

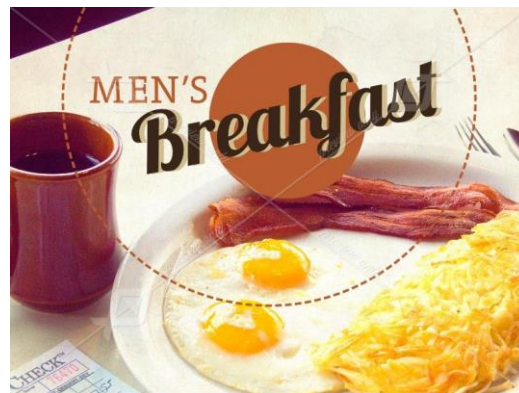


# St. Paul's ePistle from McHenry

April 29, 2015

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- + Hymns and Lessons
- + Bill's cartoon
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*This Saturday, May 2nd  
8:00 a.m. at Kim & Patty's*



*Thoughts from Lori*



**St. Paul's  
Episcopal Church**

3706 W. St. Paul Ave.  
McHenry, IL 60050  
815-385-0390

Email:  
stpaulmchenry  
@sbcbglobal.net

**Quick Links**

St. Paul website

Vestry Minutes

January 2015

February 2015

March 2015

Diaper Bank

Episcopal News Service

Diocese of Chicago

Lectionary Calendar

Forward Day by Day

Someone recently turned to me at a lunch meeting and said something to the effect that we live in a terrible, violent time. I understood why she would think and say such a thing. The news is inundated with images of murder and mayhem, to say nothing of natural disasters and predictions of doom related to climate change. It's nearly impossible to escape the avalanche of bad news.

Even as insular as a small town can sometimes be, one would have to be living under a rock to be unaware of the things happening elsewhere. Baltimore comes to mind. And that's only one of the American cities rocked by racial unrest. In fact, the whole country is being confronted with the aftershocks of the great American sin of slavery. Whether we like it or not, it's an issue we must all address. I hope that here at St. Paul's we can be proactive about doing that - this year.

Then there's Nepal and the terrible aftermath of the earthquake there; devastation on a scale we can't even imagine in what is already the poorest nation on earth. Meanwhile, we don't know yet the full effect of the volcanic eruption in Chili. No wonder my lunch companion thinks we're living in a terrible time.

But anyone who thinks about world history can stop and ponder a bigger picture. Natural disasters are nothing new. The reality of today's vastly increased human population makes them more threatening to us, but they are nothing new. As for violence, well, there has always and forever been (to repeat a phrase) murder and mayhem caused by human beings. So why does it feel worse to my friend?

Clearly one of the reasons is that we've never before had instant information the way we do now. First it was radio, then television. (Viz. the effect of TV on the Viet Nam war.) Now add the array of available social media and we have a formulae for overload! Little wonder we might all be feeling like things are going to hell in a

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handbasket!

I deal with my feelings of overload in several ways. One is to take a break from the news and even from programs or movies that include violence. Even a breather of a few days helps me recoup. I also pray... which has nothing to do with my being a priest, but because quite simply, I *need* to pray. And then there's my mantra. Not a mantra exactly, but one of my favorite quotations that I use like a mantra: "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." [MLK, Jr.] Between those three things, I usually get some perspective and some relief. Feel free to use any or all of them.

And to further aid us in this endeavor, here are prayers for Baltimore and Nepal, just for starters:

#### **A Prayer For Cities, including Baltimore:**

*Heavenly Father, in your Word you have given us a vision of that holy City to which the nations of the world bring their glory: Behold and visit, we pray, the cities of the earth. Renew the ties of mutual regard which form our civic life. Send us honest and able leaders. Enable us to eliminate poverty, prejudice, and oppression, that peace may prevail with righteousness, and justice with order, and that men and women from different cultures and with differing talents may find with one another the fulfillment of their humanity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

#### **A Prayer for Victims of Natural Disaster, including Nepal:**

*Blessed are you, Lord God of mercy, who through your Son gave us a marvelous example of charity and the great commandment of love for one another: Send down your blessings on these your servants, who so generously devote themselves to helping others. Grant them courage when they are afraid, wisdom when they must make quick decisions, strength when they are weary, and compassion in all their work. When the alarm sounds and they*

*are called to aid both friend and stranger, let them faithfully serve you in their neighbor. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

May we not be overwhelmed, but faithful.

*Lorí†*

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### ***Memorial Manger Rebuilt***

The Memorial Manger with two plaques: (1) "In Loving Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Earl Hanson, Mrs. Kathy Lee;" and (2) "In Loving Memory of Vinton C. Alderson;" has been rebuilt using the old materials into a small version, easier to move and to store, by Bill McLemore. Pictured here is the former manger, and the newly rebuilt manger with its construction engineer standing by. (To preserve the memorial gift, Bill re-constructed it almost completely of its former lumber components.) The memorial plaques are now on the lower portion of the back side of the manger. Photo of Bill by Charlie Boak, Saturday, April 25, 2015.





**Vigil in Support of Marriage Equality  
Tuesday, May 5, 7:30-8:30 p.m.**

St. Mary's Episcopal Church  
210 McHenry Ave. Crystal Lake IL

On April 28th the U.S. Supreme Court will hear oral arguments regarding a state's ability to deny marriage licenses to same sex couples, with their ruling to be made public in June. Join us as we gather in prayer with and for the families and couples whose lives will be affected by the court's decision. For more information contact [parishofc@stmaryepiscopal.org](mailto:parishofc@stmaryepiscopal.org) or 815-459-1009

*This Vigil is sponsored by St. Paul's in McHenry and St. Mary's in Crystal Lake.*

**Mobile Food Pantry  
*Latest update***

In preparation for our first Mobile Food Pantry here at St. Paul's, we will have a meeting for volunteers at 6:30pm on Tuesday, May 19th, at St. Paul's. There are two opportunities to see how other places are doing this: one is on Friday afternoon May 15th at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1320 Dean Street, Woodstock, from 1 to 2:30pm. The other is Saturday, May 16th from 2 to 6pm, First United Methodist Church, 236 West Crystal Lake Avenue, Crystal Lake.

**Final Affairs Fair**

St. Paul's is offering a Final Affairs Fair on Saturday, May 16th from 9am to noon. There will be presentations by a local lawyer on legal matters such as

Wills, Power of Attorney, medical directives, and estate planning; by a representative of the Illinois Cremation Society; and on the traditions and customs of funerals in The Episcopal Church. Materials will be provided for funeral planning. This is not just for elders! Everyone should plan and provide for your own peace of mind and for your families. Sign up in the narthex on the sheet provided so we have an idea of how many will attend.

### **Prayer Vigil**

St. Paul's is co-sponsoring a Prayer Vigil on Tuesday, May 5th, 7:30pm at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Crystal Lake, in support of marriage equality. The Supreme Court of the United States has been hearing arguments on several related cases this week and will render their decision(s) in June. The Episcopal Church, this Diocese, and St. Paul's have long been inclusive, welcoming places for all people. All are invited to join in this prayer vigil in support of our LGBT brothers and sisters.



Our meetings will begin Tuesday May 12th, 7:00 to 8:30pm and will run for four weeks. The topic will be "Building Healthy Relationships," and as always with LC, in the context of wellness and balance. A donation of \$10 is requested for supplies. Space is limited. Sign-up today! Watch for more information about a day-time group that will begin later.



***Lifeline Screening*** - Tuesday, May 5th  
***Women's Wednesday*** - May 6th  
***Final Affairs Fair*** - Saturday, May 16th  
***Food Truck meeting*** - Tuesday, May 19th  
***Vestry*** - Wednesday, May 20th  
***Mobile Food Truck***- Saturday, May 30th

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**Lessons and Hymns**  
**Sunday, May 3rd**  
**(Fifth Sunday of Easter - Year B)**  
*by the Rev. William McLemore*

**THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS:**

***The First Reading:*** Acts 8:26-40. Here we get the account of Philip and an Ethiopian court official who was reading about the Prophet Isaiah, which leads Philip to convert and baptize him.

***The Psalm:*** Psalm 22:24-30. The psalmist acknowledges the devotion called forth from the goodness of the Lord, saying, "My soul shall live for him."

***The Epistle:*** I John 4:7-21. This is one of the best expressions of the dynamics of Christian love. It celebrates not only the love of God for us, but our need to share this love with others.

***The Gospel:*** John 15:1-8. Jesus compares himself to a vine with God as the gardener of the vine. He says, "Abide in me as I abide in you."

**THE HYMNS:**

***Processional Hymn:*** No. 180. "He Is Risen." Cecil Frances Alexander, the wife of a Bishop of the Church of Ireland, wrote this hymn in the late 1800's. She was a prolific poet and wrote nearly 400 hymns and poems. Joachim Neander is the composer of the tune, "Unser Herrscher."

***Sequence Hymn:*** Instead of a traditional hymn, we will sing a Celtic Alleluia before the Gospel throughout the season of Easter.

**Presentation Hymn:** No. 657. "Love Divine All Loves Excelling." Here is a famous Charles Wesley hymn which he published in a pamphlet titled, "Hymns for Those that Seek, and Those that Have Redemption in the Blood of Jesus Christ." Some of the symbolic imagery of Revelation is found in these words, "Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise." The tune, "Hyfrydol," composed by Rowland Hugh Prichard, has some delightful harmonies and movement.

**Communion Hymn:** No. 178. "Jesus Is Lord of All the Earth." This hymn was written by Donald Fishel born in 1950, a graduate of the University of Michigan, and a consummate musician. In a biographical sketch he writes that after college, "I then embarked on a career in music publishing and began writing the Christian songs for which I am best known. My songs *Alleluia No. 1* and *The Light of Christ* can be found in the hymnals of the Episcopal, Lutheran, Methodist, and Roman Catholic Churches." The tune name is the "Alleluia No. 1" and was composed by him and arranged by Betty Carr Pulkingham (b. 1928), the wife of the Rev. William Graham Pulkingham, an Episcopal priest who lived from 1926-1993.

**Recessional Hymn:** No. 518. "Christ Is Made The Sure Foundation." This hymn is ancient in Christian hymnody probably dating back to the 6th or 7th century A.D. The image of a heavenly Jerusalem is a favorite medieval theme for hymns and this particular version has many lost and left out verses of the Latin original. The current translation is by John Mason Neale (1818-1866). The tune "Westminster Abbey," was composed by Henry Purcell (1659-1695).

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### **May 3rd Servants**

Ushers: Terry Jaworski, Don Jaworski  
Lector: Rick Carlstedt  
Intercessor: Judy Robel  
Eucharistic Ministers: Al Robel, Pam Dietmeyer  
Vestry Person of the Day: Kathy Biggerstaff



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From the cartoons created by  
*the Rev. William P. McLemore*  
1965 - 2014



Top 10 Reasons to be an Episcopalian  
Reason 3

*"All of the pageantry - none of the guilt."*

Robin Williams  
Comedian