

Saint Paul's Messenger

November 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.
<https://www.facebook.com/Stpaulsbrookings/>
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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 (17th 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 19 Christmas Bazaar

November Landscaping Clean-up Day (TBA)

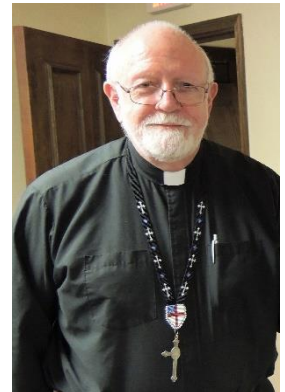
Nov 20 is Christ the King Sunday, honor Christ as the King of Kings

Nov 24 Thanksgiving

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

Rector's Message

The past month has slipped by rather quickly! I began the month with some time spent recovering from Covid. Fortunately, once on Paxlovid, it was a rather mild case. Thus, I was able to catch up on some reading and prepare a couple of sermons.



Judy and I were on vacation from October 12 – 20. We started our trip by driving to Denver, and spending a day with Judy's son Patrick and his wife, Yan. We then headed for Chandler, AZ (a suburb of Phoenix) to visit our daughter-in-law, Alison, and to conduct a memorial service for Brendan, Judy's son who died last February. It was good to have some time with Alison and to celebrate Brendan's life. On our way back, we visited Sedona and the Grand Canyon.

The Grand Canyon is so large as to be somewhat overwhelming! We walked a bit of the Trail of Time and noted the bronze markers

indicating the passage of time – one of which read 3880 million years. That is a lot of time for erosion by water and wind assisted by freezing and thawing. We could see the hiking trails and a part of me wished I were 50 years younger!

The next morning we set out for Mesa Verde – a stop on our way back to Denver. We ate an early lunch at the Cameron Trading Post. Cameron is about 30 miles east of the Grand Canyon National Park. The trading post was established in 1916 by the Richardson family who were noted for their fairness in trading with the Native Americans. The trading post is now owned by the people who work it – most of whom are Native Americans. If you are ever in the area, we recommend visiting!

The visit to Mesa Verde made for a long day (16 hours of travel) and over 700 miles of driving most of which was on two-lane highways. Judy had more than reached her limit! After so much driving, it was good to get back home! Although Peg Whalen takes excellent care of Gracie while we are gone, Gracie was pretty much a constant companion for the next few days.

Lots of leaves fell while we were gone! Mark Kratochvil assisted me in clearing the leaves from the church and the rectory, and I have finally caught up with them at our house! Thanks for the assistance, Mark!

St. Paul's once again featured a coffee shop on Hobo Day! Chuck and Mary Lou Berry have been organizing this event for several years. Thanks for your efforts! It is always fun to work this event and to interact with the community. As it was a warm day, I did not hear as many comments expressing appreciation for a hot drink! The funds raised will be donated to the Christmas, Cops and Kids program.

Speaking of fund raising, the Pizza Guys (Mark and Lee Kratochvil, et. al.) held their Friday night pre-Hobo Day pizza party. They made over 60 pizzas and raised \$4010 for the Food Pantry and Feeding Brookings! Well done!

Looking forward, on November 3rd, several of us will begin a study of Soren

Kierkegaard's *Purity of Heart Is to Will One Thing*. There is still time to join us! We will work our way through the book at a leisurely pace meeting the first and third Thursdays of the month at 6:00 in Thorburn Hall.

It is also time for the vestry to begin considering how to allocate outreach funds this year. If you have suggestions, please speak to one of your vestry members. We will also soon begin our fall stewardship campaign.

Blessings, Fr. Larry

St. Paul's Vestry Minutes: Oct. 24, 2022

Absent: Janet Gritzner, Shannon Malmberg

Lectio Divina: Luke 19:1-10

St. Paul's Vestry Approval of Minutes: Without a quorum, the minutes' approval will be postponed to the next meeting.

Rector's Report (Fr. Larry Ort): Fr. Larry was in isolation for 10 days with COVID; he worked on sermons and other paperwork during that time. He conducted a clericus meeting in Webster, and was on vacation from Oct. 12-20, during which time he conducted a memorial service for Judy's son Brendan.

- Discretionary Fund Opening Balance was \$656.08, and a deposit of \$396.25 was made. Expenses: Brookings Municipal Utilities (\$102.99); Walmart for food for two individuals (\$100); Schoon's for gas (\$22.61); and a contribution towards a new roof to Fr. Henrique Fleming's school in Liberia (\$100), leaving a balance of \$727.13.

Senior Warden's Report (Mary Lou Berry): Mary Lou managed to repair the vase liners with a sealing product.



Junior Warden's Report (Lee Kratochvil): Lee reported that Lowe's has the agreed-upon dishwasher in stock now, so he will purchase it at a cost of \$1099 plus tax. Fall Clean-Up Day is Nov. 5th (Note: The Youth Group Christmas Jumble Sale has been postponed to Nov. 19th). Lee contacted the "bat guy" who checked the roof and found 6 access points. He estimated the cost for removing the

bats and fixing the access points at approximately \$10-13 thousand. Lee suggested that, in lieu of this, we move ahead with re-roofing the church, which needs to be done soon anyway.



Treasurer's Report (Bob Klein): Bob presented the January-September financial report (without a quorum, acceptance will be postponed until the November meeting). As a point of interest, Bob pointed out that the wealth management account is down to \$175,000 from \$210,000 at the beginning of the year.

Old Business: Discussion postponed.

New Business: Fr. Larry noted that we would need to begin discussions soon about allocating the Outreach donations, and he will bring last year's list to the next meeting. He received a request from Christmas, Kids and Cops, who support needy families in Brookings County. Mary Lou suggested that the proceeds from the Hobo Day refreshment stand be designated for that purpose; the Vestry agreed.

Next Meeting: Nov. 14, 2022, 5:30

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. Respectfully submitted,

Marsha Klein, Clerk of the Vestry



November-December Anniversaries

Mark and Patty Kratochvil, Charlie and Kay Clever,
Chuck and Sarah Woodard,
Ismael and Bess Pallares

November Birthdays

Emily Braun, Jack Woodard, Carolann Klug, Jessica
Laidlaw, Aricia Hovelson, Madison Vanduch,
Amanda Norgaard, Olivia Lacher Starace, George
Hoffman, Mavis Gehant, Jeff Jorenby, Jay Vanduch,
Sarah Woodard, Shannon Malmberg, Connie Nelson,
Tonya Brogue

CHRISTMAS JUMBLE SALE

Ornaments * Décor * Linens * Lights

CD's * Secret Santa Gifts * Homemade Treats

Wreaths and much more!

Saturday, Nov. 19th 9:00-1:00

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Corner of 6th St. and 8th Ave. in Brookings

*Brighten your home or dorm room while blessing
your neighbor's table:*

Proceeds benefit

FEEDING BROOKINGS

Sponsored by the Youth Groups of St. Paul's

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

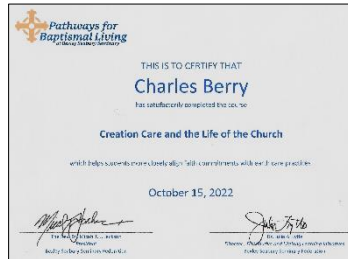
The Vestry listed 10 risks (actions) we would take as part of WWW. (edited for brevity for the *Messenger*) saying "St. Paul's is committed to taking risks for the good of God's kingdom. We are a vibrant Christian fellowship, which demonstrates love for God, for each other, for our community."

- ☒ 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

Next Charge from Bishop: In 2022-23 we are to tell our story to others, and to the Bishop when he visits.

Bexley Seabury Experience (by Chuck Berry)

Last month I wrote to my home Parish from far-away Bexley Seabury Seminary in Chicago about my course titled *Creation Care and the Life of the Church*. The course was on-line so I really didn't get that far away from St Paul's Parish. Recall that Bexley Seabury is one of 10 Episcopal seminaries. My teachers were two Episcopal Priests and educators; there are six students from TX, Kentucky, NY and Louisiana. Hurray! I graduated and received a "diploma" (see figure).



I wrote in my last letter home that we were reading two works: 1) The Episcopal Bishops' **Pastoral Teaching** on Creation Care and the accompanying study guide, and

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

2) *Laudato Si*, which is Pope Francis's book about Creation Care.

The Bexley folks have asked that I evaluate the course. The on-line technology worked great. The teachers were knowledgeable and the students sincere. It is hard to summarize the broad course content and our far-ranging discussions, so I'll just summarize the readings. They were similar. The Episcopal Bishops and the Pope said about the same thing. In summary, they said:

1. The church should call for confession, compassion, and attention to the present crisis of the earth and
2. Identify ways to speak and act on behalf of God's good creation.
3. The church recognizes that God's grace and plan for redemption encompasses all creation.
4. The church should make connections between our life choices and the consequences of those

choices for ALL neighbors (ALL means human and non-human)

5. Examine more sustainable ways of living and more just ways of praying, fellowshiping and serving (e.g., fasting, Sabbath-keeping, and mindfulness).

The course was more about items 1 and 3 as opposed to action items 2 and 4. The teachers talked more about the root cause of our environmental problems (us sinners) than what churches should do/act as stewards of creation. The last class was about item 5 – fasting, Sabbath-keeping, and mindfulness (of Creation's gifts).

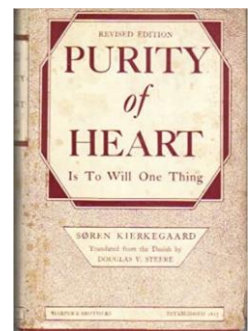
I admitted to the group that I don't fast or keep the Sabbath (very well), but I am mindful (deeply aware) of Creation. I naively asked "What do you mean by fasting?" and was quickly informed that there are many books on the subject. Duh!! And, fasting is not just about food, you can fast from lots of activities too!

And Sabbath-keeping isn't just Sunday or all-day resting from work. Think about a type of rest where we live lightly on the Earth, not for gain but to savor the grace and "givenness" of Creation. Givenness means the creation has been granted to us unquestionably.

Well, these are complicated topics. I'll tell the Seabury folks that I learned something and have a good memory about the course.

Book Study Group

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. Fr Larry writes: "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."



Church Schedule (by Lynette Taylor)



We need lay readers, LEMs, and ushers scheduled in advance for Sunday services. 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 ushers. Do those of you who have children feel they could serve on a regularly scheduled basis?



Autumn Malmberg reads the Prayers of the People

If you have any questions, you can email me or we can discuss this at church this coming Sunday. I have sent this email to those individuals currently on Fr. Larry's

list of lay readers and LEMs. Fr. Larry is willing to offer training to anyone who wants to serve.

St Paul's Hobo Day Coffee Shoppe



Above: The Pride of the Dakotas band leads the parade as they march past St Paul's. Below: Karac pours coffee for a customer; says he has credentials from the fast-food industry.



Thanks to all who helped by baking, drink making, setting up the tent, kitchen duties, selling, publicity, and clean up. We made about \$150 that will go to the charity that sends Cops and Kids Christmas Shopping together for the family.

The parade went on for about 2 hours as usual under clear skies, 50s temperatures and mild breezes – what great weather! AND, the Jackrabbit football team won the homecoming game, and the team is the best in the conference.

Episcopal History (by Chuck Berry)

Have you ever heard someone say “The Episcopal Church? Oh, that’s the one Henry VIII invented so he could get a divorce.” Well, I’ve heard this comment. I sort of grin and then forget about it thinking “So what if we have a slightly raunchy beginning..500 years ago...move on.

Our Granddaughter just matriculated at an Episcopal private school in (Kent School, CT) where she must go to Chapel twice a week and must take some classes in religion. I wonder what she is thinking about religion because right now, she might be labeled as “unchurched.”

Will the teachers at Kent School teach about the history of the Episcopal Church and Henry VIII. I decided to do a little reading. Now I have a response to the comment about Henry VIII and the start of The Episcopal Church. Stay with me! I’ll cover 2 centuries of church history in two paragraphs – no, 5 paragraphs, but short ones.

After Jesus’s death, Christianity found its way to the British Isles, but was soon replaced by the paganism of the conquerors. The Catholic Church was strong on the continent and in about 500 AD, the Pope learned that there was no Christianity in England so he sent monks. Slowly, an English version of the Catholic Church formed. It was called The Anglican Church (Church of England).

By the time that Henry broke with Rome in 1534 there had been a continuously existing Church in England for almost a thousand years. Yeah, Henry separated the Church of England from Rome, but the separation came at the end of a long period you might call “nationalism.” when papal authority was steadily limited in England. The Magna Carta (1215) declared that the Church of England was beholden to no one outside the realm. The English Parliament began formally limiting papal power in the 1300s.

Henry VIII’s breach with Rome must be placed in religious history, not just in his lusty history. The religious history has three aspects. One was growing nationalism in England–the papacy was seen as an interfering foreign power. A second was growing English resentment of the papacy’s financial/political interference in England. And

third was the events, called the Enlightenment and Protestant Reformation that were shaking Europe. Whole areas had broken with Rome to become Protestant. Henry broke with Rome, but stayed Catholic, but without the Pope.

In England, the leader of Anglican Church reform was Thomas Cranmer who Henry appointed Archbishop of Canterbury. He moved the Church in a more protestant direction. He produced the first book of Common Prayer (1549) – in English so laypersons could share religion.



Thomas Cranmer, executed by Queen Bloody Mary for his religious beliefs

The word Episcopal has not come up yet in my brief history lesson. But first one more thing. After Henry, Queen Elizabeth didn’t like Catholics (Papal authority) and she didn’t like radical forms of Protestantism (the Puritans). In 1563, 39 articles were written as the foundations of the Church of England. Is it hard to find these important 39 articles? Noooo....they are in the back of the present BCP on p. 867. Maybe you knew that – I didn’t. Interesting reading but the language is a little funky.

Where does the Episcopal Church come in? To answer this question, we must go to the new world, to the 13 colonies that were mostly Anglican except for the Puritans and others escaping religious persecution. Then came the Revolutionary War. The Anglican Church, being English, was in disfavor and disarray.

The American Anglicans decided to change their name, one that reflected the mix of Protestant thinking and Anglican thinking, without the word Anglican. They settled on the Protestant Episcopal Church. Protestants didn’t owe allegiance to the Pope, and Episcopal means governed by Bishops.

In summary, my response to the “Henry comment” is that the church he “invented” was already in existence for 1000 years, and the Episcopal Church is fully American.

Our Red Oak on the Patio

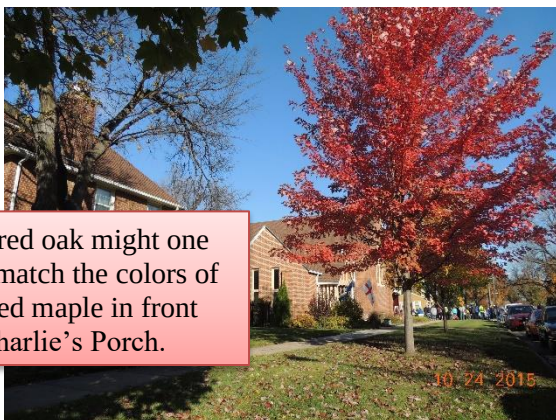
“Blessed are those who plant trees knowing that they shall never sit in the shade of their foliage.”

I think about this proverb all the time when I look at the red oak that was planted in St Paul’s back yard when the new patio was made (2010).

It will become a giant tree and its limbs will branch over the patio, giving shade to Parishioners in the year 2050 and beyond.

The northern red oak *Quercus rubra* has been called one of the handsomest, cleanest, and stateliest trees in North America. It will grow large, to 60 – 75 ft tall. The red oak is known for its brilliant fall color and great wildlife value (acorns, nesting, cover, resting).

Our red oak hardly grew at all for a few years, but recently it has grown a lot, as shown in the two photos below. The fall foliage isn’t red, but is a very beautiful copper color. Maybe the red will come with age.



Our red oak might one day match the colors of the red maple in front of Charlie’s Porch.

More Hobo Day photos



Above L to r. unidentified visitor, Fr Ort, Tiffany, Karac, Amin.

Below: Karac pours hot chocolate for important customers, Mark K and Jack.



For the good Earth, which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

BCP 384

The Messenger

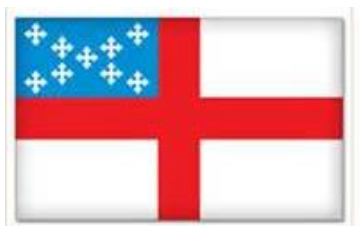
Newsletter of
St Paul's Episcopal Church
Church
Established 1893, Parish since 1952

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St Paul's Christmas Bazaar Nov 19

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