



The Epistle

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

June / July 2011

Top 10 Reasons to Not Check Out of Church for the Summer

Every year we go through the same thing. We have good attendance at Sunday services in Lent. We have wonderful crowds for Holy Week and Easter. We have pretty good attendance then until Graduation Day. And then folks seem to disappear until they gradually come back to church in the fall. I don't know why folks quit coming in the summer. Perhaps vacations take some away. But this exodus is really not good. Well, even if I don't know why this happens I know a lot of reasons why it shouldn't. Here's a few of my top reasons.

10. It gets lonesome sitting up front and gazing out at an empty nave.
9. Do you know what famous person shows up every summer on the one Sunday when there is the lowest attendance?
8. You get to see the very latest in Summer fashions.
7. Do you really want to miss all of the great things that go on around here in the summer months?
6. The treasurer gets very nervous when income goes down in the summer. So does the Vestry. Please humor them by keeping your attendance and your offering up to date.
5. You promised! In the Baptismal Covenant (BCP p. 304) we are asked, "Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?" We all said, "I will, with God's help."
4. A lot of people who are new to Saint Paul's visit us in the summer months. We need you there to help welcome them.
3. Your church misses you. (yes, we do, we really, really do)
2. You miss your church (admit it, you miss us when you're not here!)
1. Every week we **absolutely need** to draw near to Christ in worship, to receive the grace of the Blessed Sacrament and to hear the Word of God read and preached. Our spiritual health depends on it.

YOU'RE INVITED YOU'RE INVITED YOU'RE INVITED

Fr. Tom



Here's an Invitation Father Tom and the members of the Vestry would like to invite those who are new to the parish to come for an evening to meet the leaders of the parish and get to know them better. There will be snacks and refreshments in an informal setting. Various leaders in the parish will be introduced and asked to give a brief description of what they do.

So many times people ask who's in charge of various activities or how can I become involved. Here's an opportunity to find out. Save the evening of **June 26** to come and meet and greet new friends.

3rd Annual Emergency Appreciation Dinner, May 18, 2011

In spite of the rain we had about 71 Riley County Emergency Personnel as our guests on Wednesday and also television crews from Channels 9 and 13 in Topeka...they even had to take a detour for the road! The Mercury also wrote a nice article about the day.

Many, many thanks to everyone who provided food, cooked, served and helped to set up and clean up. Without your support it wouldn't have happened.

The Committee of:

- Tim & Mary Davenport
- Rob & Donna MacDougall
- Aaron Wright and Gayla Adams-Wright
- John & Eleanor Blaker



THANK YOU

HOW TO REACH US

Saint Paul's office: 776-9427; e-mail: stpauls@stpaulsmanhattan.org; web site: www.stpaulsmanhattan.org

Vestry hi-lights 5/11

David Littrell led a brief Bible study

The Consent Agenda was accepted

C. Connizzo reported that all is going well with the finances at this point in time. A full report is posted on the bulletin board.

The chimney project has been completed and the bill was \$5, 712.50, which was very reasonable for the time it took to repair it.

It was moved and seconded to accept the treasurer’s report. Motion carried.

David Thompson reported on the progress of the Evangelism Committee. One of the projects is a “Meet and Greet the Rector” event for newcomers to the parish. This will be a Sunday evening event held on June 26.

L. Neslon reported on the “near accidents” on the stone steps leading into the church. Following discussion it was decided that Larry proceed with getting bids to get them fixed.

P. Pesci, Chair of the Finance Committee outlined the process of the audit and committee. An audit will be done in June and must reach the Diocesan office by September. It was suggested that the Finance and Stewardship committees work together so the fall pledge campaign will be completed by the time of the parish Thanksgiving dinner.

June 4, 9-noon the vestry will meet to go over the goals talked about at the vestry retreat.

Jim Fuller has resigned from the vestry due to health problems. Michelle Florence received the next number of votes and she has agreed to serve. It was moved and seconded to accept Jim’s resignation with regrets and to appoint Michelle to serve until the next annual meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting was closed with the service of Compline.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

2	George Halazon	11	Charles Pearce	29	Jill Carlson
	Lee Ann Desper	16	Marguerite Beck		Bill Sier
3	Samantha Phillips-Zee	17	Justin Williams		
5	Cindy LaBarge	18	Garon Wright		
	Michelle Haub	19	Peggy Null		
6	Lee Carlson	22	Audrey Phillips-Zee		
7	Virginia Houser	28	Mary Roberts		



JULY BIRTHDAYS

1	Gary Jones	10	Wyatt Sullivan	23	Suzanne Otto
2	Celesta Taylor	11	Robert Smith		Margaret “Meg”Harper
4	Frank Connizzo	12	Russ Butterworth	24	Laura Phillips-Zee
	Gabrielle Thompson	16	Trewman Haub	25	Jenney Ryan
5	Jennifer Jones		Karen McCulloh	29	Rodney Franko
6	Louise Hardisty	20	Emily VanNatta	30	Cheryl Finney

Miscellaneous Announcements! Mark your calendars!!

No June Men's Breakfast

It seems impossible that we could ever miss gathering for the Great American Breakfast, but it must be this June.

On Saturday, June 11, the Bishop, clergy and people of the Diocese of Kansas will gather for the ordination of a number candidates to the sacred order of deacons. One of those spent some time with us as the Campus Intern. Some of you remember Patrick Funston. He has now graduated from Virginia Seminary and is one of those selected to be ordained.

Place: Grace Cathedral
Topeka, Kansas
Date: June 11
Time: 10:30 a.m.

I hope to see you again in July. *Fr. Tom*

S.P.I.N. The Last Shall be First

Join us on **June 12** from 5:30-7:30 at St. Paul's Church for the first **S.P.I.N.** evening this summer! Supper will be served, so no need to stand in the hot sun or kitchen preparing your meal! David Thompson will teach an intergenerational lesson on giving of ourselves and putting others first. We will also have a short activity for all ages to participate in after the lesson. Come and celebrate summer with a great evening of free food, fun, fellowship and learning.

ECW

Lunch with Friends will be on **June 29th** and **July 27th**. All parish women are urged to come for a pot-luck of sandwiches and salads. Women "free" during school vacation will enjoy a chance to meet informally. There is play space for children. Bring a 6-serving dish to share. The hostess serves desserts.

ENCORE SHOP

Our thrift shop has regular hours (1-4 p.m. M-S) through June. The last day for donations is Monday, June 27. The Encore shop is closed during July as time is needed to sort, sell, or store items. During early July there will be work mornings to clear out old stock. Watch the Sunday bulletin for these dates. The shop will reopen in mid August.

Volunteers are saying "good byes and we will miss you" to co-director and Treasurer Pauline Watson. She is moving to Savannah, GA, to be near her daughter's family. Best wishes and prayers go with her.

A CHORUS OF THANKS!

The St. Paul's Choir wants to publically thank Nancy Walker for her leadership in directing the choir these past years. Nancy spent many, many hours going through music pieces to make sure that we provided great music for the congregation each Sunday and for the different liturgical seasons.

We will miss your leadership, Nancy, but will be happy to have you joining us as a member of the choir.



Senior Warden's Notes...

We want to welcome Michelle Florence as a new member to the vestry. Michelle will replace Jim Fuller who was elected at the annual meeting in January and has found it necessary to resign from the vestry. Michelle will serve until the next annual meeting at which time she will be eligible to run for a full term if she so chooses. Welcome, Michelle.

A big thank you is due for Eleanor Blaker, the planning committee, and all of the volunteers who helped with the third annual Emergency Personnel Appreciation Dinner on May 18. Super publicity from the TV stations and a great turnout of firemen, police officers, and emergency medical folks.

The vestry will have a "min-retreat" on the morning of June 4 from 9:00-12:00 to continue with goal setting and action planning. Emphasis at this point is on Evangelism and Stewardship. More information will be forthcoming.

Remember the three S. P. I. N. (St. Paul's Inter-generational Night) activities planned for June, July, and August. The first one will be on Sunday, June 12, from 5:30-7:30. Fun, food, and a program appropriate for all ages are on the agenda. Look forward to seeing you there.

A reminder that the first Sunday of each month is Food Basket Sunday. Let's set a monthly goal of 100 pounds of food to be delivered to the Flint Hills Breadbasket. We can do this!

Have an enjoyable summer. Remember that you can contact me at 539-7839 or dks3838@yahoo.com.

Dale K. Shipps

Notes from the treasurer:

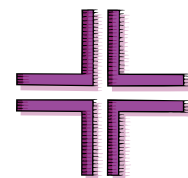
As we enter the summer months please keep your pledge current. The church expenses continue in the summer and we rely on our pledges to pay our bills. You will receive semi-annual statements the first part of July, however, if you have any questions call the church office. Jennifer or I will return your call. Thank you and God Bless, Carol Connizzo, Treasurer

The Crossroads Campaign continues-

If you have been meaning to and just haven't gotten around to it, the Crossroads Campaign is continuing. There are pledge cards and brochures in the church office. This is an opportunity to be a part of a plan to expand the number of lay people who can receive training for a number of ministries, allow more people to prepare for ordination as deacons and provide local education for priests who will lead parishes across the diocese. This is the Kansas School for Ministry!

Please consider making a pledge or a one time gift to this very important endeavor. Your donation is tax deductible as provided by law. But more importantly, it is an investment in the future. If you have not heard of the Crossroads Campaign and would like some information, please call the church office. If you wish to leave your pledge at St. Paul's or put it in the offering plate, we will take care of sending it to the diocese.

Most Churches will have their pledges and gifts returned to the diocese by Pentecost, but it never is to late to participate.



Reflections on Stewardship
David Littrell

Twice a month I drive my Gator down our country road using a grabber to collect trash. I have the vain hope that a clean roadway will discourage further littering. My neighbors never thank me, but that bothers me not the least. I'm not doing it for praise of other people, but rather it's one small way I want to be a good steward of the earth.

In the first chapter of Genesis, six times God looked over what He had made and saw that "it was good." In this fallen world, God's creation is still good. In the country, I see beauty in the magnificence of our horses as they gallop about the first day they are put out to pasture. I see an endearingly lovely, yet fragile existence in our chickens that are at the mercy of so many other creatures. Gorgeous sunsets and moonrises appear, as do awe inspiring thunderheads bringing rain to our neighbors farther east. God has given us so much to appreciate every day, and He has wonders we can't possibly imagine in store for us in the future. For now, I'll continue praising God for His creation while I continue to pick up that which mars our lovely countryside.



The following is an excerpt from the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas Communications

"I am asking every parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas to come to the aid of our brothers and sisters who have been affected by these terrible disasters.....

Parishes should forward **one check** from this Sunday's special collection to the diocese. Please make checks payable to "Episcopal Diocese of Kansas," with "Tornado Relief" in the memo line. Mail checks to Episcopal Diocese of Kansas, Tornado Relief, 835 SW Polk St., Topeka, KS 66612. These funds then will be immediately forwarded to Episcopal Relief and Development (with the amounts sent by each parish itemized so ERD can appropriately thank each parish individually.)

I thank you for your prayers and your generosity toward our brothers and sisters in these hours. We will offer additional assistance as it becomes clear how we can best do so."

Almighty God, Father of mercies and giver of comfort; Deal graciously, we pray, with all who mourn; that, casting out all their care on you, they may know the consolation of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (The Book of Common Prayer, page 505)

Grace and Peace,

+Dean



Fr. Tom Miles, Rector
Charles Pearce, Archdeacon

Service Schedule
Sunday

8 a.m. Holy Communion, Rite I
10 a.m. Holy Communion, Rite II
11:30 a.m. Contemporary Service

Wednesday

12:15 p.m.: Healing Eucharist

Christian Education

Sunday Mornings: 11:15 a.m. - noon
(children)

Church Information

Address: P. O. Box 1034
Sixth and Poyntz
Manhattan KS 66505

Telephone: 785-776-9427
e-mail: stpauls@stpaulsmanhattan.org
Website: www.stpaulsmanhattan.org

Church Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 12 noon, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Eleanor Blaker, Parish Administrator

MONTHLY HAPPENINGS

FOOD BASKET SUNDAY: The 1st Sunday of each month, dried and canned goods can be left at the back of the church.

MEN'S BREAKFAST: The 2nd Saturday of each month, men meet at the church at 8 a.m.

ST. PAUL'S SATURDAY MORNING: The women meet the 2nd Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. in the Common Room. Come for some fellowship and a cup of coffee! *DOESN'T MEET DURING SUMMER*

ECW LUNCH WITH FRIENDS: The last Wednesday of the month at 12:45 p.m. following the noon healing service (unless a conflict with a holiday).

D.O.K.: 3rd Saturday of the month at 10 a.m.

WEEKLY

La Concina Allegra: Breakfast on Tuesdays and Fridays, 7 a.m. - 8 a.m. in the dining room.

Remember the Church in your will

St. Paul's Calendar for June 2011

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																								
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