

# ParishLife

Volume 44, Number 4. News for the Parish of St. Paul's Episcopal Church

April 2016

## A Focus on Racial Justice

For its entire 2015-16 In My Backyard: Faith and Current Events speaker series, St. Paul's Faith & Justice Committee focused on a single issue: racial justice. In the following interview, Committee Chair Jocelyn Connors explains why and suggests action steps parishioners may take in response to the series.

For the first two years of the speaker series, Faith & Justice presented a variety of topics. This year, you have focused exclusively on racial justice. Why?

Racial justice is in the forefront of the most pressing issues our country is presently facing, and it is a tremendous challenge. Our new Presiding Bishop has named it as a focus of his ministry. The concern of our committee was raised when someone asked. "What about the relationship between the African American community and the police here in Winston-Salem?" Our first speakers this season addressed that question, and the response from the committee and those attending was unanimous: We all wanted to continue this important conversation.

Your committee organized the February "Listen for a Change" event featuring programming from this year's Trinity Institute. Is it just a happy coincidence that their conference this year was focused on the same issue?

In many ways, yes! But I think it was more than that. Dixon, Darby and one of our committee members, Susan Dobyns, had read about "Listen for a Change," and they brought the information to our committee. Our adopting the task of bringing the conference to St. Paul's was an act of Grace.

What have you learned from all the programs presented so far this year? How have you changed as a result of attending?

We learned that there are so many people in our community who are concerned about the issue of racial justice, who want to have serious conversations about it, and who feel empowered by having it take place in an environment like St. Paul's. People were there to listen and learn, and we were told over and over again how much this meant to them. I have personally changed because I have gained a new understanding of the plight of people who have been marginalized by race. Listening to our speakers and participating in the conference



Faith & Justice Committee members pictured are Stephanie Lovett, Chair Jocelyn Connors, Kay Lord, Sue Wall and Genie Carr. Members not pictured are Tog Newman, Gina Caudill, Nancy Dennis, Nancy Dunn, Susan Dobyns, Linda DuBose and Corey Miller. Kimberly Gregg is Vestry liaison, and the work of the committee is considered part of Adult Christian Formation at St. Paul's.

discussions was a liberating experience, and I have been motivated to use the teachings of Christ as I understand them in my daily life and interactions with others.

What impact do you hope these programs will have on St. Paul's parishioners individually and on the church as a whole?

If these programs have served to educate, enlighten and move our parishioners to seek reconciliation and peace with all people in our community and the world, then the mission of the Faith and Justice Committee has been fulfilled. This would have us step out of our "comfort zones"

as we accept Bishop Curry's call to join the "Jesus Movement."

What now is the call to action for the parishioners of St. Paul's?

At this point, we should all prayerfully examine our own lives, "listen for a change," and discern the ways we are being called to serve. That may be as an Augustine or Kids' Café tutor, a worker for Habitat, a driver for Meals on Wheels, or myriad other volunteer opportunities that bring us into the community. We can make a conscious effort to widen our circle of friends, to read and study as much as we can on the issue, and to stand up for justice, fairness and peace.

## **Transitions**

#### **Births**

#### **Catherine Price Symmes**

December 12, 2015 Daughter of F. Houston Symmes, III and Bethany Anne Tudor Symmes, granddaughter of F. Houston Symmes, Jr. and Sandra Symmes, niece of Heather Anne Symmes

#### **Edward Alexander Engram**

February 19, 2016 Son of Kate and Hamilton Engram, grandson of Sally and Jonathan Engram, greatgrandson of Sarah Hill Colhoun

#### **Louise Parrish Lynott**

February 26, 2016 Daughter of Anna and Rich Lynott, granddaughter of Louise Parrish Perry and F. Lee Bryan, III, niece of Jennifer and Lee Bryan, great-granddaughter of Mary Ann Parrish

### **Baptisms**

March 26, 2016

#### **Nathaniel Ellis Brown**

Son of Robbie and Jennifer Brown

#### **Katherine Laura Dumbacher**

Daughter of Bob and Susan Dumbacher

#### **Davis Townsend Dyer Graylyn Frances Dyer**

Son and daughter of Chris and Rachel Dyer

#### **Allison Marie Hileman**

Daughter of Michael and Carrie Hileman

#### John Franklin Lynch IV

Son of Jack and Cate Lynch

#### **Abigail Grace Poydock**

Daughter of Jim and Beth Poydock

#### Lucy Marie Elizabeth Yelle Parker Benjamin Yelle

Daughter and son of Marc and Gray Yelle

#### **Deaths**

#### **Morrison Wenceslaus** Divine, III

February 25, 2016 Husband of Patricia Divine

#### **Larry Wayne Self**

March 2, 2016 Brother of Barbara Edwards, brother-in-law of Drew Edwards

#### **Bobby Jean English**

March 4, 2016 Mother of Betsy English, mother-in-law of Mark Stanek, grandmother of Caroline, Laurie, Callie and Rom Stanek

#### Glenda B. Keels

March 14, 2016 Mother of Stacy Sewell and Haffye Sewell

#### Elizabeth B. "Boo" Monroe

March 15, 2016 Mother of Cloud Monroe

#### Samuel Arthur Sue

March 15, 2016 Father of Missy Vaughan, father-in-law of Jim Vaughan, grandfather of Anna and Curren Vaughan

#### Charles D. "Chuck" Ficken

March 19, 2016 Husband of Alice Ficken, stepfather of Hails Foster, stepfather-in-law of Lindsay Foster, step-grandfather of Helen, Anne and Mary Foster

#### Mary Elizabeth Leech "Teeny" Bales

March 19, 2016 Mother of Bebe Powell, motherin-law of Edward Powell, grandmother of Edward, Joseph, Elizabeth and Ashley Powell

## **Upcoming Senior Trips**



St. Paul's Senior Adults visited Charleston, South Carolina, for three days in October 2014. A highlight of the trip was dining at The Water's Edge on Shem Creek.

Among the most popular offerings of St. Paul's Senior Adults Ministry are day trips and overnight excursions. "We do our best to plan trips that are interesting, entertaining and fun," said Senior Adults Minister Anne Rahn. "As I'm sure any of our regulars will tell you, senior trips are not just about enjoying an outing. They're a wonderful way to get to know people and develop close friendships within our church family."

The Senior Adults Ministry is planning a day trip to Salisbury on Friday, April 22. The morning will begin with a tour of historic Salisbury by trolley, led by a docent. Dr. Mark Ardrey-Graves, Director of Music Ministry at St. Luke's Episcopal Church and husband of St. Paul's Associate Rector the Rev. Sara C. Ardrey-Graves, will join the group for lunch at Emma's of Salisbury. After lunch Mark will lead a tour of St. Luke's. The bus will leave at 8:00 a.m. and is expected to return by 4:00 p.m. The cost, is \$35 per person.

On Sunday, May 1, Senior Adults will attend a Twin City Stage production of *The Wizard* of Oz. The bus will leave the

upper lot at 1:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25 per person.

On Tuesday, May 24, Senior Adults will travel to Critz, Virginia, to visit the Reynolds Homestead, the boyhood home of R.J. Reynolds. Built in 1843 by R. J. Reynold's father, the Homestead has been designated a State and National Historic Landmark. After touring the home and grounds, the group will eat lunch at Stuart Family Restaurant in Stuart, Virginia. The bus will leave at 9:15 a.m. The cost is \$10 per person, not including lunch.

Planning for three more senior trips is currently underway. On Sunday, June 12, seniors will see "Letters from Home" at the Willingham Theater in Yadkinville. On Wednesday and Thursday, August 3 and 4, seniors will visit Blowing Rock. And St. Paul's seniors will visit Kanuga and the surrounding area on Wednesday and Thursday, October 19 and 20.

To find out additional details or to reserve your place on any of the upcoming trips, mail a check payable to St. Paul's to Senior Adults Minister Anne Rahn. Call Anne at 723-4797.

## Senior Warden's Report



by Sally Shore Senior Warden

Isn't it wonderful knowing that Easter comes after 40 days of Lent and Good Friday? Joy after sorrow, happiness after sadness, welcome after rejection. The hymn "Welcome Happy Morning" has always been one of my favorites. I love celebrating the fact that Jesus wins!

Have you noticed the smiling faces that greet us weekly as we enter St. Paul's on Sundays? I have, and I like it. The Welcome Committee has 25+ members on the roster and Janice Bennett as the current leader. This special group has several new and good things in the works.

However, presenting the face of St. Paul's does not rest solely upon the Welcome Committee. I believe that once you join the St. Paul's family, *you too* are a member of the Welcome Committee. I guarantee it is the easiest volunteer job you

## **Vestry Minutes**

The following are highlights of the February 13, 2016, Vestry Meeting minutes. This brief meeting was held as part of the Vestry retreat.

The Memorials Committee allocated \$5,000 from their funds for computers in the Kids' Café program. The committee also allocated \$6,000 for upgrades for the audio visual equipment in the Youth Room and \$11,690 for upgrades to the video streaming and sound for

the Choir Room. The Vestry approved all the allocations.

A new Preschool Search
Committee has been formed.
The new committee members
are the Rev. D. Dixon Kinser,
Sally Shore, Jonathan Blanco,
Julie Smith, Missy Butler,
Abby Plonk and the Rev.
Lauren A. Villemuer-Drenth.
This committee is in charge
of finding a new preschool
director to replace the retiring
Judy Ingram. The hope is to
have someone in that position
by September.

## Preschool Director Update

The search for a new Director of St. Paul's Preschool is officially underway and making great progress. "We have assembled a wonderful Search Committee that widely represents the Preschool and the parish and, collectively, has the expertise needed to find our new Director," said the Rev. D. Dixon Kinser.

"After six months of research, consultations with experts and much prayer, the committee has produced a winning job description," added Dixon. "We're gathering input on the draft document to make

will ever have. All you have to do is say "Hello!" to a member of our family and let the Lord take it from there.

The next time you are in church, take the time to meet someone new. Smile, shake a hand and learn a name. "Good morning! I don't believe I've met you. My name is...." You

sure we have covered all our bases. Once we have feedback in hand, we will submit the final draft job description to the Preschool Board and, with their approval, formally publicize the position on appropriate employment networks. We plan to have our new Director hired by the beginning of the 2016-2017 school year.

"St. Paul's Preschool has a bright future indeed, and we ask that you keep us in your prayers. We will keep you updated as the search progresses."

get the idea. What a blessing it is to hear the Gospel with family. I bet Jesus smiles every time we sing and every time we welcome each other. We've been doing it for ages.

"Welcome, happy morning!" Age to age shall say; Hell today is vanquished, heaven is won today!"

## 1876 Society Membership Growing





In its first six months, St.
Paul's 1876 Society, which
honors those known to have
included the church in their
estate plans, has grown
from 18 to 31 households.
"Planned gifts secure the
long-term financial viability
of our church," said the Rev.
D. Dixon Kinser, Rector. "I
am grateful to our Planned
Giving Committee for the
work they've done to build
membership, especially among
couples in their 30s and 40s."

A luncheon will be held on Wednesday, May 25, to honor and thank Society members. For society membership information, contact Sally Dudley, Director of Stewardship and Outreach at 723-4391, ext. 1502 or sdudley@stpauls-ws.org.

## Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School for students in PreK through 4th grade will be held Monday through Friday, August 1 through 5, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. The theme this year is "Deep Sea Discovery: God is with Me Wherever I Go." For details, contact the Rev. Lauren A. Villemuer-Drenth at 723-4391, ext. 1220, or lvillemuer-drenth@stpauls-ws.org.

## Confirmation Sunday Worship Schedule

April 10 is Confirmation Sunday. Holy Eucharist will be at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. in the nave and 5:00 p.m. in the chapel.

Bishop *Pro Tem* Anne Hodges-Copple will celebrate and preach at the 10:00 service of Holy Eucharist and Confirmation. All are welcome to attend a reception in Colhoun A following the 10:00 service.

The Rev. Dr. Fred Horton will preach at the 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. services.



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## Preschool Sale

St. Paul's Preschool will hold its 12th Annual Children's Clothing and Consignment Sale in Colhoun A from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Friday, April 15 and Saturday, April 16.

Articles for the sale may be dropped off in the Colhoun Room between 9:00 a.m. and noon on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, April 12, 13 and 14. A preview party will be held on Thursday, April 14, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Admission to the preview party is free for consignors and donors and \$5 for everyone else.

Contact Chastity Sterenczak at crae23@icloud.com or (336) 264-8685.

## Faith & Justice Series Continues

The Faith & Justice Committee Lunch and Speaker Series, *In My Backyard: Faith and Current Events*, will continue on Thursday, April 21, from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. in Colhoun A.

The guest speakers will be Jerry McLeese, founder of Interfaith Winston-Salem, and Valerie Glass, an advocate for restorative justice. Their program is titled, "Restoring Our Communities with Compassion and Justice."

Throughout history, cycles of change have ushered in social, cultural and religious rebirth. Glass and McLeese believe we are nearing the end of our current cycle. They see evidence of darkness throughout society, but they



Valerie Glass

also see hope through many programs like the ones in which they are involved.

McLeese, also a co-founder of Compassionate Winston-Salem, sees renewal in the compassionate cities



Jerry McLeese

movement. Glass sees a rebirth in the use of restorative justice to respond to problems in our communities and schools.

Bring your own lunch. Beverages will be provided. All are welcome.