

THE EPISTLE OF



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
9200 WEST 10TH AVENUE
LAKEWOOD, CO 80215-4701
(303) 233-4991



FEBRUARY/MARCH 2019

The Mission of St. Paul's Episcopal Church is to live out the love of God as seen in Jesus Christ. We will, with God's help:
Discover God's presence in Word and Sacrament,
Share God's word, Nurture God's people,
Encourage congregational and personal growth on our shared journey, and
Act justly and peaceably.

Our patron St. Paul was an interesting man. We follow him closely because we share a name with him, and because his writings run the gamut from beautiful and inspiring and steeped in love language, to confusing and frustrating stuck in what seems to be an archaic view of the world. We are like that, too. In our beloved community, we see beauty and awe that inspire our faith, while at the same time we live with difficult changes that challenge our peace and comfort and threaten our hopefulness. And always we are left to reconcile these forces with compassion and no small dose of grace.

Whenever we think of Paul, his life brings to mind how he was changed on the road to Damascus. Keep in mind that Paul never intended to change. He was on his way to continue as he always had, that is, as one who was convinced that his chosen way of living was as solid and unchanging as the sun and moon. He was perfectly satisfied with his role as a zealot and persecutor of the faith. But he was wrong about himself and where he was going. He saw the light and it upended his world.

If you recall, Paul's conversion did not take immediate effect. He was blind for three days and couldn't eat or sleep. Even after he had been met by the Lord, he still spent days in confusion and distress. During that time he was not sure where he was or where he was going. He had no sense of direction and certainly no sense of his future. Would he see again? What would happen to the work he was so committed to? Was his life over, or had to just begun?

Names mean a lot. A name may carry with it many of the attributes and struggles of those who have born that name before. A name may shape us without our knowing it, and a name may mark us as signs of things past. I know this to be true because we say it every time we have a baptism. In the name of Jesus...we are "marked as Christ's own forever." We are Paul and we are Christ and we are given the grace of change and new life all because – or at the very least, partly because – we are bearers of a name.

Because we bear the name of Paul, we are always in a state of conver-



Printed on 100% post-consumer recycled paper



sion. We are traveling down the road in a direction we are quite certain of only to be interrupted by a new vision and a new set of challenges. This is the way God works. As I read somewhere recently, "God is not there to make us feel comfortable so we can feel like we don't need God." God is with us in our discomfort and uncertainty to lead us. Even though Paul could not see it, he was a chosen instrument of God. Paul only saw that when the scales fell from his eyes and his short time of confusion ended.

We may not know for sure where God is leading us right now. As bearers of the name of Christ, we can trust in God's grace to show us the way. We see it in Paul, the notion that we may not rest in any sort of changelessness or certainty. If we know anything because of Paul, it is that the light of God is not always there simply to illuminate what is ahead. God is sometimes there to help us change and move into something new and unseen. If that sounds difficult, just remember what we say each Sunday: God is with us to free us from our commitments to the way things are now.

Amid all the chances and changes of this life, we know this: Our name is St. Paul's Episcopal Church. God has claimed us and given us a name. We are instruments of God who have been called into the service of the Lord. Of that, we can be certain. In that, we can rest.

In peace,
allan+



WARDEN'S CORNER

PERCEPTION

Amy and I had the opportunity to attend John Fielder's annual photographic presentation in January. John's shows are always spectacular with the fabulous photos that I've seen in his various publications about Colorado. The use of light and colors in his photos always leave me thinking on what I can learn from these shows to make my own photography better.

The title of this show was Black and White. What????? I've done a little bit of photography that I took color photos and made them black and white. Mushroom photos, aspen trees with no leaves in the snow, and sometimes ducks and geese on lakes are always good candidates to use for

this in my opinion. When we arrived there was one of John's photos of the mountain tops above timberline with a lake in the middle. The photo next to his on the screen was one of Ansel Adams photo of a New Mexico town taken at night. John explained that the Ansel Adams photo was taken at around 3 p.m. in the afternoon but the photo looks like it was taken at night. How could this be? Use of various filters that Ansel used gave the perception that the shot was taken at night and all of the white showing up on the buildings and the headstones in the cemetery stood out of the rest of the photo. It was pretty cool to learn how this was done. John's black and white photo was then transformed into color on the screen. Behold, there were all sorts of flowers in the foreground of the black and white photo that I didn't see until color was added. It was an eye opening experience for Amy and me. Seeing how flowers pictured in black and white

brought different experiences for us when we saw them in color.

Life is like that as well. One of my latest 'ah ha' moments occurred at our November work day. Nuts and bolts usually go the same direction. Righty-tighty, or clockwise turning, tightens the nuts. We had a handle in the women's restroom that didn't work properly. It is a special type of handle, and I was going to take it off and go to the local hardware store to see if they had a replacement. I had pliers to try and loosen the nut on the handle, but it wouldn't budge. At times it looked like it might move but wouldn't go any further. Funny thing is, it was a plastic-type of nut and stem and not metal, so it wasn't rusted. I finally just took a photo of the part and went to the hardware store. They did have one in stock and I tried to loosen the nut on the handle. Same problem. What is going on here?, I thought. Then, for some reason, I did the righty-tighty method that would normally tighten the nut, but in this case it loosened the nut. It was also the way to take off the handle in the toilet when I returned, and it did come off even though I had mangled the nut pretty good with the pliers.

I'm learning that there is more than one way to do things, and this is also what I'm learning from each of you during various discussions that we have had. By sharing these perceptions with each other we learn how to think differently, and I believe become more open to new ways of doing things. I look forward to having more conversations with many of you. Who knows what we may learn from each other.

Bill Bennett
Junior Warden

ADULT FAITH EXPLORATION



Thus says the Lord ...

I have called you by name, you are mine,

You are precious in my sight, and Honored, and I love you.

Isaiah 43: 1,4

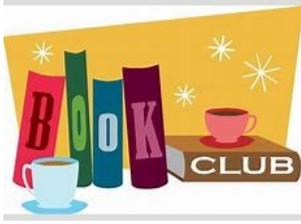
Faith exploration is a lifelong experience. We study individually and together, dive into our weekly readings, and learn about the foundations of our traditions. Together, we question how we can do more to live out God's mission in our parish community and in our communities outside the church doors. In January and February, we are diving more deeply into the Season of Epiphany.

Beginning in February, we will begin a 6-session evening series that parallels the format of last year's *Seeing White*. Taken from a podcast titled Scene on Radio, this year's focus is on MEN. The series explores challenging questions like, What's up with this male-dominated world? Is male supremacy inevitable? How did we get sexism/patriarchy/misogyny, and what can we do about it? Facilitated by the Rev. Allan Cole.

In March, we will begin two special offerings at St. Paul's — *Stations of the Cross* and *Discernment of A Renewed Commitment in Faith* (previously called the Seekers Class). Please take a look at the descriptions of these classes elsewhere in this *Epistle*.

Adult Faith Exploration meets between services every Sunday — from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. — All are welcome to attend.

Living in Faith,
Saoirse Charis-Graves



LITERARY SOCIETY

Do you like to read and have a certain genre that you like? The great thing about a book club is that challenges you to read books outside of your norm and then discuss the good and bad. We read and discuss books, both fiction and nonfiction in the context of faith, spirituality and Christianity. Some books may not have an overt religious/spiritual nature but create great discussion when viewed from a Christian/faith perspective. Everyone is invited.

The book list for the first part of 2019 is as follows:

The book for **February 6**, *What is the What* by Dave Eggers. " *What Is the What* is the epic novel based on the life of Valentino Achak Deng who, along with thousands of other children —the so-called Lost Boys—was forced to leave his village in Sudan at the age of seven and trek hundreds of miles by foot, pursued by militias, government bombers, and wild animals, crossing the deserts of three countries to find freedom. When he finally is resettled in the United States, he finds a life full of promise, but also heartache and myriad new challenges. Moving, suspenseful, and unexpectedly funny." Amazon Review

March 6th book is *The Lemon Tree: An Arab, a Jew, and the Heart of the Middle East* by Sandy Tolan.

"In 1967, Bashir Khairi, a twenty-five-year-old Palestinian, journeyed to Israel with the goal of seeing the beloved stone house with the lemon tree behind it that he and his family had fled nineteen years earlier. To his surprise, when he found the house he was greeted by Dalia Eshkenazi Landau, a nineteen-year-old Israeli college student, whose family fled Europe for Israel following the Holocaust. On the stoop of their shared home, Dalia and Bashir began a rare friendship, forged in the aftermath of war and tested over the next half century in ways that neither could imagine on that summer day in 1967..." Amazon Review

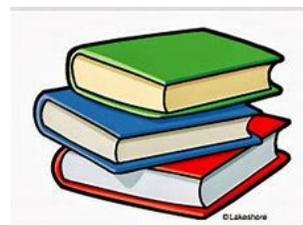
April 3rd, *Doc, A Novel* by Mary Dora Russell

May 1st, *Darkness at Noon* by Arthur Koestler

We do not meet June, July or August.

September 4th, *Tess of the D'Urbervilles* by Thomas Hardy

Please contact Carol Davenport with any questions.





SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

We have reached the second semester of Sunday school and we have been so blessed by the conversations with all your children. Just a reminder, elementary education Sunday school occurs every Sunday during the 10:30 a.m. service, except for the third Sunday of the month. The third Sunday is Family Sunday and a good opportunity for our elementary aged kids to join us in church. There will be no Sunday school on Easter Sunday, and our last lesson will be the Sunday before Memorial Day, which also happens to be Mother's Day, May 12.

Each Sunday we focus on a different lesson, teaching the children about God, our faith, and the holidays we are celebrating. If your children haven't been joining us, please feel free to bring them down. We would love to have all the children joining us in this faith.

This year we have been blessed with enough regular Sunday school teachers to break the children up into two groups; first through third grade, and fourth through sixth grade. While we have the teachers we need, we are always looking for volunteers to help in the classrooms. If you are interested in helping in the classroom, please contact Regina Elsner at rmelser83@gmail.com for more information. No teaching experience is necessary!



ECW Presents:

CABARET AU CHOCOLAT 2019



The ECW Board invites everyone to participate in the Cabaret au Chocolat 2019 to be held Friday, February 15. In addition to the silent auction and auction of chocolate edibles, there will be a surprise opportunity to win a wonderful evening out at one highly acclaimed Denver area restaurant. All of the proceeds from the Cabaret will go toward the continuing upgrade of our kitchen facilities.

Tickets are \$20/person and include dinner plus one complimentary beer or wine. ECW will be serving chicken piccata over dill penne, asparagus spears and a spinach salad. A vegetarian selection may be requested at the time of ticket sales. Tickets will be sold following services on January 27th, and February 3rd and 10th. Child care will be available for parents who request this service when tickets are purchased.

Baskets to be filled for the silent auction are available for your selection in the Parish Hall. Please choose a basket, and use the shopping list (or your own list) attached to the basket for ideas on filling the basket. Return your filled basket to the front office of the church Tuesday-Friday.

You may also pick up a donation sheet for the chocolate baked goods to be auctioned off. Those sheets are on a small easel on the half table near the baskets.

Please contact Karen Van Gundy with any questions.



On the first and third Wednesdays of every month, St. Paul's hosts a free meal for the Eiber neighborhood and our church community. Community meals bring us together to enjoy food, fun, and most importantly, fellowship.

It takes many hands to set up the room, put the finishing touches on dinner, and help serve. If you would like to help in any way, please let us know. If you prefer to be a guest, it's as simple as walking in the door. We would love to spend the evening with you.

Terrie Fontenot, Sandy Roark, Robert Young, and Kim Zeiner



Upcoming Events:

8th Annual Chili Cook-Off
Wednesday, February 6th

Please bring a crock pot of your favorite chili.
Dishes need to be at the church by 5 p.m.
Prizes will be awarded!



Important: If you will be bringing chili, please let us know by signing up either online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4dafaa22a02-8thannual> or on the sign up sheet in Royster Hall.

Wednesday, February 20th
Chicken Alfredo / Salads / Dessert

Wednesday, March 6th – Ash Wednesday
Macaroni & Cheese / Salads / Desserts

Wednesday, March 20th
Sloppy Joes / Salads / Desserts

Meals are served from 5:15 to 6:45 p.m.



OUTREACH DEVELOPMENT

In the last few months our committee has tried to make a list of the regular recipients of St. Paul's Loose Plate Offering. We choose a different group for each month and try to have a speaker for that group talk to us on the second Sunday at each service and coffee hour that day. The offering on the second, third and fourth Sundays of the month can be as much as \$1000 - St. Paul's people have been very generous. (I'll try to have the actual numbers and agencies in the annual report.)

Our choice of recipients is based on several criteria—though not regimented. We try to balance national or international groups with local agencies. Episcopal Relief and Development almost always appears for crisis help. The recommendation of a parishioner is very significant if the group also helps the poor, children or disadvantaged. That's how we have learned about and supported a school in Romania and children in Africa. We like small and innovative efforts like the laundry truck—and another parishioner is investigating a regular laundry ministry in the neighborhood. In choosing we have often stressed educational missions or shelters in the winter. We urge parishioners to bring ideas to us for new agencies and outreach. The committee meets the fourth Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. in the conference room off of the office. Please visit to bring a suggestion, or consider joining us.

But, the Loose Plate Offering is not the only way St. Paul's people reach out. The committee tries to publicize (and we are not very good here) the need for help with Habitat for Humanity, Hands of the Carpenter, immigration support through Lutheran Family Services, and events at Eiber School. Though the Community Meals are part of St. Paul's Outreach, they run themselves very well.

Another source of income for Outreach is the cards for shopping at King Soopers. Nancy Smith has a card for you. You simply take it to the store, put money on it, and St. Paul's gets about \$300 per month at no cost to us. If we had someone to help Nancy, we could add Safeway to this project.

Please continue to see how you can be part of Outreach and the love of God and neighbor St. Paul's has become known for. This is also part of evangelism—showing how believing makes a difference in our world.



DISCERNING A RENEWED COMMITMENT TO FAITH

This year, we again offer an opportunity for parishioners to explore and discern a renewed commitment to their faith. (This is sometimes referred to in the Episcopal Church as an Inquirers or Seekers Class.) This class

will be for those who are new to the Episcopal Church, those who have questions about its foundations, those who are preparing for confirmation/reception/reaffirmation in the church, and for those who have been confirmed and can help in our conversation about the church, faith and spirituality

What are those terms? Confirmation is for anyone who desires to make a mature affirmation of one's beliefs in the presence of a bishop. **Reception** is for anyone who has been confirmed in another tradition but who now desires to be received into the Episcopal Church. **Reaffirmation** is for anyone who has been confirmed and now desires to renew their commitment in faith.

Facilitated by the Rev. Allan Cole, the class dialogue is part history, part theology, and continues our exploration into the broad faith of the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion. The goal of the class is to begin to address questions about what it means to be an Episcopalian within our community and the larger world. The depth of the conversation depends on the theological and spiritual diversity of the group, so please feel free to bring questions and/or concerns about the church when you come. There are no questions that cannot be asked.

Sundays March 3rd - April 7th, 9:15 a.m.
in the library

All are most welcome to join in the conversation!

PRAYER CORNER

FOR OUR COUNTRY



Almighty God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of thy favor and glad to do thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to thy law, we may show forth the praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in thee to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

The Book of Common Prayer, p.820





Love. Grow. Serve. PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY

So have you heard of St. Paul's Pastoral Care Ministry and wonder what it is all about? First, all members of St. Paul's are part of pastoral care; when you ask how someone is doing, reach out to greet someone or participate in one of the many other ministries available you are providing pastoral care.

Then what is the "Pastoral Care Ministry"? We are a group of individuals who have felt called to learn more and do more in the realm of caring for those at St. Paul's. It started with working through the book Contemplative Compassion by Sarah Butler Berlin. This book deals with how to serve those within a community who are in need.

Members of the Ministry provide congregational support through visits, notes and prayers. Many members are Lay Eucharistic Visitors can also provide communion to those they visit.

At meetings, we discern who in the community is going through challenges and look how we might help. We also work to expand our ministry skills. A few months ago, The Rev'd Allan Cole led us through possible scenarios we might encounter. The ministry members divided into pairs and each pair was given a situation. The pair switched between being the one seeking care and the one giving care. Members of the ministry do not offer solutions (other than perhaps giving information of resources) but are present to be a listening ear and caring heart. Members are available after the Sunday services for those needing a listening ear or prayers.

We meet the 4th Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. If you feel called to this ministry, or would like more information, please contact Carol Davenport.

Serving Christ Through Serving Others.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: A LENTEN DEVOTION



The Stations of the Cross are an ancient form of Christian devotion originally observed by pilgrims visiting the Holy Land and popularized by the Franciscans when they were given custody of the holy sites in Jerusalem in the 14th Century. The Stations follow the path that Jesus was forced to take from Pilate's Judgment Hall to Calvary, continued by the disciples who took his lifeless body from there to the tomb.

Moving from station to station, following the events in the words of scripture and letting the prayers draw us into the narrative, we are invited to grow closer to Christ by embracing the mystery of suffering in the world. By joining Christ on this transformative journey, we learn to become his disciples to a hurting world. Many different prayers and readings have been developed for this devotion, which can be said as a private form of prayer or as a public liturgy on Fridays in Lent.

At St. Paul's, we are fortunate to have a beautiful set of plaques depicting the Stations of the Cross gifted to us for this devotion. For the upcoming season of

Lent, we offer opportunities for experiencing the Stations in two ways: 1) with a personal guide, or 2) walk the stations on your own with a printed guide for prayer and meditation. We have two booklets available, one based on Saint Augustine's Prayer Book and the other a simple, intimate and powerful classic by Clarence Enzler.

Fridays in Lent: March 8, 15, 22, 29,
April 5, 12 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Maundy Thursday April 18
 5:00-6:00 p.m.
Good Friday April 19
 5:00-6:00 p.m.

We hope you will join us!



SAVE THE DATE!

The women of St. Paul's are cordially invited to a

Women's Lenten Retreat presented by St. Paul's ECW

Date: Saturday, March 16th

Time: 8:00 - 8:30 a.m. Lite Breakfast
8:30 a.m.- Noon Program

Program Facilitator: Michelle Danson

Please join us for a time of quiet reflection, sharing and listening during this Lenten season. Look for more details about this engaging program in the weekly St. Paul's email and in the bulletin.



ST. PAUL'S CONCERTS

The next concert in the Concert Series will be OF STRANGE LANDS AND PEOPLES performed by Confluence on March 10 at 3 p.m. Confluence will take you on a musical voyage to Africa, Europe, South America, and North America. Confluence will be joined by West African drummers, Koffi Toudji from Togo, and our own John Olsson from Denver, both of whom have performed with Confluence before. Marsh Barnette will perform (on piano) the title piece, "Of Strange Lands and People" from Robert Schumann's Kinderscenen (Scenes of Childhood) along with some other pieces from the same set.



St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Statement of Income and Expense by Minor Group
 December of Fiscal Year 2018



	Current Month		Year-to-date	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
Income				
00-01-Pledge & Plate Offering	38,532.16	33,348.53	325,000.00	320,685.00
00-02-Miscellaneous Receipts	2,522.52	7,683.10	31,300.00	32,622.33
00-04-Dedicated Income-Expense	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Income	41,054.68	41,031.63	356,300.00	353,307.33
Expense				
00-01-Administrative Expenses	1,541.74	2,389.00	20,500.00	25,661.35
00-02-Clergy Expenses	10,661.86	10,977.69	128,941.00	128,873.67
00-03-Personnel&Contract Labor	8,229.87	6,772.56	102,258.00	92,082.96
00-04-Plant Expenses	2,245.27	3,518.47	49,000.00	48,315.36
00-05-Programs Expenses	2,855.05	4,662.45	31,730.00	35,506.55
00-06-Columbarium Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
00-07-Diocesan Pledge	2,308.55	2,308.55	30,625.30	30,625.05
00-08-Front Range Region Pledge	679.00	679.00	8,125.25	8,125.00
Total Expense	28,521.34	31,307.72	371,179.55	369,189.94
Income Less Expense	\$12,533.34	\$9,723.91	-\$14,879.55	-\$15,882.61



Month: Income \$41,031.63; Expense \$31,307.72; Net income \$9,723.91.

YTD: Net income \$-15,882.61.

\$854 given to the Holistic Homestead for food for residents of Gilpin County.

The shortfall for the year was about \$16,000; \$1,000 worse than budgeted. We had unbudgeted retroactive pension expenses, but also, considerable savings for salaries. In all, it was a difficult year in that we incurred a major deficit, and, on the basis of the stewardship campaign, this year looks to be a lean year too. We will need the support of everyone's time, talent, and treasure to fulfill the mission of St. Paul's in 2019.

David Parkhurst and Pam Horizny
 Co-Treasurers

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF LAKEWOOD
9200 WEST 10TH AVENUE
LAKEWOOD, CO 80215-4701



THE EPISTLE
FEBRUARY/MARCH 2019



WEEKLY SERVICE SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS	8:00 a.m.	Holy Communion
	9:15 a.m.	Adult and Youth Christian Education
	10:30 a.m.	Holy Communion & Elementary Education
TUESDAYS	6:00 p.m.	Centering Prayer
THURSDAYS	11:00 a.m.	Holy Communion
SATURDAYS	6:00 p.m.	Nishma/Holy Communion

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Allan Cole, Rector
The Rev. Robert A. Buck, Rector Emeritus
Allison Olsson, Director of Music
Kati Oltyan, Director of Office Ministries
Susan Hillring, Verger
David Parkhurst & Pam Horizny, Co-Treasurers
David Ebner, Esq., Chancellor
Joe Montano, Sexton

Epistle E-Mail: epistle@stpaulslakewood.org
Editors: Judy Henderson, Nancy Colligan
Kathy Breit

Vestry:
Rachel Sefton, Sr. Warden
Bill Bennett, Jr. Warden
Jane Barnes, Tina Blackburn, Barbara Engemoen,
Hank Head, Susan Hillring, Rod McLenon,,
Debra Meglio, Eric Richardson, Renee Parkhurst
Clerk of the Vestry: Pamela Blome

Church Office: 303-233-4991 Fax: 303-233-2682
E-Mail: office@stpaulslakewood.org
Web: www.stpaulslakewood.org



Printed on 100% post-consumer recycled
paper