





Bishop Lee Miller, II of the Upstate New York Synod will be visiting Saint Paul's on July 9th.

He will celebrate the 9AM Eucharist and lead a Congregational Meeting thereafter to facilitate a discussion regarding a pastoral relationship with Saint Timothy's, Geneseo.

St. Paul's Clean-Up Day June 17th! All hands on deck to tidy up inside and out!

SAVE THE DATES!

COMMUNITY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

August 22-24, 6PM

More information forthcoming.

Email <u>pastor@stpaulsdansville.org</u> to volunteer.

GOD'S SPIRIT IS WITH US, NOW WHAT...?

With the great fifty days of Easter drawing to a close, we celebrate Pentecost. Often called the "birthday of the Christian church," the day is more than just the beginning of the beloved community. It also marks the beginning of a new era: one in which God's Holy Spirit, the same Spirit that hovered over the face of the deep at the dawn of creation in Genesis 1, the same Spirit that fell upon Jesus at his baptism and promptly drove him into the wilderness to confront his identity and temptation, empowers God's people to "be the hands and feet of Jesus" in the world. Let me emphasize that: the Holy Spirit is what empowers us to make Jesus real in the world nearly 2,000 years after his earthly ministry. With the Holy Spirit, we are God's partners in bringing the Good News of liberation from fear and death to the world, continuing Jesus' work. With the Holy Spirit, we are empowered - and expected - to "go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything" Jesus has taught us (Matthew 28).

So we are equipped and expected to be God's partners in carrying out all those verbs from the Great Commission by a Spirit that can drive a person into the wilderness. No pressure!

Okay...LOTS of pressure. At least it can seem that way. Fortunately, the Spirit does other things as well. In John's gospel, Jesus describes the Spirit as an *advocate* or *comforter* or *helper* by using the Greek word "Paraclete" in reference to the Holy Spirit. This advocate is a teacher of the church (Jn. 14:26), a helper who testifies about Jesus (Jn. 15:26), a prophet who challenges the world by convicting it about righteousness (Jn. 16:8), and a speaker of the truth (Jn. 16:13).

Working with the Holy Spirit to make Jesus real to the world is not supposed to be overwhelming or devouring of us. Instead, St. Paul reminds us that engaging the Holy Spirit and being empowered by it will be personally transforming, communally transforming, and world transforming. The fruits of the Spirit are, he says, love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Gal. 5:22-23).

We are not called into mission by God unequipped! God's Spirit provides us with everything we need. What is required of us is to be intentional about engaging the Spirit so we are fit to engage the world. Each of us individually, and communally, must spend regular time in prayer and meditation, guided by the word of God, to create space in our hectic lives so we can both feel and hear the work of the Spirit. We must spend enough time doing this so our anxieties can give way to the spiritual fruits listed above. Eventually, we will feel radically connected to God's creation and fellow human beings who bear the image of God.

This is great news! It means we can be open to the Holy Spirit moving in and through us so we can get to work in Jesus name. We need only to ask for help and take the time necessary to receive that help. Then we can get down to the real business of the church, making Jesus happen wherever we are, to the Glory of God who so loves this world.

-Pr. Eric+

TREASURER'S UPDATE, JANUARY—APRIL

Budget vs. Actual

- In a perfect world, we would be at 33.3% of income and expenses.
- Total contributions (budgeted at \$56,325 for the year) are currently at 43.9% on the strength of a prepaid annual pledge.
- Total expenses (budgeted at \$85,307 for the year) are at 27.5%.



FAMILY LAUNDROMAT

20 Franklin Street, Dansville, NY 14437

Saturday, June 3	8:30 - 11:30 am
Monday, June 5	3:30 - 6:30 pm
Saturday, June 17	8:30 - 11:30 am
Monday, June 19	3:30 - 6:30 pm
Saturday, July 1	8:30 - 11:30 am
Monday, July 3	3:30 - 6:30 pm
Saturday, July 15	8:30 - 11:30 am
Monday, July 17	3:30 - 6:30 pm
Saturday, August 5	8:30 - 11:30 am
Monday, August 7	3:30 - 6:30 pm
Saturday, August 19	8:30 - 11:30 am
Monday, August 21	3:30 - 6:30 pm

Serving hundreds annually, Laundry Love needs your help to continue. Please donate to this valuable mission. Checks can be made payable to St. Paul's, with Laundry Love in the memo line.

COMMUNITY

Food & Fellowship

June 24th July 29th August 26th

11:30a.m. - 1p.m.

At St. Peter's Episcopal Church 25 Clara Barton St. Dansville, NY 14437



Men's Fellowship
Third Tuesday of the Month, 9:30AM
Sunrise Restaurant

A TALE OF A TASK

There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have.

Don't hesitate to step up to seize an opportunity. Got an idea? See a chance to fill a need? Don't hesitate to let Pastor or Council know so we can work together on it.

In Our Prayers

Judy Babcock, Justin & Lindsey Backus, Jan Blum, Ginger Buck, Rodney Button, Bill Caton, June Collier, Don & Madge Cuddeback, Kim Greene, Michael, Jeannie, Kay Howe, Bill Huver, Jim Lewis, Cindy Miller, Bob Minemier, Greg Norsen, Jim Rex, Mary Sahrle, Bill Shaver, Joyce Slicker, David Smith, Jim Wagner Prayer requests may be updated through the office or by emailing pastor@stpaulsdansville.org.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH + 21 CLARA BARTON ST., DANSVILLE, NY 14437 (585) 335-5260 + www.stpaulsdansville.org

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