

The Good News

Volume 11 Issue 5

September/October 2015

Wise Words

Dear friends at St. Paul's:

Let me start this article by saying I am far from perfect. I get angry, sometimes too quickly. I am judgmental, especially if I don't think you agree with my point of view. And yet, without a doubt, I am loved. Jesus loves me, faults and all, just like he loves all the members of St. Paul's—those who are here every Sunday, those who come twice a year, those who barely fulfill the requirements so they can maintain "membership" by Diocesan rules, those who left us full of hurt that other children of God could be so, well, human. Jesus loves us, even while we still perpetuate the "us against them" mentality, while we still point fingers, still expect perfection from imperfect people, while we still sit in a pew feeling morally superior to others – yes, He still loves us. He is awesome! He is what I strive to be like every day of my life! Some days, I make it, most days I don't. And on those days, I still feel his love. I pray that each and every one of you do to.

I have said repeatedly that we ALL need to find forgiveness for each other, over things that have happened this past year. Obviously, we haven't. Have any of us picked up a phone and called the Child of God who has been missing for the past year? Have any of us picked up a phone and called the Child of God who has been out of Church for family reasons recently? Or do you expect someone else to do this? Have you told the people who left in hurt that you miss them, love them, hope they can forgive and be forgiven for all hurts, real and perceived? The answers are in your hearts. Our actions or inactions speak volumes. God has forgiven us, EVERY ONE OF US. So, I ask you, why can't WE FORGIVE each other? And yes, it goes BOTH WAYS.

Our Church is a family and as a family we have dysfunctions, imperfect people and many different opinions. And like a family, sometimes our pride gets in the way and we cannot or will not be the first to hold out the branch of reconciliation. And like a family sometimes the other part of the family cannot push their pride or hurt feelings aside and accept the branch of reconciliation. But, in my opinion, if we don't try to hold out that branch, if we don't accept our part in the split, we will never heal. I have seen what this has done in human families; I do not wish to see this damage perpetuated in my Church family.

(Continued on next page)

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Chittenango, New York exists to restore all people to unity with each other and with God in Jesus Christ.



Wise Words (Continued)

My challenge to those who are here every Sunday, look into your heart, please try to see where anger and moral superiority is getting you. Being “right” isn’t always about being right, but about being prideful. My challenge to those who left us in anger and hurt, I say the same to you. Let us start coming together; let us reach out and call each other; let us work toward one goal, to be more Christ-like. I pray that these words do not fall on deaf ears and hardened hearts, that the spirit of Jesus Christ, OUR Lord prevails and we work TOGETHER and do His work.

We have been blessed to have two retired priests leading us in Worship every Sunday, Father Grover and Father Birkby. Not many Parishes have this luxury, and come October, when Father Birkby moves, we will return to Morning Prayer every other Sunday. Thank you, Father Birkby, for your way of looking at the Gospel. Yes, I know that it doesn’t feel like you have “been to Church” when there is no Communion, but the prayers in Morning Prayer are beautiful in their own way. Come, let the words wash over you and restore your soul.

We will be trying something new with Sunday School. Instead of the children starting out in Sunday School, they will start out in Church, and at the Sermon, they will go to the Parish Hall and view a video that ties in liturgically. They will return at the Peace. Why do this? I read an article that stated our children *went* to Church, but were NOT churched. In other words, they participated in Sunday School and didn’t spend much time in Church, if at all. How can we expect them to feel like part of the whole Church if they aren’t there? Hopefully, this experiment will work and more importantly, it takes the burden off our only Sunday School teacher.

We are always looking for volunteers to help with different aspects of the Sunday service. We are quite willing to train and share the inner sanctum secrets. Some of us even have a secret handshake. Okay, maybe not. Here are some of the different areas:

- Altar Guild – see Judy Montgomery (great for the younger members to learn about also)
- Counters – see Don Lee and ask what it entails.
- Choir – Just love to sing and talk to Charlotte.
- Ushers/Greeters all ages are welcome – see Robin Weisbrod
- Acolytes – Adult Acolytes as well as Youth Acolytes – make learning a family event! If we have enough interest, we will schedule group training. See Robin
- St. Pauly’s Box sorting – if you are interested, I am sure Niel Huebler will be quite willing to show you the ropes.

Thank you all for your patience, love and devotion to St. Paul’s.

Robin Weisbrod, Junior Warden

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2015

A late entry here:

Congratulations to Julie Anna Grover, great granddaughter of Judy & Bob Olmsted, who graduated from Chittenango High School in June and will be attending Sienna College.

News of the Day

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Thanks to Claudia Jensen who spends so many hours keeping our flowers looking so beautiful around the Church. Thanks to all who have mowed and helped to maintain the lawn for the summer.
- Thanks to our lawn mowing volunteers: Gerry Weisbrod, Tania Mousaw, Don Lee and anyone else.
- Egg McMuffin Sunday- We donated \$35.00 to the food cupboard, 11 pounds of butter, 2.8 pounds of margarine, 6 dozen eggs, 6 loaves of bread and 6 packages of english muffins.
- Congratulations to Courtney Furtado and Josh Stagnitti who were married recently. Courtney is the daughter of Mike and Joanne Furtado.
- Special Congratulations to Denise Bordell. She will be celebrating her 80th birthday on September 10. Denise can be reached at:

Maple Downs– Apt. 225
7220 East Genesee Street.
Fayetteville NY 13066

Standing By Our Church Family

Sympathy to Ron and Ethel Barber and Family on the death of Ethel's Dear Sister Patricia Chavanne.

Sympathy to the Kincaid and Chappell families on the death of Keith Chappell. Keith was the son of Todd and Kim Chappell, and the grandson of Bob and Roberta Kincaid.

(The following is from a published advertisement by the Sierra Club. It has been placed here at the request of Ida Goins.)

"Conservation is a cause that has no end. There is no point at which we say, 'Our work is finished.'" - Rachael Carson.

Rachel Carson enjoyed a successful career as a government biologist and writer, penning essays on marine life that are still relevant. She is best remembered as a reluctant activist, and the author of *Silent Spring*-the landmark book that exposed the ecological and health hazards of DDT. A *New York Times* best seller, *Silent Spring* reached millions, and helped shape the environmental movement as we know it today.

What can one person do? Rachel Carson defended *Silent Spring's* arguments before presidential and congressional scientific panels. Her perspective shook the prevailing view of our place in the web of life, and called for us to take responsibility for the preservation of the earth's diversity. One person with a vision inspire generations. A bequest commitment to Sierra Club provides an opportunity for you to realize your vision. Just like Rachel Carson. If you have a planned bequest or would like to discuss one, please call us today.

Gift Planning Program. 85 Second Street, Second Floor, San Francisco CA 94015. 800-932-4270
giftplanning@sierraclub.org.

September Birthdays

2~Joan Tedford	15~Lewis Reals Jr
4~Judy Olmsted	16~Robert Stanton
7~Natalie Benjamin	23~Becky Kraus
7~George Stanton Jr	25~Dorothy Saunders
9~Megan Titus	27~Sallie Acton
9~Gloria Wilkins	27~Elyza Judd
10~Denise Bordell	28~Woodson McAllister
13~Richard Matthews	29~Frances Abriola
13~Helena Brown	29~Leisha Doherty

September Anniversaries

2 ~ Don and Jan Lee
 4 ~ Richard Matthews and Edna Brown
 12 ~ Robert and Kelly Stanton
 13 ~ James and Virginia Smith
 21 ~ Jerry and Jennifer Jackson

October Birthdays

1~Shirley Van Valkenburgh	
1~ Betty Yates	18~Donna Hoffman
9~Katie Allen	18~Peter Stucker
9~Kelly Stanton	18~Jackson Lawrence
11~Clarke Jackson	20~Betty Every
16~Eric Tedford	29~Kyle Courtwright

October Anniversaries

8~Aaron and Tristyn Judd
 16~Steven and Jill Just
 16~Bryan and Fayann Hall
 19~Phil and Amy Randall
 21~Ron and Ethel Barber
 22~Dan and Michelle Rapp

Prayer List

John Asam (Furtado request), Eric Baker (Courtwright request), Ron Barber, Lynda Blaziaa (Gerling request), Alexa Bolton, Jason Ceresoli (Furtado request), Leisha Doherty (Tedford request) Billy Dougan (Montgomery request), Colleen Eggers (Tarbell request), Alyce Furtado, Joanne Furtado, Christopher Hartig (Grover request), Terry Hoffman (Hoffman request), Evelyn McAllister, Yurie Rosenfeld (Gerling request), Jessie Salisbury (Furtado request), Andy Stokes (Hilts request), Joe Williams, Ruth Williams, Zoey Zavodsky (Williams request)

News We Hope to Never Use

In case you hadn't heard St. Paul's now has an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) mounted on the wall in the church hall. Like a fire extinguisher we hope we will never need it. However if this device should ever be used here are a few quick tips to maximize effectiveness:

1. Don't be afraid to give specific direction. Don't say "Someone call 911" Say "Bob! Call 911"
2. By all means call 911! This is a medical emergency. We will need help!
3. Good CPR is the cornerstone of effective rescue. Forget the movies. Chest compressions-hard and fast are what it's really all about. If you know CPR follow your training. Assess the patient-act accordingly.
4. Pick a person to get the AED. (Not Bob. He's on the line with 911. Maybe Joe?)
5. Bring the AED to the patient. Open it up and turn it on. The machine will direct you from there.
6. If a shock is to be delivered MAKE SURE you are not touching the patient!!

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Chittenango, New York

We are on the Web

stpaulschittenango.net

Forwarding Service Requested



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Church Office: (315) 687-6304

stpaulchurch2@verizon.net