



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

September 2024

SUNDAY SERVICES

SUNDAY - 10:00 A.M.

SEPTEMBER 1

MORNING PRAYER

LAY READER - Ruana Gladfelter

SEPTEMBER 8

MORNING PRAYER

LAY READER - Kirsten Hockaday

SEPTEMBER 15

HOLY EUCHARIST

REV. MIKE KYLE

LAY READER - Kate French

SEPTEMBER 22

MORNING PRAYER

LAY READER - Sam French

SEPTEMBER 29

HOLY EUCHARIST

REV. H. SANDERS

LAY READER - DON KIEFER

Dear Brothers and Sisters In Christ,

Awhile back I read a "Monday Matters" column by the Rev. Jay Sidebotham of Renewal Works. He spoke on trust, or rather the lack of trust we see today in so many places. People that no longer trust our political leaders, or who don't trust city government, or who don't trust our taxes to help our lives run smoothly. Even people who no longer trust religious institutions. He sees the Episcopal church as having a "healing vocation," as people often come to us from places where they have been hurt or left out.

Our lives are full of cases where people we love and trust have let us down. Fr. Sidebotham wrote about how that did not even bypass our Lord Jesus Christ in his time on earth. Just look at the Gospel stories which are full of people who turned from Christ when they did not understand. In the end, Christ faced the betrayal of Judas, the denial of Peter, and even the desertion of his disciples. So Jesus definitely knows our pains as He faced them, too.

Fr. Sidebotham went on to explain that trust is very closely related to love. "We are called to trust in God, to trust that the final word is love, that the meaning in the universe is love, that even when it makes no sense, we were designed to show, share, and receive love. When we hear the call to love God, it's in many ways a call to trust God."

CHURCH INFORMATION

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 453 Clinton, MO 64735

GPS Address: 1837 E Hwy 7 Clinton, MO 64735

Bishop Provisional, The Rt. Rev. Diane M. Jardine Bruce, Diocese of West Missouri

Bishop's Warden: Kate French, kfrench357@gmail.com

St. Paul's Email: st.pauls.clinton@gmail.com

In Psalm 18, the psalmist reminds us that God is our rock, our refuge, our stronghold. Fr. Sidebotham reminds us that it “takes faith to practice that kind of trust.”

He speaks to the heart of the matter in his summary. “When the church proves to be just a collection of faulty human beings, when those in our closest circle hurt us, when our own resources fall short, Psalm 61:2 calls on us to ‘trust the one who will not falter, to set our feet on a rock that is higher than we are.’” He quotes the desert father Abba Poeman who said, “Do not give your heart to that which will not satisfy your heart.” Trust in the Lord, knowing His love never fails and He will be with us as we face all that our lives hold for us.

As we go through our daily lives, hearing so much and facing so much, Fr. Sidebotham urges us to remember and be led by the call of our Presiding Bishop Michael Curry these past nine years -- “If it is not about Love, it is not about God.”

Danny Meyer writes in his book Setting the Table about the human drive to provide and receive hospitality. He said, “Within moments of being born, most babies find themselves receiving the first four gifts of life: eye contact, a smile, a hug, and some food. It isn’t much of a surprise that we will crave those gifts for the rest of our lives.” May we give those gifts to those who cross our paths as well as those who don’t, as we trust God and give the love He has freely given us back out into the world around us. We are the hands and feet of Christ in this world.

Peace,

Kate

GRANT UP-DATES:

Various people in the church are pulling together in formation to help us in our grant-writing process. We hope to be making final decisions soon.

UP-COMING COLLECTIONS:

Please remember our school supplies collection. Pencils and wide-lined notebooks are always needed. I will be taking our Care Closet and school supplies in when I get back from this round of travels.

We received a nice thank you for our donations to the Back to School Fair.

PRAYER LIST:

For Healing: Fr. Mike, Augustus Hockaday, Kitty, Tina, Don, Kathy, Steve Sheline, Linda White, Danilla Paul, Olivia Lim, Bobbie, and Nancy

Those with Cancer: Heather C., Mitch Meier, Rev. Jennie Ketner, Pat, Christy, Judy Edwards, Michael, and Cindy

For Comfort/Strength/Peace: Gail Cloutte, Pat Decker, Ruth Kindall, Doug Johnson, Kathy and Mike, Christy and Diane, and Sue Hughes

The Departed:

Thanksgiving: Friends, family, and God’s many blessings

Shut - ins:

All Others: Peace in Ukraine, peace between Israel and Palestine, those recovering from storm damage and natural disasters, victims of child abuse

MEMORIAL SERVICE HERLD FOR FATHER LEED

On August 12,, St. Paul's was honored to hold the memorial service for our Priest of 20 years, the Rev. Rolf Leed, who retired in 2016. Father Leed would have loved the reunion that the service became as about a dozen people who used to attend Saint Pauls, but have moved away, joined us to honor and celebrate the life of a great man, some driving long distances to be able to attend. The Eucharist was celebrated by Bishop Diane Bruce. Her loving presence meant much to all of us. Father Leed was our "full time" part-time Priest as well as a full-time counselor with the Pathways Behavior Center where he touched the lives of many people in his years there. He was also on call 24/7 for the jail whenever a prisoner needed spiritual or emotional help. We were all blessed to have known him.

UPDATES ON THE BISHOP SEARCH:

The Search committee will soon be presenting the Standing committee with their slate of final nominees for the Ninth Bishop of the Diocese of West Missouri. The Meet and Greets (known as the WESTMODIOlogues) have been scheduled. These will begin at 6:00 PM with a light meal and discussions with the candidates will start at 700 PM. Perhaps some of us can car pool and attend together. Please mark your calendars.

DATES

September 16, 2024

Grace Episcopal Church, Carthage
820 Howard St.
Carthage, MO
Bilingual

September 17, 2024

Christ Episcopal Church, Springfield
601 East Walnut
Springfield, MO

September 18, 2024

St. Anne's Episcopal Church, Lee's Summit
1815 NE Independence Ave.
Lee's summit, MO

September 19, 2024

Grace and Holy Trinity, Kansas City
415 W. 13th Street
Kansas City, MO

September 20 , 2024

Church of the Redeemer, Kansas City
7110 N State Route 9
Kansas City, MO

Our prayer for guidance in the search for a new bishop (Please pray daily):

"O Creator God, giver of every good gift, look graciously on us in the Diocese of West Missouri and guide us as we discern our call of a new bishop.

O Jesus, be present in our discernment, and lead us to a shepherd who will invite us to live out the Gospel every day.

O Holy Spirit, inspire us with your wisdom, and kindle our hearts with the fire of your love, that we may be renewed as we prepare to welcome the ministry of our next bishop. This we ask trusting in You. Amen."

BIRTHDAYS

2-Sheryl Kiefer
18-Livingston
20-Ruth Lewis

ANNIVERSARIES

3-Don & Sheryl Kiefer
14-Mark & Ruana
Gladfelter