

# The Journey

November and  
December, 2020

*A Newsletter of St Paul's Episcopal Cathedral*

815 High Street ✦ Downtown Des Moines, Iowa  
515-288-7297



***God is here, reaching out to all who gather . . .***



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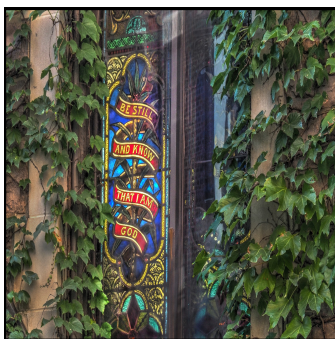
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and more!



On our cover:

Many thanks to Jim Zeller for contributing this beautiful photograph of the Hedges Memorial window with its quotation from Psalm 45:10. The window is located on the west wall of the Nave.

## From the Provost

Dear People of St. Paul's,

I write to you in anticipation of resuming indoor worship at St. Paul's on All Saints' Sunday, November 1st. Our fast from indoor worship began in March and has persisted for these long months. We are grateful for new expressions of worship that we have discovered during this time; faithful attendance at weekly online worship has been meaningful for many, while worship at St. Paul's rain-garden altar has provided the opportunity for others of us to gather weekly in person to celebrate Holy Eucharist.

### *In-person worship and COVID-19*

Through careful, deliberate, and ongoing consideration of best practices in relation to minimizing viral transmission, and through heartfelt consideration of the needs and desires of this worshipping community, cathedral staff has developed particular guidelines for indoor worship that we will follow, that are found on page 4 of this issue. We are pleased to make available indoor, in-person worship while health data remain relatively stable in Polk county, yet we recognize that the situation is unpredictable and might call for future adjustments. If so, we will communicate those as clearly as possible. Please be sure that you are signed up to receive St. Paul's weekly eNewsletter (contact St. Paul's administrator if you need to) and, remember, no-one is obliged to attend worship in person. We encourage you to discern your own level of vulnerability in relation to COVID-19 as you plan how to engage with worship and other opportunities at St. Paul's.

### *Service live-streaming*

From November 1<sup>st</sup>, St. Paul's online services of Sunday worship will be streamed live from the sanctuary and the recording will be available for viewing afterwards as well. Initially, we will use single-device video set-up while working towards installing a permanent, high-quality, three-camera system. The livestreaming and recording of our services are particularly important in this day and age to proclaim our presence in the City of Des Moines, to fulfill our mission as a Cathedral in the Diocese of Iowa, and to serve visitors and parishioners who are not able to be with us in person. We will partner with the Diocese of Iowa to meet the cost of the new system and you too are invited to contribute. If you would like to make a designated gift towards the cost of our permanent video system, please do so online via the cathedral website (from the homepage click "Donate Online Now" and select "Video Livestream System" from the dropdown menu) or mail a check to the office with "Video Livestream System" in the memo line. Thank you for supporting the mission and ministry of St. Paul's in this way.

*Continued on the next page*

*From the Provost, continued*

At the beginning of Advent we enter a new liturgical year. Advent and Christmas will bring Cathedral Arts offerings of Choral Evensong, organ recitals, and Carillon Carols (see page 15 for details). I personally feel extraordinarily blessed by the power of music to lift our hearts and I know that this is true for many of you. I invite you to join us either online or in person for these events. Our Diocesan Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Alan Scarfe, intends to be present with us to celebrate services of Holy Eucharist on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day and we also look forward to welcoming him in this holy season.

At the threshold of a new year I often think of the words of the poet Minnie Haskins (1875-1957) that became famous when spoken by King George VI of the United Kingdom at the end of his Christmas broadcast to the nation in 1939.

I offer them here to encourage us, too.

*I said to the man who stood at the Gate of the Year,  
"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."*

*And he replied, "Go out into the darkness, and put your hand into the hand of God.  
That shall be to you better than light, and safer than a known way."*

God bless you, God keep you, and you keep the faith.

*Amma Nicola*

**Daylight Savings Time ends  
Sunday, November 1st  
Remember to set your clocks  
back 1 hour.**



### **All Saints' Day, Sunday November 1**

In-person worship returns with 8:00am and 10:00am services, and we look forward to a glorious morning on November 1, celebrating one of the oldest Festival Days of the Christian Church, **All Saints' Day**, when we will praise God and give thanks for the witness and testimony of all of those faithful, loving saints who have passed on to a greater life in God. These are not just the named saints, they are any we hold dear, like a grandmother and grandfather. We do not walk alone—we are surrounded by the great cloud of witnesses whom we trust are praying for us and encouraging us.



### **Sunday, November 1 at 4:00pm EST (3:00pm Central Time) Holding On To Hope – A National Service for Healing and Wholeness Live from Washington National Cathedral**

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry will lead a live-streamed prayer service from Washington National Cathedral, Holding on to Hope: A National Service for Healing and Wholeness, on All Saints Sunday, November 1, at 4:00-5:30 p.m. EST. In the midst of pandemic, racial reckoning, and a historic election, the live-streamed service will gather Americans for prayer, song, lament, hope, and a call to love God and neighbor. Join

the service [here](#) .. A live prayer hotline in English and Spanish will be open during the service, staffed by Episcopal clergy and chaplains, in partnership with TryTank at Virginia Theological Seminary and General Theological Seminary. The hotline will be open from 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. EST from November 1 to November 5.



## What to Expect at Indoor Worship

### **What will be the same as before the pandemic:**

- We will have two worship services, an 8am Rite 1 service and a 10am Rite 2 service from the Book of Common Prayer.
- We will have organ music at both services.
- We will worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

### **What will look different now that there is a pandemic:**

#### **Physical Differences:**

- We ask that those who are able to climb stairs enter using the 9<sup>th</sup> Street doors, and exit using the High street doors, reserving the north door near the parking lot for those who cannot use the stairs.
- Everyone will be required to wear a face covering (mask or face shield) during the entire service. It may be removed briefly when taking communion. Masks will be provided for those who do not have one.
- There will be hand sanitizer stations throughout the building and everyone is encouraged to use sanitizer to keep their hands clean, especially on arrival.
- Hallway floors will be marked at six foot distances to help us keep physical distancing.
- Every third pew will be open and available for seating. The pews you may sit in will be clearly marked. You will stay in your pew throughout the entire service.
- Two households may sit in our longer (center) pews, with one household at each end of the pew. One household may sit in our shorter (side) pews.
- There will be no Books of Common Prayer, Hymnals, Bibles or print materials in the pews. You are encouraged to bring your own Book of Common Prayer if you have one.
- Exterior doors will remain propped open throughout the service to allow for better air circulation.
- We encourage you to use the bathroom before coming to worship, but should you need to use the facilities, the bathrooms will be single use only and we ask that you use the disinfecting wipes available to clean the surfaces you touched after use.

#### **Worship Differences:**

- You will be greeted by an usher who will record your name and phone number for use in the event that contact tracing is needed.
- Bulletins will be available online at our website and there will be a QR code available for those who would like

to view the bulletin on their phone or tablet. A limited number of print bulletins will be available.

There will be no "Pray Ground" for children. Children will be provided with coloring pages and a few crayons that they may take home with them. There will be no nursery care or children's formation provided during the service. A parent may use the nursery room with their child if a calm area is needed. Please clean surfaces with sanitizing wipes afterwards.

There will be no procession or recession. The clergy will enter from the sacristy.

There will be no congregational singing. We will have hymns that you can hum along to or you may read the words reflectively to yourself as the organ plays.

The 10am service will have a cantor for short portions of the service such as the Psalm, Gloria, and Agnus Dei (Lamb of God). The cantor will wear a facemask and will be positioned remotely from others.

We will pass the peace by standing up and bowing or waving to one another from our places. We ask that no one leave their place.

An offering plate will be provided at the back of our worship space. We ask that you give your offering either before or after worship. The plate will not be passed during the service. You are also encouraged to give online or via text.

The presider will wash their hands before communion with soap and water.

Communion in one kind (bread alone) will be brought to you in your pew. You will receive the bread, wait for the server to walk away, then remove your face covering briefly to receive. If the server touches your hand, they will stop to use hand sanitizer before serving the next person.

After the service, we ask that those who can manage stairs leave via the High Street door. Those who need level entrance may leave via the north (parking lot) door. Please pay attention to maintaining 6' distance between households and allow those in the back of the sanctuary to leave before those in the front.

There will be no in-person coffee hour or formation opportunities before or after either service until Polk County health metrics improve.

## What to Expect at Indoor Worship, *continued*

### Cleaning:

We will change what pews are available for use between services, so those who worship at 8 am will sit in different pews than those who worship at 10 am. We will also air out the room between services and sanitize items touched by multiple people during worship.

We employ a cleaning service that cleans the building on a weekly basis, including bathrooms, door handles, and push plates.

### Contact Tracing:

If we are notified that someone who attended worship has been diagnosed with Covid-19, we will use the contact information that you provided to ushers at the beginning of the service to let you know.

If you are a member of our congregation and have recently changed your telephone number, email address, or moved to a new home, please let us know. If you aren't certain your information is up to date in our directory, please contact our office as well at (515) 288-7297 or

[administrator@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org](mailto:administrator@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org). Our ushers may not ask for your contact information if they believe we have your information on file.

### What to Expect: Drive-Up Communion (Reserve Sacrament) 9-9:30 am Sundays

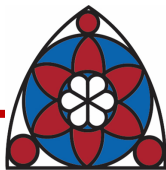
The parking spaces closest to the building in the parking lot will be reserved for those wishing to drive up to receive the Sacrament.

Face coverings (masks or face shields) are required.

We will use a service for Communion Under Special Conditions, which includes an opening sentence, prayer, confession, the Lord's Prayer, reception of the Sacrament in one kind (bread only), and prayer after receiving communion. The entire service takes 5-10 minutes. One person in your vehicle may receive a print copy of the service if you so desire.

If there are multiple people in your vehicle, the server will come to each person's window. You will not need to exit your vehicle in order to receive.

When receiving, the server will drop the bread in your hand. You may remove your face covering briefly to receive. If the server touches your hand, they will stop to use hand sanitizer before serving the next person. You may drive away after the closing prayer.



ST. PAUL'S  
EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

## St. Paul's Stewardship Campaign Begins FOR THE FRUIT OF ALL CREATION



Pledging is much more than salaries for the Cathedral's staff and covering the overhead. Sometimes we lose track of how many lives are touched. Not only the lives of your fellow parishioners, but all the people who benefit from our presence in Des Moines and in the Diocese. Stewardship, in one sense, is about your contribution to St. Paul's and other people's lives.

We invite you to participate in this year's campaign, which will culminate at our Pledging Sunday on **November 29th**. We hope you will reflect on your relationship to the Cathedral and consider supporting our 2021 Stewardship Campaign with your pledge of treasure, time, and talent. During November you will be contacted by members of the Campaign Committee about what St. Paul's is doing and how you can help. If you have questions, please contact the Cathedral Office: (515-288-7297).

*Matt Petty, Stewardship Chair*





**Listening at Lunch:** all are welcome to the diocesan-wide Listening At Lunch sessions on **November 19**, and **December 17** from noon to 12:45pm.

This is a great way to share what the Bible is saying to you. Besides being fun and enlightening, the positive connection with others is healing and inspiring. Please join Listening at Lunch. Contact Traci Ruhland

Petty: [tpetty@iowaepiscopal.org](mailto:tpetty@iowaepiscopal.org) for the Zoom login information or if you have questions.



We will serve at **Connection Café** on **Monday, November 9th** and **Monday, December 14**, and we need 2 volunteers to help serve. You can sign up by visiting our [website](#).

### Video Livestream Fundraiser!

St. Paul's is raising funds for a permanent, three-camera, video livestream system that will allow us to make our services accessible to those who are not able to be present in person and allow us to extend our ministry into Des Moines, the Diocese of Iowa, and beyond.

Through the generosity of an anonymous donor, your donation will be matched one-to-one up to \$5,000.

You can give via the cathedral website (from the homepage click "Donate Online Now" and select "Video Livestream System" from the dropdown menu), or mail a check to the office with "Video Livestream System" in the memo line, or place your donation in the offertory plate marked "Video Livestream System" at Sunday worship.

Thank you for supporting the mission and ministry of St. Paul's!



### Please Join Us for Thanksgiving Services

**Sunday, November 22 at 4:00pm**  
Virtual Choral Evensong.

**Thursday, November 26**  
Thanksgiving Day Service at 10:00am.

*More details to follow, and the link to the services will be published on our website.*

## Family Gatherings- Children's Ministry

Our families with younger children have been sharing in family devotion at home and have started coming together monthly for outdoor activities in small groups. In September we tie dyed St. Paul's t-shirts. Our families

enjoyed this activity and a lot of people have asked, "How do I get a tie dyed St. Paul's t-shirt too?" We also had a bike blessing at the beginning of October. We are hoping to paint pumpkins on October 31st at 10 am if the weather agrees, and are looking at safe activities for the colder months as well.



## St. Paul's Is Blessed With a Grant!

The Cathedral Church of St. Paul's is excited to announce it has been selected by the Diocesan Gilead board to receive a \$24,000 grant in support of an assistant priest. This generous grant is a gift from the entire diocese which many of you have graciously supported.

As part of the application, our team stated why the position of assistant priest is important to the work of the Cathedral: "In the past year, the Assisting Priest has been a boon for the Cathedral by adding new energy into both old and new ministries and by offering pastoral and social continuity for our parishioners. The continued steady presence of an Assisting Priest while we adapt to new challenges facing all communities of faith during this time of pandemic will greatly enhance the ability of the Cathedral to develop versatile and creative approaches to serve our parish, our Diocese, and the greater community."

The grant we received is but one of many grants created through Gilead in support of needs within the diocese – an example of how our shared dollars work to connect us in the numerous ministries of our broader community. The St. Paul's team preparing the grant wants to say thank you to Gilead for this bounty so generously given and to the entire diocese for supporting Gilead.

*Gilead Grant Team: Jonathan Hansen, Rachel Hill, Matthew Petty, Jolene Phelps, Jill Southworth, Stephanie Wells, Robert Wootten, Amma Nicola Bowler*





## Interfaith Alliance of Iowa's "Shattering Silence" Gathers Faith Leaders

On October 18th, faith leaders gathered at the Shattering Silence Sculpture (adjacent to the Iowa Supreme Court Building and pictured on the right), which commemorates an Iowa Territorial Supreme Court decision that kept an enslaved person, Ralph, from being returned to his master in Missouri after he failed to make enough money while living in Iowa to buy his freedom. This sculpture is next to the Iowa Judicial Building and committed to shattering the silence about racial injustice within the state. The event was held by the Faithful Voices for Racial Justice group, which is a part of the Interfaith Alliance of Iowa

The statement below was read at the event, and was written by Father Zeb Treloar. The questions within this statement are meant to provoke reflection and are questions based off the Black Lives Matter protests across the state.

If there are parts of the statement that make you uncomfortable, that's okay. I invite you to think about what you are feeling, and explore the topics further. Let's have conversations with friends, loved ones, and people in our community about this. This is not a statement from St. Paul's. It is a statement from the Interfaith Alliance of Iowa's Faithful Voices for Racial Justice group. You are welcome to have differing opinions from this organization and from your assisting priest.



Above, Fr. Zeb reads his statement.

### "Shattering Silence" Statement

*We come as faith leaders, stretching ourselves from the Shattering Silence sculpture to the center of justice for Iowa, shattering the silence of many in our state committing ourselves to the work of racial justice in all communities.*

*We rejoice that when our state was still just a territory, two farmers stood in the path of bounty hunters who sought to trap a Black man named Ralph and return him to captivity. Ralph came to Dubuque from Missouri to work and earn his freedom.*

*The two farmers, Patrick Quigley and Alexander Butterworth, found a judge to intervene. The case was eventually brought to the Territorial Supreme Court where the justices upheld that "no man in this territory can be reduced to slavery."*

*Today we lift up Ralph, who worked bravely to earn a freedom he should have never been denied, as well as Patrick and Alexander, who stood beside him as white allies. We give thanks for such just historical moments by the Territorial Supreme Court decision, as we also emphasize the injustices that have gone on for too long in our state.*

*We declare as faith leaders that we will work for freedom, standing alongside our siblings of color in their fight for their rights and liberties in this state.*

*We, as people whose faiths declare the dignity and worth of every human being, refuse to let oppression and injustice have the last say. We value the work of Black Lives Matter, including the Black Liberation Movement, Iowa Freedom Riders, and other groups fighting for racial justice. We rejoice in their fight for equity and justice. We stand with them stating clearly that Black lives do matter.*

*Continued on the next page*



### ***“Shattering Silence” Statement, Continued***

*We hold up the mirror to our criminal justice system today and ask is it truly just? The system is broken when it perpetuates racism and racial injustices in our communities, such as:*

- *When law enforcement agencies such as the Des Moines Police Department, respond to protests led by Black organizations using riot gear and arresting organizers during and after the event, while protests led predominately by white people are not responded to in the same way, is this just?*
- *When the disappearance of a Black child, such as Breasia Terrell in Davenport, is given less public attention and her family is treated with less sympathy than a white family whose child is missing, is this just?*
- *When Black people in Iowa are incarcerated at a rate ten times higher than white people, oftentimes for non-violent offenses, is this just?*



#### **Shattering Silence Monument**

Designed by James Ellwanger of Des Moines, and dedicated in October 2009.

*We see what Iowa can be through Ralph’s eyes. We see the hope and the promise that emanates from our history. Today we shatter the silence of the racial injustices in our state and ask our criminal justice system to uphold the values of our state, particularly for our Black siblings. May we uphold the dignity and worth of every person and may we be a state that works hard to prize the liberties and maintain the rights of all.*

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### **Undercroft Task Force Update**

Under the leadership of Amma Nicola the Undercroft Task Force has walked the site with three different architectural firms; we expect to receive their proposals before the end of October. Meanwhile, we have met with Sally Bates representing the Bridge and Rob Hoover for Connections Café to hear their needs and ideas.

St. Paul’s standing as a National Historic Place will be honored as plans develop, so too the possibility of LEED certification. We anticipate a timely choice of architectural partnership, to be approved by the Chapter, and to work for completion by December 2021. Cochairs Tony Braida and Elvin McDonald with team members Deacon John Doherty, Phyllis Melton, Anne Reasons and John Zickefoose.

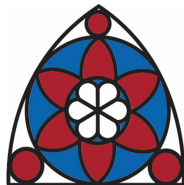
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#### **Safe and Secure Online Giving!**

We offer safe and secure online giving on our website. 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 Clergy Discretionary Fund, the Cathedral Preservation Fund, to Cathedral Arts, or towards St. Paul’s new Video Livestream System. You can also automatically give by texting the amount you wish to donate to this number: **515-207-8133**.

**Thank you for remembering the church’s financial needs during this suspension of in-person services. Visit our [website](#) and click “Donate Online Now.”**

As of our publication, the Cathedral Office is open from 9am to 2pm daily, Monday through Friday.



**ST. PAUL’S**  
**EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL**

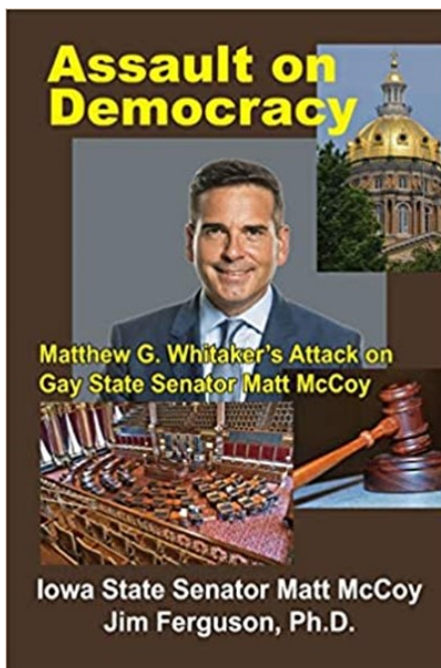
## Jim Ferguson's Book

We want to bring to your attention author and parishioner Jim Ferguson's book:

"Assault On Democracy: Matthew G. Whitaker's Attack on Gay State Senator Matt McCoy"  
by Matt McCoy & Jim Ferguson

The intriguing back-story of former Iowa State Senator Matt McCoy's nine-day federal trial for one count of attempted extortion is told in depth in this all-too-real political non-fiction thriller. Readers may question its authenticity, which McCoy said he would also have questioned except for the fact that he had gone through hell living it.

The federal government charged McCoy with extortion on a small business deal gone sour. The charge could result in a 20-year prison term and a fine that would take a lifetime to pay. For 18 months the FBI, under then U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales and U.S. Attorney Matthew (Matt) Whitaker, stopped at nothing in their attempt to rob him of his reputation, livelihood, and freedom. What was thought to be his small isolated business deal, slowly unraveled into a greater understanding that it was linked to a strategy occurring across the country. As the drama of his trial unfolded readers will wonder what's it all about. The jury took 25 minutes to determine McCoy's fate.



Nationally, McCoy had been named a rising star in the Democratic Party. He had the distinction, or notoriety, of being Iowa's highest ranking *openly* gay elected official. Did this play a role in his being charged?

Of the book McCoy says, "This book is a highly personal story about coming to terms with my past and my identity. My story includes growing up in a strong Catholic family, marriage to a wonderful woman, successful political career, struggle with alcoholism, divorce, coming out as a openly gay elected official, and the government charging me with

extortion on a small business deal gone sour. As an elected public official this was played out in full view of the public. I was threatened with charges that would result in a long prison term and a fine that would take a lifetime to pay. It was me, Iowa State Senator Matt McCoy who was pursued. I hope readers will gain, as I have, the fortitude to live their lives with integrity and pride."

McCoy is currently chair of the Polk County Board of Supervisors.

The book may be purchased for \$15 at Beaverdale Book Store, ordered through Barnes & Noble, or ordered on-line through Amazon.

*Submitted by Jim Ferguson*



## An Armchair Pilgrimage: Iowa's Episcopal "Dollhouse" Churches

By John Zickefoose

Most years my partner Elvin McDonald and I take a number of day trips, sometimes with a purpose in mind, sometimes out of simple curiosity, and when we travel I always bring along Buildings of Iowa – a comprehensive catalogue of our state's abundant architectural structures – which includes many Episcopal churches. (See below for more details on this wonderful resource.) Thumbing through this volume recently, the authors' observation about Episcopal churches in our state caught my eye: *"From its introduction [in 1853] into the state, the Episcopal church held tightly to the image of the small-town or rural English Gothic church, responding to the edits of the Ecclesiological movement. With the fewest of exceptions, these Episcopal churches were small, almost dollhouse like in overall size and fenestration; at the same time their designs were sophisticated, and the buildings were richly detailed with elaborate woodwork, carved stone, and stained*

*glass windows."*

*Continued on the next page*



### *Armchair Pilgrimage, continued*

The attribution “dollhouse” is not dismissive. Geometry, rhythm, repetition, workmanship, and quality of materials are significant whether the scale is life-sized cubits (for Noah and his ark, scale 1:1) or half-inch to the foot (for an entry made for competition at the State Fair, scale 1:24).

The architectural variety of the six churches included here is not surprising. The common belief that as one travels west one finds a lag in architectural fashion is simply not the case. When built, these houses of worship were exactly what was being built at that moment in towns and rural areas by our eastern neighbors. (This up-to-date quality continues up to the present moment.)

We are not travelling this year. Undeterred, and with this trusty tome in hand, we offer an “armchair pilgrimage” to six of these scaled-down houses of worship, and we welcome you along. Not surprisingly, three of the six have an English connection because their architects were English émigrés or the parish was formed as a mission for English émigrés living in northwest Iowa.

Readers’ Note: To limit the range of our travels, some parameters were established: all of these churches are listed on the National Register of Historic Places (as is St. Paul’s), and much information has been gleaned from the paperwork they submitted to the National Park Service. Moreover this list is highly selective; if we have omitted one of your favorite “dollhouse” churches we apologize.

### **Details on book**

*Buildings of Iowa* by David Gebhard and Gerald Mansheim; Oxford University Press, 1993. Wide-ranging, well-illustrated, and highly recommended. (“Don’t leave home without it.”) Copy *in Italics* are quotations from this source.

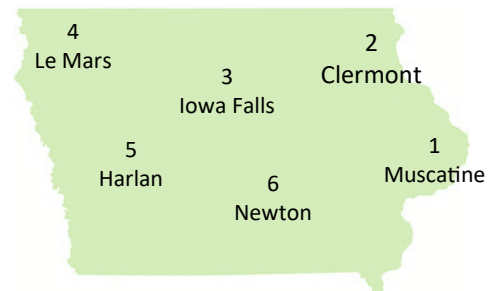
Our itinerary is shown on this map

### **Trinity Episcopal Church, Muscatine**

Travelling east to the Mississippi, our first stop is the city of Clinton. Trinity Parish is reputedly the oldest parish in the Episcopal diocese of Iowa, and this colorful sandstone early Gothic Revival building was designed by Frank Wills. It was built in two phases between 1851 and 1853, the additional work creating a cruciform design. (Other additions were made during the 20th century.) The present church replaced an earlier frame structure that had been consecrated in 1841 on the same lot, and tradition holds that when Iowa Episcopal priests gathered at Muscatine in 1853 to organize the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa, it took place at the new Trinity Church.

How Wills was selected is not known, but his selection is noteworthy. Although largely forgotten today, at the time he was a nationally recognized architect in the early Gothic Revival style, and before his untimely death at the age of thirty-five (in 1857), Wills was responsible for the design of at least fifty churches in the United States and Canada.

*As with most [Iowa] Episcopal churches, the building is not only small in size, but all of its features are miniaturized. The design is dominated by irregular profile of the slate-covered roof which descends dramatically close to the ground, and the simple bellcote at the top.* The narrow lancet windows with their pointed arches emphasize the upward sweep of the façade and the roofline. In 1853 we had been a state for just seven years. Elevated and still surrounded by vast prairies, Trinity’s towering façade proclaimed to our forebears “A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing.” Today – although somewhat crowded by nearby parish and commercial structures – its message remains undiminished.



**The Church of the Saviour (also known as Memorial Episcopal Church), Clermont**



We travel now to northeast Iowa and the town of Clermont. Possibly the smallest church on our Pilgrimage, with a seating capacity of 100, this picturesque stone church is an established and familiar local landmark. Built of locally quarried stone, and designed by an unknown architect, the date “1867” is inscribed over the door. It is one of three Episcopal churches that were built as a memorial to the two children of Frances Dyer Vinton of Providence, Rhode Island. (The other two churches were built in Providence, and in San Gabriel, California. According to local tradition, her decision to endow a church in northeastern Iowa was influenced by the Biblical passage, “Thy praise shall ring from shore to shore,”

Clermont being more or less equidistant between Rhode Island and California. All three churches were named “Church of the Saviour.”)

Architecturally it reflects two mid-nineteenth century styles – the stone walls and three-story tower are Romanesque while the bracketed roof and full round-arched windows are Italianate. As constructed, the 48-foot tower had a crenelated roof (shown in the photo on the right), which has been removed. Otherwise the exterior is little altered. The interior has been refurbished, but it retains much of its original character with its barrel-vaulted ceiling, plaster work and early twentieth-century hanging light fixtures, which were converted to electricity in 1910. In 2009 (142 years after construction) central heat and indoor plumbing were installed.

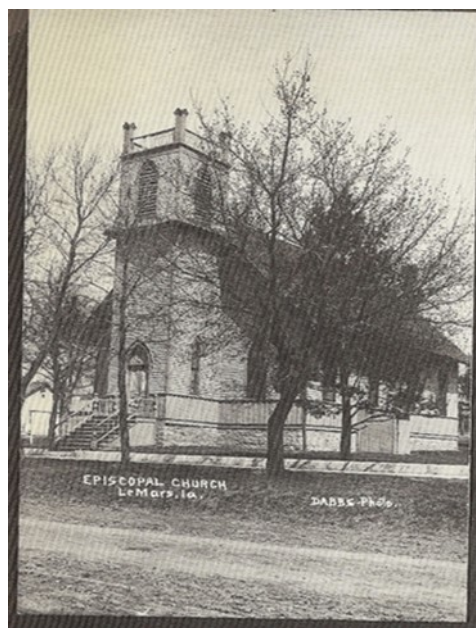
**Saint Matthews-by-the-Bridge Episcopal Church, Iowa Falls**

Journeying to the south and west we come to Iowa Falls, where we discover this delightfully tiny (60 by 24 feet) single story building perched on the palisade overlooking the Iowa River. Because of its rather precarious location, parishioners often refer to the church as “St. Matthew's on the Brink.” Although the parish was established in 1886, this building was constructed in 1913, and designed by Robert Layton, an industrial arts teacher in Iowa Falls. Born in England, Layton made a return visit there in 1912 making sketches of several village churches, and from these sketches the plans for St. Matthews were made. Tudor Revival in design, the exterior of the wood frame structure is covered with stucco and the gable ends give a simple simulated half-timbered effect. The intimacy of scale and proportion, and warmth of materials – both outside and inside – create an inviting space, and the interior remains basically unchanged since it was first built.





## **St. George's Episcopal Church, Le Mars**



We set our sights north and west, to Le Mars. This clapboard structure is located in a residential neighborhood, and was built in 1881. The architect is not known. The historic photo above right shows that originally the church had a small steeple extending above the roof, however, it was removed in the 1940s and the gable roof was extended over the tower.

St. George's remains one of the few remaining links in Le Mars with the town's early English heritage. The English era began about 1879, when Fred and William Close of England opened a land sales office in Le Mars with the idea of creating an English colony on the prairie, and encouraging emigration through marketing

and materials published in England. While some came over to engage in long-term farming operations, many of the new arrivals were the sons of established upper-class Englishmen who intended to return to England after learning farm management techniques. Financed by contributions from England, which supported the building's construction as a foreign mission church, nearly 1000 English colonists used this building as a worship and social center. The English influence was strong in Le Mars (albeit brief, only about ten years). Cricket and polo were popular, as were three local taverns known as "The House of Lords," "The House of Commons," and "Windsor Palace."

## **Saint Paul's Episcopal Church, Harlan**

Turning a few pages we go southeast to the town of Harlan. *This is one of the gems among Iowa's churches.* Designed by the Des Moines architectural firm Proudfoot and Bird, it was constructed in 1900. In Des Moines, this firm is perhaps best known for the Polk County Courthouse and Roosevelt High School; here the architects brought together a wide range of styles prevalent at the turn of the last century; although the late Queen Anne-Shingle style dominates, there are also Gothic Revival details as well as touches of the Arts and Crafts movement. Exterior changes have been minimal. Of particular interest is the division of the exterior into three horizontal zones of various materials (brick, clapboard, and shingling). The busy roofscape, with its high-pitched gable and small triangular dormer windows, is capped with pinnacles and a finial on the large central tower.



## Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church, Newton

Our last stop is much closer to home, in Newton. Designed by David Stover (a local contractor) and Joseph Stevens (a local carpenter), construction began in 1871 and was completed in 1874. An excellent example of “Carpenter Gothic” style which uses wood instead of stone while retaining the traditional Gothic pointed arches, steep gables, buttresses, and towers. Alterations and additions were made in 1961 with the addition of an education wing (not shown) which conforms stylistically with the original structure. Additionally, the second level of the tower and the spire were added. Completing the original design (both were part of the original plan for the church but were not built because of a lack of funds).



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## Prairie Poppies for St. Paul's Rain Garden

By Elvin McDonald

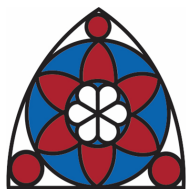
Our rain garden is designed to support a largely self-reliant planting, to assist in storm-water management, and to succeed without irrigation in time of drought. At the outset there were possibly a dozen different natives installed and virtually all have thrived. As Vicki Ingham and I have taken on the leadership role played by Jo Anna Heberger before she moved to Minneapolis, we often have ideas or field ideas from St. Paul's congregation for additions—anise hyssop for example, an *Agastache* that thrives in Iowa, gives blue flowers in summer that are relished by butterflies, hummingbirds and yes, Japanese beetles. Since I got my anise hyssop in the form of seeds from the Royal Horticultural Society, it was my habit to affectionately refer to them as my Royal Iowa Weeds. When I finally looked up the genus, I learned its members are native to North America, China, and Japan. The other side of this coin, as it were, is a lesson I learned doing gardens in Houston in the early 1990s: clients would tell me to design a garden filled with native plants—and then proceed to name their favorites, not one of which was a true Texas native.

Last summer Robin Kline asked me if I knew the prairie poppy. I did not know that name, but I did know another by which the hardy perennial is known, Celandine poppy. Botanists call it *Stylophorum diphyllum* (sty-LOFF-or-um die-FILL-um) and my *Index of Garden Plants* says the plant is native to the Eastern United States. We don't think of ourselves as “Eastern” but it is my impression that this plant is so reliable for a brief time in late spring, and a survivor without coddling, that it belongs in the St. Paul's garden. Robin and Vicki have now planted our nine roots of prairie poppy around the three southernmost Kentucky coffee trees, nearest the church. Watch for them next spring.

Photos: Volunteer gardeners Robin Kline and Vicki Ingham “take the knee” to plant the tuberous roots of prairie poppy in the rain garden, which features native plants. “I photographed three of the prairie poppy roots on the Thill bench—recalling dear friends and since the “h” is silent, till is an appropriate directive.” Elvin







# ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

Advent begins a new liturgical year - a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus.

This year Advent begins on Sunday, November 29th.

*"Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!"*



## The Advent Wreath

St. Paul's always has an Advent wreath near the chancel steps, and we mark our progress toward Christmas by lighting an additional candle every Sunday. Our Advent Wreath is given by Scott & Denise Linn, Marshall & Julie Linn, and Douglas & Barbara L. Hein in loving memory of Barbara N. & Marshall G. Linn.



## *Walking with Isaiah*

A Virtual Advent Retreat

Friday, Dec. 4- Saturday, Dec. 5, 2020

Email  
[fatherzeb@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org](mailto:fatherzeb@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org)  
for more details.

## Walking with Isaiah: A Virtual Advent Retreat

What are your griefs right now? Where do you find comfort? What dreams has God given you? We will be exploring these questions as we dive into our seasonal readings from Isaiah, dwelling in the Word as we consider the message of this great prophet.

The virtual retreat's times are scheduled for Friday, Dec. 4 from 5:30-8:00pm and Saturday, Dec. 5 from 1:00-3:30pm. There will be breaks and offline activities during this retreat as well, to avoid Zoom fatigue. If you are interested in joining this retreat, please email Father Zeb: [fatherzeb@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org](mailto:fatherzeb@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org).

## Sounds of the Season: Advent Cathedral Arts Events



Sunday, December 13 at 4:00pm

**Virtual Advent Choral Evensong**

Thursdays, December 10 and 17 at Noon

**Advent Organ Recitals**

(In person, following the same safety protocols for services)

Sunday, December 20 at 4:00pm

**Carillon Christmas Carol Concert**

Sing carols from your car or outside with the carillon!

*Mark Babcock will continue to play hymn concerts on the carillon  
between the 8am and 10am Sunday services  
(from approximately 9:15 to 9:45am)*

## An Invitation From St. Paul's Social Justice Committee

**Please consider participating in this new Advent Project and Give something back this Christmas Using our Reverse Advent Calendar**

**Did you know that the United Way of Central Iowa estimates that 20% of central Iowans are food insecure? Or that, on any given day, 28,000 central Iowans are hungry? Are you Looking for a new Advent project aimed at helping hungry and food insecure Iowans?** If so, the St. Paul's Social Justice Committee invites you to participate in a new project called the "*Reverse Advent Calendar*" project which provides a unique way to give back and to help feed hungry Iowans.

Instead of opening a calendar box or receiving a gift during Advent, the *Reverse Advent Calendar* sets out a listed food item (for example a jar of peanut butter) to be placed in a designated box each day, starting on December 1st and ending on December 24th. Once your box is filled with the listed food items, the box will then be donated to the Des Moines Area Religious Council for

distribution through their network of 14 food pantries operating in the Des Moines area. The *Reverse Advent Calendar* is pictured below.

To make it easy for you to participate, the Social Justice Committee has enlisted volunteers to pick up your filled box for delivery to DMARC. In addition, you can also drop off your box at St. Paul's for delivery to DMARC or deliver it directly to DMARC at 1435 Mulberry St., Des Moines. **To ensure timely delivery to DMARC, all boxes should be dropped off to St. Paul's or picked up by a volunteer before December 31st.** If you want your filled box picked up for delivery to DMARC, please contact Jean Davis at [jeanmdavis9@gmail.com](mailto:jeanmdavis9@gmail.com). Please also contact Jean if you have any questions about this project.

# December 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Reverse Advent Calendar</b>		<b>1</b> Box of cereal	<b>2</b> Peanut butter	<b>3</b> Stuffing mix	<b>4</b> Boxed potatoes	<b>5</b> Macaroni & cheese
<b>6</b> Canned fruit	<b>7</b> Canned tomatoes	<b>8</b> Canned tuna	<b>9</b> Dessert mix	<b>10</b> Jar of applesauce	<b>11</b> Canned sweet potatoes	<b>12</b> Cranberry sauce
<b>13</b> Canned beans	<b>14</b> Box of crackers	<b>15</b> Package of rice	<b>16</b> Package of oatmeal	<b>17</b> Package of pasta	<b>18</b> Spaghetti sauce	<b>19</b> Chicken noodle soup
<b>20</b> Tomato soup	<b>21</b> Canned corn	<b>22</b> Canned mixed vegetables	<b>23</b> Canned carrots	<b>24</b> Canned green beans	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		



# The *Joy* of *Christmas*

**PLEASE JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE THE SEASON!**



In the spirit of hopefulness, we are planning services which will be characterized by music appropriate for this great festival in the Church year, and will surely inspire those of us who wait again this Advent Season for the “Savior of the Nations” to come bringing peace and redemption to a broken world.

**Christmas Eve**

**Thursday, December 24**

**Christmas Day**

**Friday, December 25**

**Service information to follow**

## Have You Considered . . .



Many of its duties are prescribed by canon law, such as the responsibility for parish finances and care of church property.

Our Annual Parish Meeting will be held in late January, and at that time new Chapter Members will be elected.

The Chapter is the governing board of the Cathedral Church of St. Paul.

However, in a real sense, the Chapter serves to represent the members of the parish, provides leadership and vision as the parish moves forward in prayer and commitment to mission, and serves as the communication body between parish members and the clergy/staff of the Cathedral. The term limit is 3 years, and members are expected to attend the monthly meetings and to assist with possible Cloister assignments.

At the Annual Meeting in January, the parish will be asked to elect four new members to the Chapter. If you are interested in serving on the Chapter, or would like to nominate someone you feel would be a good candidate, please contact Sr. Warden Skeet Wootten or Jr. Warden Stephanie Wells. You can also speak with the Provost. If you are nominating someone else, please be sure you have his or her permission first. Our goal is to have a slate of candidates published in early January.

*The Nominating Committee*

### Cathedral Office Hours

The Cathedral Office is open from 9:00am until 2:00pm Monday through Friday.

**Visitors are required to sign in and to wear masks.**

Voice mails may be left for staff at 515-288-7297 and will be checked regularly. Emails are also welcome.

Amma Nicola

[ammanicola@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org](mailto:ammanicola@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org)

Fr. Zeb

[fatherzeb@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org](mailto:fatherzeb@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org)

Deacon John

[deacon@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org](mailto:deacon@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org)

John Zickefoose

[administrator@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org](mailto:administrator@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org)

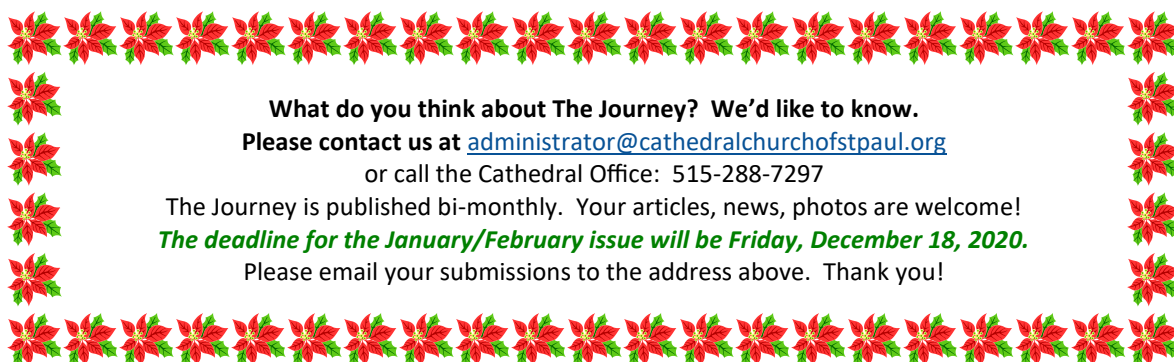
**Please note that the Cathedral Office  
will be closed for the following holidays:**

#### **Thanksgiving Holiday**

Thursday, November 26 & Friday, November 27

#### **Observing the day after Christmas**

Monday, December 28



**What do you think about The Journey? We'd like to know.**

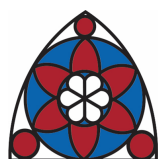
**Please contact us at** [administrator@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org](mailto:administrator@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org)

or call the Cathedral Office: 515-288-7297

The Journey is published bi-monthly. Your articles, news, photos are welcome!

***The deadline for the January/February issue will be Friday, December 18, 2020.***

Please email your submissions to the address above. Thank you!



**ST. PAUL'S**  
EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

**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.

**Please be sure to visit our [website](#)**

**Find Us on [Facebook](#)**