



# Vestry Report - February 22, 2023

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## 150TH CELEBRATION REPORT

The 150<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee set out to plan and execute a series of activities and programs to highlight and share information about the life and work of the parish throughout its history. The work of the committee was guided by our commitment to working in collaboration with our neighbors, and building or rebuilding relationships with our historical partners.

### May 12, 2023- Opening Night! Sloan Museum of Discovery Exhibit

Joyce Leroue, Barb Mannor, and Walt Peake have been holding regular meetings with our friends at the museum, to plan and execute the first ever, community co-curated exhibit in the new Sloan space. The plan is to present an exhibit that reflects on our past and points to our hopes and expectations for the future of the parish, including our work with Partners for Sacred Places.

The general storyline for the exhibit is finalized and we are working on artifacts and labels. The story moves through history from the founding of the parish through today, centered on our historical and current missions. The vehicle for telling the story is our physical location at the intersection and our central position in the life and work of our community.

We are currently identifying potential artifacts, including those from our archives and some from Sloan's collections. The physical exhibit will be housed in a case 7'x10'x3'. The virtual exhibit will include an interactive kiosk with photos and stories, as well as QR codes to direct visitors to additional articles, biographies, and photos of interest.

- The exhibit will open on Friday, May 12, 2023 and will run through September.
- There will be a guided 'behind the scenes at Sloan' opportunity for St. Paul' parishioners and families to be held on Sunday, April 16, 2023.
- On Sunday May 14<sup>th</sup>, Sloan and our Outreach Ministry will host a special Exhibit Opening Coffee Hour/Tea. We'll be collaborating with Sloan's Public Relations and Community Engagement staff members to ensure get the work out to the community.

### March 11, 2023- Creation Care Summit: Our Congregation Did This. You Can Too!

St. Paul's has been invited to participate in a panel presentation on Creation Care. We'll be sharing information about our 2022 Groundbreaking Day celebration and our role in the 'Downtown Cleanup and Social Mixer'. Registration for this virtual event is open and we invite everyone to join us. 'The Episcopal Church's Covenant for the Care of Creation is a commitment to practice loving formation, liberating advocacy, and life-giving conservation as individuals, congregations, ministries, and diocese.'

### May 2023- Groundbreaking Day/Cleanup Event

We've again reached out to some of our downtown partners to collaborate on a spring cleanup event. We are waiting to hear back from them regarding the preferred dates, etc. but will share additional details as they become available.

Last year, we were able to open doors, welcome neighbors, share gifts, and build community as we hosted the cleanup headquarters, distributed supplies, and with the help of a generous parishioner, we were able to feed some hungry volunteers.



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### 150th Anniversary of the First Services 'At the Intersection'

The final formal event of our 150<sup>th</sup> Season of Celebration will take place on Sunday, August 27, 2023, when we'll commemorate the first service ever held in our 'new' church building. Watch for additional details as plans develop.

### 150th Community Engagement

#### Applewood/Ruth Mott Foundation

February 14, 2023: St. Paul's hosted staff members and volunteers from Applewood/Ruth Mott Foundation, for a visit and historical tour of our buildings. Elizabeth Jordan, Maggie Hart, Father Don, and Walt Peake had an opportunity to make some new friends, chat about our incredible shared history, and reconnect our two organizations. We look forward to collaborating with Applewood/Ruth Mott Foundation on projects and programs in the future.

#### Whaley Historical House Museum

Our early relationship with UM-F History Professor Thomas Henthorn, involved co-curated Church/Cemetery tours in collaboration with Emily Doerr and Flint City Bike Tours. Those programs start from our parking lot and include a guided tour of our historic buildings. Professor Henthorn was one of the key planners for our All Saints' event last October. Last summer, Professor Henthorn sent us a student intern who was working on a project related to Christ Episcopal Church. We had a fantastic meeting last summer, and were able to provide the intern with primary source documentation and information about Christ Church and CEC. Happily, we've just learned that this in turn, Izzy Gordon, has been named executive director of the Whaley historical house museum we have been working for several years to establish a relationship with the Whaley house, but it has been difficult due to changes in vacancies in their leadership. Look for new events and collaborative opportunities coming soon!

#### Mott Community College

We've been working for almost four years to establish a relationship with the Fine Arts program at Mott Community College. Although they were always interested, we could never make plans or arrange for a visit. This week we were able to welcome seven photography students, two instructors, and three brides into the nave to learn and practice in an actual church setting. We hope to expand this relationship to include opportunities to exhibit student work throughout our building and perhaps as part of our second Friday our walk program.