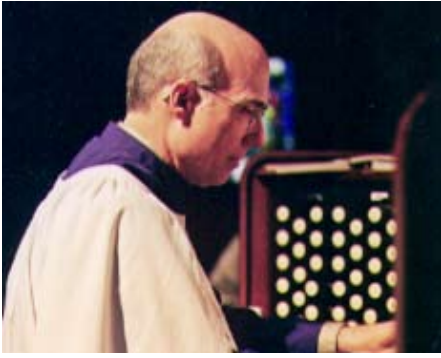


**October 2008  
GoodNewsLetter**



# Scott's Thirtieth Anniversary at St. Paul's

*Sunday, October 5, 2008*

Join us as we celebrate Canon Scott Raab's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary as St. Paul's organist and choir master.

A special anthem composed by the highly regarded Gerald Near and commissioned in honor of Canon Raab will debut at both the 9 & 11 o'clock services.

Receptions in Dean Willey Hall will follow each service.



# Formation

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## Senior Ministries

*with John Belzer*

*Saturday, Oct 4, 10:30 AM in Dean Willey Hall*

Come be with Deacon John Belzer as we explore Senior Ministries at St. Paul's. All are welcome!

## Celebrate He3arts and Hands and Voices

*Oct 19, 10:10 AM in Dean Willey Hall*

Don't miss the forum on October 19.

## Cursillo Ultreya

*Day of Reunion and Renewal*

*Saturday, October 25 at 10:00 AM*

Whether you are still basking in the glow of a recent Cursillo weekend... Or, you have a hankering to re-invigorate your feelings and enthusiasm of a Cursillo weekend long past... Or you have a passing interest in making your own Cursillo, consider attending the next Cursillo Ultreya at St. Paul's Cathedral at 10 AM on October 25<sup>th</sup>.

Cursillo retreats offer each participant a unique time of faith formation, cheerful fellowship and spiritual renewal as they journey with God in Christ.

A \$5.00 donation is requested. You can make your reservations by calling the Cathedral office at (405) 235-3436 or sending your confirmation e-mail to [spcoffice@stpaulsokc.org](mailto:spcoffice@stpaulsokc.org).

Make new friends, re-establish relationships with friends who might have slipped away with time. Regardless, remember that God considered you a priority by giving his only Son. Make God a priority in your life in return. Remember, Christ is counting on you.

### **Cursillo Ultreya Reservation**

*Saturday, October 25 at 10:00 AM*

Please fill out and return to the Cathedral Office if you plan to attend.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

# Music

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## **Evensong with the Cathedral Choir**



*October 19 at 5:00 PM*  
Rebecca Groom te Velde, Organist at First Presbyterian Church in Stillwater, performs a brief organ concert.

## **Brightmusic – Old and New**

*October 28 at 7:30 PM*

A new work by Sam Magrill, *String Serenade for Violin, Viola and Cello* by Ernst von Dohnanyi, and *Clarinet Quintet* by W.A. Mozart

# Worship

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## **Blessing of the Animals**

*Saturday, October 4 at 10:00 AM*

Bring your animal companions along for their annual St. Paul's blessing on October 4<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, at 10:00 AM.

Rabbits, gerbils, hamsters, and of course, dogs and cats are all welcome as we bring new meaning to church family. There will be treats for the pets, and refreshments for the owners!



# Books & Gifts

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## **Book Review**

### ***Same Kind of Different as Me***

by Ron Hall and Denver Moore

*Same Kind of Different as Me* is highly recommended! It tells the true story of a black man raised on a Louisiana plantation, an international art dealer and a gutsy stubborn woman who brought them together. Switching back and forth in short segments, two narrators portray Hall and Moor in memoirs that begin in distant

walks of life and intersect in a homeless shelter. The book is told with heart and humor, and is interwoven with homespun theology. You'll laugh, cry, and wish it would never end.

This page-turner can be purchased at Cathedral Books & Gifts in the Education Building, where one third of all profits go to outreach programs and the remaining profits fund projects of the Women of the Episcopal Church.

# Youth

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## **7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat Weekend**

*October 18–19*

*New Beginnings*, led primarily by junior and senior high youth (including our own Lauren Henrickson), focuses on relationships young teens have with their friends, family, self and God. The next week-end is October 18 and 19 at St. Crispin's. Registration forms are available in the reception area and in the undercroft.

## **Parent Meeting For Rite 13 (Middle School)**

*Church School Class – Oct 26*

Parents of this year's 6<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup> graders are encouraged to come to Sunday School the morning of October 26. Please join the class and teachers to learn more about the Rite 13 Liturgy planned for the 9:00 AM service, Sunday, November 16.

## **Assemblies**

There are still openings for sixth- and seventh-grade Episcopal youth and friends to sign up for the 2008-2009 Assemblies.

This year's activities include a disco dance Oct. 3, and a country-western dance Nov. 7, both at All Souls'. The Winter Dance will be Jan. 9 at St. Paul's, which will also host the Spring Dance May 1. A sock-hop is planned for Feb. 6, ballroom dancing March 6 and tango/salsa dancing April 3, all at All Soul's. Cost is \$150 for all seven events.

The Assemblies were started in 1948 by the St. Nicholas Guild of St. Paul's. Today they are jointly sponsored by members of St. Paul's and All Souls' and open to children of all faiths.

After 60 years, the Assemblies tradition still provides a fun, safe atmosphere for young people to learn how to successfully interact in social settings, which in turn leads to a stronger church community. The classes include etiquette and dance lessons, provided in a once-a-month social event. At St. Paul's, the Assemblies is the major fundraiser for St. Nicholas Guild, which financially supports a number of activities and needs for children at St. Paul's as well as children outside the parish.

Chair for this year's events is Betsy Morgan of St. Paul's, herself an Assemblies alumna, with Lisa Elder of All Souls' serving as treasurer.

For more information, or to enroll your child, please call Betsy Morgan at 850-2617 or Lisa Elder at 840-0009.

# Fellowship

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## **Fidelity to Vocation**

***Welcoming All Episcopal Women to an***

***Autumn Spiritual Retreat***

*October 24–25, 2008, at St. Crispin’s*

This retreat is sponsored by the Episcopal Church Women (ECW), and the focus will be *Following God’s Plan for You*, with Sister Ellie Finlay facilitating.

The retreat begins with dinner on Friday at 6:00 PM, and ends on Saturday at about 3:00 PM. The cost will be \$65 for double occupancy and \$80 for single

For Registration forms and more information, please visit [stpaulsokc.org](http://stpaulsokc.org), visit the reception area, or call the church office at 235-3436.

## **St. Catherine’s Guild**

*October 14, 2008 at Noon*

*Home of Ann Baer, 2324 NW 56<sup>th</sup> Terrace*

Join the St. Catherine’s Guild for a book review and discussion on *The Shack* by William P. Young. Please bring a salad to share.

## **Foyer Dinner Groups**

New Foyer Dinner Groups are forming in October. These are very informal groups meeting for a meal and fellowship; the groups stay together approximately six months. Each couple or person hosts one meal, furnishing the main course, while others supply the rest of the meal. You are in Foyers until you notify us that you are dropping out. Please contact us if you no longer wish to participate so we have an accurate count for forming new groups. Fill out the coupon below or call Julie or Leonard Mills at 848-4142.

### **Foyer Dinner Groups**

- I want to join Foyer Dinner Groups!
- I’m in Foyer Dinner Groups now, but won’t be participating this time around. Please fill in this coupon and mail to St. Paul’s or turn in at the reception desk.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Number Attending \_\_\_\_\_

# A Vestry Review

by Gypsy Hogan

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## **St. Paul's Delegates on Tap**

The Diocesan Convention will be Nov. 14–15 at All Soul's. If you have anything you would like discussed, feel free to talk to one of our St. Paul's delegates. This year's delegates are Robert Dennis, Gary Derrick, John Dunn, James Hampton, Karen Jarvis, Laurie Jones, Larry Joplin, John Koons, Norma Taggart and Steve Parker.

## **New Committee Formed**

The vestry has formed a Safeguarding God's Children committee. The importance of this training becomes more evident each year even as the information about the dangers to our children, and the resources for addressing these dangers, become ever greater.

Its mission is to define the things we are doing well and look at what else we might do to make our families and community safer for our children. The Dean remarked that it is also important to allow children to be children and not imposing upon them burdens that are not age-appropriate. We must take on the primary responsibility for preserving their innocence by surrounding them with alert, responsible, caring, well-informed adults. Vestry members who volunteered for the committee are Todd Olberding, Hank Bowen, Patti Morgan and Gypsy Hogan.

## **St. Nicholas' Chapel Nears Completion**

An altar for St. Nicholas' Chapel, commissioned in memory of Canon Stanley Donham, is nearing completion with a possible dedication in November. Also, correspondence has begun on stained glass windows for the chapel. And, St. Paul's member Mary Lou Jarvis, president of the National Altar Guild Association, recently returned from a Kanuga conference on *Liturgical Arts XI: Holy Works for Holy Places* where she gathered needlepoint designs for a Stations of the Cross series for the chapel.

## **Columbarium Plans Coming Together**

Architect Hans Butzer has completed a preliminary sketch of plans for a columbarium in the northeast corner of the cathedral garden. The location is intended to create an interior area while leaving a larger exterior area for events. Well-known for his architectural projects, Hans Butzer designed the Oklahoma City National Memorial and is co-leader of the architectural team selected in September for the proposed 18-story-tall *SkyDance Bridge* to span the new Interstate 40 Crosstown Expressway.

## **Rally Day & Harn Picnic Big Successes**

Rally Day and the Harn Homestead Picnic were both termed the best ever – with statistics to prove it! Volunteers signed up at Rally Day in never-before seen numbers, and more than 200 people enjoyed the food, fellowship, games and music at the Harn. A special thanks goes to all who helped make both events so great.

## **St. Paul's Joins Downtown Neighborhood Group**

St. Paul's member David Remy has agreed to represent St. Paul's on the Urban Neighbors Association, a downtown residents' organization. Remy is a founding member of the organization, having been involved in the marketing for Block 42. He and Lacy Edwards plan to wed at St. Paul's in April. After years of being a church left behind after suburban flight, St. Paul's welcomes the re-birth of downtown residential living and hopes many will find their church home here.

# Back Talk

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Dear Friends,

How do you put numbers on faithfulness to God? How do you quantify spirituality? On a statistical national level about 45% of church members are not contributors of record in their congregations. The percentage at St. Paul's is slightly better than this national average.

The numbers are amazingly consistent across all major denominations. It means that 55% of church members provide the church for the other 45%. Providing a church for one's own members is an outreach ministry that takes place before supporting the needy outside the church begins.

'This is not fair' some complain. Many of these eligible complainers seek to pay their 'fair share', but most only guess for themselves what is fair. Many of these guesses prove absurdly low.

Surely the 20% that pay for 80% of the costs deserve to wax righteous. Alas many of these people pay for too much religion. They buy a lot more sermons, classes, and music than anyone wants to consume. National statistics show that about 35% of members attend their church on an average Sunday. This means that across our country 65% of the religion produced each week goes to waste.

There is an old adage, "Liars figure and figures lie". Numbers numb the soul and may even bring us past paradoxical humor and into cynicism. It is actually miraculous that St. Paul's is here at all and that we occupy almost a city block. The rational mind would find it ridiculous that for over a hundred years thousands of souls have come to share this same place to love God and neighbor.

True financial stewardship begins when a generous heart transcends the self-interested mind. The holy heart delights in a community that provides tens of thousands of meals to the hungry. The holy heart is renewed to see small children learning faith, hope and love as their spiritual heritage. The holy heart is moved to share joys and sorrows, friendships and labors, needs and possibilities, thoughts and sacraments with other children of God. The holy heart is in love with God's heart.

Do not trust the calculating mind with your financial stewardship; the brain can justify the meanest of behaviors. Does your checkbook discredit God? Would your tax return brighten the eyes of a heavenly auditor looking for signs of true thankfulness to the Creator? Do not subject your soul to numbers, but numbers to your soul.

Let your financial facts become one with your hymnal aspirations. Let them merge to express the same greatness and worth-ship of God! May your treasure and your heart be at one. Both you and God's church will be profoundly blessed.

Faithfully yours,

*Gene H. Back*



# Stewardship Ingathering

Sunday, October 26 at all Services



**2009 Pledge** (This is an estimate of giving; it may be altered if necessary.)

**ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL**  
127 N. 7TH ST. OMC. 3036 TEL: 405-235-3466

Name.....  
Circle one: Mr., Mrs., Mr. & Mrs., Ms., Dr., The Rev.

Address.....  
City..... State..... Zip.....

Telephone: Home..... Work.....


Email address.....

Today's Date..... Envelopes? Yes  No

Signature.....

(If you wish to pay by Master Card or Visa, please complete reverse side)

Weekly \$.....  
Monthly \$.....  
Quarterly \$.....  
Annually \$.....



**VISA** **MasterCard**