



The COMMUNICATOR

St. Paul's Anglican Church
Crownsville, MD
Winter 2019

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER TOM...



Happy New Year!

As I was preparing the sermon for the 1st Sunday after Epiphany (and at the same time realizing I was at a total loss concerning choosing a topic for the Winter Communicator article that was due in a few days), a phrase from the epistle reading (Romans 12:2) would not go away.

And be not conformed to this world; but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove (have sure knowledge of) what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

While outlining the sermon and considering how this verse blended with the overall theme of that week's message, my brain received a News Flash, "That's it!" That verse is the perfect topic to begin 2019.

Then I had horrible flash backs to the first day of class, even in elementary school, when the teacher would insist that each student share their new year's resolutions. Probably because I did not see the value of personal change at that stage of my life, I hated the process, and usually repeated something someone else had just shared.

Years after entering the working world, I still disdained new year's resolutions, but now it was because it had been hammered into my psyche that personal improvement and positive change must be a year-round effort. In the business world, our relationships, our health, and our spiritual life, we should always seek ways to improve. Identifying areas that need change, setting goals, regular monitoring, and making necessary adjustments should be the norm, not an annual exercise in frustration, as new year's resolutions seem to be for many people.

Having said that, I would have really impressed the teacher if I had quoted Romans 12:2 as my resolution in 1st grade, and it certainly serves as a godly year-round resolution (on steroids) for every Christian and Parish.

So, how are we doing concerning **being transformed by the renewing of our mind**, and knowing and doing the **acceptable, and perfect, will of God**? Part of our "transformation,"

through your generosity, included becoming and remaining debt free. As that part of the will of God was accomplished, more resources were then available for ministry to God and his people, another part of His will.

Jesus said, **Go therefore 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 observe all that I have commanded you.** (Matt 28:19-20) Enabling young seminarians within our diocese allows us to more effectively fulfill this call from our Lord. Again, through your generosity, the Missions Committee was able to drastically increase St. Paul's contribution to the APA Seminarian Fund (See Betty's article elsewhere in the Communicator).

In recent years our membership has remained fairly constant, but in order to grow, the vestry has approved (with minimal impact on our budget) bring in a young clergyman to help attract families with young children. (I recently discovered first hand that young clergymen are much better at speaking "young people-eze.")

Jesus also said, **for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.** (Matt 25:35-36) Through the work of several committees and individual members, our ministry to the local and global community continued to grow in 2018.

As our spiritual transformation continues in 2019, and as we continue to monitor our effectiveness in both knowing and doing God's will, He will make known to us how to make necessary adjustments and prepare us for new opportunities to serve Him.

I believe with all my heart, through the power of the Holy Spirit, St. Paul's is ready and prepared to grow spiritually and physically in 2019 and beyond.

God's Love and Blessings to All,

Fr. Tom+

A MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN, JACK WYATT...



Greetings – The editor of the *Communicator* keeps threatening me with bodily harm if I don't contribute a message to the newsletter, so I guess I better comply. He keeps mumbling something about "paybacks are hell and shovels." I'm not sure what he means, but it sounds ominous.

I hope everyone enjoyed their Christmas and New Year holiday and is ready to get back in the swing of things. Thanks to the efforts of the Altar Guild our church looked beautiful again this Christmas season and was certainly filled with the Holy Spirit during the different masses. My favorite was the family mass and Christmas pageant on Christmas Eve. The kids and the music were wonderful. 2019 should be an exciting year to say the least. We accomplished a lot in 2018 and we are in sound shape both financially and with our physical facilities. Our ministries and programs are in full swing and always looking for new participants and volunteers. A lot of energy is happening at St. Paul's. Sunday school continues (we need more kids), our great choir continues to bless us with their music, the two study sessions (Thursday evening and Friday morning) are going strong, our youth group continues with their activities, the Ladies Guild and Prayer Shawl ministry is in high gear, the Mission and

Outreach committee is continuing their good work in the community, a confirmation class is ready to start. As we go into spring and summer, don't forget to allot time for **your** church activities in your busy schedule.

A reminder that the vestry meets on the third Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm (unless announced otherwise) all year long and is always busy watching over the business aspect of the parish and working with Fr. Tom to keep things moving and working while looking ahead to what is needed and best for the parish. We are looking at and considering a number of projects (both new and maintenance) and will keep you posted as we progress. Please feel free to communicate with your vestry members. Their names and contact information are listed on the back of the weekly bulletin. You are also welcome to attend any of our vestry meetings.

Our major effort now (as always) is to grow our church. Fr. Tom, Fr. Eric, Fr. Thomas, vestry members, greeters can't do it alone. **It is every member's responsibility to invite people to St. Paul's.** I have found that one of the best ways to engage people is to simply and honestly share with them why you follow the Anglican tradition and why you are a member and attend St. Paul's. It is not hard when you think about it. Feel free to ask Fr. Tom, a vestry member or committee chairperson how you can be more involved.

Two new committee chair assignments have been made by the vestry to strengthen our St. Paul's ministry. Kathi Terlizzese has been appointed to the position of Stewardship chairperson. Kathi brings a professionalism to our efforts and we are looking forward to her work as we go forward. Jenni Lucke has been appointed as our new Public Relations chairperson. She will be spreading the word about the good things happening at St. Paul's throughout the community. Don't hesitate to help these ladies (or any other chairperson) in their efforts on behalf of St. Paul's. (Please refer to the St. Paul's organization chart posted in the parish hall.)

The clergy, vestry and staff continue to work hard for St. Paul's and we encourage everyone to be involved in doing God's work in our church. It is a labor of love and we invite and encourage everyone to join in. If you know of anything that you think we should be doing as a church family, please let us know.

Important future date for your calendar: Sunday, April 28th – Annual Parish Meeting and vestry election will be held following the 10 am service (only one service that day). A pot luck lunch will follow.

Thank you for your continued devotion to St. Paul's. A growing and dynamic church only happens with good and devoted people.

God bless! See you in church!

Jack

CHOIR

We have a few seats open in the Chancel. We lost our youngest Bass member to a great job in North Carolina. We all will miss Nathan in the choir, but are so excited for him. So we could use a few more “good men” there are 3 vacant seats, and we do have 2 seats open in the women’s section. We meet on Wednesdays, generally for an hour until we get close to a big performance. I think I can move our rehearsal time back to 6:30 pm. The grounds are well lighted at that time. I am grateful to our members who are dedicated and flexible with my teaching schedule.

Currently we are preparing some new anthems that can be used for general use. Our next big focus will be a Cantata for Maundy Thursday, and Easter Day music.

Musically yours, Andrea Linnell

DID YOU KNOW???

St. Paul’s History Fast Facts – In 2012 St. Paul’s Cemetery had a ground penetrating radar survey done to determine how many graves were really there. To our surprise it was discovered to be 70 graves instead of the 36 we knew about. Research has given us at least 16 names in addition to the 36 we knew. That leaves tombs of 18 unknown Christian soldiers.

Sharon Beard – Cemetery Chairman

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

A fresh new year is once again upon us. 2019 is a chance for us to start anew and to start strong! The amazing thing about chances is how we get them every year. What do we see for St. Paul’s this year? And what about 2020 or 2021? This is the perfect time for us to collaborate and identify exciting strategic goals as a vibrant, talented, caring and growing parish family.

Members of the Stewardship and Strategic Planning Committees are teaming up to spearhead our goal setting process and look forward to involving you and all our St. Paul’s Committees in the weeks ahead. Stay tuned! Updates to come!

We extend heartfelt appreciation to everyone who has sent in their pledge forms and generous donations. Thank you!!!! And if you haven’t had a chance to pledge or donate, it’s not too late! St. Paul’s is blessed to have so many cheerful givers who exemplify **stewardship in action** by their contributions of time, talent, and treasure. With your continued support, the next years will be among our brightest as we work together in service to God, our community and those who need us most.

May God continue to bless St. Paul’s and each of you!

Kathi Terlizzese, CFRE

Chair, Stewardship Committee



THURSDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

We are continuing with the Epistle of John. Each lesson is composed of one full chapter (and usually one episode in the life of Jesus) so anyone who joins us would not be lost. Our lessons have been fun and productive. Study session leader position is shared among our study group.

If any questions call Hugh Seborg at 410-721-2108.

FRIDAY BIBLE STUDY

The Friday Bible Study, conducted on Fridays from 10am to 11:30am, is continuing its study of The Faith and Practice of Anglicanism, using "An Outline of an Anglican Life," by Fr. Louis Tarsitano. After that, the group will decide what we will study next. We have about a dozen weekly participants, share our thoughts, prayers, and sometimes snacks, and of course Christian fellowship. If you would like to know more, please call Fr. Thomas (410-647-1671 or tchoughton@aol.com) for more information.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

To all of you who participated in providing food for the 9:15 am, and the 11 am services, coffee fellowship, **THANK YOU**, from everyone in the parish. We need 2 more people from each service to volunteer to help with this mission. Please call: Lucile Seborg, 410-721-2108

Those who participate in this mission: bring goodies for after the service, clean the counters and tables, and after the 11 o'clock service, empty the coffee carafes, rinse them out, and leave the kitchen clean. When you sign up to help, I will send a detailed letter to you. Thank you ever so much.

THANK YOU TO JOHN & SUSAN SHULTE for providing the new coffee maker. It is wonderful and so easy to use.

Please call Lucile Seborg, 410-721-2108 if you would like to help in this way.

KITCHEN ANGELS

We need for people in our parish to sign up for cleaning the kitchen 1 time during the year. The sign up sheet will be posted over the food counter. Thank you for those who helped this past year to keep our kitchen neat and clean!

Our 2018 Angels:

Sally Levis & Karen Riser, Hugh & Lucile Seborg, Linda Burr & Carole Cover, Barbara Phibbons, Angela Mollette & Dona Peters, Pudy Palmer, Marie & Chappell Garner, Sharon Beard & Jan Lehman, Cathy Gates, Linda Burr & Sharon Beard, Rhonda Franklin & Susan Schulte

A BIG THANK YOU TO THESE ANGELS!!

HOSPITALITY

The hospitality committee hosted the reception for the Lessons and Carols. Jim & Cheryl Lins,

and Carole Cover received the food and set up the parish hall. Jim made the coffee, which was also a big help.

Those who contributed the sandwiches, cookies, and a dip, were:

Rose Houghton, Yvonne Nanayakkara, Linda Burr, Jan Lehman, Jim & Cheryl Lins, Carole Cover, and Midge Kirwan.

Everyone seemed to enjoy the fellowship which this provided. We give thanks to all of our committee members who served for this year.

Lucile Seborg, Chairman

YOUTH GROUP

Talk about an exciting time, this past meeting we had 18 at Games Day! Our devotion was Luke 6:31- "do to others as you would have them do to you" And that's how it went. I absolutely love to see the children (from ages 3 to 15 in April) being there to happily help each other. I say that because of the reward the "bigs" get from helping the "littles." It has worked out that we will be meeting the 2nd Saturday of every month, unless we get knocked out with a snow event, then we'll just move that meeting. Every meeting is filled with Christian teaching through scripture, devotionals, discussion, examples, crafts, games, etc. We are always busy and engaged in learning about God's love for us, what it means to be a young Christian, the life of Jesus and His sacrifice for us.

They learn about the Holy Spirit with thanks to St. Patrick and the Shamrock, which opens up the discussion about the Trinity. (Big concepts for our young Christians.) Everything is taught through the Bible. There are many resources available to break it down to help them understand. It "takes a Village to raise our children." We began watching Noah, from the Sight and Sound Theater for a 20 minute intermission during Games Day while lunch was being prepared. They were totally intrigued. We will continue the Noah program during the next meeting. (a live resource)

On a side note, Horst had his first s'more at the meeting waiting for one of the children, and he loved it.

Our next meeting is the 2nd Saturday in February, 2/9, from 11:00-1:00. I am grateful for the help of Angela, Denise, and Elva who come each meeting. It wouldn't run as smoothly, it's like I'm given 6 extra hands, and we are all on the same page. I am grateful for the support and athleticism of our Father Tom, the children really look forward to his presence and hanging out running around with them. We have had other help come just at the time when extra hands are needed, God knows everything! He never ceases to amaze me.

Thank you for your support. **It takes a village. If anyone would like to add extra hands your always welcome!**

Loving and nurturing our children through Christ,

Andrea Linnell

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Your Missions Committee thought January a good time to share with you last year's activities. We at St. Paul's have a strong commitment to giving to those less fortunate as Jesus has asked us to do. Our Missions Committee supports some International Missions and many local ones. We have an annual budget of donations totally funded by you, our generous parishioners. Each year, we review these missions making sure we are helping those most in need and to identify new ones when our budget allows. This year, we added Samaritan's Purse an organization started by Franklin Graham that gives money for disaster relief—wildfires, floods, etc. The following is a list of missions we supported in 2018.

Samaritan's Purse (disaster relief)	\$1,000.00
Anglican Province of America (schools in India & Haiti)	2,000.00
Anglican Province of America Seminarian Fund	1,500.00
Annapolis Salvation Army Food Bank	\$4,200.00
Serenity Sistas' Addiction Recovery Houses.	4,200.00
South Villa Addiction Recovery House for Men.	3,000.00
North County Emergency Outreach Network	4,200.00
Purchase of Bibles and Christian Materials	400.00
Winter Relief Support for Homeless.	50.00
Annapolis Gardens Christmas Party.	600.00
Philippines Christmas Party.	500.00
Christmas Poinsettias for Serenity Sistas, Fairfield Nursing Home, Hope House, and South Villa	200.00

In addition, our Parishioners dress Christmas Bears and fill Stockings for Salvation Army. They also contribute to an annual Back-to-School Fundraiser. St. Paul's is full of cheerful givers! Thank you and may God continue to bless St. Paul's and each and every one of you.

Betty Royer

CALENDAR

Jan. 15	Office Closed
	6:30pm Vestry Meeting
Jan. 22-26	APA Winter Conference
Jan. 25	10am No Fri. Bible Study
Feb. 9	11am-1pm Youth Group
Feb. 13	1pm Prayer Shawl Ministry
Feb. 19	6:30pm Vestry Meeti
Feb. 23	10am Ladies Guild
Mar. 6	Ash Wednesday
Mar. 10	First Sunday in Lent
Apr. 14	Palm Sunday
Apr. 18	7pm HC Maundy Thursday
Apr. 19	Good Friday
Apr. 21	Easter Day

Lenten & Easter Schedule

- Feb 17 Septuagesima - Prelent begins
- Mar 5 Pancake Supper 6 PM
- Mar 6 Ash Wednesday - HC/Imposition of Ashes 7:30am, Noon, 7pm
- Mar 10 First Sunday in Lent
- Apr 14 Palm Sunday - palms will be distributed at each service
- Apr 18 Maundy Thursday Service 7 PM
- Apr 19 Good Friday program 12 noon to 3 PM
- Apr 20 Easter Vigil (approx. 7 PM-exact time TBD)
- Apr 21 Easter Day



The Rev. Tom Burr – Rector

The Rev. Eric Holle – Assisting Priest

The Rt. Rev. Robert S. Loiselle, Sr. – Rector Emeritus

Mr. Jack Wyatt, OSV – Senior Warden

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