

Cross Connections



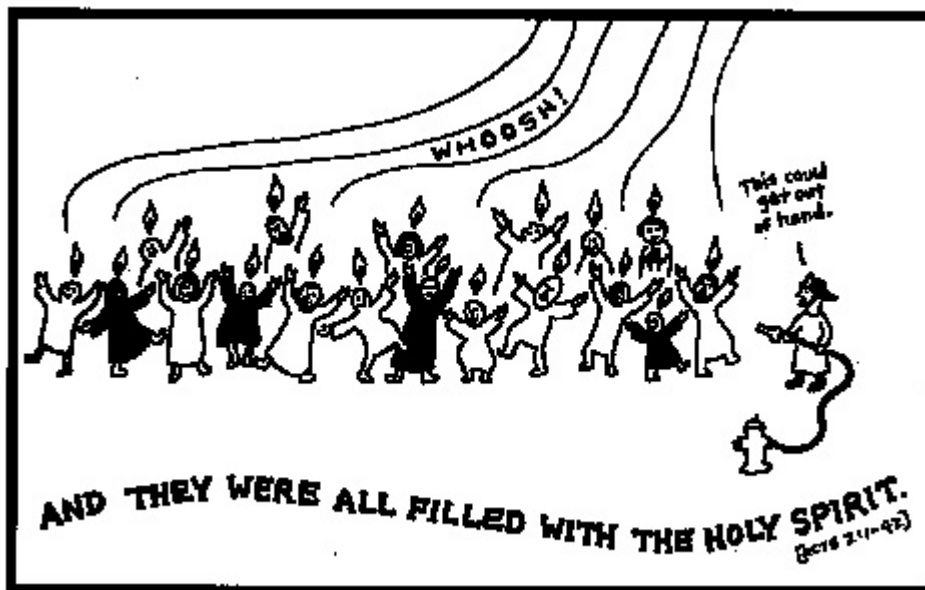
St. Paul's Lutheran Church

May 2016

Day of Pentecost - May 15, 2016

On the fiftieth day of Easter we celebrate the Spirit, through whom and in whom the people of God are created and re-created. Pentecost is sometimes called the church's birthday, but might more appropriately be called its baptism day, since the gift of the Spirit is the fullness of baptism. The promised Spirit of God is poured out. The baptized have become "children of God" and "joint heirs with Christ." By the power of the Spirit we have seen the face of the Father in his only begotten Son and been saved by him. Pentecost is a day of promises fulfilled.

Before Jesus ascended into heaven, he told his disciples they would be filled with the Holy Spirit. Now, surrounded by signs of fire, wind, and a variety of languages in their midst, the people were amazed and astonished at Jesus' promise coming true. (Acts 2:1-21)



Many passages in the Bible liken God to fire. The Holy Spirit of God appeared on Sinai in flames of fire, which on Pentecost appeared on the forehead of each believer. Moses experienced God in fire; through fire the Israelites presented offerings to God; God led the people through the wilderness with a pillar of fire. Fire both occasions human life and has the power to destroy. Think fire, think God. (from Sundays and Seasons, 2015, 2016) Artwork by Daniel Erlander, www.danielerlander.com. Used by permission.

The Rev. Scott M. Anderson, Pastor

Susan Esposito, Parish Administrator & Editor

Jacqueline Nappi, Minister of Music

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From the Pastor...

May will be a season of planning for the Paschall property team, finance committee, congregation council, and the congregation as a whole. It is a season of planning because our neighbor, Mrs. Doris Paschall, died on April 2. Because of this we must now honor our obligation to complete the purchase of the property that she owned. We have 120 days to go to closing.

We have a team of folks that are working on options for the property and with the help of finance and the council will be making recommendations on how to use the property and pay for it. I would encourage anyone that would wish to make a donation toward the purchase to do so as soon as possible. Also, if there is anyone that would be willing to loan us the money for the purchase we would be glad to discuss this with you. We would be willing to pay a fair market return on a loan.

I want to make a couple of thank you statements. We have so many folks who do good work and it is hard to remember to thank all of those who answer God's call to service, but at the end of April, we had two special events that should be recognized.

- ❖ First is the effort organized by George Seiz to improve the property and enhance our landscape. George and his crew of about 20 people spread mulch, trimmed bushes and generally improved the quality of our grounds. Nancy Anderson, Audrey Busch, and Kim and Tim Hoke have been working to spruce up specific areas around the church and they deserve some applause as well.
- ❖ The second effort was the work of our youth on Youth Sunday. The young people shared their love of the Lord and their faith with us on April 24th. They blessed us with their service and showed how much they love God. So thanks to all the youth and advisors that participated. A special thanks to our preacher and children's message preacher. Will and Mary Margaret did a great job and Eva was brave enough to chant the liturgy. Job well done.

As we move into preparation for VBS and Confirmation Camp, I ask you all to prayerfully consider how you may be of service to God at St. Paul's this summer.

*God's peace,
Pastor Scott*



From the Vicar...

"We're on a Mission from God."

The journey began with Advent, we survived Christmas, and we confessed and repented our way through Lent in order to celebrate Easter. Now May ushers in Pentecost.

The church calendar, and the paraments in our sanctuary changed to match, marks the days and seasons of the church with particular colors. Some of these have changed a little through history, but these days: Advent is blue, Christmas and Easter are white, Lent purple, and Pentecost is red. But the season after Pentecost is green and it stays green for a long time. This period is often referred to as, "Ordinary Time."

This is also the season where summer falls and in the churches of today, many people take their vacations, travel, and plan fun and recreational activities. This makes the phrase, "Ordinary Time" seem, well, ordinary. The term, however, comes from the Latin *ordinalis*, meaning, "numbered." Nevertheless, I think we should think of this as our plain old, ordinary time in the church. There are no major holidays, and many of our usual events fall away until fall.

Except ordinary doesn't mean boring, it means typical and usual, and the fact that Pentecost falls right before one of these large blocks of "ordinary time" should tell us what the typical and usual is all about. Pentecost celebrates the day when the Holy Spirit is sent to the disciples to give them the capacity for their mission. That means Pentecost is a celebration of the renewal of God's call to us to be about God's mission.

But the renewal is not merely a renewal of the events of Pentecost, nor just the work of the disciples. It goes back even before Christ called us to share the good news. God's mission has remained the same since the beginning. We are created as the image of God (Genesis 1) that the whole world might be blessed through us (Genesis 12) as we share the good news (Mark 16) for the healing of all (Revelation 22).

This means that the ordinary, or typical activity to which we are called is one of sharing messages of love and hope and contributing to the healing and reconciling of the world, by feeding the poor, caring for the feeble and ill, and seeking to mend broken relationships inside and outside our walls. We're on a mission from God, and it isn't a special day or event. It's an ordinary, everyday, part of our lives. And we



are given the mercy, grace, hope, peace, and love of Christ, who is always with us, to aid us in that responsibility.

Vicar Joseph O'Donnell

An open letter to the Congregation

Thank you for your warm send off and lovely plaque. My 14 years at St. Paul's were a time of joy and blessings. From creating castles and oceans and erupting volcanos for VBS to preparing an on-line catalog for the library to assisting with worship, I continually found the love and goodwill of Christian Fellowship. I pray that St. Paul's will continue to prosper and that God will lead me to a new congregation in the coming year.

I am currently staying with my Mother who will have a cornea transplant in late April and will celebrate her 98th birthday on June 5th. Her address is Mrs. Imogene Boyle, 135 S. Marion Ave., Louisville, Ohio 44641.

Sincerely

Roberta Lloyd

A Note from your New Church Librarians

Brenda Linares and Emily Vardell



We are excited to introduce ourselves as your new librarians helping run the Fowler Memorial Library. So that you can learn a little bit about us: Brenda received her Master of Library and Information Science from UCLA in 2007. Emily earned her Master of Library Science from

Texas Woman's University in 2007. We both were National Library of Medicine Associate Fellows from 2007 to 2009. In 2009, we began full-time jobs at the medical library at the University of Miami. Brenda was the Administrative Librarian and Head of Outreach. Emily was the Director for Reference and Education. In 2012, we moved to the Triangle area. Brenda is now the Liaison Librarian and Head of Graduate Assistants at the Health Sciences Library at UNC Chapel Hill. Emily is a Ph.D. Candidate in the School of Information and Library Science at UNC Chapel Hill.

We are grateful to Roberta Lloyd for all her years of service and for showing us the ropes before leaving for her retirement in Ohio. We are still learning about running the library, but would love to hear from you. What are your favorite things about the library? Are there things you would suggest that we look into? We are here for you and want to know what your needs are. We will be placing a box for comments in the library. You can also contact us by email (emily.vardell@gmail.com and linares7@gmail.com). We look forward to continuing to promote what a great resource we have in our church library. See you around and happy reading!

Students Talk "Faith and Money"

by Ali Tranvik

Duke Lutherans Campus Ministry

I remember a sermon my hometown pastor once preached about money, in which she declared that Jesus talks more about money than about love. I was probably in middle school at the time, and I recall getting upset about this news, thinking "this can't be true! You're telling me God cares more about my piggy bank than my heart?" It turns out she was right. There are more than 800 passages about money (or riches, wealth, treasure) in the Bible. Jesus talks about money more than heaven and hell combined. Eleven of 39 parables are about money, and 1 of every 7 verses in the Gospel of Luke talks about money.

There are passages that discuss the fragility and futility of money in this life: "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal" (Matt. 6:19-20). And there are the uncomfortable, convicting verses like, "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God" (Matt. 19:24).

Given such verses – let alone the sheer number of them – it seems clear that as people of faith, money matters. How we think theologically about money matters. How we spend it, save it, and share it *matters*.

That's what made money such a great topic for the final session of the Duke Lutherans Campus Ministry series "Faith in Everyday Life." The goal of this ecumenical program is to help connect faith with topics of our everyday lives as students – to connect Sundays with the rest of the week. So we hosted a session on "Faith and Money" in hopes that students

might leave with a greater sense of connectedness between their faith and their finances.

In our conversation, where 25 undergraduate and graduate students representing a variety of Christian traditions attended, we plunged into monetary matters, asking first what our faith has to say. As Christians, we decided, we are simultaneous participants in two different economies: our worldly economy (where money rules, scarcity motivates, and we own and deserve what's in our wallet) and God's economy (where love is the object, abundance is the assumption, and our resources are not owned or deserved, but freely given anyway). Seeing our money as a *gift* that we are mere stewards of for a time necessarily changes how we manage it, I think.

With this framework in mind, we delved into engaging conversation and heard from local speakers. One speaker reflected on

faith and money in his own faith life, and described how he transitioned from being a child attracted to the Franciscan monastic life and its renunciation of material wealth to becoming a financial adviser at Morgan Stanley. Then we got to consider our own attitudes toward money, discussing questions like:

- ▶ Does it matter whether we give our money to the church or to secular organizations whose mission we support? Why or why not?
- ▶ The Bible tells us to share of our time, talents, and treasure. How are these ways of giving similar and different from one another? Can we substitute one for another – that is, are they interchangeable?

We ended the session by turning from our own finances to a larger economic issue that is a particularly timely topic at Duke, in Durham, and at the national level within the presidential election: living wage. A speaker who represents both the Durham People's Alliances and the Durham Living Wage Project spoke to students about the importance of a living wage, both from an economic perspective as well as a theological/ethical perspective.

Talking about money candidly in community can be difficult. But it was something that happened in a meaningful way a few Mondays ago. And that, indeed, was a gift.



Trinity Hall Kitchen Training!

Would you like to know how to use the equipment in our church kitchen? Do you watch cooking shows on TV and wish you could be one of the cooks? We are blessed to have a large, commercial-style kitchen at St. Paul's; but this means that not all of the equipment is familiar to the

"home" cook. There will be a training session on **Saturday, May 7**, from 9 am to 1 pm. During this time, we will go over the high points of food safety; practice using the various appliances in the kitchen and in Trinity Hall, have a lovely lunch and then learn how to clean up afterwards! The cost will be \$5 per participant. Class size will be limited. Please email Karen Hassett (Karen.hassett@gmail.com) if you would like to sign up!



Preschool Pitter Patter

by Amanda Stoen, Director



It's hard to believe that this is our last month of preschool before we break for summer. The children have had so much learning about spring, farm life and bugs! It has been such an exciting year and I want to thank you all for your support throughout the school year. It has been so wonderful to watch these children grow in so many ways during the year.

St. Paul's will once again be offering six weeks of summer camp this summer for children 2-5 years old. If you have children, neighbors or friends who may be interested, please have them contact me. We are also continuing enrollment for the fall. We will be offering classes for children ages 10 months – 4 years old. Please contact me at the church or email: preschool@stpaulsdurham.org for more information.

Articles and information for the June issue of *Cross Connections* are due on Monday, May 16 with "Holy Folders" meeting on Wednesday, May 25 at 1:00 to prepare the issue for mailing.

Katherine Circle, WELCA

The Katherine Circle is hosting the Women of the Evangelical Church (WELCA) spring gathering here at St. Paul's on Saturday, April 30 from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm. All ladies of the church are invited to join us! The program is "Justice for Women – Our voices, our stories." Cost of \$8.00 includes registration, continental breakfast and lunch.

Duke Lutherans Community

by Ashley Acken



One of my favorite parts of working in ministry is the opportunity to be immersed into a community and as my time with Duke Lutherans comes to

an end, I reflect on what this community has been like for me. One of my favorite parts of this job has been being able to connect and grow with Duke Lutherans. Our community might be considered small to some but it is full of passion as we worship, serve, learn and play together. It is through this community that we have been able to make Lauren's Chemo Care Bags a success and to send a student to volunteer at the National Lutheran Youth Gathering. We visited residents at The Forest at Duke and tutored children from local schools here in Durham on a weekly basis. We have participated in justice-oriented programs with other campus ministries. It is through this community that I have had the opportunity to work with Ali as she facilitated our Faith in Everyday Life series and created a space to faithfully talk about hard topics. I also got to witness Ali carefully plan worship services as we kept these weekly gatherings at the center and the heart of Duke Lutherans. As we packed up Lauren's Chemo Care Bags after our worship service a few weeks ago, one of our graduate students started to sing and many others joined in as he sang the familiar words of "Down to the River to Pray." I paused and stepped back with a big smile on my face thought this is it – this is what it means to be the Body of Christ. It has been two years of transition, doubt and a whole lot of learning. But most importantly, it has been two years of Duke Lutherans coming together as a community to serve God and one another. Thank you all for your prayers and support these past two years. I am so incredibly thankful that I had the opportunity to serve and grow with Duke Lutherans. Thanks be to God for this community!

Sunday Coffee & Donuts

Come join us for coffee time and a donut between services on Sunday. Hosts for May are:

- May 1 – Morris Casper and Ken Land
- May 8 – George Seiz and Marcia Redman
- May 15 – Marilyn Hawley and Maria Chi
- May 22 – Maria Chi and Amanda Anderson
- May 29 – Emily Vardell and Bonnie Cooper

If you would like to host a Sunday in June, check out the sign-up located on the donut table.



Recycle/Repurpose

Spring cleaning time is here.

Time to discard things that are just taking up space on the shelf or in the closet. From sneakers to mattresses to toys with metal, there are so many items around the home that people aren't aware can be recycled. The most face-palm-worth oversight: water bottles, but also plastic bottles for bath products like shampoo, body wash, and lotion. If the bottles have the universal recycling symbol and the number 1, 2, or 5 they can be recycled. Learn more at brightfuture.unilever.us. Avoid buying plastics with numbers 3 through 7 because they are sometimes difficult to recycle. Buy products in concentrate when available. You'll use less, making your cost per use much lower than it would be with a non-concentrated brand, and you'll be consuming less packaging.



Durham Bulls Game

Young In Spirit is going to the Durham Bulls Baseball Game on Wednesday, June 1. It's a 1:05 PM game and tickets are \$14.00 each. We have a block of 20 tickets. For more information, contact Dick Clendaniel. Please sign up in the reception office. (Checks are to be made payable to St. Paul's and put BB game on the memo).



In the mailbag....

Dear Members of St. Paul's,
After his last MRI, the doctors did not find any more cancer cells in the body of our great-grandson, Jeremy Young, and declared him cancer-free. He had undergone an operation to remove the large malignant growth and had multiple chemo treatments and all that at less than 2 years of age. Our entire family is grateful for your prayers and caring support during this difficult time. We thank all of you very much.

Otti and Karl Freundt

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Commemorating National Volunteer Appreciation

Volunteers give the world a lift!

You make a difference through all the things you do.

We are most thankful that we can count on you!!

Touching lives and lifting our spirits!!

"We rise by lifting others"

Robert Ingersoll

Murdoch Development Center Volunteer Services

(This is in response to the donation of 22 quilts by the Tongue and Thimble group given to them in January.)

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The Woodcroft Women's Club would like to thank you for your generous donation to our back pack program at the Food Bank. Our group packs bags for 160 needy children who go to Eastway Elementary School. Without your donation we would have had very little food to pack. Now we will be able to have plenty for them to take home. We are so grateful for your donation and for Marcia and Diana to do the shopping. They purchased oatmeal, granola bars, fruit cups, soup and juice boxes for 160 bags.

Fondly,

Peggy Lee

WWC Weekend Power Pack Program

(These were donated by the Katherine Circle to their program.)

Welcome by Holy Baptism

On Sunday, April 24, we welcomed Josephine Minerva Warr, daughter of Maria Katharine Helgeson and Jonathan Alexander Warr. Josephine was born on April 22, 2015. Sponsors are Joseph "Sepp" Craig Helgeson and Lauren Nicole Warr.

Agape Ganza

Camp Agape will be hosting its third annual Agape Ganza open house event on Saturday, May 14th from 1:30 pm to 5:30 pm. We are in need of pies for our pie competition. Simply complete the Pie Competition Registration Form found in a link on our website (www.agapekurebeach.org) and bring your homemade pie to the Woodlands Center at Camp Agape by 1:30 pm on the day of the competition to be entered into our contest. The judges will rate your pie based on presentation, crust, and taste. The winner will receive a \$50 gift certificate to our camp store. You may also show up with a pie and complete the registration form prior to the event! You may also come enjoy the activities including a chance to win a campership. Some of the activities we have planned for the day include: a GaGa Ball Tournament; Pond Critters; canoeing; archery, zip line rides; games, snacks, ice cream truck, and more. For questions contact Carrie Ritchie at 919-552-9421 or development2@agapekurebeach.org. Hope to see you!

Heart, Soul, and Strength

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength." Deut. 6:5

Last year, more than 3,300 seniors received care from Lutheran Services Carolinas through its senior living communities, adult day services, and in-home care. That means these older adults lived a more abundant life thanks to LSC staff, churches, and volunteers. That is something to celebrate!

During the month of May, congregations across North Carolina celebrate LSC Senior Services Month. This is a chance to lift up the people who work for and receive care from LSC. The theme for LSC's emphasis month is "Heart, Soul, & Strength" taken from Deuteronomy 6:5, which tells us to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength." Each day we are presented with opportunities to help those in need and be an example of God's love and kindness in the lives of others.

If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to support the work of LSC senior services, please make checks payable to Lutheran Services Carolinas and write "Senior Services Month" on the memo line. Contributions may be mailed to P. O. Box 947, Salisbury, NC 28145, or made securely online at www.LSCarolinas.net.

Growing Thru Grief

"Growing Thru Grief," a local coalition of Triangle-area Christian Churches and supporting organizations, is continuing their six-week **"Introduction to Grief"** series at its regular group gatherings on Tuesdays from 4:30-6:00 pm at St. Paul's. This program includes core education on the grief process and small group discussions. Jehanne Gheith, MSW, LCSW, PhD, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker who works at Duke Hospice and Bereavement Services as a clinical social worker and a grief counselor will lead the program. Topics include:

May 3: Re-mem-bering/remem-bering.

May 10: Meeting will feature small group discussion

May 17: program will be healing Yoga led by Marge Satinsky

Come for refreshments at 4:00 pm. The program, which is free, begins at 4:30 and ends at 6:00 pm. All are welcome! For more information, contact growingthrugrief@gmail.com.

Vacation Bible School

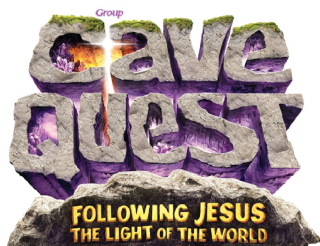
June 20-24, 2016

9:00 am-12:30 pm

Registrations are available in the atrium at the display table and also on our website www.stpaulsdurham.org (Look under resources to forms). Deadline to register is **Wednesday, June 1**. Registration fees are \$20 per child.

Adult and Teen Team assistants are very important to the success of this program. Please prayerfully consider how you can help with this year's VBS and sign up at the registration table, using the same forms that the child registration. We need shepherds to guide the children from place to place, snack time help, recreation leaders, and a picnic coordinator for Friday, June 24 at noon.

This year's theme is Cave Quest. During the week the children will cover each of the Bible Points of the day: Jesus gives us hope, courage, direction, love, and power. They will enjoy music, bible exploration, science, crafts, recreation, refreshments as well as great interaction with others. Friday at noon will be our traditional closing and VBS picnic which everyone is invited to attend. Come and enjoy Cave Quest VBS!



Ramadan Interfaith Evenings

The Institute of Islamic and Turkish Studies (www.iitsnc.org) in Cary is inviting members of St. Paul's and colleagues to share their table to break bread together with their community members in the month of Ramadan. They will show a documentary movie "Love is a Verb" as we did last year. This will be followed by a quick tour and brief introduction about the mosque, prayers and the month of fasting. Guests can interact with the community members while waiting for the sunset and the dinner. Since the sunset is sometime around 8:35 pm during those days we will have to wait until then to start the dinner.

If you would like to participate in one of these evenings, please contact Pastor Scott Anderson.

You are invited to share in the installation service of

The Reverend Timothy L. Taylor

as Pastor/Redeveloper for

The Church of the Abiding Savior, Lutheran

Sunday, May 1, 2016

3:30 pm

1625 South Alston Avenue

Durham, NC

Clergy and rostered leaders are invited to vest.

The color of the day is white for the Easter season.

Reception Following service.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church, ELCA
1200 West Cornwallis Road
Durham, NC 27705-5731

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Young In Spirit Picnic

The Young In Spirit activity on Wednesday, May 11 is a 12:00 potluck picnic at West Point on the Eno City Park, 5101 Roxboro Road, six miles north of downtown Durham. Bring a dish to pass and join us for sunshine, fun and fellowship. There is a sign-up in the receptionist office. We are scheduling a tour of the 1850s McCowen-Mangum House and the mill after lunch.



Senior Adults Picnic

Community Café Help Needed!

St. Paul's next day to work at the Community Café is Saturday, May 21. Volunteers are needed to work from 11 am to 1:30 pm. NO EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY. No cooking or clean up is involved – only food prep and serving. Please contact Nancy Dewhirst for any questions or to sign up. (Nancydewhirst@yahoo.com).

Wednesday Supper - May 4th



Stephen Ministers are preparing and serving the meal for 1st Wednesday at St. Paul's on May 4th. The Mexican meal will be prepared under the supervision of St. Paul's talented chef team of Tim and Kim Hoke. We're debating whether to call it **Quatro de Mayo** (can't quite call it **Cinco de Mayo** since it is the 4th) or "**Steve's Diner**" **Dinner Theater** as we will also be presenting a brief skit about Stephen Ministry that is set in "Steve's Diner." By whatever name it's called, we hope to see many of you there for food, fellowship, fun, and info on Wed., May 4th in Trinity Hall beginning at 6:00 pm.

Bold Like Jesus!

St. Paul's is one of five congregations statewide that have been participating in "Live Your Faith" events. The last one is Saturday, May 14 from 9 am - 3 pm, lunch provided. The May event will call us to tell the Gospel confidently by announcing the Kingdom of God. We are believers in God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Have you ever been with a friend who is despairing and wanted to be able to confess the hope you have in God? How would you like to be able to notice God at work in the world and tell someone about it, to help you both on your journey of faith? All it takes is practice and support. But how can you give or get such practice and support for such a simple but profound act? Come and practice the Kingdom with a group of faithful friends. If you would like to register for this event, please contact the church office. Registration deadline is May 11.

IHN Week - May 8 - 15

Our last IHN week will be the second week of May. Sign-ups are available to help out as we draw to a close this phase of Interfaith Hospitality Network. We still need all the regular people to help: overnight hosts, drivers, laundry, meals, etc.

Please Use Cell Phones!

How often do you get a request like that? Usually it's the other way around. We would really love to have a photo catalog of the many things St. Paul's members are doing and involved in, whether it's for fun, ministry, or charity. Please, use your cell phones and snap a quick picture of your meeting, event, participation, or activity, and send it to vicar@stpaulsdurham.org. We would like to create some new ways of showing the incredible work of the church both inside and outside our walls.