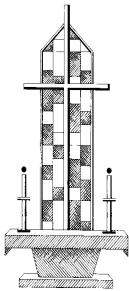


ST. PAUL'S NEWS



August, 2010

Dear friends,

Thank you! As we look back on the last ten weeks without Frank, we are grateful and humbled by the tremendous outpouring of support the people of St. Paul's have given to us and to the church. Though the parish usually slows down in the summer, this year we have been busy—making improvements to the building, planning for the future, showing support to one another, and worshipping together. We offer thanks to everyone who has stepped up to help St. Paul's, as painters, furniture movers, Thrift Sale workers, altar ministers, pledgers, gardeners, inreach providers, and most importantly, worshippers on Sunday mornings.

Soon we will move into the next stage of our transition time. We are excited to welcome Rev. Margaret Schwarzer as our interim priest, beginning Tuesday, August 24. Margaret has served as an interim at Christ Church in Andover, and most recently, at St. Mary's in Newton Lower Falls. Margaret will be worshipping with us as a parishioner on August 1 and August 8, and will be available on August 10 and 11 in the office, for anyone who'd like to stop by and say hello while she's getting settled. Her first Sunday with us as celebrating priest will be August 29.

She will be working part-time: Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9 to 5, and on Sundays for worship and through the early afternoon, for those parishioners who'd like to meet with her but who can't come during the regular workday. She will have her own email address, interim@stpaulsbedford.org, and can be reached either at the church (781-275-8262) or on her cell phone (617-733-0661).

On the next page, you'll find a letter from Margaret telling a little more about herself, her background, her family, and her hopes and wishes for her time at St. Paul's.

We hope you will welcome Margaret into our family during this time of transition.
With blessings,

Emily Mitchell and Paul Ciaccia
Co-Wardens



Dear People of St. Paul's,

In the months of August and September, you and I will have the chance to see each other face-to-face, and you will meet me for the first time. I will be seeing you for the first time, too, but I began to get to know you many years ago because my colleague Frank was always so happy to share his love of St. Paul's with his clergy friends. I already know how much love and talent lies in your community; I know that the laity of the church are gifted ministers. I also know that you know how to have fun; I've seen Frank and Chuck do a soft shoe routine, and your children sing a beautiful song. Friendly laughter and loud applause followed both performances on the home movie footage Frank shared with me. I'm looking forward to learning even more about the love, strengths and gifts of St. Paul's as we begin our relationship as Priest and People during the Interim time which will ultimately lead to a new Rector for St. Paul's.

Here are some things to know about me and my life as a Christian and a Priest:

First, I'm no stranger to New England; I'm a graduate of Smith College and Yale Divinity School, and I've spent ten years of my ministry as the Episcopal Chaplain at Boston University and the last two years of my ministry as a Diocesan Interim Priest. While at B.U., I also served as the founder and director of The Micah Project, a 9 month program of service and vocational discernment for recent college graduates. During my tenure as director, I led 36 young adult interns into urban parishes, peace and justice programs, and chaplaincies where they contributed over 2,560 hours of service per year. During my years of ordained ministry, I've also served parishes and chaplaincies in Washington, D.C., Princeton, New Jersey, and New Haven, CT. I served as an Assistant Minister at Trinity Church, Princeton, N.J., and worked as the Assistant Chaplain at Princeton University.. At each of these parishes, I've had a special interest in fostering excellent adult education programs.

Margaret's Family

I've been an ordained Episcopal Priest for sixteen years, and in the last nine of these years, I've been married to, Jon, who is an active member of the Unitarian Church. We have a son, Benjamin, six, who plans to participate in the St. Paul's Church School, and we have four older children, Rachel, Asa, Jonas, and Rebecca, my step children, who are Unitarians. This year Rebecca will graduate from Colorado College. During family free time, you will find us skiing in the White Mountains, sailing and swimming in ocean water, and hiking around New England.

“Behold,” says the Christ, “I make all things new!”

When I'm asked about my favorite quotation from scripture, I always hold up Christ's promise to make all things new. One of the reasons I follow Jesus is because in both the joys and sorrows of this life, I witness the resurrection and redemption Christ brings us. Christ calls us to practice resurrection by staying open to the beauty and sacredness of our own lives, and by keeping our hearts open to “the new things” being done around us, whether they be in our children, our friends, our partners, or the stranger down the street. I welcome the opportunity to join you for another “new thing” – the chance to prepare our hearts for this year's journey of interim time.

I am looking forward to being spiritual pilgrims together as we celebrate the good work underway and reflect together on what God is calling St. Paul's to become in the second decade of the 21st Century. Godspeed to each of us in our journey, Margaret

SEARCH COMMITTEE NEWS

The Search Committee has been busy this summer. We have met with Rev. Cynthia Hubbard, Canon for Transition Ministry at the Diocese, who explained the search process to us. We have continued to meet over the past several weeks to work on the parish profile. The profile contains information such as "Who We Are," "What We Value," and "The Rector We Seek." Luckily, the work that the Long Range Planning Committee did earlier this year has made creating the profile easier. The profile is now in the revision phase and should be complete by the end of the summer. We also will begin working on the three or four questions that all applicants will answer in writing. We expect to begin receiving names in October.

This week, Dori Pulizzi and I will be creating a display that will visually explain the process of choosing a new rector. Look for it the next time you are at church.

If there are any questions about the search, please feel free to contact me at sharonshealey@comcast.net.

—Sharon Healey, Search Committee Chair

DATES TO SAVE

Summer is still in full swing, but it's not too early to plan ahead for the fall and winter. Here are some dates to save in September and beyond.

Sunday School/Catechesis registration	Sunday, September 12
First day of Sunday School/Catechesis	Sunday, September 19
Homecoming Potluck Brunch	Sunday, September 19
Bedford Day	Saturday, September 25
Fall Festival (fundraiser/fellowship event)	Sunday, October 17
Advent Fair	Saturday, December 4

SPECIAL THANKS

During the past month a number of changes and improvements have occurred at St Paul's.

A special thanks to those who helped move the Rectors furniture to the new office, cleaned and painted the classrooms, weeded the gardens, reclaimed and added a de humidifier to the basement. Thanks to Paul West, Nick Bonifanti Emily Mitchell, Bill Walker, Linda Moosick, Alex Brough, Toni Wood, Joanna Nickerson, Jack Healey, Sharon Healy, Jeff Zwicker, Rene Seaton, Jim Seaton, Jim Hillis, Chris LaPorte and anyone we missed.

EPISTLE DEADLINE

The deadline for content for our September Epistle is August 20. Please have your entries to Tracy on or before that date.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
100 Pine Hill Road
Bedford, MA 01730

Non-profit
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Bedford MA 01730
Permit No. 11

Sunday Service of Holy Eucharist: 10:00 a.m.
Summer Sunday Service of Holy Eucharist 9:00 a.m. (6/27 – 9/5)
Office hours: Tuesday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Telephone: 781 275-8262
Fax: 781 687-9070
E-mail: info@stpaulsbedford.org

Staff:

Visiting Clergy
Tracy Lane, Parish Administrator
Joan Reddy, Music Director
Bob Godoy, Sexton

Officers:

Emily Mitchell and Paul Ciaccia, Co-Wardens
Betsey Anderson, Treasurer
Dori Pulizzi, Clerk

Gracious God,
you have called us to be the Church of Jesus Christ.
Keep us one in faith and service;
breaking bread together
and telling the good news to the world;
that all may believe you are love,
turn to your ways, and live to your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen