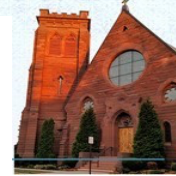


# The Messenger

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Gathered by Grace, Sent Forth to Serve



MARCH 2025

Volume 28

Number 7

## NFSP Grant Update *by Fred Cole*

We are very pleased that as we begin 2025 and begin to celebrate the 150th anniversary of our beautiful sanctuary building, the historic preservation grant we received from the National Fund for Sacred Places is taking shape. We look forward to caring for and preserving the building that has housed and nurtured so many people and missions for 150 years, and we are excited that as we pass through St. Paul's we can be good stewards of this place for the people and missions that will grow from here in the next 150 years.

We are very excited that the *M.E Davenport Foundation\** is providing a \$15,000 matching grant to help us with our fundraising efforts. If St. Paul's is able to raise \$15,000, the Davenport Foundation will contribute another \$15,000. This \$30,000 will count toward our \$135,000 match for the NFSP grant. Special thanks to Mary Sullivan for helping St. Paul's secure this wonderful grant!

St. Paul's has joined the Lake Superior Community Partnership to help promote and publicize the grant and our fundraising efforts. We hope that this membership will also help make the larger community more aware of St. Paul's and the many important ministries and events that occur here. This week Ken Czapski of Sanders and Czapski Architects will conduct a complete building assessment to be sure we are seeing all the priorities and needs for the building as we move forward.

More good news--a fundraising committee is forming plans and seeking assistance with raising funds to match the \$135,000 grant the NFSP has provided. Another group of people is working on "telling our story" to help strengthen our presence in the community. Jan Brodersen and Janice Peterson are planning a concert (or concerts!) to help raise funds for the grant match. Other 150th anniversary celebration plans are also beginning to form including a "History Walking Tour" with Jim Koski of Q107 radio.

If you would like to learn more about the NFSP grant or would like to help in the fundraising or 150th Anniversary events, please attend the next St. Paul's NFSP Grant meeting on Sunday, **March 2nd** after church to learn more about all of this.

Anyone who would like to contribute to the grant, preservation, or celebration efforts in any way is encouraged to reach out to Fred Cole (906-361-9936), Jan Edwards (906-362-0075), or Marna.



Watch for NFSP Grant pledge cards coming out in the next couple of weeks. Please thoughtfully consider helping to strengthen and restore St. Paul's as we look forward to the next 150 years.

\*see related story

## Community Meal

**The meal for February is scheduled for Wednesday, February 26 at 6:00 p.m.**

St. Paul's Community meal takes place on the last Wednesday of each month and has been going strong and growing again for two years now. With the contributions of food and time by St. Paul's parishioners, we share meals and fellowship with our neighbors at Pine Ridge Apartments and other guests.

As we strive to keep up with the growth of this ministry, we are seeking more hosts, co-hosts and participants. While guests express their appreciation for the meals, the fellowship and sense of community is as important. Please join us when you can and contribute what you can. It really is fun!

A sign-up sheet is on the table in the entryway by the parking lot door. You may contact any of the folks listed below with questions. We request that food contributions be delivered by 5:30 to the St. Paul's Kitchen as the dinner begins at 6:00. The meal for February is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 26**. The March community meal is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 26**.

Cathy and Fred Cole (906) 361-9937  
Carol and Bob Potrzuski (907) 738-2274  
Kris Mowafy (906) 251-1455

## Another Good AGM Year

*by Meg Goodrich*

Our Alternative Gift Fair/Luncheon, revived from pre-pandemic times, was successful once again. We donated \$1,658 dollars to the various international causes. About a dozen parishioners volunteered to help make soups, contribute bread, set up the Great Room, sell the gifts, take the cash, and clean up. Many thanks to Kris Mowafy, Mary Sullivan, Kay Payant, Candy Miller, Meg Jajich, Peter Goodrich, Emera Wilson, Jo Whittler, Cathy Cole and Dan and Barb Carpenter. And thanks to all of our generous shoppers, making a difference to the world.

## First Wednesday Reading Group

*by Charlie West*

“One more round” (Remember the song, covered in one form or another by everyone from Harry Belafonte to Pat Boone to Bob Dylan to The Kingston Trio –“ Delia’s on the wagon, heading for the marble town, All of you who loved her, let’s sing it, one more round!”) So here we go again- **First Wednesday, 1p.m.** at The Crib Coffeehouse (upstairs – if that’s a problem, let me know and we’ll move somewhere else!)

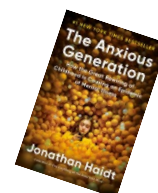
**March 5;** *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt “After more than a decade of stability or improvement, the mental health of adolescents plunged in the early 2010s. Rates of depression, anxiety, self-harm, and suicide rose sharply, more than doubling on most measures. Why?”

**April 2;** *Women’s Hotel* by Daniel M Lavery “The Biedermeier Hotel can no longer afford the continental breakfast its residents have depended upon since 1929. Mrs. Mossler, the hotel director, has already cut lunch service and reduced dinner to a self-serve buffet, and someone has almost certainly stolen her pinking shears. Residents Katherine, Lucianne, Pauline, Kitty, Gia, Patricia, and Carol, along with Stephen, the daytime elevator operator, must decide whether to meet this crisis by practicing economy, cooperation, or theft; so far, theft is winning.”

**May 7;** *Something* by Leanne Betasamosake Simpson - As We Have Always Done: indigenous freedom through radical resistance or Dancing On Our Turtle's Back: Stories of Nishnaabeg Re-Creation, Resurgence, and a New Emergence



Questions or more information – call Charlie 906-360-9216 or email [mqtchaz@gmail.com](mailto:mqtchaz@gmail.com)



## **\*M.E. Davenport Foundation Matching Grant** *by Mary Sullivan*

The M.E. Davenport Foundation has approved a matching grant of up to \$15,000 to be applied to the \$135,000 needed to match the National Fund for Sacred Places grant. What this means is: when we at St. Paul's have raised \$15,000, the Davenport Foundation will match that amount, bringing the total to \$30,000 and that \$30K can then be applied to the \$135,000 needed for the NFSP grant. A donation of \$25 is now worth \$50, a donation of \$50 is now worth \$100, and on and on, up to \$15K. No donation is insignificant! But it gets even better ...

Technically, the MEDF match grant is on the table until September 30, 2025. However, if we at St. Paul's can raise \$33,750 by **May 1<sup>st</sup>**, we can receive 50% of the NFSP grant (\$67,500) in the Fall of 2026. If we have made the MEDF match, the additional amount needed by May 1<sup>st</sup> has now been reduced to \$3,750. So, let's get going on this!

Please make checks out to St. Paul's and put "NFSP" in the subject line. *Thank you.*

## **Team Brownsville Update** *by Sue Micensky*

Asylum seekers are no longer allowed to cross the border into the U.S. so Team Brownsville is focusing on helping people in tent shelters in northern Mexico. According to Andrea Rudnik, Team Brownsville President, "People have to come up with a new plan as to how they're going to go on with the rest of their lives, what they're going to do. We've been told that some may move to another city, some may actually apply for asylum in Mexico. There may be others who make different decisions to go to other countries that they feel are safer than their original home country."

In southern Texas, many adults who are not U.S. citizens are completing paperwork to designate guardians for their children in case they are deported. Targeted arrests continue but there are no mass deportations at this time. Border Patrol reports a dramatic decrease in apprehensions of people crossing between ports of entry. The ESL (English as a Second Language) classes at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Port Isabel saw a dramatic decrease in attendance immediately after Inauguration Day but students have been gradually returning. Overall, it's a tense period of waiting to see what happens next.

## **Vestry 2025**

The vestry welcomed new members at the Annual Meeting: Trish Slotterback, Jo Whittler, Bob Potrzuski, and Kris Mowafy.

Many thanks are extended to outgoing members: Meg Goodrich, Arlene Gordanier, Fred Cole, and Margie West.

Officers: Senior Warden, Jan Edwards; Junior Warden, Bob Potrzuski; Secretary, Kris Mowafy.  
Continuing: Dan Rydholm and Carol Potrzuski



**Ash Wednesday:** the service will be at noon on **March 5th.**

We will use the service from the BCP.

Craig Kitchen will provide singing bowls.



**SPRING FORWARD:** Set your clocks ahead late on Saturday night, **March 8<sup>th</sup>.**

**Deadline:**

For the April

Messenger is Friday, **March 21**, 6 p.m.

# The Messenger

## The Messenger Team

**Editor Meg Goodrich**

**Copy Editor - Jane Ryan**

**Lay-out - Jim Edwards**

**Reporter - Bob Railey**

**Copier - Sierra Larson**

### March Birthdays

|                  |    |
|------------------|----|
| Harper Carpenter | 3  |
| Ted Raymond      | 7  |
| Ginger Randall   | 7  |
| Grace Randall    | 11 |
| Sandy Purrington | 23 |

