

# St. Paul's, Ivy

January 2013



## Winter Reflections from the Reverend Eric

### 2013 - Celebrating 175 years of ministry at St. Paul's, Ivy

As we begin a new calendar year together and think about all that 2013 will bring, I hope and pray that this newsletter finds you in a state and awareness of God's blessing. At St. Paul's, we have so much to be thankful for including our lively worship, excellent formation for children and adults, wonderful outreach in our community, and the opportunity to live, serve, and grow together as a family of faith. **Some of our plans for the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary are under way. Several of our former clergy will join us to preach, celebrate, and lead forums during the month of April.** Our anniversary task force is planning a wonderful parish wide celebration as well. Throughout the year, I hope all of us will prayerfully consider our own history with St. Paul's and how our church can continue to offer meaningful worship, strong Christian formation, and robust service to our community and beyond for the next 175 years.

### How do I become a member of St. Paul's, Ivy?

One of the most frequent questions people ask me is, "How do I become a member of St. Paul's, Ivy?" If you are interested in becoming a member of St. Paul's, first, please speak with me. It might not be as complicated as you think. Baptism is full initiation into the Christian household, which is why we welcome at the Lord's Supper all the baptized regardless of denomination or age. If your baptism is recorded in an Episcopal Church anywhere, you are considered a member of the Episcopal Church. If your baptism is recorded at St. Paul's, Ivy and you receive communion regularly (we have a three drink minimum!), you are a member and communicant of St. Paul's, Ivy. Most often we ask a previous Episcopal parish to transfer membership to St. Paul's. Many people become a member by being baptized, confirmed, or getting married. It is the practice at St. Paul's, Ivy to baptize infants, children, youth or adults, and then to encourage confirmation when an individual is ready to make an adult profession of faith and a commitment to the Episcopal Church. **St. Paul's, Ivy is a wonderful community to belong to. If you have questions about your membership, upcoming opportunities for baptism, or our 2013 confirmation on October 20<sup>th</sup>, please let me know ([spivyrector@gmail.com](mailto:spivyrector@gmail.com)).**

### Bible Study plans for the Spring 2013

I am deeply appreciative to both the Rev. Connie Clark and the Rev. Henry N.F. Minich for their leadership and teaching during 2012. The Women's Bible Study will take January off as we await the arrival of our new Associate Rector, the Rev. Sarah Gaventa, who in early February will begin leading the Women's Study. Fr. Minich will continue the Wednesday Bible Study until the group finishes the Acts of the Apostles (likely in mid- February). As soon as the group wraps up Acts, I will join the study and a new book of the Bible will be chosen. We will continue to meet on Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m. following the 9:30 a.m. Eucharist. All are invited to participate in this study. Thank you also to the Thursday morning group who studied Torah during the fall of 2012. I had lots of fun reading and sharing with you all and hope that many of you will join the Tuesday Women's or Wednesday co-ed study in the spring.

*God's Peace,  
The Rev. Eric J. Liles*

### Grace Note

If you have recently attended the John Philip Newell events, a Celtic service, or even a 10:30 service, you have probably experienced a form of singing involving a short repeated chant.

### The Spiral of Chant



Many communities are discovering the joy of singing these simple, mantra-like melodies. Now to be clear, this is not about replacing other forms of music, like traditional hymns. Rather, it's about expanding the ways we pray - singing

together, we support each other with our hearts and voices - and **singing in different ways helps us pray in different ways. Repeating a simple sung phrase, such as one of these chants**, has a way of drawing one from the periphery of experience down into the depths (thus the image of the spiral). How wonderful when this happens in the worshipping community, drawing us together, breaking down what separates, making space for the Spirit.

As we sing and pray together, I look forward to hearing what music is meaningful to you and **what music helps you pray.**

*Peace,  
Daniel Brinson*



## Announcing St. Paul's, Ivy New Associate Rector!

I am so pleased to announce the call of **our new Associate Rector, the Rev. Sarah Kinney Gaventa**. Sarah brings to us many gifts that will enhance our ministry together. Please join me in thanking the Associate Rector Search Advisory Committee for all of their prayerful discernment and counsel: Pam Edmonds, Charles Cole, Skip Fox, Beth Wharton, and David Cooke. **Sarah's first Sunday with us will be February 10th.**

The Rev. Sarah Kinney Gaventa was born in Los Angeles, California. Her parents were Department of Defense Dependent School (DoDDS) teachers and moved to Germany when Sarah was an infant. She grew up going to American DoDDS schools in Germany and returned to the United States to attend the University of Richmond. She **worked for The Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy** for three years and then **attended Virginia Theological Seminary**, where she received her M.Div. (and met Allison and Eric!) Sarah's **first call was as Assistant Rector at Emmanuel Church in Greenwood, Virginia**, right up the road from St. Paul's. She loved her time there and is particularly grateful to that congregation for introducing her to her husband, Matthew! **Matthew and Sarah were married in 2007** and **welcomed Charlie, their son, in 2011**. Sarah has **most recently been the Assistant Rector at Trinity Church in Princeton, NJ**, while Matthew has been getting his M.Div. at Princeton Theological Seminary. Sarah and Matthew are thrilled to be returning to central Virginia, one of their favorite places in the world.



## Soup Kitchen 2013

**St. Paul's, Ivy volunteers serve lunch at Christ Church in downtown Charlottesville to homeless persons about four times a year.** Our team cooks and serves a warm meal for 130-140 appreciative men, women and children whenever **a month includes a fifth Tuesday**. Many St. Paul's, Ivy parishioners have taken turns supporting this good work over the years. Some refer to it as their 'personal mission'.

In 2013, our **serving dates** are:

**January 29**  
**April 30**  
**July 30**  
**October 29**  
**December 31 (bonus!)**

If you would like to share in this ministry, email Heather Dickey at [hmdickey@embarqmail.com](mailto:hmdickey@embarqmail.com) or Fran Canon at [flcanon@embarqmail.com](mailto:flcanon@embarqmail.com).



## Dinner Reflections

John Philip Newell generated much enthusiasm in his powerful call for change during his Advent weekend with us. **A dinner and discussion on January 9 at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall** is open to all those who are interested in exploring what each of us took away from the Newell event and sharing our questions, comments, and reflections with each other in the New Year.

If you did not attend a Newell event but have an interest in this conversation with the Rev. Eric J. Liles, please come!

Want more Newell? A great read would be Newell's new book, "A New Harmony" available in our Library.

For more information, please contact **Debbie Scott** ([spivyscott@aol.com](mailto:spivyscott@aol.com)) or **Dona Wylie** ([joydmw@gmail.com](mailto:joydmw@gmail.com)).

## Christmas Outreach Thank You

*No kind action ever stops with itself...A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees...  
The greatest work that kindness does to others is that it makes them kind themselves. ~ Amelia Earhart*

Once again, parishioners at St. Paul's, Ivy came together to share our Advent Season of Hope with those who needed a little extra help during the Christmas season. The **Giving Tree's branches** are bare today. Many caring members of our parish quickly **took the "leaves" with names and bought gifts** for the almost one hundred children from our community. **In addition to the gifts for children, our Parish provided baskets of food to about 75 families.**

**Thanks to all of you who had a part in this, with your willing hearts, hands, and checkbooks:**

- the hard-working Christmas Outreach committee;
- the parishioners who bought gifts;
- the SPISH teens, their leaders, parents, and parishioners who wrapped the gifts;
- those who supplied cash donations; and
- all those who helped with "Basket Day": organizing, picking up food at Kroger, helping at church with loading or with refreshments, and delivering baskets to shut-ins.

**We thank you for your kindness to others during the very busy days before Christmas.**

The Giving Tree may seem bare but if you look closely, you will note nature's gifts of growth remain in the form of tiny acorns and pinecones. They remind us that acts of kindness *throw roots in all directions and make new trees....*

~Deborah Hayes and Kate Wood

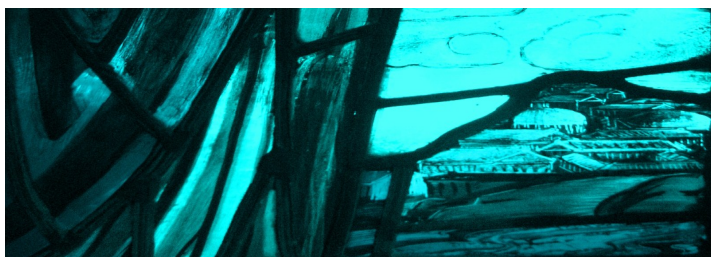


## Listening to the Rhythms of God

Come and join us for a lively program, good food and fellowship at the **CK Café on January 13 at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall**, following the 5:30 p.m. Celtic Eucharist.

Can African music change the way we hear the rhythms of our lives? What can we learn from the ways that music is experienced by our fellow Christians in Africa? In this **program led by our Director of Music Daniel Brinson**, we will discuss and listen to African rhythms, and there will be opportunities to experience **"sacred drumming,"** the use of **drumming in community as a way of prayer.**

**Dinner is \$8 per person, \$35 for a family, or your donation.** Proceeds go towards the trip expenses of the 2013 Nzali mission partners.



## Lenten Devotional

Our own **Lenten Devotional** is a compilation of **parishioners' reflections based on the scripture reading for each day of Lent.** You are invited to be a contributor for this year's Lenten Devotional. Connecting the words of scripture to our lives here in Virginia has been a particularly meaningful experience for many here at St. Paul's, Ivy. A typical entry may make a connection to personal or church experience, a hymn or psalm that is relevant to the passage, or offer a spiritual practice that might be undertaken. **Each reflection is to be no longer than 300 words and ends in a prayer of one or two lines.**

**To volunteer to be a contributor,** please contact Debbie Scott at [spivyscott@aol.com](mailto:spivyscott@aol.com).

*The deadline for contributions is  
January 28.*



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## Happy New Year from the Clergy and Staff of St. Paul's, Ivy!

### Donate Used Laptops!

Our guest preacher for Sunday services on January 6 will be **The Reverend Canon Sandy McCann, M.D.** of **Msalato Theological College in Dodoma, Tanzania.** If you have a **good used laptop** (with USB port) you could **donate for a student of Msalato**, it would be much appreciated. **Donations may be brought to the Parish Office before January 8.**

«Mailing label»  
«Address1»  
«Address2»  
«City State» «Zip code»



## Adult Forum Spring 2013

### *'Heroes of Faith'*

On Sunday, January 6th, The **Reverend Allison Liles** will launch Adult Forum's Spring 2013 theme of study, *'Heroes of Faith'* as she shares about *'The Reverend Becca Stevens.'* Stevens is Chaplain at St. Augustine's at Vanderbilt University, and founder of Magdalene & Thistle Farms, a community and social enterprise that stands with women recovering from prostitution, trafficking, addiction, and life on the streets.

The following week, January 13th, we welcome **Father Michael Suarez.** The title of his talk is *'What Holiness Might Mean: Walter Cizek and the Meaning of Faith.'* Father Cizek was a Polish-American Jesuit priest known for his clandestine missionary work in the Soviet Union between 1939 and 1963.

As the year continues, we will delve into the lives of many men and women who share an extraordinary commitment to our Lord — **Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Albert Schweitzer, Julia Chester Emery, and Frederick William Neve, Episcopal Archdeacon of the Blue Ridge.**

During Lent, we will devote time for reflection through Bible Study. After the beauty of Easter in March, we celebrate in April with our church's 175th Anniversary! Join fellow parishioners for this inspirational season!

***All Adults and High School Students are Welcome!***  
***Parish Hall, Sundays - 9:30 AM***