



**FOR I KNOW THE  
PLANS I HAVE FOR  
YOU, DECLARES THE  
LORD, PLANS FOR  
WELFARE AND NOT  
FOR EVIL, TO GIVE  
YOU A FUTURE AND  
A HOPE. JEREMIAH 29:11**

# The Search for Our Next Bishop

Dear Friends,

You might be aware that I was co-opted onto the Search Committee. This was not something God came to me in a dream and asked me to do.

And yet, being the custodian of the theology of the thing is getting more and more interesting to me, and more and more holy. It's a long time since I have focused directly on discernment, though for many years I taught a discernment course, a "Gifts Course."

It lasted 14 weeks and focused on the gifts God gives us individually for ministry. Later I spent 18 months creating and leading a seminar series called Theology and Organizational Leadership. Taking part were CEOs and state commissioners and 3 past and present directors of what was then called the Humphrey Leadership Institute (now the Humphrey Institute for Public Affairs) and we spoke about principled leadership after 9/11. You would think that I would have learned something, too.

But discernment continues to be hard work, and God hasn't come to me in a dream.

Nevertheless, numerous Minnesota Episcopalians have been asking do we have "favorites" and "will she be this" or "will he that," and the answer is that we haven't even got out of the gate yet. At the moment we are listening, very hard.

By about the middle of June the Search Committee will publish a "profile" of the MN part of Christ's church, an invitation which we hope will generate a question in the hearts of possible bishop candidates — "Am I called to Minnesota?" Then they will write application essays, and be screened and interviewed and towards the end of the year their number will have shrunk to about 6. In January, your delegates\* will prayerfully elect and call the next bishop at a special convention. [\*Could be you. Would you like to go?]

Others have asked how they can support this process; in typical Episcopalian fashion there have been several requests that someone provide the "right" prayer for them to use.

We are a little reluctant to comply — the best prayers will be particular to individuals and communities. As for the Search Committee, we are still in the middle of the beginning, a time of holy listening before Pentecost. Nevertheless, here goes:

- a) Our guess is that listening for God is the most important part of this prayer — an equivalent moment spent in expectation for every moment spent in petition.
- b) If there is to be a spoken part, we can probably all agree that God's grace, acting on potential candidates, is indispensable. Pray for that continually.
- c) Since b) is (probably) true, perhaps the next spoken prayer is that God act

on us, so that our eyes/ears/hearts/  
minds are opened to see God at  
work.

With all that said, here are some  
words to help:

*Holy God, you call us to places  
unimagined, by paths as yet  
untrodden, through circumstances  
unknown. Grant us wisdom, courage,  
peace and your companionship  
in the way;*

*Come Holy Spirit and open the eyes  
of our hearts, that we might see  
where you are leading us, and, in due  
course, the person who might walk  
with us as our bishop. Through Jesus  
Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Every Christian community is called  
to constant discernment, of God's  
purpose, and of our place in the  
grand scheme. Slowly but surely  
those insights are growing amongst  
the Search Committee, and it feels  
holy. If you add your prayers, my bet  
is that all of us will benefit, and you  
will have some interesting dreams.

*Your friend in Christ,  
Michael*

# BOOK STUDY

Join us as we discuss portions of  
the book *The Four Agreements*  
by Don Miguel Ruiz.



Wednesdays in June

6:15–7:15 p.m.

Dinner included

See Gretchen if you'd like a book

or listen free on You Tube

You may read the introductory and  
concluding chapters on your own,  
but our discussions will focus on  
the following portion:

June 5 The First Agreement

June 12 The Second Agreement

June 19 The Third Agreement

June 26 The Fourth Agreement

## 2ND SUNDAY OFFERINGS:

June: Free Clionic of Steele County

July: San Jose Obrero

# CLEO'S MEWSINGS

Okay, all you readers of Cleo, can you do something for me? You know cats like calm winds, warm temperatures and sun. Can you please all pray for that to happen? I will be very grateful (and a lot less crabby)!

Good news: babies! Katie (Parsons) and Edwin Vyncke have an adorable baby boy, Gary Michael Johann, who was born May 14th. Big brother Isaac is thrilled! And Lynn and Dave Seykora have a new granddaughter. Parents are Jon and Dominika and she has a big brother James to teach her all kinds of things! Lynn and Dave were in Calgary, Canada recently to see the adorable Penelope Francis.

Coming this summer will be a new baby for Andy and Gloria Simon; and Maggie Dixon's granddaughter, Mystery is having a baby in the next few months. Maggie, you will be a great grandmother!!

Other great news is our graduates! Emma Zinsli and Genevieve Phillips (Rebecca Krug's daughter) are graduating from OHS. We will celebrate at St. Paul's on June 2nd. They will both be off to college. Also graduating is Matt Deetz from college! Proud parents, Anne and Tom just went to Texas to watch Matt play Ultimate Frisbee as part of the Luther team. He was named MVP for his school. Matt plans to head to Colorado and do some job searching. Our best wishes go with them all.

And another item of good news is Marie, Bernie Reisenauer granddaughter, who was married on May 11th. Bernie said she was a

beautiful bride. Bernie had recently had pneumonia but was well enough to attend and reported that she had a wonderful time.

And do you remember Autumn Ganglehoff? If you are lucky to be her Facebook friend, you probably saw her pictures of her lovely wedding on the North Shore and honeymoon in Hawaii. Our congratulations to her and husband Erik Lahti!

Gail and Pat Plathe are proud grandparents of a very smart 10th grader! GeorgiaRae is in the top 10 in her class (#5)! She is the daughter of son Justin and wife Ronda.

Did you hear Alan Peterson rescued a snapping turtle!? A very big one! Joanne and Alan walking around the northeast part of town when they found the poor thing trying to cross the street. They borrowed a shovel and carefully moved it to the nearest yard and near a stream. It just happened to be the home of Anne and Tom Deetz who were out of town! No one was injured in the adventure!

Heard that Mark Guse and Mike Weller were part of the Federated crew that got a "WOW" award at Federated for their hard work this winter dealing with all the crazy weather. They are both part of the Minnesota work ethic! Congrats! Hope they give you an extra day off as a reward!

Heard I have a new fan! A special "hi" to Mary Larson who recently started getting the Leaven. She is sister of

# BALLOONS ARE BAD FOR ANIMALS

*"A new study from the University of Tasmania has found that balloons are the highest-risk plastic debris item for seabirds—32 times more likely to kill than ingested hard plastics. Researchers looked at the cause of death of 1733 seabirds from 51 species and found that one in three of the birds had ingested marine debris."*

With graduation celebrations happening in the next month, a Green Team reminder about using balloons as decorations. A new

study has found that balloons are the highest risk of plastic debris for seabirds. Please remember where your balloons go! If you end up buying balloons for an occasion, throw them out and don't release them! Not only do they pollute the ocean, they also can blow inland and affect land animals. This is something small that you can do to protect our planet. Balloons blow, don't let them go!

For more information check out [BaloonsBlow.org](http://BaloonsBlow.org).

Ruth Ann Hartle and Alice Hartle was her aunt.

As always we have some special people that need our prayers. Our prayers and cares are with Roger Warehime and his family at the loss of his mom, Martha. She left this world on Saturday, May 18th. Jackie Warehime was in India when her grandma died. In 2015, she was in Paraguray when her Grandpa Bill died. I bet her parents want her to stay home for a while.

Also needing our prayers is Maggie Dixon as she continues her treatment for cancer. She is also having fun visiting friends and relatives and playing cards! Pete may need our prayers too so he can keep up with Maggie! Also say some extra prayers for Carol McKernan's daughter, Toni, who is having tests for a health concern. She is a cancer survivor and we pray all her tests turn out fine.

Send me your news and I will tell everyone!



Total charges for our unexpected elevator repairs were about \$12,000. Many have given generously and we have raised more than \$7000 to date. Thank you for your generosity. We hope to continue to raise funds to cover this cost so that we do not need to take money from PIF.

The Harry Wenger Marching Band Parade is on Saturday, June 15. This parade ends right in front of our church. Please contact Marty if you are interested in handing out water to the bands as they finish.

# NEWS

## News from the History Group

We are continuing to interview some members on video for our Oral History project of St. Paul's. So far we have heard some great recollections from the past, and look forward to many more.

Our direction is more now toward the long and difficult task of finding and categorizing documents for digital preservation. We will first start with records of Baptisms, Confirmations, Marriages, and Deaths.

Also, there will be a concerted effort to document recent and current events. We have found that in the far past, records were meticulously kept. More recent records have either seemed sketchy in nature or difficult to find.

On another note, there has been a leadership change in the group. Joanne Peterson and Jenni Brittain have agreed to a co-chair leadership position. We will all remain in the group and continue to work hard to bring meaningful information and projects for the parish!

Blessings, Gary Johnson

## Rummage Sale

Annual Rummage Sale: Our annual rummage sale will be coming up on Crazy Day's Weekend - July 26th & 27th. Start collecting those items now. More details to follow.

## Our Treasurer has Resigned

Saint Paul's been very fortunate to have been blessed by good treasurers. For the first time in almost 10 years we have come within reach of growing, rather than depleting our reserves, and we have pulled back just a few more feet from the brink. Sheryl has been instrumental in that achievement and it is remarkable. Now we need to find a successor. She has been graceful enough to agree to keep doing the books for a little longer until we can find a solution. This is a good opportunity to try out your discernment prayers. Please thank Sheryl (and Steve) profusely when you see them next.

## Baby Shower

Just a reminder to the Women of St Paul's of the dual Baby Showers for Gloria Simon and Katie Vyncke at church on Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 p.m. Upper Tanner. Both moms are registered at Target. If you can attend, please confirm by calling Diane at 456-1418. If you are unable to join us in person, please join us in spirit!

## Graduation Sunday

Join us as we gather to celebrate Evie and Emma's graduation during church on June 2. Emma plans to study art therapy at UW, Superior and Evie will be studying cosmetology at the MN School of Beauty in Lakeville. Congratulations to both!

## Senior Warden Report

The Dalai Lama has many wonderful quotes about life. One of my favorites is "If you think you are too small to make a difference, try sleeping with a mosquito in the room." Our church may be small in size but we do make a difference in many lives. The list of groups and organizations that we volunteer with and donate to is incredibly long. We also help our community by hosting NA meetings, we have a food pantry, we collectively give to local groups on Second Sundays.

As many of you know, I spend a lot of time volunteering at the Free Clinic of Steele County.

The clients there are incredibly grateful for the care they receive, seeing how grateful they are refreshes my soul and "fills my cup" so to speak. There are actual studies that show that volunteering helps to counteract the effects of stress, anger, and depression. It helps to increase your self-confidence, gives a sense of purpose, and makes you happy. Volunteering doesn't have to be difficult or back-breaking, there are opportunities everywhere. Make the time for volunteering, it's good for you!

Blessings and Love,  
Gretchen

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**Prom 2019**

# LAY SCHEDULE

| Date    | Lay Reader | Lector | Chalice | Ushers             | Counter  |
|---------|------------|--------|---------|--------------------|----------|
| June 2  | Scott      | Mary   | Francy  | Gretchen and Marty | Francy   |
| June 9  | Kristin    | Francy | Diane   | Julie and Gayle    | Julie    |
| June 16 | Mark       | Matt   | Janet   | Maria and Rebecca  | Mark     |
| June 23 | Jackie     | Gary   | Francy  | Gary and Mike W    | Kristin  |
| June 30 | Scott      | Leanne | Janet   | Gretchen and Marty | Gretchen |
| July 7  | Mark       | Mary   | Diane   | Maria and Rebecca  | Mark     |
| July 14 | Kristin    | Francy | Janet   | Julie and Gayle    | Julie    |
| July 21 | Jackie     | Matt   | Francy  | Gary and Mike W    | Francy   |
| July 28 | Scott      | Gary   | Diane   | Gretchen and Marty | Gretchen |



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

## June

Betty Kristo  
Gerri Schwenker  
Kathy Brittain  
Jenni Brittain  
Laurice Anderson  
Diane Spitzack  
Leanne Alt  
Rebecca Krug

## July

Judie Buerman  
Terri Hottmann  
Gretchen Zinsli  
Kari Gigstead  
Kelly Karstens  
Robin McKey  
Francy Hall  
Angie Parsons

## June

Betty Kristo

## July

Janet Dixon  
Joanne Peterson  
Rev. Steve Judd