

JUNE NEWSLETTER 2017



JOHN 7:37-39 On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them." By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.



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MATTHEW 28:16-20 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."



PASTOR'S LETTER

“The Lord Bless You. . .”

Every Sunday we conclude our worship service with the benediction: **“The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace”** (Numbers 6:24-26). It really is a matter of routine. We come to the end of worship and we all expect to hear these words as we make our way into another week. They are words of promise and comfort.

Having heard these words so often or the words, **“The Lord bless you,”** from a friend or relative as we leave home and head our way, I wonder if we have come to acknowledge the great significance of this promise of God. Perhaps these words have come to signify no more than the close of the worship service or the end of a polite conversation.

God is the author of the word “blessing” and has the authority to make possible its meaning. God first used the word to show his favor to those who were called to be his people—the Church. Since the beginning everyone who has fellowship with God is promised to be favored by the Almighty God.

What does it mean to be “favored” by God? This blessing begins with the assurance that God watches over all believers day by day, hour by hour as **“The Lord makes his face shine upon you.”** How good it is to know that someone is always watching over us. Not only for companionship in moments of loneliness but also for comfort which brings added strength when discouraged or in doubt.

The watchfulness of God is more than being passive. He will **“make his face shine”** or radiate his presence about us and will be gracious with us. The grace of God is a gift of ease that will relax tension and anxiousness once we go beyond the routine and recognize that God surrounds us with his care and **“keeps”** us from harm.

Therefore, the next time the words are spoken, **“The bless you and keep you,”** accept them for all that they mean and live this day in peace.

Sincerely,

Pastor Schultz



June 3 Taryn Galloway
 Helena Makor
 June 4 Gormah L. Makor
 Daniel Mastrostefano
 Michael Mastrostefano
 June 5 Anthony Miceli
 June 6 Lois Varfely
 June 7 Eric Richard
 June 9 Charles Rehbein
 June 11 Feta Norris
 June 14 Frieda Hervey
 June 15 Patience Freeman



June 16 Sando Ojukwo
 June 17 William Vadney
 June 20 Olivia Mulbah
 June 21 Quoi Livingstone
 Shadrech Wennie
 June 22 Joan Hencler
 Joe Norris
 June 25 Corvah Baysah
 June 29 William H. Hervey
 June 30 Joan Galloway
 Marlene Walmsley

Happy Anniversary



June 19 Mr. & Mrs. Rolf Kohm (63rd)
 June 20 Mr. & Mrs. William Mercer (42nd)
 June 21 Mr. & Mrs. Nucha Varfley (14th)
 June 27 Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Walmsley (25th)



CARETAKER TEAM SCHEDULE

TEAM #1

Captain: James Woods

Start June 3

TEAM #2

Captain Donna Bucu

Start June 10

TEAM #3

Captain: Rich Norris

Start June 17

TEAM #4

Captain David Martin

Start June 24

JUNE ALTAR SCHEDULE

DATE	READER	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	ALTAR GUILD	USHER
June 4	Abel Dobson	Joe Norris Richard Sinnigen	Nancy Watson Donna Bucu	Leelah Ballah Seaniah Ballah Solomon Paye Hardlyn Dauda
June 11	Titi Adekeye		Nancy Watson Donna Bucu	Rick Sinngen Gerry Quarm Mack Makor Joe Norris
June 18	Bill Oehlkers	Corvah Akoiwala Bill Oehlkers	Nancy Watson Donna Bucu	Kim King Bill King Dennis Kollie Helen Miller
June 25	Kevin Riley		Nancy Watson Donna Bucu	Kevin Kehyei Danlette Norris George Dauda Grace Dauda



JUNE



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3 Team 1 James W. Caretaker Team
4 Worship / Comm. 10:00am	5	6	7	8	9	10 Team 2 Donna B. Caretaker Team
11 Worship 10:00am New Member Welcome	12	13 Deacons Meeting 7:00pm	14 Gbarnga Meeting 7:00pm	15 Council Meeting 7:00pm	16	17 Team 3 Rich N. Caretaker Team
18 Worship Comm. 10:00 am 	19	20	21 Summer Begins 	22	23	24 Team 4 David M. Caretaker Team
25 Worship 10:00am	26	27	28	29	30	

MINUTES OF CHURCH COUNCIL

April 20, 2017

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Church Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 20, 2017, by President Gerry Quarm. Present were: President Quarm, Vice-President David Ballah, Secretary David Martin, Financial Secretary Donna Buco, Chairperson of the Board of Deacons Joe Norris, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees James Woods, Chairperson 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 in progress.

Approval of Minutes. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2017, Church Council meeting.

Treasurer's Report. Although Treasurer Dan Robinson was unable to attend the meeting, he sent in a Treasurer's Report for the period Jan. 1 through Mar. 31, 2017. Total income during this period was \$57,546.37, and total disbursements were \$58,260.22, resulting in a deficit of \$713.85. The balance of Memorial Funds as of February 28, 2017 is \$202,525.59.

Pastor's Report. Pastor reported the Mar. 26, 2017, baptism of Omah Jason Mulbah. He had no other official acts to report.

Deacons. Joe Norris reported that the Deacons have been visiting shut-ins and serving communion. A priority task for the Deacons is verifying the addresses for the congregational directory. Joe indicated that the Deacons would start the verification work this Sunday (Apr. 30). David Martin suggested that the Deacons should also obtain email addresses in the process of verifying the mailing addresses of members.

Trustees. James Woods reported that during the past month the Trustees have accomplished the following work: 1) replaced a broken handle on one of the toilets in the parish hall restroom, 2) re-attached the shelf on the altar which holds the offering plates, and 3) organized and made space in the tool shed by installing racks and moving the grill outside. A protective cover (donated by David Ballah) has been placed over the grill, and the grill has been secured with a chain and padlock. The key to the padlock is in the key box in Donna's office. The key has a yellow key tag which is labeled "GRILL." The following work for which the Trustees contracted has been completed. The pieces of slate on the roof of the church which were loose have been secured by Milligan Construction, LLC, at a cost of \$400.00. The leaks in the school roof have been repaired by Derrick Matusic at a cost of \$1,500.00.

Social Ministry. Danlette Norris reported that the Board of Social Ministry is making plans for the May 20, 2017, fund raising walk which will benefit St. Paul's. The Prayer Breakfast held on Saturday, Apr. 8, 2017, was very successful and raised \$825.00 for the Gbanga Lutheran Mission School. As a result of additional donations, the cost of new refrigerator has almost been fully paid. There will be a church dinner on Sunday, May 21st to benefit St. Paul's.

Stewardship. Bill Oehlkers reported that giving statements for the first quarter of 2017 have been prepared and will be available to members in the near future. The statements will enable members to see how their giving this year compares to their giving in 2016. It is hoped that the statements will encourage members to increase their giving in 2017 so as to qualify for matching funds as part of The \$30,000.00 Challenge.

(A friend of St. Paul's, who wishes to remain anonymous, has pledged to match on a dollar for dollar basis the amount by which each member increases his or her offering in 2017 above the amount the member gave in 2016 up to a maximum of \$30,000.00. Thus, if a member contributed \$500.00 in 2016 and contributes \$600.00 in 2017, the \$100.00 increase in the member's offering will be matched by an additional \$100.00 donated by the friend of St. Paul's.

For new members, or for existing members who did not use offering envelopes in 2016, all contributions made through offering envelopes in excess of \$250.00 in 2017 will be matched dollar for dollar. Thus, a \$300.00 donation from such members will qualify for \$50 in matching funds (\$300.00 donation - \$250.00 threshold amount = \$50.00 qualifying for matching funds).

Old Business. There was no old business.

New Business. Lost Envelopes. There was discussion regarding what should be done when a member loses his offering envelopes and requests new envelopes. After extended discussion, it was decided that a replacement box of envelopes will be given to the member, but the number on the envelopes will be crossed out, and the number of the member's original envelopes will be written on each of the new envelopes. Bill Oehlkers volunteered to handle this task for three or four sets of envelopes.

Facebook Page. Bill Oehlkers reported that Karen Kolling, who is maintaining St. Paul's Facebook page, has requested that a backup administrator be named to step in if something should prevent her from continuing to perform these duties. Since the Deacons have supervisory responsibility for the Facebook page, it was decided that they should handle this task. Joe Norris stated that he would ask Corvah Akoiwala and Dan Robinson if either of them would be willing to serve in such a capacity.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and passed. The meeting concluded at 7:48 p.m. with the recitation of The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

David L. Martin, Secretary

These minutes were approved at the May 2017, Council Meeting.



Dollars Add Up

For every dollar that you increase your giving to St. Paul's this year, a friend of the congregation will add a dollar.

Those dollars add up. \$5 becomes \$10. \$100 becomes \$200.



PLUS

