



St. Paul's
Episcopal Church

Where Tradition Meets Today



PARISH LIFE CATALOG

2009-2010



A Letter from the Rector

Dear Friends and Members of St. Paul's,

...rekindle the gift of God that is within you...

2 Timothy 1:6

Being a Christian involves living lives that are disciplined. The genuinely Christian life is one that is marked by prayer, study and service. While each individual Christian may find his or her life leaning a little more heavily in one direction or the other – prayer, study, or service -- all three dimensions should be represented in the routines and patterns of each individual's Christian life. A person cannot be an authentic Christian without prayer and worship being at the center of his or her life. A person cannot be an authentic Christian without some routine of study – the Bible, church history and tradition, ethics, etc. To be a Christian, one must know one's story. And who can imagine a person claiming to be a Christian who did not engage in regular acts of service to others?.

At St. Paul's Episcopal Church we consistently offer many, many opportunities to engage in the three essential areas of the Christian faith – worship, study and service. You will discover a wide range of opportunities that will allow you to engage your faith in the pages of this Parish Life Catalog. I hope you will read this catalog carefully and prayerfully and find ways to “rekindle the gift of God that is within you.”

St. Paul's offerings are always open to non-members and provide an excellent opportunity for you to invite friends and family members to discover the Good News of God in Christ and the amazing faith community that is St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Delray Beach. We welcome all!



The Reverend William H. Stokes, *Rector*

Worship

Weekdays:

Tuesdays at 8:10am - *Holy Eucharist:*

Thursdays at 10am - *Holy Eucharist with healing prayers.*

Weekends:

Saturday at 5pm – *Illuminated Holy Eucharist*

Sunday at 8am – *Holy Eucharist*

Sunday at 9:30 and 11:15am – *Holy Eucharist with St. Paul's Choir*

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Christian Education and Faith Formation for Children, Youth and Families

Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministry: Susan Stokes

When children are baptized in the Episcopal Church, parents and godparents promise to be responsible for seeing that the child they present is “brought up in the Christian faith and life” (BCP p. 302). This Parish Life catalog is designed to help families live into that commitment. It will help families find the balance of worship, study and service that mark authentic Christian living.

Families are also encouraged to regularly refer to the **St. Paul’s Christian Education Guidelines and Standards** which were developed in 2005 and provide a helpful framework for families as they seek to raise children in the basics of the Christian faith.

The St. Paul’s Christian Education Guidelines and Standards can be found at www.stpaulsdelray.org. Click on Children, Youth & Families. You may also contact the Church Office and request a hard copy by calling the office at 276-4541.

The Youth and Family Institute’s Ministry Model for Living a Vibrant Faith

Over the years, St. Paul’s has worked closely with the Bloomington, Minnesota based Youth and Family Institute which has emphasized the partnership of the congregation and home. The mission of The Youth and Family Institute “is to help strengthen congregations, families and individuals by equipping them to live a vibrant faith in Jesus Christ.” In order to accomplish this, The Youth and Family Institute developed the 6-5-4-3 *Vibrant Faith Model* which has been adopted by St. Paul’s for use by the congregation and in the homes of parish families.

6-5-4-3 Vibrant Faith Model

6 Relationships for Shaping Faith

- 1. Children and youth***, recognized and empowered as disciples of Jesus Christ, use their God-given gifts in purposeful ministry.
- 2. Families*** are equipped and strengthened by their congregation to be the primary nurturers of faith.
- 3. Congregations*** are safe, inclusive, welcoming and nurturing for all children, youth, and adults as they live out their faith in the midst of community and the larger world.
- 4. Christians*** live their faith daily, experiencing Christ in **Community**, learning from, as well as serving, the needs of community.
- 5. Children, youth and adults*** experience God’s presence, learning from people from a variety of **Cultures**, while being part of God’s transformational work within culture.
- 6. Christians*** live in harmony with **Creation**, recognizing, receiving, celebrating, and caring for God’s handiwork.

5 Principles for Passing on Faith

- 1. Faith is formed by the power of the Holy Spirit through personal, trusted relationships -- often in our own homes.*
- 2. The church is a living partnership between the ministry of the congregation and ministry of the home.*
- 3. Where Christ is present in faith, the home is church, too.*
- 4. Faith is caught more than it is taught.*
- 5. If we want Christian children and youth, we need Christian adults.*

4 Keys for Practicing Faith

- 1. **Caring Conversations:** Christian faith and values are passed on to the next generation through regular, supportive conversation during which the really important matters of life are discussed.*
- 2. **Devotions:** Reading the Bible and engaging in regular prayer and devotions helps us find ourselves in God's story and God in our stories.*
- 3. **Service:** Regular participation in service is an important way to live the Christian life and has enormous influence in forming children, youth and adults in Christian faith and values.*
- 4. **Rituals and traditions:** Families identify themselves, tell their family stories and convey their values through daily routines, celebrations and rituals.*

3 Characteristics of Christian Disciples

- 1. Authentic*
- 2. Available*
- 3. Affirming*

“Ready Click Grow Your Faith”

ReadyClickGrow! is an easy-to-use, web-based resource offered by The Youth and Family Institute that everyone can use. A link to *Ready Click Grow Your Family* and *Ready, Click, Grow Your Faith* can be found on the St. Paul's web site <http://www.stpaulsdelray.org> on the Children, Youth and Family Ministries page, click “Resources.” The entire family can have FREE access to pages and pages of faith-growing ideas and activities, anytime day or night. On this site you will find faith-growing activities for parents and children in the home such as:

- Bible ‘n’ Life - Activities that bring the Bible to life for your family
- Faith Sparkers - Ideas to grow your family's relationship with God
- Talk Teasers - Dozens of intriguing ways to get your family talking
- Memory Makers - Ideas you can use to create strong, positive family memories
- Special Topics - TV, chores, drugs, sexuality - Creative, effective ways to get your family talking about even the most challenging issues

Nursery and Child Care

Nursery care is available in the Children's Cottage for our "Littlest Members" during all major worship services (Saturday evening and Sunday mornings). Toddler care includes early experiences of faith formation using Bible story-telling and music.

Nursery care is also available by reservation during our many different Adult Formation classes, Bible Studies and activities throughout the week. If you are interested in participating in a class or event at St. Paul's during the week and desire nursery care or child care at the Church, please call Susan Stokes in advance at 276-4541.

For Children and Youth

Children's Chapel

Using a captivating multi-media approach, Children's Chapel offers young children in preschool through grade 4 the "Liturgy of the Word" at an age-appropriate level. Stories from the Bible, usually corresponding to those being read during the primary worship service, are explored using images and songs that teach and delight young children. Children are also taught about the traditions of the Episcopal Church. Following Children's Chapel, the children join their families and the rest of the church in the main sanctuary for the Holy Eucharist. *Children should arrive for Children's Chapel at 9:25 a.m.* This allows parents who wish to go to the 9:30 a.m. service to be seated in the sanctuary prior to the beginning of the service. Children's Chapel is a part of the worship experience for young children and is not intended to serve as a substitute for Church School.

Church School

Church School classes begin on September 20, 2009 and end on May 16, 2010.

Time: Students and Church School teachers are dismissed *during the last hymn* at the 9:30 AM service (approximately 10:40 AM). Church School ends each Sunday at 11:30 AM.

Please note that there will be no classes on the following dates:

December 27, 2010 - The Sunday following Christmas

January 31, 2010 - St. Paul's Annual Parish Meeting (Activities for children are planned)

April 4, 2010 - Easter Day

May 9, 2010 - Mother's Day

Children and infants up to grade 3 meet in the Children's Cottage.
Children and Youth in Grades 4-12 meet in the upstairs Youth Center.

Church School for Primary Age Students Grades Pre-K through 6

The curriculum being used for **Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten** classes is called **Godly Play**. According to Episcopal priest Jerome Berryman, who developed the program following, “the goal of Godly Play is to teach children using religious language-parable, sacred story, silence, and liturgical action - to help them become more aware of the mystery of God’s presence in their lives.” Many of the stories and parables used in the Godly Play curriculum are those in the St. Paul’s Christian Education Standards deemed foundational for children.

Grades 1- 6

The Episcopal Children’s Curriculum (E.C.C.) was developed by Episcopalians for Episcopalians. It is designed to enrich the spiritual lives of children, using imaginative storytelling and the richness of Episcopal liturgy and tradition.

In addition to exploring the Bible, children will also discover the traditions of the Episcopal Church and the richness of the Church year with its many observances and celebrations.

This curriculum fits well with both the *6-5-4-3 Vibrant Faith Model* used at St. Paul’s and with guidelines set forth for children in the St. Paul’s Christian Education Guidelines and Standards.

Vacation Bible School

Director: Susan Stokes

Date: June 7 – 11, 2010

Time: 8:45 A.M. to 12 noon

Location: The entire St. Paul’s Campus!

Please sign up early because we always run out of space!

This is appropriate for children age 4 years olds who have completed one year of Pre-k through children age 10

In the summer of 2010, we will introduce a pre-teen group!

Teenagers and adults are also needed as volunteers!

Youth Ministries

Exciting ministry for, by and with teenagers and young adults is happening at St. Paul’s. The Rector, Wardens and Vestry are committed to the youth of the church, providing ministries and programs that meet their particular needs. St. Paul’s recognizes that our young people are a vital part of the living church.

Journey to Adulthood

We use the nationally renowned *Journey to Adulthood* program. The program is divided into three sections:

- **Rite 13** for students who will reach their 13th birthday within two years of beginning the program (approximately grades 6 and 7);
- **J2A** (Journey to Adulthood) for student who have completed two years of Rite 13 or who are 14 or older in grades 8 or 9;
- **YAC** (Young Adults in Community) for students who have completed J2A or who usually are in grades 11 and higher.

These programs are designed to provide a liturgical frame for the experience of young people in our modern culture as they journey through the different passages of their lives, to celebrate their individuality and their creative potential and, finally, to instruct them in the skills necessary for their adult participation in the Church community and in society as a whole. In addition, social and mission activities will be planned for each group during the year.

Usually during the first year of the **J2A** program, young people experience a weekend “Urban Adventure” where they explore a major city, have fun together and learn a variety of life and interpersonal skills. The past four Urban Adventures have been to New York City.

During the second year of **J2A**, young people in the program generally make a major faith pilgrimage. Past pilgrimages have been to Canterbury Cathedral in England and to Iona Abbey in Scotland. Pilgrimages have a significant impact on the faith formation of our young people. The Church contributes 1/3 of the cost of this trip; the young people raise 1/3 and families pay 1/3. Scholarships are always available for those who need additional financial assistance.

By the time they reach the **YAC** level, these young adults should be fully participating in the life and leadership of the church. Typically YAC members serve as youth members of the Vestry, help lead worship and serve in a variety of ways. YAC members will also be invited to participate in a mission trip to a foreign country.

Young people in all youth groups are expected to be regular in their attendance at worship, classes and program activities including full participation in all fund-raising events which help support all aspects of the youth ministry program

Children, Youth and Family Mission and Outreach

Advent Wreath Workshop

Sunday, November 29, 2009

The Advent Wreath Workshop is an inter-generational activity that allows individuals and families to design an Advent Wreath for use in the home during the four weeks of Advent. This activity supports three of the Four Keys of the Youth and Family Institute: Caring Conversations, Worship and Devotions and Rituals and Traditions.

Collecting Coins in Advent and Lent

Many of us don't know how much loose change we have in our pockets or purses.

During these Holy Seasons the children of the parish will be collecting loose change for children's ministries in our community.

Operation Teddy Bear

We will be collecting new Teddy Bears for Bethesda Hospital's Pediatric Unit. Teddy Bears bring comfort to children facing surgery in the hospital.

Christmas Cookie Ministry

The children will bake cookies in December to bring to an area nursing home.

St. Paul's College Ministry

College students are invited to join together to share a meal, discuss what's going on in their lives and explore areas of life and faith that are important to them. There will be social and service activities planned throughout the year. In addition, it is expected that College Ministry participants will be part of a local or overseas mission event. St. Paul's College Ministry is open to students who reside locally and to those who are away at school. Events are planned for both categories of students.

Music Ministries for Children, Youth and Families

ST. PAUL'S CHOIR

Director: Dr. Keith Paulson-Thorp

Rehearsals: Thursdays, 7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Location: Music Room

The principal parish choir sings weekly at the 9:30 AM Sunday liturgy, warming up in the choir room one hour prior to the service. The choir is open to everyone in the community; no audition is required. Music reading skills are helpful, but not required, and can be gained and improved through regular attendance.

The choir's repertoire spans the gamut from medieval chants to Renaissance motets, anthems by the great English masters, and works of recent composition. Rehearsals focus intensively on vocal technique, musical interpretation, liturgical importance of the music, etc. The choir is a wonderful way not only to minister to the parish in a unique manner, but to enrich one's own understanding and experience of the liturgy.

JUBILATE YOUTH CHOIR

Director: Dr. Keith Paulson Thorp

Rehearsals: Ages 5-12: Tuesdays, 4:45 p.m.–5:30 p.m.

Location: Music Room

Children learn basic music reading skills and good vocal production following the guidelines of the Royal School of Church Music *Voice for Life* program. They are instructed on the role of music in the liturgy and how they can more fully understand and participate in the church's life. Parents are needed to assist in monitoring the rehearsals. The children sing several times per season at liturgy, including Christmas Eve and Mother's Day.

INSTRUMENTAL OPPORTUNITIES

Director: Dr. Keith Paulson-Thorp

Times: By arrangement

Location: Music Room

Instruments are used at various times throughout the year to embellish the liturgies at St. Paul's. Anyone in the parish who would like to contribute to the music program by playing an instrument in the liturgy is encouraged to contact the Music Director. We will find a way for you to use your abilities!

ST. PAUL'S MUSIC GUILD

Director: Dr. Keith Paulson-Thorp

Meetings: Second Monday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

Location: Music Room

Concerts: Monthly, usually the third Sunday of the month

The St. Paul's Music Guild oversees the parish concert series, an outreach program to the greater Delray Beach community, now in its twenty-second season. The committee works with the Director of Music to select and contract performers, oversee publicity and advertising sales, plan fundraising events, and organize hospitality for monthly concerts. Energetic and imaginative new members are welcome.

Faith Offerings for Adults

At St. Paul's we offer a wide variety of adult Christian education courses that range in time commitment from just one or two sessions to as many as 30 sessions. These take place on Sunday mornings and during the week. There is certainly something to meet your needs!

Foundations for Faith

*(All members of the parish are encouraged
to take this course at least once)*

This course will be offered three times during the year: *Fall, Winter and Spring*

Leaders: The Reverend William H. Stokes, Rector
and The Reverend Kathleen P. Gannon, Curate

Class Time: 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Location: Parish Hall

Fall Session: 8 Tuesday evening sessions
October 6, 13, 20, 27; November 3, 10, 17, 24

Winter Session: 8 Tuesday evening sessions
January 5, 12, 19, 26; February 2, 9, 23; March 2

Spring Session: 8 Tuesday evening sessions
April 6, 13, 20, 27; May 4, 11, 18, 25

Through videos and lectures this course will survey Christian faith and worship as experienced in the Episcopal Church from its apostolic roots to today and explore meaningful ways in which the Christian faith and living may be expressed by adults in the contemporary world.

Foundations for Faith is especially appropriate as adult preparation for:

- **Confirmation** if they have never been confirmed by a Bishop in Apostolic Succession.
- **Reception** as members into the Episcopal Church if they have previously been confirmed by a Bishop in some other Christian denomination.
- **Reaffirmation of their Baptismal Vows** if they have been previously baptized and confirmed in the Episcopal Church. This last option may be especially attractive for those persons who were confirmed in their early teenage years and feel they did not fully understand the implications of their confirmation.

Note: Youth members of St. Paul's who have taken a faith pilgrimage and who are at least 16 years old are invited to take the Foundations Course as preparation for Confirmation.

Bible Studies

An Introduction to the Bible: The Old Testament

Leader: The Reverend William H. Stokes
15 Tuesday Evenings

October 6, 13, 20, 27; November 3, 10, 17, 24; December 1, 8, 15; January 5, 12, 19, 26
7:15 – 8:30 p.m.

Location: Parish Hall

(A minimum of 10 students is required)

*Child Care Available upon request

A favorite course at St. Paul's, this is an introductory survey of the Old Testament from Genesis through the Prophets using the well known and highly regarded *Kerygma Program*. A rich resource that invites adults into a new adventure of learning and growth, *Kerygma: Discovering the Bible*, explores people, events, biblical ideas and places through a process of reading, reflection, discussion, creative expression and discovery. Materials cost: \$30 per person.

An Introduction to the Bible: The New Testament

Leader: The Reverend William H. Stokes
15 Tuesday Evenings
February 2, 9, 16, 23; March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; April 6, 13; May 4, 11, 18, 25
7:15 – 8:30 p.m.
Location: Parish Hall
(A minimum of 10 students is required)
*Child Care Available upon request

An introductory survey of the New Testament from Matthew, Mark, Luke and John to the Book of Revelation using the well known and highly regarded *Kerygma Program*. A rich resource that invites adults into a new adventure of learning and growth, *Kerygma: Discovering the Bible*, explores people, events, biblical ideas and places through a process of reading, reflection, discussion, creative expression and discovery. Materials cost: \$30 per person.

The Bible in Depth

Fall 2009

From Judges to Kings: The Birth of a Nation A Study of 1 and 2 Samuel

Leader: The Reverend William H. Stokes
14 Sessions
October 8, 15, 22, 29; November 5, 12, 19; December 3, 10, 17; January 7, 14, 21, 28
Thursday Mornings 10:30 a.m. – Noon
Thursday Evenings: 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
(Child Care Available upon request for either session)
Location: Parish Hall
A minimum of 10 students is required for each group.

This course will trace the story of the Israelites and their transition from a wandering tribal people under the leadership of Judges to their place as a nation/state with a royal monarchy. Here are found the narratives of some of the great figures of the Old Testament including Samuel, Saul, David and Solomon.

Required Texts: available in the Canterbury Bookstore.

- Workbook: *Genesis to Revelation Series: 1 and 2 Samuel* by Frank Johnson (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1997) The cost is \$10.
- A good study Bible. *The Oxford Annotated Bible (NRSV) Study Edition* is recommended. The cost is \$50.

Optional Text: *Interpretation: First and Second Samuel* by Walter Brueggemann (Louisville: John Knox Press, 1990) and can also be purchased in the Canterbury Bookstore of St. Paul's.

Winter/Spring 2010
Apostle to the Gentiles:
A Study of Paul's Writings

Leader: The Reverend William H. Stokes
13 Sessions - February 4, 11, 18, 25; March 4, 11, 18, 25; April 8, 15; May 6, 13, 20
Choice of Morning or Evening Study Group:
Thursday Mornings 10:30 a.m. – Noon
Thursday Evenings: 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
(Child Care Available upon request for either sessions)

Location: Parish Hall
A minimum of 10 students is required for each group

With the exception of Jesus Christ himself, no single figure is more important in the growth of the Christian Church than the apostle Paul of Tarsus. By his own admission, he was a violent persecutor of the Church of God and zealous for the traditions of his ancestors. But Paul was called by God to be an apostle to the Gentiles, and Paul proclaimed the Good News of Jesus Christ throughout Greece and Asia Minor, establishing new churches in many of the places he visited. Today, the oldest parts of the New Testament are Paul's letters to these churches he established. During the course of this 13 week study, participants will study Paul's correspondence with the churches in Corinth, Galatia, Ephesus, Philippi, Thessalonica and Ephesus.

Required Texts: available in the Canterbury Bookstore of St. Paul's.

- *Genesis to Revelation: 1 and 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians* by Edward P. Blair (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1997) The cost is \$10.
- *Genesis to Revelation: Philippians, Colossians, 1 and 2 Thessalonians, 1 and 2 Timothy, Philemon* by Dr. Van Bogard Gunn (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1997) The cost is \$10.
- A good study Bible. *The Oxford Annotated Bible (NRSV) Study Edition* is recommended. The cost is \$50.

Special Offering

In the Steps of Paul: A Pilgrimage to Greece and Turkey

Led by: The Reverend William and Susan Stokes
April 18 – May 1, 2010

The journey begins in Athens and the Areopagus where Paul made his famous "Men of Athens" speech and continues on to the ancient cities of Philippi and Troy. Pilgrims will cross into Turkey to see Ephesus, one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. The journey will end in Istanbul where participants will visit the Blue Mosque and Hagia Sophia Church. Pilgrimage cost of \$3,197.00 per person includes airfares, two meals most days, hotel accommodations and admission cost to sites. Please call the Church Office for additional information. ***Deposits requested by November 1, 2009. Final total payment required by January 15, 2010.***

Christianity and Chinese Religions

Instructor: Ruth Hayhoe, Ph.D.

6 Sessions plus a visit to the Morikami Museum

Session Dates: January 4, 11, 18, 25; February 1 and 8, 2010

Monday evenings – 7:00 – 8:30 PM

(Child Care Available upon request)

Location: Parish Hall

This class will begin with an overview of Christianity in China, from 635 AD when it was first introduced by the Eastern Christian monk, Alopen, up to the present time. This class will explore how Christianity's development related to the parallel development of Buddhism, Taoism and Confucianism in Chinese history. We will also discuss Christianity in contemporary China.

For the second session, participants will view the video "Confucius: Words of Wisdom" (50 minutes) from A&E, and familiarize themselves with the 5th century BC in China, a period known as the Axial Age in Comparative Religion. The life story of Confucius and his major teachings are presented, with commentary by such renowned Confucian scholars as Julia Ching, Roger Ames and Tu Wei-ming.

For the third session, participants will discuss Chapter Two of the *Analects of Confucius*, looking at similarities and differences between Confucius' teaching and that of Christ in Matthew's Gospel. Comparisons will be made between the way Confucius' disciples wrote his story, and that of the four Gospels. We will also consider why the Jesuits saw Confucianism as a precursor of the Christian Gospel.

The fourth session will feature a discussion of the life and work of Lao Zi, the founder of Daoism. Participants will engage in some comparative reading of the "Classic of the Way" and the Gospel of John.

The fifth session will include a brief overview of the development of Buddhism, and its reception and transformation in China. Excerpts from *The Lotus of the Wonderful Law* will be read and discussed, in comparison with the Gospel of Luke.

For the sixth session, there will be a discussion of two of the Jesus sutras, *The Sutra of the Teaching of the World-Honored One*, translated from Syrian into Chinese in 641 AD, and *The Sutra of the Returning to your Original Nature*, a Chinese Christian liturgical text written by the Chinese monk, Jing Jing, around 790 AD. These are authentic Christian texts which adopt Confucian, Daoist and Buddhist forms of expression.

Each week, class members will be given about five passages of text to read and reflect on, making comparisons with the Gospels. Discussions about these texts will take place the week following their distribution.

After the last class, a trip to the Morikami Museum will be organized with Japanese theologian Masao Takenaka's book, *When the Bamboo Bends*, as a companion and stimulus to understand the spiritual lessons of the gardens.

Education for Ministry

Education for Ministry (E.F.M.) is an extension program of the School of Theology of the University of the South. EFM is a parish-based program led by certified mentors who lead participants in an in depth four-year course of theological reflection. Participants will explore the Bible, Theology, Church History and other disciplines of the Christian faith and knowledge using superb materials developed by the theological staff of the University of the South. EFM sessions begin the fall. Tuition is \$340.00 per year. For additional information, please call the church office (561) 276-4541 or e-mail Susan Stokes (sams58@aol.com) Laura Boyer (boyerlaura@mac.com)

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Leader(s): Members of the Preaching Staff

Tuesday Mornings: 7:15 a.m. – 7:55 a.m.

Beginning September 6, 2009–

Location: Guild Room

Join the scheduled preacher and explore the biblical texts for the upcoming week. What is the historical or critical background of the text? What do you think the Scripture is saying? What do you think should be included in the sermon? This Bible Study provides you with an opportunity learn, as well as to have your say and, perhaps, help shape Sunday's sermon.

Special Mini-Series

Special Offerings for Advent and Lent

Walking the Labyrinth in Advent and in Lent

Leader: Dr. Gail Chewning

Location: The James L. Duncan Center

Dates: to be announced

All are welcome to join in this unique prayer walk. This spiritual experience is an ancient method of “walking meditation” by means of a spiritual path which leads the pilgrim to its center, symbolizing the search for God within us. Within the Christian tradition, labyrinths became popular during medieval times when pilgrimages to the Holy Land were dangerous. As a spiritual discipline, the faithful set out on such pilgrimages to designated cathedrals where labyrinths were often referred to as “journeys to Jerusalem.”

This spiritual exercise is reflective of our personal journey, twisting and turning, inward toward the Divine Mystery and outward toward the world. We enter the labyrinth without expectations and allow the experience to unfold.

Special Wednesday Series for Lent

The Christian Spiritual Tradition: Exploring the Lives and Spiritual Ideas of 5 Spiritual Giants

Leader: The Reverend William H. Stokes
5 Wednesdays in Lent February 13, 20, 27; March 5, 12
(Begins with Lenten Soup Supper at 6:30 PM.)
7:00 PM - 8:30

During this five week series, participants will learn about the lives and explore the key spiritual ideas/insights of 5 major figures from the Christian spiritual tradition. Included will be an introduction to the life and work of *St. Benedict of Nursia; St. Catherine of Sienna; St. John of the Cross; St. Theresa of Avila and St. Bonaventure.*

Advent Book Discussion for Women

Facilitators: Susan Stokes and Sherry Fleming
4 Wednesday mornings – November 26; December 3, 10, 17
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Location: Bush Hall

During the hectic pre-Christmas shopping season, this special book study invites women to slow down, be Christ-centered, and engage in a meaningful spiritual conversation. During Advent 2009, we will be reading and discussing *Songs in Waiting: Spiritual Reflections on Christ's Birth – A Celebration of Middle Eastern Canticles.* In this lovely, short book, Paul Gordon-Chandler, an American Episcopal priest who grew up in Senegal, West Africa, and who has lived and worked extensively throughout the Islamic world with churches, religious publishing groups, and relief and development agencies, allows these experiences to shape his rich reflections on 4 biblical canticles: The Song of Mary (the Magnificat), the Song of Zecharias (the Benedictus), the Song of the Angels (the Gloria) and the Song of Simeon (the Nunc Dimitis).

Required Book: may be purchased from the Canterbury Book Store of St. Paul's Chandler, Paul Gordon *Songs in Waiting: Spiritual Reflections on Christ's Birth* (New York, etc: Morehouse Publishing, 2009). The cost is \$20.

Lenten Book Discussion for Women

Facilitators: Susan Stokes and Sherry Fleming
6 Wednesday mornings during Lent 2010
February 24; March 2, 10, 17, 24, 31
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Location: Bush Hall

Book selection to be announced...

Good Friday Three- Hour Service Meditations on the Last Words of Christ

Friday, April 2, 2010

Time: Noon – 3:00 P.M.

Preacher to be announced

Easter and the Resurrection cannot be adequately understood apart from Good Friday and the Passion. St. Paul's provides an opportunity for faithful Christians to take time for solemn prayer and meditation on Good Friday by offering a three hour service that includes the singing of the Good Friday Passion, traditional Good Friday hymns, a sermon and meditations on the Last Words of Christ.

Spiritual Gifts: Discovering God's Vision for Your life

Leader: The Reverend Kathleen Gannon.

Each workshop meets twice:

December 1 and 3, 2009 March 16 and 23, 2010 June 1 and 3, 2010

Spiritual gifts are described as unique endowments of the Holy Spirit, generously shared with Christians in community for building up the body of Christ in practical ways. Many of us are accustomed to identifying our secular and job related gifts and skills; discovering spiritual gifts adds a new dimension and measure to our understanding of what we are called to do.

We will use *Hauck Spiritual Gifts Inventory* to determine which of those gifts we have. This inventory measures 20 spiritual gifts that are mentioned in Romans 12:6-8; I Corinthians 12:8-10; I Corinthians; 12:28-30 and Ephesians 4:11.

Stephen Ministry Training

Leader: Meta Barton

Sessions on Tuesday and Thursday mornings beginning November 5, 2009

Time: 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Location: Guild Room

Stephen Ministry is a program that equips lay persons to provide distinctively Christian one-to-one care to those who are experiencing all kinds of life crises and circumstances, both in our congregation and the community.

This 20-week course will provide 50 hours of training in caring ministry skills and concepts. Compassionate care in the context of a confidential relationship is the foundation of Stephen Ministry. Stephen Ministers are commissioned after their initial training and will continue to receive regular support and supervision as they work with their care receivers. To find out more about this healing ministry, or to apply to become a Stephen Minister, please contact The Rector at the church office, 276-4541.

MOMS: The Ministry of Mothers Sharing

Led by: Mary Herin and Susan Stokes.

Starts Thursday, **September 10** at 9:00 a.m.

Eight weekly sessions will be offered two times a year with topics designed especially for mothers...some very practical sharing of experiences and wisdom! MOMS group - the "Ministry of Mothers Sharing" is a nationally known program that invites mothers into community, a place to share, learn and grown spiritually. This is for mothers of all ages!

Small Group Opportunities at St. Paul's Church

Women's Sacred Circles

A group of women meet to pray, explore, create and grow spiritually. With book studies and conversations throughout the year, this will nurture your spirit and bless your journey. Patsy Westall leads this evening group.

St. Matthew's – St. Paul's Storytellers Troupe

People of both parishes come together to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest passages of scripture which they present at worship services, a special events and suppers. Last year this group presented all of the scripture at the jointly celebrated Easter Vigil.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

A group that comes together on Tuesdays at 9:30am at St. Paul's to pray and knit – or crochet – prayer shawls. These lovely shawls are made by hand and with prayer and given to those in need of prayer. Prayerful knitting is a ministry that can be done from home or anywhere!

Senior Singles

If you are single and over fifty, this group will give you the chance to meet others and make new friends in the St. Paul's community through activities, social outings and service projects.

Interest or Affinity Groups

Groups formed around a book, a topic or an event. Are you interested in a particular book of the Bible? The theological aspects of the #1 bestseller? Yoga? Taize music? These groups can meet for 4 to 8 weeks and choose the topic.

House Church

St. Paul's would like to partner with you in forming a "House Church." House Church provides and opportunity for those who participate to get together once a month for an informal Eucharist and meal. House Church groups are a great way to invite friends and neighbors into the St. Paul's Church community. If you are interested in forming a house church group to invite friends and neighbors, please call Susan Stokes at the church office.

Caring Couples

Leaders: Chip and Susan Stokes
Beginning Friday, October 2, 2009
(meets the first Friday of every month)

Time: 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Location: Parish Hall

Married couples and others in committed couple relationships are invited to this series of Friday night get-togethers designed to support couples in their own nurture and care. Couple Care evenings will feature “caring conversations,” topical presentations or social events – some serious, some fun – and coffee, tea and delicious desserts! We invite you put the care of yourself and the person you love high on your “to do” list this year and join in this time of refreshment, fun and being together as couples.

Organizations and Ministries of St. Paul’s

St. Catherine of Siena Chapter of the DOK

The **Order of the Daughters of the King (DOK)** is a religious order of Episcopal women who center their lives around their vows of prayer, service and evangelism. The ways these vows are lived out by individual Daughters are as varied as the spiritual gifts and life circumstances of each, but there are Daughters involved in virtually every ministry and activity St. Paul’s offers. At St. Paul’s, those Daughters whose schedules permit, meet on Saturday mornings in Bush Hall at 9 for about half an hour of group prayer and fellowship. Several times a year, the Daughters also have a general meeting to plan service projects, worship and study together, and to enjoy each other’s company. The Order offers a sense of community which fosters spiritual development and growth in the members’ service to their church. Women interested in becoming Daughters of the King undergo a three-month discernment period of training and prayer under the direction of an experienced Daughter.

If you would like more information about the Daughters of the King, please contact Patti Daniell in the church office at 276-4541

Cursillo

Parish Representative – Mary Herin

Cursillo is a movement of the church. Its purpose is to help those in the church understand their individual callings to be Christian Leaders. The leadership may be exercised in work situations, in the family and social life, in leisure activities, and within the Church environment Cursillo accomplishes this through a three-day weekend that brings together a diverse group of Episcopalians to share the richness of many modes of worship and to broaden each one's appreciation for our Church. Lay people conduct the weekend with two or three members of the clergy functioning as spiritual advisors.

Cursillo presumes that those who attend are already well grounded in the faith. It is not intended to be a conversion experience but an enriching and deepening of what is already

there. It often provides new insights into our faith as well as fostering ministry among lay people.

The weekend begins Thursday evening spent in the Chapel with meditations, discussions, and Compline. Then blessed silence is kept until after the worship on Friday morning. After breakfast participants are assigned to table groups for the weekend. The three days are filled with talks and group discussions with emphasis on the doctrine of Grace, the Sacraments, and the great Cursillo tripod: Piety, Study, and Action. Plus there is fellowship, singing, good food, and time for privacy, meditation, prayer, and walks. Eucharist is celebrated each day. A significant teaching of Cursillo is the “Fourth Day” which is the Christian life lived after the three day weekend.

If you are interested in knowing more about Cursillo, please speak to Mary Herin or any member of St. Paul’s who has participated in a weekend.

Shared Ministry with St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church

St. Matthew’s and St. Paul’s are the two Episcopal Churches in Delray Beach. Founded in 1911, St. Matthew’s is a historic black church established by Bahamian families that settled in Delray Beach in the early part of the 20th century. St. Matthew’s is located on 3rd Street and Fourth Avenue within easy walking distance of St. Paul’s. The existence of two separate churches in such close proximity can be traced to the practice of segregation, not only in the South, but throughout the United States. Today, the two churches each claim their own rich histories and offer worship that is unique to each particular culture. We look for ways to build bridges and share a common witness to Christ in Delray Beach even as we honor the distinct life of each church. Following are some ways in which this shared ministry is given concrete expression:

- **Martin Luther King, Jr Day** events in Delray Beach: Members of St. Matthew’s and St. Paul’s walk together in the community walk and attend the rally and church services associated with the weekend.
- **Stations of the Cross on Good Friday:** Members of St. Matthew’s and St. Paul’s walk Stations of the Cross together. Each of the 14 stations is placed along a route between the two churches. The Stations begin at St. Matthew’s and end in the Columbarium at St. Paul’s
- **Black History Month** – Special events are planned to commemorate Black History which is an integral part of the history we all share.
- **Congregational and Pulpit Exchanges** - Throughout the year, members of St. Paul’s and members of St. Matthew’s are invited and encouraged to attend services in one another’s churches. Readers from each church are assigned to read in the church of the other. Celebrants and preachers will exchange churches on scheduled weekends. It is a great opportunity to share in witness and fellowship.
- **Biblical Story Tellers Group** People of both parishes come together to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest passages of scripture which they present at worship services, a special events and suppers. Last year this group presented all of the scripture at the jointly celebrated Easter Vigil.

Mission and Service Opportunities at St. Paul's Church

Paul's Place: *St. Paul's After-School Program*

Contact: Director Kathy Fazio 276-4541

Paul's Place was begun as a ministry of St. Paul's Church in 2001 to serve the needs of at-risk, mostly Haitian-American children who live in the immediate community surrounding the church. Each day, more than 20 neighborhood kids come to St. Paul's for tutoring, a meal, to work on social skills and to be nurtured and cared for in a loving Christian environment. Paul's Place has a full-time paid director and a part-time assistant and a part time social worker on staff. Volunteers in a wide range of areas are always needed.

Turnover Shop: *a quality resale shop*

Contact: Turnover Shop Manager Shelly Seales at 276-2073.

We invite you serve the community in our downtown thrift shop, The Turnover Shop, located at 10 NE 5th Avenue. Money raised by the Turnover Shop goes to outreach in the community and to support the mission and ministries of the church. A few hours a week, a few hours a month, all volunteers are welcome. Sorting, pricing, cleaning, selling are the hands-on tasks...but working with the other wonderful volunteers and the shoppers is a great blessing.

This year a special event – a fabulous rummage sale will be offered in February 2010. The event will also feature the return of 'The Tiffany Room' a tradition of collecting and selling valuable, classic items to raise funds for outreach. Start saving your treasures now! And, many volunteers needed.

Family Promise: *servicing homeless families*

St. Paul's is a host congregation in the local interfaith hospitality network of Family Promise. Believing that every child deserves a home, Family Promise exists to provide temporary shelter for homeless families in South Palm Beach County so that they can achieve lasting independence. Volunteers are trained and serve in shifts during the five weeks each year that St. Paul's hosts the up to four families that are enrolled in the program. Volunteers host, cook, set up, clean up, talk, study and play outside with our guests. To sign up go to familypromisespbc.org or contact one of the coordinators: Nancy Armstrong, Pat Southworth, Catherine Hinds and Zee Bissell through the church office at 276-4541.

The Haiti Partnership: *Bondeau, Haiti*

St. Paul's has joined forces with St. Gregory's Episcopal Church in Boca Raton, Holy Spirit Episcopal Church in West Palm Beach and Toussaint L'ouverture High School for Social Justice and the Arts in Boynton Beach in a partnership to serve the people of St. Mary Madeleine in Bondeau, Haiti. St Gregory's built the school and maintains the funding for the teachers. St. Paul's provides meals daily for the nearly 200 students in the school. In addition, projects are underway to bring clean water, electricity, and sanitation to the people. On the last mission trip, trees were planted and a full needs assessment completed. Stay tuned and watch for many ways to help on this important project.

I Want To Learn English: *using technology*

Coaches trained at St. Paul's are linked over the internet with students at the language labs in Honduras. Contact founder and parish member Christina Drouin to discover ways you can help this ministry to grow!

CROS Ministries: *servicing our local community*

Partnering with CROS (Christians Reaching Out to Society) we support their projects (Community Food Pantry, Caring Kitchen Soup Kitchen, C.R.O.S. Walk, and C.R.O.S. Camps) with funding, volunteers and full participation in their outreach to our community. Contact CROS board and parish members Joyce and Bill Harvey.

Other outreach partnerships include:

Literacy Program: Volunteers are needed for the local program to re-establish our literacy program helping people to read and learn English here in Delray Beach.

Kairos Prison Ministry: A faith based weekend ministry conducted in a prison setting for both men and women.

Community Ministries: Reaching out and partnering with various faith-based and service-oriented organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, Delray Beach Interfaith Clergy Association, AVDA (Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse).

Mission Opportunities

St. Paul's provides financial support as well as mission based initiatives to ministries outside of our borders. Including

- Haiti: serving St. Mary Madeleine in Bondeau, Haiti.
- Honduras: serving Our Little Roses in San Pedro Sula.
- Madagascar: serving the mission of Bishop Todd and The Rev. Patsy McGregor in the Diocese of Tulear.

Watch for ways to support our mission teams: prayer, coordinating travel, fundraising and raising materials and items to send or bring. Discern whether you are called to "go" or "send!"

Mission Trips Planned:

- To New Orleans: October 18, 2009 – October 25, 2009 – The city of New Orleans is still devastated by the effects of Hurricane Katrina. This mission trip will allow participants to join Episcopal Church efforts to rebuild homes of those who lost them as a result of the storm. Work will take place in the 9th Ward which was especially hard hit.
- To: St. Mary Madeleine in Bondeau, Haiti – dates to be announced

Some highlights of the Life and Spirit at St. Paul's

Meals shared together

Homecoming Picnic and Church School – Sunday, September 6, 2009
All Saints Service and Picnic with St. Matthew's - Sunday, November 1, 2009
Festive Meal – Sunday, January 31, 2010
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper - Tuesday, February 16, 2010
Maundy Thursday Soup Supper - Thursday, April 1, 2010
Pentecost Service and Picnic with St. Matthew's - Sunday, May 23, 2010

Annual Meeting – *Conversion of St. Paul*

(McCarty's Wildlife will provide an activity for the children of the parish)
Sunday, January 31, 2010

Events for our younger members

A Reading of *The Night Before Christmas* by The Rector, Sunday, December 20, 2009
Easter Egg Hunt – Saturday, April 3, 2010

Intergenerational Events

C.R.O.S. Walk (to fight hunger locally) – October 11, 2009
Advent Wreath Workshop – Sunday, November 29, 2009
“Race for the Cure” to fight Breast Cancer – January 30, 2010

Pilgrimage in the Steps of St. Paul to Greece and Turkey

April 18 – May 1, 2010

Mission Trip

To New Orleans
October 18, 2009 – October 25, 2009

Music at St. Paul's Concerts featuring the St. Paul's Choir

Festival of Lessons and Carols – Sunday, December 20, 2009 at 3pm
Songs of Life and Death - Sunday, March 14, 2009 at 4pm



THE CHARTER FOR LIFELONG CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Lifelong Christian formation in The Episcopal Church
Is growth in the knowledge, service and love of God as followers
of Christ and is informed by Scripture, Tradition and Reason.

I have called you friends... JOHN 15:14-16

THROUGH THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, GOD INVITES ALL PEOPLE:

- ❖ Into a prayerful life of worship, continuous learning, intentional outreach, advocacy and service.
- ❖ To hear the Word of God, to honor church teachings, and continually to embrace the joy of Baptism and Eucharist, spreading the Good News of the risen Christ and ministering to all.
- ❖ To respond to the needs of our constantly changing communities, as Jesus calls us, in ways that reflect our diversity and cultures as we seek, wonder and discover together.
- ❖ To hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people, placing ourselves in the stories of our faith, thereby empowering us to proclaim the Gospel message.

...You did not choose me,
but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit... JOHN 15:14-16

THROUGH THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, GOD INSPIRES ALL PEOPLE:

- ❖ To experience Anglican liturgy, which draws us closer to God, helps us discern God's will and encourages us to share our faith journeys.
- ❖ To study scripture mindful of the context of our societies and cultures, calling us to seek truth anew while remaining fully present in the community of faith.
- ❖ To develop new learning experiences, equipping disciples for life in a world of secular challenges and carefully listening for the words of modern sages who embody the teachings of Christ.
- ❖ To prepare for a sustainable future by calling the community to become guardians of God's creation.

I am giving you these commands that you may love one another. JOHN 15:17

THROUGH THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, GOD TRANSFORMS ALL PEOPLE:

- ❖ By doing the work Jesus Christ calls us to do, living into the reality that we are all created in the image of God, and carrying out God's work of reconciliation, love, forgiveness, healing, justice and peace.
- ❖ By striving to be a loving and witnessing community, which faithfully confronts the tensions in the church and the world as we struggle to live God's will.
- ❖ By seeking out diverse and expansive ways to empower prophetic action, evangelism, advocacy and collaboration in our contemporary global context.
- ❖ By holding all accountable to lift every voice in order to reconcile oppressed and oppressor to the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

LIFELONG CHRISTIAN FORMATION IN THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IS A JOURNEY
WITH CHRIST, IN CHRIST, AND TO CHRIST.

An "A" Resolution presented on behalf of the Standing Commission for Lifelong Christian Education and Formation
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