

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

January 2023 Newsletter



JANUARY AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00 & 9:30 AM *

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1: THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY

*Single service at 9:00AM -A Celebration of Christmas through Poetry

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE

Please provide to Parish Office by Friday, January 6

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8: THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Services at 8:00 Holy Eucharist, Rite I &

9:30 Epiphany Lessons & Carols with Communion

plus a visit from the Magi!

Nursery, Church School, Adult Forum & Coffee Hour resume.

STORY WALK AT MARCUS COOKE PARK

Sunday January 15th at 8:30 a.m. (see page 7)

Q & A with Parish Officers about the Financial Sustainability Report

Sunday January 15th -- offered after BOTH services (see page 3)

BELLS FOR BEGINNERS

Sunday, January 22nd at 9:30 a.m. (see page 7)

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

*9:30 Combined Service followed by

Annual Meeting & potluck brunch (see page 9)

Sunday, January 22

(Snow Date: January 29)

DEADLINE FOR THE FEBUARY NEWSLETTER IS TUESDAY, JANUARY 24 by NOON

With more on-site events taking place in the church building again, just a gentle reminder to please be in touch with the parish office to advise and request dates and times for any activity or meeting that will be taking place at St. Paul's. It is important to make sure events are on the calendar to avoid any potential overlapping dates! Thank you in advance for your help with this important task!



Dear Companions in Christ,

The new year will be here soon. In the meantime, I look forward to sharing the Christmas celebrations happening ever sooner! Please invite family, friends, co-workers, and neighbors to come worship, too.

Faithfully,

Dea Anne



Saturday, December 24: The Eve of the Nativity

- 4:00 PM** Family Pageant Service with Holy Communion
- 10:30 PM** Choral Prelude with the St. Paul's Choir, flute and guest string quartet
- 11:00 PM** Candlelight Service with Choir & Carols

Sunday December 25: The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Single service at 9:00AM

Holy Communion with Carols

No Church School, Nursery or Adult Forum.

Sunday, January 1: The Second Sunday After Christmas Day

Single service at 9:00AM

A Celebration of Christmas through Poetry

No Church School, Nursery or Adult Forum.

Sunday, January 8: The First Sunday After the Epiphany

Services at 8:00 Holy Eucharist, Rite I

& 9:30 Epiphany Lessons & Carols with Communion
plus a visit from the Magi!

Nursery, Church School, Adult Forum & Coffee Hour resume.

Vestry Update

This December the Vestry has continued to work on addressing the financial challenges facing the parish and developing ways to implement the recommendations of the Financial Sustainability Task Force. There are subgroups of the Vestry paying special attention to the recommendations regarding moving to part-time clergy, restructuring our endowments, and potential increases to the fee structure for rental of our space. We will be sharing our work with the parish soon along with a proposed budget for 2023. Look for written material coming in January, and plan to attend a *special Q & A opportunity with parish officers on Sunday, January 15 after both services*. Please note that we are offering this after both services to make it easy for all parishioners to engage.



-Drawing of St. Paul's Church by Dan Lyon

Our **Annual Meeting will be held on January 22** (snow date: January 29), and we hope everyone will make an effort to attend. The Nominating Committee will be gathering names to fill Vestry positions and positions on other committees. If you feel called to serve the parish in this way, or if you have suggestions for others who might, please let any of these members of the Nominating Committee know: Rev. Dee Anne Dodd, Amy Foster, Tammy Napoli, Gene Gervais, Mary Ellen Connell, Missy Fahy, Patti Cullen.

Adult Forum – Winter Session

Does everything happen for a reason?



Many of us can be heard to say “everything happens for a reason,” especially when facing a challenging time or a situation that doesn’t seem fair or make sense. But what do we really mean when we say this? And is it the right way to think about events in our lives? This winter the Adult Forum will explore these questions by reading Kate Bowler’s book *Everything Happens for a Reason and Other Lies I’ve Loved*. The Forum will run from Jan. 8 through Feb. 19 and will meet on Sunday mornings at 9:00 in the Common Room. Please try to read chapter 1 by the first meeting on 1/8. All are welcome to join in! If you need assistance in ordering a copy of the book, please contact Amy Foster.



If you are interested in being part of the Thrift Shop Team in any way, please let Helen Stowe (203-848-7113) or Carole Ireland (203-988-7405) know. Thank you--
Helen Stowe



St. Paul's Stewardship Campaign

We are very appreciative of everyone who made their pledge for 2023 thus far and happy to report as of this writing, more online pledging was still happening. Hard copies of the pledge form are also available at the church.

Our pledge campaign *More Than Enough*, this year focuses on the miracle of sharing, the ways in which our means meet the needs of the world, the ways in which we respond to the Gospel, the ways in which we sustain our community. The people heard Jesus' call to share what they had in order that all might benefit; and that is what we do with the gift of Wisdom we possess. When we have strategies that need to be developed, or committees that need to be staffed, or problems that need to be solved, please continue to answer the call of our church, and share your wisdom and experience. You are that inspiration and action, without whom our church and our ministry would be diminished.

The response to this year's campaign has been wonderful! At the time of writing, we are approximately at \$157,000 – and still counting. We are very thankful to the 34 members who increased their pledge, 32 members who remained the same and we are delighted to announce 5 (so far!) new pledging members. We also appreciate the three pledgers who needed to decrease their amount for this year.

(continued on next page.....)

Pledging online over the last 2 years has been very successful and one of the easiest ways to meet your commitment. If you have not pledged yet, please continue to prayerfully consider your support of St. Paul's community near and far. Just go to our website www.stpaulswallingford.org and click the "Donate Now" button.

It has been our pleasure to serve as your Stewardship Committee, and we remain grateful for your support.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Turlis
Ralph Nardi
Co-Chairs



***Beginning January 4th,
the Church will be open Wednesdays
from 10:00 am to 1:00pm
for prayer & reflection.***

***The Rector & others will be available
from noon on to offer prayers and blessings-to-go,
upon request.***



CHURCH SCHOOL
Church School meets Sundays at
9:30AM in Wilkinson Hall.
Invite friends!

CHURCH SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

Sunday, January 1 - No Church School

Sunday, January 8 - Come celebrate Epiphany with us! We will learn about the Three Kings and their journey to meet Jesus for the first time. We will meet in **Wilkinson Hall at 9:30.**

Sunday, January 15 – 8:30AM Story Walk at Marcus Cooke Park. Please join Helen Stowe and hear the amazing story of Daniel in the Lions' Den. We will meet at 8:30 for a walk in the woods and **reconvene at 9:30AM in Wilkinson Hall** for a retelling and snack and some follow-up activities. We will move inside if the weather doesn't cooperate!

Sunday, January 22 - Bells for Beginners. We will meet at **9:30 in Wilkinson Hall** for a game or two before heading up to the purple room to practice. Even if you have never joined us before, it is not too late!

Sunday, January 29 - Join us in **Wilkinson Hall at 9:30** for a church school lesson about the many blessings of the beatitudes.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

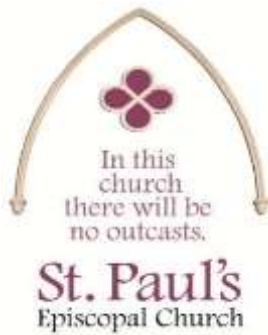
--Helen Stowe, 203-848-7113

NURSERY CARE UPDATE

Welcome Sabrina Sholtes, our new Nursery Care Provider greeting children and families in our nursery most Sundays 9:00-11:00AM!

Sabrina is a longtime Wallingford resident with lots of experience in summer camps, after-school care and even a stint at DisneyWorld. She's a passionate animal-lover with an animal science/ pre-veterinary degree from UCONN. We're delighted to have Sabrina and her heart for God's creation in this important role among us at St Paul's.





**Annual Parish Meeting
with potluck brunch
Sunday, January 22, 2023
following a
single service at 9:30**
Nursery Care provided

Snow date: Sunday, January 29, 2023

*For the election of parish officers
and other important business of our life
together.*

***All annual reports due to the parish office
by Friday, January 6.***

*PLAN NOW to attend a special Q & A
with Parish Officers
Sunday, January 15 after both services
to discuss the Financial Sustainability Report
& related items
in anticipation of the Annual Meeting.*



Holiday for Giving

The sun was shining, but the wind was blowing, and Pat, Art and Sharon were bundled up in the parking lot for our last drive of the year – it was too cold for our little mascot Bowie, so he stayed home. The last food and diaper drive of 2022 ended with our collection 328 lbs of food and \$85 in cash donations for Master’s Manna and \$105 for diapers for the Community Day Care. And our Holiday for Giving campaign collected over 150 toys for children in our community. We had a successful year, with a total collection of just shy of 4,000 lbs of food and \$1,440 in cash donations for Master’s Manna, \$1,310 in cash donations for diapers, along with many packages of diapers and wipes, and three carloads of toys taken to the Holiday for Giving distribution center. We couldn’t have done it without the generosity of everyone who drove thru our parking lot on the second Saturday of the month and popped their trunks filled with food. A special thank you from Sharon, Pat, Art and MaryEllen to everyone who gave so generously throughout the year. This was our last drive for 2022 – we hope to be back in the parking lot in the spring – but *keep your eye out for a special event on “Souper” Bowl Sunday!*

Try Something New this Year



Please sign up via the link below or contact the parish office to be scheduled to serve liturgically – as a crucifer, reader, intercessor, usher or other important worship role:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0948aba922aaf58-season>

This is a wonderful time to try serving in a new way! Training available.



Memorial Flower Fund

What better way to remember those who hold a special spot in your heart than with a donation of flowers on the altar. If you would like to reserve a Sunday, please submit your request indicating the names of those to be remembered and the date of the Sunday on which you wish the flowers to be on the altar. A \$40.00 contribution for each date is suggested. Forms are on the tables at church entrances. Checks for the memorials should be made payable to "St. Paul's Memorial Flower Fund" and submitted to the church along with the form.

St. Paul's Altar Guild

St. Paul's Altar Guild is a quiet ministry within our church. Our function is to prepare and set out the elements for communion each week, maintain the altar area by sweeping and dusting, some polishing of silver, changing altar hangings, and placing the weekly hymn numbers up. We also set for baptisms, weddings, and funerals. We also decorate our beautiful sanctuary at Christmas and Easter – ANYONE can help with that task! If you enjoy your own holiday decorating – please come and give us a hand! We'll let you know when we are decorating.

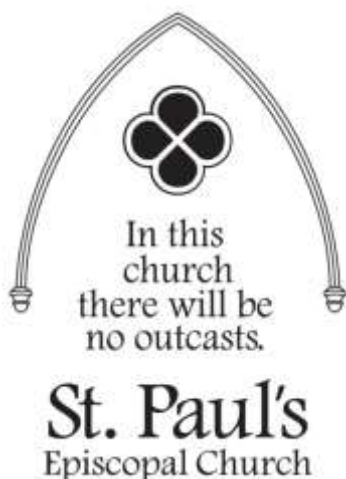
Our group has been hit hard by this pandemic (as everyone else has) and we are down in our membership. If you are curious about joining, please see Karen Rowe after the 9:30 service or contact me at 203-619-2410 or by email k.rowe@cox.net.

Thank you for pledging!

We appreciate your faithful giving.

You may give online by going to stpaulswallingford.org and clicking the red “Donate Now” button, mail your gifts into the parish office or place your offering in the basket during Sunday worship. It's all good! Thank you.





The parish office can be reached at (203) 269-5050.

E-mail – office@stpaulswallingford.org

Fax – (203) 269-3813

Web Site – www.stpaulswallingford.org

If we are not in the office, please leave a message.

VESTRY

Rector, The Rev. Dee Anne Dodd

203-269-5050

rector@stpaulswallingford.org

Senior Warden, Amy Foster

Wendy Oestreicher

Junior Warden, Tammy Napoli

Nathalie Szilagyi

Clerk, Ben Henry

Missy Fahy

Treasurer, Ted Hartsoe

Patricia Cullen

David Adams

Mary Ellen Connell

Hope McGrath

The Nominating Committee is now discerning who might stand for election at the Annual Meeting. Please contact the Rector or a Warden if you'd like to suggest someone (including yourself) to be considered for an elected leadership role.

Please advise us of


- change of address or telephone numbers
- illness, hospitalizations, deaths
- requests for baptisms, weddings, etc

Times for St. Paul's Sunday Service
Comcast Cable Channel 18
Frontier Channel 99
www.WPAA.TV - WPAA on the Internet
Sunday - 5:00 PM
Monday - 8:00 AM
Tuesday - 1:00 PM
Wednesday - 12:01 AM (Tuesday midnight)
Thursday - 11:00 PM

[Click here to sign up for email blasts and text messages.](#)

Keeping in touch is more important than ever!

St. Paul's is on YouTube, Twitter & Facebook!
Please follow us and "LIKE" us:

[YouTube](#)  **St. Paul's Episcopal Church Wallingford, CT**
Please subscribe to our YouTube channel

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[Twitter](#)  **@StPaulsWlfd**



St. Paul's Episcopal Church
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