ReNEWal Campaign Projects Update

With ReNEWal campaign solicitations underway parish-wide, the campaign’s two primary capital projects are progressing. I. L. Long Construction Company began work on the 875 West Fifth Street building on January 29, and the Christman Company, construction manager for the 1928 church building restoration, set up its construction office in St. Paul’s upper parking lot on March 13.

The 875 Building

“We’re six weeks into a four-and-a-half-month project, and there’s not much to see right now,” said parishioner Larry Robbs, architect for the 875 building. “But in the next six weeks, you’ll see a lot.”

Outdoors along Pilot View Street, new water and sewer lines have been installed. Within the still-open interior space, plumbing, electrical and HVAC systems are being roughed in and the concrete floor is being ground and polished. “Concrete is a very sustainable, low-maintenance floor,” said Larry. “We’ll put ceiling tiles in some areas to help acoustically, but most of the beams overhead will be exposed to give you a sense of the full height of the space. We’ll end up with what I call an ‘industrial chic’ interior.”

Interior walls will go up next, and new windows will be added to the east side of the building. The front entrance will be reconfigured to restore it to its original design. The building’s exterior will be cleaned and re-caulked. “That’s all we have to do,” said Larry. “The brick, mortar and roof are fine.

“When we’re finished later this summer, we’ll have an essentially new 14,000-square-foot building,” he added. “This new space will allow our parish to expand outreach and offer more opportunities for our own programs and activities. The success of the campaign so far is an affirmation this is a good idea. The congregation is clearly behind it and sees the benefit.”

The 1928 Church Building

With a Certificate of Appropriateness from the city’s Historic Resources Committee, a building permit, and Christman’s office now set up, restoration of the exterior of Ralph Adams Cram’s church is about to begin.

The scaffolding will be erected and most subcontractors will be on site in the next few weeks,” said parishioner and restoration architect Joe Oppermann. “The conservator, masons and window experts—all plus our design team have worked with Christman before. Much analysis, testing and prep work have already been completed, and the whole team has met several times since last fall to discuss how to stage the project so the work progresses most efficiently. Our objectives are to make repairs comparable to the quality and craftsmanship of the original construction and to make improvements that will extend longevity.”

The unanticipated discovery of asbestos in mortar used in previous repairs has delayed getting started and added abatement work. “The contaminated mortar will be removed by skilled masons to minimize the risk of damage to the stone,” said Joe. “The remediation team will collect and dispose of it, and the masons can then proceed with the repointing and other repairs.”

Work on the stained glass windows will occur ahead of the masonry repairs. “They’ll remove a few windows at a time, take them back to their shop for repair, then reinstall after the masons have finished,” said Joe. “We expect to complete the repairs by February 2020.”

Of the success of the ReNEWal campaign to support the work, Joe said, “This really is a remarkable congregation. Everybody has been supportive. I think it’s because we all recognize what a treasure the church is to this congregation and this community. We want to do our best to pass it in fine shape to the next generations of parishioners.”

The Campaign

The goal for the ReNEWal campaign is $10 million. As of mid-March, gifts and pledges so far total $8.9 million. “While the campaign has made great progress to date, we still have a ways to go to reach, or hopefully exceed the goal,” said Campaign Chair David Broughton. “We also want as close to 100% parishioner participation as possible, so we encourage everyone to give.”
Knowing Your Own Story in Lent

by the Rev. D. Dixon Kinser

When someone wants to get ordained in the Episcopal Church the first thing they do, after meeting with the Rector, is meet with a Parish Discernment Committee (PDC). A PDC is made up of a diverse group of lay people who meet with the aspirant to discern whether they hear a call to Holy Orders on that person’s life as well. The first of these meetings has only one agenda: everyone shares their spiritual autobiography. Discernment, it seems, happens best when everyone is aware of their own stories.

The weekend after St. Paul’s elects a new Vestry, we go away on retreat together. This year, as usual, we began the Vestry retreat by giving every member of the Vestry a chance to share their spiritual autobiography. After we broke bread and prayed, everyone shared their story. This seems especially appropriate given how much discernment Vestries have to do together, and it never fails in drawing the whole group together in community.

Enriching Good Friday Worship

by Dr. John E. Cummins

As part of St. Paul’s efforts to deepen our worship experience during Holy Week, this year’s noon service on Good Friday will be enriched in a number of ways offered in The Book of Common Prayer.

A sermon will follow the traditional reading of the Passion Gospel. Also, in keeping with our return to the full prayer book service, we will forgo the “seven last words.” Instead, after the Solemn Collects are sung, a wooden cross will be brought into the church and placed in the sight of the people, as described in the Good Friday Liturgy, BCP page 281. As it is brought in, the cross will stop three times, in much the same way as the Paschal Candle will be brought in at the Easter Vigil the following evening.

As we look upon the cross, the choir will sing a beautiful setting of “The Reproaches” by sixteenth-century Spanish composer Tomás Luis de Victoria (1548-1611) of Popule meus, the words addressed by the crucified Savior to the church. These devotions are sung by a cantor who moves with the cross in dialogue with the choir and a solo quartet. It is a beautiful musical “following of the cross.”

The service will conclude with the congregation’s singing “Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle,” a translation of Fortunatus’s sixth-century Latin hymn to the fourteenth-century plainsong “Pange lingua,” followed by the Lord’s Prayer and an additional prayer found on page 282 of the prayer book.

After the service, the church will remain open for two more hours for individual prayer and meditation before the wooden cross.

Also on Good Friday, the Stations of the Cross will be led by clergy in the nave at 11:00 a.m. and outdoors at 5:30 p.m. starting at the foot of Pilot View Street and progressing to the outdoor chapel.

Youth Trip to Washington, DC

St. Paul’s youth in ninth through twelfth grades are invited to join Director of Youth Ministries Nick VanHorn on an Episcopal Pilgrimage to Washington, DC, Sunday, July 21 through Friday, July 26.

The group will view historic places through the lens of the Episcopal tradition, studying social justice at the steps of the Lincoln Memorial where the Rev. King spoke and discussing supersessionism after visiting the Holocaust museum. The group will also visit the Museum of the Bible, the National Cathedral and other “surprise” locations.

The cost is $425. Registration and a $100 deposit are required to reserve a spot. Scholarships are available. Deposits are non-refundable unless all spots are filled. Space is very limited and will be filled as registrations and deposits are received. A waiting list will be kept once all spaces have been filled. For more information and to register for the trip, contact Nick at nvanhorn@stpauls-ws.org.

This kind of spiritual story-telling work is not just good for aspiring clergy, PDCs and Vestries on retreat, but for all of us. What is your spiritual autobiography? What does that story reveal about you? What could you learn by recalling your own seasons of struggle and provision? Lent is a great season to reflect on such matters as we prepare to grow in Christ and figure out what God has next for us. That’s because discernment happens best when you know your own story.

2019 Parish Weekend at Kanuga

St. Paul’s 2019 Parish Weekend at Kanuga Conference Center in Hendersonville will be Friday, May 3 through Sunday, May 5. Registrations are due in early April and should be completed as soon as possible.

To review pricing information and register online, visit https://registration.kanuga.org/5243. Financial support is available. For information or to volunteer to help, contact Donna Hennessey at hennessey.de@gmail.com or (336) 414-9749.
Transitions

Births

John Hastings Hobart IV  
February 12, 2019  
Grandson of Anne and Billy Carr

Hollis Marshall Chenery  
March 3, 2019  
Son of Christopher and Mary Boyd Chenery, brother of Harrison Chenery, grand-nephew of Mary Lou and Peter Wilson

New Members

Marshall and Martha Lakis
Heyward and Sherrill Whetsell
Brad and Kelly Darmofal and son Alex
Andrew and Amber Brendle, son Wade and daughter Eliza
Sally Morris-Randall

Deaths

James Butler  
February 19, 2019  
Father of Rhett Butler, Assistant Director of Kids’ Café and Summer Enrichment Program

Eloina Quiros  
March 8, 2019  
Mother of Jorge Quiros, mother-in-law of Ivonne Quiros, grandmother of Jorge and Annie Quiros

Richard Janeway  
March 17, 2019  
Husband of Nan Janeway, father of David Janeway and father-in-law of Beth Parker Janeway

Vestry Meeting Highlights

The following are highlights of the February 9, 2019, Vestry meeting minutes.

Election of Junior Warden

Henri Brown was elected Junior Warden.

Rector’s Report

Bishop Anne Hodges-Copple will visit St. Paul’s on Confirmation Sunday, April 28.

Clergy Report

Three Imposition of Ashes services were planned for Ash Wednesday, March 6. Evening Prayer will be live-streamed on Facebook during Lent. United Thank Offering boxes will be distributed in Lent to encourage the spiritual practice of gratitude offerings. Collection of these boxes will take place on May 12.

Junior Warden’s Report

The Safety Committee, headed by Kay Morgan, has implemented a number of security changes, especially related to Preschool weekday security. The Committee will continue its work and will focus additional attention on evening and Sunday security. Gus Porter, Environmental Health, Safety and Preparedness Manager for High Point University, shared his expertise in a walk-through of the St. Paul’s campus with Kay and others involved in St. Paul’s security.

Other Business

The Vestry approved a request from the Ecclesiastical Arts Committee for six new processional torches and four new candle lighters.

Easter Memorials and Thanksgiving Gifts

All are invited to make donations to St. Paul’s to remember or offer thanks for loved ones at Easter. All names will be published in the Easter Sunday service leaflet. The minimum donation is $5 per name.

To make your gift, legibly print your name and the full name of each person you wish to recognize. Use the checkbox to indicate whether your gift is a memorial or a gift in thanksgiving.

Submit your completed form, with your check payable to St. Paul’s, to Betsy Reiners, St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 520 Summit Street, Winston-Salem NC 27101, by Monday, April 8. Names cannot be taken by telephone.

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Gift Total $  Given by
ParishLife to Suspend Publication Until August

ParishLife will suspend publication for the next three months during the transition period for the new Director of Communications. “Transitions” announcing births, baptisms, marriages and deaths within the parish will continue to be published on Wednesdays in St. Paul’s emailed newsletter ParishLight. Highlights of the Vestry meeting minutes will be archived on the St. Paul’s web site at https://stpaulswinstonsalem.org/about/vestry/vestry-meeting-minutes-highlights/.

Faith & Justice April and May Programs to Address Justice System and Economic Mobility Issues

The Faith & Justice Committee’s 2018-19 Lunch and Speaker Series will continue on Thursday, April 25, and conclude on Thursday, May 23, at 12:15 p.m. in Colhoun A.

The April 25 program, “Unlocking the Truth in the Justice System,” will be presented by Mark Rabil, Clinical Professor of Law at Wake Forest University and Director of the Innocence & Justice Clinic at Wake Forest School of Law.

In these days with cries of “fake news” and an increasing awareness of our biases, do the methods of innocence clinics provide effective means of determining “what happened?” What are the lessons of the more than 2,300 exonerations of innocent people wrongfully convicted by U.S. courts? Is there hope?

The May 23 program, “Economic Mobility in Forsyth County: What’s the Problem?” will be presented by Dr. Craig Richardson, Director of the Center for the Study of Economic Mobility at Winston-Salem State University and BB&T Distinguished Professor of Economics at Winston-Salem State.

North Carolina has one of the fastest-growing economies in the country, yet we have some of the lowest outcomes for those who are born at the bottom of the economic ladder. What special challenges make Forsyth County among the hardest places to escape poverty in the entire country?

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