

# Saint Paul's Messenger

October 2022



*As faithful stewards of God's Grace,  
our mission in Christ is to foster  
community through spiritual growth, witness, and service in the Episcopal tradition*

726 Sixth Street, Brookings SD  
[www.Stpaulsbrookings.com](http://www.Stpaulsbrookings.com).  
<https://www.facebook.com/Stpaulsbrookings/>  
605-692-2617

*Established 1893*

Messenger Editor, Chuck Berry

## Fall Event Calendar

**Season After Pentecost** till Advent, time for growth; liturgical color is green for growth; might be called "Ordinary Time" Ordinary means "ordinal" or numbered Sundays, Oct 2 (17<sup>th</sup> Day after Pentecost) to Nov 20

**Season of Creation** Sept 1 – Oct 4 the Feast of St Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology

**October 9, Pancake Breakfast and Blessing of the Animals** 1:30 at St Paul's  
**October 24 St Paul's Hobo Day Coffee Shoppe** during the parade

**Nov 3 St Paul's book discussion group**  
(see Rector's Report)

**November 5 Christmas Bazaar**

**November Landscaping** Clean-up Day (TBA)

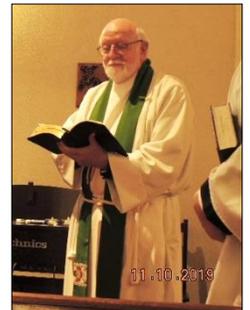
**Nov 20** is Christ the King Sunday, honor Christ as the King of Kings

**Nov 24 Thanksgiving**

**Nov 27** Advent begins preparation for celebration of Christ's birth

## Rector's Report.10.01.22

Our fall schedule has resumed! Church School is in session and confirmation classes are meeting. Yes, that is classes as we have five youth and four adults. As with last year, Dr. Woodard is assisting with the youth confirmation class. It is great to have the assistance!



On November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 several of us will begin a discussion of Soren Kierkegaard's *Purity of Heart Is to Will One Thing*. When I first began reading the book, it did not speak to me, but a few years later when I picked it up again, it profoundly influenced my Christian formation. I have since hosted a couple of discussion groups using the book (one several years ago at St. Paul's) which were well received. We will meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month. If you have not



Chuck Woodard  
assists confirmation  
classes

yet signed up for it, there is still time to do so. Please order your own copy of the book.

We still need to accomplish some work around the church grounds before the snow flies. Mark and Lee Kratochvil have committed to replacing the doors on the small utility shed west of the sanctuary. The garage also needs a new roof and new fascia boards as it has begun to leak and some of the boards are rotten. The railing on the upper porch at the rectory also needs to be replaced.

Unfortunately, I tested positive for Covid last Tuesday morning. I contacted my primary care physician who prescribed Paxlovid. The symptoms have been mild, but the least bit of activity causes me to break into a sweat. I am not used to being slowed down! I have been hoping and praying that none of you have developed any symptoms. Since returning from Convention, I have heard that six people in attendance have reported coming down with Covid. Know that I feel bad about having unknowingly exposed you to the virus! As I suspected a cold, I did not shake hands, minimally passed the peace, and used a liberal amount of hand sanitizer before the Eucharist.

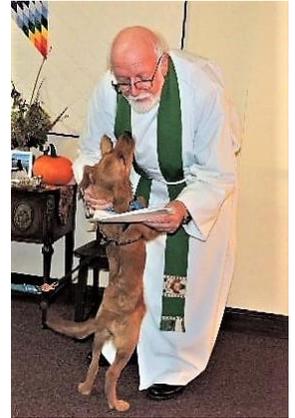
Our youth group is preparing a Christmas Bazaar. They ask you to take a look at your Christmas decorations to identify those items you no longer use and bring them to St. Paul's **before October 26<sup>th</sup>**. All proceeds will go to the Brookings Food Pantry. Let's support and encourage our youth as they engage in this project.



Judy and I are planning a vacation from October 12<sup>th</sup> through October 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will visit Pat and Yen in Denver for a day or two, then head for Phoenix to visit our daughter in law and conduct a memorial service for Brendan who died last February. On our way back, we plan to spend a couple of days at the Grand Canyon. Sometime in early November we hope to visit my daughters in Indiana and Michigan. I would love to see my granddaughter Faith in a track meet for the

University of Michigan and grandson Luke play football – that would be a first.

Mark your calendar for the Blessing of the Animals on October 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM! That is also the day we will have our pancake breakfast. I figure if we have the blessing early in the afternoon, the rest of your day will be free. Remember, this also includes the blessing of a favorite stuffed animal!



Please keep those suffering from Hurricane Ian in your prayers and if possible support relief efforts through Episcopal Relief and Development. If you have not already done so, I encourage you to consider a monthly contribution to ERD. Also, pray for peace in Ukraine. And in closing, I leave you with this profound thought by Stuart Briscoe, a renowned evangelical Christian author and international speaker:

***“Justice is getting what you deserve. Mercy is not getting what you deserve. Grace is getting what you don’t deserve.”***

May we marvel at the richness of God’s grace in our lives. In Christ’s love and service, *Fr. Larry*

From Shannon Malmberg: Christmas Bazaar Sale Nov 5<sup>th</sup>, would like donations by Oct 26; will pick up - sale is only Christmas decorations, including dishes & quilts (no clothes); Questions call myself (605-850-9123), Marsha, Lynn, Jenn.

## St. Paul’s Vestry Minutes Sept. 26, 2022

**Rector’s Report (Fr. Larry Ort):** Since the last Vestry meeting, Fr. Larry

- conducted a meeting with younger people to see what would better serve their worship needs;

- participated in the Brown Earth worship service and hosted two Clericus meetings;
- began confirmation classes—adult (4) and youth (5); and
- led the Brookings Interfaith Council meeting.
- He and Judy have scheduled a vacation for Oct. 12-20 (Howard Bonnemann will conduct Morning Prayer).
- Fr. Larry attended an Intergroup Dialogue Facilitation Training on Aug. 27.
- Fr. Larry also mentioned that the church roof may require bids.
- Discretionary Expenses: Opening balance, \$867.99. Expenditures included \$30 to Schoon's Pump N Pak for gas, and four purchases for food at WalMart, leaving a balance of \$656.08.



Readers. She also asked that the Vestry replace the leaking vase liners for the altar, but a solution was reached to repair them instead. Fr. Larry added that he had brought back a ewer, an altar bowl, and two linen cloths from a church that closed in Connecticut.

**Junior Warden's Report (Lee Krachtovil):** Lee reported that a Bosch 500 Series dishwasher (around \$1000) is not yet available, but can be ordered from Lowes. Shannon M. moved to order it (2<sup>nd</sup>, Janet G.). The motion passed. The Bat Mitigation team says they're coming.

Lee would like to schedule a Fall Clean-up day for early November, but Shannon asked that he compile a list of tasks that individual families or a few people could accomplish on their own schedules when they have time.

**Treasurer's Report (Bob Klein):** Bob presented the January-August financial report, which was accepted in a motion made by Lee K. (2<sup>nd</sup>, Lynnette Taylor).

**Old Business:** Chuck Berry's iteration of a brochure for the endowment fund was discussed, and a revised version will be sent to the Vestry for approval.

Regarding the bulletin schedule, Lynnette is going to provide a list of names for LEM and Lay Readers so they can be included in the bulletin. Mary Lou would like to include Nursery on the schedule. Church school teachers can ask their students if they are interested in being acolytes.



Fr. Larry ordered one package of gluten-free wafers for Communion at a cost of \$13.80 for 25 wafers. The personalized pens order is on hold until the red color is available.

### Senior Warden's Report (Mary Lou Berry):

Mary Lou spent \$90 for some items (mittens, hats and stocking caps) for Share the Warmth through our NAEIR membership. The treasurer will reimburse her.



Mary Lou and Samantha at the Salvation Army office. Mary Lou is delivering mittens and hats donated by St Paul's.

The kids on the corner that have been visiting coffee hour will be encouraged to come to Church School, Wednesday evening meals, and church on Sunday; playing in the church is not an option.

Mary Lou asked if Jack and Autumn could be given certificates for their participation as Prayer

**New Business:** Jay Vanduch presented

information on the various streaming systems (two cameras, a computer, and some connections/cables) available to St. Paul's. Installation is not complicated, but someone has to monitor the system during the church service. Jay will suggest a package at the next Vestry meeting. There is a \$2,500 gift from Andy Trump's memorial toward this.



recommendations. The request for a room divider for Thorburn Hall was discussed, but no action was taken at this time.

**Next Meeting:** October 24, 2022, 5:30

Respectfully submitted,  
Marsha Klein, Clerk



Feeding Brookings let Jen Lacher-Starace (our point person) know that they will need 430 cans of cranberries for this year's Thanksgiving boxes, double the amount of last year. Lee K. moved (2<sup>nd</sup>, Shannon M.) that St. Paul's donate half the amount and ask the congregation for monetary donations toward the cost, with any remaining cost to be covered by the church.



The motion passed. We will pass a special container at the Offertory for donations, and checks should be designated as such.

We will again purchase a full color add in the 2023 Brookings Visitor's Guide at a cost of \$319 in a motion made by Lee K. (2<sup>nd</sup>, Shannon M.). In another action, Lee K. moved (2<sup>nd</sup>, Lynnette T.) that we sign up for a free 30-day trial of Church Publishing: Preparing for Sunday, through which the church access and publish the weekly readings on our St. Paul's webpage.

Lynnette Olson, our longtime organist now living in MN, keeps up with events at St Pauls, sent a check to cover cranberry expenses.

The Vestry also discussed the possibility of enhancing stewardship through integrating cell phones, which could also accommodate distance givers. Bob and Fr. Larry both did some research and will report back to the Vestry with



**October-November Anniversaries**

Don and Amanda Norgaard, Kenric and Shannon Malmberg, Fr Larry and Judy Ort, John and Lynette Taylor, Chuck and Sarah Woodard, Ismael and Bess Pallares

**October-November Birthdays**

Shirley Christiansen, John Whalen, Ismael Pallares, Kevin Bogue, Elsie Carruthers, Paul Gillespie, Marsha Klein, Pete Peterson, Emily Braun, Jack Woodard, Carolann Klug, Jessica Laidlaw, Aricia Hovelson, Madison Vanduch

**Check-off List of St Paul's Actions in Wolakota/Wodakota/Wonakota**

Recall that the Vestry sent the following responses to the Diocese and has partial accomplishments (edited for brevity for the Messenger). St. Paul's is committed to taking risks for the good of God's kingdom. We are a vibrant Christian fellowship, which demonstrates love for God, for each other, for our community.

- New Bible/book study
- Teaching / Learning Different Ways to Pray
- New Youth Ministry
- New Church Cleaning/Grounds Project
- New Partnership with Salvation Army
- Partnership with another parish (Grace, Huron)
- New Ministry with/for LGBTQ+
- New Care of Creation Program
- New College Ministry Project
- New Outreach Project

## Bishop Folts' Charge for 2023

*"I love to tell the story of unseen things above,  
Of Jesus and His glory,  
Of Jesus and his love."*

Following are excerpts of the Bishop's Convention Address. Fr Larry read the address in church. The Bishops wants us to tell our story.



"Through the Wolakota / Wodakota / Wonakota Project, many of our congregations became excited about being Jesus' Church again! And why? Because they fell in love with God's story again! These congregations experienced a renewal of their excitement and joy in being a part of the story! Of God's story!

...the verse of the hymn that we've been singing isn't, "I love the story of unseen things above..." No, the words that we've been singing are, "I love to tell the story of unseen things above." I love to tell the story!

**That is the theme of our Diocese for this year.** We have, we are, and I do expect us to continue risking something big for something good – please don't stop doing that! But over the course of the next twelve months, our focus is going to shift. It's going to change from loving the story...to loving to tell God's story faithfully and effectively --- faithfully and effectively telling God's story of Jesus and his love.

In keeping with this theme, there are three specific areas of focus, three areas that I am asking all of our congregations to focus upon, answer, and act upon as needed.

**The first area** of focus is our worship: "How are we telling the story of Jesus and his love through our worship?"

**The second area** of focus is Christian formation: Bible studies, book discussion groups, confirmation classes, small group gatherings, online gatherings, and whatever else people may be trying.

**The third and final area of focus** this year is how we are engaging our communities with the story of

Jesus. And when I say "communities," I'm talking about our towns, our reservations, and our cities.

And additionally, when I come to visit your congregations starting in 2023, I'm going to ask that someone from your congregation tell the story. As part of the service...I'd like for someone from your congregation, a lay person, to tell the story of what happened when they went and engaged another person in their community with Jesus and his story of love.

Through the Wolakota / Wodakota / Wonakota Project, you spent this past year falling in love again with the story – the story of Jesus and the story of his love. This year, I am offering you an opportunity and an invitation to fall in love with telling the story – telling your story of Jesus – telling your congregation's story of Jesus – the story of the greatest love that we've ever known – through worship, through formation, and through simply spending time listening and talking with our fellow human beings."

## Bexley Seabury Experience (by Chuck Berry)

Granddaughter Anika Berry is in her first weeks as a 9<sup>th</sup> grader at a private boarding school far away from home. I sent her some stamps and asked that she write a letter on the school stationary. I hope the book store sells old-fashioned stationary for actual handwritten letters. I want her to put pen to paper and share her experiences in her new school. Who knows? Letter-writing might be educational. I know that letters give the gift of time – the slow-down-pensive time I hope she takes to write and the slow-down reading time it takes for me to process her words. So far, Mary Lou has gotten 10 emails and I have gotten no letters. Am I being old fashioned?



The short story above is a long way around for me to correspond with the Parish as I take a class at Bexley Seabury Seminary. No. No. No. I don't want to be a minister. Here's the story...

The *Church News* (Winter 2002, page 6) announced that the Niobrara School of Ministry was partnering with Bexley Seabury Seminary in Chicago to take online courses for lifelong

learning. I don't need any lifelong learning because as a young person, I already knew everything, but I scanned the course list and the words "Creation Care" caught my eye. Long-story short, I signed up for a 5-week course.

Bexley Seabury is one of 10 Episcopal seminaries. It is a seminary without walls for about 100 higher-ed ministerial students from 22 Dioceses. All courses are online.

The Niobrara School for Ministry is the SD Diocese's "seminary," which has theological education for laypersons and clergy through ministry weekend courses, and has formal ministerial education for the ordination process.

My teachers are The Rev. Jerry Cappel, and Rev. Stephanie Johnson, both Episcopal Priests. Surprise! Cappel is from Brookings, as a kid he built "pontoons" from 55-gallon drums to float on Lake Campbell. There are six people in the class from TX, Kentucky, NY and Louisiana.

I asked Anika to use an old communication method (letter writing) while I'm using a modern method of education – the on-line course. This is new to me. Would I sit back in my PJ's and watch the computer screen. Nooooo. The teachers gave me reading assignments and questions to answer each week before the 1 ½ hour on-line class.

I want to inform you about one of the readings because it is an important Episcopal writing about Creation Care. In 2011, the House of Bishops addressed a subject that they could not ignore any longer, which was the urgency of the environmental crisis and the church's response.

They issued a **Pastoral Teaching** – a big-deal-leadership document, which has gone largely unnoticed in the everyday-Sunday pews. I have handed this out at coffee time at St Paul's. It is 18 paragraphs long; see the Episcopal website at:

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/publicaffairs/episcopal-church-house-of-bishops-issues-a-pastoral-teaching-2/>.

I'm reviewing the Pastoral Teaching because some might ask "What does environmental conservation have to do with the Episcopal Church?" Well, the answer comes from the Bishops. In summary,

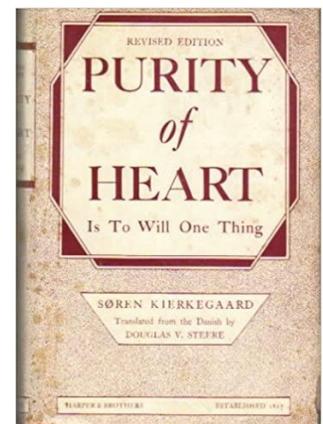
*The pastoral teaching reminds us to speak and act on behalf of God's good creation, in doing so we are also speaking and acting on behalf of God's good church, which is blessed and called as co-workers in God's unfolding plan "to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven by making peace through the blood of the cross." (Col. 1:20).*

My teachers have written study-course booklets for youth and adults on the Pastoral Teaching titled *A life of grace for the whole world*. The booklets are a 5-session study-guide to the Pastoral Teaching. The sessions are designed to discover ways that the church can respond faithfully to social and environmental challenges of our time. Maybe we can use it somehow at St Paul's.

**PS:** When Fr Larry was sick, I conducted the Sunday Service (Morning Prayer Rite II) on Oct 2. The theme was Creation Care and of course my homily was about Creation Care. I told the 20 attendees about my Bexley class and what we were doing.

## Book Study Group

Fr Larry writes "A study group which will read and discuss Soren Kierkegaard's *Purity of Heart Is to Will One Thing* will meet at 6:00 on the first and third Thursdays of the



month beginning November 3rd. Please let me know if you would like to participate and order your book. This book profoundly influenced my own spiritual life. I have previously led two other study groups on this book and have heard similar comments from members of both groups. If you

are seeking a deeper relationship with God, I highly recommend it.”

### Charlie’s Porch Fix-up: New Banners

Lynn Hublou writes: The banners arrived last week... they are magnificent! We ordered three banners each for fall, Advent, Christmas, and Ordinary Time. The fall banners could go up anytime. We'll need to order new rods.



New banners for Charlie’s Porch

There has been talk of revamping the appearance of Charlie's Porch. Today I rolled up the Oriental rug and it is now standing in the north entry of the rectory. That rug was donated by April Brooks. I also moved the umbrellas from Charlie's porch to the kitchen landing leading to the patio. We'll continue to make Charlie's porch more aesthetically appealing.

### Sunday School Moves to Rectory

Lynn Hublou writes: ....we'll start formally holding Church School...The intermediate group will meet in Fr. Larry's old office in the Rectory, so that's where we'll need a table and 6-8 chairs. The HS youth have been meeting in the sacristy, but the dining room of the rectory is fair game as well--for either of the two groups of older kids...the miscellaneous furniture in the rectory needs to be arranged...and the main floor bathroom will need to be readied.



### Church Schedule (by Lynette Taylor)

Now that our lives are returning to something more like normal, Fr. Larry would like to have lay readers, LEMs, and ushers scheduled in advance for Sunday services. Before "C", I created a schedule on a month-to-month basis, but going forward, in order to avoid emails going back and forth each month to accomplish this, we want to put in place a permanent rotating schedule similar to what



the Altar Guild already has in place. If, for example, you are a lay reader, you might sign up to read the third Sunday of every even month. If you are a LEM, you might sign up for the first Sunday of every month. If you want to help, but don't feel you can make a regular commitment, you might consider being a substitute, or you might commit to serving on the occasional fifth Sunday.

The schedule will rotate every two months, so you might volunteer to read the second Sunday of every **even** month of the year, or the fourth Sunday of every **odd** month of the year, etc. .Because we have several trained lay readers, I expect someone would only have to read once every two months; because we have fewer trained LEMs, we will probably need some of you to volunteer to LEM every month versus every other month.

We also want to offer nursery services again, and so we will need to have volunteers for this position as well, and finally, we need individuals to usher. The older children have recently been performing this task. Do those of you who have children feel they could serve on a regularly scheduled basis?

If you have any questions, you can email me or we can discuss this at church this coming Sunday. I will have a schedule with me and will begin filling in the slots.

I have sent this email to those individuals currently on Fr. Larry's list of lay readers and LEMs, but I know Fr. Larry is willing to offer training to anyone who wants to serve, so if you know of someone who might consider serving the church in this way, let him know.



Sr Warden Mary Lou Berry and Akim a Nigerian student

# *The Messenger*

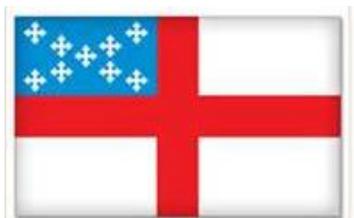
Newsletter of  
St Paul's Episcopal Church  
Church  
Established 1893, Parish since 1952

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## **St Paul's Christmas Bazaar Nov 5**

Donate Christmas ornaments, dishes, quilts



**Saint Paul's Episcopal Church**  
726 Sixth Street,  
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