

On the Mark

April 11, 2010
The Second Sunday of Easter

Get Set... GO!

Sunday, April 11, 2010

8:00 Cell
8:45 First Service
10:00 Fellowship
10:30 Second Service
12:15 Prophetic Team
12:15 Mercy SAVR meeting

Monday, April 12, 2010

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

9:00 Art Group
10:00 Holy Eucharist & Healing
12:00 Agape Luncheon
12:30 Staff Meeting
1:00 Cell
6:00 Band Rehearsal
7:30 Vestry Meeting

Wednesday, April 14, 2010

Thursday, April 15, 2010

9:00 Community Bible Study
7:00 Healing & Intercession

Friday, April 16, 2010

7:30 NCS Cell
7:00 Christian 12 Step

Saturday, April 17, 2010

7:30 Men's CBS

Sunday, April 18, 2010

8:00 Cell
8:45 First Service & Nursery
10:00 Fellowship
10:30 Second Service & Sunday School
12:15 Prophetic Teams

THIS WEEK'S LESSONS

Job 42:1-6 (p. 526)
Revelation 1:1-19 (p. 1191)
John 20:19-31 (p. 1053)

NEXT WEEK'S LESSONS

Jeremiah 32:36-41 (p. 770)
Acts 9:1-19a (p. 1065)
John 21:1-14 (p. 1053)

Save the Date!

...for the next Parent-Teacher Children's Ministry Open House **Sunday, May 16** directly after the 10:30 service. We are eager to share with you about the new and exciting plans for our Children's Ministry. **We are shifting the Paradigm...** This will also be an opportunity to hear from your child's teachers and ask them any questions you might have. A light lunch will be provided. The invitation is open to **anyone** who is interested in helping to "raise up the next generation" for Jesus' kingdom. For more information do not hesitate to contact Debbie de la Rivera, Kim Stumpf, or Joann Cerretani. See you there!

Operation "In" Gratitude

Has anyone else ever noticed that when you separate the word 'ingratitude' from its first syllable, it becomes "in gratitude"? A 180-degree change in meaning, with the simple detachment of a prefix!

This leads me to question: If it's so easy to make the shift on paper, could it be just as easy to make that same shift in my personal outlook?

I think the answer is "yes". Like the flip of a switch that transforms a room from dark to light, the flip of the switch in my heart can make the difference between chronic misery and total contentment.

Example: I lost my job in a layoff last October. My husband suffered a knee injury at his job the very same week and has been out of work ever since. By choosing "ingratitude" I could rightly say, "This economy's a disaster, our financial outlook is grim, and p.s., I can't believe that after 20 years in the workforce and an advanced degree, the Department of Labor is telling me I'm only entitled to xxx a week! However, if I choose to move *in* gratitude, it's just as easy to say, "Thank God I have the safety net of an unemployment check, that my husband can collect workman's comp, and that we still have a roof over our heads and food on the table." (And p.s., last year's financial setback could translate to this year's tax return!)

My situation is minor compared to that of so many others. I think of the hundreds of thousands in post-earthquake Haiti who are suffering beyond comprehension and yet are still praising God...

I'll admit this "be thankful in all things" idea isn't exactly original. Some might even call it cliché. But I'm convinced that when put to the test, it's possible to grab hold of gratitude in every situation. The key to living in gratitude isn't the stuff *for which* we're grateful – rather, the key is to recall the One *to whom* we're grateful. Job of the Bible said it best: "We take the good days from God – why not also the bad days?" [Job 2:10, The Message] Job, who lost his kids, his entire estate, and his health, was able to step back from the horror his life had become and still bless God, acknowledging that God gives *and* takes away.

I think it's that momentary detachment (just like the prefix) that enables us to acknowledge not only what we've been given, but the One who gives it. The result? Living "in gratitude."

Lisa

Lisa Schell

Newcomers and guests at St. Paul's are invited to come to the Prayer Room after the service for a personal word of encouragement from the Lord. Our prophetic prayer team is ready to listen to God and ask Him to speak to you.

Week ending	4/4/10	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	+ (-) than budget
Tithes & Offerings	12,786	171,461	175,000	(3,539)
Expenses	19,158	175,518	162,500	(518)
Weekly Goal		13,750	Shortfall	(4,057)

Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.
Proverbs 22:5-7

Feed My Starving Children

As we plan and prepare for another packing event this fall for the "Feed My Starving Children" ministry, we want to be sure to undergird our participation with prayer. St. Paul's is hosting the first of the monthly Prayer Meetings for FMSC on **Monday, April 19** from **8:00 to 9:00**. Please plan to join us! [Want more information about the FMSC endeavor in Darien? Talk to Deacon Roberta Schneider.]

Visual Artists Take Note!

Calling all Visual Artists in our Community: we would love your participation in the St. Paul's art show, which opens June 6, 2010. You are invited to submit one piece, framed and ready for exhibit, by Sunday May 23. Works should be given to Meg Newton or Susannah Swanson, and should be labeled with the following information: title, date, medium, and your name.

A benefit concert with

The Todd Schneider Band

Dave Anderson, bass; Thierry Arppino, drums; Steve Moran, sax & keyboards; Todd Schneider, guitar, plus special guests. **Sunday, April 18, 4:00 p.m.** at the **Ben Franklin Theatre, Bayview Ave. & Hillside St., S. Norwalk**. For more info call 203-524-4090. Proceeds will assist with medical tests & treatment for Todd.

Mission Trip Donation

Please prayerfully consider making a donation of any amount to the St. Paul's Men's Mission trip to Clarksburg, WV, May 2-8, 2010. We will be serving God and the poor with building projects, relationship forming, and ministry in the Spirit in the name of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Donated monies will be used to sponsor Pivot Ministry men (and possibly some from the Bridgeport Rescue Mission) as well as to provide for the families we serve. Checks can be sent directly to World Vision Appalachia. Mark the check "St. Paul's Mission". For more information contact Dick Day at 203-698.2980 or, by e-mail, rday55@sbcglobal.net. Send checks to: **World Vision Appalachia,**
PO Box 162,
Philippi, WV 26416
Attn: Kris Wamsley

Jan Nel will be teaching **Father's House Part III** at Harvest Time Church in Greenwich, April 12, 13 & 15, and **Father's House Part I** at The Huntington Chapel in Shelton, April 16 and all day Saturday, April 17. And on Friday, April 16, he will also be at the Women's Bible Study at the home of Sharon Bottomley in New Canaan. For more information contact MirjaJ@optonline.net.

MERCY!

If you have a merciful heart, we can use your help! A few of the most pressing needs are: Agape meals for Tuesday services (either food prep, or a financial contribution); meals for the sick and those with new babies (see Meg Newton); help with special parish projects (Feed My Starving Children, or Christmas dinner); rides for those without transportation. Call **Julia Nichols** at 203 502-1765 or **Pamela Corker** at 203 966-5445. Or come to the SAVR meeting today, April 11, at 12:15 p.m.

OOOPS!

Please save Sunday, May 2 (not May 1 as we erroneously printed last week!) for our **SILVER TEA** – our chance to recognize and celebrate the elder stateswomen in our congregation!

Let the Choice Be Mine

We plan and prepare for most events in our lifetime, yet few of us prepare for the final event of our lives: our funeral. Deacon Novella Lawrence is ready to facilitate this simple course again if enough people are interested. Please call the Parish Office at 655-8773 and let us know.



God's Great Get-together
Vacation Bible School
August 16-20, 2010

Can YOU help? Call 655-8773



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Staff

The Rev. Christopher P. Leighton, Rector
The Rev. Daniel C. Morgan, Asst. Rector
Debbie de la Rivera, Children's Ministries Coord.
Pat Poremba, Bookkeeper
Phyllis Schlemmer, Parish Secretary
Andy Thomas, Sexton
Noel Thomas, Assistant Sexton

Assisting Clergy

The Rev. Gail Paige Bowman
The Rev. M. Blake Greenlee
The Rev. Novella Lawrence
The Rev. Roberta Schneider

Vestry

Sr. Warden Dominic Napolitano
Jr Warden Joann Cerretani (Christian Form.)
Treasurer Roger Knudsen (Bldgs & Grounds)
Clerk Adelaide Waring (Hospitality)

Class of 2011:

Pamela Corker (Hospitality & Mercy)
Bill Steinfeldt (Buildings & Ground)
Kim Stumpf (Christian Formation)

Class of 2012:

John Donovan (Communications & MiC)
Bill Jolly (Anglican Relations)
Julia Nichols (Mercy)

Class of 2013:

Robin Alves (Communications)
Tony Schell (Evangelism)
Polly Verrico (Healing & Intercession)

**To Know Christ
And to
Make Him Known**