

St. Paul's Episcopal Church



St. Paul's Church Statement of Mission and Ministry

St. Paul's Church, Wickford, is a loving community of Christians seeking to be faithful to God and renewed through the Gospel.

We of St. Paul's aim to love God through:

- The sharing of the sacraments, worship and prayer,
- Ministering to people and spreading God's word,
- Seeking to become better stewards of God's gifts,
- Working toward the Kingdom of God within us and in the world.



BREATHE INTO ME HOLY SPIRIT

That my thoughts may all be holy.

MOVE IN ME HOLY SPIRIT

That my work, too, may be holy.

ATTRACT MY HEART HOLY SPIRIT

That I may love only what is holy.

STRENGTHEN ME HOLY SPIRIT

That I may defend all that is holy.

PROTECT ME HOLY SPIRIT

That I always may be holy.

Attributed to Saint Augustine



Rector's Reflections

I can still picture Julie Andrews, with outstretched arms, twirling on a hilltop field. That will always be my immediate mental association with the film, *The Sound of Music*. But my mind wanders to a later scene in that same film. The Von Trapp family was on stage in their hometown, singing their closing number. "So long, farewell, auf wiedersehen, goodbye..." There are ever so many ways to say, "Goodbye." And so it should be easy, but it's actually very hard to do.

I had a grandfather, who was known for finding it difficult to part company with loved ones. It wasn't so much what he said or the way he said it. It was what he didn't say. When it was time to leave from a visit to his house, he'd invariably slip away from where everyone was gathered to prepare to leave. Everyone knew where he was, and so we'd go to find him. He'd always be found standing at the kitchen sink; washing dishes whether they needed it or not. It's not that he didn't care, but that he cared so much. It hurt him to see loved ones part company, and so he'd try to distract himself by engaging in his routine, mundane ritual of busy work. I think it helped him not to cry, and retired army colonels weren't supposed to cry.

I was chatting with a dear friend in the parish recently. We were talking about my departure. And she said, "Let's not say 'Goodbye.' Let's say, 'a bientot.'" In French that means, "See you soon!"

It's hard for me to say goodbye to you because I feel so close to so many at St. Paul's. I want to thank you for all your kindnesses to me and my family over the years. I'll miss you and feel love for so many of you. I'll see you around, but I won't be in the same sort of relationship with you.

But I will carry you in my thoughts, my prayers and my heart.

On a certain level, in Christ, we never actually leave each other. During our last Ministry Discernment Team meeting we were discussing the Gospel passage in which Jesus prayed for us, "May they be completely one as we are one (Father)." We talked about the fact that we're spiritually united with other Christians in our very being – whether we feel it and are aware of it or not. So, if you stop to think about it, since we share the same Spirit – living within us – we'll always be connected. And more than that we'll be together forever in eternity after this life ends. So we'll certainly see each other around and forever. Yikes! I guess that's why St. Paul wrote, "Insofar as it depends upon you live at peace with all people." Peace to one and all!

I assure you that I will keep you in my love and prayers. A Bientot!

Most affectionately in Christ,

Phil



God's Love

by Elizabeth Cushing Taylor

We do not see the wind,
We only hear it sigh;
It makes the grasses bend
whenever it goes by.

We do not see God's love,
But in our hearts we know
He watches over us
Wherever we may go.

We do not have to see
To know the wind is here;
We do not have to see
To know God's love is near.



from the Dir. of Music and Liturgy:

I just returned from a delightful afternoon of music making at St. Elizabeth's Home in East Greenwich. St. Paul's Children's Choir and Youth Choirs treated the residents to a lovely 30 minute concert and then invited them to join us in a sing-along. The residents and the choir members seemed equally blessed. Thank you to our talented directors Nancy Sherman, Rozanne Fuller, and Alicia Cranston. Also thank you to each of our choristers for your dedicated efforts. Youth Choir : Sophie Brown, Sarah Cavaleri, Sophie Chang, Meagan Frye, Elizabeth Fusco, Sophia Fusco, Chelsea Kuiper, Margaret Landry. St. Paul's Childrens Choir: Sian Morgan, Pauline Chang, Caleb Cranston, Matthew Whitney, Bonnie Inverso, Gianna Stewart, Stephen Landry, and Aiden Horan. Last, but certainly not least, a round of applause to the parents and everyone who encourages these young people to use and develop their talents! We celebrated the end of the spring season with our annual "ice-cream party!"

Thank you to all of our talented youth who shared their musical talents on Youth Sunday which fell on Pentecost this year, including Mike White, Nick Jorgensen, Jesse-Ray Leich, and Sophie Brown.

Thank you to St. Paul's Parish Choir who sang Evensong on the Feast of Pentecost in the Old Narragansett Church with music of Orlando Gibbons. We were joined by St. Paul's Youth Choir for a contemporary setting of "O gracious light," (Phos Hilaron) by Andrew J. Walker. The Parish Choir outdid themselves this year, and I am ever grateful for their dedication, and willingness to diligently support each other in community. St. Paul's Parish Choir members: Ellen Abell, Walter Burrows, Tina Butler, Susan Cerullo, Jill Clement, Gillian Couchan, Gail Cyr, Camilla deRochambeau, Marianne Goodrich, Mary B. Halll, Diane Hoffman, Ninni Jacob, Nick

Jorgensen, Dora Martorelli, Pat Petersen, Norm Poulin, Eleanor Ricci, Nancy Shanahan, Diane Slader, June Spink, Tom Spink. Thanks especially to our Choir Librarian Tina Butler and our Sunshine Chair Eleanor Ricci. Thank you also to our faithful and talented percussionist Jesse-Ray Leich, violinist Pat Petersen, and trombonist Richard Whaley for sharing of your gifts.

Please join us for worship in the Old Narragansett Church this summer!

Peace,
Mark



Episcopal Charities Report

EPISCOPAL CHARITIES is one of the most far-reaching ministries you can support here in RI! Your gift helps agencies minister to the homebound elderly, establish supportive relationships for parents overwhelmed with home management and parenting issues, provide important opportunities for disadvantaged children, help for adolescents battling substance abuse, food assistance for the hungry, and shelter for those displaced through domestic violence or unemployment. We are grateful for the **107 gifts and pledges already received, totaling \$24,641.** This is 59% of our goal, and with God's help and the participation of everyone, we will meet our challenge of \$41,768. If you have yet to respond, please be as generous as you are able in your support. Pledge cards are available in the pews. You may place it in the offering, bring it to the office, or mail it to St. Paul's Church. **Every gift matters, every gift helps, and no gift is too large or too small.** Make yours count and help address the many needs of our Rhode Island neighbors.



Youth Group News

Everyone: As always I wish to thank all the parents and chaperones, who continually supported the Youth Ministry programs and events throughout this past year. I truly appreciate all the help that you have given, and I encourage all parents, especially of Middle School Youth – to join in at any time! Working with youth of all ages is a wonderful blessing and always challenging. All of us want our Youth Group programs to be the best and the most spiritually inspiring that they can be. We always try to be receptive to new ideas. By all means let me know whenever you have one. With God’s help we will continue to grow in our ministries to the youth of St. Paul’s.

MSY & HSY: United Cerebral Palsy of Rhode Island: Are you interested in local community outreach? Please join us for the 1st annual United Cerebral Palsy 5K “Walk & Roll” through Roger Williams Park on June 13th. Ken, Roberta, Craig McDonald said UCP of RI’s mission is to “advance the independence, productivity and full citizenship of people with disabilities”. For more information & to pre-register please contact me at 294-4357 x105 or youth@stpaulswickford.org. Thanks!!!

HSY Missioners: The 18 HSY missioners & 4 adult chaperones had an amazing mission to Campo de Transfiguration, Jarabacoa in the Dominican Republic. I don’t know of a more life changing experience than teens participating in a mission to people in a different culture. God was with us through the wonderful Dominican children, and with our Dominican brothers and sisters too. A very special thank you to all the missioners and their families, Fr. Phil, Bonnie Brayton-Simmons, Dave Lamb and each and every parishioner who helped make this possible.

Dominican Scholarships: There has been great interest in helping with the tuition of the youth attending Episcopal School Mount of Transfiguration in the barrio of el Pedregal, Jarabacoa, Dominican Republic. We are still working out the logistics and welcome your input.

ECC: Throughout the summer the Diocese of Rhode Island offers a variety of week-long camps for teens of various ages. If you are interested in one of them it is not too late to sign up. Contact ECC directly at 568-4055.

June 27 – July 3: Music and Creative Arts Camp for grades 8 – 12 (ages 13-17)

July 4 – 9: Teen Camp for grades 7 – 9 (ages 12-14)

July 25 – July 30: Camper’s Choice Week for grades 8 – 12 (ages 13 – 17)

August 8 – 13: Summer’s End for grades 7 – 12 (ages 12 – 17)

~God’s Peace,
Trish



Old Narragansett Church Opportunity

Do you enjoy meeting people from all around the world? Do you have an interest in history? If the answer is yes, please consider becoming a docent at the **Old Narragansett Church**. **Docents** serve when the church is open in July and August, Thursdays through Mondays from 11 AM to 4 PM. There are many stories to tell about the past 300 years of this parish and it is fun to share them with others. To sign up or learn more call Helen Reid at 294-4618.

Sunday School News



I read a quote from Alex Smith, QB of the San Francisco 49ers. It read, "It's not what we do in front of 80,000 people on Sunday that defines who we are, just as we are not defined by what we do on Sundays in Church. It's how we live Monday through Saturday when no one is watching that defines our legacy. It's more than a game; it's life, and we all have a chance to make a difference as we live our lives between Sundays." What a wonderful thought: if everyone lived in a loving way all week long, helped people in need, shared their abundance of blessings, and instead of hurting others, just quietly went about changing the world one day at a time and one person out a time. God's message of loving your neighbor would be witnessed in a powerful way.

May was a wonderful showcase of the youth of St. Paul's. In early May, we had fourteen teens confirmed by Bishop Wolf at the Cathedral of St. John, in Providence. It was a beautiful service, and we were all proud of these young adults who made this important decision to follow Christ. Many of these same teens had just returned from the mission trip to the Dominican Republic. All these students have taken God's word and put it into action and they are becoming very compassionate adults. They truly have discovered what it means to live between the Sundays.

Youth Sunday was celebrated on May 23rd. Eleven fifth graders and four teens helped perform the parts of the service, as well as the wonderful youth musicians and choirs. The mission teens shared their messages with the congregation. It is always a fantastic celebration of the youth of St. Paul's. We have a strong future here, as evidenced by these children and teens. Thank you to Father Phil, Trish Nugent, and Dr. Mark for helping to put together this wonderful service, and of course to

Deb Mahoney and Bill Healy for all the behind the scenes help. It's wonderful to have such strong support for the children and youth here at our church.

I would also like to thank all the families that made this a great year. I would especially like to thank Dawn Bedard, Libby and Amanda Cirillo, and Danielle Kennedy for assisting the fifth grade Emmaus class when they made the bread for Youth Sunday. It was a great help and the kids loved that project. I really did appreciate all the extra hands that morning. Also, a thank you is offered up to all the families of the Emmaus class for helping with the wonderful reception following the Youth Sunday service. You really helped to make it a special day for the Confirmation and Emmaus classes. A final thank you to all the parents who helped supply snack and drinks for coffee hour, it was a huge help, because as you are well aware of, they love to eat.

Summer is upon us, which means there will be a recess from Sunday school. We will return in September, although as of now we are short four teachers for the fall. Teens who have already been confirmed and adults are welcome to teach. We provide curriculum, and try to pair new teachers up with more experienced ones. No teaching experience is required, just the willingness to share God's word with the youth of St. Paul's. If you are interested, please call me at home 294-9908, or email dgl4lal@aol.com. Let's make this the best Sunday school there can be for these wonderful children.

Enjoy the summer and I will see you in September.
Lori

Important Sunday School Date

July 26-30 Vacation Bible School will be held at Camp Canonicus.



Christian Action Notes, Spring 2010

The Christian Action Committee meets monthly to decide which charities will receive donations from St Paul's Church. Six percent of pledged income goes to Outreach work and Christian Action directs half of those funds.

This spring we will complete our commitment to supporting the **Chaplaincy program at St. Elizabeth's Home**. The program serves residents, families and staff and had lost its funding when a former chaplain left. We have provided bridge funds so new staff could be transitioned.

The February earthquake in Chili inspired us to give **Episcopal Relief and Development** \$500 which they can direct to **earthquake relief** where it is most needed. In April, we designated \$500 to the **Washington County Coalition for Children**. This organization brings professional volunteers who work with schools to identify and assist with the social, economic and mental health needs of South County children. Mike Cerullo is an active member. For more information, go to www.washcokids.org

Also **Epiphany Soup kitchen**, which recently relocated to St. Stephen's on the East Side, and **Seniors Helping Others** will receive \$250 each. We continued to support South Providence Neighborhood Ministries (\$500). We donated \$500 to **Crossroads Rhode Island**, formerly Travelers Aid.

Helping Hands in Haiti provides health care, education and community based services. \$500 will go to constructing temporary buildings which will provide shelter for a neighborhood.

Finally the **Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island** is working with the Diocese of Louisiana in order to bring Louisiana children to the Episcopal Conference Center camp. We donated \$500; each campership costs \$340. One way you can help too is by donating frequent flyer miles.

(www.episcopalri.org 401-274-4500).

Kathleen Godley

Ministry Team Highlight

Christian Outreach – To help the parish reach out to the broader community.

Coordinates the recognition and response to appeals from groups that minister to human needs in our parish, state, country and the world and for communicating their works to the parish.

- Episcopal Charities – Jeff and Thomasine Manickas 884-0792
- Christmas Baskets – Pinky Sweet Holland 294-3212
- Providence soup kitchen volunteers – Tina Egan 885-0118
- Collection of food for the Food Pantry
- Christian Action Committee – Peggy Sagnella 294-4449

Considers financial requests from groups addressing social, economic,

Environmental and political injustices

- Christmas Giving Tree
- Community Garden – Ted Seymour 294-2457
- Adult Missions
- Home Repairs – Ted Seymour 294-2457
- North Kingstown Community Meals – Linda Stevens 295-4203

If you are interested in helping with any of these missions, please contact the listed chair for more information.



**Nursery School
News**

**St. Paul's
"Weekday"
Nursery School
News:**

**Three Year Old
Class News:**

The shape for May was the diamond and the color was purple. We invited our Mothers in for a special tea with songs, special goodies and cards made by the children. We gave our mothers a plant that we grew ourselves. Our Mothers had a nice day. We ended our year with a unit on the ocean. We learned about the creatures that live in the sea and made a beach collage, sparkly fish and built a sand castle. The butterflies that we raised from caterpillars were released with much excitement and anticipation. Our year together has come to an end but our children go forward to the 4 year old program in September – a little taller, a little older and prepared for what lies ahead of them next year.

Four Year Old Class News: It's hard to believe that May is over and so is our school year. We have had a busy and fun year and it went by very quickly for all of us. We wrapped up the year with many "end of the year" activities. Besides working on some very special Mother's Day and Father's Day projects, we finished up and reviewed our alphabet unit and Signs of Spring unit. We finished our Oceans unit and had a release of our butterflies in the Memorial Garden with Father Phil. We enjoyed a walking field trip to the NK Library and had an end of the year Sing Along Celebration with Miss Maria. This year we have enjoyed watching the amazing growth and changes that took place with our plants and caterpillars and of course your children. Thank you for sharing them with us. We will miss them greatly but we are confident that they are ready to meet the challenges they will encounter in Kindergarten.

To all our families, thank you for all your help and support both inside and outside the classrooms. Your participation was greatly appreciated. Thank you for the very special Teacher Appreciation festivities: decorations, luncheon, CD, flowers, albums, stars and signs. It is nice to know that what we do every day is appreciated.

God Bless,
Linda

Finance Info Session

St. Paul's Financial Statements are now posted on line after Vestry approval. Since some parishioners have asked for a clarification of these statements, a presentation of "Understanding St. Paul's Financial Statements" will be held in the Parish Hall on June 13th after the 9:30 AM service. All are welcome.

Golden Belles and Beaus

Seniors and their guests are invited to St. Paul's Parish House on

Thursday, June 10, 2010 at 11:30 AM

The program will include a picnic lunch and a fun-filled sing-along.

Please call the church office ... 294-4357 ... if you plan to attend.



And the Lord make
you to increase and
abound in love one
toward another ...

1 Thessalonians 3:12



The Reverend W. David Dobbins, Jr. will begin his interim ministry at

St. Paul's on August 1. Dave (as he prefers to be called) has most recently served as the Interim Rector at Trinity Church, Newport and, before that, St. Michael's Church, Bristol. Dave's home is Litchfield CT. He has been in Rhode Island since 2005 where he finds the proximity to his grandchildren to be advantageous. He and his wife, Jane, will live in the rectory.

A graduate of General Theological Seminary, Dave has had specialized training in interim ministry. He will be available for 32 hours each week (80% of full time) on a flexible schedule. He will embrace and expand our management teams and spiritually guide the parish through this interim period. The length of time he will be with us will depend on how the parish progresses with the self-study and search process. It is not anticipated that this will take as long as our last interim period (3 years).

DEACON

Jan Grinnell will serve as Deacon to the Interim. She prefers to be called Jan or Deacon Jan by our youth. Jan has been a Deacon for 19 years and served with Dave at both St. Michael's and Trinity. She has been trained in interim ministry. She will assist with the liturgy and serve in other capacities identified by our Interim Priest. Jan is a resident of Portsmouth and has her own consulting firm, Grinnell Appreciative Consulting.

Jan will also be our Consultant, assisting the parish in the self-study and search processes.

ACI Ministry News

The ACI Episcopal Chaplaincy will sponsor "And Still We Rise" -- a faith based initiative serving the RI prison population on Saturday, June 5, 2010 at the Cathedral of St. John, Synod Hall, 275 North Main St. Providence, RI 02903.

2:00 – 3:00 PM – Networking, Socializing, Opportunities to learn about volunteer programs.

3:00 –5:00 PM – Performance of “And Still We Rise”, a Boston based production by professionally trained actors who have experienced direct or indirect contact with the prison system, These actors humanize the lives, struggles, and triumphs of those who have been impacted by violence, addiction, abuse and many other factors that so often lead to incarceration. There is no charge; a free-will donation is welcomed.

This event is designed to raise awareness about the work of the faith based community in prison ministry, reentry and family support. For more information contact Linda Ohsberg at 401-295-0551 or at lohsberg@verizon.net. Linda, a certified yoga instructor, teaches a weekly goya class in the women's division at the ACI.



Life on earth is a real crucible. In everyone we witness the fire of God's love catching on, then burning away the dross as they become whole and holy. This will not be complete until eternity. In the mean time we have many people **to help and help us**, and the long view on those we remember to encourage our patience, humility, and hope.

(from the Society of Saint John the Evangelist)