



St. Paul's Episcopal Church
McHenry, IL



Weekly ePistle
September 5, 2018

New and Notable



Men's Breakfast this Saturday, September 8th

8:00 am at Kim & Patty's

Please RSVP Al Robel if you are able to attend:

alanrobel@att.net

Thoughts from Lori

Years ago, while driving from LaGrange (GA) to Atlanta, I got a call from a parishioner and friend, Margaret. The minute I heard her voice, I knew something was wrong. "It's John," she said. "He's just been diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma." We talked for a while and made plans to get together, the three of us, after they had told their young-adult children. We hung up and as I drove on, I thought about that old saying: Life turns on a dime. And it does. Life surely turns on a dime.

It's not only the dramatic seismic shifts like Margaret and John's. Sometimes it's more of a slow but nonetheless earthshaking realization that things haven't or aren't turning out like you had planned. That big promotion is never going to come. The big hopes you had for your child aren't going to materialize. That inheritance you expected has been eaten up by medical expenses. It can be anything. Just that things aren't going to turn out like you had expected. Like you had hoped.

So, how do we, as people of faith, respond? Do we blame God and slowly sink into bitterness? Do we cling to our childhood faith and believe that somehow it's all in God's plan? Or maybe we lose our faith and shake our little fist at heaven and walk away? Or just walk away.

I believe that there is faithful ground to stand on without blame or blasphemy. Well, without blame or turning your back on God. It is simple really. Not easy, mind you. But simple. It is to bear the blow, rage at God if it helps. (No matter what you were taught, it's alright to rage at God. God can take it.) Crawl into a hole for a while if you must. Cling to friends and family if you can. All the while, trusting that you aren't alone. That God is with you. That there is nothing in this life that God in Christ Jesus doesn't understand. After all, that's what that business on the cross was all about.

Please don't think that I'm preaching pie-in-the-sky or "everything with Jesus is better than the day before." But this I know: that when we stand in that circle of trust, grace will come. There is no way to know how or when. But it will come.

Life may turn on a dime. But grace will come.

Faithfully,

Lori+

In case you missed it...

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

Postponed

The beginning of Children's Chapel is being postponed until the end of the month. Watch for information about a chance to brainstorm new ideas for this important aspect of our life together.

TEAM MINISTRIES MEETING

Sunday September 16th *after church*

There will be a meeting of Team Leaders (you know who you are) and anyone interested in being on one of these teams for lay ministry/leadership on Sunday, **September 16th** right after church. This is an essential part of our transition to being a parish with a part-time rector. Everyone will be needed to participate at some level in order to ensure that we thrive and not only continue, but expand our ministries, especially outreach. The areas are: Outreach, Worship, Administration, Facilities, and Parish Life.

FALL PARISH MEETING

Sunday September 23rd
Covered Dish Lunch and Meeting
after church

Mark your calendars now and be sure to attend our Fall Parish Meeting on the 23rd. Bring a covered dish to share for lunch and then we'll continue the discussion and work to strengthen our Team Ministries (see above).



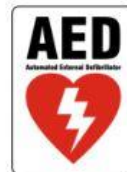
St. Paul's Flea Market

Plans are underway for a flea market here at St. Paul's at the end of September. If you are interested in setting up a table and selling a few of those extra things around your house, or would like to help in some way, please email Lisa at lisa@stpaulmchenry.com or call the office at (815) 385-0390. There will be a bake sale and refreshments as well, so many volunteers are needed. If you can devote the morning or the afternoon (or all day!) it would be greatly appreciated! Sign up sheets are in the narthex. **MANY** volunteers are needed!



Organ Concert at The Church of the Holy Communion 320 Broad St., Lake Geneva Sunday, September 23, 2018, 6:00 pm

This concert is a benefit for their 1883 pipe organ. Advance tickets are \$25 which includes a dinner voucher for the same day to Tuscan Tavern. Payments may be sent with a SASE to the church or call the church office at 262-248-3522 to reserve tickets at the door.



New CPR class sign up form

There is a new sign up form for the CPR/AED class in the Narthex. We did not anticipate the per person cost which is around \$30. If you signed up before, and are willing to pay the fee, please sign up again or let Lisa know in the office. The dates will be determined depending on how many sign up.

The usual fare...

Lessons and Hymns for this Sunday, September 9, 2018

(Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost- Year B)

by the Rev. William P. McLemore

THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Old Testament: Proverbs 9:1-6. Guidance about the value of wisdom. Psalm 34:9-14, "Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it." **The Epistle:** Ephesians 5:15-20. St. Paul encourages the people to be filled with the Holy Spirit and worship God with music and thanksgiving. **The Gospel:** John 6:51-58. Jesus continues his reference to himself as the "bread that came down from heaven."

THE HYMNS:

Processional: No. 494. "Crown Him with Many Crowns." This hymn was written by Matthew Bridges, an English poet and author who lived from 1800-1894. The hymn has been tampered with many times during the years, but remains very popular among Anglicans and Episcopalians. The entire hymn tells the wonderful benefits and results of God's love in the Incarnate Christ. Hear these words from the second verse: "Who every grief hath known that wrings the human breast, and takes and bears them for his own, that all in him may rest." The hymn is set to music by George Job Elvey, for many years the organist at St. George's Chapel, Windsor, England. The tune reflects the majesty of God and is intended to be sung with spirit and movement!

Sequence: No. 632. "O Christ, the Word Incarnate." This hymn was written by William Walsham How and is based on Psalm 119:105. "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." This hymn has been in the Hymnal of the Episcopal Church since 1874 but in our current volume, the first line has been changed from "O Word of God Incarnate" to "O Christ the Word Incarnate." The tune "Munich" is taken from a quartet piece in Felix Mendelssohn's "Elijah" (1847).

Presentation: No. 685. "Rock of Ages." This hymn by the Reverend Augustus Toplady was written in 1763 and first published in *The Gospel Magazine* in 1775. Traditionally, it is held that Toplady drew his inspiration from an incident in the gorge of Burrington Combe in the Mendip Hills in England. Toplady, a preacher in the nearby village of Blagdon, was travelling along the gorge when he was caught in a storm. Finding shelter in a gap in the gorge, he was struck by the title and scribbled down the initial lyrics. The fissure that is believed to have sheltered Toplady is now marked as the "Rock of Ages", both on the rock itself and on some maps, and is also reflected in the name of a nearby tea shop. The German translation is called "Fels des Heils".

Recessional: No. 544. "Jesus shall reign." There are about a dozen hymns in our hymnal that are my favorite and this one is close to the top of the list. Isaac Watts (1674-1748) created this happy and joyful song based on Psalm 72. The imagery of the risen Christ is certainly found in the words of this hymn, especially the 4th verse, "the prisoners leap to lose their chains." The tune "Duke Street," composed by John Hatton (d. 1793) is easy to sing and reflects the joy of Easter in its melody.

Servants for September 9th

Rick Carlstedt, Don Jaworski - *Ushers*
Rick Carlstedt - *Lector*
Terry Jaworski - *Intercessor*
Pam Dietmeyer, Linda Curran - *Eucharistic Ministers*
Bill Lang - *Vestry Person of the Day*
Ryan Bell - *Children's Crucifer*
Patrice Braun, Carol Toft - *Altar Guild, Flower Guild*

On the Calendar...

Men's Breakfast - Saturday, September 8, 8:00 am
Vestry - Wednesday, September 19, 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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June 2018

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