
ST. PAUL'S EPISTLE

May 2006

Dear Friends,

Where do we go from Easter? Some of us begin to prepare for spring and summer vacations. Some plan closing programs for the church year. Some relax into the Easter Season which brings us to Pentecost and the celebration of the ever present Holy Spirit.

But what do we hear in the story of the Resurrection that helps us to know what to do next? I think of the discovery of the empty tomb, of Mary Magdalene, the only one of Jesus' followers to venture out of hiding to go to anoint the body. I imagine her shock and fear as she discovers the empty tomb. Could it be further persecution of Jesus and his followers? She tells Peter and another disciple and they come and see the empty tomb for themselves and then they believe her report of the empty tomb. They run back to hiding. Mary stays!

Because she stays she becomes the first witness to the Resurrection and the first to be ordained by Jesus to share the Good News of God's loving victory in the Risen Christ.

Jesus tells her to go and tell. Telling the Good News is not just about sharing the story, sharing the miracle. Telling the Good News is the motivation to **live the story** and continue with Jesus to be makers of miracles. People of the Resurrection are people whose lives are based in faith, hope and love. People of the Resurrection are people who go into the world everyday and, in whatever way, contribute to the loving transformation that began on that Sunday Morning.

Mary Magdalene, a single woman, whose strength, courage and faith came from her own inner willingness to be in relationship to God in Jesus Christ is an example for us. She ventured out, she would not go back to hiding, she engaged the stranger in the garden and found Jesus. And Jesus commanded her, as he does us, to go and tell the Good News. We do this not only by retelling the awesome story of love and commitment of Jesus but through our willingness to go and change the world.

Where do we go from Easter? Out! We go out into the world armed with God's love and promise to be with us always. We go out into the world knowing that in the glory of Jesus' Resurrection we too are resurrected into a new way of life. We go, a people loved by God, to bring joy and peace. We choose, as Mary did, to be unafraid to say the courageous thing, go the winding route, declaring God's victory of violence and death. We choose to bring Good News to the poor, the oppressed, the disenfranchised.

We take the gift of Easter and run with it!

Frank +

Meet the Vestry

In an effort to make us more visible and recognizable to members of the parish, the vestry is pleased to introduce a new feature to the Epistle. Every month, two members of the vestry will be profiled. We hope you will feel comfortable to come to us or to the rector with any concerns or questions about St. Paul's.

In Christ's name,
St. Paul's Vestry

Ron Presti

(interview by Andy Saladino)



Ron Presti is a man you may see doing a variety of things here at St. Paul's, but you may not know a lot about him. Ron was born in Winthrop, but lived in Somerville until he was three years old. He then moved to Burlington with Camille his mother, Joseph his father and his three siblings to live with his extended family while waiting for a house to be built for them. He remained in Burlington until he graduated from Burlington High School. After high school he attended Villanova University in Pennsylvania, and earned a degree in electrical engineering.

Ron is married to Cathy, and together they have three children: Nate, 8; Sonia, 6; and Andrew, 4. Ron spends a lot of quality time with his family, whether it's coaching Nate and Sonia's soccer and baseball teams, riding bikes with the whole family on beautiful days outside, or enjoying quiet times at Lake Winnepesaukee. Ron has always been involved with sports since he was young. Whether he was playing tennis and basketball for his high school team, or pick-up football, baseball and volleyball games with his friends, he has always enjoyed the team experience of playing sports.

Ron feels a wonderful connection to St. Paul's, and is deeply connected to the church and its congregation. He has attended other churches in town, but none of them compared to the warmth and friendliness he has received at St. Paul's.

Ron was raised Catholic, but continues to feel moved by the compassion, inclusiveness and worship that he experiences in the Episcopal Church. He has been attending St. Paul's with his family for nine years. He has helped in a variety of places throughout the church, including being a helper in Catechesis, a teacher of 4th and 5th grade Sunday School, an usher, a vestry member for three years, junior warden for an additional two years, and now being our senior warden. Ron has had the pleasure of working together with several senior wardens, and has drawn a lot of inspiration from them.

Andy Saladino

(interview by Ron Presti)



Andy Saladino has a very genuine way of being. He was born in Melbourne, Florida, in 1988 and by the time he was one year old he moved to Watertown, MA with his mother, Louisa, and stepfather, Peter. Shortly before entering kindergarten, Andy and his family moved to Bedford, where he and his younger sister, Shea, have attended the Bedford public schools. Andy's father, Paul Saladino, lives in Waltham. Paul works as a chef in Boston and he and Andy often spend time together as their schedules permit. Andy and all his parents have a very open relationship with each other; Paul visits Andy's house and enjoys the time he spends with Andy, Louisa, Peter, and Shea.

Some of Andy's talents are expressed through his participation in the music program and drama club at Bedford High School. He has played percussion for the concert band, jazz band, orchestra pit for musicals, and his favorite, the marching band. For the drama club, Andy is currently the co-president, where his creativity is displayed by the stage scenes he has created and the leadership he provides backstage. Andy is in the midst of co-writing, co-producing, co-directing and co-starring in a production titled HARRY POTTER: BOOK 7, which will be performed at the middle school auditorium in the spring.

Andy's nurturing ways are no better exemplified than by his assistance in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program. Having his mother as a wonderful example, Andy has helped with setup, preparation, and

most importantly, direct interaction with the Catechesis students, while bringing himself closer to understanding the love of Jesus. He has provided an inspiring role model for many youngsters in the parish.

Andy, having been introduced to St. Paul's by his grandmother, has been attending St. Paul's for six years. As a second year member on St. Paul's vestry, Andy has provided a youthful yet mature viewpoint on many topics.

Andy will be graduating from Bedford High School in June, and in the fall will be attending the University of New Hampshire as an undeclared liberal arts major.

St. Paul's Christian Education

Elementary School

Happy Easter! The Lord has risen indeed! Alleluia! We have now started Session IV of Sunday School called Easter and Pentecost. This is such an uplifting time of year but also very hectic. The warm weather calls all of us out of doors and the school year comes to a close.

Lessons for Session IV are Doubting Thomas, The Good Shepherd, The Vine and the Branches, Pentecost, and many more. We have five classes left until the last day of Sunday School (June 11th). The calendar is posted below.

This is the time of year we start thinking and planning for the next school year. We have had such generous and enthusiastic teachers and helpers this year. We hope you will let us know in what capacity you can assist again next year. There will be a **Teacher Planning Meeting on Wednesday, May 10th from 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.** and we hope you can all attend.

We will be having a **"Sunday School Teacher's Thank you Tea" on Saturday, June 17th from 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.** We hope you can join us as we celebrate our school year, and give thanks for all our blessings. **Sunday, June 18th will be "Teacher Appreciation Sunday"** and we will acknowledge all the contributors to the Sunday School program during our service.

May Sunday School Calendar:

May 7 th	Family Sermon
May 10 th	Teacher Planning Meeting (for next year) 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
May 14 th	Class 4
May 21 st	Class 5
May 28 th	Memorial Day – No Sunday School
June 4 th	Pentecost – Family Sermon
June 11 th	Class 6 – Last day of Sunday School
June 17 th	"Teacher Thank You Tea" 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
June 18 th	"Teacher Appreciation Sunday"

Please call us if you have any questions.

Karin Baker
Cathy Presti

Note from Karin Baker:

This last session of Sunday School is especially bittersweet for me, as I will be stepping down from Sunday School beginning next fall and pursuing other callings in the church and in my life. I have worked with St.

Paul's Sunday School for over 10 years and it is the gifts the children have given in their contributions to class that have amazed me and humbled me week after week. I will leave you all in the capable hands of Cathy Presti as Sunday School Coordinator. She has been such a blessing to our program and her commitment and connection to God are felt throughout the whole Sunday School.

Karin Baker

Catechesis Corner

The Catechesis program is also in the 'home stretch' – by the time you get this we will be well into Session IV. All continues to go well, and we notice that children are not as restless or bored as often happens in the spring. With the increased space we can offer many more hands-on activities. A recent highlight for the children was the instructed Eucharist by Frank. A highlight for the teachers was a training session with Reverend Louise Forrest. We learned a presentation, new to most of us, on the 'Eucharistic Presence of the Good Shepherd', which pulls together past lessons and ties in well with Frank's service. We will now be able to offer it to the Catechesis II class in May, and hope it will help them make connections between things they have learned. As always, we thank St. Paul's for supporting these trainings.

Other upcoming lessons center on Baptism, Pentecost and explaining more of the gestures the children see in the church service. We will follow the Church School schedule – see the article by Karin and Cathy – with the exception that we do plan to offer classes on Memorial Day for those who are here. The teacher planning and thank-you events listed will also include Catechesis, and we hope parents, teachers and assistants can attend and some will think about getting more involved next year.

Amanda Hubbard & Ellen Ryan

High School and Middle School Youth

Join us for YOUTH SUNDAY on Mother's Day, May 14th. This is our culminating event every year: a chance for the youth of St. Paul's to offer their ministry to the congregation as part of the regular Sunday worship service. We invite everyone who is, has, or has ever had a mother to celebrate with us that Sunday.

Youth participants, please note that we'll have a quick run-through after church on the previous Sunday, May 7th. Please plan to show up at 9:00 a.m. on the 14th.

John & Emily Mitchell

Women's Group

Calling all cooks!

The Women's Group is planning to produce a new cookbook this year, and we need your help! Please drop off recipes you'd like to include in the basket on the table in the narthex. Or mark a favorite recipe in the 1984 cookbook that you'd like to see again (a copy of the old cookbook is in the basket as well).

Dig through your pantry! Dust off that old recipe box! Fancy dishes, easy weeknight meals, cookies and pies - anything and everything is welcome. The new cookbook will be ready to sell at this year's Advent Fair.

If you have any questions, please contact Dori Sutton or Emily Mitchell.

St. Paul's Spring Clean-Up Day

Thanks to all the people who helped make St. Paul's a cleaner place. We had a wonderful turnout and were able to clean the Sanctuary, clean, and install a beautiful new display above the piano in the Library and organize the new kitchen. The weather cooperated so we were also able to work outside, including spreading eleven yards of bark mulch, filling the new planters with topsoil, putting out the benches in the memorial garden and bringing in the deer netting. The people who graciously gave of their time and labor include:

Jan Svendson, Doug Sharpe, Austen Sharpe, Carol Hokana, ShanShan Hokana, Sharon Healey, Jack Healey, Alex Healey, Karen Kruger, Dan Collier, Frank Fornaro, Bob Thomas, Rene Seaton, Will Kemeza, Emily Mitchell, John Mitchell, Elle Mitchell, Jan Blake, Jan Gurley, Dori Sutton, Cathy Presti, Sonia Presti, Nathaniel Presti, Andrew Presti, Eric Wicks and Ben Wicks.

Blessings to all,

Ron Presti

News from St. Paul's Weekday Nursery School

Completing our "Jobs People Do" unit, mentioned last month, were two additional guests. From the Bedford Library, Children's Librarian Sharon MacDonald came to read stories and share her uniquely clever finger plays and songs with the Two-day classes. And just as the weather cooperated with a beautiful Spring day, the Three & Five Day children brought their own bicycles and scooters to school for a Bike Safety lesson from Bedford Police Officer Richard Vitale. He reminded them that **the** most important rule is to always wear a properly fitted helmet. After a few more tips, Officer Vitale and the teachers led the bike and scooter riders through a course in the back driveway.

The nursery school will not be completely "packing up" to close for the summer at Memorial Day, as has been the case in previous years. For two weeks in June (June 5th through June 16th) we will hold an extension to the year called "JUNE R & R". Children already enrolled for the current year are eligible. We are, of course, hoping for a majority of nice sunny days to be outside, but regardless, it will be fun to add some summertime ideas to our curriculum which we would not ordinarily have time to do.

Beth Taylor

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
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Joan Reddy, Music Director

Bob Godoy, Sexton

Officers:

Ron Presti, Senior Warden

Emily Mitchell, Junior Warden

Betsey Anderson, Treasurer

Michael Ryan, Assistant Treasurer

Dori Sutton, Clerk

Vestry:

Sharon Keane

Peter Ricci

Paul Kruger

Andy Saladino

Carol Hokana

Robert Thomas

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