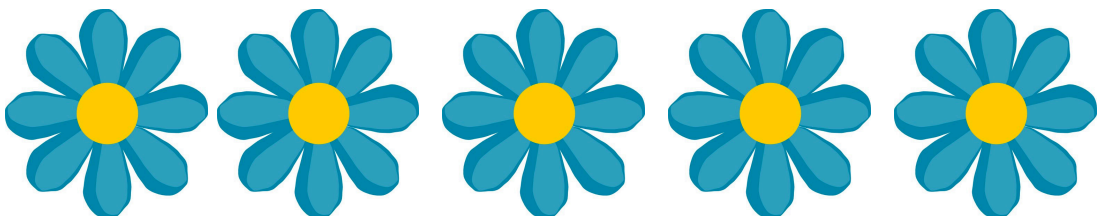
We are hoping that will have a positive knock-on effect in the fall too. Although we still have a deficit to contend with, this is a really good start.

Special Summer Music

July 9: Jackie and Ellie will play a violin/harp duet

July 16: The Chalmers family from Austin will play again

August 6: Kathy's viola quartet



Cleo's MEWings

Here it is the end June! Am I the only one who wants summer to slow down? Hope you were in church to hear special music from David Brave Heart, Ellie Boisen and Cyrus Brave Heart. It was a real treat! Wish I could play the piano and violin like these talented teens!

And speaking of treats, how about the one for our eyes when we walk up to our lovely church. All the flowers have been planted and tended by Julie Conlin. We are blessed to have her green thumb in our midst. And speaking of Conlins, Julie says Gary will be moving to a nursing home the end of June. He will be at Birchwood Cottages, 1905 Austin Road.

Heard news of our kids being busy playing soccer, gymnastics, going to camps and all sorts of fun activities. Did you know that Sue and Darrold Mahlman's grandson, Braydan is the ball boy for the Aces? He is loving it! And did you watch the Wenger Marching Band Contest? If you did, bet you saw Emma Zinsli doing a great job.

There were cousins baptized at St. Paul's on Saturday, May 13th. Emory Nguyen Stanley, son of Bryan and Kelly, and Cruz

Joseph Reyes, son of Erynne and Steven were baptized with proud grandmother, Bonnie Nguyen, looking on!

It is summer and so lots of travelers! Pete and Maggie Dixon were off to Paris! Just days after Maggie had surgery—she is doing fine and they had a great time. Laurice Anderson was in Baltimore for a week in May for her dad's 90th birthday. She had a "fun and adventurous" time including seeing Beauty and the Beast at a musical theater. Also traveling was Joanne Peterson to South Dakota to celebrate a cousin on his 100th birthday. Janet Dixon was at the farm in Northern Wisconsin for a family reunion; Scott, Kathy and Jenni were off to PA and did some research on long ago family members; and Pete and Jackie Ostlund were off to Savannah GA to see Jackson before he heads back to Afghanistan. Know lots of others were traveling to cabins "up north" for some R & R. Hope you are all having a great time.

Heard the Choir members had a fun picnic at Brittain's. Join the choir and you may be invited to join them next year!

Did you know that Gary Johnson was in the National

Table Tennis games? How did you do, Gary? Hope you all were following story of Esme, the hummingbird and Gary and Leann's heroic efforts to save her. They did!

And speaking of achievements, Ann Deetz has completed her certification training to be a Yoga instructor. She has already taught this cat a few things! Wave and brush the crumbs! Ask Ann if you want to know what that means!

Did you get to see Sandy Frelund and son, Jon, daughter-in-law, Ronia and adorable granddaughter Maia! She was cute!! Please keep Sandy's brother, Glenn, in your prayers as he fights cancer. Sandy was on her way to PA to see him.

Also, kept Evan in your prayers as he continues to recover. Grandfather, Roger Miller reports he is 2-3 inches taller as a result of the surgery!

That is it for this month! Send your news to me and I will report again in August/September.

With Love, Cleo



Church Rummage Sale!

July 21: 9am - 5pm

July 22: 9am - 1pm

We need your stuff and your help! Please leave your donations in the dining hall downstairs. Contact Diane or Kris if you need something large picked up.

If you can help setting up, selling or cleaning, please sign up on the sheets in Upper Tanner.



**"IT'S ALWAYS
CONSOLING
TO KNOW
THAT TODAY'S
CHRISTMAS GIFTS
ARE TOMORROW'S
GARAGE SALES."**

Milton Berle

Lay Schedule

Date	Lay Reader	Lector	Chalice	Ushers
July 9	Kristin	Gary	Mike G.	Pete and Maggie
July 16	Mark Krug	Mary	Steve	Terri and Marty
July 23	Jackie	Leanne	Francy	Pete and Maggie
July 30	Scott	Matt	Janet	Mike W. and Gary
Aug 6	Kristin	Maggie	Mike G	Steve and Sheryl
Aug 13	Julianna	Nan	Maggie	Julie and Gayle
Aug 20	Mark	Mary	Francy	Terri and Marty
Aug 27	Jackie	Gary	Steve	Pete and Maggie



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

Coffee Committees

July

Judie Buerman
Amy Wobschall
Gretchen Zinsli
Kari Gigstead
Katie Vyncke
Kelly Karstens
Robin McKey
Francy Hall
Angie Parsons

August

Myrtle Brittain
Lisa Boutelle
Judy Erk
Sharol Tamburro
Ann Henjum
Bobbi Otteson
Sue Mahlman
Joanne Peterson
Jodie Boisen

Altar Guild

July

Myrtle Brittain
Lisa Boutelle

August

Diane Spitzack
Gerri Schwenker

Coffee
Committees

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 Tippett
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

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



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