

THE MESSENGER

JULY, 2022

From Our Priest-in-Charge

Changes occasioned by transitions are not always smooth nor easy. St. Paul's has gone through more than its share of transition over the past several years and it has experienced ups and downs during this time of change.

The first thing that impressed me when I joined you at St. Paul's late last year was the vitality and determination of the parish leadership and that of the entire congregation as you have moved forward, not despairing of the challenges faced and those you continue to address and resolve. The journey is not yet completed, however. The coming months will require the efforts of everyone here at St. Paul's in order that we continue to move forward into a new and brighter future.

Not the least of the changes that will take place over the next few months will of course be the calling of a new Rector. While we await the calling of that new Rector, we will need to continue to strengthen and organize the ministries of St. Paul's as we move out of the worst of the Covid pandemic.

As far as my ministry as Priest-in-Charge is concerned, I envision devoting my primary energies over the next few months to working toward three primary goals: 1) beginning to discern and develop a robust ongoing stewardship program at St. Paul's; 2) leading an effort to begin to reconstitute and develop a vibrant program of youth ministry; and 3) continue my efforts to help discern and organize the leadership and internal communications structure of the many wonderful committees and ministries here at St. Paul's already so ably engaged in God's work as Spirit-led disciples of Christ.

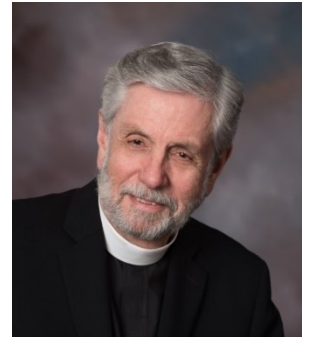
All these efforts are, of course, in anticipation of helping St. Paul's welcome a new pastor and leader as St. Paul's new Rector.

We have, however, experienced one recent setback in our efforts to face the challenges placed before us. A mu-

tual understanding has been reached with the individual who was to be our new music director and he will no longer be coming to Duluth to serve as music director at St. Paul's.

While this is certainly a setback to our music program in the short term, the eternal optimist in me sees that there is a positive side to this situation and this challenge. The Vestry will re-post a call for a new music director and welcome all applicants interested in this important position. Re-posting a call to fill this position at this time will hopefully afford a new Rector the opportunity to have significant input and guidance in selecting a new music director. Likewise, as we develop and reconstitute the youth ministry of St. Paul's over the summer and fall months in anticipation of the coming school year, the timing of this effort will also afford a new Rector the opportunity to join with us and help determine the full nature and scope of St. Paul's youth programs and whether a paid coordinator of youth faith formation should be called and who that person should be. These two areas of ministry, the music and youth of St. Paul's, are perhaps the most important ministries this or any parish has in proclaiming and evangelizing the Word of God, and the leadership of a new Rector will be imperative in successfully building and sustaining these ministries.

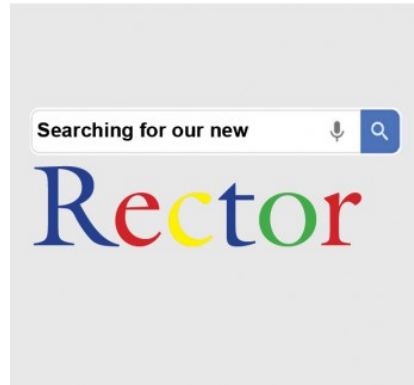
Keep St. Paul's in your prayers. I have faith that the Spirit will lead us to the right decisions as we seek to faithfully follow God's will for this wonderful community of faith.



Yours in Christ,
The Rev. Rick Swenson

From Your Rector Search Committee

The search committee had a successful first formal interview with a rector candidate in June. The search now enters the final stage. In addition to checking the candidate's references, this stage includes having the candidate visit to discuss final questions with the search committee, to meet with wardens and members of the vestry, and to meet staff. The search committee expects this stage to be completed by late



July. If all goes well, there are procedural steps to be completed before a call would be finalized.

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*

Top 10 Things to Know About St. Paul's 2022 Rummage Sale

1. Fifty-three parishioners and friends helped out with the sale!
2. Over \$3,000 was raised at the sale.
3. Twelve hundred dollars from the sale was donated to CHUM.
4. Four baskets for CHUM's Rhubarb Festival Silent Auction were put together from rummage sale items.
5. Divine Konnections, a new non-profit providing housing and supportive services to BIPOC women with newborns or are pregnant, picked out rocking chairs, a changing table, a port-a-crib, baby clothes, toys, and supplies.
6. Eight car loads of clothing were donated to Damiano and Goodwill.
7. The ages of volunteers ranged from 10 to 94.
8. Most expensive item sold for \$175.
9. Two pick-up loads of unsold books were donated to Gabriel's Books in Lakeside.
10. The garage is empty for the first time in two years!



Thank you to everyone who worked on the sale, St. Paul's really pulled together to get the job done. I'd especially like to thank Rita for having my back, and attending to all the little, and not so little, details that kept popping up. A committee will be deciding how the rest of the funds will be spent or donated.

Respectfully submitted by Susan Anderson

From Your Vestry



Vestry met on Tuesday, June 21, with a full agenda. Like many of our meetings, it was focused on preparing St. Paul's for a new rector. Reverend Richard Swenson shared his thoughts on some areas that would be beneficial to a smooth transition.

With many of our committees serving an active role in meeting the needs of the parish, it is important to continue to have a structure that allows a linear line of communication between them. To that end, we will gather the information needed to develop a policy manual that covers various roles and responsibilities. This would be helpful when thinking about the needs for weddings, funerals, youth events, or any other gatherings or events at St. Paul's.

Faith Formation is a high priority. We have posted the position for a Christian Formation Coordinator but have yet to receive any applications. With the anticipation of a new rector arriving, we must acknowledge that they may wish to have a guiding hand in selecting a new leader. Planning must begin for a return to fall programming. Reverend Rick can take a lead role in this and suggests we have a parish wide meeting where we can share thoughts and ideas for an ideal formation program. Please look for more information on that soon.

We also discussed the need to establish the role of the Budget and Finance Committee so that we can set goals for the coming year early on, and reflect those goals in the budget for the following year. All of this depends on a strong Stewardship program focusing on bringing our dreams to fruition. We discussed new ways of looking at

Stewardship to meet those needs and we will continue to do so.

Much of our time was spent discussing the music director position. We regret that we were unable to bring a new music director here by now. The position will be reposted soon, and we look forward to a vibrant music ministry as we have been accustomed to in the past. I would like to thank our parish secretary, Rita, for finding us talented musicians to fill in this year so far. We have been fortunate to have Rev. Dr. David Tryggestad, Dr. Hector Landa, and Dr. Justin Rubin. Additionally, within our own parish, we have had Nancy Schuldt and Dale Rogers on the piano. Thank you to all for sharing your wonderful talents with us in worship.

I often reference the "Faith in Our Future" survey results in guiding the Vestry on what is important as we continue in our staff transition. Music ministry and Faith Formation were identified by all of you as areas which fulfill our spiritual needs and make St. Paul's special. We will continue to seek out the best talent to fill these roles, and will rely on a strong stewardship program to help get us there.

To end our meeting, we celebrated the success of the Rummage sale and gave thanks to fellow vestry member, Susan M. Anderson, for her leadership. But she quickly turned that around in praising the fifty-three volunteers who helped before and after the sale. She reported that the sales earned approximately \$3200, of which \$1200 was donated to CHUM and the remaining amount to be spent as directed by the Outreach Committee.

Faithfully submitted,

*Eirik Rennan,
Senior Warden*



"As we move toward and adapt to a shorter, smaller General Convention, I invite every Episcopalian—whether you're in Baltimore or Alaska or Honduras, whether you're a deputy, a bishop, or a new member sitting in the pews—I invite all of us to pause each day just for a moment to pray for the expansive, reviving power of the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts and minds. We are people of common prayer; may we embrace this season as an opportunity for us all to become a church that truly lives, looks, and loves like Jesus."

— Michael Curry, 27th Presiding Bishop and Primate of The Episcopal Church

Please say a prayer for safe travel for all the attendees, especially for The Rev. Rick Swenson, who will attend this General Convention. He will be out of the office for a week, July 6-12.

From Your Altar Guild



Hello, I would like to introduce myself. My name is Lynnea Hultkrantz, and I am the newly elected Director of St. Paul's Altar Guild. St. Paul's has been my church for 17 years and I have been a member of Altar Guild for ten years.

For those of you that don't know. Altar Guild is a group of people that assists the clergy with services held at the Church. Altar Guild participates in all Sunday services, baptisms, weddings, funerals, holidays, and other special services.

The Altar Guild members appreciate your prayers and support for us and for our ministry. Please contact me, or any other Altar Guild member, if you are interested in more information.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynnea Hultkrantz
218-428-8838
lynneajh@mac.com



St. Paul's Own Sarah Diener-Schlitt

Trinity Episcopal Church (Houghton, Michigan) will be hosting a welcome reception for Rev. Deacon Sarah Diener-Schlitt on July 10 after their 10:00 am service. All are welcome. If anyone from St. Paul's would like to attend, please contact Nancy Diener (nancymcdiener@gmail.com) to RSVP.

Thanks,
Nancy Diener

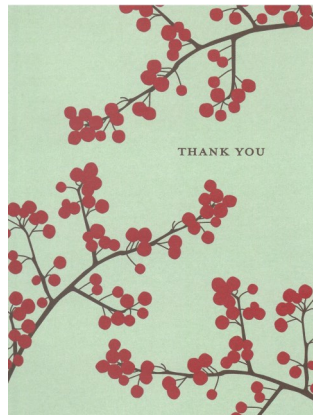
St. Paul's own Sarah Diener-Schlitt, daughter of Tom and Nancy Diener, has been ordained to the transitional diaconate, and will soon be ordained a priest. She will be the rector at Trinity Episcopal Church in Houghton, Michigan. Best wishes to Sarah and family!

Two Notes of Thanks

Dear St. Paul's family,

Our family has been overwhelmed with gratitude and love for all those who helped to make Linda's memorial special, seamless, and beautiful! ... Your care and concern for our family and your help to organize it so that Ryan and I (and other relatives) didn't have to worry about the details is so appreciated. We feel so blessed to be a part of this faith community.

With Love,
Joanne, Ryan, Evan & Eliana and all the Erspamers



Dear St. Paul's family,

What a wonderful feeling that I'm 95, and that I am a part of a group of people who care about each other. Thank you for the many good wishes on my birthday.

Love,
Jean Manthey

Thanks to Everyone Who Supported Rhubarb Festival

It's a thrill to return to many of our cherished traditions at St. Paul's this summer. Special thanks to Sue Brown for taking on a very special leadership role — baking for Rhubarb Festival. She designed a plan, publicized the opportunity through announcements and Messenger, purchased all the needed ingredients, and organized many volunteers to bake and package a vast quantity of rhubarb scones (almost 600!) to benefit CHUM Rhubarb Festival.



Thank you to everyone who helped with CHUM's Rhubarb Festival! It was a huge success!

The church smelled like a bakery!



Several of our youth and parishioners volunteered at Rhubarb Festival. Here are a few of them at the Coffee Shop Tent.



Jack S with Rhubarbara.

Note from Deacon Pat:

Another great Rhubarb Festival! Thanks so much to all who came and supported us with your love! Labor of hundreds of volunteers making rhubarb everything, serving rhubarb everything, painting rhubarb leaves or painting happy faces! We feel the love, and those who need CHUM services will also feel your love. Thank you to the many volunteers who chopped, measured, mixed, formed, baked, boxed, labelled, and transported scones! Thank you to all who worked at the Festival, especially St. Paul's YOUTH GROUP and adult volunteers who ran the coffee shop and lemonade stand. You rock!

Blessings,
Pat



Lost Treasures from the Archives

Published in Duluth News Tribune May 13, 1914

ST. LUKE'S ENDS A RECORD YEAR

Report at Annual Meeting Shows
Receipts and Expenses Near-
ly Balance at \$55,000.

DR. A. W. RYAN RE-ELECTED
PRESIDENT OF INSTITUTION

Improvements Reported \$7,000.
Hospital Is Oldest Charity
in Duluth.

St. Luke's hospital had the largest year's business in the year ending May 1, 1914, that it has had since its organization, both from a financial standpoint and the number of patients treated. This was reported yesterday afternoon at the annual board meeting at the hospital.

The receipts of the year were a trifle over \$55,000, while the expenses lacked \$135 of reaching the receipts' total. St. Luke's has 100 beds and during the year it has been practically filled, the highest record showing 105 patients. There are at the present time from 65 to 70 people employed in the institution.

Rev. A. W. Ryan, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal church, was re-elected as president of the board, a position which he has filled for 20 years, and W. J. Johnson was elected secretary-treasurer.

Directors elected for three years were Mrs. F. W. Paine, A. C. Le Duc and H. R. Spencer. W. J. Johnson was elected a director for two years, to fill the unexpired term of Henry Taylor

Reports on the year's work were

given by the treasurer, W. J. Johnson, and the hospital superintendent, Miss F. E. Smith. General interior improvements, amounting to \$7,000, were made at the hospital during the year.

St. Luke's hospital is the oldest charity in Duluth, having been started in 1882, when Rev. C. A. Cummings was rector of St. Paul's. The first St. Luke's hospital occupied a little building near Third avenue East and Superior street, now being used as a blacksmith shop. It was due to the energetic work of Mr. Cummings that the start was made which has resulted in the fine St. Luke's hospital of today.



Respectfully submitted,
Bob Silverness

From Your Bookkeeper

Dear Parishioners,

May 2022 financials were presented at the June 21, 2022, Vestry meeting. Here is a summary of the May **General Fund** Statement of Activities.



MONTHLY FIGURES: May	This Month	Year to date
Total Pledges collected	\$15,821.45	\$156,709.61
Prior year pledges	\$0.00	\$1,339.57
Total non-pledged collection	\$832.35	\$5,324.03
Investment support	\$8,699.65	\$41,478.74
Total Collected	\$25,353.45	\$204,851.95
Monthly expenses	\$36,665.13	\$157,139.43
amount over/(short)	(\$11,311.68)	\$47,712.52

The pledge collection amount for May is about \$1600 under budget, and the Year-to-Date pledges are ahead of budget by \$11,631.

Expenses are \$247 over budget for the month and \$40,390 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 and bring rector candidates for visits.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please call my office or email me at bookkeeper@stpaulsduluth.org.

Christine Melone,
Bookkeeper

Deadline for submissions to the August issue of *The Messenger* is
8:00 am, Tuesday, July 19, 2022.

Please email items to:
office@stpaulsduluth.org

The Deacon's Stoop



We are created in God's image, given gifts by God, we are meant to be in community.

Our Baptismal Covenant calls us to seek and to serve Christ in everyone, to strive for justice and peace, to respect the dignity of all. As part of the community of St. Paul's, we are pledged to be in relationship with God,

with each other, and with those around us. Jesus' first miracle was in community, at a wedding. Likewise our liturgy is centered on the Eucharist, as we gather together around the table. The baptismal rite is no longer done privately with the family, but instead baptism is at the center of our high feast days or Sunday morning worship. Our burial rites are an Easter celebration of resurrection, not focused on the loss of life.

Jesus called his disciples because of the gifts he saw in them; gifts that may have taken them some time to discover within themselves, gifts that emerged in community. In Acts 20, we are reminded that Jesus taught it is more blessed to give than to receive. Jesus didn't focus on the weaknesses or needs of his disciples; he emphasized their gifts and reminded them to look for gifts in others. Feeding thousands with a few loaves and fish happened because the disciples had explored what gifts were present in the community, and not just among themselves.

Why do you follow Jesus? What causes your heart to burn within you? What meaning do you find in being part of this faith community, the family of St. Paul's? At the heart of it, our Baptismal Covenant is a promise to love, and to demonstrate our love in how we live. We don't always get it right, but we always keep trying!

"Seeing people as gift-bearers is at the heart of the incarnation, the heart of the resurrection, and the heart of the Holy Spirit's work in the Church."

—Erin Weins St John

Our Outreach Committee is working on an asset map. We began by exploring our property and resources, what might show up on a balance sheet, thinking about how we might use what we have in service to our community. That was a familiar first step to get us started, but we know our greatest asset is actually **our people**, and not only those who attend St. Paul's, but also the people in our networks, our neighborhoods, and our community. Ask yourself: What

gifts can I share? What do I do well? Can I share it in service to my community, or teach it to others? Think of people you know at church, in our neighborhood, or folks in the community: What gifts do you see in them? What can they contribute, or teach? If we don't know them well enough to answer these questions, how might we find out?

At our Rummage Sale, we invited our neighbors to share their cares and concerns about our community on prayer flags, which you can see in the Parish Hall. This was our first attempt at surveying our neighbors, finding out what they find important. I invite you to see what you have in common with them, and to take a marker and add *your* flag. Let's hold these things in prayer, carry them in our hearts, stew over them in our thoughts. Let's listen deeply to each other, identify the gifts we see in each other, and together be the change we want to see in our community.

Community is marked by inclusion, and **you are invited...**

- Join the Outreach Committee on Wednesday, July 6 at 5:30 pm, and let's look for God's gifts in those around us.
- Join ECMN Canon for Vitality and Innovation, The Rev. Blaire Pogue on July 10th during coffee hour to explore what it means to engage in holy experimentation through Faithful Innovation. *See page 12*
- Join CHUM at SteppingOnUpDuluth.org to participate in our holy experiment as we seek to provide housing for persons living unsheltered in Duluth.
- Join Flora Woodfork, the kitchen manager at Damiano Center, to assist with meals on Saturdays and Sundays from 1:30-5:30. Let's sit down with folks around the table and get to know each other, with your filter set to exploring giftedness. St. Paul's has a team at Damiano on First Mondays. Could you commit to one shift per month, like First Saturdays? Let Zabelle Stodola or Nelson Thomas know if this is a gift you would like to share!



Blessings,

Deacon Pat

Email: Deacon@stpaulsduluth.org

Phone: 218-724-3535

From Your Outreach Committee

Please join us for an Outreach Committee Meeting on Wednesday, July 6 at 5:30 pm in the Parish Hall.

We are looking for additional volunteers for Damiano to help Flo with cooking. The CHUM Stepping on Up summer outdoor housing program is looking for volunteers. CHUM is also looking for some incentives to give to people who are living in the outdoor shelters (e.g. food and gas cards).

We also will continue working on our Asset Based Community Development model.

- Asset map
 - I will have a Facility map noting the building and grounds of St. Paul's with notes on who/when/where/why/how resources are currently used and flag for potential changes for review.
 - Deacon Pat and others invited parishioners and neighbors to create Prayer Flags during the rummage sale expressing their greatest needs or concerns.
 - Perhaps we could continue this in the building and at future events throughout the summer.
- Congregational map of human assets



• We need to map our greatest asset, and that is our people. These fall into a couple of general categories:

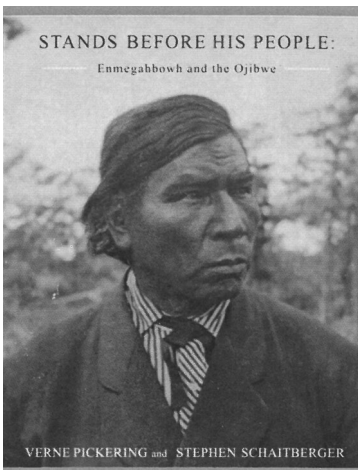
- Employment networks and skills
- Personal networks and skills
 - Include volunteer experience
 - Congregational networks and skills
 - Current happenings
 - Faith in Our Future outcomes
 - Congregational leaders
- Neighborhood Walk or perhaps events?
 - Monthly grill on the lawn
 - Loaves & Fishes picnic in August
 - Rally Day
 - Welcome students in September



Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Brunfelt

Stands Before His People



On June 12, we celebrated the Feast of St. Enmegahbowh, who was an indigenous priest who served in Minnesota. Deacon Pat gave a wonderful sermon that day about Enmegahbowh and his work in this region for both the Episcopal Church and for the native peoples.

Many of you have expressed an interest in learning more about this fascinating and challenging story. Fortunately, The Rev. Stephen Schaitberger and Mr. Verne Pickering have published a book called Stands

Before His People. It is a biographical history of Enmegahbowh and the Ojibwe community. It was published in 2021.

Fr. Steve was kind enough to stop by the Parish Office recently and delivered five copies of his book. They are for sale for \$32 each plus \$3 for tax and handling. Steve's portion of the proceeds go to Indian Missionary work in ECMN. Please contact Rita in the Parish Office if you wish to purchase a copy. 218-724-3535



SINGLE *best day* EVER



JUNE
25
St. Clement's
St. Paul

JULY
9
St. Paul's
Duluth



JULY
23
St. John's
Mankato

AUGUST
13
St. Mark's Cathedral
Minneapolis

SEPT.
10
White Earth

ECMN CAMP SUMMER 2022

Are you ready for the most exciting, fun, inspiring day of your entire summer? The Single Best Day Ever is a pop-up, traveling camp experience that partners with churches across the diocese to engage the children and youth not only in their churches, but in their entire cities. A one-day experience allows people of all ages and levels of safety mitigation to join in a fun and transformational experience that's also highly flexible. Plus, it's going to be fun—like, a lot of fun.

REGISTER TODAY!

episcopalmn.org/children-youth



LAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE –JULY 2022

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

	July 3	July 10	July 17	July 24	July 31
ALTAR GUILD	K LEONARD	C CONRAD	J MARINAC	D KOLQUIST	C CONRAD
	S Cox	S Anderson	A Gustafson	R Ballou-Buck	S Anderson
	J Harvey	S Hall	L Hultkrantz	A Schliep	S Hall
		A Sadowski	C Miller		A Sadowski
LECTOR 8:00 am	N Diener	J Pastor	M Gustafson	A Mackenzie	N Diener
LECTOR 10:00 am	P Kruschke	Z Stodola	J Pastor	M Gustafson	D Rogers
ACOLYTES	E Fellman	S Morin-Swanson	A Barthel	G French	M Butler
	L Fellman	O Morin-Swanson	E Barthel	E Erspamer	D Dodge
	A Rennan	L Gustafson	L Fellman	J Bauer	L Gustafson
LIVESTREAM	D Clanaugh	J Austin	D Clanaugh	J Austin	R Lyle
COFFEE HOST	Gustafson Family	M & B Minter	Barthel Family	L & B Brunfelt	N Constance
USHERS	M & S Brown	R Lyle	D Morin	C & B Dinan	M Gustafson
	D Kolquist	P Waite	K Swanson	P Enenbach	N Schuldt
		G Olson	D Barthel	P Waite	G Olson
LOCK UP	M Brown	J Austin	D Pederson	C Fellman	M Brown

Altar Guild Other Duties for July:

July Linens:

L Hultkrantz
Z Stodola
Sub: C Conrad, C Miller

July/August Brass Cleaning—Date TBD:

C Miller, S Hall, K Buck, M Fegley
Sub: C Miller

Weekly Team Subs:

G Bouschor, E Killen

Are you interested in a lay ministry?

Would you be willing to assist in 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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To receive an electronic copy of the newsletter, email us at office@stpaulsduluth.org or call 218-724-3535

Visit our website:
www.stpaulsduluth.org

Vitality and Innovation

On Sunday, July 10, please stay for a coffee hour presentation by The Rev. Canon Blair Pogue, who provides direct support to congregations of all sizes and contexts as they continue to cultivate vitality, discover new expressions of church, and develop new ways of engaging our neighbors with the good news of Jesus. She develops local and regional leaders who can further advance the work of vitality and innovation in every corner of Minnesota.

