

The Gabriel

St Paul's Episcopal Church, Jeffersonville, IN

August 2014



Steel of the Night in concert August 21, 7 PM

On Thursday August 21st at 7 PM ST PAUL'S PRESENTS... will feature the second of our 2014 Benefit Concert series with the return of **Steel of the Night** (Greg & Alice Webb) doing spirited music of the Caribbean, Jimmy Buffet, and favorite "island" music. This has been a favorite concert for the three years of our benefit concert series.

The concert is free and open to the public. A free will offering taken at the event will benefit Haven House ,the only homeless shelter in our area.

Please put the date on your calendar, **and make sure you invite your friends and family. Flyers are available at church to help publicize the event.** It will be a fun night. And it is proof that you can have lots of fun while doing good for a critical community organization that provides shelter and other services for homeless individuals and families.

Books & Towels for Haven House

St Paul's is entering into a new partnership with Haven House Shelter in Jeffersonville. We are providing books and towels to the homeless residents of Haven House.

This essential community organization shelters 70-80 residents nightly: men, women, children; singles and families.

Residents there have had no reading materials until now. St Paul's is helping Haven House set up and on an on-going basis supply a small library of books and magazines for the residents.

We need all kinds of books: Paperbacks and hard backs
All age levels, but especially young adult and children's books
popular authors, Sci-Fi, fantasy, history, etc.
Recent issues of popular magazines and journals are welcomed too.

We also will be supplying towels. New or gently used towels and wash cloths of all sizes will assist with personal hygiene.

We will begin this ministry by gathering our first collection of these books and towels on Sunday August 3rd. We will commission those who have stepped up to lead this effort and celebrate with a pitch in following the service.





Pastors' Ponderings

Growing up, Branching out...

I recall as a child knowing that my parents were there backing me up. They bought the gift wrap and other things the scout troop was selling. They took me to scout meetings and camping trips, and to acolyte training (sometimes insisting on my going even when I "didn't feel like it"). And then something startling happened. I became a teen and was allowed and expected to take over responsibility for my life, and my schedule. I thought it was great until I came to the realization that my parents who had backed me up – had now backed up in a different way and now I would be allowed to fail. If I missed play practice I had to make the excuse. If I didn't do my homework I was the one whose grade would fall. If I was tempted to try to cheat on a test I got the failing grade. It was a learning opportunity that was valuable for me and difficult for my parents standing in the wings who wanted me to succeed.

Why the ancient history? Because I see a parallel here at St Paul's. When we arrived three years ago it was a fragile community that had been through an ordeal, and there were questions about viability, and could we step beyond this bit of past history. Nancy and I tried hard to support and uphold and encourage. We began to do some things, and had some successes. We talked with you about the kinds of structure that would allow us to plan events of the parish community as well as outreach to the larger community. But we have played a supporting role trying to fill in and prop up various areas of parish life. And it has worked because we are growing as a parish.

The good news/bad news is the same news – for the parish to continue its growth and branch out as a faith community, we like my parents have to take a step or two back and allow the members of the parish to assume more responsibility for the life and work of the parish. We are not going anywhere. We do not care less. But we need to allow you the possibility of failure so that you can branch out and grow as a parish. It is our hope, plan and desire that we can provide leadership that at the end of the day has empowered the members of the parish to do the work entrusted to St Paul's whether we are here or not.

You will be hearing a new question from us. When ideas are suggested or tasks commented upon we will be asking "Who will be responsible for seeing to it?" It is that bittersweet period of learning how in a community we accept responsibility for the content of our life together.

The good news is that you know how to do this because in each of our lives we have had to do this do something like it in order to become mature responsible adults. We now have to practice it in this community.

Don



Neighborhood

Challenge

Food Drive

To celebrate Neighbors Night Out in August the Franklin Commons Neighborhood organization is challenging other Jeffersonville neighborhoods to collect food for the Center For Lay Ministries Pantry. Each neighborhood association will collect non-perishable food. The drive will end during National Night Out on Aug. 5, with the weigh in to take place at CLM, 213 E. Maple St. between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Aug. 6. The winning neighborhood of that competition will be awarded a tree to be planted in the neighborhood from Walnut Ridge Nursery. A collection bin is located at Old Towne Grocery Market on Maple Ave.

Society of the Magi

The Society of The Magi was created by the Diocese of Indianapolis as an umbrella legacy society to promote and support the faithful stewardship of God's gifts and resources in our diocese. All who have named their church (or any other Episcopal institution) as a beneficiary in their estate plans automatically belong to the legacy society of the beneficiary church or institution (if there is one) as well as to The Society of The Magi.

All who have made such provisions are invited to join the Society by notifying the diocesan office of the gift, regardless of the gift size.

Please help Don & Nancy identify those here at St Paul's who have already made such provisions. And you can talk with them if you would like information about doing so!

July Vestry notes

The July Vestry meeting was held on Sunday July 20th after church.

Don and Nancy will be hosting an open house at the rectory after church on September 14. Later in September and October they are inviting parish members to afternoon or evening meetings at 321 to have a conversation about the work we have done over the past three years and beginning to look towards our direction for the future.

The Vestry received word that Bishop Waynick has made Nancy a candidate for ordination with the possibility of ordination to the diaconate in early 2015.

Ben Sapp reported that an estimate was received to repair the broken sidewalk near the handicap access ramp. The cost will be \$ 850.

The Energy Efficiency task group recommended some work be approved to help us reduce our energy consumption. Energy efficient lighting (CFLs and LEDs would replace incandescent, halogen, and halide bulbs) and higher efficiency fluorescent tubes & ballasts would replace the older less efficient tubes and ballasts. This would cost us about \$6000 but minimally save us \$600 or more per year in utility costs at the present utility rate.

There are a number of other small projects we can do ourselves (hot water tank and pipe insulation, weather stripping and insulating of doors, motion sensor switches on bathroom and sacristy light switches, etc.)

It was recommended that the Vestry apply to the Endowment Committee for the funds to accomplish these capital projects which will also give some relief to the operating budget in reduced utility costs in the coming years.

Nancy communicated a proposal from the Lang Company. They will no longer be service our copier due to its age. They have proposed a new lease arrangement which would cost the parish \$60 more per month but with no up-front investment in equipment. Bill McCulloch volunteered to get some price comparisons.

The Vestry approved St Paul's as a collection point for Water Step Project. This agency collects old shoes which are sold in developing countries to pay for water projects and job training projects. The collection box would be located in the parish hall

Pathways to Hope to provide a consumer based program of support and Recovery

In August a Pathways to HOPE, a new Consumer operated mental health support and education program, is beginning. The group of up to 15 people will use a strength approach to recovery.

Dove Support Ministry has received an Indiana Family & Social Service Administration grant for this recovery oriented system of care.

More information and a application is located on the community bulletin board in the parish hall or call (812) 697-4347.



The columbarium given in memory of Barbara Jenkins and John Allen McCulloch arrived in July. It was uncrated and is awaiting installation and the fabrication and finishing of the surround. The front will be covered by bronze faceplates with a vine and butterfly design.

It has 16 niches for the cremated remains of members of the parish. The cost per niche is \$650 which includes the urn, name plate and perpetual; care.. For more information speak with Don

St Paul's Famous Fish Fry

Friday August 1st

11am-1pm, 4-7 pm

Please sign up to help prepare in the days before, or for a shift that day. Provide a dessert. Come and have lunch and/or dinner.

There is something for everyone in the parish to participate in this major fund-raiser.

Flyers are available to give out to friends, family and neighbors.

AUGUST

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Lucille Wunsch
- 5 Rob McCulloch
- 10 David Nelson
- 18 Molly Momoh
- 29 Jennifer Fleece
Alicia McCulloch

ANNIVERSARIES

- 6 Jim & Bev Loveless
- 7 Sam & Joyce McCulloch
Ann & Bobby McBride
- 23 Larry & Arlene Basham



What I did on my summer vacation...

I recall each year in elementary school having to write some sort of essay on what I did on my summer vacation. And now as we get to August and the school year begins in Southern Indiana I find that every once in a while I miss that exercise. It's not that we did especially exciting things over the summer. It was more that in writing about them I experienced them once again – reminded myself of what we did, of the fun, of the peaks and valleys, of relationships formed, or were bent, and hopefully mended.

This sort of reflection, of taking stock, is a good spiritual exercise for all of us if we want to live more intentionally. It is good as individuals as well as congregations.

As hard as it is for us to realize it on September 1st we will have been with you at St. Paul's three years. We have done some good work together and are regaining our energy and sense of purpose. We have come to form new relationships, and have mended or tried to mend old relationships that had been tattered. In talking with the Vestry at the July meeting we have agreed it is time for us as a parish to review what we have done and where we have been together.

To do this as a parish we will have several evenings at 321 where we can converse with smaller groups of people. At the Rectory Open House Coffee Hour on September 14 you will have the opportunity to sign up to be part of such a meeting. We will have them in the afternoon as well as evening to try to accommodate schedules. And we will share some reflections on our experience of the past 3 years and that which we want more of.

So we invite you to take some time between now and September to personally reflect on our journey of the past three years and think of your hopes for our future at St Paul's.