



In
summer
the song sings
itself.



William Carlos Williams

Dear Friends:

I hope you had the opportunity to watch Michael Curry's sermon at the Royal Wedding. There might not have been much said that struck you as particularly unusual – after all you hear that sort of gospel preaching from time to time. But believe me when I tell you that there has never been anything like that at a state event in Britain. And so people were aghast and astounded all over the world. Don't know about you, but I just found myself smiling. A little bit knowingly. Because there was much more that lay behind that sermon.

Now you will remember that the US Episcopal branch of the Anglican Communion has been under fire, and under sanction, from much of the rest of the Anglican world for its inclusive approach to ... just about everything.

Not many people noticed, but it is worth observing that this preacher was chosen by the happy couple, and they had a good idea what was coming. Their choice alone is remarkable. But even more remarkable than that, the preacher must have been approved by both the Archbishop of Canterbury, and by the Queen too.

As a result the US Episcopal Church found itself rehabilitated in a remarkable way, in front of countless millions on TV, in a moment of nostalgia and optimism. And it was in that moment that Michael Curry chose to preach the love and grace at the heart of God's power, and the gospel.

Some people have asked what it is this Episcopal church has to offer in this present day. It used to be obvious – we brought the King James Version of the Bible to the world, and the Book of Common Prayer, and some great theologians whom you may or may not know, but they include C.S. Lewis.

What we bring today is summed up in the bravery of Michael Curry. It is no small thing to be the descendent of slaves and to stand in front of the Queen and the world in Windsor Chapel and to challenge the world. Later on, capitalizing on the notoriety of the moment, he made this more pointed observation, he said, "If it doesn't look like love, if it doesn't look like Jesus of Nazareth, it cannot be claimed to be Christian." It's a simple measurement, but every now and again some brave Christian needs to stand up in front of the world and say it loudly.

Your friend in Christ,

Michael

July/August 2018



St. Paul's
Episcopal Church

Rummage Sale

July 27th & 28th

Friday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

*On the corner of Cedar and Mill Street
behind the fire hall*

*Household,
books, toys,
furniture,
holiday,
sports, linens,
kitchen, tools,
and more!*

St. Paul's Rummage Sale

This years' sale is
scheduled for the
weekend of

July 27th & 28th.

Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

We need household
items, linens, books, toys,
as well as collectibles
and furniture. **Please no
clothing or electronics.**

We also need workers to
assist with the set-up and
the days of the sale.

Sign-up sheets are in
Upper Tanner. You may
start bringing your items
to church on July 15th.

Thank you for your
support & God Bless!!

San Jose Obrero

Mark your calendars!

On August 26 St. Paul's will be
providing hospitality, support for
two Eucharist services, and a meal
for Hispanic migrant workers at
the Seneca Plant in Montgomery.
This is a rewarding ministry that
we have been involved in for many
years. San Jose Obrero is a special
mission of the Episcopal church
that receives support from a
number of faith communities in SE
MN. This is an outreach program
that is very much appreciated by
those that we serve.

Helpers will be needed on the
afternoons of both August
25 (St. Paul's) and August 26
(Montgomery). Cookies are also
needed (no bars). Please look at
your schedules and help if you can!

Sign-up sheets will be in Upper
Tanner beginning in August. You
can also call Mary Levine at
507-339-3010 or email her at
mlevin7@charter.net.

The News

Help Our Website!

These days most people looking for a church, look online. You can help us be more visible. Go online and search for "Owatonna church episcopal" or anything like that, and click on the Saint Paul's links that you find. And if you really want to go above and beyond, write a brief review, as one or two wonderful people have already done.

Mary Jane and the Bibles

Very soon you will see two new Bibles in each pew. They are being placed in memory of Mary Jane Taylor, and we hope she would be pleased.

Door Locks Serviced

The locks on the glass entry doors have been serviced and are working well. The locksmith advises that we should not use our keys to pull the doors open. Red doors next.

Politics

A word to the wise. Politics is not religion. It doesn't even come close. It provides no information or insight about the nature or operation of God. It is often inherently ungodly. If, however, you find yourself politicAlly engaged, please let your religion — what you have discovered about the nature of God in relationship with us — be your first resource.

Sound System

Once upon a time... some very generous people gave us a sound system. A dozen years later most of the wireless components have worn out, and we are making an amplifier designed to drive 6 speakers, to drive 12. We have installed one new wireless channel and you should notice the difference now. We will soon have a first proposal to remedy the remaining issues.



A Note from Sara Brave Heart

Could you hold our family in prayer this summer - we are going to be going through some big changes. Sara, Cyrus and Ambry will be moving to St Paul so that the kids can attend St Paul Conservatory for Performing Arts. There are going to be a lot of changes for everyone and lots of emotions. Not to mention practicalities to figure out. So much support from [St. Paul's] during the past year has meant a lot to all of us. Thanks St Paul's for being who you are!
Sara

ECMN Convention

This year is in Mankato 14-15 September — in other words, close by. If you'd like to visit or take part or research what will go on, make yourself known to our delegates: Ann Henjum, Mary Levine, Gretchen Zinsli, Diane Spizack, Laurice Anderson.

Parking Cars to Raise Funds

A generous local employer has given us their parking lot for the duration of the Fair (14-19m August). And so we are looking for volunteer attendants to help with this amazing fund raising opportunity. Lessons in Christian parking coming soon. Perhaps you can think of some appropriate signs. "Unauthorized cars will be spirited away?"

New Organ

The next stage of the new organ project is to examine a proposal to add digital capability and place speakers. The Vestry hopes to be able to do that soon.



Cleo's MEWSings

Well, are you warm enough? I spent the spring complaining about it being too cold, now it is too hot to nap in the sun. But I have been even enjoying the flowers. And have you thanked Julie Conlin for the lovely pots of flowers at the church. That is a lovely tradition started years ago by Julie's sister, Donna Reese and Janet Dixon.

Know lots of people have been off to the cabin up north like Jody and Matt Boisen, the McKey Clan, and Sheryl Keith and Steve Smith. Heard Sheryl's time wasn't without incident—something about a hammock and a falling tree which resulted in staples in the back of her head. Heal fast, Sheryl!

Kari Gigstead and Mark Guse and Henry and George were up North fishing too. Looks like they had fun! Also fishing was Alan Peterson—he was in Alaska! Joanne Peterson skipped Alaskan fishing and was up at the cabin with family.

Also traveling were Jack and Diane Spitzack who drove out to Oregon to visit family. Scott, Kathy and Jenni were in Boston and spent some time looking up old, old records and cemeteries plots of family. Some of you may not know that Kathy's ancestors go back to a Dawes who rode

with Paul Revere. How interesting is that! I know Betty Kristo was off to a wedding that she said was just beautiful and to a great grand's first birthday party.

Also healing are Drew Meyer from surgery and our deacon, Steve Judd, from a bout with kidney stones. Ouch!

Others need our prayers too. Diane's son Josh is having surgery on July 19th. Bernie Reisenauer is under the weather with back problems and needs to see a specialist. Pete Dixon has finished his radiation treatments and is doing well.

Did you hear about the Brave Hearts? Sara, Ambry and Cyrus are making plans to live in St. Paul for the school year so Ambry and Cyrus can attend St. Paul Conservatory for the Performing Arts. What an exciting time for them.

Also off for new adventures are our graduates: Chad Erickson who wants to learn to fly and MacKenzie Karsten who isn't sure yet what she wants to study. They are wonderful kids and will both fly!

Also graduating are Zachery Deetz, who finished college with a music degree from Gustavus, and Jacob Warehime who graduated from Luther

College with a degree in English. Jacob is currently working in the marketing department for Cunningham Group, a Minneapolis architecture firm. We send our best wishes with them all.

It is with tears in our eyes but lots of lovely memories that we say good bye to long time member Mike Gjerdahl who left this world on July 12th. He had been at Homestead Hospice house for several weeks. Please keep Nan and all of his family in your prayers. Not sure when his service will be— heard it may be in early August. Watch for announcements.

Good news about a baby on the way. Jackie and Pete Ostlund are

going to be great grandparents come September! Jackson and partner are expecting a baby boy! Jackson is still working in Afghanistan so remember to say a prayer or two to keep him safe.

The knitters have not taken the summer off and have a number of prayer shawls on hand. Just ask for one if it would bring you or a friend or relatives some comfort.

Need more news so please send it to me! Lots of our out-of-town friends and former members love to know what's up at St. Paul's.



**The celebration of
Mike Gjerdahl's life
will take place
August 3rd at 3 p.m.**

This picture sums it up:
We love you,
Mike, and
will miss you
terribly. You've
left a hole in
our hearts and
an example for
us to follow. We
will all love more
generously
because you
showed us how.



Lay Schedule

Date	Lay Reader	Lector	Chalice	Ushers	Counter
July 29	Julianna	Matt	Diane	Julie and Gayle	Julie
Aug 5	Kristin	Marion	Francy	Steve and Sheryl	Kristin
Aug 12	Mark	Mary	Maggie	Terri and Mike W	Mark
Aug 19	Scott	Francy	Janet	Gretchen and Marty	Francy
Aug 26	Julianna	Nikki	Diane	Pete and Maggie	Gretchen
Sept 2	Kristin	Matt	Francy	Julie and Gayle	Kristin
Sept 9	Mark	Marion	Maggie	Steve and Sheryl	Mark
Sept 16	Scott	Mary	Janet	Terri and Mike W	Julie



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

Coffee Committees

July

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

August

Myrtle Brittain
Lisa Botelle
Judy Erck
Sharol Tamburro
Ann Henjum
Bobbi Otteson
Sue Mahlman
Joanne Peterson
Jody Boisen

Altar Guild

July

Diane Spitzack
Gerri Schwenker

August

Robin McKey
Betty Kristo



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FIRST CLASS MAIL

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For more information about
St. Paul's Episcopal, visit
www.stpaulsowatonna.org
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St. Paul's Episcopal Church—
Owatonna.

