

The Good News

Volume 11 Issue 4

July / August 2015

Summer Blessings

Dear friends at St. Paul's:

Break out the oars!!! Seriously, doesn't it feel like we are going to float away? I think we need to really contemplate building an ark in the back church yard. My hostas are loving the weather, so I guess it can't be all bad.

Since our last newsletter, we have celebrated our Mothers with a wonderful brunch, cooked and served by the men of our church. Thank you very much!! For Father's Day and Celebration of our Grads we had a Strawberry Social. It was delicious and we wish to thank our dedicated crew for supplying the strawberries, biscuits and angel food cake.

We had our United Thank Offering intake and brought in a little over \$300. The Episcopal Church uses the UTO monies to support mission and ministry throughout The Episcopal Church and in Provinces of the Anglican Communion in the developing world. Though we do the "ingathering" twice a year, this is used to nurture a habit of giving thanks daily.

We also had Oz days. With all the hard work of the volunteers, we made approximately \$1700. Bob Kincaid needs to get moving on making more Tin Men and Scarecrows.

The Vestry had another meeting with Fr. Craig Swan. He has requested that we come up with a plan that entails us taking a risk. Truthfully, none of us are risk takers, but without taking any risks, how can we grow spiritually? We don't. So the Vestry has to rise to this challenge and do some serious thinking. Please keep us in your prayers. In July, we will be meeting again and continue doing our work. One of the questions Fr. Craig put to us was this: What fears do we need to get over? So tell us, what fears DO we need to get over?

My question to you: why do you come to church or don't come to church? Is it because it is the "thing to do"? Is it because of the music? Is it because of the Fellowship? Is it because you are lonely? Is it because it is an hour a week you can really feel the presence of God? Is it because it looks good on your resume? Or is it because you want to be thought of as a good person? Does it make you feel like a good person, if you can say you "belong" to a church family? The questions are endless, the reasons are too. The important part is finding out the real reason why you come. Do you come to hear the "Word"? Are you trying to live a Christian life? (Continued 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.



Summer Blessings (Continued)

Do you even know what it means to be Christian? Do you believe that since you are baptized or confirmed that that is the end of it, you don't have to try any harder than that. Or, do you believe, that even though you are baptized or confirmed, you need to work on looking at things in a Christ-like manner. The basis of Jesus' teachings is simple: Love your neighbor as yourself. The way some of us treat each other in the name of being "righteous" pretty much borders on sacrilege. The sad part is these people are so busy being sanctimonious that they can't see that "log in their eye". I pray that all of us at St. Paul's can get down to the business of living into God's words and remember sin happens in our own yard first.

The 78th General Convention has just started and the election of a new Presiding Bishop will be taking place. Our prayers are with the men and woman who have the responsibility of finding a new leader for our National Church. May God be with them at this extremely important day.

VESTRY DAY

What a great day it was. After the introduction and everyone had something to say, we heard from Bishop Skip as to what he was hoping we would be able to glean from this meeting. We were given a booklet which contained such articles such as:

Resource List for Vestries 2015 (which contained links to various web sites that would help us and inform us to help our vestries.)

12 Marks of Healthy Church Behavior, Leadership Development Resources (and other such topics)

We then went off to join the various workshops that we had signed up for and mine was the **Tour of the Vestry Toolbox**. We covered in a very short time about 30 topics to help us have a healthy vestry and some really good ideas on how to hold a meeting and what should be discussed in the meeting. We also were given some tips on what we should avoid such as **no more parking lot meetings**. For my part I learned a lot and went away with my head buzzing with thoughts of how to continue on. I feel a lot more confident (being a first time vestry member) that I can certainly do the job I was assigned to do. It was very helpful and insightful.

Reminder!! VBS is July 13-17 at First Presbyterian in Chittenango. Registration can be done online at <http://www.chittenangovbs.com/> -- get it in soon!! Also, in keeping with our spirit of outreach, these following items are needed: 12 bottles 100% juice, 50 small cups (4-6oz), 12 bags pretzels.

There will be a sign up sheet in the Parish Hall. If you aren't going to be in Church in the immediate future, please shoot me an email (rdweisbrod@gmail.com) and let me know what you wish to donate and I'll get you up on the list. As always, thank you for all you do for our Community!!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2015

Ted Boyle-Fayetteville-Manlius High School
Lisa D'Amico-LeMoyne College
Meredith Furtado-Syracuse University
Corey Huebler-SUNY Geneseo
Tiffany Raymond-Completed Master's Degree
Molly Woodworth-SUNY Morrisville

News of the Day



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ Clothing Give Away is Aug 6 and 7th at the Presbyterian Church from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Volunteers are needed and there is a special need for Children's Clothing. If you want to help, contact Judy Montgomery at jim114@verizon.net or Sue Gerling at sbg1982@aol.com
- ◆ Back Pack Give Away is Friday Aug 7th at 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Saturday, Aug. 8th from 9:00 AM - 12:00 at First Presbyterian Church.
- ◆ Crop Walk is Sunday, Oct. 18th. Registration starts at 1:00 PM at St. Paul's. Contact Sue Gerling if you can help. Anyone want to be part of ST. PAUL'S WALKERS? Let's get a team going!!!
- ◆ Save your medicine bottles!! The Medical Mission Team, will be collecting them at Convention in November!! There will be a collection box available in the Parish Hall. Other needed supplies include: Children's Tylenol, Toothpaste and brushes, nasal saline spray, anti-fungal cream, anti itch cream, muscle rub.
- ◆ Congratulations to Don Lee on his recent retirement. May it be long and enjoyable!
- ◆ Congratulations to Dan Rapp on his new position at SUNY Upstate. (Post Anesthesia Care/Recovery Room)

School Kits for Kids



The School Kits for Kids program, chaired by Ethel Barber with the Outreach Committee, will kick off on **July 5**. The **deadline completion date is August 2**. Some kits will be provided at the Parish Hall, or you may purchase your own kit and fill it, or you may just want to donate some of the items needed for the kits. However you choose to participate, it is appreciated.

Items required for the kits:

1	Pair Blunt Scissors	1	Box colored pencils, 12 count
6	No. 2 pencils	1	Pencil Sharpener
1	Pink pearl eraser	3	White glue sticks
1	Box of Crayons, 24 count	1	Box of tissues

Thank you for your unselfish giving to others. Thank you. Thank you!!



A special THANK YOU to all who made Oz Fest a success!!

Of special note...

- ◆ Neil Huebler and others who helped to sort and pack the St. Pauly box.
- ◆ Jim Montgomery for being at the church when the truck came for pick up. We even received a compliment from the truck driver on how well our materials were sorted and packed.

July Birthdays

1 ~ Barbara Buyea 20 ~ Jim Courtwright
 7 ~ Ethel Barber 22 ~ Grace Titus
 7 ~ John Tafe 23 ~ Abner Oviedo
 8 ~ Brian Buyea 25 ~ Julie Reals
 13 ~ Edna Brown 31 ~ Alan Clement

July Anniversaries

8 ~ Woody & Evelyn McAllister
 15 ~ Gary & Sue Pratt
 15 ~ Dick & Shirley VanValkenburgh
 19 ~ Charles & Joan Grover
 30 ~ Patrick & Heather Ladd

August Birthdays

2 ~ Matthew Titus 20 ~ Jill Just
 2 ~ Cindy Mann 23 ~ Barb Tafe
 3 ~ John Wood 25 ~ Mary Jane Pokorny
 3 ~ Jennifer Jackson 25 ~ Bob Olmsted
 4 ~ Samantha Huebler 26 ~ Amber Courtwright
 5 ~ Deborah Getman. 26 ~ Edward Pokorny
 7 ~ Raymond Every Jr. 27 ~ Bob Kincaid
 11 ~ Heather Clement 28 ~ Charles Grover
 14 ~ Doug Brown 31 ~ William Tedford

August Anniversaries

2 ~ Douglas & Helena Brown
 7 ~ Derek & Lisa McGork
 10 ~ James & Judy Montgomery
 20 ~ James & Jennifer Courtwright
 27 ~ Gerald & Robin Weisbrod

A few words from Father Grover:

Thank you all very much for the cards, fruit basket, prayers, encouragement, flowers, casseroles and other food and every other expression of support during my recovery from surgery. They have been extremely helpful to Joan and me. I also want to express appreciation for Father Birkby preaching and celebrating. The changes in furnishing helped him, I know, and they will make it easier for me, also, when I lead worship. I have enjoyed being at the altar and pulpit again, and my recovery is coming along steadily. With love and appreciation from us both.

Prayer List

Eric Baker (Courtwright request), Ron Barber, Lynda Blaziaa (Gerling request), Alexa Bolton, Jason Ceresoli (Furtado request), Patricia Chavanne (Barber 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), Kaylee Kraus, Bob Kraus, Evelyn McAllister, Margaret Mules, Yurie Rosenfeld (Gerling request), Jessie Salisbury (Furtado request), Andy Stokes (Hilts request), Joe Williams, Ruth Williams, Zoey Zavodsky (Williams request)

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Chittenango, New York

We are on the Web

stpaulschittenango.net

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The July / August 2015 Newsletter of

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