

# THE MESSENGER

JUNE, 2022

## Faithful Innovation

How do we faithfully follow and proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ in our communities in a new and changing world?

I know that many of you are aware of the Four Priorities that the Episcopal Church in Minnesota has adopted, under the leadership of Bishop Craig Loya, to guide us as we move into the future and as we shape our lives together as disciples of Jesus Christ. These four priorities are: Faithful Innovation, Discipleship, Justice, and Congregational Vitality. I have listed the priority of Faithful Innovation first because it forms the foundation of the other three priorities.

The church has changed from what it was when most of us were growing up, and it will continue to change. As we live our lives together in community as the church, our mission is first and foremost to remain faithful to the gospel of Jesus Christ. One of the things that the church, in my experience, has not been particularly good at is conveying the need for individual and community practices of spiritual prayer and discernment. The history of Christian Spirituality is replete with examples of groups of Christians who have gathered together to form groups and practices of prayer to grow deeper in relationship with God and to discern the Spirit's call.

Our new ECMN Canon for Vitality and Innovation, The Rev. Canon Blair Pogue, is inviting individuals from faith communities around the diocese to participate at several locations in a process of Faithful Innovation, a process that invites participants to engage in simple spiritual practices and small experiments to develop deeper relationships with God, fellow faith community members, and neighbors.

During a season when we may feel stuck, overwhelmed, and frankly don't know exactly what to do sometimes, the practices offered by Canon Pogue through this pro-

cess help deepen participants' faith and curiosity about God's activity outside the church, and create muscle memory for a process they can engage in repeatedly.

Rather than focusing inward on church questions, Faithful Innovation invites participants to focus outward, to be curious about where God is already at work in our community. Canon Pogue and others will be guiding teams of from 3-8 from participating faith communities and their clergy over a 9 month period, working with a coach to learn, process, envision and enact small experiments to learn more about what the Holy Spirit is up to in their lives and the lives of their neighbors.

This process of Faithful Innovation is a proven to be a way of bringing hope, new life, and energy to numerous congregations. It will involve a commitment to gather three times over a 9-10 month period of time. These gatherings, for those interested in participating, will take place at Lafayette Community Center, Evergreen Room 3026 Minnesota Avenue, Duluth, and will take place on these three Saturdays from 10 am - 3 pm:

- September 10, 2022
- December 3, 2022
- April 8, 2023

I will be talking more about this process of faithful innovation in the weeks ahead. If you are at all interested in becoming involved in this process, please let me know and I can discuss more about this process with you.



Faithfully,  
The Rev. Rick Swenson

## From Your Rector Search Committee

We finished our screening interviews during the first week of May, and were pleased with the outcome. What a relief! After further review of each candidate, we started meeting to discern how to proceed and with whom. I am always gratified by the care and the sense of right action that committee members bring to the process.



among other topics. In these interviews, we expect that candidates will have questions for us. Each is, of course, discerning a call to St. Paul's as deeply as we are working to find the priest God has prepared for us.

Thank you for your continued support of our work.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Mary Dragich*

*On behalf of: Paul Almirall, Mark Brown,  
Rebecca Butler, Nat Constance, Ryan Erspamer, Kathy  
Leonard, Terry Roberts, Amber Sadowski, Angie Shambour,  
and Nelson Thomas*

The screening interviews gave us a sense of who each candidate is personally and of how each one might fit our parish community. The next round of Zoom interviews will take place in early June. In this round, our questions will focus on each person's experience and their goals relative to serving as rector at St. Paul's,

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## Rummage Sale

St. Paul's Rummage Sale will be  
Saturday, June 4, from 8 am - 1 pm

All hands on deck! It's the final push before the sale and there are plenty of ways to help.

Tuesday - May 31 - Starting at 4 pm - The Parish Hall needs to be transformed. All the round tables and chairs put away and the long tables put out in the room. Following the table set-up, the rummage remaining in the garage needs to be moved to the parish hall.

Wednesday through Friday, from 8:30 am - 5:00 pm we will need help sorting and pricing.

Saturday, June 4 - Sale Day. We will need folks to help our customers and at the check-out. We will have three shifts on sale day: 8:00 am-10:30 am; 10:30 am - 1:00 pm; and 1:00 pm until clean-up is complete.

Call, text, or email Susan Anderson if you can help. (home) 218-724-3732, (cell) 218-349-1351, email is [anderblodg4@msn.com](mailto:anderblodg4@msn.com)

Thank you to everyone who has already pitched in!



*Respectfully submitted by Susan Anderson*

## From Your Vestry



### The Buzz at St. Paul's

Perhaps the least important, yet most newsworthy, item to come out of our May 17 Vestry meeting was that, for the first time in over two years, we were able to finish our business in under one hour. I am certain Nancy Schuldt, our hard-working former warden who led the World's Hardest Working Vestry, would be jealous to hear this. But it is not because this year's vestry are slackers. There are many reasons for the efficient meeting.

It starts with the steady leadership of Reverend Richard Swenson. Reverend Rick has encouraged committees, vestry, and staff to move forward and not wait for what a new rector would do. He understands the talent and spirit of this parish and suggests that a new rector may take time to assess our strengths and identify areas to improve. So now is the time for our new normal.

Deacon Patricia Benson has shown a strong presence both within our parish and in our community through CHUM. She has formed strong partnerships with other churches and area organizations that help fill the voids for those in our community that need help. We are also fortunate to have a strong and vibrant Outreach Committee that is working to better connect our church to our neighborhood.

I am very grateful for our newly formed Finance Committee who meets monthly, one week before the vestry meeting, to review the monthly financial statement and all matters finance-related. This group enjoys the nitty gritty of budget work and makes the vestry's job easier.

We should all be grateful for the dedication of the Rector Search Committee. They understand the significance of their role and deserve our prayers for guidance in this most important endeavor. Additionally, there are other committees that help that serve our parish like the Altar Guild, Hospitality, HR/Personnel, Buildings and Grounds, Safety, Worship, and Outreach that sometimes go unnoticed but work hard to serve our parish.

In our May Vestry meeting, Reverend Rick Swenson informed us of some good news. The ECMN closed the year with a surplus and offered a two thousand dollar return gift to our parish. The Vestry had the option of using the funds as we saw fit or returning it to the diocese. We elected to accept it, and allow our Outreach Committee to decide how best to use it. The pandemic has caused great hardship in our community, especially for those less fortunate. The local Food Shelf is in desperate need. The Faith in Our Future sessions a year ago identified outreach as an area

we wish to improve. This gift serves as a nice jump start in that effort. I am proud of their dedicated work and trust their judgement.

After receiving bids, we have hired a new lawn service, The Lawn Rangers, to begin mowing by June 1, 2022. I am sure some would like to see the grass cut sooner, but there is a movement called "No Mow May" that is aimed to protect the bee population. As a green church, and because we keep a beehive just outside the choir room window (check it out and ask Jay Austin about it), we thought the delay made sense. Our contract allows us to switch mowing responsibilities to an



event sexton when one is hired to replaced Peter Pierce, who recently retired. We are incredibly grateful for his four decades of loyal service to St. Paul's and will miss him. Susan Anderson updated us on plans for the Annual Rummage Sale on Saturday, June 4. More information can be found here in The Messenger. Vestry and others will assist in set up, but help will be needed for take down and pack up after the event at 1 pm.

This has led to discussion among some about reestablishing the Men's Club. This, of course, would not be exclusive to men only, but to a group of people looking to chip in on projects around the church. Their good deeds would be rewarded by fellowship and satisfaction in their work. They are the group that prepares the meal for the Shrove Pancake Supper but would be looking for new members and new tasks.

As you have read from me today, church committees make our parish flourish and, through their good work, bring us closer together. As we are in a transition, now is the time to try new ideas and even bring back old ones. So, keep an open mind as we try new things and consider how you might want to get involved.

Respectfully submitted,

*Eirik Rennan,  
Senior Warden*



## From the Scholarship Committee



St. Paul's Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce that Luke Vos, Emma Fellman, Arden Grim, Sophia Morin-Swanson and Grace Butcher have been awarded new college scholarships. These scholarships are renewable annually for undergraduate education. The annual amount of the scholarship is presently \$1650.

*Respectfully submitted by Bill Dinan, Chair*

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## From Your Altar Guild



**Altar Guild Meeting**  
**Saturday, June 4**  
**9:00 am**  
**Olcott Room**

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## You Are Invited



Jean Manthey invites everyone to her 95th birthday celebration!

Please join the party on Friday, June 10 from 2:30-3:30 pm at Keystone Bluffs, 2528 Trinity Rd, Duluth.

Cake and ice cream will be served.

# From CHUM

## Urgent Call for Food at CHUM

CHUM is asking for food donations as its supply has become increasingly low. The issue has been compounded by increasing prices with inflation, the war in Ukraine affecting certain food imports, and even environmental issues. They are short on peanut butter, beef stew, and dried pastas which are all things they've had in abundance in the past. CHUM typically goes through 600 jars of peanut butter a month, but it currently has only a few left on the shelf. CHUM received 50,000 pounds of food in March, that would normally last them until July, but it has already been used up. You can donate funds through CHUM's website [www.chumduluth.org](http://www.chumduluth.org), or drop off a check or food donations in-person at its facilities.



## From CHUM Rhubarb Festival

### Donate a Themed Basket to the Bucket Raffle

#### Instructions:

Pick a theme.

Popular Baskets have included:

- Baskets with themed gift cards, ex: Dinner Out or Movie Night,
- Food themes, ex: Italian Night, Farmers' Market, Growlers
- Community themed baskets ex: Visit Lincoln Park or Love the North Shore
- Book gift card baskets, handcrafted items or money trees

Fill out a commitment form at the CHUM Assembly OR contact Shivon Miller, [shivon.miller@gmail.com](mailto:shivon.miller@gmail.com) or [218-341-6154](tel:218-341-6154) and let us know you are committing to that theme.

Fill a basket or bucket/container with items reflecting that theme. Each basket should have a worth of between \$50-\$75.

Deliver the basket to Trinity Lutheran Church, 1108 E. 8th St. between 9 am-Noon, Monday-Friday or call Shivon to make arrangements. We prefer to have baskets by June 10 so that we have time to properly label, wrap and advertise prior to the Rhubarb Festival.

### Sign us up for supporting the Bucket Raffle!

**We will donate a Themed Basket with a value of \$50-\$75.**

**Our theme will be:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Congregation/Community** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Person** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone #** \_\_\_\_\_

# Lost Treasures from the Archives

Published in Duluth News Tribune 1917.

## MOST PROMINENT WEDDING OF SEASON AT ST. PAUL'S

*'Avenue of Pines and Gothic Lines of Easter  
Lilies Are Setting at Gates-Olcott Marriage.'*

TALL cathedral candelabra twined with southern smilax and an avenue of northern pine from chancel rail to altar, where Easter lilies banked the Gothic arch, made a long aisle of green for the bridal procession and a lovely setting for the marriage service of Miss Dorothy Olcott, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Olcott and Dr. Frederick La Mont Gates of New York at St. Paul's Episcopal church last night. Dr. A. W. Ryan read the service.

Gowned in white satin made en traine, with a tulle veil held by a fillet of orange blossoms, the bride, carrying a bouquet of lilies of the valley, leaned upon the arm of her father as they moved along the "avenue of pines" toward the altar.

The ushers, William Harrison, E. F. Chapin Jr., W. C. Agnew Jr., Fred E. Wolvin, Leo Schmied and Horace F. Ferry of Superior, led the bridal procession. They were followed by the bridesmaids, Miss Alice Gates, sister of the bridegroom, and Miss Janet Rane of Waban, Mass., a cousin of the bride, who wore duplicate gowns of green satin and tulle, and carried big bouquets of pink snapdragon.

Miss Elizabeth Olcott, as her sister's maid of honor, was gowned in apricot shade of taffeta and she carried snapdragons to match her gown. Following her came the little flower girl, Sallie Simonds, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Simonds, formerly of Superior, wearing a white frock with green tulle bow and carrying lilies of the valley.

Before the ceremony which began at 8 o'clock, an organ program, especially selected by the bride, was played. The music was under the direction of Miss Mary Syer Bradshaw. The processional was the Lohengrin Bridal Chorus, which was sung by Miss Bradshaw, Mrs. August Frey, Mrs. James F. Walsh, Mrs. C. B. Gilbert, A. R. Burquist, Dr. F. A. Amundson, George Suffel and D. G. Gearhart. Following the betrothal service when the bridal couple passed from the chancel to the altar, Miss Bradshaw sang a bridal prayer, "Oh Heavenly Father." (Coombs.) The "Northfield Benediction" was sung after the benediction, and the "Tannhauser" march was played as recessional.

A reception followed the service at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Olcott, East First street. The guests were received in the music room where tall silver vases held American Beauty roses forming a rarely beautiful color combination with the French gray tone of the room. The drawing room had its rich coloring emphasized by huge bowls of gladiolus and snapdragon. In the dining room the bridal white reigned. From the cut crystal center light hung wreathed in asparagus fern showers of white sweet peas and lilies of the valley and crystal candlesticks held tall tapers

that lighted the sideboard where the wedding cake reposed in a wreath of ferns.

Mrs. Olcott was gowned in dark blue satin and silver. Mrs. Gates wore a robe of rose point over cream satin.

The bride's going away costume was a sport suit of brown and orange. Her bridal bouquet was made of many small bouquets which she gave to her bridal party and mother and mother-in-law.

Dr. Gates and his bride have gone east where they will be at home in New York late in the autumn. Dr. Gates is an associate of the Rockefeller institute and is a graduate of John Hopkins and Yale universities.

Mrs. George W. Strickler and daughter, Marian, of Minneapolis, were guests of Mrs. W. C. Winton over the wedding. Eugene M. Best and daughter, Alice, of Minneapolis, were also wedding guests who were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Edward Mendenhall.

A large party, comprising the out-of-town guests at the wedding, will be the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Olcott on a trip to the range today. They will all leave for their homes tomorrow. The visitors are Mr. and Mrs. F. T. Gates of Montclair, N. J., parents of the bridegroom, and their daughters, Alice, Grace and Lucia, and their son, Percival; Mrs. F. W. Rane of Waban, Mass., and Mrs. C. M. Hammond of Detroit Mich., sisters of Mrs. Olcott; Mrs. Eugene G. Clapp and daughter, Mary, of Boston; Mrs. Louise Cornell of Orange, N. J.; Mr. and Mrs. Frank B. Kellogg, Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Otis, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin F. Meyers of St. Paul and Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Bovey of Minneapolis.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bob Silverness

## From Your Bookkeeper

Dear Parishioners,

April 2022 financials were presented at the May 17, 2022, Vestry meeting. Here is a summary of the April **General Fund** Statement of Activities.



<b>MONTHLY FIGURES: April</b>	MONTHLY	Year to date
Total Pledges collected	\$30,312.75	\$140,888.16
Prior year pledges	\$0.00	\$1,339.57
Total non-pledged collection	\$1,583.00	\$4,341.68
Investment support	\$8,158.56	\$32,779.09
<b>Total Collected</b>	<b>\$40,054.31</b>	<b>\$179,348.50</b>
 Monthly expenses	 \$25,079.57	 \$120,474.30
 amount over/(short)	 \$14,974.74	 \$58,874.20

The pledge collection amount for April is \$8,178 over budget, and the Year-to-Date pledges are ahead of budget by \$13,225.

Expenses are \$16,549 under budget for the month and \$40,637 under budget Year-to-Date due to the staffing situation and no expenses related to the rector search, as of yet. It is expected that expenses will more closely fall in line with the budget once we have additional staff on board, bring rector candidates for visits, and pay insurance premiums.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please call my office or email me at [bookkeeper@stpaulsduluth.org](mailto:bookkeeper@stpaulsduluth.org).

*Christine Melone,*  
*Bookkeeper*

Deadline for submissions to the July issue of *The Messenger* is  
8:00 am, Tuesday, June 21, 2022.

Please email items to:

[office@stpaulsduluth.org](mailto:office@stpaulsduluth.org)

## The Deacon's Stoop



*What we would like to do is change the world – make it a little simpler for people to feed, clothe, and shelter themselves as God intended for them to do.*

– Dorothy Day

St. Paul's Outreach Committee is exploring the belief that individuals, groups, and communities have the gifts they need to achieve God's dream for our community. We are using an approach called **Asset Based Community Development**, and several of us participated in a training with ECMN Missioner Rachel Babbitt to learn **ABCD**.

I Corinthians 12 tells us that each of us is given different gifts to serve the community and we are all a part of the body of Christ working together. To do this, we each are invited to:

- discern our gifts from God and how those gifts can be used to the benefit of all,
- be in partnership and engage with one another as we work together,
- move from thinking that there is an inadequacy we are unable to address to believing that we have enough, we *are* enough, and that God has given us enough to achieve our dreams for St. Paul's and for our community.

**Traditionally, church ministries have been based on needs.** Faith in Our Future made it clear you are looking beyond needs, and working to form relationships. Work that is based solely on meeting needs in a transactional type of exchange might provide for a day, but often fails to achieve sustainable transformation – in any of the participants.

**Asset-based projects focus on a community's strengths and resources.** Asset-based projects reposition the church within rather than above or out-

side the community. Reimagining the church's particular gifts as integrated with the gifts of the wider community allows the church to see and join the work God is doing in our communities. This is truly the work of shalom — the work of the church — revealing and celebrating God's provision.



The act of discovering, identifying and connecting people's assets changes the way that individuals view themselves and those around them. Instead of seeing themselves as 'needy' or 'deprived', they begin to believe in their own potential to make their community a better place to live.

We want to develop a new way of thinking grounded in these theological principles:

- Gifts are more than talents. Gifts include our interests, motivations, styles, bodies, values, passions, hopes, dreams and life journeys.
- Gifts are not distributed equally. In any particular circumstance an individual may have gifts that seem more relevant, more fully defined, or more realized. As described in the parable of the talents, God is not interested in even distribution. Rather, God is interested in the way we use our gifts in service to a greater good.
- There is no hierarchy of gifts, but each are called to share our gifts with one another to the greater glory of God.
- A gifted community is greater than the sum of its parts. Gifts discernment focuses on the wholeness of individuals. We recognize that we are a community of believers that needs each other not only to

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supplement the variety of gifts but also to help engage each others gifts fully.

- Individuals are created in God's likeness and are good. Our understanding of our giftedness is rooted in our belief in an incarnational God.
- Every single person is gifted and called by God. As followers of God in the way of Jesus, we must trust and honor the diversity of gifts recognizing that anything less than that devalues the individual and contradicts our understanding of God.

We are following the pattern Jesus taught us by walking out into our community to encounter our neighbors, to

listen to their stories and concerns, to love them.

*By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.*

John 13:35

Blessings,

Deacon Pat

Email: [Deacon@stpaulsduluth.org](mailto:Deacon@stpaulsduluth.org)

Phone: 218-724-3535

## Rhubarb Festival June 25

It's June and that means the annual CHUM Rhubarb Festival. This year's festival will be held at Holy Rosary - Stella Maris on Saturday, June 25, from 9:00 am -3:00 pm. Once again, St. Paul's bakers will be preparing rhubarb scones for sale. In the past we have baked around 360 scones and 70 loaves of tea breads. We are hoping to concentrate on scones only this year as they have always been a popular item.

We are looking for volunteers at St. Paul's on the following days:

- Wednesday, 6/22, 9 am -12 noon for measuring ingredients;
- Thursday, 6/23, 9 am -3 pm, for making scones;
- Friday, 6/24, for baking and packaging, 8 am until completed.

Please consider being a part of our St. Paul's team. Lunch provided on Thursday and free tastes! Cash donations accepted for ingredients/baking items. Please contact Sue Brown if you have any questions or have an interest in being involved. Thanks!



## From the Diocese of North Carolina

We are delighted that St. Paul's own Sarah Diener-Schlitt, daughter of Tom and Nancy Diener, will be ordained on June 4! View the livestream broadcast at the link below. Best wishes to Sarah and family!



By the Grace of God  
and with the consent of the people  
The Right Reverend Anne E. Hodges-Copple  
Bishop Suffragan of North Carolina  
will ordain

**Phillip Michael Bass**  
**Josiah Mark Daniels**  
**Keith Callahan Esposito**  
**Sarah Ruth Diener-Schlitt**  
**and**  
**Sarah Gayle Koppelberger**

to the Sacred Order of Deacons  
in Christ's One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church  
Saturday, the fourth of June  
two thousand and twenty-two  
at eleven o'clock in the morning

The Rt. Rev. Samuel S. Rodman  
Bishop Diocesan, will celebrate.

You are cordially invited to view the livestream broadcast  
of the ordination via the Facebook page of the  
Diocese of North Carolina at

<https://www.facebook.com/EpiscopalDioceseNC/>

## LAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE –JUNE 2022

Please find a sub if you are unavailable for your scheduled date.

	June 5	June 12	June 19	June 26	July 3
ALTAR GUILD	K LEONARD	C CONRAD	J MARINAC	J JARNIS	K LEONARD
	S Cox	S Anderson	A Gustafson	R Ballou-Buck	S Cox
	J Harvey	S Hall	L Hultkrantz	D Kolquist	J Harvey
		A Sadowski	C Miller	A Schliep	
LECTOR 8:00 am	M Gustafson	N Diener	A MacKenzie	S Stromquist	
LECTOR 10:00 am	Z Stodola	M Gustafson	J Pastor	J Stromquist	
CHALICE					
ACOLYTES	A Barthel	S Morin-Swanson	B Austin	G French	A Miller
	E Barthel	O Morin-Swanson	M Butler	E Erspamer	E Fellman
	A Dodge	L Gustafson	J Bauer	L Sadowski	L Fellman
LIVESTREAM	R Lyle	J Austin	D Clanaugh	J Austin	R Lyle
COFFEE HOST	The French Family	B & K Silverness	M & A Slattery	M & S Brown	Gustafson Family
USHERS	M & S Brown	R Lyle	D Morin	C & B Dinan	M & S Brown
	D Barthel	P Waite	K Swanson	G Olson	D Kolquist
		M Gustafson	P Waite	P Enenbach	
LOCK UP	M Brown	J Austin	D Pederson	C Fellman	M Brown

### Altar Guild Other Duties for June:

#### June Linens:

C Conrad, E Killen

Sub: C Miller

#### May/June Brass Cleaning—Date TBD:


C Conrad, S Anderson, P Markert, J Marinac

Sub: C Miller

#### Weekly Team Subs:

G Bouschor, E Killen

### Are you interested in a lay ministry?

Would you be willing to assist in **VOLUNTEER** our Sunday worship as a lector, usher, choir member? Would  you like to serve coffee at the coffee hour? Would you like to help the Altar Guild set up? There are many ways to get involved, and St. Paul's could use more help! Youth can earn service hours by serving as Acolytes or volunteer Nursery Attendants. Just call the Parish Office 218-724-3535 and Rita will help you contact the right person.



St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
1710 E. Superior St.  
Duluth, MN 55812

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