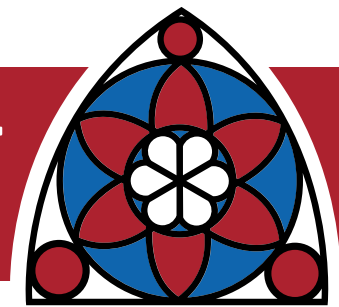


THE JOURNEY



A Newsletter of The Cathedral Church of St. Paul

The Very Rev. Fr. Troy C. Beecham, Dean

NOVEMBER 2019

From the Dean

Last month I wrote about the request to look into the use of gender-neutral language in the worship liturgies of the Church, and said that we would consider what the Episcopal Church is discussing on a broader scale.

This month, we will take a brief look at the history of prayer book revision as well as the nature of the proposed changes in language being considered even now on the committee level of the General Convention. What is the scope of the changes as approved for discussion by the General Convention of 2018, what is the timeline for proposed changes to take effect, and what could the resulting changes look/sound like for Sunday morning worship? These are all weighty questions, which have drawn both praise and invective from outside observers of the Episcopal Church as well as from folks within the Episcopal Church.

Perhaps a bit of context first to frame the discussion about language will be useful.

Prayer Books have a long history of being revised, both in the Episcopal Church, the various Anglican Churches around the world, and even the Roman Catholic Church. It seems that every few generations folks feel the need to update the language in the worship liturgies of the Church, and in every case the actual changes have created as much heat as light.

Prior to the Continental Protestant Reformation and the English Reformation

(first cousins but still very different in nature and original causation, but that's another article) Western Catholic Christianity had no single Prayer Book, or even one single Sunday worship liturgy. The Western Catholic Church had a great number of prayer books, worship liturgies, and languages in which all of these were written and spoken beginning from the 1st century A.D. Prior to the translation of the Bible into common, or vulgar, Latin in the 5th century A.D., Greek was the language of Sunday worship liturgies, even in the Latin speaking Western Church. The change to Latin, the common language of the people in the Latin West, was seismic, and led to the beginnings of a great rift between the Western Orthodox Churches and the Western Catholic Churches that remains today. I say Churches because, though Rome was the center of the Western Catholic Churches, each Catholic nation was much more independent than what emerged after the Counter Reformation in the 16th century. For example, the worship liturgies of the Catholic Church in Spain had multiple musical and linguistic styles, only one of which remains in use today, and only in the cathedral of Toledo – the Mozarabic Rite. The same is true for Milan, where the cathedral uses the Ambrosian Rite periodically. Western Christianity was profoundly more musically and linguistically diverse prior to the Protestant Reformation than now. The Protestant call for translating the Vulgate Latin Bible into the languages of the various nations was equally seismic,



and led to the dissolution of a united Western Catholic Church, a state that also remains in effect to this very day.

In the English Reformation, the situation was dynamic and torturous, and depended almost entirely on the reigning monarch. From Henry to James I, the English Church went from burning at the stake anyone who dared to translate the Vulgate Latin Bible into English to promulgating the crown's Authorized Version, also known as the King James Bible. The same was true for the creation, out of literally dozens of prayer books and Sunday liturgical manuals, of the first Book of Common Prayer, which compiled them all into one book for the first time. This first Book of Common Prayer was revised in as quick a succession as the succession of monarchs. When things seemed finally to have settled down after the English Civil War, the English Book of Common Prayer, now unchanged since 1662, came into being. Due to issues regarding the succession of monarchs, the Scottish Episcopal Church came

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ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

Social Justice Immigration Team

News From The Social Justice Immigration Team

By Duane Sand

Much is happening as we continue to collaborate with 14 other central Iowa churches in the Iowa Sanctuary Movement.

The Center for Social Ministry is hosting an eight session study and dialogue at St. Paul's. The classes are called Exploring Migration: A Faith Journey. This is a chance to seek common ground and discover more about ourselves, our values, our faith, and the challenges facing millions of immigrants throughout the world. It meets on Thursday mornings from 10 to noon, from October 17 to December 12. It is facilitated by Rev. Sherri Hughes-Empke. Registration costs \$50.

Volunteers will be staffing an outreach table at Diocesan Convention on Saturday, October 26th. We hope to recruit more congregations to participate in the Iowa Sanctuary Movement.

Thank you to those who have contributed financial assistance distributed through our committee. The funds donated from the Courtyard Dinner have helped support two asylum applicants waiting for work permits, and to pay work permit application fees. So far we have helped provide direct support to six adults and nine of their children while they work through the refugee and asylum process.

Some of our committee have pledged monthly support to help meet these needs. Others make occasional gifts. Please think about joining the effort during the Holiday Season. Give thanks for the time when your own family became Americans. Reflect on the Christmas gospel where infant Jesus was a refugee and desperate for shelter. Show compassion for countless immigrants are totally dependent on the kindness of strangers today. Please offer help and keep them in your prayers.

From the Dean ... continued from Page 1

into being as did their revision of the English Book of Common Prayer. The Book of Common Prayer of the Episcopal Church is the direct descendant of the Scottish Prayer Book.

The first Book of Common Prayer of the Episcopal Church of the USA was adapted from the Scottish Prayer Book in 1789. When revisions were undertaken consecutively in 1892, 1928, and 1979, the revisions were met with scorn, outrage, and finally acceptance (though some who have left the Episcopal Church over the decades often use either earlier versions of the BCP or have made their own new BCPs that read more like earlier versions than the current 1979 BCP).

So, we can see that Prayer Book revision has been a constant since the first English Book of Common Prayer in 1549. The difference in what is now being considered is that the specific language about God is being changed, and for many this change is entirely different than any previous change, that is, removing any language that describes God in masculine terms (He, Him, His, Father) and simply saying God. On the ground, in parishes including St. Paul's, some folks have been saying 'God' rather than He/Him/His/Father for years. This is being taken into account by the committee on the revision of the Book of Common Prayer, along with changes from referring to each other as sister and brother in favor of siblings, and even the attempt to balance out the masculine language used on the liturgy as we currently have it with feminine language. The New Zealand Book of Common Prayer published in 1988, which incorporates Maori metaphorical language, is an example of an Anglican Book of Common Prayer that uses gendered language differently than English-only language Churches because it incorporates the Maori language along with English, and takes into account that the Maori language has different gender categories.

The question is, given that American culture is currently grappling with human sexuality, gender, and the language that we use to describe these human phenomenal categories, should our Book of Common Prayer reflect these cultural experiments with language when the language itself is still evolving, or should we give more time for broader cultural agreement to be reached on the appropriate use of language around sex, sexuality, and gender, both for each other and for God? While the General Convention of 2018 approved the preparatory groundwork for the initial stages of prayer book revision, it did not set a timeline for the beginning of actual revision. It also did not set up what the stages of revision would look like. General Convention basically said "We know revision is coming; start a committee for talking about how to manage the process, and start collecting input about what people are already experimenting with in diocesan approved changes and in popular, self-directed changes in language." It is possible, even likely, that the next official revision will not be printed on a large scale, but be left to parishes to print those parts needed for individual liturgies from a digital master-copy. Many people will love the changes, and many will hate them. Love or hate it, revision will not happen overnight, but it will happen. Let us keep each other in prayer, commit to gentleness and humility in our dialogue, and let love restrain us from running roughshod over each other as we collectively work for faithfulness in our common worship and prayer life.

Fr. Troy+



United Thank Offering Fall Ingathering 2019



UTO Ingathering November 3, 2019

There will be a collection for the UTO Ingathering November 3, 2019. Please bring your giftings at this time. The monies will be added to the donations from the spring Ingathering and distributed to the places in need. Thank you for your support to the United Thank Offering. There will be refreshments in the Guild Hall after both services.

For more information on how your gifts are used the website www.episcopalchurch.org/uto is a place where you can see the many places that UTO is working in the lives of those around the world. More information will be available during the 8 o'clock and 10 o'clock coffee hour.

Stewardship Campaign

A Stewardship Moment from Mark Babcock, Cathedral Organist/Choirmaster

Hymn #424 For the Fruit of All Creation, Poetry by Fred Pratt Green

Verse 1

*For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
For his gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,
Future needs in earth's safe keeping, thanks be to God.*

Verse 2

*In the just reward of labor, God's will be done.
In the help we give our neighbor, God's will be done.
In the our world-wide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,
In the harvests we are sharing, God's will be done.*

Verse 3

*For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us,
For the truths that still confound us,
Most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.*

We will use this hymn during the Annual Fall Stewardship Campaign beginning Sunday, October 20 and concluding with a special service and reception on Sunday, 24 November.

Please consider using this hymn as a way to reflect on God's gifts to us, our reasons to be thankful, and our response to God's

blessings in our lives. Stewardship often focuses on the church's needs, which are real. We need to pay the light bill, support the Connection Café, complete needed maintenance, etc. While these are real expenses, they are not my chief motivators for being generous at St. Paul's. Stewardship is my response to the many blessings I have received. It is my need to give, not the church's need to receive. Stewardship is a realization that everything we have are gifts from God entrusted to our care.



My grandparents and parents taught me generosity. They always said, "If you wait until you have enough, you will never be generous." They taught me to give back even from my childhood. We volunteered in our community. We cultivated our talents to share at church. I gave from my small allowance and paper route. I was happy to bring my gifts to my church because I understood God's generosity and learned to count blessings while young. My niece Kendra served as an AmeriCorps Vista, largely a year of service with very little income, between

Daylight Savings Time Ends Sunday November 3



Daylight Saving Time 2019 in Iowa will end at 2:00am on Sunday, November 3. Remember to set your clocks back 1 hour.

finishing her undergraduate degree and beginning law school. While she never complained, I knew that she was surviving on a meager stipend and living very frugally by necessity. I remembered a conversation with her during that year. She was working with a local charity to provide warm mittens, gloves, coats, etc. for children in need. She told me she had been out shopping to support this important cause and how much it meant to her to help others. After our phone conversation ended, I remember thinking, "Wow, she's being generous and she has so little." I immediately recalled the words from my parents and grandparents, "If you wait until you have enough, you will never be generous." Kendra had learned this lesson. Generosity is not situational. It is a value, a way of life.

I hope you will joyfully and generously join me this fall in pledging your support of our worthy collaborative ministry. As a staff member, I know the real budget challenges we face and I am grateful for congregational support of our budget. However, the joy I receive writing that monthly check comes from a larger reflection on the grace, the love, and the many blessings I have received. Joyful generosity is my response. I hope it will be your response as well.



Connection Café

All are welcome to help make sandwiches after the ten o'clock service on Sunday, November 11. If you would like to help, please go to our website and click on that date in the calendar to sign up. If you work in downtown Des Moines, please consider helping to serve here at St. Paul's on Monday, November 12th from 12 – 1 p.m. You will be greeted enthusiastically!

Thank you!



Des Moines' Ecumenical Eatery

Cathedral Arts

Cathedral Arts cordially invites you to Choral Evensong!

Sunday, November 24, Festival Choral Evensong at 4pm
Sung by the Howells Scholars

Featured Music:

- Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, The Collegium Regale by Herbert Howells
- For the Beauty of the Earth by Philip Stopford
- The St. Martin Responses by David Drinkell

Cathedral Arts will host a festive reception in the Guild Hall following.

Choral Evensong is a unique treasure of the Anglican choral/organ tradition. We offer this sung service of prayer, beauty, healing, and peace on behalf of a broken world. Please use this as an opportunity to invite friends, co-workers, and family into this sacred space.

Thursday, November 14, Evensong at 5:45pm – In addition to the festive Sunday Choral Evensong services led by the Howells Scholars, a simple and short congregational Evensong is offered on

the second Thursday of each month at 5:45pm.

Additional Cathedral Arts Opportunities for November:

Sunday, November 3 at 10am – All Saint's Sunday, Holy Eucharist

John Rutter's Requiem, Cathedral Choir and Chamber Orchestra

This stunning, colorful work includes both English Psalm settings (Psalms 23 The Lord is My Shepherd and 130 Out of the Deep) and pays homage to the Latin Requiem Mass with lyrical movements like "Lux aeterna," Light Eternal. The organ, harp, oboe, flute, and cello accompaniment provide beautiful and peaceful support of the varied and dramatic choral parts. It is a fitting work that celebrates all of the Saints who have gone before us. We celebrate life, light, and love eternally on this special Sunday.

Sunday, November 10 at 10am – Holy Eucharist

Central College A Cappella Choir



The select 60-voice Central College A Cappella Choir, under the direction of Cathedral Organist/Choirmaster Mark Babcock, will lead our 10am Holy Eucharist with works such as "Do Not Be Afraid" by Philip Stopford and "Unclouded Day" by Shawn Kirchner.

November is an artistic feast at the Cathedral! We value your presence and encourage you to invite people into this sacred space where the arts lead us to hopeful expressions of healing, love, joy, and peace.



LET'S celebrate

HAPPY BIRTHDAY NOVEMBER FOLKS!

Jan Doherty, Nov. 4
Richard Wootten, Nov. 8
Catherine Gillespie, Nov. 12
Connie Tartt Guiberson, Nov. 13
Muffy Harmon, Nov. 15
Shelley Thompson, Nov. 20
James Vickery, Nov. 30
Laura Wootten, Nov. 30

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

Jovan and Jela Sankovic, Nov. 11
Tim and Becky Hird, Nov. 24
Ben and Julianne Allaway, Nov. 25

Would you like your birthday or anniversary included in the Journey?
Please contact the Cathedral Office (515-288-7297) or visit
<http://www.cathedralchurchofstpaul.org/about-us/contact-us/>



Advent Tea

Tuesday, December 3 | 4:00 – 7:00pm

Park Fleur Condos, 3131 Park Fleur
(enter off Willomere Drive)

Please contact Stephanie Preusch at
515-229-7737 if you would like to volunteer,
donate food or if you have questions.



Advent Retreat for Young Adults

*December 6–8, Rock River Retreat
Webster City, Iowa*

Prepare the Way

We invite you to join us for a weekend retreat with other young adults from around the diocese. The weekend will include shared meals and worship, intentional time for silence and reflection, an opportunity for spiritual direction and confession, and social time. Space is limited, so register today!





A Gala Cabaret Evening

By Jed Leland

Our October Connection Café Fundraiser was a great success, and over \$7000 was raised to support this important outreach mission. Thanks to John Zickefoose and Bruce Martin for the wonderful songs and lovely music. Many thanks as well to the Bridge Board, the Connection Café staff, St. Paul's Staff, and Mark Thompsen for all their hard work, which made for a truly gala evening.

SHIIP

Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) is a federally-funded program operated in Iowa through the Department of Insurance. The program's mission is to provide trained volunteer counselors to assist seniors, disabled persons on Medicare, and those about to turn 65 navigate through the complex world of Medicare.

Counselors assist, on a no-fee basis, those about to enroll in

Medicare, helping them select Medigap plans, choosing between regular Medicare and Medicare Advantage plans, as well as aiding them in selecting and enrolling in a prescription drug plan (Medicare Part D).

Four downtown Des Moines congregations are members of The Bridge, which is a sponsor organization for SHIIP. If you are a member of one of these congregations and would like assistance, you can call SHIIP directly at 800-351-4664. A volunteer counselor will then contact you to help make appropriate Medicare decisions.



November and December Shelter Meal

Because of the holidays, St. Paul's will not be serving the Shelter Meal in November and December.

We can take a well-deserved rest! Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to this important Outreach program this year. Special thanks to Jo and John Wetherell, Donna Hendrick, Carla Carlson, Duane and Marilyn Sand, and Harold Alexander, and everyone who helped to make it a success for us and for our community.

Monetary contributions are welcome anytime, and will be credited to your personal St. Paul's contributions. Thank you!



Give Online, It Is Easy.

Do it once or you can set up reoccurring gifts. Print a record of your giving anytime. No cash, no check book? No problem. You can text 515-207-8133 to give to the church. If you need to update or change your information, call the Cathedral Office (515-288-7297).

St. Paul's Offers Text Giving!

TEXTTOGIVE

You can automatically give by texting the amount you wish to donate to this number: **515-207-8133**.

Safe and Secure Online Giving Now Available!

We now offer safe and secure online giving on our website. Credit and debit cards are accepted. You can set up an account or quick give. An account allows you to set up a donation schedule and/or track your donations. Quick giving allows you to bypass this step. You may choose to give to our general budget, to the Cathedral Preservation Fund, or Cathedral Arts.

The Journey is published 11 times a year, usually on the third Thursday of the month to reach homes by the first of the following month. Your articles, news, photos are welcome!!

The deadline for the December issue will be Monday, November 18.

Please email to administrator@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org
Or bring to the Cathedral Office.

Our Mission Statement

The Cathedral Church of St. Paul, the Cathedral and liturgical center of the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa, is a vital metropolitan Christian community. We are committed to accepting and giving Christ's unconditional love through worship, fellowship, education, and service within and beyond our parish church.



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PLEASE BE SURE TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE: CATHEDRALCHURCHOFSTPAUL.ORG

