

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

The Epistle

April, 2016

Love God. Love others. Help others love God.

We welcome you to join us on our journey as we strive to share the love of Jesus through worship, Christian education, fellowship and service to each other and the community beyond our walls.

Looking at the account of the creation of the world as told to us in the first and second chapters of the Book of Genesis we quickly see that the world was started and created by God. Isn't that the point of the whole story? How God is our Creator. The how, when and where is really not the author's concern. It is said that this account was written about 500 years before the birth of Christ. There certainly is no scientific account of it. It is certainly not an account of how things actually took place, as we have come to learn. As the Franciscan priest Richard Rohr would say *creation is really the first incarnation or revelation of who God is*. Creation is that first divine revelation. According to Rohr this first instance was written at least 13.8 billion years ago, long before the first words of the Bible. That moment millions of years ago we call the Big Bang. We would say that creation develops over time. The written Bible is God's involvement here on earth.

In the first day, God separates light and dark and on the second day, He separates heaven and earth. There is no indication of its worth. But notice that on the third, fourth and fifth days, that which he creates is called good. But it is important to note that on the sixth day, it is *very* good.

As we have learned from our Lenten Series with Fr. Rohr, we know that nature is to be respected, enjoyed and looked at with adoration and awe as St. Francis lived and taught. He says we should understand the first Bible of creation before we place the second Bible, the written word, into the hands of people. The basis of our faith is to see the God of creation active and alive in our world. If we really believe that '*all things come from thee, O Lord and of thine own have we given thee*'; then we are called to understand the very nature of God through the eyes of the Genesis author. We see a God who is very particular in the ordering of the world. But in the midst of that order sin has come and God continues to strive for balance by offering us love and forgiveness in Christ Jesus. It is a complete package. We cannot take one without the other; we must accept God in nature and in His Son as we accept all the gifts offered by our God. There is no difference. In this Season of Resurrection we believe that we have been set free from the bondage of sin and death. We have seen in the second incarnation of God to have the same mind set as He does - the self-emptying love of the suffering servant. May we see God in the created order of the world.

Rev. John Martinichio +



After over 40 years of serving on the Counting Team Ken Kidder has decided to retire. We thank him for his many years of service. Thank you, Ken. We welcome Richard Schwab as his replacement.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to read for the Stations of the Cross and Palm Sunday services. You were a wonderful addition.

Thank you to Dick and Jane Parker, Jack Westermann and Ruthie Koerts for stripping the altar after the Maundy Thursday service and to Mitzi Manning for her coordination of the many extra duties of the Altar Guild during Holy Week.

To Melissa Moon for offering to coordinate the Easter Egg hunt.

To Jack Westermann and Mike Kakusian for changing light bulbs both inside and out and doing some general clean-up.

Thank you to Dolly Chergosky for clearing out the landscape from the winter detritus. It looks great!

Thanks to Bill Freeman for taking care of our plumbing leak in the kitchen despite the fact that with plumbing, nothing ever goes as planned. We no longer drip. Bill is also going to fix our outside crosses for next Lent as well as move the cross and sconces in the chapel. Thank you Bill! Patience is a virtue.

Thank you to Lynn and Bill Freeman for organizing the Meatloaf Dinner. Also, a big thanks to everyone who helped make it such a success from prep to clean up.

Thank you to Eunice Barton for organizing and guiding the making of the Palm Crosses.

Thank you to Richard and Jane Parker, Dolly Chergosky and Debbie Dieffenbacher, Barb Dailey and Judy Wolf, Sandy and Dick Schwab, Jennifer Westermann and Eunice Barton, Judy Shannon and Joni Pinckert for preparing the delicious meals for our Wednesday Lenten Program.

Thank you to everyone who held watch on Maundy Thursday. We hope it was a truly profound experience.

We are so blessed to have so many of you help out in so many ways during this past month. The extra work the Altar Guild did, to those who picked up a wrench, a rake, a broom, helped clean the pews, and all the work that goes into make this place run like a well oiled machine. We could not have done it without you.

Did you know that there are over 40 areas for you to get involved in here at St. Paul's? From ministry to social events, there is a place for YOU. Find out more about volunteer and social opportunities in the bulletin each week, by stopping by the office, or by talking to a vestry member or Fr. John.



Women of the Church



April brings our spring rummage sale on **April 9th** and a busy week for the WOC. For this reason we will not hold a monthly meeting on our normal first Wednesday of the month. Many hands are needed to move the rummage to the Fellowship Hall, sort and organize merchandise, bake for the bake sale, and then help out during the actual sale and clean-up afterward. Sign-up sheets are at the back of the church.

After all the hard work it will be time to enjoy some fellowship. On Friday, **April 15th** we will gather for lunch and socialization at an area restaurant. I am currently checking into some options that will seat us comfortably and will notify you all by email and the Sunday bulletin of the time and place.

On Thursday, **April 21st** we will hold a workshop for those interested in making Anglican Prayer beads. A sign-up sheet will be at the back of the church after Easter to determine how many bead kits we will need. We will start with a simple lunch at noon and move on to the beadwork by 1:00PM.

Our **May 4th** meeting will return us to our regular meeting schedule of the first Wednesday at 7:00 PM. This will be a coffee and dessert gathering, followed by a meeting to distribute the proceeds from our treasury. Please send me any suggestions you may have regarding funding recipients and we ask that you research and provide as much information as possible to help with the decision making process. We will also be scheduling a workshop in May for those interested in learning how to make the reflective mirror ornaments hanging on the tree in our garden.

On **June 1st** we gather for our annual picnic, which will be held at my house north of Montrose, PA. We will also hold our first sleeping bag workshop in June and meet periodically throughout the summer to complete bags before the onset of cold weather.

Please watch the Sunday bulletins and your email for details on upcoming events. If you are not receiving emails from me, please send me your email address at sanjussel@epix.net.

Sandy Schwab, Chair



Rummage Sale Week

April 3-9



The Spring Rummage Sale is scheduled for Saturday, April 9. Volunteers are needed for any of the many facets of this sale: movers, sorters, folders, bakers and cleaners. No need to sign up; just show up when you can. The schedule will be as follows:

Sun., April 3, 11AM	Move Rummage to Fellowship Hall
Mon.-Wed., April 4-6, 9AM-Noon	Sort, fold and display rummage items
Thurs., April 7, 9AM-Noon	Drop off baked goods, sort if needed
Fri., April 8, 9-12PM	Drop off baked goods, organize Bake Sale
Sat., April 9, 9AM-3PM	Rummage Sale (1-3 bag sale)
Sat., April 9, 3PM-	Clean-Up

Rummage can be left in room 102 as well as the Rummage Room. Also, if you have any paper or plastic bags, we can use them as well. Thank you.

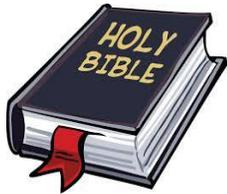


Tri Cities Opera presents "Sweeney Todd"

Sunday, May 1, 3:00 PM



Tri Cities Opera has offered the Binghamton District the opportunity to purchase discounted group tickets for its upcoming opera, "Sweeney Todd". This dark, London murder and revenge musical thriller will keep you on the edge of your seat, wondering whom Sweeney's next victim will be. We will be attending the May 1, 3:00 PM show at The Forum Theatre. The amount discounted will depend on the number of tickets purchased by our group. The brochure and a sign-up sheet has been placed on the table in the back of church. Any questions see Fr. John.



Lectio Divina

Lectio continues to meet every first and third Monday at 7PM at Linda Littell's house. Whether you have been coming for a while or you have just been thinking about a way to delve deeper into the Word, you are welcome to join us. Please call the office for more information.

Holy Land Pilgrimage Presentation

Sunday, April 3, 2-3PM

Countryside Community Center, Owego

Rev. Richard Schaal will be sharing a visual presentation of his recent visit to the Holy Lands at the Countryside Community Center in Owego on Sunday, April 3 from 2-3PM. All are welcome. A freewill offering will be taken to benefit St. John's Church, Speedsville. Refreshments will be available.

Movin' On Luncheon

Monday, April 11, Noon

We will be enjoying Lynn Freeman's meatloaf dinner. I bet you can't wait. We do ask that you RSVP so we can properly prepare for the meal. We invite all widows and widowers to join us at the Movin' On Luncheon on Monday, April 11 at Noon.



Earth Day

Friday, April 22



Friday, April 22 is Earth Day. Take a moment to look around you at the wonderful gifts the Lord has given us. *"The Lord God took man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and keep it"* Genesis 2:15

UTO Spring In-Gathering

Sunday, April 24

The Spring In-gathering of the United Thank Offering will be on Sunday, April 24. Please convert the coins in your UTO blue box into bills or a check and, using a UTO envelope, leave your offering in the collection. It is the mission of the UTO to expand the circle of thankful people and to promote mission work throughout the world. To achieve this we encourage daily prayers, offerings and awareness of God's blessings.



PLEASE REMEMBER TO UTTER THANKS OFTEN

Antiracism Training

Saturday, April 30, 9:00AM-5:00PM

The Antiracism Committee will offer this one-day training at St. John's Church in Ithaca on Saturday, April 30, 2016. All lay and ordained leaders of the Episcopal church are invited to attend. To register: Please contact Doris Stoddard, Parish Administrator for Christ Church in Manlius, at (315) 682-5795 or church.office@christchurchmanlius.org. Please register no later than Monday, April 25 as space is limited. Please notify Doris of any dietary restrictions or special needs. Cost: The cost for the event will be \$10, payable at the door. Lunch and workshop materials will be provided.

Stewardship Thought



Calling on the sick, especially those in the hospital is a top priority among all clergy I know. We believe that when we enter a hospital room, we bring the parish with us, for we go connected by prayer and it is through the members' generosity that we have the time to be there. All clergy have had the experience of representing an almost godly presence to those troubled souls.

Fr. John +

JumpStart! CNY/Upstate

Saturday, April 23, 8:30AM-3:30PM

Doubletree Hotel, Syracuse, NY

Are you ready to "jump start" your church's ministry through creative use of your buildings? The JumpStart program exists especially to help churches care for and use our buildings creatively. The CNY District invites you to bring a team to this exciting event developed by the Episcopal Church Building Fund. If interested in joining the folks from St. Paul's who are going, registration information is available through Kathy Dengler at kdengler@cnyepiscopal.org or see Fr. John.

Flower Memorials

- 4/3 The flowers on the altar are in loving memory of Gary Powell from his wife, Sharon.
 4/24 The flowers on the altar are in loving memory of Jean Walton, sister-in-law of Sylvia Fulk and in loving memory of Thelma and Alfred West from Beverly Costello.



Sanctuary Candle Memorials



- 4/3 The Sanctuary Candle burns this week in loving memory of Stark Roberts from his wife Patricia.
 4/10 The Sanctuary Candle burns this week in loving memory of Ethel Kidder, mother of Ken Kidder, Jr., from Ken and Verona Kidder.
 4/24 The Sanctuary Candle burns this week in loving memory of Lowell E Pierce from Louise M. Pierce and in loving memory of Marie Dzedzic from William and Debbie Dieffenbacher.



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|-------------------------------------|---|
| 4/5 John Young | 4/18 Mark Browning, Jon Korchynsky |
| 4/6 Scott Kinne | 4/21 Ken Kidder, Susette Walton |
| 4/7 Ray Besemer | 4/22 Luther Chergosky |
| 4/10 Ted Snyder, Steele Moffett | 4/26 Lorraine Jones, Ed Cermak, Jimmy Garceau |
| 4/12 Roger Doolittle | 4/29 Bea VanNess, Bill Dieffenbacher, Matt Moon |
| 4/16 Joyce Conklin, Jerry Saccoccio | |



- 4/3 Ida & Ivan Williams
 4/16 Sue & Carl Kinne
 4/20 Jenell & Gene Clayton

Prayers for Our Ministries



Each week a different ministry area of St. Paul's is featured in the bulletin to highlight, encourage involvement and give thanks for the people who make it happen. During the month of April we pray for the following ministries:

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| 3 - Prayer Chain | 10 - Social Group |
| 17- UTO | 24 - Stewardship Committee |

April Liturgical Ministers Schedule

April 3	8AM	10PM
Lay Minister	Jane Parker	Jim Buffum
1 st Reading		Carl Kinne
2 nd Reading	Mary Cermak	Zach Manchester
Chalice	Chip Kinne	Barb Dailey
Readings	Acts 5:27-32	Revelation 1:4-8

April 10	8AM	10AM
Lay Minister	Jennifer Westermann	Steve Koerts
1 st Reading		Ruthie Koerts
2 nd Reading	Garvin Alexander	Georgia Wilber
Chalice	Jack Westermann	Karen Cahill
Readings	Acts 9:1-20	Revelation 5:11-14

April 17	8AM	10AM
Lay Minister	Debbie Dieffenbacher	Jim Garceau
1 st Reading		Judy Shannon
2 nd Reading	Bill Dieffenbacher	Judy Doherty
Chalice	Luther Chergosky	Eunice Barton
Readings	Acts: 9:36-43	Revelation: 7:9-17

April 24	8AM	10AM
Lay Minister	Mary Cermak	Sue Jones
1 st Reading		Bob Pettit
2 nd Reading	Jackie Reece	Sue Pettit
Chalice	Jane Parker	Barb Dailey
Readings	Acts: 11:1-18	Revelation 21:1-6

St. Pauls' Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes, February 9, 2016
To love God, Love others, Help Others to love God

Rector: Fr. John R. Martinichio

Wardens: Bruce Dailey, Jennifer S. Westermann

Vestry:

Eunice Barton	Lynne Jones	Dolly Chergosky
Duncan Finlayson	Karen Cahill	Lynda Helmer
Robert Pettit	Mary Gilfoyle	

Fr. John opened the meeting at 7:03 p.m. with a prayer about Mardi Gras.

Fr. John began a discussion on the Gould Grant program with the questions: *What is our vision and/or mission for the use of this money? What are we doing with it and why?* After some brainstorming it was decided that a vestry sub-committee would be formed to explore it further. Committee members, in addition to Fr. John: Lynda Helmer, Eunice, Barton, Bob Pettit and Jennifer S. Westermann. Fr. John will coordinate a meeting.

January Minutes: **Motion** made by Karen Cahill with second by Dolly Chergosky to accept the December minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Financials:

- Rector's Discretionary report presented on agenda.
- Memorial Fund report presented on agenda. Fr. John noted that both the flower and candle memorials are down this year from last. One possible reason: in the past, there was a sign-up sheet for the year at the Ministry Fair which has not been held recently.
Bob Pettit reported on finances:
- Gould Fund was down for the month of February which was not surprising but fund still does better than the rest of the market (thank you, Tony Farrand, fund manager!).
- Income – pledges ahead of budget projection but this may partly be due to some people fulfilling their yearly pledge in the beginning of the year.

Motion made by Duncan Finlayson with a second from Lynne Jones to accept the Rector's Discretionary report, the Memorial Fund report and the Financial report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

- Fr. John presented the parochial report for 2015. Motion made by Bruce Dailey with a second from Lynda Helmer to accept the report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- Convention Delegates: Fr. John noted that the delegates for 2016 Convention, Lynda Helmer, Eunice Barton and Karen Cahill will also be the delegates for the vote for the new bishop, requiring extra meetings. Alternates for these positions are needed. Dolly Chergosky, Lynda Helmer and Jennifer S. Westermann volunteered to become the alternates. **Motion** to accept these nominees was made by Duncan Finlayson with a second from Mary Gilfoyle. Motion carried unanimously.

Note: Alternates for the 2016 Convention automatically become the delegates for the 2017 Convention.

Items for Discussion:

- Rector's Report

Annual Meeting – The following people volunteered to serve in the positions indicated below at the meeting:

Clerk of the Meeting: Jennifer S. Westermann

Tellers: Karen Cahill, Eunice Barton, Mary Gilfoyle

Sergeant-at-Arms: Bruce Dailey

Set-up: Eunice will make coffee; Dolly Chergosky will oversee food set-up, Jack and Jennifer Westermann will set up tables.

- Warden's Report:

- Bruce Dailey shared a thank you note from Trinity Church for the Women of the Church's recent Canteen meal.
- Jennifer Westermann reported that Duncan Finlayson would like to run for the one year vestry term. She will nominate him from the floor at the meeting.

Committee Reports:

- Christian Education – Jennifer reported that Molly Martinichio and Austin Keuter have volunteered to alternate Sundays with Lynne Jones in teaching the middle class.
- Women of the Church – Karen Cahill reported on the group's recent activity. It hosted Sister Joanne from the soon-to-open Mercy House which is looking for both financial and volunteer support. After hearing a presentation from Joan Kupetsky about a sleeping bag project for the homeless a group within the WoC is being formed to make sleeping bags. No meeting during March due to it being Lent.
- Welcoming Committee – Jennifer reported that, due to the difficulty of arranging porch visits for new people, the Greeters Ministry and Newcomers Ministry combine and focus on greeting people after services on Sundays.
- Pancake Supper – Eunice reported that there was a surplus of \$121.00 after expenses were met from the 2016 Pancake Supper. It will be divided between Mercy House and our own Youth as they were the force behind the Pancake Supper.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 with the praying of the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes submitted by Jennifer S. Westermann, Vestry Clerk

