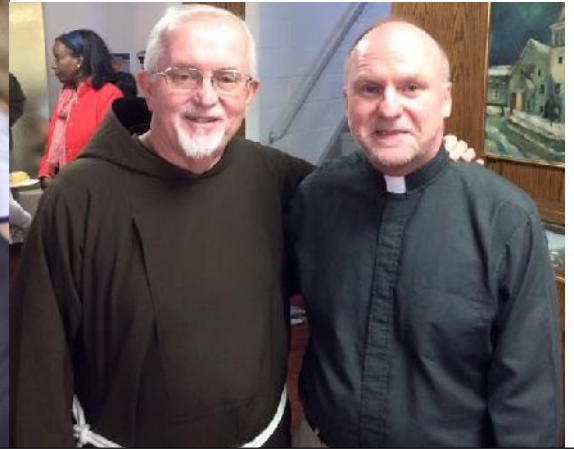


2016 Annual Review



SOLI DEO GLORIA
Glory to God Alone



St. Paul's

Evangelical Lutheran Church
761 King Street Rye Brook, NY

Cover: 1) Al and Eileen Parker return for Anniversary in October, greeted by William Ross.

2) Pastor Jim and Brother Jack Rathschmidt participate in Lutheran – Catholic joint observance of Reformation with Brother Jack preaching at our Sunday morning worship.

3) Assembling for group photo at July Cornerstone Anniversary.



Barbara Doran

Members, former members and close relatives we lost this year:

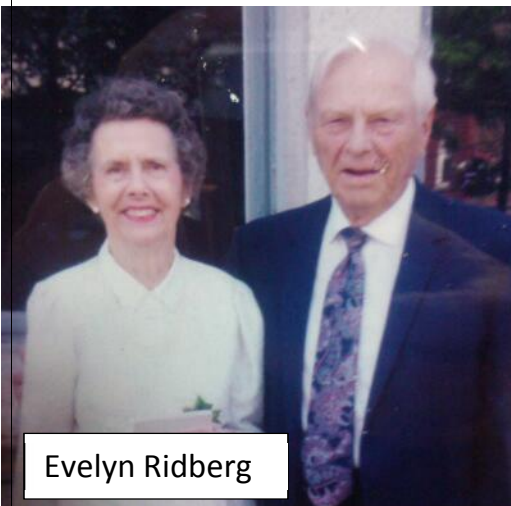
Ann Carafiello,
Pat Bauer, Nick Alfano,
Ruth Pilke,
Don Hibbard,
Pasquale Lucarelli,
David O'Hanlon,
Edward Roth and...



Charlotte Constantini



Carl Johnson



Evelyn Ridberg



Arthur Marino

(at David Trenck's Baptism)



Left:

Rev. Jack Kinzel,
Confirmation class of 1938.

Right:

Julie Kinzel and her wife Amy donate portrait by Rose Sabetti.



Our 2017 Council

Don Weber, President; **Patricia Gawle**, Vice President; **Barbara Tormondsen**, Treasurer; **Jillian Alli**, **David Brady**, **Tim Dehardt**, **William Ross**, **Laura Chen-Schultz**
Pastor Jim O'Hanlon, **Chris Wolff**. Financial Secty: Robert Trenck

Statement of Welcome

We welcome all who are seeking God's love and grace.

We welcome all because God welcomes all. We encourage young children to participate and make their presence known. We are many races and cultures, different sexual orientations, gender identities and families of various configurations and single people. We come from a wide variety of places on earth and individual spiritual journeys. We are various stages of life, differing abilities and health status and economic circumstances. Our unity is in Christ who calls for us to reject division and discrimination.

Our scriptures affirm diversity as a sign of Christ:

"²⁶ In Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁸ There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

- Galatians chapter 3

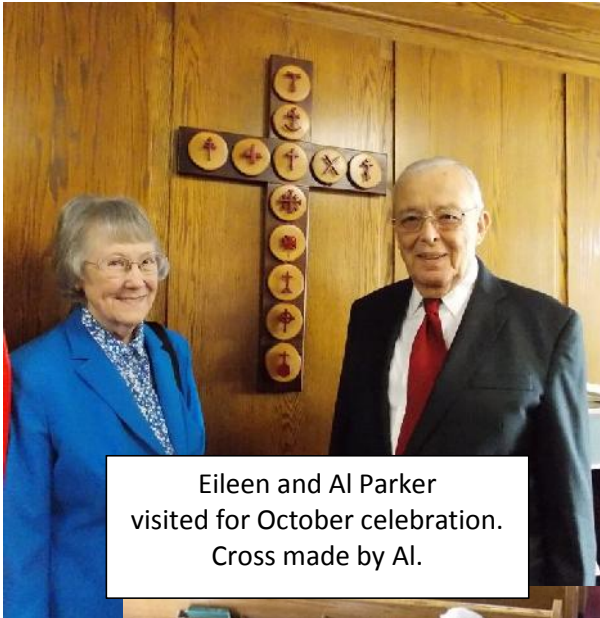
Adopted by St. Paul's Church Council, January 9, 2016



Choir and Brass Quintet
July 2016



October 2016 Brunch



Eileen and Al Parker
visited for October celebration.
Cross made by Al.



Some of our Scouts



Pastor's Report

Every year has its highs and lows. For me, this year's highs were a little higher and the lows were maybe a little lower. After a difficult decline into dementia, my Dad passed away at the age of 93. Three of my best friends and colleagues moved away to retire or start a new call. The house I grew up in which had a history of about 300 years was sold and torn down. Our national dialogue moved beyond partisan into a more divisive tone.

The highlights of the year for me would include attending the ELCA Churchwide Assembly, hosting our Presiding Bishop for an Anniversary Service, and a visit by the Beljeans and many other old friends. Lorna's hard work, talent and determination got her own business off the ground and off to a great start. Everyone was delighted with appearances of a new Youth Choir of amazing skill.

A very important component of our programs and a great support to me has been the Port Chester clergy group. A group that was very active with just six members is now down to three. Seeing this as an opportunity, we gathered clergy from Rye and Harrison and formed a larger group last month. We had nine at that first meeting and hope to gather more from the many houses of worship. One of the important founders of this new group is Father Elias Villis at Our Savior Greek Orthodox church who hosted our first meeting. I recently found a news clipping of his predecessor, Father Stephanopoulos, Pastor Sanborn and the priest from Corpus Christi gathered to plan a service for prayer for Christian Unity. Father Pat Angelucci and Sister Maruja Acusa of Corpus Christi invited me to preach at a service of Christian Unity this past year and will host another one this year. I also attended a couple of events with the Greenwich clergy group where I haven't been very active up to now.



Our Sesquicentennial Moments and Anniversary celebrations have brought together great effort and wonderful reunions and new friends.

Things that were new this year: Wednesday Night Evening Prayer, Walk for Water, Food 2 Grow On and Songs and Prayers at Atria. After three years of doing a presentation on Homosexuality and the Bible for 500 students from over 70 schools at a conference called Prideworks, local clergy were invited to one school for a presentation for a TEDx Talk (popular style of brief talk without a script). We had a member of The Northern Westchester Muslim Society here to give a presentation on her family's Haj (pilgrimage) to Mecca. We sent money to help with damage from arson at the Lutheran School in Tanzania. Something we hoped we wouldn't be repeating was a vigil for a mass shooting; this year 49 people were killed at a night club in Orlando, the deadliest mass shooting yet. This came just a week after local clergy published a letter affirming the LGBT community. This vigil was combined with an anniversary remembrance of the shooting in Charleston just twelve months earlier which has resulted in our Interfaith Book Club, "Read, Talk Act."

St. Paul's Annual Meeting January 22, 2017

Council President's Report 2016

St. Paul's had another very successful year in 2016. We met or exceeded all of our financial goals as a church and at the same time reached out to the community to provide our help and assistance in fulfilling its needs.

It was also a very special year as St. Paul's celebrated its 150th anniversary as a congregation dating all the way back to Byram of which some of us still fondly remember and even further back to the founding of the church as documented in St. Paul's historical records.

We began the year-long celebration in June with the Strawberry Festival with Rev. Beljean in attendance. In July, we were honored to have Bishop Eaton join us at our Cornerstone Anniversary service. Unfortunately, Bishop Eaton could not stay for the gourmet luncheon and did not have the opportunity to hear Frank Gawle and the Arlberg Brass Quintet. Without a doubt, their performance was a smash hit, enjoyed by all. And the finale was our 150th Anniversary Luncheon at Coveleigh at the end of October. Another big success. St. Paul's also marked this year as the 50th year occupying this building.

Other events during the year were big successes as well -- the Child Care Center's annual Auction & Dinner in March and Fall Fling in September. So, it sounds like we had lots of fun in 2016! But, of course, all of these successful events would not have been possible without the hard work of so many dedicated individuals that make St. Paul's what it is today. I congratulate all of you for everything you do throughout the year in successfully carrying out St. Paul's mission. In particular, I would like to acknowledge the time and effort which the 150th Anniversary Committee so unselfishly gave of themselves throughout this entire year. And to all the other committees and individuals who do the same in order to make this church run from week to week. Once again, congratulations for a job well done!

Finally, I would like to thank our beloved Pastor Jim for all the extraordinary work and devotion he brings to St. Paul's. Without his leadership and passion and the strength he gives each of us, none of what we accomplish at St. Paul's would be possible. Thank you Pastor Jim.

And so, we all look forward to another successful year. Yes, together we accomplished quite a lot in 2016 but still there is much to do. And together we will face whatever new challenges lie ahead and whatever problems are put before us and come through it all as we have so many times before. Thanks to all!

Sincerely,
Don Weber
Council President



Birthdays

March

3	Hannah Brady
5	Anita Wolff
18	Heather Tietjen
19	Rev. Sharon Isreal Pike
21	Emma Severance Sulimma
22	Jordan Ernst
25	Vicky Edwards
26	Max Charleswell
26	Vivienne Gunzer
28	David Alli
28	John Santoro
29	Shannon Marie Beadle
29	Jillian "JJ" Dehardt
29	Daniel Pilke
30	Robin Birittieri
30	Liisa Hibbard
30	Scott Sullivan

April

1	Cynthia Quell
2	Dotty Alfano
4	Orhan Eski
7	Kathy Schlosser
7	Heidi Disbennett
7	Mark Palovchek
11	Brett Guinta
11	Brandon Mark
11	Barbara Tormondsen
19	Wayne Masna
20	Isabella Rios
30	Connor Salvatore

May

7	Pam Jaffee
11	Lowell Johnson
17	Thabo Boateng
18	Tony Wynne
19	Ken Schlosser
19	Floann Roller
23	Eric Brady
26	Carole DeNigris
26	William Ross
26	Callie Chen Schultz
27	Jack Wynne
27	Hy Mordey Imhof
28	Lisa Brady
29	Michael Gozdieski
30	Christina Mutz-Carelo



Church Archivist Linda Armstrong displays time capsule contents



Jillian and Megan bring a year of "looking back" over 15 decades to completion by looking forward a generation: to the church Megan will grow up in.

Holy Week is in April

Palm Cross workshop Saturday 8th

Palm Sunday 9th 9:45am

Maundy Thursday - 13th 7pm

Good Friday - 14th 11:30 & 7pm

Easter Sunday - April 16th 9:45am

2016 Annual Report

150th Anniversary Committee

Co-chairs: Laura Chen-Schultz and Patty Gawle

Committee members: Jillian Alli, Linda Armstrong, Dick Case, Pam Jaffee, Lowell Johnson, Elaine Makowski, Pastor Jim & Lorna O'Hanlon, Lynn Patrizio, Barbara Tormondsen, and Rob & Missy Trenck

Planning for the St. Paul's 150th anniversary celebration began almost two years ago in mid-2014, and we'd like to thank Pastor Jim and the whole congregation for their time, energy, and input in making the 2016 celebrations so memorable and inspiring. Amongst several other activities, the anniversary committee planned three special events that accompanied Sunday church services. Some parts of these celebrations were inspired by activities held 50 years ago at the 100th anniversary, two of which were the Strawberry Festival and a children's choir singing a song from *The Sound of Music*. All of them are reported on here in chronological order:

Sesquicentennial moments

To reflect on the 150 years of St. Paul's, Chip Gawle kicked off our Sesquicentennial moments by reading the Gettysburg Address during Sunday service to remind us of the social and political climate of the decade during which St. Paul's was founded in the 1860's. Other moments from then ranged from the historical (both American history and St. Paul's history such as groups, pastors, and artifacts) to the personal, and ended with Jillian Alli's (mother of Megan Alli, St. Paul's youngest member) look to the future.



“Road to St. Paul’s” map

St. Paul was known as “the traveler.” The majority of our church’s founding members were from Germany; but 150 years later, our membership also includes travelers by way of Ireland, Spain, England, Italy, France, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Poland, Russia, Nepal, Ghana, South Africa, Kenya, Saudi Arabia, China, Taiwan, Jamaica, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Mexico, Brazil, Peru, and Guyana. To illustrate how far our membership has “traveled,” we provided a map for us to draw lines from ancestral place of origin, all converging on St. Paul’s in Rye Brook, New York.

Interviews

In an effort to connect the church’s past to its future, the 2015 Confirmation Class conducted in-person and phone interviews with some of our longer-time members of the congregation. Interviewers included Lisa Brady, Kara Hodge, Kate Jaffee, Edzani Kelapile, Theo Makowski, Ally Mark, Liam O’Hanlon, Isabella Rios, Julia Rios, Callie Schultz, Emma Severance, and Sydney Sullivan. Interviewees included Dick Case, Anita Charleswell, Ruth-Anne Cosgrove, Patty Gawle, Lillian Johnson, Bob Larsen, Heather Paul, and Rob & Missy Trenck. These conversations between generations gave the confirmation class some

inspiring perspective on the generation(s) before them, and the interviewees a sense of connectedness in sharing their stories and experiences.

Publications

Our last photo member directory was done in 2008, so to update it as well as help commemorate the 150th anniversary, members signed up and sat for photos in late 2015, and the new directory was printed in early 2016. Not only does it include 74 beautiful photos of some of our members, but a message from Pastor Jim remarking on our anniversary, and photos of memorable moments in recent years. Inspired by all these photographs, Pastor Jim also took it upon himself to create hard cover photo books that contain a rich pictorial history of St. Paul's. Directories and photo books are still available for those who want one.

Strawberry Festival for Church and Child Care Center

The Strawberry Festival was held on June 5th. Although it was planned as an outdoor tent and bring your own blanket event, heavy rain and strong wind made for an easy decision to stay inside. Our spirits were lifted by our special visitors, the Beljeans. During the service, Cara O'Hanlon played a solo on the viola, and the Sunday school sang "This Little Light of Mine" with flashlights. The Sunday School, led by Lynn Patrizio and Patty Gawle, presented the Bible Story quilt the group had created during the year. It contained 35 squares, each with a colorful picture of a Bible story or a common Lutheran symbol. Service ended with Isabella Rios singing "God Bless America." Next, the celebration moved downstairs to the Luther Room instead of outside. Potluck buffet was enjoyed by all. Gary Sullivan gathered and led the kids in games. A favorite was the pinewood derby races set up in the narthex. In the meantime, there was a table of about 7-8 strawberry entries waiting to be judged. Our young judges deemed Carole DeNigris the winner for her strawberry shortcake. Everyone enjoyed tasting all of the entries along with the strawberry shortcake made with fresh strawberries donated by Costco, angel food cake and whipped cream.

Cornerstone Commemoration

On July 10th, St. Paul's commemorated the laying of its cornerstone(s) with a special service and picnic outdoors in the church yard. This day was unusually festive and memorable because the bishop of the ELCA, Elizabeth Eaton, joined us as our special guest. The service began with the congregation gathering outside by the front corner. There we viewed and learned about the two cornerstones that were placed, and we listened to "Ashoken Farewell," a Civil War era song played on the violin by our guest, Joseph Konno. Next we moved around to the side of the church where we dedicated the benches. Alan Johnson played the African drum while the group moved to the stairs where we took a picture of so many of our congregation and guests. Inside the church, Chip Gawle and the Arlberg Brass Quintet filled the sanctuary with rich, bright sound, playing a prelude and accompanying the hymns. The choir, normally off for the summer, gathered to sing a special anthem "We Are the Church." One of our extras in the choir was the bishop! Bishop Eaton gave an inspiring sermon which really integrated the history of St. Paul's, Martin Luther, and the reformation. She came to know us well in a very short time and that knowledge and positive message were in her talk. The service came to an end with "Ave Maria" sung beautifully by Kate Jaffee. Under the tents, everyone helped themselves to gourmet barbecue skewers and delicious summer salads. Lynn Patrizio and Lorna O'Hanlon created a wonderful menu, and Lynn had a crew help prepare a lot of the food the previous day. The wonderful meal was made even better by listening to the brass quintet play songs from different time periods to reflect the time periods of the church's history. It felt like a real July church picnic when swarms of dragonflies flew among us.



Brunch celebration

October 30th was our Reformation Sunday celebration, our last big day in the string of anniversary events. Our special guests that day were Martha Freimuth, daughter of beloved Pastor Freimuth, Al and Eileen Parker, and Pastor Kathleen Koran, envoy of the Synod and friend of Saint Paul's. Once again, we began the service outside and dedicated the Freimuth bench with Martha present. Chip's trumpet added a festive tone to the music in the church and the Sunday School Group played "Amazing Grace" on the handbells. This was fitting for the occasion but even more so with the Parkers in attendance since they had donated the bells to the church more than 30 years ago. And Kate Jaffee sang Leonard Cohen's

"Hallelujah." After the uplifting service, many of our congregation drove to Coveleigh Country Club on the waterfront in Rye, NY. There we toasted our anniversary, our pastor, and many years to come. After grace was said by Pastor O'Hanlon, everyone helped themselves to a huge brunch buffet that was filled with wonderful food. We were entertained by Tom Giorgi's very talented band, Vital FunkShun. The children's choir, led by Isabella Rios, sang the song "Doe a Deer" from *The Sound of Music*, and Isabella sang a solo. Next was the magician who held kids' and many adults' attention with his tricks. In between, our members enjoyed personalized M&M's with St. Paul's stamped on them and a photo booth providing another kind of memento of the occasion. At that time, photos were collected to help create a memory book of the day.



And throughout all this time, Linda Armstrong made it her mission to gather historical St. Paul's artifacts and their significance, and photos from past to present that help tell the story of St. Paul's. The photo book from the brunch celebration will be added to the many treasured items in our "time capsule" that Linda Armstrong has collected, and this "capsule" will be archived in a safe place within the church, ready to be opened and read by future generations.

None of this could have happened or been worthwhile without the team efforts, participation, and spirit of the whole St. Paul's community. We had a great time, and we hope you did, too. Thank you!

To the next 150 years!
Patty and Laura



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Synod Assembly

Lutherans from Metro NY will gather for their 2017 Synod Assembly under the theme "Faith Not Fear," in celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation in 2017. Our assembly will culminate with a Saturday event, free and open to all, that will help us to explore what it means for us to be Lutherans today through workshops, keynotes, and a Festival Eucharist.

The 2017 Synod Assembly will be held May 11-13 at the Westchester Marriott, 670 White Plains Road, Tarrytown. Registration is required. Contact the church office.

Social Action Committee is beginning soon.
Ask Pastor for info.

Ash Wednesday March 1st
11:30 am & 6pm

Lenten Ecumenical Series – Wednesdays at 7pm

March 8 – Girtman Memorial (Port Chester)

March 15 – Bethesda Baptist Church (New Rochelle)

March 22 – **St. Paul's Lutheran Church (Rye Brook)**

March 28 – Bethel Community Worship Center (Port Chester)

Mardi Gras

Sunday February 26

at Barbara & John Tormondsen home

3:00 to 6:00pm

Potluck, New Orleans-themed
family event

Jesus Christ Superstar at Sacred Heart University

Edgerton Center for the Performing Arts
5151 Park Ave Fairfield, CT 06825

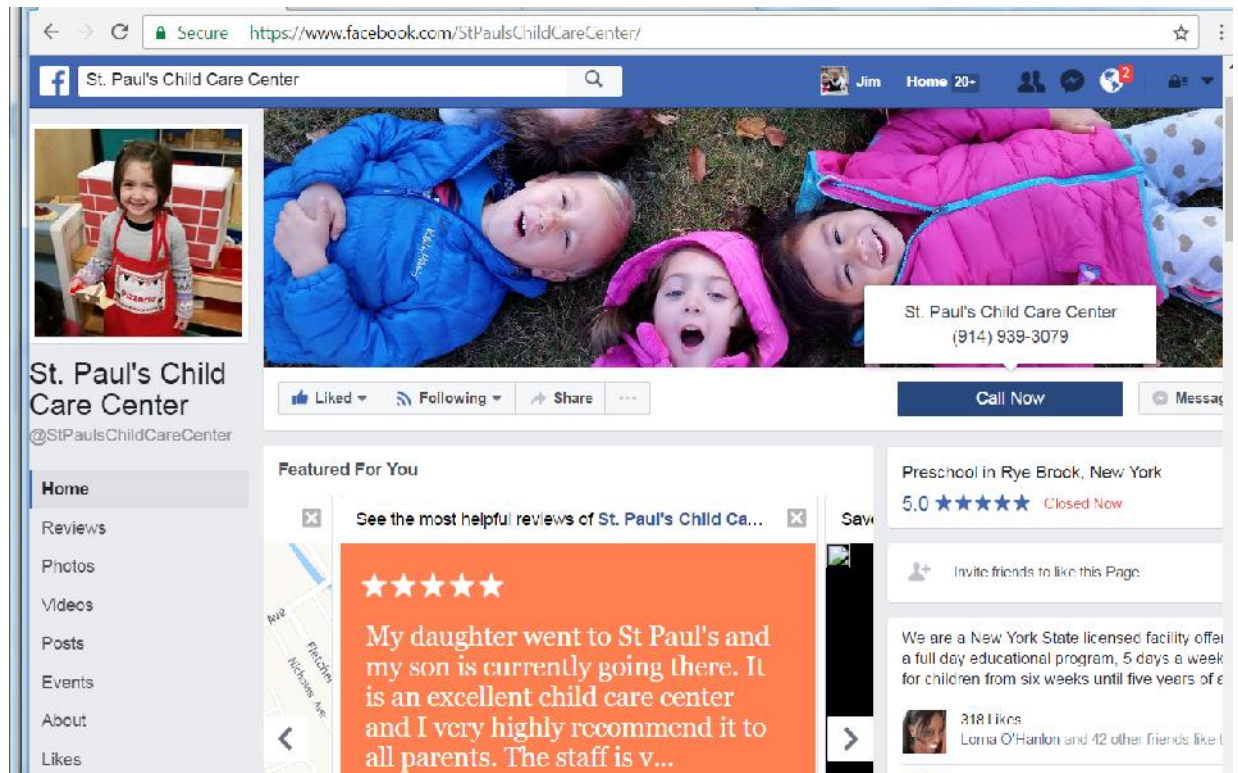
Lyrics by Tim Rice Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber
APRIL 6-8, 2017 AT 8PM - APRIL 9, 2017 AT 3PM

General Public: \$22
Senior Citizens: \$15
Faculty/Staff/Alumni: \$15
Student: \$10

Box Office: 203-371-7908 or buy tickets online: www.edgertoncenter.org

Offering a bundle of tickets - up to 30 tickets for \$10 each. Normal price is \$22 each. They recommend us selling them for more than \$10 to make a profit. They will buy back any unsold tickets by March 15th.

Our church and our Child Care Center each have a facebook page. Each shows current happenings and highlights upcoming events. If you have an account you can “like” these pages and also write reviews. You can invite others to events and share updates.



St. Paul's Church
761 King Street
Rye Brook, NY 10573