



St. Paul's ePistle from McHenry
August 23, 2017



New and Notable...



Our grocery cart is looking pretty empty. Please bring canned food or dry goods to fill it up again. When it gets full, we take the contents to the TLS food pantry for vets in need of assistance. THANKS!



Thoughts from Lori

When I was in seminary in the early '80s (yes, that long ago!) one of the big issues was so-called "inclusive language." It was an effort to reflect the fullness of humanity with language that incorporated female/feminine words as opposed to the tendency in English to default almost exclusively to male pronouns and other ways of speaking. For example, instead of saying (or writing) "...all *men* are created equal..." or "...O God, the creator and preserver of all *mankind*...", we might say (or write) "...all *people* are created equal..." or "...creator and preserver of all *humankind*..."

Needless to say, there was a lot of resistance! Even today there is still resistance. The term "political correctness" is used as a criticism of such efforts, as if there is something objectionable about it. I admit that it's often awkward. For one thing, English doesn't have a neutral singular pronoun. And for another, we get used to hearing things in certain ways, so it can sound strange to hear it differently. To say nothing of the fact that language isn't something that's fixed. It's fluid. Always changing.

Take for instance the differences in Elizabethan English as found in the King James Version of the Bible and Shakespeare, and modern English. That didn't happen overnight. Vocabulary, sentence structure, and pronunciation are constantly evolving. Anyone over 20 has added words and phrases that previously didn't exist: Internet, cell phone, cable TV.

But why inclusive language? It boils down to two things: caring about each other, and saying what we truly mean. When we care about each other, then we must listen when we are told that words like "retarded" and "crippled" are hurtful. It costs us nothing to be sensitive to such requests to be more thoughtful in our language. As for meaning what we say, why would we use the term "brotherhood" and expect women and girls to assume they are included?

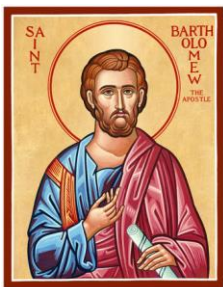
And why is language so important anyway? It's important because **language both reflects who we are and shapes who we are**. Like most things that are changing, we can resist, or we can be open and curious about the meaning of it all. In the end, all things will be tested against love. Even language.

Faithfully,
Loritt

A Word from the Rev. William P. McLemore

Feast Day of Saint Bartholomew

The feast day of Saint Bartholomew the Apostle is this Thursday, August 24th. Bartholomew is one of the twelve Apostles known to us only by his being listed among them in the Gospels according to Matthew, Mark, and Luke. His name means "Son of Tolmai," and he is sometimes identified with Nathanael, the friend of Philip in the Gospel of John.



Very little else is known about this apostle from scriptures. There are a number of traditions regarding him. Some sources credit Bartholomew with having written a Gospel, whose existence is verified by Jerome and Bede, but no actual document exists today. There is also a tradition that Bartholomew traveled to India, and Eusebius reports that when Pantaenus of Alexandria

visited India, between 150-200 A.D., he found there "the Gospel according to

Matthew" in Hebrew, which had been left behind by "Bartholomew, one of the Apostles." Another piece of lore is that Bartholomew was flayed alive at Albanopolis in Armenia.

What we learn from Bartholomew is the news that not all followers of Jesus had "front line" personalities. There is great room for the ordinary person who serves, and leaves little to remember him or her by. Here is Bartholomew's verse in Hymn 232 in the 1982 Hymnal:

"Praise for your blest apostle surnamed Bartholomew;
we know not his achievements but know that he was true,
for he at the ascension was an apostle still.
May we discern your presence and seek, like him, your will."

Just another note!



St. Paul's Episcopal Church in McHenry is a place where music is an integral part of the Holy Eucharist. It is also a place where we gather for "Music Therapy."

It has been shown through studies that music has an effect on both the body and mind. Music therapy can stimulate attention, social interaction, communication and develop motor skills. We do this by singing, dancing, and playing instruments. Our current group is comprised of young adults with special needs and their moms who find therapeutic value in the joy of music with the beat of instruments and the ringing of bells. We are not certified music therapists but we are seeking other members willing to share their gifts and talents in making a joyful noise.

Our plan is to meet during the first Friday of each month, commencing on September 8th at 10:00 a.m. We hope you will join us! For additional information, contact Carol Toft at 815-578-1144, (cnctoft@sbcglobal.net) or Terry Jaworski at 815-690-7298.

In case you missed it...

UPDATE ON OUR BELOVED ELEANOR

Our sister in Christ, Eleanor Crump, has moved. Her new address is 3300 Charles J. Miller Road, Apt. 225, McHenry 60050. (Her phone number remains the same.) Cards and calls will be appreciated.

Kitchen Help Wanted

We're in need of someone to be our volunteer kitchen chair/supervisor. This ministry - and yes, this is a ministry - involves keeping track of the supplies for the kitchen, such as coffee, juice boxes, napkins, etc. This can be done in one of two ways. One, you can shop for these things and be reimbursed; or two, they can be ordered through the church office. This is one of those jobs behind the scenes that is essential for our fellowship and hospitality. Call the Rector if you think this is right up your alley or if you have questions.

NOTE: Linda Curran has volunteered to serve in this capacity for the six months of the year that she and Bob are in McHenry. Any takers for the other six months?

Important Dates for Your Calendar

Sunday, Sept. 17th

Sunday, October 22nd

Saturday, Nov. 4th

Fall Parish Meeting

EPISCOPAL VISIT*

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.

**Join the folks of St. Mary's for their next
FREE COMMUNITY MEAL*
September 16**

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

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. *This meal is offered to those in our community who may be experiencing difficulty in procuring enough food. Free to All! All are Welcome! Family Friendly!

Where:

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

2017 DINNER DATES

October 21, November 18, December 16

The usual fare...

Servants for August 27th

Bob and Linda Curran - *Ushers*
Linda Curran - *Lector*
Sally Berweiler - *Intercessor*
Pam Dietmeyer, Barb Moriarty - *Eucharistic Ministers*
Judy Robel - *Vestry Person of the Day*
Kim and Paige Morris - *Coffee Hour*
Marilyn Bell, Heather Dodge - *Altar Guild*
Marilyn Bell, Kathy Biggerstaff - *Flower Guild*
Cassidy Obermeyer - *Children's Crucifer*

On the Calendar...

Fall Parish Meeting - Sunday, September 17
Lifeline Screening - Thursday, September 28
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
August 27 - Proper 16
by the Rev. William P. McLemore

THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

First Lesson: Isaiah 51:1-6. The prophet notes that over and against the temporary world we live in, God's "salvation will be forever."

The Psalm: Psalm 138. "I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your Name, because of your love and faithfulness."

Second Lesson: Romans 12:1-8. St. Paul notes that though the church is one body, it contains people with many different gifts.

The Gospel: Matthew 16:13-29. Here, Jesus questions the disciples as to who he is in their minds, and praises Peter who answers him, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

THE HYMNS:

ProceSSIONAL: 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: No. 513. "Like the murmur of the dove's song." This hymn was written by Carl Pickens Daw, Jr., in 1981. He is an Episcopal priest who was ordained by Bishop Vache in 1982 of Southern Virginia. A very talented church musician, he was on the commission that helped develop our 1982 hymnal. Biblical images in this hymn include Isaiah 38:14; John 15:5; and Philippians 4:7. The tune, "Bridegroom," was composed by Peter Cutts. The hymn makes a beautiful statement as we receive Holy Communion with an inner plea for God's blessing in the Holy Spirit.

Presentation: No. 522. "Glorious things of thee are spoken." Another majestic piece of music set to Franz Joseph Haydn's tune "Austria," and first played at the birthday of the Emperor Franz II, February 12, 1797, and worded

to become the national hymn of Austria. Haydn (1732-1809) created it at the request of its chancellor who wanted an Austrian counterpart to the British, "God Save the King." The hymn itself is based on Isaiah 33:20-21, "Look on Zion, the city of our appointed festivals... But there is the Lord in majesty will be for us a place of broad rivers and streams." It was first published in John Newton's, *Olney Hymns*, 1779, and has been in the various Episcopal hymnals since 1874. The words, written by the prolific John Newton (1725-1807), son of a shipmaster, who himself became a midshipman in the English Navy. Again, we have a secular tune that directs our witness to the praise and glory of God.

Communion: "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 Lamberton 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.

Processional: No. 334. "Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing." This hymn was written by the Rev. Canon Howard Charles Adie Gaunt (born 1902), a cleric and teacher at Malvern College, Malvern, Worcestershire, England (1937-1953). The last verse hearkens to Paul's II Corinthians 5:17, "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation." The tune, "Alles ist an Gottes Segen," is a melody attributed to Johann Balthasar König (1691-1750) harmonized by Johann Lohner (1645-1705).

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



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Quick Links and Info

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The Rector's email - lorilowe@stpaulmchenry.com


Vestry Minutes

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