



ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Mid-June – July 2022

A Publication of St. Paul's Episcopal Church
201 East Church Street, Marshalltown, IA 50158

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2022 Concert Series at St. Paul's
THE HISTORY OF JAZZ
Tuesday, July 5, 7:00 P.M.

We are pleased to announce another fine arts event at our parish. In July, our sanctuary will echo with the sweet sounds of jazz, melodies produced by our Artist in Residence, Hudson Lourenço and his musical colleagues and our special guest performers, The Rayne Vitorino Quartet.

This Quartet is comprised of graduate students and alumni of the Jazz Studies program of the University of Iowa. The instrumentalists are Jerome Gillespie, Drums; Askar Khaetov, Bass; Gabriel Sanchez, Saxophone; and Rayne Vitorino, Piano.

The concert, which is being produced by Hudson, will feature works by Jazz legends Duke Ellington, Fats Waller, Dizzy Gillespie, Miles Davis, John Coltrane, Horace Silver, Herbie Hancock and more modern composers such as Robert Glasper, Brad Mehldau. The concert will also feature a sprinkling of Latin Jazz.

Please plan to come and do tell your family and friends to attend, also!

Yearning for Peace*



Today, June 9, is the feast day of the sixth century St. Columba of Iona, also known as Colmcille in Ireland, the land of his birth.

Born into the clan Neill, some claim that his name originally was “Crimthann,” meaning “fox,” but he comes down to us as “Columba,” which means “dove.”

Perhaps this legend is because his life was held in tension between strife and peace, between the necessity for diplomacy as a result of his lineage and station, and his yearning for a quiet, monastic life as a contemplative and poet.

In the middle of his life, it is said that Columba became embroiled in violent disputes between his kinsmen and King Diarmait, the high king, concluding with a relative of his being accused of murder and slain by the High King’s men. The responsibility for both deaths weighed heavily upon Columba, it is said, and so he and twelve followers left Ireland in a reed boat covered with leather, and set out for Scotland, eventually making landfall on the tiny island of Iona, off the coast of southwestern Scotland in the Inner Hebrides.

There he lived the rest of his days, founding a monastery that served as his home base and a center of learning. He was believed to have been happiest in his simple cell there, near a cross dedicated to St. Martin, himself a soldier who turned to peace. Although Columba made his home on a remote island, he nonetheless remained engaged with the world around him. Many poems and prayers are attributed to St. Columba, including this one:

*Let me bless almighty God, whose power extends over sea and land,
Whose angels watch over all. Let me study sacred books to calm my soul:
I pray for peace, kneeling at heaven’s gates. Let me do my daily work, gathering seaweed,
catching fish, Giving food to the poor. Let me say my daily prayers, sometimes chanting,
sometimes quiet, Always thanking God. Delightful it is to live on a peaceful isle, in a quiet
cell, serving the King of kings.*

This beautiful prayer describes five actions of a disciple: blessing, study, work, prayer, and service, all dedicated to God, but in service to the world. In all we do, we start by blessing

God, by opening our hearts to holy learning, by laboring for the least and most vulnerable among us, by seeking God's presence and guidance daily in our prayer lives, dedicating all our effort, even our resting, to the inbreaking of God's reign within us and over us.

Undergirding this is a longing for peace, and this is where perhaps we can hear Columba's prayer resounding in our own hearts today, as we ourselves have been awash in repeated news of violence, war, and division all about us in the last few weeks. In thanksgiving for the life of St. Columba, may we all make our prayer one for peace—peace we are willing to back up by action to protect each other from the scourge of violence. May we remember that silence in the face of evil is not, and never can be, considered peace.

Beloved Savior, settle your peace upon us,
peace beyond our ken,
peace that drops soft and slow
like the rays from the sun at the clouds' parting.

Light us from within, Lord Jesus,
with the beauty of your gospel of grace and mercy,
that we may radiate your love
as a beacon to the world.

Help us be truly present
in each moment with You, O God,
that we may be filled with the wisdom
of compassion and charity,
walking in truth and integrity with each other.

Breathe upon us your Spirit, O God,
that we may be utterly at peace
and grounded within your love.
Trusting in your unfailing goodness,
we commend to your care those we lift before You. Amen.

*This meditation on the Feast of St. Colomba of Iona was written by The Rev. Leslie Scoopmire, Rector at St. Martin's Episcopal Church, Ellisville, MO St Louis for the *Episcopal Journal*.



The Power of Reunion

“It is one of the blessings of old friends that you can afford to be stupid with them.”

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

Among my initial thoughts as I came away from reuniting with some of my old college friends a few weeks ago, were these two: your old friends are still your friends, even after the passage of 50 years; AND there are not enough years left to make new ones. Friends from those earlier years of my life -- the neighborhood, and K-12 grades -- are the only old friends I'll ever have.

I am so grateful to have reunited with my 1972 college graduation class after five decades of being apart. It was such a joyful experience, full of gracious words and appreciative glances and funny stories. And, without a doubt, we were stupid with each other.

Friendships, whether brand new or vintage, are a consequence of God's calling. After all, Jesus says in John's gospel, "I have called you to be my friends." We are called to form friendships. They are vital to our sanity and growth and their value can never be underestimated.

Yet, life does not allow us to remain in continuous contact with most of the friends we have made over a lifetime.

Like the ocean tides, friendships ebb and flow. The tide goes in, and we find ourselves together with others and friendships are established. . . friendships that enrich and sustain us. But then the tide goes out, and we are carried apart on life's currents and breezes in different directions, to the *what's next* of our journey through time and space.

We lose touch, sometimes, in the case of high school or college, for 50 years. But then the tide sweeps in and we are reunited with our old friends.

And we discover that we can pick up right where we left off. Assuredly, we are the same people we were back then, but we have become through the passage of years wiser and kinder versions of our earlier selves.

This is the power of reunion, and this power is not isolated to our human friendships. Our friendship with Jesus also ebbs and flows; the tide comes in and we feel an intimacy of indescribable joy with our Lord that is difficult to describe.

But, just as predictably, the tide goes out and we are separated from Jesus. We drift away from the one who reached out to us in friendship. But God's grace is always flowing, drawing us back to that beloved shore where Jesus awaits us, to welcome us back into the bonds of friendship. And in that moment of reunion, our friendship with Jesus is stronger and deeper than before.

May we never take our friendships for granted, either with God or our human counterparts, nor neglect to be profoundly grateful for our old friends. They are our best friends because they knew us when and love us still.

Your friend,

Richard



Just a note to keep you all informed about the financial health of St. Paul's. Thus far this year our pledges have increased somewhat from last year and are exceeding our budget - you have pledged over \$18,000 this year compared to our budget estimate of \$15,000. That's quite good, especially considering that pledges constitute the bulk of our income since we no longer have anything coming in from the closed preschool.

Our endowment was reconfigured to better match the current financial situation and while we have lost some money in the markets this year it is so far not significant. In fact, it showed a profit for the month of May. Of note, we have not had to withdraw any monies from the endowment fund to pay for operating expenses for the past year.

Our expenses are for the most part, significantly lower than they were when the preschool was open, with utilities much lower than expected. Revisions to our phone and internet and trash pickup scheduling have also contributed to savings.

We do however need to keep in mind that we occupy a 150-year-old building, and some repairs are ongoing, unexpected and usually expensive - in fact we are expecting an estimate for some roof repairs in the next week.

But by trying to carefully manage the budget and the expenses we are in reasonable shape financially now and expect to be in the future.

Names of new employees/services:

Housekeeping Kim Curley, hired as employee in May - responsible for cleaning the church after services and functions, as well as the downstairs restrooms.

Lawn Care Dennis Lemker, who operates a local lawn service, hired to mow and care for all grassy areas around the church. Also will treat the parking lot area for weeds.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Bayne
Parish Administrator



- **ZOOM BIBLE STUDY** occurs every Thursday at 4:00 p.m., but will not be held on June 23 or 30, as **FR. RICHARD** will be away from the Parish.
- **MIKE BAYNE**, our Parish Administrator, has stepped away from his duties as Church Sexton. Cleaning the Church and lawn care are now the responsibility of others (see Parish Administrator Article). Though Mike will be less hands, he will insure that these important tasks are performed satisfactorily.
- **MEALS ON WHEELS** will be delivered on June 29 and July 27 – thanks to the ministry of **GLEN DAVIS** and **SHERYL READOUT**.
- **PARISH POTLUCK, JULY 7:** We will gather at 6:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. We will enjoy as our main course **STIR FRY AND NOODLES** from the kitchen of **GLEN DAVIS**. Please bring salads and sides to share.
- **ST. PAUL'S** is hoping to form a facility-sharing partnership with a not-for-profit to better serve our community. If you know of any group that might be interested, please speak to **FR. RICHARD** or **MIKE BAYNE**.
- **NEW CHURCH WEBPAGE:** Thanks to the efforts of **NICK YANCEY AND MIKE BAYNE**, we are on the verge of premiering a new webpage for St. Paul's. We have needed this for some time, and we are very grateful to Diocesan Staff member, **MEG WAGNER**, for her guidance with this process.
- **FR RICHARD** will be away from the Parish from June 18 to July 1. Part of his vacation will be spent at home taking directions from his hound dog, Olly, but he will also be traveling to California to spend time with his daughter, Corydon, and son-in-law, Chris. **PASTOR GREG DAVISON** will lead worship on June 19 and 26 and our Zoom services on those Sundays will be officiated by **P.J COLBERT** and **NICK YANCEY**, respectively.



Please keep **Jonathan and Chris Hull** in your prayers this week. Last year they moved to Red Lodge, MT, and bought their dream retirement home. Over the last couple of days Red Lodge was nearly washed away by devastating flooding. Though they and their home are above water and relatively safe, the recovery for Red Lodge will be an arduous process - the last thing they were looking for after experiencing a tornado and a derecho. They could use all the prayers we can provide.



Let us pray for those who have asked for our prayers:

Orlin & Sally Klinkefus, Colleen & Ellis Harmon, Ruth Davis, Scott, Eleanor Stegmann, Dan and Carroll McInroy, Bob & Nancy Petersen, Jonathan & Chris Hull, and Pat Gourley, who mourns the death of her beloved husband, Harold.

We pray for all those celebrating birthdays in June and July, especially Nancy Stone, Sally Klinkefus, David Thomas, Ev Halstead, Leon Vanlangen, Sheryl Thomas, Don Campbell, Claire Mayo, and Karen Bursley. We also pray for those observing anniversaries, especially, Jonathan and Chris Hull and Orlin and Sally Klinkefus.

We pray for the clergy and people of every parish in our diocese. We also pray for our companion dioceses of Nzara and Swaziland in Africa, and Brechin in Eastern Scotland.

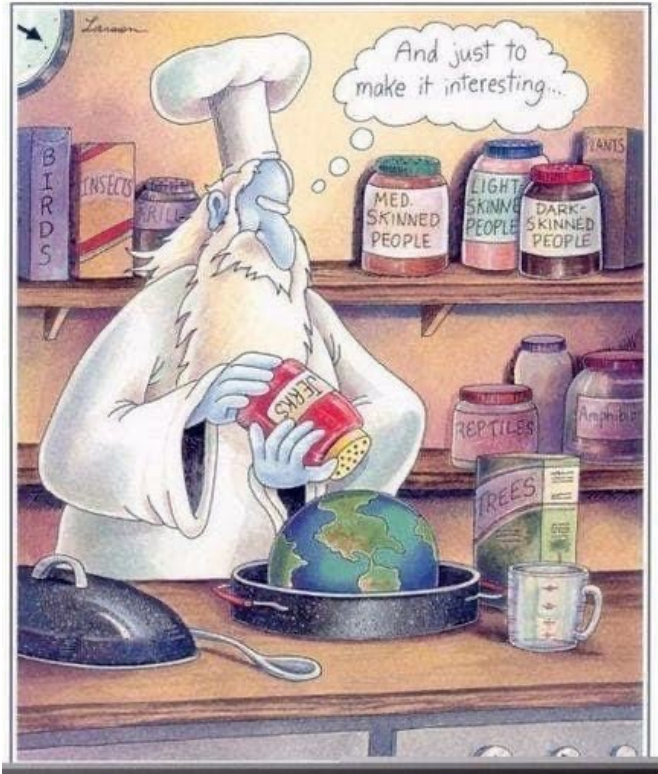
We pray for all who suffer under the weight of this pandemic and strength for those who labor for our health. We pray for leaders in every community and nation, especially for Joseph, our President and Kimberly, our Governor, that they might seek justice, promote unity, and care for all those they serve.

We offer this meditation for the people of Ukraine : “The Spirit helps us in our weakness, because we don’t know how to pray as we ought—and sometimes the Spirit intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words.” We pray for peace, but maybe we don’t have the words. We pray for a just peace, but maybe we don’t have the words. We pray that the lives of innocents, and the lives of any human child of God, will be spared. We pray that our leaders will find a diplomatic way—a nonviolent solution. But we don’t know how to pray as we ought, and so the Spirit must intercede for us at this time.”

~ Presiding Bishop Michael Curry

The Lighter Side







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SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY