



St. Paul's ePistle from McHenry
June 28, 2017



New and Notable...

OFFICE CLOSED
The Week of the Fourth

The church office will be closed from Monday, July 3rd through Friday, July 7th. The Rector will be checking for messages on the office phones and may be reached at her home office (815-322-2972) or cell phone (706-957-2446). Enjoy the holiday and be safe!

There will be no ePistle and NO NOON EUCHARIST
on Wednesday the 5th.



Men's Breakfast is this Saturday, July 1st

8:00 a.m. at Kim & Patty's

All men are welcome!



Thoughts from Lori

In my sermon last Sunday, I referenced James Mitchner's epic novel, Hawaii. It's a genre that I call historic fiction; that is, the story itself is fiction, but the ingredients are historical. Anyway, having mentioned it, I've been thinking about my current reading list. That, and seeing all sorts of reading lists - everything from summer reading for students to lists of "good beach reads" to the NY Times top ten. So, back to my current reading. As Bill can confirm, I have two, not one but two, stacks (at least two feet high) of *unread* books on my desk at home. Having let the stacks get so out of control, it's now daunting! Almost all of them are non-fiction. Which means they are pretty heavy duty. Subjects like racism, the future of the planet, animal rights, aging... just to name a few. So not exactly light summer reading.

On the other hand, I've recently joined a book club. It's not like I needed more to read, but that this little group helps me keep one foot in some good fiction. Which is good for some balance...and sanity. So - and this is a question I like to ask children and adults alike - what are you reading? Seriously, what are you reading? Send me an email at lorilowe@stpaulmchenry.com and tell me what you're currently reading or have read recently, and why you liked or didn't like it.

Anything counts. Mysteries, love stories, science fiction, biographies. Mindless, easy reads or heavy lifting. Anything and everything. I'll start. In the fiction category, our book club recently read Small Great Things by Jodi Picoult. It's a story about a pediatric intensive care nurse who is African American. When she is assigned to care for the newborn baby of a White couple who are part of the White supremacist movement, trouble ensues.

We also read The River of Doubt by Candice Millard, which is the true story of Theodore Roosevelt's trip down the Amazon River. I didn't finish this one, partly because I didn't particularly like it, and partly because I'm a very slow reader; a definite disadvantage of being in a book club with an inherent deadline. [As a sidebar, I've always forced myself to finish any book I started, as if starting a book implies a commitment to the author or the universe or something. But I've given up that burden, which is a great freedom!]

We just finished People of the Book, by Geraldine Brooks, which I liked, and we are now reading A Year of Living Biblically, by A.J. Jacobs, which I've just started (and suspect I won't like).

So again, WHAT ARE YOU READING? And does anyone have an interest in suggesting a book that we might read as a congregation and follow with some discussion? Wait! That sounds like another book group! Oh, well. In any case, happy summer reading. And lest you think I'm neglecting my priestly duty, try reading the Gospel of Matthew (our liturgical summer assignment) straight through.

Faithfully,
Lori



Sunday, August 13th at 4:00 p.m.

We'll be grilling hotdogs and hamburgers with all the trimmings (donations enthusiastically accepted)!

Pack up your lawn chair...

Make your favorite dish to share....

(salads, appetizers, casseroles, desserts)

and remember to BYOB!

A Word from the Rev. William P. McLemore

Feast Day of Harriet Beecher Stowe

The feast day of Harriet Beecher Stowe (1811-1896) is this Saturday, July 1st. She was the daughter of the Calvinist preacher, Lyman Beecher, and Roxanna Foote Beecher, a supporter of education for women. She was born June 14, 1811. She was a middle child in a very large family. In 1832, at the age of 21, Harriet moved with her family to Cincinnati, Ohio, where her father had become president of Lane Theological Seminary.



In Cincinnati, she joined a literary social club, where she met Calvin Ellis Stowe, a widower who was a professor at her father's seminary. They were both ardent abolitionists, and supported the Underground Railroad, temporarily housing several fugitive slaves in their home.

Harriett wrote many books and essays, but is most famous for her "Uncle Tom's Cabin," (1852) which is a sermon-like work that chronicles the life of a slave family in the South. This book inspired anti-slavery movements in the North and provoked widespread anger in the South. Abraham Lincoln, upon meeting Harriet Beecher Stowe, is alleged to have said, "So this is the little lady who started this great war!"

Following the death of her husband, Calvin Stowe, in 1886, Harriet began to decline in her health, and slowly entered the process of dementia. She died July 1, 1896, at the age of eighty-five in Hartford, Connecticut, and is buried in a historic cemetery at Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts.

What we can learn from Harriet Stowe is the terrible effects of slavery and racism, and how important it is to our faith as Christians to follow the baptismal covenants which call us to "seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself," and to "strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being."

In case you missed it....

Important Dates for Your Calendar

Sunday, August 13th	Parish Picnic - 4pm
Sunday, Sept. 17th	Fall Parish Meeting
Sunday, October 22nd	EPISCOPAL VISIT*
Saturday, Nov. 4th	Ducks-in-a-Row workshop**

*"Episcopal Visit" means that our bishop, the Rt. Rev. Jeffrey Lee, will be here at St. Paul's to preach and celebrate the Holy Eucharist. In anticipation of that occasion, we will offer a series of classes for anyone who wishes to be confirmed or received into The Episcopal Church. Those classes will be on Sunday mornings during Coffee & Conversation on the following dates: Sept. 24, October 1, 8, and 15.

** The Ducks-in-a-Row workshop is an opportunity to create your own notebook of vital information for your family, including end-of-life wishes and funeral planning. Every adult should have this material available for their loved ones. There's nothing macabre about this workshop! If anything, it's really interesting. Plan to attend.

We'll have sign-ups for these various events as the dates approach. Meanwhile, have a safe and refreshing summer.

Mobile Food Pantry Saturday, June 17th





DEDICATE ALTAR FLOWERS

Our flower dedication chart is almost empty. Please consider signing up to dedicate flowers for a special occasion or for a loved one. Your dedication may be "in memory of" or "in thanksgiving for" or "in honor of..." The donation is \$35, and our Flower Guild will make it look like you've given twice that amount! Your thoughtfulness and generosity will enrich the beauty of our worship. Thank you.

*Join the folks of St. Mary's for their next
FREE COMMUNITY MEAL**

July 15

Guests and volunteers eat together and get to know each other. Great food and conversation. Note: St. Mary's is a big supporter of our Mobile Food Truck. Let's return the favor.

Where:

**ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
210 S. McHENRY AVENUE
CRYSTAL LAKE - 815-459-1009
No RSVP Required - Every 3rd Saturday**

2017 DINNER DATES

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

July 15 August 19 September 16
October 21 November 18 December 16
Free to All! All are Welcome! Family Friendly!

*This meal is offered to those in our community who may be experiencing difficulty in procuring enough food.

The usual fare...

Servants for July 2nd

Rick Carlstedt, Don Jaworski - *Ushers*
Judy Robel - *Lector*
Terry Jaworski - *Intercessor*
Al Robel, Charlie Boak - *Eucharistic Ministers*
TBD - *Vestry Person of the Day*
Christian Bell - *Children's Crucifer*

On the Calendar...

Noon Eucharist - Every Wednesday, 12:15 p.m.
Music Therapy - Every Friday, 10:00 a.m.

Office closed week of July 4th
Men's Breakfast - Saturday, July 1st, 8:00 a.m.

Annual Parish Picnic - Sunday, August 13, 4:00 p.m.
Fall Parish Meeting - Sunday, September 17
Bishop Lee at St. Paul's - October 22
Ducks in a Row - November 4

Inquirers/Confirmation Classes - Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 8, 15

Lessons and Hymns

July 2nd - Proper 8

by the Rev. William P. McLemore

THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

The First Reading: The Revised Common Lectionary gives us a choice on the Old Testament reading and psalm. The first choice is Genesis 22:1-14 where God tests Abraham with the sacrifice of his son, Isaac; Psalm 13 reflects the turmoil Abraham must have felt in his heart, "How long, O Lord?" The second choice is Jeremiah 28:5-9 where he says the true prophet foretells peace not war; Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18 talks of God's love being established forever.

The Epistle: In Romans 6:12-23, St. Paul tells the church at Rome that God in Jesus Christ has freed his people from sin and given them sanctification and eternal life.

The Gospel: Matthew 10:40-42 has Our Lord saying, "Whoever welcomes you, welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me."

THE HYMNS:

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: No. 525. "The Church's one foundation." This hymn was written by Samuel John Stone (1839-1900) in response to the liberal interpretation by the Rt. Rev. John William Colenso (1814-1883), the first Anglican bishop of Natal. Bishop Colenso was also a mathematician, theologian, biblical scholar, and social activist. Stone was an Anglican priest who felt deeply troubled by Colenso's ideas about Christianity and especially the interpretation of the Bible. Thus the third verse of his hymn: "Though with a scornful wonder men see her sore oppressed, by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed; yet saints their watch are keeping, their cry goes up, 'How long?' And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song." The tune, "Aurelia" was composed by Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876).

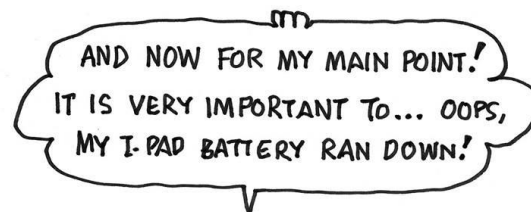
SEQUENCE HYMN: No. 601. "O day of God draw nigh." This hymn was written by Robert Balgarnie Young Scott for the Fellowship of Christian Social Order in 1937. It is based loosely on Zechariah 1:14-18 in that it calls for a restored faith as part of the expected Day of the Lord.

PRESENTATION HYMN: No. 579. "Almighty Father, strong to save." This majestic hymn was written by William Whiting and appeared in an 1860 Hymnal. It immediately became popular as a naval hymn, but in 1937, Robert Nelson Spenser adapted it to include land and air. Both versions are included in the 1982 Episcopal Hymnal. The tune was composed by John Bacchus Dykes for this text and has greatly aided its popularity. Additional verses have been written to cover almost every branch of service and some medical professions, but perhaps the most far-reaching is by J. E. Volonte in 1961: "Eternal Father, king of birth, who didst create the heaven and earth, and bid the planets and the sun, their own appointed orbits run; O hear us when we seek thy grace for those who soar through outer space."

COMMUNION HYMN: "Take, O take me as I am." This is one of the best-known songs from the Iona Community in Scotland which has become a major center for ecumenism, social justice, healing, reconciliation, and worship renewal. John Lambertson Bell, a member of the Iona Community, was born in 1949 in Kilmarnock, Ayrshire Scotland. As you sing the song, you will notice that there are four phases of our faith journey in the text: (1) surrender and conversion, (2) transformation, (3) sealed and marked by God's covenant, and (4) new life together with and in God.

RECESSIONAL HYMN: No. 607. "O God of every nation." This hymn is new to the 1982 Hymnal and was written by William Watkins Reid, Jr. (1923-2007), in 1958. He served as a Medic in the second war and ended the war as a POW in Germany. When he returned to this country he pastored Methodist churches in North Dakota and Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. He was born in 1923 in New York City and died in 2009. He is listed as one of the great hymn writers who have graduated from Oberlin College including George Calvin Hampton (1938-1984) whose hymn tunes are found in our hymnal. The tune "Llangloffan," comes from a Welsh folk melody.

From the cartoons created by
The Rev. William P. McLemore



MCLEMORE-2017

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Vestry Minutes

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