

Parish Notes

St. Paul's Youth Make Pilgrimage to Adirondacks

Last month, five youth from St. Paul's and Plymouth United Church of Christ in Shaker Heights spent a week together in the Adirondack Mountains in upstate New York. Among other activities, they visited an artist colony, went swimming under a waterfall, volunteered at a local homeless shelter, and faced off in a cooking competition. Lauren Dockery, Director of Children and Youth Ministries at St. Paul's, said the retreat gave everyone a refreshed perspective.

The idea for the retreat came out of conversations she had with youth over the past year, where they shared how the pandemic, climate change, the economy, and other issues were creating anxiety and stress in their lives. "The purpose was creating a sense of purpose," she said. "I wanted to focus on activities that we know will make life meaningful, even if we don't know what the future will look like."

The trip lasted five days. Each day had a theme – they were connection and community, beauty and creativity, rest and resilience, contributing and service, and courageous actions and challenges. Dockery, the Reverend Gabriel Lawrence, and adult volunteers planned activities that corresponded with those themes. For example, for the day of contributing and service, they scrubbed floors at Open Door Mission homeless shelter in Glens Falls, New York.

After a week of praying together, working together, laughing together, and sharing many meals together, the intergenerational group became close. "A perk of it being a smaller group is they bonded really closely," said Rev. Gabriel. "It was a pretty tight group."

Other trip highlights included completing a high ropes course (it was fun for most people, even if conquering a fear of heights didn't come naturally to all), celebrating a very special Holy Eucharist one evening over a campfire, and enjoying their last night out together at a hibachi restaurant.

Dockery said the kids' confidence and leadership skills grew over the course of the trip. Using a prayer book called *Every Moment Holy*, she asked the kids to pray every day. "Every morning and evening, I'd hand the book to people and tell them they're in charge of praying," she said. "At first, they didn't like it. But by the end, they'd flip through and find something they'd like and pray out loud for all of us."



Parish Events

More information is available on our website at stpauls-church.org/events

Worship

Summer Worship

7:45 a.m. | St. Martin's Chapel

9 a.m. | East lawn (or nave if it's raining) ASL interpreted

10:30 a.m. | Nave *Livestreamed* at <u>www.stpauls-church.org/Live</u>.

Bluegrass Holy Eucharist

Sundays, July 14 & August 11, 9 a.m.

The Forest City String Band will accompany our 9 a.m. Holy Eucharist services on Sundays, July 14 and August 11. Don't miss this St. Paul's classic, which brings together the beautiful, lush melodies of bluegrass with traditional gospel tunes!

Fellowship

Ice Cream Social

Friday, July 19, 6:30 p.m.

The Women's and Men's Councils invite you, your family, friends, and neighbors to a summer favorite, the Ice Cream Social, held on the front lawn on Friday, July 19, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Enjoy visiting with others while enjoying dairy and non-dairy frozen treats, crudite, grilled hot dogs and not dogs, lemonade, and entertainment. Jungle Terry returns to showcase an interactive menagerie of animals. Musical entertainment will feature Lauren Dockery and Rev. Gabriel. The event is free, but a free-will offering will be collected to support the event.

Holy Hiking

Saturday, July 20, 9:30 a.m.

Lace up your hiking boots for an exploration of our local parks with our church community. We'll pause midway through our hike to share in a brief service of Holy Eucharist. The next hike, on July 20, will be at Hemlock Loop in the Brecksville Reservation. RSVP to Rev. Gabriel at glawrence@stpauls-church.org.

St. Paul's to Redeemer: All Day Parish Retreat

Saturday, August 10, 9 a.m.

Join St. Paul's members for a day of learning, fun, and cross-cultural exchange at Church of the Redeemer in Lorain, Ohio on Saturday, August 10, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. This innovative church is full of engaging outreach activities, and this is an opportunity see them in action. Activities include hiking the Black River, touring the rectory, helping in the gardens at Solidarity Farms, strolling Lorain's charming shops, enjoying a farm fresh lunch, playing games on the beach, and worshiping with their congregation at a closing Eucharist. The cost is \$30 per person or \$100 for a family with children of 4 or more individuals. This cost covers lunch, labor and

materials. St. Paul's will also make a donation to the Church of the Redeemer to express our support of their mission and gratitude for their generosity. Sign up in Realm (or scan the QR code) by July 19.



Music & Art

Summer Art Gallery Exhibit

Check out the beautiful works of art created by parishioners of all ages inspired by our beautiful stained glass windows. The installation will be on display in the Nicholson B. White Gallery all summer long.

Outreach

Celebrate Bastille Day at EDWINS

Saturday, July 13, 6 p.m.

EDWINS offers a tuition-free culinary arts and hospitality training program to formerly incarcerated men and women. La Bastille is a celebration of EDWINS' fight for equality and second chances in true Parisian style with extravagant cuisine, bountiful beverages, and incredible live and silent auction items. Visit edwinsrestaurant.org for info and to buy tickets.

Human Trafficking Awareness Forum

Sunday, July 14, 4 p.m.

St. Paul's will hold a forum to raise awareness about human trafficking on Sunday, July 14 from 4-5 p.m. This program will also introduce Striving for Hope, an anti-human trafficking awareness and fundraising event, at the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes on Saturday, August 3 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

EDWINS Garden Dinner at St. Paul's

Tuesday, August 1, 6:15 p.m.

Join EDWINS for an enchanting evening of culinary delights and fine wines in their exclusive Garden Dinner Series. On Aug. 1, St. Paul's will be the site for a garden dinner. The 4 course dinners will feature light summer fare paired with wine for \$70 per person.

Seating is limited so reserve today! For more info or to purchase tickets, scan the QR code, or visit https:// edwinsrestaurant.org/product/ garden-dinner/.



Interim Rector Search Update

Last month, St. Paul's enjoyed a delightful celebration of the Rev. Jeanne Leinbach's tenure and leadership over the last nine years. Meanwhile, behind the scenes, the Wardens and Vestry have been working diligently, with support from the Diocese, to engage an Interim Rector. Several candidates have been identified, and we hope to hire someone later this summer.

In the meantime, we've hired Rose Anne Lonsway (see article at right) as Interim Assistant Rector. A retired Rector with an extensive background in health care administration, she will be very helpful to the Wardens and the Interim Rector in this transition period and she will be involved regularly with worship services and pastoral care responsibilities. We're thrilled to welcome Rev. Rose Anne look forward to working with her!

The Rector Search Committee will be selected over the next month or so. We anticipate that the committee will begin their important work of identifying our next Rector by the end of the summer.

Welcome Rev. Rose Anne Lonsway



The Reverend Rose Anne Lonsway, St. Paul's new interim assistant rector, had already had a full career in healthcare before she decided to pursue ministry as a second career. However, her mission has always been caring for

people, so it wasn't a huge leap.

Rev. Rose Anne, who was raised Baptist and has been involved in church since she was a small child, said, "I got invited to the Episcopal Church in my early 20s and I was just captivated. I fell in love. That was it. The liturgy, the music just spoke to me."

In 2010, Rev. Rose Anne decided to go to seminary full-time at Bexley Hall Episcopal Seminary while continuing to work part time. "God made the way," she said. "I joke that God put me on this conveyer belt and I just rode along until the end."

After graduating, she went on to serve as rector at Grace Willoughby Episcopal Church in Willoughby, Ohio, where she worked from 2015 to 2023.

One of the biggest challenges was dealing with Covid. "It was interesting trying to keep people together as a community when you can't physically be together," she said. "I know a lot of people hate Zoom. I saw it as a blessing, because at least we were able to see one another and be together that way. The challenge was to keep people hopeful that there was going to be an end and it was going to be OK, and just dealing with the losses."

A year ago, former St. Paul's rector Jeanne Leinbach approached Rev. Rose Anne about helping out with preaching responsibilities at St. Paul's, and in June, she was hired as part-time interim assistant rector. She said she's thrilled to be involved and looks forward to helping with the transition as the church hires a new interim rector and begins a search for a full-time rector.

When Lonsway isn't working, she enjoys spending time with her daughter, grandson, and three dogs, including a new goldendoodle she describes as "an out-of-control toddler" and "a 65 pound lap dog."

Parishioner Spotlight: Cathy Albers, Actor and Teacher

In one of Cathy Albers' earliest memories, she recalls standing on a box in a cowgirl outfit in elementary school reciting a poem with her mother. She's been acting ever since. While her

lifelong acting career has taken her from the Cleveland Playhouse to major Hollywood studio productions and back again, Cleveland has been her home for many years.

Albers taught theatre for several decades at Case Western Reserve University, where she headed up the school's undergraduate program and taught students in the Master of Fine Arts program. Today, she continues to act and teach, and is also an active member of

St. Paul's, where she volunteers as a reading tutor at Roxboro and Fairfax Elementary Schools in Cleveland Heights.

"I think from my earliest years I wanted to perform – to reach out and engage people," said Albers. "I've never wanted to do anything else. Other than my children, theatre has always been my joy and my passion, whether it's teaching or being in a show."

The actor, who lives in Shaker Heights, completed her undergraduate degree at Illinois Wesleyan University and obtained a Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of Minnesota before moving to Cleveland to work at the Cleveland Playhouse. In addition to acting and teaching at Case, she is also a founding director of the Great Lakes Michael Chekhov Consortium, whose mission is to help realize Chekhov's vision of his Ideal Theatre, which is rooted in using the imagination.



When asked about some of the favorite productions she's been in, Albers cites "Wit" at Dobama Theatre, a play about a woman living with ovarian cancer. She spent months

> researching what it's like to be a cancer patient while rehearsing for the role. Later, she got an email from playwright Margaret Edson thanking her and reminding her that Edson had once been a student of hers at Chautauqua Institution.

"The world is so small in theatre, and it all comes back," Albers said. "It's a wonderful thing to be able to share and have your students go out and populate the world and then

years later send you a note."

In addition to helping lead the tutoring program, Albers is a chalice minister, lector, and has taught Sunday school at St. Paul's. "The community is so wonderfully accepting," she said. "Everybody is welcoming, so I feel welcome. It's grown into a very important part of my life."

She feels lucky to be able to continue doing what she loves. "Years ago, when I first started acting, I told myself if I could reach just one person with my performance, just one person, then I was doing something in the world that was good," she said. "So, it doesn't matter the play, it doesn't matter if I make you laugh or if I make you cry or if I make you angry, it's if I reach someone. It's the same with teaching. You want to enrich their lives or at least get them to think."

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

2747 Fairmount Boulevard, Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44106 (216) 932-5815 www.stpauls-church.org info@stpauls-church.org Pastoral Care Line: (216) 238-4001