



St. Paul's Episcopal Church
McHenry, IL



Weekly ePistle
September 19, 2018

New and Notable

Thoughts from Lori

I have a confession to make. Yes, I had tickets for the Queen of Hearts drawing last night. So I watched the live streaming of the drawing with mixed feelings. On the one hand, I thought, wouldn't it be nice to win all that money! There are so many good things I could do with it, I rationalized. Help family members. Give to the church. Buy a new car. (I went downhill pretty fast from there!) On the other hand, that kind of money changes a person's life, and usually not for the better in the long run. I'll pray for the woman who won – whose name, by the way, is Lori.

Buying tickets was an experience of human nature. Since our Rotary Club met at the VFW until recently, it was just a matter of buying a few tickets and filling them out during our lunchtime meeting. But as the Queen of Hearts became a phenomenon with a life of its own, we had to move our meetings to another venue, which meant that to buy tickets I had to make the trip to the VFW for that purpose. As you're surely aware, that became increasingly challenging. And disturbing in a way.

Some of the folks there were just picking up a few tickets with an attitude of "Well, someone has to win." (I like to think I was in that category.) But others seemed to have an air of desperation. There were stories of people using their life savings or borrowing money to buy large quantities of tickets. Stories of carpools from other states. Of groups pooling their money to buy hundreds of tickets. I guess that's what happens when the stakes get so high.

Now it's the day after. I for one am counting my blessings as I reflect on my willingness to fantasize about a windfall. Gambling and lotteries are nothing new, of course. This one was just close to home – and had an impact on our community. I've heard people suggest that there be regulations such as only allowing local residents participate; limiting the number of tickets per individual. That sort of thing. But it's hard if not impossible to regulate human behavior, human nature, isn't it.

As for me, I am praying for our community and for those who are disappointed this morning, and giving thanks for the lighthearted and for the benefits that have spun out from this event. It begins again in January, as I'm sure you know. Will I buy tickets again? Who knows. Who knows.

L+



FALL PARISH MEETING
THIS SUNDAY
Covered Dish Lunch and Meeting
after church

Stay for a covered dish lunch and continue the discussion and work to strengthen our Team Ministries. See you there!



St. Paul's Flea Market!

Saturday, September 29th
9:00-3:00

We are still in need of volunteers! If you can help out for the morning or afternoon, please let Lisa know. Areas needed are:

- Bake goodies for bake sale - we need more!
- Sell refreshments

The church will be open on Friday the 28th from 1:00-4:00 pm for vendor setup and preparations.

A cleanup crew will also be needed around 3:00 Saturday to help get the parish hall ready for church the next day.

Thank you to those who have already volunteered!

Polo Shirts are here!

If you placed an order for a St. Paul's polo shirt, please stop by the office Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday anytime from 8:30-1:30 to pick it up. If you haven't yet paid, please do so when you come in. Thanks!

In case you missed it...

McHenry County CROP Hunger Walk

by Deb Lang

Hunger is an issue that is very important to all of us! I am walking in the McHenry County CROP Hunger Walk on Sunday, September 30th and am asking for your support. CROP Hunger Walks help children and families locally and worldwide. Our donations will provide assistance for hungry people in our community and around the world by supporting Church World Service's life-saving programs. Join with me as we work together to solve this global challenge. I'm inviting you to walk with me and or make a donation on-line. Your gift can help save a life. Our sister church, St. Mary's, will also be walking to help the hungry.

McHenry County CROP Hunger Walk, Sunday September 30th
Walk Start: 1:00 pm
First Church
236 West Crystal Lake Avenue
Crystal Lake

To join or donate visit crophungerwalk.org/mchenrycounty
Look for me and St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Thank you,
Deb Lang



If you have placed a name on the prayer list, please update the office of any changes. Names are kept on the list for one month, then taken off.

McHenry Township Bus Transportation Service now has Sunday Service

The McHenry Township Bus Transportation Service is starting a pilot program to enable senior and disabled citizens the opportunity to receive Sunday transportation service. This pilot program will run through December 2018, then be re-evaluated. The fare for this service is \$1.00 donation per each one-way ride. No one will be denied service for the inability to pay.

If you live within McHenry Township, which includes zip codes 60050, 60051, 60072, and 60097, and you would like to schedule a ride on a given Sunday, please contact Matthew Morrison at McHenry Township to get placed on the schedule. He can be reached at 815-385-5605. For a pickup for Sunday, a reservation must be made before 2pm on the Friday prior.

The usual fare...

Lessons and Hymns for this Sunday, September 23, 2018

(Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost- Year B)

by the Rev. William P. McLemore

THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

The Old Testament: Jeremiah 11:18-20. The prophet is concerned about his enemies and those who wish to destroy him, but knows that God judges righteously the "heart and the mind." *Psalm 54.* "Like Jeremiah, this passage from the psalter prays for help in the face of adversaries. *The Epistle:* James 3:13-4:3,7-8a. The writer warns about envy and selfish ambition and reminds us, "Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you."

The Gospel: Mark 9:30-37. Jesus reminds his disciples that people who want to be first must be last and then blesses the children adding, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

THE HYMNS:

Processional: No. 379. "God is Love." This hymn was written by Timothy Rees, the Anglican Bishop of Llandaff, a distinguished speaker in English and Welsh and respected hymnographer. This beautiful hymn covers many aspects of God's love and is appropriate for reflecting on Chapter 13 of St. Paul's letter to Corinth. Cyril V. Taylor composed the tune, "Abbot's Leigh," in May of 1941 when he was working for the Religious Broadcasting Department of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC).

Sequence: No. 635. "If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee." This hymn is new to the Episcopal 1982 Hymnal (though almost four centuries old). It was written and composed by Georg Neumark (16 March 1621 – 8 July 1681), a German poet and composer of hymns. In 1640 he began law studies, but fearing the tumult of war, he took a position as tutor instead. This particular hymn was written for himself as much as anyone else as he feared war so much, "God will give thee strength whate'er betide thee, and bear thee through the evil days."

Presentation: No. 376. "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee." This hymn was written by a well-known Congregationalist minister, the Rev. Dr. Henry Van Dyke. His son tells the story that his father, while on a preaching visit at Williams College, came to breakfast and placed a manuscript on the table before President James A. Garfield and said to him, "Here is a hymn for you... Your mountains [the Berkshires] were my inspiration. It must be sung to the music of Beethoven's 'Hymn to Joy.'" As you sing this hymn you will invariably see the magnificent Berkshire mountains in your heart: "All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays, stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise. Field and forest, vale and mountain, blooming meadow, flashing sea, chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee." Henry van Dyke said of this hymn: "These verses are simple expressions of common Christian feelings and desires in this present time – hymns of today that may be sung together by people who know the thought of the age, age are not afraid that any truth of science will destroy religion, or any revolution on the earth overthrow the kingdom of heaven. Therefore this is a hymn of trust and joy and hope."

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.

Recessional: No. 492. "Sing Ye Faithful, Sing with Gladness." The author of this hymn is John Ellerton, born in London, December 16, 1826 and educated at Trinity College, Cambridge. Although an Anglican priest, he is better known as a hymnologist, hymn-writer, and translator. The 1940 Hymnal has 7 of his hymns and this one is new to the current 1982 Hymnal. The tune, "Finnian" was composed by Christopher Dearnley (1930-2000), British organist and composer. The National Cathedral sung this hymn this past Sunday and can be heard on YouTube by entering the first line in a Google search which will produce the link to the music.

Servants for September 23rd

Jim and Beth Lukas - *Ushers*
Jim Lukas - *Lector*
Barb Moriarty - *Intercessor*
Pam Dietmeyer, Linda Curran - *Eucharistic Ministers*
Judy Robel - *Vestry Person of the Day*
Carter Obermeyer - *Children's Crucifer*
Marilyn Bell, Marilyn Reihansperger - *Altar Guild*
Marilyn Bell, Kathy Biggerstaff - *Flower Guild*

On the Calendar...

Vestry - Tonight, 6:00 pm
Informal Fall Parish Meeting - September 23
St. Paul's Flea Market - Saturday, September 29
Volunteers needed!

From the studio of the Rev. William P. McLemore



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