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2004 Block Party

Peace Begins in the Neighborhood

Saturday, September 11, 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. Is this date/time on your calendar? That’s the date and time for the SS Peter & Paul Block Party and this year’s party promises to be the biggest and best yet.

The theme of the party – **Peace Begins in the Neighborhood** – is a special one. The Block Party committee proposed this theme in recognition of the date, and to bring the community together with a theme of peace in memory of September 11, 2001.

There will be all the traditional favorites: food, music, raffle tickets, a children’s fun area, Alterra coffee, and don’t forget all those home-baked desserts from the 4th Tuesday group.

And here’s what’s **NEW** this year:

Murray’s Market: Artists, crafters and home-based product demonstrators for companies like Tastefully Simple, Party-Lite, and Avon will be displaying their wares for Block Party shoppers. The marketplace is one of newest additions to the SSPP Block Party.

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Parish Council

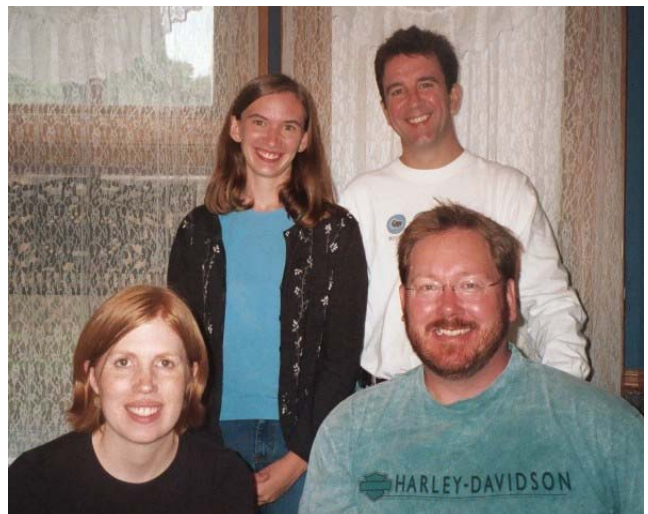
Welcome New Parish Council Members

By Dan Miller

Our new parish council members are Matt Groth, Sara Larsen, Karen Mikolainis, and Dan Miller. We chatted a bit with each of them to get to know them.

Matt Groth is a lifelong Milwaukee resident, the youngest of seven children, who grew up

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New Council Members: (back row) Sarah Larsen, Matt Groth, (front row) Karen Mikolainis, Dan Miller

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John the Conqueror: This year's band loves to involve the audience in their music. They're a high energy 5-piece pop/oldies/boogie/R&B/Island/Cajun/zydeco/ pretraditional porch band that embellishes the New Orleans Street band concept with a washtub-bass, pots-pans-hubcap-garbage pail drum set, and so much more. Lots of fun for the whole family.

Muffin Madness and Ring Toss: Are you feeling lucky? Try your luck at these two new games.

Sprecher Beer: New this year, in addition to old favorites, the Sprecher Brewery will be providing Sprecher beer and Sprecher root beer.

Silent Auction: This Block Party favorite isn't new but, according to Lori George co-chair of the Block Party committee, this year's auction is expected to surpass last year's phenomenally successful auction. Don't miss it.

So many people work hard to make an event like this a success. Thank you to all who volunteer your time and talents.

If you have questions and/or you'd like to volunteer, contact the parish rectory at 414-962-2443, or you can contact either Mary Eckert at mceckert@ix.netcom.com or 414-769-1807, or Lori George at lori_go@hotmail.com or 414-329-3027. See you on September 11, rain or shine! (Pray for shine!)

THANK YOU

The Block Party committee has been working hard for many months getting this great party together.

Committee co-chairs are

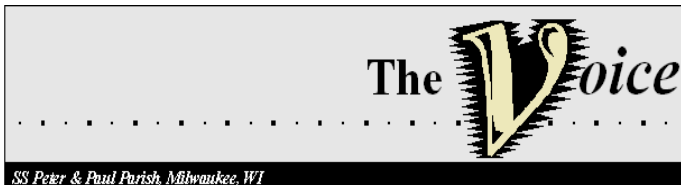
Mary Eckert and Lori George

Committee members are: Larry Burns, Lynn Charnitz, Rita Flores-Witkowski, Katy Flierl, Daniel Miller, Gary Nosacek, Jane Ore, Ryan O'Rourke, Ken Prus, Ruth Prus, Tom Schiffmacher, Maureen Stone

Many Hands Make Light(er) Work



WANTED: Able and willing folks from SS Peter & Paul parish to help with set-up and tear-down of the Block Party tents. If you can help with morning set-up or after-party tear down, call Lori George at 329-3027.



SS Peter & Paul Parish, Milwaukee, WI

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The Voice is published four times a year. Please send comments or questions to the editor at j9pilar@yahoo.com

Janine Pilarski, Editor
Daniel Miller, Contributing Writer

*The Voice is back
and we want to hear from you.
What would you like to read about in
The Voice?
Contact the editor.*

PARISH COUNCIL continued from page 1

on the east side. Matt loves to travel, especially overseas, in addition to his love of mountain climbing, going on safari, trekking, and camping. “Though I have not seen nearly as much of the world as I would like, I have seen enough to appreciate what a GREAT city Milwaukee is in which to live.”

Matt’s gravitation to SS Peter & Paul started as a child attending mass here. All of his siblings attended Catholic East, so he was here for many of the related events that come with going to school. “When I moved back to the east side, it seemed natural for me to attend SSPP.” Matt joined after participating in the Adult Confirmation program in 1998. He served previously on the parish council beginning in 2002 finishing a departing council member’s term.

Matt brings with him a strong sense of community. That conviction will help ensure that SS Peter & Paul grows in its mission. “My willingness to serve in this way and to get involved ‘behind the scenes’ in the activities of this parish is what I can offer as my contribution.”

Sarah Larsen says her husband and first love, Mike, tells her that *what* she loves is what *defines* her. “I love Jesus. I love the Church. I love the Eucharist. I love Mary. I love the Pope. I love SS Peter & Paul. I have been blessed to have the opportunity to be a stay-at-home mom to our nineteen month old son Sam, and I love learning how to see God while chasing a toddler around trying to wipe peanut butter out of his hair.”

When asked why Sarah and her family were drawn to SS Peter & Paul, she answers simply “...the only real answer seems to be that God wanted us to be here.” She remarks on the sense of reverence for Christ present in the Eucharist, the concern for social justice, the beautiful music, the welcoming sound of young children crying during mass.

Sarah studied theology at Marquette and loves learning about the Catholic faith and sharing that with others. She volunteers at a crisis pregnancy center on the south side of Milwaukee. As a parish council member, Sarah’s contribution is yet to be defined. As she says, “I’m never really sure how God

is going to use me, so I can’t say exactly how I will be called to serve the parish. But I hope that my openness to whatever God asks of me is the gift that I can bring to this church.”

Karen Mikolainis has been a parish member for almost 6 years. Her husband David is also on the parish council. She and David live in Hales Corners, and Karen is a soon-to-be-mom in October! Karen has been in the choir for a few years, and has been singing in choirs most of her life. “My mom convinced me when I was thirteen that it would be fun and good for me, and I admit she was right.” You may have seen her leading the congregation in song as a cantor on occasion. Karen works at Versant, an advertising & marketing firm, as a senior account manager. A Wisconsin native from the Green Bay/DePere area, Karen is a huge Packer fan.

Her attraction to SS Peter & Paul started when Karen and David were dating. They had started going to Holy Rosary, but when it was consolidated, the mass schedules didn’t fit into theirs and they began to seek out other parishes. “Soon after we discovered SS Peter & Paul, David proposed, we joined SSPP and were married here about a year later in October, 1999.

I hope to participate in parish leadership as a servant of the church, approaching all discussion and decisions with an open mind, open ears, and faith that God will guide the way.

~ Karen Mikolainis

Looking forward to becoming more involved in parish leadership, Karen hopes to contribute her communication and planning skills to the parish council. “I hope to participate in parish leadership as a servant of the church, approaching all discussion and decisions with an open mind, open ears, and faith that God will guide the way. SSPP has a lot of great people who contribute to making the parish community strong, and I’m very excited about getting to know these people better and pitching in whenever possible.”

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Dan Miller is “just someone in the pews who steadily, throughout the years as a parish member, became more involved in the doings of the parish.” Dan, the product of Burlington, Wisconsin, grew up on a farm, and received a parochial education at St. Mary’s.

Like Matt Groth, Dan also has a love of international travel. “Dubrovnic is by far my favorite place, with Firenze (Florence) a close second.” In 1992, he visited the shrine of the Blessed Virgin in Medjugorje, Yugoslavia. Just four years later, he and his dad drove to Trujillo, Honduras and for six months they helped a friend, Vince Pescatore, finish building his orphanage, Finca del Nino. “It was the best six months of my life. You could really feel God’s loving presence in the people and the very earth you walked on.”

Dan’s calling to the parish came mostly through the love of volleyball, motorcycling, and Fr. Jack Kern. “I had signed up for a volleyball team that played in Milwaukee on Sunday mornings, and just bought a brand new 1992 Harley. SSPP had 7:00 pm mass with a great pastor, Fr. Jack. I couldn’t have asked for a better set of circumstances!”

Self-employed since he was 21, Dan brings to the council a wealth of experience, professional and personal. “My hopes are to help SS Peter & Paul to be as wonderful a spiritual home for everyone who walks through those doors as it is for me.” On the business end, he adds: “The church has much to accomplish these next few years, and I plan to act with fiduciary as well as faith-filled responsibility, in accord with the plans to keep our buildings a blessing.”



Our pastor, Fr. Tom Brundage, returned in July from a cruise-ship tour of Alaska sponsored by the Catholic Herald. Parishioners Jim and Judy Lewis joined Fr. Tom on the tour. Fr. Tom said he really enjoyed having Jim and Judy on the tour. The picture above shows Jim Lewis on stage in one of the late-night comedy acts aboard the Royal Caribbean “Vision of the Seas.”

Lifetime Stewardship

On June 27, our pastor, Fr. Tom Brundage celebrated the feast day of SS Peter & Paul with an outdoor mass at Lake Park. It was a beautiful day for the outdoor mass and a wonderful day to acknowledge the work of several parish members who have earned the Lifetime Stewardship award. Mary Carlson, Chairperson for the Parish Council, presented the Lifetime Stewardship awards to **Mary McDermott, Jane Schieffer** and (the late) **Carl Schieffer**. Over the years, these three parish members have served SS Peter & Paul in a multitude of ways. Their spirit of generosity is an example for all of us.

Parish Life

Neighborhood Night

Who's your neighbor? Answers to that question, along with art and ice cream were shared on Neighborhood Night on July 14th amid the welcoming atmosphere of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 2618 N Hackett Avenue. It was an evening for folks from the Downer Avenue neighborhood and neighboring churches to meet each other and reflect on the meaning of "neighborhood" and "neighbor."

One of the main features of the evening was the art of Sister Joeann Daley. Some of Sister Daley's prints and photo collages that were on display depict the sites and landmarks of Milwaukee's east side and Downer Avenue neighborhoods. She is currently the Artist-in-Residence at Dominican High School in Whitefish Bay. Her artwork is featured in the gallery at St. Mark's church through the end of the summer and you can view Sister Daley's work at www.sinsinawa.org/WhatWeDo/joeann.htm

The evening also featured a panel discussion on what it means to be a "neighborhood." Panel participants were: Michael D'Amato, 3rd District Alderman; Cynthia Elwood, Principal of the Hartford Avenue University K-8 School; Stephen L. Percy, Ph.D. Director of the Center for Urban Initiatives and Research at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Oscar Perez, Deputy Inspector for the Milwaukee

Police Department; and The Most Reverend Richard J. Sklba, Auxiliary Bishop of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

Each panel member gave a perspective of neighbors and neighborhood. All the participants conveyed a central theme: neighbors are people who are diverse yet supportive, connected individuals who come together, each one a stakeholder in the success of the neighborhood.

Oscar Perez from the Milwaukee Police department encouraged more gatherings like Neighborhood Night. He said the statistics showed that the Downer Avenue neighborhood was a safe neighborhood. And he believed that was due to the respect and sense of community that was infectious among the people of the neighborhood.

Bishop Sklba was the last panel participant to speak. His vision of a neighbor had these qualities: A neighbor is one who contributes as an individual, but uses "our" more than "my." A neighbor has a sense of beauty, is respectful, generous, cooperative, honest. A neighbor does not live in rivalry but in partnership with the institutions of the neighborhood.

The ice cream social that followed the panel discussion gave neighbors and panel members the opportunity to meet informally and get to know each other.



The panel for Neighborhood Night at St. Mark's Church included (from left) Michael D'Amato, Cynthia Elwood, Stephen L. Percy, Ph.D., Oscar Perez and Bishop Richard J. Sklba.

Capital Fund Appeal

Building on Our Blessings – Progress Report

The Task Force has been meeting for the last several months to lay the plans for the air conditioning of the church and church center. This is their report on the plans and progress.

The process started with the selection of Voss Jorgenson as the general contractor. VJ was chosen because of their familiarity with the parish buildings, extensive experience with renovating older properties, and a demonstrated ability to provide high quality service in a cost-effective manner.

The next step was to select the air conditioning unit supplier. A non-traditional UNICO system was chosen. The UNICO system is particularly appropriate for buildings such as ours because it does not require installation of expensive and intrusive ductwork, thus minimizing the impact on our beautiful structure. UNICO relies on revolutionary, flexible mini-ducts that weave through the smallest spaces. Rather than a traditional forced air system, UNICO is a high velocity delivery system, rated in studies as providing consistently superior environmental comfort. Fans of the television program *'This Old House'* will recognize it as the cooling system of choice for many of their restoration and renovation projects.

Due to the age and construction of our building, planning for the installation was more involved than originally anticipated. Great care was taken to ensure that the installation of the necessary air ducts was aesthetically pleasing and complimentary to the design of our beautiful church. The task force consulted with key members of our parish staff and a parish advisory committee, and also visited other churches to gather ideas on how they had installed the UNICO system.

The resulting plan is one that seems to meet all of our criteria. To properly maintain our environment, a total of 180 small, circular vents will be installed high in the church. They will be incorporated into

the existing design of the scrollwork and medallions on the ceiling. When the church is repainted in 3-5 years, the ducts will be further melded in as a design element.

Interestingly, our long-term parish members tell us that the ceiling medallions were at one time part of a trap door system used to ventilate the church. And today they are again serving to help provide a comfortable space for us to worship in. Initially attempts will be made to cut into the existing medallions for the installation of the air vents. Until that work actually begins, we are not sure if that will be successful. Alternatively, we may have to have the medallions reconstructed, which could result in additional project time and expense.

Work on this project will start in early September 2004, and will include the initial phase of the electrical service upgrade in the church. Preparations will include removal of several pews in the rear of the church, setup of temporary scaffolding, and wrapping the organ to protect it from construction dust.

Work in the church proper is planned to begin on September 7 and is scheduled to continue for three weeks. Weekend masses will be held as usual during this time. Daily masses will be relocated to the church center and/or Cramer cafeteria. The bulletin will provide details.

- | TASK FORCE NEXT STEPS | |
|-----------------------|---|
| • | Developing a 3-year plan of activities |
| • | Projecting 3-year cash flow requirements |
| • | Detailed planning for completing the electrical upgrade in church, which will include dimming panels and enhanced light control to minimize electricity usage |

∞ Parish Calendar ∞

These dates - subject to change - are events at SS Peter & Paul in the coming months. Please check the Bulletin for specific information. Regular Masses are 5 pm Saturday, 9 am, 11 am and 7 pm Sunday, and 8 am weekdays (M-F). Confessions are 4-4:30 pm Saturday. Centering Prayer is each Tuesday at 7:15 pm in the Church Center. For more information, call the rectory at 962-2443.

August 14: SSPP Women's Group, 9:30, Church Center
August 17: Centering Prayer, 7:15pm, Church Center
August 18: Administrative Services, 6:30pm, Batz Room
August 23: St. Vincent de Paul Meeting, 6:30pm, Church Center
August 23: Peacemakers, 7pm, Cafeteria

August 24: Centering Prayer, 7:15pm, Church Center
August 31: Centering Prayer, 7:15pm, Church Center

September 1: Parish Council, 6:30pm, Church Center
September 7: Centering Prayer, 7:15pm, Church Center
September 8: Stewardship Meeting, 6:30pm, Batz Room
September 10: Scripture Series with Bishop Sklba, TBA, Holy Rosary
September 11: SSPP Women's Group, 9:30, Church Center
September 11: **SSPP BLOCK PARTY**, 2:00 pm - 10:00 pm
September 13: St. Vincent de Paul Meeting, 6:30pm, Church Center
September 14: Centering Prayer, 7:15pm, Church Center
September 15: Administrative Services, 6:30pm, Church Center
September 18: Single Vision, 6:30pm, Church Center
September 20: Peacemakers, 7pm, Cafeteria
September 21: Centering Prayer, 7:15pm, Church Center
September 27: St. Vincent de Paul Meeting, 6:30pm, Church Center
September 28: Centering Prayer, 7:15pm, Church Center

October 1: Choir Karaoke Night, 7pm, Auditorium
October 5: Centering Prayer, 7:15pm, Church Center
October 6: Parish Council, 6:30pm, Church Center
October 8: Scripture Series with Bishop Sklba, TBA, Holy Rosary
October 9: SSPP Women's Group, 9:30am, Church Center
October 10: CROP Walk

October 11: St. Vincent de Paul Meeting, 6:30pm, Church Center
October 12: Centering Prayer, 7:15pm, Church Center
October 13: Stewardship Meeting, 6:30pm, Batz Room
October 16: Parish Council Planning Day, 8:30-2pm
October 19: Centering Prayer, 7:15pm, Church Center
October 20: Administrative Services, 6:30pm, Batz Room
October 25: St. Vincent de Paul Meeting, 6:30 pm, Church Center
October 26: Centering Prayer, 7:15pm, Church Center

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Capital Appeal Update

To date, these are the latest totals:

\$738,976.86 Total Commitments

\$266,921.55 Total Collected

We're at 86.9% of our appeal goal and 31.4% of our collected amount goal.

Thank you for your generosity.

One man gives freely, yet gains even more...

-- Proverbs 11:24

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Saints Peter & Paul Catholic Church
2491 N. Murray Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53211

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