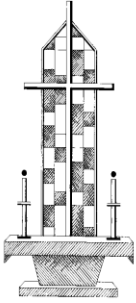


ST. PAUL'S EPISTLE



October 2010

Dear friends,

As September gives way to October, apples become applesauce or apple cider, and our children begin to figure out who they will be for Halloween. Entering October also causes me to step back and realize—with surprise as well as satisfaction—that I have been here as your interim priest for six weeks. That is a small time chronologically, but it already feels rich in new friends met, Communions shared, and good work begun.

This month, with our wardens' help, we will break ground and asphalt and begin to build a new road around St. Paul's. Also this month, our church was contacted by the national Episcopal Church to be part of a special survey group. Later this fall, they will ask our congregation questions via an internet survey about our 1982 Hymnal and our experience of singing in church. Joan and our choir will have special surveys, which will also tap into their knowledge and considerable experience in making beautiful music in a medium-sized congregation. The musical work we do this year will help the national committee consider what will be needed for the next hymnal the Episcopal Church produces.

In the next six weeks, while we plan for St. Paul's next rector, we will be setting the landscape in order for our church's future, and playing a role in the construction of the hymnal our church will use for the next thirty to fifty years. Of course, this month will also hold a baptism, our St. Francis Day, an Octoberfest, and the lively fellowship and worship St. Paul's is known for.

In Christian theology, time is understood to contain two different modes. There is *chronos*, chronological time, which is sequential with seconds, minutes, hours, and days, and there is *kairos* ("ki-rose") time, "the appointed time for the purposes of God," which can last for a second, a week, or a year, but can have an unforgettable impact on the participants regardless of the official length. *Chronos* time is quantitative in nature; *kairos* time is qualitative in nature. Our interim time together will only last a year, but it already feels rich in *kairos* time; there will be more than enough time to grow in Christ, love each other, expand our spirits, and listen for God.

Blessings to all as the season unfolds,

Margaret

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

This year, more than ever before, we need your financial support to sustain the many facets of our St. Paul's community: staff salaries, property, loan repayment, music, outreach and mission, just to name a few.

We've been lucky enough in the past to receive targeted donations to cover the cost of items like gifts for the Children's Sermon, the Easter garden of repose in the sanctuary, and Christmas and Easter presents for the youth of the parish. Moving forward, we are building these types of expenses into our budget planning, and need your financial contribution so we can continue to provide for the multitude of parish activities and mission outreach. Our budget has experienced a shortfall for a number of years, but through careful spending and designated gifts we've so far been able to mitigate a good portion of the projected loss. In this time of transition, we look to the strong parish we have in place to provide the necessary funding to continue our work.

Remember, the diocese does not provide any funding to St. Paul's...we rely on the generosity of our parishioners to continue to make this "a place of welcome, comfort and strength." If you have never pledged before, or are considering an increase this year, we ask you to remember the church in the coming weeks as you plan your own budget.

Carrie Mathews, member of the Stewardship Committee

Search Committee News

The Search Committee continues to meet. The Parish Profile, which is a document that explains who we are and what we want in a rector, is available for viewing on the church's website at the Rector Search tab. There will also be a few copies available in the Narthex for members of the parish who do not use the computer. We will soon begin receiving names of applicants. This period of receiving names can take several weeks up to a few months. If you have any questions about the search, please feel free to approach any member of the committee.

Vestry Corner

Dear friends,

It's been wonderful to see so many of you in the pews for the past several weeks. Life at St. Paul's is returning to the "new normal," as we continue along our journey to a new rector. We are grateful for the warm welcome you've all shown Margaret as she begins her work as our interim, and we look forward to further fellowship and worship together in this critical year ahead.

As you know, the Diocese approved our application for a Stokes Loan, and our driveway and drainage improvement project will begin in early October. Our contractor expects the work to take three to four weeks, and they'll work hard to minimize disruptions to the church and the nursery school. The front parking lot will be largely unaffected, except that the dumpster will be relocated to the far corner, taking up one or two parking spaces. Additional parking is available on Dana and Heritage Roads nearby. We'll keep you updated on the project through our weekly emails.

Our traditional Blessing of the Animals service will be held after church on Sunday, October 3. We'll have time for everyone to have some snacks at coffee hour and run home to get pets (or stuffed animals, or pictures). Weather permitting, the blessing will be held in the Memorial Garden.

The vestry will meet on Tuesday, October 19, at 7:30pm. All are welcome to attend.

With blessings,
Emily and Paul

Catechesis Corner



The new year for Catechesis has just started with a successful introduction/reintroduction to the Atrium. It was heartwarming to see the joy on each child's face as he or she entered; evidence they really do regard it as 'their' space, and look forward to using all the materials. Our regular classes will get going in September 26th – all gather for music in the hall at 9:45, then enter the Atrium at 10:00.

This year we will be using both Atriums again. We currently have 11 children registered with almost an equal number splitting Catechesis I and II. We have an amazing group of Catechesis II children moving up from Catechesis I with a new little boy joining us. We will make sure to provide new and more challenging activities for our Kindergarten children. In Catechesis I we have a fun and energetic group of little boys and girls. The year will start by presenting the Altar and Prayer table – both of which children can set up themselves, and the story of the Good Shepherd, complete with wooden figures for children to move.

For those not familiar with it, the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a wonderful approach to early Christian education which started in Italy over 50 years ago. Much of the experience is Montessori-based which the children love! *"The Atrium is a place in which the only teacher is Christ."* This is why we usually refer to the adults in the room as "Catechists" rather than teachers – our role is more as facilitator or 'matchmaker', and we learn and 'wonder' about God along with the children. (A relief not to have to know it all!) We are usually only presenting for a few minutes a class and the children work quietly and independently most of the time. The environment and the materials available are thus very important.

Thanks to the many people, including new parents and several youth, who have stepped forward to assist in the program this year. Stay tuned for an 'orientation' date.

REMINDER: Family Sundays will continue to be the first Sunday of the month unless otherwise notified. We encourage the children of Catechesis II, the older children, to remain in church and participate in the church service. The younger Catechesis I children are invited to remain in the Atrium for activities until we are called in for communion.

Sincerely,
Ellen Ryan and Amanda Hubbard

Elementary Sunday School

Sunday school classes began on Sunday, September 19th. It was great to see everyone back from summer vacation, and hear the wonderful joyful singing of the children. On our first day of Sunday school the children discussed the importance of community. Right in line with our discussion, we talked about Margaret and how we could make her feel welcome as a newcomer to our community. I wish to thank all our parents who supported their children by sending in pictures so they could create a beautiful welcome gift for Margaret.

We still have many families who have not had a chance to register their children. For the remainder of the first session, registration forms will be available during coffee hour in the 4th-5th grade classroom. If you have not already done so, please take a moment to stop by and fill one out.

A vital piece in the building of our Elementary Sunday school curriculum has been the lectionary discussions Frank led. I am thrilled that Paul West has offered to lead a discussion on the lectionary each session and Margaret has arranged her schedule to join us offering her theological knowledge and insight. Our first **liturgical discussion** will be held **after coffee hour on October 17th** in the 4-5th grade classroom. We welcome anyone interested in a discussion of the liturgy to join us.

Dates to remember:

October 3: family service, children's sermon

October 17: Sunday school Liturgical Discussion, just after coffee hour

Cathy Presti

High School Youth

The high school youth group had a great kickoff meeting on Sunday, September 26. We have three new freshmen -- Briana Champion, Sarah Regan, and Austen Sharpe -- plus a big crop of returning sophomores and a handful of upperclassmen, too. We have lots of plans for the year, including many possible service activities, hosting coffee hour, holding Movie Nights, and of course, Youth Sunday in May.

In October the high school youth will be helping to serve dinner at our Octoberfest Fall Festival on the 24th. If you haven't already told Emily or Arthur that you're interested in helping out, please let us know soon.

It's time to start thinking about confirmation. Any baptized person age 14 or older is eligible for Confirmation in the Episcopal Church. Confirmation will be held this year on Saturday, April 30, at 10:00am at Christ Church, Cambridge. There will be a pre-confirmation retreat on March 18-19 for our deanery, which all confirmands are strongly encouraged to attend. Confirmation classes will begin in January.

Best,
Emily Mitchell and Arthur Fergusson

Middle School Youth Update!

Thanks to everyone who attended our youth group kick-off pizza party! We had a great turnout and enjoyed catching up with each other, playing ice breaker games and thinking about plans for this coming year. We also ate a lot of pizza and freshly baked cookies .

IN-CLASS DISCUSSION: Our first in-class discussion will take place during the church service on Sunday, October 3rd. This is an opportunity to talk about different issues of interest to the group and share ideas.

CROP WALK FOR HUNGER: Mark your calendars: the Crop Walk will be held on Sunday, October 17th at 1:30. This will be our 5th year participating in the Crop Walk for Hunger, which is a 7K walk through historic Concord and the North Bridge. Monies raised from this annual event go to fund global hunger relief efforts and local community tables like the Bedford Community Table. All parishioners are welcome to join us on this walk. Please contact Carrie Mathews to sign up and get a sponsor sheet.

ST. PAUL'S FALL FESTIVAL: Middle schoolers are invited to participate in the Fall Festival celebration taking place on Sunday, October 24th from 5:00 - 7:00. We especially need your help with children's activities like pumpkin decorating, "donut on a string" eating contest, arts & crafts, and maybe even a sack race or two. Contact Carrie Mathews or Sharon Healey if you are able to help.

Carrie Mathews & Karin Baker

Notes from the Nursery School



School has begun. The teachers worked hard the past few weeks organizing their rooms. They bought new posters and supplies. Some teachers made new curtains for their classrooms. That, along with the new paint on the walls, made school look very welcoming. The returning children are happy and excited to see their friends. They seem to have grown over the summer and exude a new confidence. The younger children were tentative but by the end of the first day, most seemed to relax and enjoy themselves. We will spend the next few weeks getting to know the children and helping them adjust to the routine of school. With the construction about to start on the parking lot, one of our first themes will be construction and trucks. That should be fun for the children and the teachers. We will take the older children on their first field trip in October - a visit to Drumlin Farms. We are up and running. The 2010-2011 school year will be lots of fun!

Lee Frank

Come Sing With Us!



The Adult choir and the Youth Choir are now back, and singing regularly in the service on Sunday A.M. New members are always welcome.

The Adult Choir rehearses from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. on Thursdays, and at 9:00 a.m. Sundays and sing every Sunday. The Youth Choir rehearses immediately after the service in the sanctuary, and sings in the service on the first Sunday of each month. Please speak to Joan Reddy, or just come to a rehearsal! No auditions are held.

Joan Reddy

ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL ADVENT FAIR



St. Paul's will hold its 2010 Advent Fair on Saturday, December 4th from 9:00 to 2:00. This is an all Parish event that provides a major portion of our annual fundraising revenue and a wonderful opportunity for fellowship.

ONLY TWO MONTHS TO GO ... WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?????

Attend a **BASKET WORKSHOP** at the home of Jan Svendsen. No experience or big time commitment necessary!!

Spend some time with the **CRAFTS GROUP** and go to one of their get-togethers. Or work on a craft project at home to donate for the fair. The Craft Group could use some new help this year – watch for weekly announcements of dates and locations, usually Tuesday evenings.

Please consider a **DONATION** to offset costs of supplies for baskets, crafts, and the snack bar. We really appreciate your help! Watch for a basket for donations at coffee hours.

Keep us in mind if you are making jams, jellies, relishes, etc. and donate these food items to the ever-popular **COUNTRY KITCHEN**. And, if you love baking, remember we'll need breads, pies, cookies, and sweet treats to sell for the holidays.

Dust off your cookbooks and plan to make delicious homemade soup for our **SOUPS-TO-GO** section of the Country Kitchen. Containers are available in the kitchen. Make and freeze!!

Save good quality new or gently used items you don't need for our **WHITE ELEPHANT** sale. Also, donate any **BOOKS** (in good condition) you may not need/read anymore for our book sale. Check your jewelry box for **VINTAGE JEWELRY**. All of these are a great way to recycle and help St. Paul's at the same time.

CONTRIBUTE an item or service to our **SILENT AUCTION** ... use your creativity and/or your connections around town. We can use gift certificates, services, tickets to sports events, a special antique or gift item, a weekend at a cottage – the sky is the limit! See Louisa Saladino-Kuhl if you have any questions.

VOLUNTEER to be a Table Coordinator or Helper the day of the fair. The more the merrier!! Sign up sheets will be available in the coming weeks, so stay tuned!

Any questions, **PLEASE** contact **Nancy Kupfrian, Joanna Nickerson** or **Betsey Anderson**. We appreciate your help and support.

Silent Auction

In the narthex, there is a folder listing Silent Auction items, businesses to ask, and blank donation forms. Please sign up to contact a local business to donate gift cards, goods or services, lessons, etc. If you have an idea that you would like to donate, please fill out the donation submission form. It would be appreciated if all donation information is submitted by Sunday, November 27, 2010. The actual items can be dropped off at the fair set-up on Friday, December 3, 2010, or to Louisa Saladino-Kuhl at any other time before the fair..

Gift Baskets for the Advent Fair



The Advent Fair is quickly approaching and basket making has begun!! Please consider donating materials or money to help support the project. We are in great need of all inventory, so please see Jan Svendsen, Natalie Wicks, or Lisa Hafer to find out how you can help!! Many thanks in advance for your consideration.



Parking Lot!

Please remember that the clergy space in the parking lot is reserved only during the week, not on Sunday mornings. Feel free to park there before the worship service, particularly if you need to be closer to the front door. Overflow parking is also available along Dana Road or Heritage Road.



St. Paul's Fall Festival/Oktoberfest

Please join us for an evening of Fall Festivities, Fellowship and Fundraising!! St. Paul's will be holding an all parish Fall Festival/Oktoberfest on Sunday, October 24th from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall. Food, music, games, dessert, and a children's movie will be part of the evening's activities. We will also be tasting pies and pre-selling them for the holidays!! Please sign up at coffee hour for what promises to be a great event. Tickets are \$25 per person; \$50 per couple; \$20 per senior; Kids under 12 are free!! Any questions, please see the flyer on the parish bulletin board or speak to Dori Pulizzi or Mary Curlew to get involved.

Women's Group



The St. Paul's Women's Group will have its annual Homecoming Breakfast **Saturday, October 2nd at 8:30 AM**. We will gather at Stelio's Family Restaurant on route 3A in Billerica. For directions, visit their website (www.steliosrestaurant.com) or contact **Mary Curlew**. A sign up sheet will be posted at church on Sunday, September 26th to give Ellen Ryan a rough idea of how many people will attend. However, if you are unable to sign up in advance, please come on by anyway. The more the merrier. Women and girls of all ages are included. Hope to see you Saturday, October 2nd!

Thanks again all for your help,
Mary

Don't forget to click through!



If you planning to do a any Amazon shopping in the near future, don't forget to visit the St. Paul's website first! Go to www.stpaulsbedford.org and click the Amazon link on the left sidebar. You'll be directed to Amazon's site, where you can shop as usual -- but every purchase you make will earn a little money for St. Paul's. Thanks for your support!

Parishioners Corner

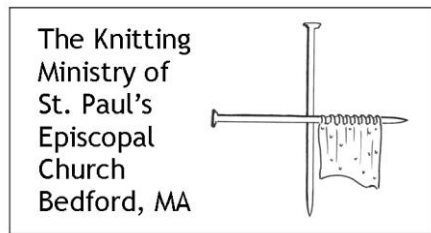
Happy Birthday to John C. Mitchell, October 2nd.



Happy Anniversary to Emily and John Mitchell celebrating their 11th anniversary on October 23rd.



OUTREACH NEWS



Knitters! We have yarn for Linus blankets, baby hats or shawls. For more information contact Caroline Larson.

Come see the barn we helped to build! HEIFER PROJECT HARVEST FESTIVAL

October 2-3 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.



Explore the homes in the Heifer Global Village to learn about traditional harvest celebrations in Peru, Poland, Kenya and more. Take a horse-drawn hayride to the gardens and enjoy other activities such as face painting, crafts and a hay maze. Purchase local pumpkins and browse Shop@Heifer that features fair trade and unique hand-crafted items from around the world. Throughout the day, learn about Heifer International as you meet many of Heifer's animals including water buffalo, a yak, llamas and traditional farm animals such as pigs and goats.

Admission: \$5.00 per person / Children 12 and under are free. For more information, check overlook.farm@heifer.org or call 508-886-2221.

Keep those tab tops coming!



Thanks to all who continue to participate in the "Tab" program, which supports the Shriner's Burn Hospital.
Keep them coming!

Also, Ed Lawrence continues to collect cans and bottles for the deposits, which helps assist the National Guard vetrans with their expenses.

**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.
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:

The Reverend Ms. Margaret Schwarzer, Interim Priest
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

Vestry:

Lisa Hafer,
Sharon Healey
Carol Hokana
John MacPhee
Natalie Wicks
David Woodward

A Traditional Celtic Blessing:

*May there always be work for your hands to do.
May your purse always hold a coin or two.
May the sun always shine upon your window pane.
May a rainbow be certain to follow each rain.*