



# The Journey

*Newsletter from St Paul's Episcopal Cathedral*

815 High Street ☩ Downtown Des Moines, Iowa

515-288-7297

September and October, 2022





## GREETINGS *from the* ACTING DEAN

The Rev. Nicola Bowler  
Acting Dean of the Cathedral  
[actingdean@stpaulsdm.org](mailto:actingdean@stpaulsdm.org)

The Rev. Jean McCarthy, Priest Associate  
[therevjeanmccarthy@gmail.com](mailto:therevjeanmccarthy@gmail.com)

The Rev. John Doherty, Deacon  
[johndeacon@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org](mailto:johndeacon@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org)

The Rev. Jean Davis, Deacon  
[jeandeacon@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org](mailto:jeandeacon@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org)

Canon Mark A. Babcock, Organist/Choirmaster  
[BabcockM@central.edu](mailto:BabcockM@central.edu)

John Zickefoose, Executive Assistant to the Dean  
[execadmin@stpaulsdm.org](mailto:execadmin@stpaulsdm.org)

Lisa Nelson, Finance Specialist  
[financial@stpaulsdm.org](mailto:financial@stpaulsdm.org)

Rick Stearns, Business Manager  
[business@stpaulsdm.org](mailto:business@stpaulsdm.org)

Austin Rozendaal, IT Specialist  
[it@stpaulsdm.org](mailto:it@stpaulsdm.org)

Jovan Sankovic, Sunday Sexton

Christopher Smith, Weekday Sexton

### The Chapter

#### Class of 2023

Mike Gillespie  
Jonathan Hansen  
Henry Harmon, *Treasurer*  
Elvin McDonald

#### Class of 2024

Jolene Phelps  
Phyllis Melton, Jr. *Warden*  
John Stender-Custer  
Duane Sand

#### Class of 2025

Kirsten Buniak, *Clerk*  
Stephanie Murphy  
Tom Smith  
Stephanie Wells, Sr. *Warden*

Dear People of St. Paul's,

It has been delightful over recent summer months to talk with many of you using the presiding Bishop's model for guided conversation *From Many, One: Conversations Across Difference*. More than forty of us participated in at least one conversation and we were each asked to offer a one-word reflection at the end of our time together. Many of those words appear in the graphic on page 4. Personally, I appreciated getting to know several people on a deeper level and learning what contributes to their sense of belonging at St. Paul's. Thank you for participating.

On August 23<sup>rd</sup>, St. Paul's offered a Service of Blessing for Educators, in recognition of the challenging times that educators have worked through in recent years and offering prayerful support to those in Greater Des Moines and beyond. We are thrilled to have attracted almost 200 views across our two streaming platforms (YouTube and Facebook) and are beginning to experiment with online advertising to reach those searching for a "welcoming, worshipping community committed to living Christ's unconditional love through fellowship, service,



and kindness." Thank you to all who worked together to prepare and offer this service.

In fall 2022 St. Paul's looks forward to a variety of Cathedral Arts programming on third Sundays of the month at 4:00 pm, with Bishop Monnot officiating at Choral Evensong on September 18, *Requiem* by Gabriel Fauré on October 16, Thanksgiving Evensong on November 20, and a Service of Lessons & Carols on December 18. These events offer excellent opportunities to bring your friends to St. Paul's – please do!

Beyond this, St. Paul's will host Diocesan Convention Services of Holy Eucharist on Friday October 28 at 7:00 pm and Sunday October 30 at 10:00 am (there will be no 8:00 am service that day).

*Continued on page 4*

## IN-PERSON AND ONLINE SERVICES

### SUNDAYS

8:00 am

Holy Eucharist, Rite I

10:00 am

Holy Eucharist Rite II [livestreamed](#) and on Facebook

### WEEKDAYS

#### Wednesday Morning Prayer

9:15 am every week, via Zoom

Please contact Deacon [Jeanie Smith](#)

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

To receive a weekly email invitation to the Zoom meeting room. If you do not have a copy of the Book of Common Prayer at home, you may access it online at [bcponline.org](#).

#### Wednesday Noon Eucharist at 12:05 pm

In the Chapel

### SELECTED SEASONAL SPECIAL SERVICES

#### Friday, October 28 at 7:00 pm

Opening Eucharist for Diocesan Convention

#### Sunday, October 30 at 10:00 am

Sending Eucharist for Diocesan Convention (no 8:00 am service.)

#### Litany of Blessing

Sunday, Sunday, September 11 and Sunday, October 9, following both services. Gather at the side altar.

#### Choral Evensong— third Sunday of the month

Sunday, September 18 at 4 p.m.

Sunday, October 16 at 4 p.m. Requiem by Gabriel Faure

### WEEKLY GROUP MEETINGS

#### St. Paul's Men's Group

St. Paul's Sr. Men's Study Group The group which had been meeting on Wednesday's has decided to take a break for the summer. . We will be looking forward to reconvening the group in early fall.

If you have questions, please contact John McKinney

[j123mck@aol.com](mailto:j123mck@aol.com) or the cathedral Office

([execasst@stpaulsdm.org](mailto:execasst@stpaulsdm.org))



**ABOVE:** (A mourning dove in the church windowsill recently . Its mate was down in the courtyard pecking through the foliage.) *Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may have her young-- a place near your altar, LORD Almighty, my King and my God. (Psalm 84:3)*

## SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2022

### Contents

- 5 St. Paul's Cathedral Arts' 30th Season
- 6 Parish Survey
- 8 Memories of Jo Wetherell



**ON THE COVER:** The west portico "in the shadow of the Cross." The idea of the shadow is mentioned frequently in the Bible, usually as God's protective presence: "I have put my words in your mouth and covered you with the shadow of my hand." ( Isaiah 51:16) "He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty."

From the Acting Dean, continued

I look forward to reporting to you outcomes of the work of the Vision Task Force in the next issue of The Journey. The Task Force has been working hard these past six months responding to the charge to “Examine focus areas including Cathedral identity, Diocesan relations, Community engagement, and Parish engagement. Make recommendations to the Cathedral Chapter on directions for potential growth and change that will strengthen and benefit the mission and ministry of St. Paul’s into the near and distant future.” Meanwhile, do speak with me or a member of the Task Force if you would like to hear about their work.

God’s Blessing be with you,  
Christ’s peace be with you,  
the Spirit’s outpouring be with you,  
now and always. Amen.  
(Celtic blessing)

Faithfully,

*Amma Nicola*



## Little Things to Celebrate at St. Paul’s!



- The Cathedral courtyard has been power-washed!
- Our alleyway has been mended and resurfaced!
- The Chapel has been repaired and repainted!
- High street lower entryway has been repainted and door trim installed and painted!
- The Preying Mantis in our parking lot in late summer! (Or is it a “Praying Mantis?” See below.)
- St. Paul’s Youth  
Middle and high school youth will meet periodically this fall for Fellowship, fun, and service projects. Please contact Amma Nicola ([actingdean@stpaulsdm.org](mailto:actingdean@stpaulsdm.org)) to get connected with the group.





**St. Paul's Cathedral Arts**

*Fall and Winter 2022*

## **We Celebrate Cathedral Arts' 30th Season!**

**Fall and Winter 2022**

### **Sunday, September 18 at 4 pm Choral Evensong**

Bishop Betsey Monnot, Officiant

Led by the Cathedral Choir and guests from the Diocese

Music by Charles Callahan will be featured

### **Sunday, September 25 at 4 pm Cathedral Arts Garden Party**

Home of Mark Babcock and Tony Braid

*(Please call the Cathedral Office for the address)*

Your opportunity to hear about Cathedral Arts plans

and to be a Cathedral Arts patron

### **Sunday, October 16 at 4 pm Requiem by Gabriel Fauré**

Combined Cathedral Choir and Howells Scholars

Chamber Orchestra and Organ (Canon David Raymond, Organist Emeritus)

Conducted by Canon Mark Babcock, Cathedral Organist/Choirmaster

### **Sunday, November 20 at 4 pm Choral Evensong**

*A Service of Thanksgiving*

Sung by the Howells Scholars featuring the music of Charles Stanford

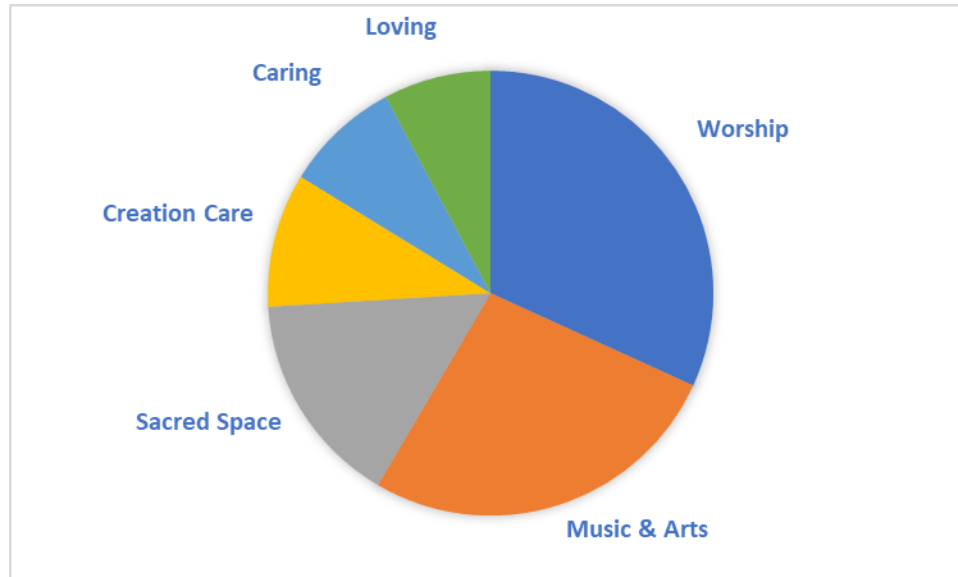
### **Sunday, December 18 at 4 pm Service of Lessons and Carols**

Sung by the Cathedral Choir

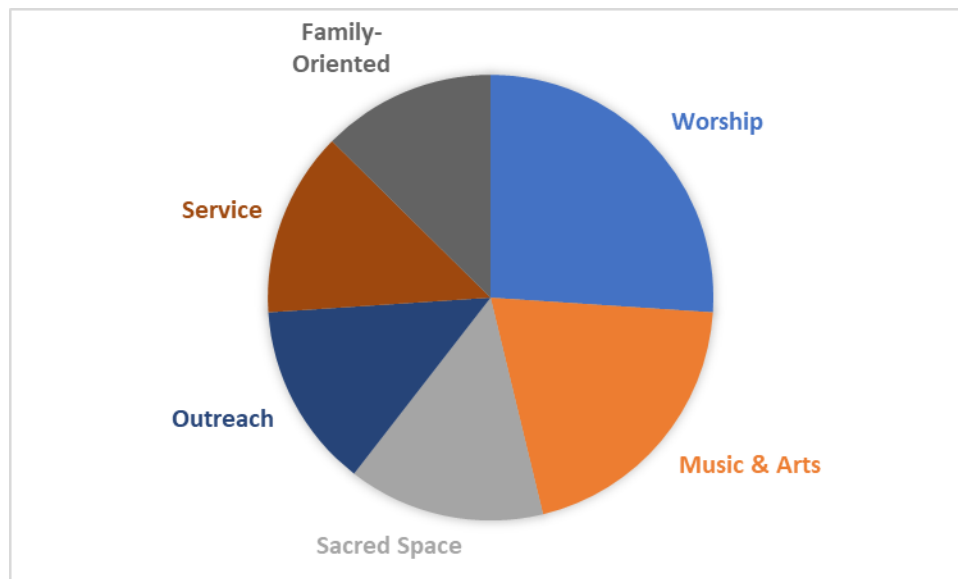
## Parish Survey

There were 56 responses to the parish-wide survey conducted in April this year by the Vision Task Force. Participants were asked to select keywords that they associate with St. Paul's currently and hope for in the future. Survey results are presented in visual form in the charts below.

The following six words/phrases were those most commonly selected by survey respondents answering the question "What of the following do you **currently** closely associate with St. Paul's Cathedral?" The pie chart below shows the relative prevalence of each of these six.



The following six words/phrases were those most commonly selected by survey respondents answering the question "What of the following would you most like to have associated with St. Paul's Cathedral **in the future**?"



The following summary observations can be made from these results:

- Worship, music, arts and sacred space were primary to both current identity and future vision; Secondly, orientation shifted towards outreach, service and family/fellowship/small groups as important aspects of future vision.

Please approach any member of the Vision Task Force (Nicola Bowler, Nathan Brown, Sheila Brown, Bill Graham, Elvin McDonald, Jolene Phelps, Duane Sand, Elizabeth Skinner, and Skeet Wootten) if you would like to know more about their work, which will be reported fully in a future issue of The Journey.

## God's "Summer Vacation?"



© 2022 Church Pension Group



### Our Weekend Sexton, Jovan Sankovic, Retires

Jovan, his wife, Jela and their two daughters arrived in Iowa November 11, 1999, and he has been our Sexton since 2010. Plans are being made for a Parish celebration, and they will be announced soon!

### Harriet Macomber Recognition

We gratefully acknowledge our receipt of this year's J. Locke & Harriet S. Macomber Cathedral Church of St. Paul Endowment in memory of J. Locke & Harriet S. Macomber.



## Memories of Jo Wetherell

By Elvin McDonald

The Americans who occupied Japan at the close of WWII eventually returned home, often bringing with them an appreciation for bonsai--artfully dwarfed woody plants--and ikebana, a particular school of flower arranging. Notably, an editor at *Better Homes & Gardens*, Fae Huttenlocher, befriended a new Des Moines resident, Tomoko Yamamoto, who lived in the city from 1943 until her death in 1966, and taught the art of ikebana. One of her students was St. Paul's own Jo Wetherell, coincidentally one of the seven founders of the Japan America Society of Iowa in 1989. There is also an Iowa Bonsai Association, which meets at the Botanical Garden and helps maintain the aged bonsai that lives there, a ginkgo in training since 1865.



Jo's husband, architect John, and I encountered each other in the late 90's as we each did our part in the renovation of the Hotel Pattee in Perry, restoration of the Carnegie Library there, and Soumas Court vest pocket park. Come January 2002, I found myself in St. Paul's choir with John and before long we are on the property committee together with Jo, who had an extraordinary sense of color; an historic cathedral building could have no better curators than the Wetherells.

During my years as Friends Director for what we know today as the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden, Jo was always ready to help me stage a show of flower arrangements, often in the North Wing Gallery, which extends from the geodesic dome conservatory. More than once she brought her ikebana makings and we set up shop for sidewalk demonstrations in the East Village.

The enduring appeal of ikebana is the symbolism it expresses, minimal elements existing in harmony, representing heaven, earth, and humanity. My memory is of Jo with her gardener's bucket, her clippers, a branch, a bloom or two, maybe a rock or "frog" pin holder, a low vase and, as though in a meditation, she let each part reveal where it belonged within the whole. Subtle beauty, like the flower arranger herself.



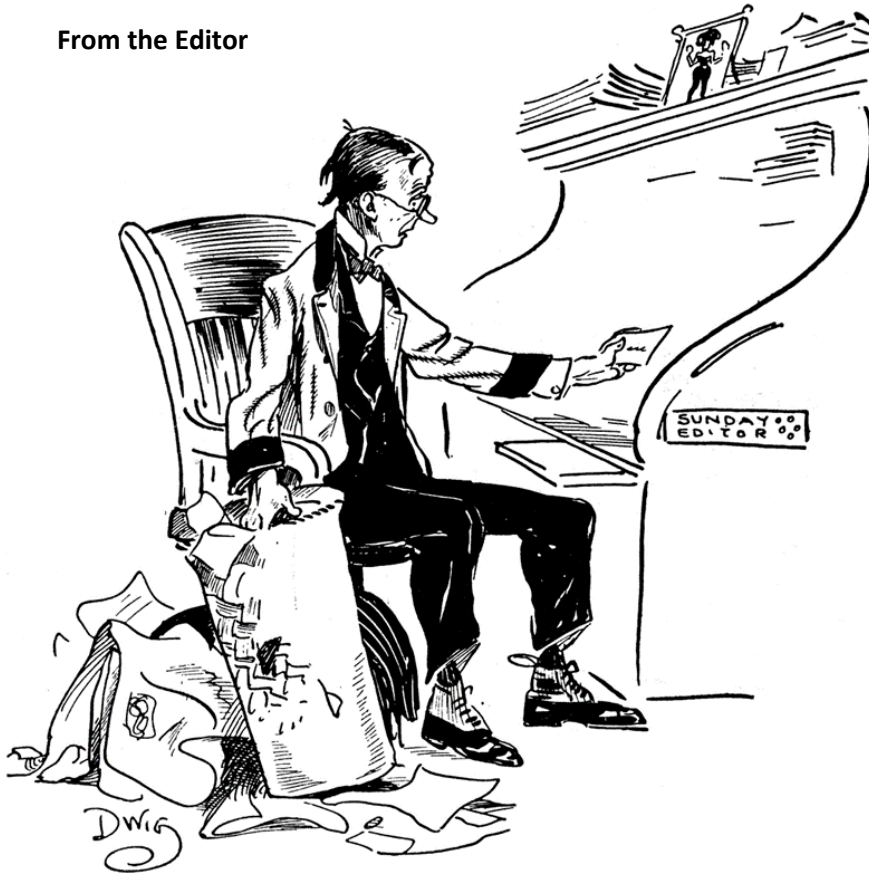
Above, an image of a moribana flower arrangement showing another Japanese style, and it was done by Natalie Dragstedt for a show Jo helped produce at the botanical garden.

Below, "As the twig is bent, so grows the tree."





From the Editor



By John Zickefoose

I've been preparing the weekly service booklets for over a decade, and my biggest fear about their publication is the typographical error – not so much an error in citing the wrong Psalm or Gospel lesson, but linguistic errors, such as a misplaced modifier, and words – although incorrect within their content – pass through spell-check without a problem. Shortly after I began working at the Cathedral I recall attending a Christmas Eve service in Denver where one of the hymns in the bulletin was printed "Hark the herald angels sin," which was apparently fine with spell-check, but is surely a theological perplexity.

Of course no one is perfect, I have been most fortunate that my own inadvertent blunders have not been knotty or awkward. A friend of mine recently sent me a document containing some church bulletin typos, which I thought I'd share with our readers.

"For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs."

"The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon."

"The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'"

"Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new Choir members and to the deterioration of some older ones."

"When parking on the north side of the church, please remember to park on an angel."

"The church is glad to have with us today as our guest minister the Rev. Ralph Green, who has Mrs. Green with him. After the service we request that all remain in the sanctuary for the Hanging of the Greens."

"The concert held in the Fellowship Hall was a great success. Special thanks are due to the minister's daughter, who labored the whole evening at the piano, which as usual fell upon her."

The pastor will light his candle from the altar candles. The ushers will light their candle from the pastor's candle. The ushers will turn and light each worshipper in the first pew.

And, lastly, my own personal favorite:

"Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation."

## Cathedral Office Hours

The Cathedral Office is open from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm Monday through Friday. Voice mails may be left for staff at 515-288-7297 and will be checked regularly. Emails are also welcome.

Amma Nicola: [actingdean@stpaulsdm.org](mailto:actingdean@stpaulsdm.org)  
Deacon John: [johndeacon@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org](mailto:johndeacon@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org)  
Deacon Jean: [jeandeacon@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org](mailto:jeandeacon@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org)  
John Zickefoose: [execadmin@stpaulsdm.org](mailto:execadmin@stpaulsdm.org)



### Safe and Secure Online Giving!

We offer safe and secure online giving on our website by clicking "Donate Now" at the top of the page. You may choose to give to our general budget, to the Clergy Discretionary Fund, the Cathedral Preservation Fund, to Cathedral Arts, or a number of other causes. You can also automatically give by texting the amount you wish to donate to this number: **515-207-8133**.

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

Please contact us at [execadmin@stpaulsdm.org](mailto:execadmin@stpaulsdm.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 November/December issue will be Monday, October 24, 2022.***

Please contact us at [administrator@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org](mailto:administrator@cathedralchurchofstpaul.org)  
or call the Cathedral Office: 515-288-7297. Thank you!

Please be sure to visit our website:  
<http://cathedralchurchofstpaul.org>

Find Us on Facebook:  
<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulscathedraldsm>



**Mission Statement:** St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral is a welcoming, worshiping community committed to living Christ's unconditional love through fellowship, service, and kindness.