

MARCH NEWSLETTER

2017



St. Paul's Church
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"St. Paul's Church is a community of believers in Jesus Christ committed to helping all people by actively practicing the Gospel in word and deed."

Come worship with us every Sunday morning at 10:00am.

We are a growing church of believers, committed to helping people by actively practicing the Gospel. What does this mean to you? If you are visiting or are new to St. Paul's, we'd love to find out. Join us for fellowship (following the service) and share your faith, time, and talents with us. We offer a variety of ways to get involved in the church and in the community. To become a member of St. Paul's, speak to Pastor Schultz. A new member class is offered as needed.



Did You Know?

Thanks to a friend of St. Paul's, your increase in giving this year will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$30,000.

What a wonderful opportunity to build on your generosity!

For example, if your envelope giving increases \$1 a week, by the end of the year, 52 weeks, your contribution will have doubled to \$104.

MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesd	Thursda	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 Worship Service 10am with communion. Bible class 9:00am	6	7	8	9	10	11 Set your clocks Ahead
12 Wor-ship 10am Daylight Savings Time Bible class 9:00am	13	14	15	16 Council Meeting 7:00pm	17 	18
19 Wor-ship 10am with Com-munion Bible class 9:00am	20 	21	22	23	24	25
26 Worship Service 10am Bible class 9:00am	27	28	29	30	31	

PASTOR'S LETTER

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

March has begun! That means we have several major things to look forward to: Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 12, Spring officially begins on Monday, March 20. And, for goodness' sake, let's not forget St. Patrick's Day, celebrated on Friday, Mar 17. These are all good things.

However, I am personally looking forward to beginning another year as your Pastor here at St. Paul's, officially having started on Wednesday, March 1. This is a surprise as I technically retired on Tuesday, February 28. All of this is a marvelous change of plans as God continues to direct my paths and allows me the privilege to continue here at St. Paul's Church thanks to your warm and loving support.

I am pleased with all that is happening. Yes, I am a little frustrated with my medical situation; nevertheless, God is in charge and our ways and not always his ways. To this end, I eagerly look forward to being around and being involved in all that takes place in the mission and ministry here at St. Paul's. We will now continue to work together as we move forward into warmer weather with the trees already eager to blossom and bloom.

With all this said and done, I invite everyone who is available on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. to join in on our Bible Study that will investigate the First Book of Peter as we make our way into April and the Great Celebration of Easter on Sunday, April 16. We will meet in the conference room/office area.

I now will close simply by expressing my deepest appreciation once again for your sincere support of my ministry. May God bless you all as we look forward to the good things yet to come as is so marvelously expressed by Peter: **“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you”** (1 Pet. 1:3-4).

Please join us for Bible Study on Sunday mornings to hear more from and about the Apostle Peter.

In Christ,

Pastor Schultz



March Birthdays

2 Dorothy Johnson
Akoiwala

Maggie Baysah
Galimah Baysah

3 Randy Dauda
Nyekkeh Forkpa

4 Hardlyne Dauda
Minerva Johnson
George S. Norris

5 Diane Pendergast

7 Charles O. Morris

8 Katherina Cooke
Edith Jourdan-Grittner
Rolf Kohm

Gerry Quarm

10 William Oehlkers
Dakhena Sheriff

11 Lois Oehlkers

13 Rondell Harmon

17 Thomas E. Richard

20 Veretta Jungwirth

22 Leelah D. Graves

23 Nellie Ballah
Kyle Walmsley

25 Tiler Thomas

28 Ralph Gbaie

29 Rebecca Fruggiero

Anniversary

14th Mr. & Mrs. William Hervey (28th)

A graphic with the word "Happy" in a pink cursive font and "SPRING" in large, green, 3D block letters. The letters are decorated with small flowers and butterflies.

Counting Team Schedule

March 6 Elaine Slavin, Bob Johnson, Linda & Tom Foley

March 13 Donna Bucu, Kumba Forkpa, Leelah & Seaniah Ballah

March 20 Pat & David Martin, Judy Crump, Rosella Bollinger

March 27 Dawn & Spencer Seitz, Joan Galloway, Norma Sonstroem



March 2017

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Date	Readers	Communion Assistants	Altar Guild	Ushers
5	Youth	Corvah Akoiwala Bill Oehlkers	Nancy Watson Donna Bucu	Leela Ballah Seaniah Ballah Solomon Paye Hardlyn Dauda
12	Pat Martin		Nancy Watson Donna Bucu	Rick Sinnigen Gerry Quarm Mack Maker Joe Norris
19	David Martin	Joe Norris Rick Sinnigen	Nancy Watson Donna Bucu	Kim King Bill King Dennis Kollie Helen Miller
26	Kevin Riley		Nancy Watson Donna Bucu	Kevin Kehyei Danlette Norris George Dauda Grace Dauda

MINUTES OF CHURCH COUNCIL

January 19, 2017

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Church Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 19, 2017, by Vice-President David Ballah. Present were: Vice-President Ballah, Treasurer Dan Robinson, Secretary David Martin, Financial Secretary Donna Bucu, Chairperson of the Board of Deacons Joe Norris, Chairman of the Board of Finance Richard Sinnigen, Chairman Designate of the Board of Stewardship Bill Oehlkers, and Pastor Schultz. The meeting opened with a prayer offered by Pastor. Chairperson of the Board of Social Ministry Danlette Norris joined the meeting shortly after it was called to order.

Approval of Minutes. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2016, Church Council meeting as corrected.

Treasurer's Report. Treasurer Dan Robinson presented the Treasurer's Report for the period Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2016. Offerings for the year were \$173,299.75. Total income was \$212,910.87, and total disbursements were \$234,378.91, resulting in a deficit of \$21,468.04. (The deficit figure may change slightly after payment of a few remaining bills from 2016 and receipt of reimbursement from Children's Friend for some shared expenses.) The balance of Memorial Funds as of Dec. 31, 2016, is \$202,074.84.

Pastor's Report. Pastor had no official acts to report.

Finance. Richard Sinnigen had nothing to report from the Board of Finance.

Deacons. Joe Norris reported that the Deacons were awaiting authorization from the Voters to begin discussions with Pastor Schultz relative to his serving as the vacancy pastor. Joe said he had admonished the Deacons that they should arrive early for church to assist the pastor with such tasks as opening the gate to the parking lot opposite the Carter Street door.

Trustees. David Martin reported for the Trustees. The two plywood panels over the holes in the wall of the Sunday School classroom where the pipe leaked have been painted. Steven Nagbe helped with this. A limb on the tree on the front lawn has been pruned. The gutter above the door to the church office has been cleaned. The bulb in the light above the door to the church office has been replaced.

Social Ministry. Danlette Norris reported that members of the Board of Social Ministry continue to visit the sick and shut-ins. David Ballah suggested that any future Social Ministry activities, such as the Walk, be publicized well in advance and that people be able to sign up a month in advance.

Stewardship. Bill Oehlkers noted that he expected the members of the Board of Stewardship would be officially elected at the Jan. 22 Voters' Meeting. The Board has been meeting, but not all members have been attending. The Board has been focusing on Challenge 2017 (the matching program explained in the January newsletter) and the February 4th congregational forum. The forum will address the question of how St. Paul's will carry out its mission statement.

Bill noted that the church website is up and running. The address is st.paulsprov.org. The webmaster who established the site is Bill's granddaughter, Rebecca Kirlaw. St Paul's also has a Facebook page which has been created by Karen Anne Kolling.

Old Business. Parking Lot Problems. With regard to a letter requesting a meeting with the Chief of Police to discuss possible illicit activity taking place after dark in our parking lot, David Martin suggested that a letter to the District Commander requesting that patrols check the parking lot might be more effective. David had drafted such a letter. Pastor stated that for the last two weeks no suspicious activity has been observed in the lot. It was decided to defer sending the letter to the District Commander until such time as the problem reoccurs.

New Business. Offering Statements. The Council discussed whether the annual offering statements prepared by the Financial Secretary should include checks dated 2016 but received in 2017. **A motion was made, seconded, and passed that the annual statements will only include money or checks which were received by the church during the calendar year for which the statement is prepared.** Thus, a check dated 2016 but received by the church in 2017 will not be included in the member's 2016 offering statement.

Correction of November Minutes. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to correct the November 17, 2016, Council Minutes by replacing the reference to "Grace Episcopal Church on George Street" with "St. Stephen's Episcopal Church on George Street." The reference appears on page 1 in the paragraph headed "Deacons."

Children's Friend. David Martin presented a request from Children's Friend to use the parish hall on certain dates. **A motion was made, seconded, and passed to allow Children's Friend to use the parish hall from 4 to 6 p.m. on February 16, March 23, April 27, and May 18 for parents' meetings and one day in June for graduation.**

Facebook Page. There was discussion of who should have supervisory responsibility for the church's Facebook page. The consensus was that this should be a responsibility of the Deacons. Joe said that he did not use Facebook. Dan volunteered to monitor the Facebook page for the Deacons.

Church Directory. A proof of the new church photo directory prepared by Richlieu Norris was passed around. The proof contains photos and names, but no mailing addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses. The Deacons will review the proof and will work on the task of including addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses.

There being no further business, a motion was made, seconded, and passed to adjourn. The meeting concluded at 8:25 p.m. with the recitation of The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

David L. Martin, Secretary

Nomination for New Pastor

In calling a new pastor for St. Paul's, members have the opportunity to nominate a pastor to the list of those who will be considered. Forms are available in the church office area. The only requirement is that the individual must be an ordained pastor in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. The deadline for submission is March 12. Forms may be turned into the church office or to any member of the Call Committee. If you have any questions, please contact Bill Oehlkers.