



eBeacon

Sacred Hills Regional Ministry – February 2014

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stmop@embarqmail.net

The Rev. Sidney Breese – Priest in Charge

Mr. Greg Hall – Senior Warden – St. Mary's

Mr. John Zeliff – Senior Warden – St. Oswald's in-the-Fields

Ms. Gina Smith – Senior Warden – St. Paul's

<http://www.saintpaulsmaryville.org>

Services of the Sacred Hills Regional Ministry

- Sunday, 2/2 Holy Eucharist at St. Paul's
and St. Mary's
- Sunday, 2/9 Holy Eucharist at St. Paul's
and St. Oswald's;
Morning Prayer at St. Mary's
- Sunday, 2/16 Holy Eucharist at St. Paul's
and St. Mary's
St. Paul's Chili Supper
(more information follows)
- Sunday, 2/23 Holy Eucharist at St. Paul's
and St. Oswald's;
Morning Prayer at St. Mary's

First Sunday Offering

St. Paul's First Sunday Offering
for February will again go to the
Community Services Heat
Assistance Fund. Please
remember to label your offering
for First Sunday or Heat
Assistance.



Annual Meetings

At St. Paul's Annual Meeting January 26, all
Bishop's Committee members and diocesan

and Sacred Hills representatives were
retained. The proposed budget was
approved. Bishop's Committee members
are Mike Graham, Channing Horner,
Richard Leach-Steffens, Jeff Loomis, Gina
Smith, and Jody Strauch. Gina will replace
Richard as Senior Warden. Jody Strauch
was re-elected as Diocesan Convention
representative, and Gina will be the
alternate. Gina will also serve on the Sacred
Hills Council as Sr. Warden, and Louise
Horner will continue as St. Paul's
representative to the Council.

St. Mary's Annual Meeting will be held on
February 2. A spaghetti and meatball
potluck dinner will follow worship. Plan
now to attend.

Chili!!

St. Paul's annual Chili Supper for the
benefit of the Children and Family Center,
now held with the generous
cooperation of several other



Maryville churches, will take place from **4:30 to 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 16, at the First Christian Church** in Maryville. Members of St. Paul's will make several different kinds of chili and soup and also furnish some accompaniments. Other churches will contribute desserts. Everyone in Sacred Hills is invited to come, eat chili, help the cause, and make new friends. Tickets will be \$6 each. Tickets and sign-up sheets for chili and accompaniments are now available in the undercroft.

Looking Ahead



The Maryville **Relay for Life** will be Saturday, May 17 at the Bearcat Football Stadium. St. Paul's will need lots of help preparing for and cooking our popular *fajitas*.

The **Diocesan Convention** will be held November 7 and 8, place TBA.

Bishop Marty's visitations to Sacred Hills, as presently scheduled, will be November 2 at St. Mary's, December 14 at St. Paul's, and February 1, 2015, at St. Oswald's.

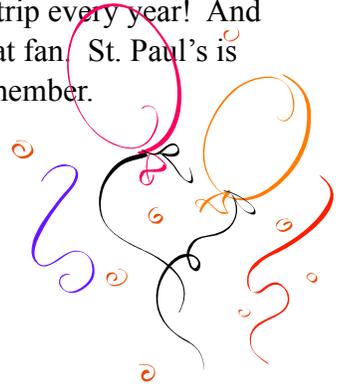


Parishioner Spotlight

Jody Strauch

Jody Strauch, St. Paul's webmaster and media expert, contributes cheerfully to the church in many other ways. She is a Lay Eucharistic Minister, a member of the Altar Guild, and one of our cookie bakers for

Shepherd's Kitchen each month. She has also had several terms on the Bishop's Committee. When St. Paul's Seekers have had discussion groups or Bible Study, Jody has been a thoughtful and faithful participant, and she often gave rides to the sessions and extra help to Lorene Bowness. A university professor herself, she can usually be counted on to help with any activities involving students. In the future, she hopes to prepare for the priesthood, and has already done some discernment and preparation. Through the internet, Jody has become a great fan of German soccer, has made Facebook friends among fans there, met some of them on her trip to Germany last summer, and now plans to study German and make that trip every year! And yes, she is also a Bearcat fan. St. Paul's is lucky to have her as a member.



Sacred Hills Days of Celebration

Birthdays

Channing Horner	2/17	St. Paul's
Sandra Fuhrman	2/22	St Oswald's

Anniversaries

Bill and Vickie Cox	2/4	St. Mary's
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**If God is your co-pilot
SWAP SEATS!!**

First Black American Episcopal Priest



Born a slave in Delaware in 1746, Absalom Jones was the

first Black American to be ordained an Episcopal priest (and quite possibly the first black priest of any denomination). At age 16, Jones was sent to Philadelphia to work in his master's store. He taught himself to read from the New Testament and attended night school for Blacks operated by Quakers. In 1786 Jones met Richard Allen, and they became lay ministers for the Black members of St. George's Methodist Episcopal Church. Their active evangelism and pastoral efforts resulted in a tenfold increase in Black members of the parish. This alarmed the vestry, which decided to segregate Blacks to an upstairs gallery. Jones and Allen were outraged, and they led the Black parishioners out the door.

The two continued holding church services, and Allen went on to found the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church. Absalom Jones, with the aid of Quakers and Episcopalians, erected the African Church. In October 1794, it was admitted as St. Thomas African Episcopal Church. Jones was ordained priest in 1802, yet he and his parishioners were not permitted to participate in Diocesan life.

Jones was an activist in areas important to his congregation and to other Blacks. Education was a major need of the Black community as they were excluded from the public schools. He founded a day school at the Church. Jones, who had purchased his wife's freedom and later his own, protested against slavery. He preached a Thanksgiving sermon, Abolition of the Slave Trade, in 1808. During the War of 1812, Jones and Allen recruited 3,000 Blacks to form a "Black Legion." Jones continued his ministry on behalf of the oppressed and distressed until his death in 1818.

CLEANING HOUSE

Last Week I threw out **worrying**, it was getting old and in the way.

It kept me from being me; I couldn't do things God's way.

I threw out a book on **MY PAST** (Didn't have time to read it anyway).

Replaced it with **NEW GOALS**, started reading it today.

I threw out **hate** and **bad memories**, (Remember how I treasured them so)?

Got me a **NEW PHILOSOPHY** too, threw out the one from long ago.

Brought in some new books too, called **I CAN, I WILL, and I MUST**. Threw out **I might, I think** and **I ought**. **WOW**, you should've seen the dust.

I ran across an **OLD FRIEND**, I hadn't talked to in a while.

His name is **GOD the Father**, and I really like **His** style.

He helped me to do some cleaning and added some things **Himself**.

Like **PRAYER, HOPE, FAITH** and **LOVE**, yes... I placed them right on the shelf.

I picked up this special thing and placed it at the front door.

I FOUND IT- its called **PEACE**.

Nothing gets me down anymore.

Yes, I've got my house looking nice, looks good around the place.

For things like Worry and Trouble there just isn't any space.

It's good to do a little house cleaning, get rid of the things on the shelf.

It sure makes things brighter;

**Maybe you should TRY IT YOURSELF
BE BLESSED AND BE A BLESSING TO
SOMEONE ELSE!!!!**

May the Lord open the windows of heaven
and pour you out a blessing that you will not
have room enough to receive it all.

May the Lord bless you exceedingly
abundantly above all you could ever hope
for.

Take 60 seconds & Bless someone! Keep
the Faith!!!

Where is God?

This is a repeat but oh so good, thought you might enjoy again...

Two little boys, ages 8 and 10, are extremely mischievous. They are always getting into trouble and their parents know all about it. If any mischief occurs in their town, the two boys are probably involved. The boys' mother heard that a preacher in town had been successful in disciplining children, so she asked if he would speak with her boys. The preacher agreed, but he asked to see them individually.

So the mother sent the 8 year old first, in the morning, with the older boy to see the preacher in the afternoon.

The preacher, a huge man with a booming voice, sat the younger boy down and asked him sternly,
'Do you know where God is, son?'

The boy's mouth dropped open, but he made no response, sitting there wide-eyed with his mouth hanging open.

So the preacher repeated the question in an even sterner tone, 'Where is God?!'
Again, the boy made no attempt to answer.

The preacher raised his voice even more and shook his finger in the boy's face and bellowed,
'Where is God?!'

The boy screamed and bolted from the room, ran directly home and dove into his closet, slamming the door behind him.

When his older brother found him in the closet, he asked, 'what happened?'

The younger brother, gasping for breath, replied, 'We are in BIG trouble this time.'

Younger one - '**GOD is missing, and they think we did it!!!!!!!!!!!!** !!!'

Writing for the e-Beacon

If anyone would like to contribute congregational news, a seasonal reflection, or a bit of history to the Beacon, send it either to Louise Horner at lhorne@cebridge.net (to avoid possible duplication) or directly to Diana Taylor at stmp@embarqmail.com before the last week in the month. Due to costs, long articles will be sent via e-mail but not included in the printed version, so keep them short if possible.

