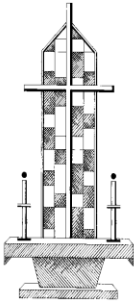


ST. PAUL'S EPISTLE

Summer 2010



Dear friends,

The start of summer means many different things—the last days of school, the opening of pools, the smell of bug spray and sunscreen in the air, and the chance for more frequent trips to Bedford Farms. Summer is also a time for relaxation, we're told—but anyone with children or a yard knows that relaxation is often impossible to come by during the summer.

The Biblical understanding of relaxation is the Sabbath. Sabbath is a concept we at St. Paul's sometimes struggle to put into practice. We are busy people—proudly busy, offering our time and talents in myriad ways to our jobs, our families, our parish, and our communities. Busyness is good: it gets things done, and it gives us personal satisfaction. But it can also make us miss the moments of grace we find in a well-earned rest.

In the Jewish agricultural tradition in the Bible, every seventh year was a Sabbath year, or a *Shmita*: a time to let the land lie fallow, celebrating the harvest of the previous years' work. Simple maintenance of the land—watering, weeding, fertilizing, and trimming—was allowed, but no new seeds were planted. The land rested from its labors and built up strength to nourish the seeds to be sown in the future.

As we look to our time of transition at St. Paul's, we encourage you to think of this as a Sabbath year—a time to celebrate the fruits of our labor, cultivate and maintain that which is already planted, and refrain from planting new seeds. It is not a time of stasis or inattention, but rather a time of satisfaction: a time to be proud of who we are, what we have done, and what we continue to do.

This summer, think about Sabbath. Come to church, as many Sundays as you can, and enjoy an hour of well-earned rest from the labors of your week. Help keep our St. Paul's community strong and healthy as we walk confidently with God toward a new chapter in our common life. Happy summer.

With blessings,

Emily Mitchell and Paul Ciaccia
Co-Wardens



A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make Frank's last few months here at St. Paul's so special. A special thanks to all those who baked, setup, performed and served at the May farewell reception. We were able to send Frank off with a generous purse of 14,000 dollars. Thanks to all who donated the money for this check. Your names were included in the card that went with the check.

Paul and Emily, Co-Wardens

THE SEARCH FOR A NEW RECTOR

Many of you may be wondering about the timeline for calling a new rector to St. Paul's. Although we cannot promise specific dates or schedules, we can outline our expectations going forward, based on the needs of the parish and the guidelines set by the diocese.

- June 20: Rev. Cynthia Hubbard, Canon for Transition Ministry, will commission the search committee.
- Summer: The search committee will develop the parish profile and start receiving names of applicants. Supply priests will lead our Sunday worship services.
- Mid-August: An interim priest, suggested by the diocese and approved by the wardens and vestry, will begin serving St. Paul's. We expect our interim to work half-time (about 20 hours per week, including Sunday mornings), providing pastoral care and celebrating the Eucharist. The interim cannot be a candidate for the full-time rector position.
- Fall and beyond: While the interim serves, the search committee will be interviewing candidates and, where appropriate, visiting parishes where candidates are currently serving.

Calling a priest is an exciting, but time-consuming, opportunity for any parish. In a healthy place like St. Paul's, we expect to have no shortage of applicants. This can make the search committee's job easier, since we are unlikely to struggle to attract candidates, but it can also make the job harder, as the pool of applicants grows and the committee must use its judgment to discern the right fit for St. Paul's.

The Diocese notes that a successful rector search can take anywhere from nine to twenty-four months. While we can't predict how long our search may take, we should all be prepared to spend a full church year in transition. We ask your prayers, your patience, and your support for the search committee as they begin their work this summer. We will provide periodic updates on the search process as it unfolds.

—Emily Mitchell and Paul Ciaccia, Co-Wardens

VESTRY CORNER

Dear friends,

At our May meeting, the vestry approved establishing us as co-wardens for St. Paul's during the time of transition. We will be equally responsible for the needs and upkeep of the parish, and you should feel comfortable speaking to either of us regarding any questions or concerns you may have.

That said, we have developed a basic division of labor, both for our own collective sanity and to provide clarity to the parish going forward. Paul will be the point person for concerns about property, fellowship, and staff, while Emily will be the point person for concerns about worship and music, Christian education, and parish communications. Emily will also serve as a liaison to the weekday nursery school.

While we are in transition, the entire vestry will take a more active role in the upkeep and maintenance of the parish. Vestry members will make daily checks of the buildings and grounds, and a vestry member will be on duty at each Sunday service to open the building, guide and assist the supply priest, and lock up after worship and fellowship are finished.

If you have any concerns, questions, or compliments about the church, please feel free to speak to any vestry member: David Woodward, Lisa Hafer, Natalie Wicks, Carol Hokana, Sharon Healey, John MacPhee, Dori Pulizzi (clerk), Betsey Anderson (treasurer), Paul Ciaccia (warden), or Emily Mitchell (warden).

Yours in Christ,

*Emily Mitchell and Paul Ciaccia,
Co-Wardens*

Elementary Sunday school Update!



We've been busy down in the back this month. I'd like to thank all the children for their wonderful artwork, for keeping Frank's surprise a secret, and for so wonderfully working together to present Frank's with his gift. You all did a wonderful job. We will all miss Frank.

This month the 4-5th graders read a wonderful true children's story called "Boxes for Katje". The story is about a young girl's experience sending care packages to Holland after World War II. If you have not read it, ask your children about it. I'm sure they would like to share it with you. We learned about Jesus' new commandment to love one another as we prepared letters and decorated seed packets to send to Haitian schools. The children were very moved by this project. Thank you Paddy Wade, for sharing this wonderful outreach with us. We talked about Jesus promise of the Holy Spirit and prepared for our Pentecost celebration by making beautiful dove kites and bright flaming tee-shirts proclaiming gifts from the Holy spirit.

With our Sunday school year coming to an end I would like to thank all the parents, teachers and children who have made our Sunday school program possible. I would like to thank our Lead teachers: Chris Thompson, Becky Ricci, Mary Curlew, Stacy Schalick, Sima Seymourian, Natalie Wicks and Carol Wait for graciously writing, preparing and teaching lessons. I'd like to thank all the assistants Dori Pulizzi, Andrea Hayes, Kelly Anderson, Deborah Regan, Susan Adamik, Shanie George and Carolyn Martin for rolling up their sleeves, donning smocks, cutting paper, gluing, drawing, playing games, smiling, and simply being that wonderful second set of hands. I'd like to thank our youth assistants Chris Adamik, Philip Thompson, Scott Thompson, Ellie Thompson, Nate Presti, Hunter Hayes, and Austin Sharpe for checking in on Sunday mornings and offering to help out with anything that was thrown their way. You were an amazing help. Sunday school begins each week gathering in the parish hall to sing. This laid back gathering blossomed this year. I offer great thanks to John Mitchell, Amanda Hubbard, Ellen Ryan and Mary Curlew for leading and growing this wonderful piece of our Sunday school program. Lastly I'd like to thank Frank for offering us guidance and support throughout the year. Thank you for leading us through the liturgy each session and always offering wonderful insight and ideas for both how and what to teach. Your teachings have been an invaluable part of our Sunday school program.

Our last day of Sunday school will be on **June 6th**. With the last day of Sunday school upon us, I begin to prepare for next year. Please feel free to contact me or any of the Sunday school teachers with your thoughts and ideas about how to improve our Sunday school program. We will have Sunday school registration for the 2010-2011 year at a table during coffee hour on **September 13, 2010**, and classes will begin on **September 20th**. Again, thank you to everyone for a successful year.

Cathy Presti

CATECHESIS CORNER



It is hard to imagine, but we are once again at the end of a year of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program. Our last class will be June 6th, when in addition to a short lesson we will hand out certificates and send home folders so parents can see some of the art the children have been producing all year. Please try to have them attend if possible, so we can all say 'so long' for the summer. We will be sad to say goodbye to our Kindergarteners, Ellie, Quinn, Ani and Tyler.

The program has really grown this session, in contrast to what is typical this busy time of year. With visitors, new families, and the return of some we hadn't seen in a while, we have had about 13 different children, and typically 8 on a given Sunday. It has been great to see how welcoming the 'regulars' are to all (just like their parents) and how comfortable all the children have been. This has been a terrific group!! Our big lesson in May was about Pentecost, where they learned the story (complete with figures as usual) and then got to select among the gifts of the Holy Spirit. They will so miss their Father Frank but seem to understand that, like many of their grandparents, he is retiring and deserves a rest!

Fortunately our team of Catechists has also grown, with **Lisa Hafer** and **Louisa Saladino** returning to lead some classes. Partly because of having only one Atrium operating, this year we have been able to spread the effort among many people, and hopefully not overload anyone. Sometimes it even seems we don't see enough of the kids! It is still a big collective effort, and many thanks are due to all. Other Catechists have included **Carol Hokana, Ron Presti** and yours truly, Ellen Ryan and Amanda Hubbard. Assistants this year have included **Kelley Andersen, Cassie Baker, Jan Blake, Hunter Hayes, Emma Healey, Helen Kissel, Shea Kuhl, Sue MacPhee, Lori Murphy, Barbara Perry, Nate Presti, Timothy Ryan, Natalie Schalick, Elle Thompson, and Eric Wicks**. Apologies to anyone we might have left out. Some are new this year, others have been serving for ten, and all are greatly appreciated! We hope all of you will join us for a **Teacher Appreciation Brunch on Sunday, June 13** (stay tuned for details).

Looking ahead to next fall, given rising numbers and quite a few three year olds entering from the nursery, we expect to have two Atria operating again. And, will certainly need the assistance of all who are willing! Please let us know this summer if and how you would like to contribute. Parents, it would be helpful for our planning to let us know of children who may be registering – anyone who will be three (or close) by September is welcome! We would be happy to answer any questions.

With best wishes for a happy and restful summer,

Amanda Hubbard and Ellen Ryan

Middle School Youth Update

Wow, this year has gone by quickly. We can't believe it's time for the ending of school, planning for summer vacation, and having fun in the sun. Thank you to everyone for participating in a wonderful Youth Sunday service and celebrating Frank's time with us at St. Paul's. You all mean the world to him.

A few updates:

- Our final in-class discussion will take place on June 6th. Please make plans to attend so we can brainstorm ideas for next year.
- The Water Country trip planned for late June is still on! We are finalizing dates and will be in touch via email to confirm attendees and chaperones.
- A big CONGRATULATIONS to our graduating 8th graders - best of luck as you prepare for the exciting 4 years of high school that await! We are so proud of you - many thanks for your participation in the middle school youth group:

Briana Champion
Sarah Regan
Austen Sharpe

Happy Summer to all - we'll be back in touch in a few months!

Mrs. Mathews & Mrs. Baker

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH UPDATE



On Saturday, May 22, six members of the high school youth and one alumnus were confirmed into the Episcopal Church, in a service at Christ Church, Waltham. Congratulations to Cassie Baker, Emma Healey, Miranda Keane, Shea Kuhl, Tim Ryan, Tom Waghorne, and Eric Wicks. We are so proud of you!

OUTREACH NEWS



Seeds for Haiti

Thanks to all who contributed seeds to our collection for Haiti. We collected 88 packets of seeds. Reaching out to the students in Haiti who will plant these seeds, the children of St. Paul's packaged and decorated 24 packets with their own artwork. With gardens at school and their homes, the Haitian students are learning about nutrition and sustainable agricultural practices. The seeds will be hand delivered in June as their planting season is September. Paddy Wade, who coordinated this effort, reports that these packets will make a huge difference as food is expensive and money is scarce. Check out the photos of schools and gardens in this Haitian community on the Outreach bulletin board.



Moving Mountains China

Thanks to support from the parish, Girl Scouts of St. Paul's and Bo and Shan Shan Bonifanti, we are pleased to report that we have secured enough funds to send our Chinese student, Yan Fei, to High School for all 3 years. Be sure to take a look at the correspondence with Yan Fei on the Outreach Bulletin Board.

Where IS the Outreach Bulletin Board????



It seems that the location of the Outreach Bulletin Board is a mystery to many parishioners! Note...it is NOT the bulletin board in the hall! Take a look at the bulletin board between the closets in the end of the parish hall – you will find lots of information about current outreach efforts at St. Paul's. Also, around the corner to the left is the Knitting Ministry bulletin board and knitting supplies.

Basket Committee



As the summer approaches, please keep the Basket Committee in mind when you find yourself bargain shopping. Clearance sections are great, Christmas Tree Shops, perusing outlets, or getting away to interesting places that may be selling unique items at reasonable prices (Stonewall Kitchen, etc.)!! **OUR INVENTORY IS LOW & WE ARE IN NEED OF MANY THINGS!!**

Here's a list of TOP 23 BASKET suggestions, but please feel free to use your imagination :)

- 1) decorative cocktail, luncheon, and dessert napkins
- 2) holiday cocktail, luncheon, and dessert napkins
- 3) tea or coffee mugs (everyday and holiday themed). One mug, pairs, or sets of 4 or 6 are all welcome.
- 4) tea towels for bathroom and/or kitchen (everyday and holiday themed)
- 5) large and extra large baskets with/without handle
- 6) kitchen utensils (spatulas, wooden spoons, whisks)
- 7) spreaders for cheese or jam (everyday and holiday themed)
- 8) wine, or champagne glasses pairs or sets of 4 or 6 are all welcome.
- 9) decorative platters (small - large)
- 10) tea pots
- 11) bowls for soup or oatmeal
- 12) tissue paper for stuffing baskets (mostly solids although stripes, holiday themed, etc. are used as well)
- 13) decorative ribbons for bows and/or curling ribbon (any color and/or holiday themed)
- 14) candles (variety of sizes, themes, etc.)
- 14a) decorative candle holders of all sizes (votive and tea light and larger)
- 15) small jars jams, jellies, syrups, dipping mustards and other non-perishables
- 15a) teas and coffees, candies and cookies in individual or small packages
- 16) holiday ornaments
- 17) gardening gloves and accessories
- 18) holiday plates and cookie platters
- 19) vases (all sizes and varieties)
- 20) small picture frames
- 21) soaps, sachets, bath gel, bath oil, etc.
- 22) cooking and baking items, e.g., soup mixes, dip mixes, muffin mixes, cookie mixes, cooking utensils, implements, etc.
- 23) small decorative notepads for lists etc.

Many thanks, and happy shopping!! The Basket Committee (co-chaired by Jan Svendsen, Natalie Wicks, and Lisa Hafer)

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.

Don't forget to click through!



If you are planning to do 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!

Summer Pledge Payments

St. Paul's continues to have expenses during the summer even while many of us are on vacation. Please keep your pledge payments current in order to help maintain adequate cash in the treasury. Pledge payments can be mailed to the church if you aren't able to be there in person.

Thank you from the treasurer!



The summer schedule for Sunday services, with one service at 9:00am, will begin **June 27**.

COMMISSIONING THE SEARCH COMMITTEE

A few weeks ago, members of St. Paul's received a letter from Paul and Emily outlining the duties and expectations of the search committee, who will be charged with calling a new rector to our parish. The committee will be established within the next few weeks. On Sunday, June 20, Rev. Cynthia Hubbard, canon for transition ministry in the Diocese of Massachusetts, will visit St. Paul's, celebrate the Eucharist with us, and commission the search committee as they begin their important work.

We hope you all are able to worship with us that Sunday and offer your prayers and support to the women and men who will lead the search for the next rector of St. Paul's.



Slideshow

If you would like a copy of the slideshow that was shown at the Palio's party and at the high tea celebration, please put your name on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway, or contact Tracy Lane, Administrator.

(insert)

St. Paul's Thrift Sale

St. Paul's annual Thrift Sale has always been a wonderful opportunity for the congregation to gather for an event to recycle what God has given us while providing goods and clothing at reasonable prices to people in our community. The Thrift Sale is a parish wide fundraiser that contributes to our budget and all are welcomed and encouraged to participate. Your support is truly appreciated.

This year the Thrift Sale will be on **Saturday, June 19th from 9-2.**

How you can help.

- 1) Please start collecting the goods you would like to donate. These should include:
 - Clothing of all sizes and for all ages.
 - New and used household goods - white elephant type objects
 - Children's toys - but we need those in reasonable shape - and with most or all of their pieces. Note that most stuffed animals and give away toys (Burger King/McDonalds) just don't sell.
 - Books, DVDs, CDs, Videos, etc.
 - Please check with me if you have a large item and unsure if it is suitable for the Thrift Sale. It may be more appropriate to bring a picture of it and we'll try to sell it.
- 2) Bring your goods to St. Paul's on one of the scheduled drop off times. These times will be announced shortly.
- 3) Sign-up to help in one or more of these areas:
 - Publicity
 - Setup
 - Help during the fair
 - Cleanup after the fair

To sign-up contact Ron Presti or visit the Sign-up sheet located on the bulletin board in the hallway leading to the Parish Hall. All are welcome to stop by to help even if you haven't signed up.

- 4) Come by the day of the sale to purchase some wonderful treasures and enjoy some fellowship.

Also, if you would like the goods that remain after the fair to go to a particular charity or need please let me know.

Faithfully,
Ron Presti

(Insert)

St. Paul's Advent Fair
Saturday, December 4, 2010



Summer is almost here, but it is not too early to begin thinking about the 2010 Advent Fair. It will feature St. Paul's famous gift baskets, delicious homemade food including "Soups to Go", fabulous crafts, great gifts for Christmas, a silent auction, fun activities for children, good white elephants, books and much more. Planning will begin early this summer and new ideas and volunteers are encouraged! For the 2010 Fair, a few new table chairs and assistants are needed as well as help in organizing and coordinating the fair.

Please consider one of the following ways to help:

- Look for new ideas for crafts or other activities during your summer vacation travels and share them with the committee
- Suggest new table/activity or a new idea for a current table
- Join the craft workshops or the gift basket workshops this summer and fall
- Lead a craft workshop and share your talents with us
- Donate materials for baskets and crafts or cash to purchase supplies
- Sew, knit or create decorative items or jewelry for the fair.
- Volunteer to chair a table or serve on the steering committee
- Help to solicit donations for the Silent Auction

This is an all parish activity and a major fundraiser for St. Paul's. Last year's fair was terrific. Let's make the 2010 Advent Fair even better.

Watch for more details in September. Contact Betsey Anderson with your ideas or to volunteer to help.

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

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:

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

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

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