



# St. Paul's News

475 State Street Albany, New York 12203

What do you value? As a person? As a family? What are your personal and familial values?

Now, what do we as a congregation value? What are our values?

We have collectively stated what many of those values are. We met toward the beginning of our "strategic planning" process, and through a guided workshop with Rev. Mueller we voted on our values.

Hopefully you see those values embodied in the mission and vision statements and the paragraphs that elaborate on them. That was my goal in creating them, that those statements would correctly and clearly define who we are. But my goal was also to push us, to push you, that we would continue to grow into a family of faith that will be faithful, courageous, ambitious, and effective as we do both inreach and outreach in the Capital Region.

What are our values?

I recently heard a valuable truth- "your values aren't your values unless they cost you something". What have your values cost you recently?

What have our congregational values cost us? Are we willing to pay the price? As it happens, being welcoming/being hospitable was our second highest value. Being so comes with a cost. Are we prepared to pay it?

Being Gospel centered was our highest value, which is incredible! But preaching the Gospel has a cost. As a church, we might be more successful, more popular if we changed our message to self-help, social justice, or prosperity. Preaching the Gospel has a cost. It has for the last 2000 years.

As your pastor I am excited for this summer and the year. I am thrilled to count the cost and pay it together as we seek to be faithful, courageous, ambitious, and effect. The Lord is with you.

Pastor

## BIG CLEANOUT!

A dumpster will be arriving at St. Paul's for May 20th. We need lots of help cleaning out our old "junk". Come for a few hours in the morning and lend a hand. What a great feeling to get Spring Cleaning done at St. Paul's!!



## MUGS AND PLATES

While cleaning out, some commemorative mugs and plates were found. They were from the 150th anniversary of St. Paul's back in 1988. If you would like one (or more,) they are available and will be on the stage in Luther Hall for a few Sundays. Help yourself!!



## PENTECOST

**JUNE 4, 2017**

Several of our young people will be confirmed on Pentecost Sunday, June 4th. Please be sure to be at service that day to show your support for these young women as they profess their faith in the Lutheran Church.



Thanks to those who rode in our 1st annual Bike-a-thon. Thanks to Dave McMullan and Anne Ragoni for organizing it. Some bikers rode over 20 miles! It was a great day of fun and "exercise" for the group. Riders included Pastor Gruenwald, Rebecca Simmons, Braxton and Chamberlain Harris, Eileen, and Andrew VanAcker. Volunteers were Dave McMullan, Tina Harris, Lori Seim and Ann Ragoni. Thanks to everyone who helped and participated and especially those who pledged for the "fun"draiser!!



## INDIA NIGHT 2017 SATURDAY EVENING, JUNE 3, 2017 6—8 PM

Please join us for a great evening of Indian Food and entertainment! Let's support this great fundraising event! Tell neighbors and friends!

Tickets  
\$20—adults  
\$12—children 6-12

Raffle tickets are also available.  
See Alex for tickets or call the church office (463-0571)

### Walk MS – National Multiple Sclerosis Society

I would like to invite everyone to participate or donate for the Walk MS event which will be held on Sunday May 21<sup>st</sup> beginning at 10 am (registration at 9am) at the Joe Bruno Stadium (Valley Cats) in Troy/HVCC campus. There will be lots to do along with the walk, we plan on having food, music (through iHeart radio), vendors, games, raffles, a silent auction (I believe this will feature sports memorabilia) and things to do for the kids, the Valley Cats mascot along with other local mascots will be present making it a fun family day while also helping to raise funds for a great cause.

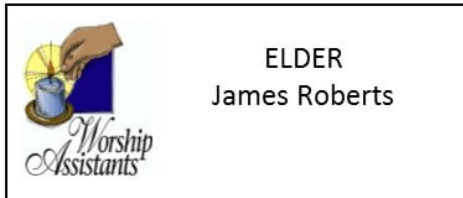
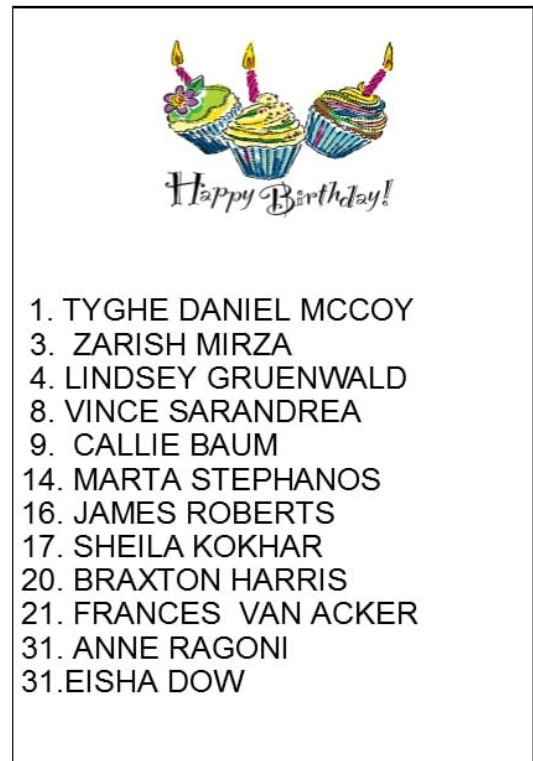
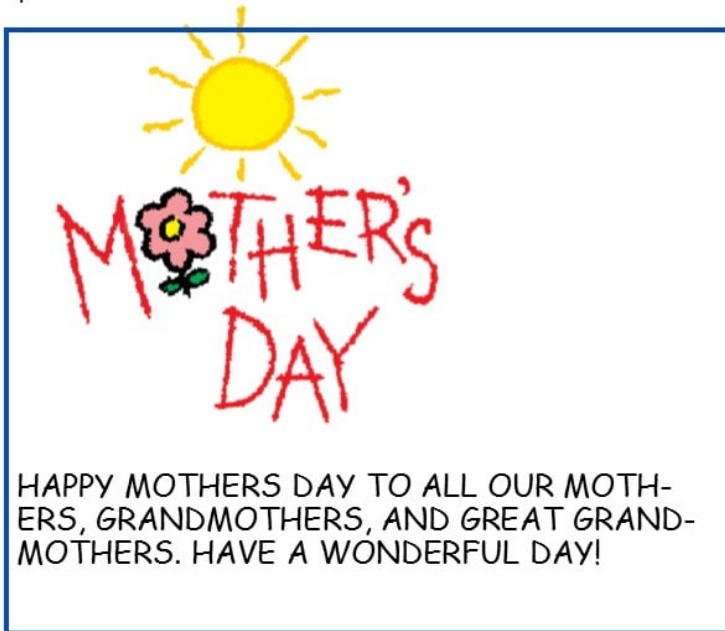
The walk will begin on the field and will continue around the college campus; those who rather not take the long route can stay on the field. Also if any of you or if someone you know would like to be a sponsor of the walk or would like to donate a gift basket to be raffled off that would be much appreciated.

We will also be selling tickets at a discounted price for a Valley Cats game scheduled in September where the team will raffle off the special jersey's they will be wearing that night.

Anyone interested in participating/donating or purchasing tickets to the game can see **Danielle Calamaras**.

Thank you!





DATE	FLOWERS	SERVICE STEWARD	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	ALTAR
May 7	Mary Boshe in memory of her son Steven Fiske	Thom Kingston	Anne Ragoni	Arlene Hurley and Lisa Flanigan
MAY 14	Randy and Teresa Kanter in celebration of Lindsey Gruenwald's birthday	Thom Kingston	Diane Kingston	
MAY 21	Andrew VanAvker in memory of grandparents and Aunt Betty and Uncle Bob	Marty Kahler	Diane Kingston	Alida Earl
MAY 28	The Gebreyes Family in memory of Dad	Marty Kahler	Joan Aldi	