Father Rick’s Message
The Rev. Rick Matters, Interim Vicar

We begin the New Year by looking forward with resolutions and renewed commitments. It’s equally meaningful to mark that new beginning by remembering with gratitude God’s faithfulness during the past year.

God has blessed us in countless ways throughout the past twelve months. Last January began with the typical uncertainty of a transition. Yet the Bishop’s Committee guided the congregation with calm strength. By March we were yoked for ministry. We fell in love, and began journeying into God’s future. The new rug, new parking lot, and new people punctuate God’s new beginning for St. Paul’s.

Over these same months, we felt tender gratitude as we said goodbye to loved ones and fellow members who departed for the greater life prepared for them. Some of our gratitude issued in tears. Nine stalwart members died in 2018. Our relationships with them embraces love beyond measure.

Our love spilled over in thanksgiving for years of faithful service offered by Mary Esther Lippold and Jonathan Hicks. With gratitude, we designate Mary Esther organist emeritus. We gratefully welcomed Brando Suarez, Adam Muhlestein, and Rachel Tarapwe to the staff.

We began enjoying Spanish, African, and Contemporary songs in our liturgy. We also began an intentional process of discerning God’s future for St. Paul’s. This vision sets our direction and guides our decisions.

Meanwhile, and between all of these events and achievements, Christ’s love steadily nourished us. We’ve been privileged to embody Christ’s love. For these and all your gifts, too numerous to count, and often too small to notice, we give you honor, worship, and praise, O Blessed and Holy Trinity. Amen.

Mensaje del Padre Rick
El Reverendo Rick Matters, Vicario Interno

Comenzamos el año nuevo mirando hacia adelante con resoluciones y compromisos renovados. Es igualmente significativo marcar ese nuevo comienzo al recordar con gratitud la fidelidad de Dios durante el año pasado.

Dios nos ha bendecido de innumerables maneras en los últimos doce meses. El pasado enero comenzó con la incertidumbre típica de una transición. Sin embargo, el Comité del Obispo guió a la congregación con calma. En marzo fuimos enviados al ministerio. Nos enamoramos y comenzamos a viajar hacia el futuro de Dios. La nueva alfombra, el nuevo estacionamiento y las nuevas personas marcan el nuevo comienzo de Dios para San Pablo.

(continúa en la página 2)
Mensaje del Padre Rick
(continúa de la página 1)

Durante estos mismos meses, sentimos una tierna gratitud cuando nos despedimos de nuestros seres queridos y compañeros que partieron para la vida más grande preparada para ellos. Parte de nuestra gratitud se derramó en lágrimas. Nueve miembros incondicionales murieron en 2018. Nuestras relaciones con ellos abarcan el amor más allá de toda medida.

Nuestro amor se derramó en acción de gracias por los años de servicio fiel ofrecido por Mary Esther Lippold y Jonathan Hicks. Con gratitud, designamos a Mary Esther organista emérita. Dimos la bienvenida con gratitud a Brando Suárez, Adam Muhlestein y Rachel Tarapwe al personal.

Comenzamos a disfrutar de canciones españolas, africanas y contemporáneas en nuestra liturgia. También comenzamos un proceso intencional de discernir el futuro de Dios para San Pablo. Esta visión marca nuestra dirección y guía nuestras decisiones.

Mientras tanto, y entre todos estos eventos y logros, el amor de Cristo nos alimentó constantemente. Hemos tenido el privilegio de encarnar el amor de Cristo. Por estos y todos sus dones, demasiado numerosos para contar, y con frecuencia demasiado pequeños para darse cuenta, les damos honor, adoración y alabanza, Oh Bendita y Santísima Trinidad. Amén.

Books and Change
*Deacon Lynn Yule*

By the time you read this, we will have finished Advent, the first season of the liturgical year. Our altar hangings are now white, in honor of Christmas and Epiphany. Just before Advent, someone gave me a copy of *The Little Blue Book*, which has short daily reflections on the Sunday Gospels of Advent and Christmas Seasons of Year C. I’m enjoying the fact that the book continues into the Christmas Season. That gives me time to find a similar book for the weeks before Lent.

(continued on page 3)
Books and Change
(continued from page 2)

Just a few days ago I re-discovered a book I bought back in 2012. (One of the bookmarks in it is the sales slip.) Its title is *This Year I Will...* (Sub-title: *How to Finally Change a Habit, Keep a Resolution, or Make a Dream Come True*). Just the thing for this time of year. The invitation to change a habit reminds me of the call of the Old Testament prophets and John the Baptist, to repent, to change. Sometimes we resist the call to change, forgetting that change is a constant. The seasons change, we change our wardrobe in response. It's now January, advent is over, Christmas has come, Christ has come. We are called to follow him, day by day, step by step. It's time to ask ourselves, what new best thing am I being asked to begin? What am I being asked to forgo? What will I change? For myself, I'm being challenged to change some of my questions. I like to ask “How?” Asking “Why?” brings a deeper answer.

For those of you who like practical examples, here's a “How?” and “Why?” that connects books and change. HOW? - Put your extra pennies (change) in the collection container in the Fireside Room. WHY? - The Church Periodical Club uses the money to provide books to students, schools, camps. Start this new year with “small change.”

Liturgical Notes

January offers rich liturgical celebrations this year. You might liken it to feasting on rich chocolate desserts. Here is what you have to look forward to:

**January 6** is the Feast of the Epiphany, which falls this year on Sunday. We will joyfully observe the arrival of the Magi to adore the Christ Child.

**January 13** features the Baptism of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. We will celebrate the baptism of Amule Korri, and simultaneously renew our own baptismal vows.

**January 20** finds us welcoming Bishop Gretchen Rehberg. During her visitation, she will confirm Samatha Burns, Allen Cook, Renae Haringa, Autumn Lawr, Kevin Lawr, Ryan Peterson, and Julissa Schneider.

**January 27** brings us to the Annual Meeting. In faith, hope, and love, we will affirm God’s vision for our future. We’ll celebrate St. Paul’s in several ways, especially giving thanks for this past year.

Notas litúrgicas

Enero ofrece ricas celebraciones litúrgicas este año. Podrías compararlo con un festín de ricos postres de chocolate. Esto es lo que tienes que esperar:

**El 6 de enero** es la fiesta de la Epifanía, que cae este año el domingo. Observaremos con alegría la llegada de los magos para adorar al Niño Jesús.

**El 13 de enero** presenta el Bautismo de Nuestro Señor, Jesucristo. Celebraremos el bautismo de Amule Korri y, al mismo tiempo, renovaremos nuestros propios votos bautismales.

**El 20 de enero** nos da la bienvenida al obispo Gretchen Rehberg. Durante su visita, ella confirmará a Samatha Burns, Allen Cook, Renae Haringa, Autumn Lawr, Kevin Lawr, Ryan Peterson y Julissa Schneider.

**El 27 de enero** nos lleva a la reunión anual. En fe, esperanza y amor, afirmaremos la visión de Dios para nuestro futuro. Celebraremos a San Pablo de varias maneras, especialmente dando gracias por el año pasado.
Vision Still in Process

Here is the latest iteration of what we believe to be the future for St. Paul residing in the heart of Christ Jesus. The Vision Facilitators meet for a final time on Sunday, January 6th. You are welcome to participate. Contact Fr. Rick or Susan Moore for details.

Current Draft Vision of St. Paul’s in 2050

The center of our lives is Jesus Christ, who illumines St. Paul’s as a bright Rainbow of Hope. Each color glows with respect for the unique culture, heritage, and beauty of each.

The Holy Spirit dances joyfully through St. Paul’s and out into the world, empowering us to embody Jesus Christ across continents and near to home.

We offer creative and compelling Anglican liturgy while blending traditional, ethnic and contemporary singing. Music and prayers are projected onto screens in our traditional church.

Serving as an epicenter of mercy, compassion, and equity we communicate the living hope of the Gospel to people of all ages through worship, learning, and service.

Visión aún en proceso

Aquí está la última iteración de lo que creemos que es el futuro para San Pablo que reside en el corazón de Cristo Jesús. Los facilitadores de la visión se reúnen por última vez el domingo 6 de enero. Usted es bienvenido a participar. Contactar al P. Rick o Susan Moore para más detalles.

Anteproyecto actual de Visión de San Pablo en 2050

El centro de nuestras vidas es Jesucristo, que ilumina a San Pablo como un brillante Arco iris de esperanza. Cada color brilla con respeto por la cultura única, el patrimonio y la belleza de cada uno.

El Espíritu Santo baila alegremente a través de San Pablo y en todo el mundo, lo que nos permite encarnar a Jesucristo en todos los continentes y cerca de casa.

Ofrecemos una liturgia anglicana creativa y convincente a la vez que combina el canto tradicional, étnico y contemporáneo. La música y las oraciones se proyectan en pantallas en nuestra iglesia tradicional.

Al servir como un epicentro de misericordia, compasión y equidad, comunicamos la esperanza viva del Evangelio a personas de todas las edades a través de la adoración, el aprendizaje y el servicio.
The Bishop’s Committee has regretfully excepted the resignation of David Langstaff from the committee. David has moved to Bend, Oregon, this month. We want to put out the call for prayerful consideration of joining the Bishop’s Committee and stand for election at the Annual Meeting on January 27th. We are also looking for a new church treasurer. There will be a job description posted on the bulletin board.

As some of you might know, I sing in the choir. It was one of the first ministries I was invited to join. That was over a decade ago and no one has asked me to please stop singing yet. I have been blessed. Since then I have been involved in many of St. Paul’s ministries. I have been thankful to be a part of all of them. They have made me grateful and humble, feel valued and appreciated, and grounded both in my life here at St. Paul’s and out. In the past year, we have been asked to accept many changes and follow where God is calling us to go. Like the rest of the world, we are not all that happy to see a lot of changes. I’m still holding on to my flip phone. Thank you very much. I have to say change is exciting and interesting here at St. Paul’s. This last year we have grown with many new and wonderful members while having to say goodbye to many beloved ones. We have received many wonderful gifts like our new dogwood trees, the repair to the parking lot and the painting of exterior doors and trimming. We have come together to give ourselves the gift of the new carpet in the Fireside Room.

I hope that everyone can look back over the last year at St. Paul’s, being grateful for the challenges and humbled but not surprised by our successes. I have valued and appreciated everyone for all the gifts that have been so lovingly lavished on St. Paul’s. I hope being a member of St. Paul’s has given you all a way to feel grounded as we take on the challenges of the New Year.

The total income for November was $7442 and the total expenses were $8664.76. This leaves a net income of $-1,222.76 for the month of November. For the year to date, we are left with a net income of $603.10. A complete accounting for 2018 will be presented at the Annual Meeting. There will be a proposed budget for 2019 presented at the same time for ratification.

Thank you all again for the help in December. We have ended this year with contributions of funds to help the church in Uganda, for camperships to Camp Cross, and help to pay part of the cost for the new rug in the Fireside Room. It has been a good year for St. Monica’s Guild.

We have a planned event coming up in January. Bishop Gretchen Rehberg will be coming for her annual visit on January 20th. If you can help with this event, such as putting up, taking down, preparing and serving food, don’t be SHY! I look forward to hearing from you.
**Youth Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 26-27</td>
<td>Youth Lock-In at All Saints, starting at 2:00pm Saturday</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 15-17</td>
<td>Winter Cross in Ellensburg (a diocesan event)</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 24</td>
<td>Youth Group 5:00-7:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 15-17</td>
<td>Diocesan Youth Group Outreach Event at Campbell Farm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 28</td>
<td>Youth Group 5:00-7:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 19</td>
<td>Youth Group 5:00-7:00pm</td>
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**Horario Juvenil**

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<tr>
<th>Fecha</th>
<th>Evento</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26 al 27 de enero</td>
<td>Lock-In Juvenil en Todos los Santos, a partir de las 2:00 pm del sábado</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-17 de febrero</td>
<td>Winter Cross en Ellensburg (un evento diocesano)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 de febrero</td>
<td>Grupo de Jóvenes 5:00-7:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-17 de marzo</td>
<td>Evento de difusión del Grupo de Jóvenes Diocesanos en Campbell Farm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 de abril</td>
<td>Grupo de Jóvenes 5:00-7:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 de mayo</td>
<td>Grupo de Jóvenes 5:00-7:00pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Teens Encounter Christ**

Sign up now for the January 18th to 20th event held at St. John’s Cathedral. This is a high school youth event by teens for teens. Ask Fr. Rick about the available transportation. Find more information at spokanediocese.org/youth.html.

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**Editor Needed for The Epistle**

Micki Furr is “retiring” from the production editorship of The Epistle newsletter, and is ready to pass along the baton to someone with vision (and energy!). Please call Micki at 378-9545 for more details about the production editor position, and she’ll tell you everything!

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**Education and Formation**

Ten Reasons Why I Love the Episcopal Church video was discussed as part of the catechism class. You’ll find it on YouTube by searching for this title, or for Dan Matthews Episcopal Priest. Enjoy!

The Good Book Club is offered through the national office of the Episcopal Church. This simple resource calls individuals and groups to spend the weeks of Epiphany prayerfully reading Paul’s letter to the Romans. By joining, you will be a member of the world-wide Good Book Club. You will also be joining Fr. Rick, who is also undertaking this Epiphany devotion. Subscribe at goodbookclub.org.

Sunday Morning, 9:00am finds a group gathered in the Fireside Room to explore our faith. Make participating one of your New Year’s resolutions.

Wednesday Mornings 10:00am Morning Prayer is followed by Bible study. You are welcomed to participate; come to the Fireside Room, the coffee’s on!
Annual Meeting
11:30 am on January 27th

Come one, come all, to the Annual Meeting. Hear reports, offer feedback, affirm the vision for our future, cast your vote, give thanks, receive the operating budget, brainstorm on next steps toward vitality and service, and enjoy each other’s company. Did I mention enjoying the brunch that will be provided?

Reunión anual
a las 11:30 am del 27 de enero

Venga, vengan todos, a la reunión anual. Escuche informes, ofrezca comentarios, afirme la visión de nuestro futuro, emita su voto, agradezca, reciba el presupuesto operativo, haga una lluvia de ideas sobre los próximos pasos hacia la vitalidad y el servicio, y disfrute de la compañía de cada uno. ¿Mencioné disfrutar el brunch que se brindará?

Nominations for Bishop’s Committee and Diocesan Convention

Please pray about serving on the Bishop’s Committee or as a delegate to Diocesan Convention. Step forward to serve, or encourage another member to consider serving. Elections are held January 27th at the Annual Meeting.

Pledging to the Mission and Ministry of St. Paul’s

Pledging by January 13th will greatly help the Bishop’s Committee finalize a 2019 operating budget. To pledge, call the office, write a note, email, or complete a form. Pledge cards are available on the narthex table and through the office. Thank you to all who have already completed a pledge.

Junior Warden Report
Ron Weed, Junior Warden

The work of the Junior Warden would not be possible without the help of many people. However, Dick Richardson is thanked for the many repairs to the church in December. He replaced the outside lights at the office entrance and the ramp stairway light at the end of the ramp. He also replaced the narthex area lights with long lasting powerful 150-200 bulbs that are LEDs that will brighten the area even more.

Dick helped to carry the platform of the Virgin of Guadalupe back to its place near the stained glass picture of St. Paul. We are still awaiting cove base carpeting to complete the work in the basement. Lastly, he adjusted the door seal to the basement leading to the downstairs kitchen. None of these repairs could have been done without the help of others: Bill, Alan, Dave, and Jim. On a sad note, Jim, who was my friend, before he died painted the coffee counter a bright color and designed it attractively. We will miss him very much. We are also very appreciative of everyone who pitched in to help the church get repaired.

One more thing. Rachel, our new sexton, is getting right to work keeping the entire church looking good. When you get a chance, please thank her for her hard work!

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
- 2 Cor 9:7
January Birthdays

1  Mattias Altar
   Yousif Kori
   Rachael Tarapwe
   David Elizai
   Rawda Elkra
   Salwa Kori
   Robina Ellimon
2  Marvin Palmer
16  Kathy DeMers
17  Joyce Shea
22  Minas Altahir
23  Natalie Kori
    Ron Weed
31  Jade Cunningham

January Anniversaries

None that I know of!

Coffee Hour!

People bringing cookies or snacks for Coffee Hour, please bring them no later than 9:45am to the Fireside Room.

So that we’ll all know to whom we say thank you each Sunday, here is the Coffee Hour schedule for January:

Jan. 6  Lupi Cervantes
Jan. 13  Steve Hicks
Jan. 20  Annette Douglas
Jan. 27  Gail Timmins

Any questions, call or contact Colleen Dunbar.

St. Paul’s Outreach

There were 27 food baskets given out this holiday season. Several people stopped by asking for help while we were putting together the baskets. We could hardly ask for more.

We have continued to help the kids at Park Middle School. We sent foody snacks to help the kids eat during the holiday break and more socks and mittens. We have continued faithfully helping with the Soul Soup Supper once a month.

If anyone would like to get involved or share ideas please plan on attending the Planning Committee Meeting on January 10th at 6:30 p.m.

February 2019 Epistle

Articles Deadline:

Wednesday,
January 23, 2019, 7 p.m.