



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

March 2025

SUNDAY SERVICES

SUNDAY - 10:00 A.M.

MARCH 2

MORNING PRAYER

Lay Reader - Ruana Gladfelter

MARCH 9

MORNING PRAYER

Lay Reader - Sam French

MARCH 16

HOLY EUCHARIST

Bishop Diane Jardine Bruce

Lay Reader - Kate French

****FAREWELL PARTY****

Honoring BISHOP DIANE

3:00-6:00

HOLY EUCHARIST AT 3

FOLLOWED BY DINNER PARTY

MARCH 23

MORNING PRAYER

Lay Reader - Rauna Gladfelter

MARCH 30

HOLY EUCHARIST

Rev. Harve Sanders

Lay Reader - Don Kiefer

A Message from the Bishop's Warden



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOLLOWS **Mark your calendars so you don't miss anything!**

Dear Friends in Christ,

I read a short morning refection called d365.org. Recently we had a reflection on Luke 6:37-38: *"Don't judge, and you won't be judged. Don't condemn, and you won't be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you"* (37). It seems like we have so much judging and condemning in our world today. This little app had an insightful reflection on this scripture, and I would like to share it with you.

"From the beginning, God designed us to live in relationship. We were not made for solitude. We were created to connect, not only with people, but with all of creation. Our life makes sense in community, because we best reflect God's love when we live in unity, sharing, supporting, and building each other up. God's love moves us to walk in compassion, to seek justice in our relationships, and to act as representatives of God's kingdom here on earth."

"Every friendship, every conversation, and every act of kindness are opportunities to show who God is. When we understand that we were created for relationship, we discover that our purpose goes beyond our individual existence."

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: stpauls.clinton@gmail.com

We are not here just for our own agenda, but to be agents of God's love, justice and compassion. God calls us to reflect God's image in every action and word we share, building a world where God's love is visible and transforms lives" (Samuel Estrella Molina).

Short and to the point and reminds us of what God calls us to be and do. These are good thoughts to keep in mind and ponder as we go into Lent.

In Christ,

Kate

Meanwhile, much is going on at St. Paul's!

MARCH 5 – Ash Wednesday

Bishop Diane knows we are without a priest while Fr. Mike recovers, and she offered to come to Clinton for a noon Ash Wednesday service. Due to dangerous driving conditions in Kansas City, Bishop Diane was unable to come for this service. Sam lead the congregation in a meaningful service followed by a delicious soup lunch. Thank you, Sam!

MARCH 16 – the Bishop's visitation and the Central Deanery farewell reception for Bishop Diane.

We will have a busy day! Long, but EXCITING!

10:00 AM The Bishop's Annual Visitation

Bishop Diane will be with us for her last visitation, and Alyssa Gladfelter will be confirmed! It is always a happy day taking that big step, recommitting to Christ, following up on the promises made at the time of baptism. Alyssa was baptized as a very young child so those promises were made for her. On this day, Alyssa will make those baptismal promises her own through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Central Deanery reception for Bishop Diane

When ideas for Bishop Diane's reception were just beginning, Bishop Diane wanted to have a reception in each deanery to make it easier for people to attend. Bishop Diane asked if we could host the Central Deanery reception. I told her we would be honored!

Sheryl has graciously accepted the planning of this event. She has shared with us the plans she is making, and it is going to be very special. She is in communication with the diocese, which is providing main dish food, plates, and cutlery. We are providing drinks and joining other attendees in bringing salads or desserts. We will not go hungry. Bishop Diane has loved being with our diocese as much as we have loved having her here. She has brought healing in so many areas, and the Holy Spirit definitely led us to Bishop-elect Amy. A fist ballot nomination is extremely rare!

MAY 3 – 10:00 AM Consecration of Bishop-elect Amy Dafler Meaux at the Cathedral in Kansas City

The consecration of a bishop is a tremendous event in the life of a diocese. According to the Episcopal Church's Constitution and the Canons, a minimum of three bishops will be there for the consecration. Our newly elected Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe will be one of them. Free tickets are already available on-line. I am hoping we can carpool on that day and get as many of us there as are interested in witnessing this event in person.

April 13 – Palm Sunday

April 20 – Easter

Congregational Vitality Meeting

Sam went with me to the Congregational Vitality program led by The Most Reverend Melissa Skelton. She has this title because in the past she was the Presiding Bishop of the Anglican Church in Canada and they wanted her to keep the title when she moved to the United States. She is now the Bishop Provisional (like Bishop Diane has been for us) in the Diocese of Olympia. Over the years she has developed and launched the College for Congregational Development, which is now used by eight dioceses in the Episcopal Church.

This process is designed to help churches look at themselves and evaluate their strengths and weaknesses, and with the help of the diocese,

find ways to improve and strengthen any area in which they want to grow.

Bishop-elect Amy has attend the week-long college and is very familiar with its focus and work. Fr. Chaz Marks (St. Augustine's, Kansas City) has also attended the college and will soon be attending a second week.

The survey we recently took(and thank you for our great response!) will be our kick start into this journey. Fr. Chas will meet with every church at some time in the future and help us all begin planning.

At the end of a day of exciting discussion and hands on opportunities (already looking at how we do in various areas -- including coffee hours, on which I gave us top rating), Bishop Skelton asked us for some take-aways. As my mind was mulling over a possible response, Sam had one. His answer was one word: HOPE! We both left with positive feelings and this will be an exciting focus for our diocese as we move forward under the leadership of our new bishop.

Lenten Book Study

The Spiritual Formation Commission of the Diocese of West Missouri is offering a Lenten Book Study on Life in Christ: Practicing Christian Spirituality by the Rev. Dr. Julia Gatta, professor of Pastoral Theology at the School of Theology of the University of the South in Sewanee, TN. It will meet on Wednesday nights on Zoom beginning March 12. Please see the electronic New Spirit for more information.

Mtr. Anne's Lenten Program

Mtr. Anne will be offering a red letter study of the book of Luke. Only Jesus's words printed in red will be read and discussed (red letter version not required). We are invited to attend the Wednesday classes. They will be hybrid. They have new equipment so sound on Zoom should not be a problem. Her e m a i l a d d r e s s i s annemeredithekyle@gmail.com; please contact her if you are interested.

Stations of the Cross

Last year four of us did Stations of the Cross every Friday at noon. We are hoping to do that again this year. If this sounds interesting to anyone, please let me know and we will keep you updated on plans.

Prayer List

Healing: Fr. Mike, Augustus Hockaday, Keith, Ruana, Kitty, Tina, Don, Kathy, Steve Sheline, Olivia Lim, Gail C., Mark, Keith, Rauna, Connie Scott, David Scott, Pope Francis

Cancer: Heather C., Christy, Pat, Michael, Cindy McAvoy, the Rev. Jenny Ketner, Debbie M., Suzanne, Herb Johnson, Barb Chambers

Comfort, Strength, and Peace: Gail Cloutte, Pat Decker, Ruth Kindall, Doug Johnson, John, Christy and Diane, Kathy and Mike, Christopher, Connie Scott, David Scott, Steve Sheline, Zaha in Israel, Becky Tarver, Donna Brashears, and the Gladfelter, Sanders and Kampling families

Departed: Judy Mason Edwards, Darla VanWinkle, Donna Sheline, Mary Kampling, Harding Braun, Anne Spicer, and Cathy Shook, Carroll Makemson, Robin Gibbons

Others: Peace in the world, our country, Ukraine and all the countries of the world; those affected by national disasters, those affected by gun violence, and those facing personal challenges with job losses

Thanksgiving: Family, friends, and God's many blessings in our lives

Fr. Mike

We give thanks to God for a successful surgery! Fr. Mike told me he feels very loved and supported by the cards and many text messages he has received. His address is 2700 Brandon Avenue, Sedalia 65301.

BIRTHDAYS
6-Mark Gladfelter

ANNIVERSARIES
none