

St. Paul's Newsletter February 2017



FEBRUARY AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday Worship - 8:00 & 9:30 AM

Vestry – 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 PM

Adult Forum - 9:00 AM

Church School - 9:15 AM

Wednesday Eucharist - 12:10 PM in the Chapel

Choristers - Thursdays at 4:00 - 5:00 PM

Choir Rehearsals - Thursday at 7:00 PM

BOY SCOUT TROUP 4

Boy Scout Sunday

February 5, 2017

BOY SCOUT TROUP 4

Friday, February 24 (snow day 2/25)

Spaghetti & Meatball Supper & Silent Auction Fundraiser

5:30 - 7:30 PM in Wilkinson Hall;

\$7 per person, \$5 Senior Citizens, \$25 for family of 5

St. Paul's Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

February 28th - 5:00 - 7:00 PM

\$7 for adults and kids over 12; \$4 for kids 5-12; kids under 5 free

ASH WEDNESDAY

March 1

Services at 7 AM, 12:10 PM & 7:00 PM

WATER JUSTICE INSTITUTE

March 22-24

See Rob Page or the Rector for information

MERCY CENTER RETREAT

Saturday, May 13th

\$14 Deposit to Vivian Horvath

CHURCH OPEN FOR PRAYER & REFLECTION

Wednesdays, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

DEADLINE FOR THE MARCH NEWSLETTER IS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2017

Dear Companions in Christ,

Here we are into our 276th year and looking pretty darn good. Painting and renovations from the Common Room to the Thrift Shop -- all while celebrating our 275th anniversary AND pursuing ongoing ministries. Many thanks to all who made this possible.

The last official act of our anniversary year was filling a time capsule at the Annual Meeting. This was fun, but also *serious business*. For by planting a time capsule for future generations, we're committing ourselves to doing everything in our power to insure that there will be a healthy Christian community here to find it.

As vital as things may seem for us today, long-term demographics do not bode well for mainline churches. This is especially true in New England. We know that we live in wildly changing times and, if anything, the pace of change may only accelerate in the year ahead. How do we stand a fighting chance of having the good work done this year endure for the long haul?

I tend toward the counterintuitive: *Stillness*. Try doing fewer things with greater intentionality, greater intensity. Resist getting swept up into the chaos of the times. Figure out what in God's name really matters and give it all you've got.

To this end, I propose that we take some of the energy lavished on the anniversary festivities and invest it in growing as disciples of Jesus Christ. Let's find creative and challenging approaches to spiritual formation and renewal. Immerse ourselves in scripture from worship on

out to church school, youth, adult forum and then some -- so that we all know the stories of God's presence and power in history to our own day.

"Cherishing the Past, Celebrating the Future." That was the slogan, offered by Donna Regan, of our anniversary year. Now it's time to start anew -- celebrating, yes, but by God's grace living faithfully into the future. So that one day when we're long gone into the nearer presence of our Lord, others will be here to celebrate a past work cherishing.

Faithfully,
Dee Anne+

[Adapted from this year's Annual Report.]

2016 TIME CAPSULE

The Time Capsule which was filled at the Annual Meeting contains the following:

275th Anniversary Ornament, 2016 Tote Bag, Timeline Brochure from the Anniversary Dinner, 275th Community Celebration Program with narrative, 275th Anniversary Worship Service Program, DVDs of anniversary services, "Mile High" apple pie recipe, 2016 Annual Report, April, 2016 Newsletter, miscellaneous photos, 1982 Episcopal Hymnal with supplement, 1979 Prayer Book, 275th Anniversary Anthem composed by James Lindsay, note cards with sketches by Daniel Lyon, newspaper articles concerning 2016 presidential election and inauguration of Donald Trump.

Vestry Update

As we turned the corner from our anniversary year of 2016, the Vestry began 2017 by focusing on the Annual Meeting. Our regular monthly meeting was dominated by preparations for the Annual Meeting, from locking down details like setup and cleanup to discussing larger issues such as examining the slate of nominees and passing our finalized budget for 2017. We also heard reports on the positive progress of our stewardship campaign and the hard work being done to search for a new Director of Religious Education as our interim volunteer directors, Kristin Liu and Raneé Bibisi, keep our program moving forward.

The Annual Meeting itself, held on January 22, included a delicious (as always!) potluck brunch, the presentation of items for our Time Capsule, reports from our varied ministries, a vote on an amendment to the Sacred Trust by-laws, and the election of our new Officers, Vestry and Committee members. As we consider all that has happened in the parish over the past year, it is especially gratifying to see how many people have been and continue to be involved in so many different and important efforts at St. Paul's as we seek to share God's love both within our walls and out into the community and wider world.

Here's to another amazing 275 years!

Your Wardens,
Amy Foster, outgoing Senior Warden
Chuck Maynard, incoming Senior Warden

Sacred Trust Committee - the next meeting of the Committee will be Sunday, March 12 at 9:00 AM in the chapel. Any requests should be submitted to the Parish Office no later than February 28, 2017.

Healing Prayer Group
Tuesday, February 7 at 7:30 PM in the Chapel.

ANNUAL REPORTS Available:

Copies of our current Annual Report as distributed at the January 22, 2017 Parish Meeting will be available at both entrances of the sanctuary during the month of February for those who did not attend. Please pick up a copy for review. For your information, the slate of the Nominating Committee was elected as presented, and the 2017 Budget as recommended by the Finance Committee and passed by the Vestry was affirmed, per Canon Law.

Thank You Good & Faithful Servants!

At the Annual Meeting we recognized Senior Warden Amy Foster, and Nancy Harrington, Robin Hunter and Robert Knowlton for completing their Vestry service. (Note the Vestry list elsewhere to see the names of those elected for a new term.) Also completing terms of elected service were: Carissa Neubig and Steve Madancy (St. Paul's Sacred Trust) and Robert Mansfield and Wendy Oestreicher (Memorial Garden and Columbarium). Brian Johnson has retired from serving as Memorial Garden bookkeeper. God bless each of you for your service!

Get Text Alerts! -- The winter weather has made its appearance and that means the potential for cancellations. We subscribe to a texting service used for emergency and last minute cancellations and notifications. If you wish to be added to the texting service, please email Donna Regan at donna.regan@regantech.com with your cell phone number or you may text her at 203-537-0605.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 4

February 24, 2017

Spaghetti & Meatball Dinner & Silent Auction Fundraiser
5:30 - 7:30 PM in Wilkinson Hall
\$7 per person, \$5 for Senior Citizens, \$25 for a family of five
(Snow day February 25)

St. Paul's Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be held on **February 28th** from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Price is \$7 for adults and kids over 12; \$4 for kids 5-12, kids under 5 still eat free! All proceeds will go toward helping defray the cost of the Nicaragua service trip. Pancakes, bacon, fruit salad that can't be beat, and the company of some really great people. All are welcome. For more information or if you are able to help out at this event call or text Bill Merrick.

Ash Wednesday is March 1:

Services at 7:00 AM, 12:10 PM & 7:00 PM

(music at later two services);

"Ashes to Go" on Main Street TBA

(Volunteers needed to help greet and pray for folks on Main Street.

Please see the Rector for details.)

Lenten Souper-Study

Begins Wednesday March 8 at 6:00 PM

Plan now to be nurtured by companionship, food, prayer and study -- all in just ten hours during five weeks in Lent: Wednesdays **March 8, 15, 22, 29** and **April 5** from **6:00-8:00 PM**. Theme TBA. A sign-up sheet will be posted at church in February. Please see the Rector with any questions or ideas.

LENTEN MORNING PRAYER

I would like to offer a short Morning Prayer service one or two mornings a week (at 7:30 am) during Lent. The service lasts about 20 minutes, and it's a lovely and quiet way to start the day. If you are interested, please call me or speak to me at church. Which days and how many per week will depend on the group. Thank you. For more information, contact Helen Stowe.

Water Justice Institute 2017 – St. Paul's Church will be a partner site for Trinity Institute's 2017 Water Justice conference on March 22-24, 2017. The conference is held New York City and webcast worldwide. St. Paul's will be live streaming the conference and facilitating discussion groups. With sharp focus on the need for water justice initiatives in areas of access, droughts, pollution, rising tides, and flooding, Trinity Institute will offer actionable guidance for individuals, congregations, and the larger faith community surrounding these issues. More information about the conference will be forthcoming in the coming weeks.

Church Open for Prayer & Reflection Wednesdays 10 AM - 1 PM

- ALL are welcome to come and stay for as little or as much of the time as needed. Help spread the word! *Also we are looking for volunteers to keep the church open 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Monday through Saturday during the Lenten season.* Speak to Gene or Carol Gervais for more information.

Thrift Shop Volunteers Needed -- Our Thrift Shop needs YOU!

This vital resource serves folks from all walks of life, generates more than \$10,000 annually for the parish and is a great way to make new friends (or spend time with old ones). We're currently looking for a few people to volunteer just *3 hours a month* on a Thursday, Friday or Saturday while the shop is open for business. The work is not hard and you'll be paired with a seasonal volunteer. Please contact Alesia to learn more.

Thrift Shop Opportunity! Alesia Manicone, Thrift Shop coordinator, must step down to pursue other commitments and seeks a volunteer (or two) to succeed her in this fulfilling role. She leaves the Shop recently renovated, well-stocked, with a core group of dedicated volunteers and a strong customer base -- and a source of more than \$10,000 annually into the parish budget. Alesia is eager to train, or just talk to anyone who might be interested. Please contact Alesia or see the Rector.



GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY

The St. Paul's Branch of the Girls' Friendly Society meets at the church twice a month and welcomes girls beginning at age 5. Our next meeting is **Saturday, February 4, 2017 from 9:00 to 11:00 am** in Wilkinson Hall, and **Tuesday, February 21 from 6:30 - 8:00 PM** in the purple room.

We look forward to seeing all returning members and welcoming new ones!

See you all soon!!

Karen Rowe, Branch Advisor & Jane Smith, Leader

Mercy Center Retreat

is scheduled for Saturday, May 13th
with Sister Judy.

A deposit of \$14 should be given to
Vivian Horvath to save your spot.

Readers – Ushers – Crucifers – Acolytes – Chalice Bearers!

Please check your schedules for services and times you are serving. If you are unable to fulfill your obligation, please obtain a substitute for yourself! If you would also inform the parish office of any changes it would be greatly appreciated!

Thank you.

El Porvenir granted \$7,000 – El Porvenir, the group St. Paul's works with in Nicaragua, was granted \$7,000 dollars towards the restoration of a watershed from the Episcopal Church in Connecticut's Sustainable Development Fund. Without St. Paul's ongoing relationship and support of El Porvenir, these funds would not have been awarded. A big thank you to the parishioners of St. Paul's!

St. Paul's Recycles!

You may have noticed more recycling bins with signs on them around the church and parish hall! The agreement with our new trash company, All Waste, comes with single stream recycling. Please help be good stewards of God's earth by placing all recyclable items – **all types of paper, plastic containers #1 – 7, glass, cans, cardboard** – into the containers, making sure to rinse out all containers before recycling. Thank you for helping in this important effort.



Holy Baptism

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism will be celebrated on the following Feast Days: Easter Vigil (April 15, 2017) and Pentecost (June 4, 2017). Preparation for this celebration of Christian initiation includes a formal application and participation of parents and godparents in our Baptism Workshop and Rehearsal. Please direct any inquiries to the Rector at 203-269-5050 or rector@stpaulswallingford.org.

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

Wednesday - 2:00 PM

Saturday - 7:00 PM

**Please advise us of - change of address or telephone numbers
- illness, hospitalizations, deaths
- requests for baptisms, weddings, etc.**

PASTORS OF RECENT YEARS

The Rev Josephine Taylor resigned, effective March 1, 1987. She became the Vicar of St. George's Church in Manchester, Maryland. The "new" 1982 Hymnals were dedicated, also on March 1st. The rectory on Maplewood Avenue was sold.

The Search Committee met weekly, preparing the Parish Profile and the other necessary paper work. In October they began visiting services at churches where potential priests resided. In January, 1988 the Search Committee voted to send the name of their unanimous choice for rector to the Bishop for approval. A special Parish Meeting was held on February 14, 1988, at which time it was voted to elect the Rev. Brendan P. McCormick as Rector.

Brendan was born near Chicago, Illinois, one of 15 children. He was a Benedictine Monk and ordained in the Roman Catholic Church. In 1976 he left the active priestly ministry to marry. He then taught Theology, Scriptures, and History at the Canterbury School in New Milford, Connecticut. While at Canterbury, Brendan made "...the most important decision of my life..." to enter the Episcopal Church and seek recognition for his priestly ordination. After joining the Episcopal Church he became the Assistant Rector at St. Mark's, New Britain. Brendan was married to Rosemary and they had a daughter, Elizabeth. They moved into a newly purchased rectory at 1471 Tuttle Avenue.

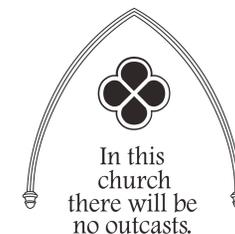
The property on Wayne Road was sold in 1998. A "whale watch" trip took place in the summer of 1988. The Rev. Barbara Harris was elected as the first woman bishop in the Anglican Communion.

During Brendan's tenure much work was done on the physical plant. The stone on the exterior of the church was pointed and some stone work repaired. The interior of the sanctuary was painted and stenciling was added. A peaked roof was placed on the 1954 building. Property was purchased from the Wooding Company. The "barn" on this property was renovated and the

Thrift Shop moved into it. The 1954 building was completely renovated with walls being moved, an elevator added, and handicapped bathrooms added.

The spiritual life of the parish did not suffer while the physical plant was being attended to. A Social Concerns Committee was very active, bringing many different concerns to the attention of the parish. Brendan and a local Rabbi exchanged pulpits. Jesse Jackson preached at a service. Community efforts to establish a formal "Martin Luther King Day" were led by Brendan. A Youth Group was formed and helped the youth contribute to the life of the parish. A Worship Committee studied ways to make the worship service more meaningful and the worship space more user friendly.

Much more should be written about Brendan's time at St. Paul's, but that will have to wait. The Rev. Brendan P. McCormick announced that he would be retiring in 2007 after 20 years at St. Paul's. A potluck supper, a Sunday Reception, and a Formal Luncheon at the Wallingford Country Club, helped to convey the parish's appreciation for his many years of devotion and leadership. One of my favorite sayings "Well done, O good and faithful servant" sums up Brendan's time at St. Paul's.



St. Paul's
Episcopal Church