



# THE EPISTLE



January 2012

Vol. XXV, No. 1

## Annual Meeting & Potluck Luncheon

Mark your calendars now for our annual Parish Meeting at noon on January 29, 2012, and—as in the past—we'll start the event with a pot luck luncheon. Please sign up at the Welcome Center and indicate the “pot luck dish” you'll bring to share.



## Adult Education Will Continue on January 11, 2012

I often think about “Church Growth” and “Congregational Development”, but then am at a loss as to what specific steps to take to accomplish these grand ideas.



I asked Ms Denise Crenshaw, D. Min., the retired Executive Director of the Whitaker School of Theology in the Diocese of Michigan. She will be with us beginning on Wednesday, January 18 and continuing until Lent. As we talked about Church Growth, we realized that we need to look within ourselves and prepare ourselves for the growth of the congregation, so that we are ready to

*(Continued on page 6)*

## Artwalk

Our Artwalk featured artist for January 13th, 2012 is Chris Watson. A self taught artist since the age of five, Chris has been creating realistic art for many years. From pencil to paint, small portraits to larger than life murals, he continues to bring to life real people through art.

After graduating from Beecher High School in 1981, he attended the University of Michigan for a short time before

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The parish will be closed on January 2nd in observance of the holiday.

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Tuesday-Friday, 9-noon & 1-4

## OUR VESTRY

- John Snell**, Senior Warden; Member, Vestry Executive Ministry; CEC Board Member; & Stewardship/Finance Ministry
- John Cherry**, Junior Warden; Elder, Building & Grounds Ministry; & Member, Vestry Executive Ministry
- Andrew Dill**, Elder, Liturgy & Worship Ministry
- Velevia Ford**, Clerk of the Vestry; Member, Vestry Executive Ministry; Elder, Hospitality Ministry; Elder Susan Kilmer Scholarship Fund; Elder, Vera Scott Youth Enrichment Fund; & Elder, Margaret Stewart Fund Raising Coordinator
- Elizabeth Harris**, Chair, Outreach Ministry
- Deacon Claudia Hollinger**, Elder, Outreach Ministry
- Michele Kotzian**, Member, Vestry Executive Ministry, Elder, Pastoral Care Ministry
- Craig Leavitt**, Elder, Absalom Jones Diversity Ministry
- Barbara Mannor**, Elder, Evangelism & Newcomer Ministries
- Thomas Meyer**, Elder, Christian Formation Ministry
- Ex officio:* **Fred Kump**, Treasurer
- Ginger Wright**, Secretary & Assistant Treasurer

**Convention Delegates:** Elizabeth Jordan, Kenneth Jordan, Laura Meyer, Thomas Meyer  
**Convocation Council Rep.,** Laura Meyer

# PRIESTLY PONDERINGS

By The Rev. Barbara Cavin

***“May you live as long as you want, and never want as long as you live.”***

What a wonderful Irish blessing. And wouldn't it be nice if this were possible? If we were in charge of our lives, this might be possible. If our "wants" were realistic, the second part of the blessing might be possible.

Neither of the two statements is my reality!



I know that I am not fully in control of my life. God is and only God is in charge of my life.

My "wants" are too excessive for me to never want for anything as long as I live. My needs are more able to be fulfilled than all my wants.

Think about your own life.

When I make New Year's Resolutions, I am too often wanting my life to be in my control, exclusively. "I will do ..." "I will be ..." and then I go on with my life as I have always lived. I would be more realistic if I were to start my New Year's Resolutions with the following phrase, "With God's help, I will do ..." and/or "With God's help, I will be ..."

It is only by the grace and mercy of God and with the help of God that we are able to live our lives as we want.

Does this sound too restrictive for you? I hope not. When I think about what my wants are, I realize that what I want is to live in harmony with God's creation and God's people. I want to care about others and I want others to care about me. I want to be faithful to God in everything I do and everything I am. I want to laugh with others, not at them. I want to be a friend to others. I want friends to be with me along the journey of life. I want time with God in silence (that is, when I am silent and God is talking to me). I want to worship God in the holiness of congregational life. I want to stay connected to my family even though we are spread out around the country. I want to walk in nature, being awed by nature and God's little creatures.

My list of needs is much shorter. I need GOD, food, shelter, clothing, and people in my life. So you see, our wants and our needs make quite different lists. I too often confuse my wants and my needs and get into trouble with the confusion.

May your needs be met and your wants be gifts from a gracious God.

## Vestry and Diocesan Convention Nominees

Our annual Parish Meeting will take place after the 10:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, January 29, 2012. At the meeting, the Vestry will present the approved budget for 2012. All adult members in good standing will vote to elect new Members of the Vestry and Delegates to the Diocesan Convention. The following slate of nominees was presented by the Nominating Committee to and accepted by the Vestry. Nominations from the floor will be in order, but the would-be nominee's consent to serve must be obtained before attempting to nominate.

The following have been nominated to the vestry: Gale Luketich and Mark Wilson. Nominated to be Delegates to the Diocesan Convention are: Thomas & Laura Meyer. Nominated for FRVC Council Representative is Laura Meyer.



I am a special education teacher at the Genesee Intermediate School District Transition Center. I teach special needs young adults.

I have served at St. Paul's on the Outreach Committee, the Absalom Jones Diversity Ministry, am currently a member of the Bell Choir and volunteer at St. Andrew's Saturday Lunch Program.

My hopes for the future of St. Paul's is that the ministry to the City of Flint and the downtown area continues to grow. That our beautiful church is full each Sunday with a new and the current congregation.



I recently retired from General Motors after 35 years of service and am looking forward to a new life and experiences.

I have served on St. Paul's Vestry on two previous occasions. I have been on Building & Grounds, Liturgy & Worship, Finance, and Jr. Warden during my previous tenures.

As with life, changes are constantly on the agenda. St. Paul's is evolving and where we end up is a work in progress. I will strive to do what is best for St. Paul's long term interests.

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*It is the policy of St. Paul's to be closed if the Flint Public Schools are closed due to weather. You can call the office to double check. The recording will tell you if we are closed.*





# DEACON'S NOTES

by The Rev. Deacon Claudia Hollinger

Happy New Year!!! I cannot believe that another year has ended and another has begun. In 2010, I was involved in FACT and a lot of community work, such as education and health care reform, the ceasefire initiative to address youth violence, as well as, other issues facing our community.

Being involved with so much work outside of the church, the question, "Why isn't Deacon Claudia doing pastoral care?" has been asked. The diaconal ministry has expanded over the last decade or so and there are many ministries for which deacons are called, such as, hospice care, social work, pastoral care, hospital chaplaincy, outreach and social justice. God has called me to a special ministry of servanthood to be an Outreach/Social Justice Deacon which means that I am in the community to help empower the voiceless, hopeless and helpless and to help make our community a better and safer place to live. I represent the

bridge between the church and the world, bringing the concerns of the community and world to the church and taking the church into the world.

As the deacon of St. Paul's, some of my duties are to train Eucharistic Ministers and Eucharistic Visitors, attend Vestry meetings, write the Prayers of the People, prepare and serve at the altar, preach on occasion, help the outreach ministry, and perform whatever duties I may be assigned by the bishop.

When I was ordained, I vowed *to look for Christ in to all others, being ready to help and serve those in need.* (BCP Ordination: Deacon) I am humbled and blessed to be serving God in ministry at St. Paul's and as an Outreach/Social Justice Deacon.

May you all have a happy and blessed new year.

God's peace,  
*Deacon Claudia*

*(Continued from page 1) Artwalk*

becoming a picture painters' apprentice at an outdoor advertizing firm, then called Gannett Outdoor. While painting larger than life images, he also taught himself graphic design on the computer as the industry changed from hand-painted pictures to computer painted imagery. He left Gannett in 2001 and started his own company Boy with Ball, LLC.

He specialized in commissions for individuals and local corporations alike such as: Hurley Medical Center's series for Samuel R. Diamond, Jr., Portrait of William White, Mott Foundation President along with other board members of Job Central (currently Career Alliance); A 10' x 60' mural for General Motors SPO; and many portraits for private collections.

Married and a proud father of four beautiful children, he continues to create and inspire others, like mentoring young artists through teaching at Sylvester Broom Center after school program in 2002, showing his art in local galleries, and reinventing his art business now called CB Watson Fine Arts. He is a former board member of the Greater Flint Arts Council and a current member.

Chris continues to draw and paint, using pencil, pastels and oils. He also sells originals, prints, and still takes orders by commission. Portraits are his specialty, however, he can be commissioned to paint or create any image, any size as needed, from standard portraits to larger than life murals. He also does graphic design including logos, brochures, booklets, posters outdoor design. With extensive expertise and experience, Chris Watson continues to inspire and bring people to life through art.

We hope you don't miss this month's artist. It's sure to be a great show.



## Small Things and Possibilities: An Advent Reflection



As the Williams Family celebrates the “great promise” during this season of Advent, we’d like to update our St. Paul’s family on our move to Sycamore, Illinois!

The move from Flint, MI to Sycamore, IL in late August went very well; a few lost boxes, broken glasses—nothing major. We made it to Illinois in time for the first day of school on Aug. 24th. Morgan is a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader at West Elementary School and Madison is a 6<sup>th</sup> grader at Sycamore Middle School. Can you believe that little Morgan is in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade (smile)? Miss. Morgan bravely walked into Ms. Bonkowski’s class, and met a little girl named Harmony. Harmony and Morgan have been best buddies ever since. Madison, too, has a special friend named Natalie. Madison’s experience going to RSCM (Royal School of Church Music) camp came in handy as it relates to meeting new friends! To top things off, Madison won an essay contest and was a junior marshal in the Sycamore Pumpkin Festival parade in November!

John transferred to the Elgin, IL Social Security Administration office. His daily commute is a little longer these days; not the two miles from the College Cultural Neighborhood to Chavez Highway he’d become accustomed to. However, John has lots of beautiful corn to admire as he makes the 20 mile trek.

I have adjusted well to my new home at Northern Illinois University; I have no complaints. I am eager to help NIU reach its enrollment goal of 30,000 by 2016. As I have shared with colleagues since my arrival in July, healthy enrollments just don’t happen. That good outcome is the result of a systematic approach to leading and developing key components. Wish me luck!!

Although we miss friends and family in Flint, we are grateful for God’s many blessings. What seemed like an impossible situation, moving to a new town after 7 rich years in Flint, has turned out just fine. As the prophet Zechariah reminds us (Zech 4:10), **we should not “despise the day of small things,” because God does some of his best work with small beginnings and impossible situations.**

So, as we celebrate with gladness the Christmas and Advent season John & I continue to hold on to many precious realities; the importance of children, family, and health and the power of prayer. We miss you all and can’t wait to see you soon!

In God’s Peace,



Kimberley

PS: Our new church home is the Episcopal Church of St. Paul- DeKalb, Illinois!

## Friday Lunch Program is Moving to Tuesday

Due to scheduling conflicts, the Friday Lunch Program will now be held on Tuesdays. We will also change the name of the program to the "Tuesday Lunch Program". Our first lunch will be Tuesday, January 3rd. Lunch will be served between 12:00 and 1:00 p.m.



Volunteers are always needed and welcomed !! If you would like to join us please arrive at 10:30 on Tuesday.

We have been given the opportunity to open our doors and hearts at St. Paul's. Please plan on joining us any Tuesday the church is open. When St. Paul's is closed due to bad weather etc. there isn't a lunch that day.

Come share a smile and a meal with our less fortunate brothers and sisters !!!

Also I will introduce you to the great benefits of the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan where \$1 equals \$6 in food.

Thank you,

*Ferrell Katzenberger*

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(Continued from page 1) Adult Education to Continue grow, numerically, but

also spirituality.

We will begin with participants completing the "Meyers-Briggs" personality questionnaire on Jan. 11 and will see what type each of is. For example, I am an Extrovert rather than an Introvert. This means that I process information while I am speaking. Hence my way of preaching. I also am energized by being with people. An Introvert processes information in his/her mind and then speaks the words. An introvert also is energized by being alone and silent. Most clergy are introverts, and many of them use a printed sermon because that is more compatible with their personality and find contemplative prayer a very comfortable prayer style for them.

One of the outcomes of this educational presentation is that you will, hopefully, see more clearly, the gifts and abilities you bring to the Church and what volunteer opportunity fits your personality. You will also learn what spirituality is most compatible with your personality type.

Please consider coming to this wonderful educational series. You will benefit from it, I am sure. Church growth begins with the spiritual growth of the members. We will grow as a congregation when it is evident to the visitor that this is a congregation that is spiritually alive and welcoming to new members. We are all a part of the growth, and to be prepared for this is the best gift we can give ourselves and each other. Amen.

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1—Debra Rittenbery
- 3—David Harwood
- 4—Erynn Ford
- 5—Alfred Cook
- 6—James Franklin IV
- 7—Ruth Scott
- 8—Angela Lennox
- 9—Mark Wilson
- 11—Sherry Lees
- 12—Marsha Kump
- 19—Colette Martin
- 20—Bruce Richardson
- 21—Michael Slocum
- 22—Grace Dekalita
- 28—Edwin Hershon, Andrew McCay
- 29—Diane Whitfield
- 30—Alexis Bennett
- 31—Lauren Ireland, Peter Ireland, JoAnna Kotzian



## ANNIVERSARIES

- 4—Douglas and Sherry Lees; Curtis
- 19—Kenneth and Suzanne Kayser



HERE'S A GIFT RECEIPT FOR THE MYRRH IN CASE YOU HAD WANTED OTHER PERFUME

## St. Paul's Website

When you are trying to find out information online regarding something to do with St. Paul's, it's recommended you go directly to the website. You can get to the main page of our website by typing in:

**[www.stpaulsparishflint.org](http://www.stpaulsparishflint.org)**

This takes you directly to the main page and you can go to any other page you might need by clicking on the tab of your choice.

If you do a search for our church, you might not end up on the main page. Not only that, you might end up on a previous month's page that is not the correct information you are looking for.

## Please Pray for .....

**PRAYERS FOR PERSONS:** Children in Homes of Danger, Dorothy VanDuyne-Hughes serving in Norfolk, VA, Michael Kump serving in Korea , Nicole Kump serving in Korea , Thomas Dill serving in VA



**The home parishioners and their caregivers:** Ginny Rickey, Laura Vieu, Gloria Woodrich, Evelyn Woodbury, Viola Hall, Daisy Robinson

**The sick and recovering and those in any sorrow or distress:** Audrey, Barbara, Danielle Brook, Gage Bryce, Clarence, Phyllis Crane, Melissa Cussans, Elaine Davis, Donald, Jack Dyball, Tim & Ellie Ellwell, Leslie Fries, David Fulcher & family, Gloria, Helen Graham, Lucy Habte-Gabr, Wanda & Willie Harden, Harley, Jackie, Kathryn, Lisa Kusky, Dolores Lane, Marion Leman, Kelly Lukes, Russ & Ginger Matar, Fr. Kieran (Loren) McClanaha, Paul, Jacob Pesta, James Polzin, Jacqueline Powell, Reynolds Family, Emma Roberts, Rosa, Stan Rykulski, Sarah, Steve, Sue, Tina, Velevia Ford and family, Jerry Welch, Michael White, Tom White

**Those who are in the hospital & other care facilities:** Mary Lou Odom, Briarwood

**ADDITIONAL PRAYERS:** For . . .Peace and stability in Iraq, Afghanistan, Bahrain, the Middle East, Haiti, Egypt, Japan, Korea, Alabama and throughout the south due to tornadoes and anywhere there is strife among peoples and nations.



## Upcoming Scripture Lessons for Worship

### The Revised Common Lectionary: Year B

#### January 1

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas  
Isaiah 61:10-62:3 ♦ Psalm 147  
Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7 ♦ John 1:1-18

#### January 8

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Epiphany  
Genesis 1:1-5 ♦ Psalm 29  
Acts 19:1-7 ♦ Mark 1:4-11

#### January 15

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany  
1 Samuel 3:1-20 ♦ Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17  
1 Corinthians 6:12-20 ♦ John 1:43-51

#### January 22

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany  
Jonah 3:1-5, 10 ♦ Psalm 62:6-14  
1 Corinthians 7:29-31 ♦ Mark 1:14-20

#### January 29

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany  
Deuteronomy 18:15-20 ♦ Psalm 111  
Acts 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 ♦ Mark 1:21-28

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When submitting articles or notices of events to *The Epistle*, if possible, please submit via e-mail to . . .

[stpaulschurch@ameritech.net](mailto:stpaulschurch@ameritech.net)

This will allow us to cut and paste on the computer, thus easing and shortening preparation time by lessening the need for retyping. Thanks!

### ***The Epistle***

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Terence Whitehead, Head Custodian

Rafeal McDaniel, Gospel Choir Director

G. Donald Kaye, Music Director *Emeritus*

## **Worship at St. Paul's**

Sunday: 8 am & 10:00 am

Wednesday: 12:10 p.m.