



ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Seeking. Serving. Loving. Together.

Parish Notes

May 2022 • Vol. 64 No. 9



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We're on for St. Paul's annual Mission Trip to Harlan, Kentucky! For more than 20 years, members of our congregation have taken a trip up a winding Appalachian mountain to spend time with the people of Harlan, Kentucky. Harlan is a tiny city blessed with beautiful waterfalls, lush forests, and breathtaking overlooks. Unfortunately, many of the people there struggle with generational economic insecurity.

In Harlan, St. Paul's partners with COAP (Christian Outreach with Appalachian People), an organization dedicated to creating and maintaining affordable housing for low-income residents by hosting volunteers to build. This winter, COAP, suffered a terrible loss when three of their four cabins for volunteers burned. Thankfully, COAP has many steadfast partners who have committed to funding a complete rebuild of the lost cabins. So St. Paul's youth are headed back up the mountain this summer!

This trip is not to be missed. Come along for an epic week of adventure, service, and fun from June 26 to July 2. There are ONLY 14 SPOTS LEFT for youth (incoming first-year students who are 14 years old to graduating high school seniors). The trip is open to friends outside the parish. The cost is \$375 per person, with financial assistance available on request. Registration is extended through May 10! To register, go to our website: www.stpauls-church.org/harlan.

Cover Photos

Photos on the cover are from our Easter Day celebrations and are the top nine liked photos on Facebook. If you would like to view the photos or relive our celebrations, go to our website: www.stpauls-church.org/easter.

Seeking. Serving. Loving. *Together.*

The Rev. John Kennedy



As you may have noticed (there's a big sign in the back of the church), St. Paul's has been talking a lot about seeking, serving, and loving together lately. Born of a multi-year long-term planning project, we introduced these four words as our new identity statement

last fall because they get at the heart of who we are, what we do, and why we do it.

Throughout the program year, we've explored and expanded our understanding of each of these words in our adult forums, as well as in our *Parish Notes* clergy reflections (such as the one you're reading now!), with the intention of adding spiritual grounding and depth to this expression of identity.

In this year's forums, we've heard from our clergy, we've been joined by special guests (Stephen Post, Lois Annich, and Brother Lucas Hall of the Society of St. John the Evangelist), and we've all been invited to be part of the conversation about what it means to seek, serve, and love together, and we've learned a great deal.

We've reflected upon how we are all seekers; that we all have a "hungry heart" (thanks, Bruce Springsteen) that moves us to reach for something (or Someone) beyond ourselves; and that, most importantly, in Jesus we discover a God who is seeking us. We've contemplated the spiritual and scriptural dimensions of serving; that, in the Bible, worship and service to those in need are two sides of the same coin; how Jesus gives us the ultimate example of serving in washing the feet of his disciples; how, in the paradoxical way of Jesus, power and strength are revealed in weakness and humility.

We've explored love — that most overused and yet vitally important word — and the question of whether we live in a universe of cold, dead energy and matter or one intended and brought about by and for love, and we've gazed upon the cross of Christ as the supreme expression of this divine, self-giving love. And we've considered how essential and necessary it is that we journey together in all our seeking, serving, and loving, for we are all part of one body — the body of Christ.

We've also been living this identity throughout the year — this first year back in person after over a year as a virtual community — in a variety of ways. We've been seeking through formation offerings such as last fall's "Big Questions" series. We've been serving through outreach opportunities, such as our recent Lenten Acts of Love. We've expressed our love in moments such as the Maundy Thursday foot-washing. And, of course, we've done all of this *together*.

What a year it has been. Where might we go next?

Jeanne Returns!

Our rector, Jeanne, returns from sabbatical on May 15. She'll share her experiences in our Adult Forum on May 22, at 10 a.m. in Tucker Hall.

Newcomer Profile

Submitted by Suzanne Smythe



Kathleen Moore is no stranger to The Episcopal Church. Growing up, her parish home was St. James Episcopal Church in New York City. She graduated from Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley, CA, in 2019 and is an Episcopal Priest. She arrived in Cleveland in July of 2021, and

settled in Cleveland Heights with her two cats, Clark and Shermy. Kathleen was looking for a parish that is involved in service to this community, and St. Paul's was the logical choice. Her parents had moved from Vermont to Judson Manor in 2020. One of the lessons she learned from the pandemic was how nice it is to live near family. Having graduated from Kenyon College and now living in Ohio, she feels she's come full circle.

Kathleen is the communications manager at Canticle Communications, a strategic communications firm that works with faith-based organizations, mainly in The Episcopal Church. Their clients include dioceses, parishes, church organizations, and church leaders. Many of her weekends are spent supplying for

congregations here in the Diocese of Ohio, as well as Northwestern Pennsylvania and Western New York. The opportunity of meeting new people and seeing new places is one of the many aspects she enjoys about her job. She has been involved in various churchwide governance efforts. In this triennium, she served on the Task Force on Liturgical and Prayer Book Revision.

Before going to Divinity School, Kathleen spent two years as the social media manager for The Orvis Company and the communications minister for the Diocese of Vermont. She also spent eight years working in the television industry in Los Angeles. In her spare time, she enjoys running and, at the time of writing, is training for the Brooklyn Half Marathon in April.

Kathleen appreciates the warm welcome from St. Paul's, noting the fantastic outside summer services. She is excited to be attending Greater Cleveland Congregations (GCC) meetings and hopes to get more involved with that work as time goes on. Kathleen says her plan is not to move again for a while. She has been matched with parishioner Anne Anderson as her EpiscoPal. We are delighted she has decided to call Cleveland and St. Paul's home.

Gail Is Leaving Her Post

Pam O'Halloran

Gail Emmet has been an important fixture in the parish office for almost 19 years. She has served three rectors, two interim rectors, worked with 12 associate clergy and deacons, 14 children & youth ministry leaders or interns, 12 administrative staff members, two parish administrators, and several musicians, (though only one organist!). Almost all the staff and much of the congregation have never known — and cannot imagine — a St. Paul's without Gail at her post. I know I can't!

It is hard to imagine a cheerier, more welcoming voice on the other end of the church phone. Gail's greeting style exudes, "I'm so glad you called; I'd LOVE to help you!" And after talking to her, you're glad you called too! Gail has made you feel known, important, and well cared for.

Sitting at her post in the office, Gail checks in on all of us as we regularly pass through. She genuinely cares about us and our families and is frequently requesting updates. When someone is suffering from a loss, an illness, or disappointing news, she suffers with them. Her grief and sorrow are heartfelt. She will do whatever she can to help, whether by offering to drop everything and pitch in, providing a meal, offering a ride, or even dispensing medical advice (thank you, "Dr. Emmet"!).

Gail is also the most enthusiastic cheerleader and loves to celebrate any good news that she hears. As much as she empathizes with our grief, she equally shares in our joys. Because her vocabulary is generally limited to superlatives, encouragement from



Gail can be very good for a sagging ego.

And Gail is incredibly generous—generous of her time, her affection, her resources, and her attention. She is truly one who would give you the shirt off her back!

Gail Emmet is all of these things, as well as our dear friend. She has served this parish faithfully for 19 years, and it is hard to imagine the church office without Gail. I've often teased Gail that she has "abandoned her post" when I find her office chair empty. The church feels incomplete without Gail at her desk, ready to greet the next visitor or answer the next call.

She almost retired twice before (for medical reasons), and the abruptness of her temporary departures left us bereft. This time I think she really means it, so we have been preparing ourselves to venture on without her. Not an easy task!

Gail has expressed *repeatedly* that she does not want a celebration in her honor. The staff will plan a small farewell event and shower her with gifts. We encourage parishioners to express their appreciation and well wishes through notes, cards, and *lots* of chocolate! We will miss you, Gail! Visit us often.

What's next?

A search is underway to hire a full-time Parish Administrator/ Receptionist. The expanded position (Gail has been part-time) will enable Jenni Thomas to increase her support of communications and the finance office as well as to manage special projects.

Women's Spirituality

Denise Wells

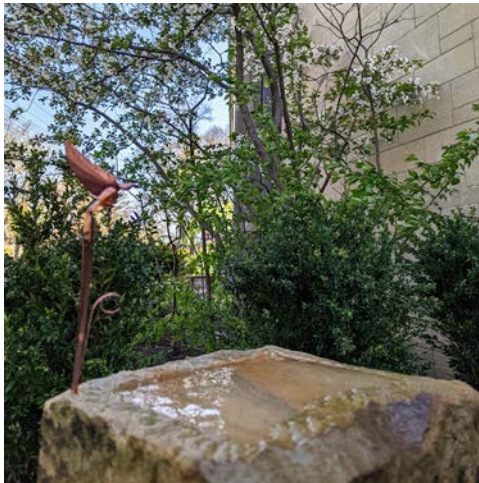
During the pandemic, we all had time to think about what matters most. Many women at St. Pauls have decided that cultivating relationships and spiritual life is a priority. The St. Paul's Women's Spirituality Group is designed to do just that as we meet the joys and challenges of life together.

This group began 36 years ago. I joined the group after moving to Cleveland Heights just as the pandemic began. Shortly after, I received a call on my birthday from Jane Morris, who has been a sort of spiritual anchor for the group throughout its existence. I found the group to be full of warm, welcoming women willing to share their thoughts, lives, and wisdom readily and generously. We meet in the beautiful Sander's Room on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month at 9:30 a.m. for one hour. During the spring and summer, we open the windows and hear the birds sing. We sit in a circle and share a spiritual reading and have some silent prayer time.

Currently, the group is reading *The Book of Joy-Lasting Happiness in a Changing World* by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the Dalai Lama.

The Rev. Nan Hildebrand, also a newcomer and retired priest, has become the chaplain for the group and provides spiritual resources. Nan and I have become the group facilitators.

If you are looking for an oasis where you can take some time for yourself and build new relationships with others and with God, please join us. The next two meetings are on Saturday, May 7, and May 21. We will be happy to see you! E-mail me or call so I can send you pertinent information or just show up: wellsdenise7@gmail.com or (216) 347-9697.



Special Thanks

This elegant birdbath with brass hummingbird was given for the St. Paul's memorial garden in honor of Jane Morris, a member of the Women's Spirituality group, by her children

What's Up with Engagement

Susan Quill



Born from the Long-Range Planning Report, the Engagement and Communications taskforce, consisting of eight members, led by Susan Quill, Jessie Dodson, and with support from Nathaniel Powell, set out to understand the current state of St. Paul's engagement, how communications play their part, and how we could increase engagement within our church and into our community.

The task force set out to achieve these goals:

- Determine the effectiveness of current models of communications, understand any gaps, and develop methods to fill those gaps
- Determine which metrics to capture, how to react to them, and use them to direct our focus
- Leverage the first two points to expand engagement within our church and reach into and out to our community

What we've learned:

- Recognized that best practices of communication aren't a one-size-fits-all; what works best for one may not work at all for another
- Continue to adopt technologies while juggling the unpredictable nature of the current-day postal service that guarantees delivery of time-sensitive materials
- Smaller groups and varied activities broaden the reach
- Focus on key demographics to further engage during transitions (for example, reaching out to recent "empty nesters")

So, what's next?

We're working to develop a dashboard template by which to track modes of engagement that will help formulate programs and guide future activities. This user-friendly dashboard will help parishioners and community members get an "at a glance" sense of our parish. What kinds of programs and events do we hold? How many people attend them?

We'll be sure to use all our communication channels to share this dashboard with you, including Parish Notes, Sunday Notes, email, social media, and more. We'll share the updates with you at the following times:

September: *Summer recap*
Season after Pentecost

January: *Fall recap*
Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany Seasons corresponds to Annual Meeting

May: *Winter and Spring recap*
Lenten, Holy Week, and Easter Seasons

We look forward to our bright future *together*.

PHOTO GALLERY

Holy Week



Photos on the left are from our Processions of the Palms on Palm Sunday. The photos on the right were taken during the ritual foot washing on Maundy Thursday.

Around the Parish



Worship

Summer Worship Service Schedule

Beginning Sunday, June 12

7:45 a.m. | St. Martin's Chapel

9 a.m. | Fairmount Lawn

10:15 a.m. | Nave

10 a.m. Coffee Hour | Terrace

Bluegrass Holy Eucharist

June 26, July 17, August 7, September 4, 9 a.m.



Baccalaureate Sunday

Sunday, May 15

We love to celebrate our high school seniors at St. Paul's. This year we'll honor the class of 2022 with a Baccalaureate Breakfast. We will also hear sermons from the seniors at all three services! If you are graduating high school this year, please make sure to email Lauren to get all the information about the celebration. Congratulations, class of 2022!



Ordination

Saturday, May 28, 10 a.m.

God willing and the people of God consenting, the Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth, Jr., Bishop of Ohio, will perform ordinations to the Sacred Order of Deacons in Christ's One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church on Saturday, May 28 at 10 a.m. at Trinity Cathedral. A reception will follow.



Recognition Sunday

Sunday, May 22

It takes a lot of service and support to create beautiful worship services and loving formation programs. On May 29, we will thank all of the volunteers, chaperones, acolytes, choir members, church school teachers, and others. Please join us in thanking all the parishioners who have lovingly dedicated themselves to these ministries.



Confirmation

Sunday, May 29

The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth will visit St. Paul's on Sunday, May 29, and administer the sacrament of Confirmation at the 9 and 11:15 a.m. services. Adults who have not taken a Confirmation class can sign up for Episcopal 101 (*see page 10*). Contact Rev. John if you or someone in your family is ready to be confirmed: jkennedy@stpauls-church.org.



Pentecost

Sunday, June 5, 10 a.m.

To celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the Christian Church, we will hold one combined service at 10 a.m. (no 7:45 a.m. service). Then join us afterward for a party out on the Fairmount Lawn for spirit-filled crafts and prayer stations for all ages.

Christian Formation



In the Adult Forum

May 1: *"Does the Resurrection Matter?"*

The Rev. John Kennedy

May 22: *Sabbatical Sharing*

The Rev. Jeanne Leinbach

May 29: *Special Guest*

Bishop Mark Hollingsworth



Episcopal 101

Beginning Wednesday, May 11, 7 p.m.

Haven't been confirmed or baptized yet? Or perhaps you just find yourself wondering what, exactly, it means to be an

Episcopalian? Join us for Episcopal 101, a three-session inquirer's course designed to help adults discern and prepare for Baptism and Confirmation, the rites of initiation in The Episcopal Church. Classes are on May 11, 18, and 25 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Contact Rev. John to sign up or learn more: jkennedy@stpauls-church.org.

Outreach



Reading Camp Call for Volunteers!

After a 2 year break, Overnight Reading Camp returns this summer for its eleventh year!

Camp this year is at Bellwether Farm

from Sunday, June 5 to Friday, June 10, and is filled with small group literacy-based education, traditional camp activities and crafts, good food and new friendships. We're looking for St. Paul's to come through again with volunteers in a variety of settings: teaching or assisting a teacher in groups of 3-5 kids at a time (curriculum provided), pleasure reading one-on-one with campers with books of their choosing, leading a game, activity or craft project in the afternoon or evening, or driving campers to and from camp. Older teens or young adults are also needed to serve as counselors, supporting campers and leading activities throughout the week.

If you can commit to every morning for the week or just a few hours for an afternoon, we can use your help! Please contact Betsy Hockey at ehockeypt@aol.com or Julie Micheletti at michelettijulie@gmail.com for more.



Fair Trade Fair

Sunday, May 15, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

St. Paul's Youth Group is hosting a Fair Trade Fair on May 15 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Several Fairtrade Certified vendors from Northeast Ohio, including One World Shop and Esperanza Threads, will sell their goods and wares in Tucker Hall.

The youth were not always concerned about fair trade practices, but in November 2021, during a three-week-long unit about serving (in the Seeking, Serving, Loving, *Together* curriculum), the youth church school class was asked to pick an issue and create a project to support it. After much discernment, the class decided that they were concerned about the practices of the "fast fashion" industry. They spent the formation hour researching the unethical ways garment workers are treated, and watched documentaries about how clothing production hurts the environment. While brainstorming solutions, the teens realized that the group, Fairtrade International was already striving to address these issues. They decided to get on board and show support by hosting an event to educate the parish about Fair Trade products.

Be sure to stop in Tucker Hall on Sunday, May 15, to show your support for the youth and this cause that they have dedicated several months of work.

Fellowship



SAGES Courthouse Visit

Wednesday, May 4, 8:45 a.m.

The much-anticipated rescheduling of the trip to Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court is here! On Wednesday, May 4, we will visit the court from 8:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. to sit in on parishioner Judge William Vodrey's Court session. Judge Vodrey will meet us outside his courtroom (18A, 18th floor) at 8:45 before the 9 a.m. session begins. Masks are required. We will be in the courtroom until approximately 11:30 a.m., when we will walk to Taza for lunch. As of April 29, there are a few seats available in the van leaving St. Paul's at 8:15 a.m. Reservations for both the van and for lunch are required. Please RSVP to Jenni Thomas in the parish office as soon as possible: (216) 932-5815 or jthomas@stpauls-church.org



Architectural Tour

Sunday, May 22, 12:30 p.m.

Do you know where the four Diocesan seals are in St. Paul's? How about the movie projection booth? Where can you find the image of a German World War II soldier? And just what did Dr. Albert Schweitzer have to say about our organ? Dave Loomis will lead a free, hour-long tour of the church, beginning at 12:30 p.m. on May 22 in the Narthex (just behind the Nave or main worship space), so you can find out. Whether you've been at St. Paul's for many years or just a few months, there's always more to discover about the beautiful space we all gather. Learn more about the art and architecture of St. Paul's!

Men's Council Annual Picnic

Tuesday, June 14, 6 p.m.

All men of the parish are invited to Hunting Valley for the annual picnic. Food and drink are provided, and parking is available (carpooling is preferred). RSVP to Mike Kechisen, Men's Council President: kechisen@gmail.com.



Baseball Night Out

Friday, June 24, 7 p.m.

Join the Men's Council at Progressive Field when the Guardians take on the Boston Red Sox. This year's game is Dollar Dog Night and is capped off with fireworks. We'll be sitting in the family section near the kids clubhouse. Tickets are \$35 and can be bought in advance at: www.menofstpauls.org.

Bellwether Together

Friday, August 12 to Sunday, August 14



All ages and life stages are invited to join the fun from Friday, August 12 to Sunday, August 14. Come relax with family and friends, enjoy delicious farm-fresh meals, walk along the river or explore the beautiful woods, try gentle yoga, arts and crafts, meet the farm animals, go for a swim, and enjoy rich conversations and a chance to connect in new ways with church friends. Accommodations range from comfortable bunk cabins that house up to 10 people, to fully-equipped hotel-style single and double retreat rooms. The facility is fully accessible, and program options are designed for all ages. Registration is coming soon.

Music



Choral Evensong

Sunday, May 1, 6 p.m.

The St. Cecilia, St. David, and Youth Choirs will offer a service of Choral Evensong at St. Paul's on May 1 at 6 p.m.

Works by Moore, MacDonald, Mendelssohn, and Aston will be featured. Organist Karel Paukert will accompany.

An Evening with Kosower and Levinson

Friday, May 6, 7:30 p.m.



Cellist Mark Kosower and pianist Max Levinson are two of the most dynamic, virtuosic, and well-respected musicians in the world of classical music today. Join this powerhouse duo for an evening of romantic and neo-romantic music in the beautiful acoustics of Tucker Hall at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Featuring works by Fauré, Strauss, Beethoven, Chausson, Myaskovsky, and Martinů. Free-will donations will be taken. Suggested donation: \$25 for adults and \$15 for students and those 18 and under.



Apollo's Fire at Severance Hall

Saturday, May 7, 8 p.m.

In gratitude for their 30-year relationship with St Paul's Church, Apollo's Fire invites St Paul's members to their 30th Anniversary Celebration concert at Severance Hall – with a special ticket discount of 20%. The program features splendid music of Mozart and his colleague, the extraordinary classical Black composer Joseph Bologne, Chevalier de St-Georges. Tickets and information are available by calling the box office and online: (216) 320-0012 or apollosfire.org. Use discount code: stpaul20.

Parish Notes Deadlines:

For the June and July edition of Parish Notes, please notify Nathaniel Powell of any submissions as soon as possible. Submissions are due Friday, May 20: npowell@stpauls-church.org