

# St. Paul's Episcopal Church

## THE GOOD NEWS

January 2020

*The mission of St. Paul's is to be the Body of Christ and instruments of his love and grace committed to serve and nurture this church and community.*

*The Way of  
Love  
Turn  
Learn  
Pray  
Worship  
Bless  
Go  
Rest*

### Why Ask Why?

*from the Rector's sabbatical*

On the last Sunday before my sabbatical, rather than a homily, I dragged a chair to the center of the Nave and answered questions about what I hoped to accomplish with the period of refreshment so generously provided by our Parish. I also asked a couple of questions of my own, and asked members to continue to consider those questions in my absence.

That challenge *itself* was a continuation of the questions I urged us to engage back at this time last year. Based on conversations I have had with many Parishioners about changing patterns of participation, I asked: what is most important about St. Paul's to each of us, how St. Paul's can meet our needs, corporately and individually, and how each of us can be more involved in the life we share.

On the eve of my absence from you for three month, I asked us to consider how St. Paul's is distinct from other churches and service organizations, that is, how are we set apart in our community. And I asked what we could be doing better, and what, if it were absent would change the essential character of St. Paul's.

I received some very helpful answers from small groups, the Vestry, the Wednesday evening crowd, and the saints, sinners and cynics that meet on Tuesdays at Rookies. But my goal of getting to ask the questions more personally were a casualty of complications in my own personal life, and the easel charts I set in the Parish Hall for comment went all but unnoticed during the sabbatical.

Then at Annual Convention in November, a new program was launched for the Diocese of Kentucky based on a popular TED talk by corporate consultant, Simon Sinek, who proposes that organizations refocus their attention and their actions from questions about what, where and how they do the things they do, with the passion behind the more basic question of *why?*

A committee from the Bishop and Trustees, the body for executive governance of the Diocese, led a three-part Convention session that asked delegates, seated

at mixed tables rather than with their own deputations, to consider the "why?" of our Diocesan life.

I was somewhat surprised to find the exercise to be very valuable, and I hope we can capture part of the energy that was generated in the Diocesan context for our own life here at St. Paul's. As we continue to look at what we do as a Parish, and how we could do it better, we would do well to base those conversations on the why, on the passion that we have for this place, for each other, and for our common life in Christ.

As a starting point for such a sustained and fruitful conversation, I am going to use a part of our Annual Meeting after Eucharist on Sunday, January 12 for an abbreviated version of our Diocesan exercise. I will, of course, present the basic whats and hows of the year we have just completed. But I look forward, as well, to having us begin to ask why it is that we all are committed, in many different ways, to being the presence of Christ here on the corner of Center and Green.

From there, I'm planning to take the conversation to the pulpit and on the road. For the three Sundays following our Meeting, I will share my own whys: in a formula with which many of you are fairly familiar after nearly eight years together, talking about why I am a Christian, why I am a priest, and finally, why I am *your* Priest.

At the same time, I will be asking *you* the same sort of questions: why you are a Christian, why you are at St. Paul's, why you are as active as you are (or not), and I hope that I will get invitations from some of you for such conversations. For others, I hope you will answer my call to set up a time for us to talk. Either way, I look forward to sharing our Annual Meeting whys in this space next month, and I look forward just as eagerly to sharing the whys of the *rest* of our conversations before we reach the deliberation of our Lenten journey.

Peace and joy,

## Upcoming Events

**Sundays—8 a.m.**—Holy Eucharist, Rite I, 9 a.m. Choir Practice, 10 a.m. Choral Eucharist, Rite II, Children's Atrium. Coffee Hour following the service.

**Tuesdays—6 p.m.**—Saints, Sinners, and Cynics—Rookies

**Wednesdays—12:10 p.m.**—Holy Eucharist with Anointing for Healing

**Wednesday—January 8—6:00 p.m.**—Potluck Supper and Program

**Sunday—January 12—10 a.m.**—Epiphany Pageant

**Annual Parish Meeting in the Parish Hall after the 10 a.m. service.**

**Sunday—January 19—CCO Sunday—Toothbrushes and Toothpaste**

**Monday—January 20—Noon—St. Ann's Guild—Parish Hall**

**Saturday—January 25—10 a.m.**—Prayer Shawl Ingathering, Parish Hall

**Sunday—January 26—After the 10 a.m. service—Baby Shower for Avery Bane Estes**

**Wednesday—January 29—6 p.m.**—Potluck Supper and Program with the Presbyterians

## Around the Parish



Close to a full house of kids hear Fr. Rich tell a story of giving in celebration of the Feast of St. Nicholas and his ordination.



The crew of the Christmas on the River program packed sixty-six boxes of Christmas cheer for towboat crews who will spend Christmas working the rivers.



Barbara mugs with Prissy the clown at St. Ann's Guild Christmas party for Henderson Manor residents.



## Holy Land Travels—Part 7

*from the Deacon*

I had just finished my eggplant and egg sandwich when Jerry announced it was time to go, we had a long afternoon of driving to get to our next hotel. Our driver Ruben drove through the Jordan Valley while Jerry pointed out places of interest, including the ruins of the ancient city of Jericho.

As we continued driving through the Jordan Valley there was a lot of agriculture, in the desert. The temperature in the desert was an unseasonable 105 degrees, and our air-conditioning wasn't cooling the coach. So, after a couple hours, folks began to complain. We were about 45 minutes from our hotel so Jerry decided to stop so Ruben could look at the air-conditioning unit while we walked about a quarter mile to a water fall there in the desert! I was not a happy camper!

We loaded back onto the hot coach and drove a short distance to an Ahava factory outlet for some shopping and a restroom break, which I badly needed! Unfortunately, I found this particular bathroom to be very undesirable and smelly!

After about thirty minutes, we boarded the coach again, and headed for the Daniel Dead Sea Hotel, only about thirty minutes away. Hurray! By now I was not feeling well at all, my lunch having not set well with me. Upon arriving to the hotel, Jerry explained that arrangements were already made to have our coach air-conditioning repaired by a mechanic during our stay there.

I was unable to walk down to the Dead Sea and get into the water, instead I watched from my window as Lydia and Kyle bravely enjoyed the salty waters of the Dead Sea. I had ordered a soda similar to a sprite and a glass of ice to help settle my stomach. The hotel sent my sprite and ice right up! The cost was 28 New Israeli Shekels (with tip), a little over eight dollars, but worth every penny to me. I took a short nap and got up feeling much better. I showered for supper and met the others in the dining room at 7:00, but decided to eat light and return to my room early. I was totally worn out!

The next morning, day five of our trip, we loaded onto the coach which had been repaired and rode a short distance to Masada. Masada is the name for the site of the ancient palace and fortification in the Southern District of Israel. It perches on top of an isolated rock plateau on the eastern edge of the Judaeen Desert, overlooking the Dead Sea. We rode a cable car to the top of the mountain and toured the extensive ruins, well preserved by the dry desert air. According to the information on the signs, Herod the Great built two palaces for himself on the mountain and fortified Masada. Later, Masada was the last stronghold of the 73-74 C.E. Jewish rebellion against the Romans, which ended in the mass suicide of the rebels who were there.

I will stop here and continue next month with the ruins of Masada as we walked through this ancient site.

Love and Peace!



## Annual Parish Meeting

The Rector and Vestry invite you to be part of the Annual Meeting of St. Paul's Parish on Sunday, January 12. Following the 10:00 service, we will adjourn to the Parish Hall for a light lunch as we elect a new Vestry and conduct the other business of the Parish. All members are encouraged to attend this important time in the life of our Parish.

## New Letter from Uganda

Just in time for Christmas, St. Paul's got a new letter from Alex Kiweewa, the young man in Uganda that we support on a monthly basis. You can read his letter in his own hand on the bulletin board:

*I greet you in Jesus' name.*

*How are you?*

*Me I am doing well. My family*

*loves you and sends you greetings.*

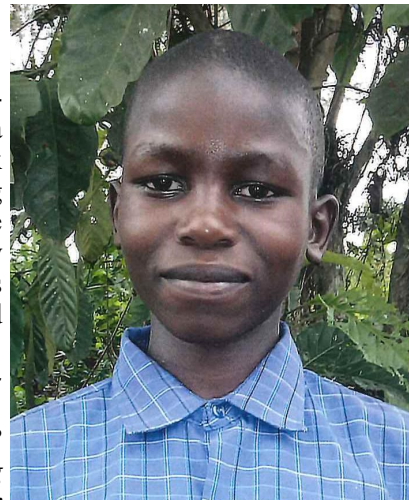
*Thank you so much for helping me. I thank you still for sending me school fees. My school is St. Alex Kirowooza Primary School. I am in primary four. I am in day and I go to school by foot. It takes me about 40 minutes to walk from home to school and back.*

*Going to school has helped me to learn to read and write. I have also learnt many other things. Just recently we have learnt about physical features vectors and others. I didn't know about them.*

*Education is going to help me in future to get a job. This job will help me to live well.*

*I love you and wish you well.*

*Your loving son, Alex Kiweewa*



## Breakfast and Supper

Because the Annual Meeting will be on his usual week, Louis will be cooking for us Sunday morning, January 5. Then Susie plans to gather a crew from the new Vestry to offer breakfast on Sunday, January 19.

Having finished our C.S. Lewis book, the Wednesday evening program takes a new direction in the new year. The second Wednesday, January 8, will begin, of course, with a potluck supper, but will then begin a traditional Bible study of Paul's letter to the Romans. Our study will continue each second Wednesday this year, but each discussion is unique, so you can join the conversation any time.

On the *last* Wednesday of each month, at least until the end of the school year, we will continue to join our friends at the Presbyterian Church for both a potluck and a program. Join us all on Wednesday, January 29.



## A FULL December

**Leslie Newman**—EYC started the month, after the 10 a.m. service on December 1, by dismantling the Thanksgiving altar and continuing our project to decorate boxes for Ministry on the River, all, of course, accompanied by lunch.

Among EYC and our alumnae, we celebrated the early arrival of Avery Bane Estes, at 2:59 p.m. on December 5, weighing in at 7 pounds 2 ounces and 21 inches long, to Caitlin Walker and Michael Estes.

On December 6, we gathered to celebrate St. Nicholas Day, which also happens to be the anniversary of Fr. Rich's ordination to the priesthood. Fr. Rich read the story of St. Nicholas to the youth, and the children gathered around the Altar for Eucharist. After Mass, the young people and some of their parents, St. Paul's family and friends, gathered in the Parish Hall to decorate gingerbread houses painstakingly made by Raiko Henderson. Some of us even took a break to run down to Central Park for the tree lighting! Thanks to Raiko and to those who contributed candy and other decorations for the houses, some of which are on display in the parish hall. Thanks, too, to the Henderson family, for treating us to a supper of pizza, wings and more. It's fair to say a fun time was had by all!

The next morning, some of us returned to St. Paul's for the Riverview School *Breakfast with Santa* pancake breakfast and fundraiser, a tradition our Parish is proud to host. Louis Smith, our esteemed breakfast chef, was at his familiar grill.

Then we gathered, in the crisp morning air, thankful for the sunshine, for the Henderson Christmas Parade. Fr. Rich was at the wheel and Ms. Ella rode shotgun in the Gator, with Marty White distributing candy from the bed, and Aaron and Wendell Thomas, Deacon Larry, Michael, Corey Hill and Susan Sauls walking the route along with the Purdys, Brianna, and Kiya, handing out candy, while Jessa, Reece and I and a new friend from Matthew 25 rode the trailer bearing the Little Church made by Mark Sellars as a gift from Ms. Ella. If you missed us in the parade, you still can see the Little Church with the red door, in Central Park in the Christmas in the Park display.

After the Parade, the Walaskay family again invited us into their home, to join other St. Paul's family and friends who watched the Parade from the porch, for fellowship, Christmas movies, hot chocolate, chili, *Brown Bag* burgers and more. It was a splendid day!

To round out the weekend, on Sunday, December 8, EYC gathered at the First United Methodist Church to celebrate the consecration of their new organ as a prelude to the *Alice P. Taylor Candlelight Service*. A special treat in this annual, traditional service is that Fr. Rich sang a solo. After the service, we enjoyed pizza and wings at *Rockhouse on the River*. Thanks to Susan Sauls for joining us.

In spite of illness and other obligations, some of our kids and kids-at-heart attended the *Festival of Lessons and Carols* at First United Methodist Church on December 15, followed closely by *A Tapestry Christmas* at First Christian Church, and those churches' receptions following the performances. The Tapestry included Fr. Rich reading a lesson, Marla on cello, and Susan Sauls, Marty White and Bill Gentry in the choir, along with a tapestry of musicians and choristers from our sister churches including First Christian, Zion UCC, Community Baptist, and the Presbyterian Church.

On December 22, our youth lent their strong backs and knees, along with their willing hearts, to help prepare the church for Christmas, carrying the standards, wreaths and other decorations from the attic, and doing whatever was asked of them by Iris and the Altar Guild. Then we celebrated the adoption of Reece Hill by Corey and Jessa with their St. Paul's family, and their family and friends.

The next day, the first day free from school, a dozen youth and younger kids brought their blankets and pillows to the floor of the Parish Hall for the Fr. Rich Christmas Film Festival. From 10 to 2, the kids enjoyed two new Christmas movies and a favorite short, along with a taco lunch and more snacks and drinks than they are probably usually allowed.

Most of our young movie-goers then made up our band of carolers that visited the Parish's shut-ins during Deacon Larry's direction, logistic *and* musical.

And finally, some of St. Paul's youth helped cook, serve, and clean up breakfast for the Parish on December 29, the fifth Sunday of the month.

As you finish cleaning up from the busy holidays, please remember that the Youth collect any used Christmas cards you're willing to donate so that we can recycle the beautiful pictures for next year's *Christmas on the River* boxes.

## Celebrating Another Graduation

**Leslie Newman**—Corey Hill graduated from Henderson Community College on December 13 with her Associate of Arts degree. She will be continuing her position as a Special Needs Program Assistant at Spottsville Elementary. Corey plans to return to college to complete her Bachelors degree next year. Congratulations!

## A Few Calendars Left!

The 2020 EYC Calendars are almost gone!.  
Get yours before New Years Day for \$7 each  
and support our Youth programs.



## Vestry Notes

At their meeting on December 17, St. Paul's Vestry:

- Thanked Bill for hosting our gathering, and Susie for coordinating our meal.
- Received financial reports showing considerable closing of the gap in pledged income.
- Celebrated the baptisms of Jeffery and Avery the previous Sunday and of Reese the next week.
- Firmed up plans for the meal and program at Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 12.
- Discussed the expansion of WiFi service to aid in live streaming our worship, and the usefulness of Fr. Rich's broadcast calls for reminding Parishioners of coming activities.
- Applauded the generous crowd of children who were part of our annual St. Nicholas celebration, including many who are not usually part of our Parish but are *friends* of Parishioners.
- Were updated on the installation of a new heating unit in the rental property and continued delays in finding a solution to the Ed Wing HVAC system.
- Commended Bill all those that helped with the Christmas on the River project, and for the members of St. Ann's Guild, musicians Terry and Pastor Tim from Community Baptist Church, and Prissy the Clown for making the party for the residents at Henderson Manor so special.
- Received a pastoral report from Fr. Rich.
- Confirmed a full slate of nominees for election to St. Paul's Vestry.
- Approved an Operating Budget for 2020 with essentially flat expenses and setting a goal of drawing no more than \$35,000 for invested funds for operations.
- Expressed thanksgiving for the work of Wardens Susie and Mike during the Rector's sabbatical year.

The next Vestry meeting will follow the Annual Meeting on January 12 in the Rector's Study.

## Christmas on the River

With the help of contributions from the congregation, the decorative efforts of our Youth, and the organizational help of Bill Gentry and SCI Chaplain Kempton Baldrige, our determined box-packers were able to provide the crews of sixty-six vessels with hand-knitted scarves and hats, goodies and toiletries, and an extra measure of Christmas cheer through the Seamen's Church Institute's Christmas on the River program. Thank you to all who gave, shopped, decorated, or created, and to all who packed. And thank you, as well, to the mariners that make our lives easier *every* day.

## Vestry Nomination Slate

Susie Watkins, Mike France and Ann Street, the Vestry Nominating Committee, have nominated a full slate of three Parishioners for election to fill three-year terms on the Vestry. They are Corey Hill, Susan Sauls, and Connie Spivey.

Further nominations are in order until, and indeed *at* the Annual Meeting.

## Remembering Your Parish

"The Minister of the Congregation" says the *Book of Common Prayer* (page 445), "is directed to instruct the people, from time to time about the duty of all persons to make wills, while they are in health, arranging for the disposal of their temporal goods, not neglecting, if they are able, to leave bequests for religious and charitable uses."

St. Paul's is always grateful for the generous support given by all the members of the Parish for our ongoing life and our work in the community and in the world. And we are grateful as well for those who in the past have made provision for the continuation and expansion of the mission and ministry of St. Paul's through their foundational gifts and bequests. If you'd like to know more about remembering St. Paul's in your final planning, please be in touch with Fr. Rich.



*Thank You*  
to everyone who made  
*Christmas at St. Paul's*  
so beautiful and fulfilling.  
*Your work brought us all joy!*

## Financial Summary as of November 30, 2019

<b>Pledged Income Received to Date</b>	<b>\$132,524</b>
<b>Unbudgeted Income from Investments to Date</b>	<b>\$40,000</b>
<b>Other Operating Income to Date</b>	<b>\$49,788</b>
<b>Operating Expenses to Date</b>	<b>\$228,452</b>

## St. Paul's Episcopal Church Staff

The Very Rev. Rich Martindale, Rector  
The Rev. Richard Godbold, Priest Associate  
The Rev. Larry Courtney, Deacon  
Leslie Newman, EYC Director  
Judy Duncan, Parish Secretary  
Phone—270-826-2937

## Service Times

Sunday 8:00 Rite I  
10:00 Rite II  
Wednesday 12:10 Rite II w/ anointing for healing

## Vestry Members

Sr. Warden  
Jr. Warden  
Clerk  
Budget and Finance  
Parish Life  
Building and Grounds  
Outreach  
Worship and Music  
Christian Formation and Youth  
Communications  
Treasurer

Susie Watkins  
Mike France  
Becky Carroll  
Susie Watkins, Bill Gentry, Becky Carroll  
Marty White, Ann Street, Bill Brodsky  
Mike France, Bill Gentry  
Jesse Gonzalez, Becky Carroll, Lydia Johnson, Deacon Larry  
Mike France, Jesse Gonzalez  
Marty White, Bill Brodsky  
Ann Street, Lydia Johnson  
Hugh Hennessy

## St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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[www.stpauls-henderson.org](http://www.stpauls-henderson.org)

