

# 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.

## A Universal Prayer for Peace

*This prayer, in more than 40 languages, is used around the world.*

Lead me from death to Life,  
from falsehood to Truth.  
Lead me from despair to Hope,  
from fear to Trust.  
Lead me from hate to Love,  
From war to Peace.  
Let Peace fill our hearts,  
our world, our universe.

PEACE PEACE PEACE



## **A Message from the Ministers for the Interim - Rev. Deacon Jan Grinnell and The Rev. David Dobbins**

Dear People of St. Paul's,

We are delighted to be here with you as we begin this journey through the interim together. We are prepared to experience the Holy Spirit moving among us all as we join you in a valuable time of self study in preparation for your search for your new Rector. Elsewhere in this publication you will be introduced to the members of your Self-Study Committee, and to the work they are dedicated to accomplishing in cooperation with Diocesan Consultant Jan Grinnell on behalf of the people of St. Paul's Church.

We invite you to join us for informal gatherings which we will host periodically throughout this Interim time. The main purpose of these gatherings is to get to know one another better, but these are also opportunities to ask questions about the process of the Interim, or to make observations about our life together at St. Paul's during this Interim time.

Our first series of gatherings are scheduled as follows:

**Saturday September 18th following the 5:15 service with David Dobbins**

**Sunday September 26th following the 7:30 service with Jan Grinnell**

**Sunday October 3rd following the 9:30 service with Jan Grinnell**

Look to the next publication of the Communicant for further scheduled conversations. Please remember that appointments to meet with David can be arranged by calling the Parish Office and speaking with Deb (who keeps his calendar) or by leaving David a private message at extension 104.

We look forward to being with you!

Peace,

*David and Jan*



The pieces are quickly coming together as we officially enter our interim period. We feel so blessed to have David Dobbins serving as our rector, Jan Grinnell as our

deacon and consultant and Patrick Greene as our assistant. A lot has been accomplished in a short time! The Diocesan Deployment officer, Canon Betsy Fornal worked closely with us to expedite the interim selection process and the Vestry was more than willing to attend special meetings when their input was needed. We ask you to join with us in thanking God for bringing to St. Paul's these wonderful people.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us, otherwise see you at the Parish Picnic on September 12.

Martha Parks, Senior Warden  
[maparks@alparks.net](mailto:maparks@alparks.net) 294-6362

Ray Jorgensen, Junior Warden  
[rjorgensen@gopmg.com](mailto:rjorgensen@gopmg.com) 667-7145

**from the Dir. of Music and Liturgy:**



We have a great season planned for the music ministry at St. Paul's this year and we hope you will join us! St. Paul's Parish Choir and St. Paul's Youth

Choir will be singing Michaelmas Evensong at St. Paul's Church October 3 at 7:00pm. All of the choirs will participate in The Festival of Advent Lessons and Carols December 12 and also Christmas Eve services. St. Paul's Parish Choir will be singing a full choral mass setting by W.A. Mozart. Taking part in the music ministry at St. Paul's is a great way of expanding your sense of worship, making new friends, and learning the great music of the Church.

We will be having a workshop in Jamestown, RI Saturday Sept. 18 with the very talented and entertaining Jean Danton who teaches voice and acting at the New England Conservatory and Longy School of Music in Boston. If you would like to join the Parish Choir (high school age and beyond) or volunteer your instrumental talents, please contact me at the music office at 294-4357, ext.106 or by email - [Mark\\_Steinbach@brown.edu](mailto:Mark_Steinbach@brown.edu) to schedule an audition. The Parish Choir rehearses Sundays at 8:55AM and Thursday evenings from 7:30-9:30pm.

Both St. Paul's Children's and Youth Choirs are welcoming new members as well. Both choirs rehearse immediately following church school on Sundays and sing periodically throughout the church year. Both choirs are using the Royal School of Church Music program, which integrates Christian formation within a music education. For more information, contact Nancy Sherman or Alicia Cranston for the Children's Choir (1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> grades) and Rozanne Fuller for the Youth Choir (4<sup>th</sup> grade-middle school). The youth choir will take part in the annual Diocesan-wide Evensong in April and also has the opportunity of

participating in the RSCM summer music program in Newport in the summer.

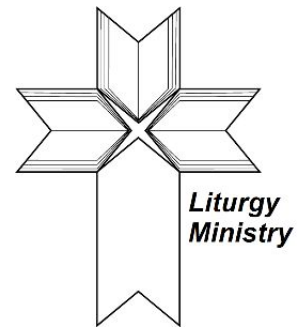
Thank you for your support of the music ministry and see you soon!

Peace,  
*Mark*

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**Ministry Team Highlight - Liturgy**

The Liturgy Team coordinates the work of many different groups whose mission is to help us worship God and grow in our love and thankfulness to God.

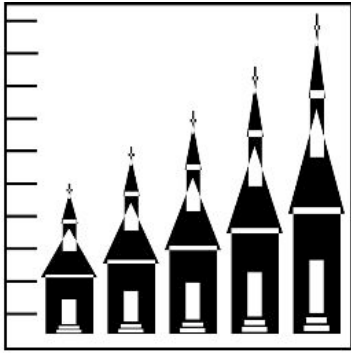


Those represented by their leaders include –

- Choir – adult, youth and children
- Ushers
- Greeters
- Altar Guild
- Acolytes
- Lay Readers
- Healing Ministry
- LEMS (Lay Eucharistic Ministers)
- LEVS (Lay Eucharistic Visitors)

There is always a need for more volunteers. If you are interested in being involved with any of these endeavors, contact the Chair Elizabeth Grout at 886-5547, [eliz.grout@att.net](mailto:eliz.grout@att.net) for referral .

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*From the Treasurer*

As of the end of July, St Paul's is in a fairly strong financial position. We have budgeted and spent wisely during the first seven months of 2010. Our pledge receipts are coming in at a

fairly consistent pace and I thank you for that. Capital Pledges are somewhat lower than expected. If you have a Capital Pledge that has not been fulfilled, please make every effort to fulfill this pledge as soon as possible. The Financial Statements can be found on the Treasurer's Page of the church website: [www.stpaulswickford.org](http://www.stpaulswickford.org).

For the remaining months of the year, our expenses are expected to increase with the addition of a second clergy staff person and the expenses of conducting a search for a new rector. We will need to remain especially vigilant with our spending and it will be that much more important for you to fulfill or exceed your pledge for the year.

As many of you are aware, this is my fourth year as Treasurer at St Paul's. It was originally my intention to step down at the conclusion of this year. It has become clear to me that during this time of significant transition for the parish, it is truly not the right time for me to step down. At the request of the Wardens, I have agreed to stand for reelection at the Annual Meeting.

I would like to thank Wil Tolhurst, who has been my Assitant Treasurer for the past three years. His hard work and dedication has made it possible for us to accomplish together much more than I could have done by myself. He deserves all of our thanks for a job well done. At the present time, Wil is transitioning into the role of Parish Auditor. He is currently conducting an Audit of the Discretionary

account. This is a multi-year audit and Wil has already spent many hours on this important project. He will be conducting other audits of various accounts and will lead the parish audits in the future. Wil is especially well-suited to this new role as he is a 'stickler' for the details - very important in an Auditor. His work has already led to some new policies and procedures for the handling of funds in the parish and I expect that he will come up with more improvements as he continues his work.

Please contact me if you have questions or concerns at [ktagrounds@gmail.com](mailto:ktagrounds@gmail.com).

Thanks,  
*Kirsten*

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### **Fellowship Opportunity**

Dear Saint Paul's Family,

My last six years as Coffee Hour Coordinator have been a real pleasure for me. Every Sunday I enjoy talking to all the cherry faces, seeing new and old ones coming through the doors of the Parish house.

Before May of 2011, I would like to pass along this job to someone else that will enjoy the experiences I have had. I'm willing to teach someone, walk you through everything you need to know. Please let Deb in the office know of your interest, and I will be in touch.

I want to give a special **THANK YOU** to all the families that have been helping make the coffee hour a success. To the families who faithfully did 8:30 and now 9:30 coffee hour, your tables always looked nice and welcoming -- well done!

Thank you,  
*Jane-Marie Winter*





Welcome back! All children and youth are invited to register for Sunday school starting September 12, after the Parish Day service at 9:30 am. Registration is open to all students age 3 through high school. The high school class is open to all high school students and is mandatory for students in tenth grade or older who are interested in receiving their confirmation. There is no cost for Sunday school, although families are encouraged to provide snacks or help out as needed.

We are in need of several teachers for this year. No experience is necessary- just a love of children and the desire to lead them in their classes. Curriculum is provided, and new teachers will be paired with more experienced ones, when possible. Please contact me at home, 294-9908 or [dgl4lal@aol.com](mailto:dgl4lal@aol.com), if you are interested in helping us this year. We really would like to provide a complete Sunday school program for our children here at St. Paul's. Teens who have already been confirmed and adults are eligible to teach. It is a great experience and I highly recommend it to those who enjoy being with children. Teenagers can also receive community service hours if needed.

FAQ: When is Sunday school held?

S.S. is held during the 9:30am service. Children attend the first part of the service with their families. They are then dismissed with their teachers to walk across the street to attend their classroom instruction. Registration is available throughout the school year.

FAQ: Can parents help out in the classrooms?

Absolutely, our Sunday school is open to all parishioners who would like to help out. If you have special talents or interests, please let us know.

FAQ: Are background checks done on teachers?

Yes, all teachers are required to go through a background check prior to teaching the children. For the safety of the children, we also try to have two teachers in the classroom at all times and an open door policy. Teachers are also encouraged to attend safe-church teaching provided by the diocese.

FAQ: My child is three; can he attend classroom instruction?

Three year olds can register for class. It is up to the pre-school teachers to determine if the child is able to participate. Children need to be able to sit still for some periods and follow simple classroom instruction. Toddler care is available for all children age 1 and older who are unable to attend classes due to their age or special needs.

FAQ: My child has special needs, can they attend classes?

We try to include all children in our classes. Please speak with the teachers and me about any special needs, etc. that your child may have prior to attendance in class.

FAQ: If I have questions, concerns, or suggestions what do I do?

Please see me on Sunday mornings in the Parish Hall, or you can call me at home **294-9908**. I will be teaching one of the classes, but I am always available before or after the service. We are very interested in improving our program, so please do not hesitate to call me.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and I'll see you in September.

### Important Sunday School Dates

**September 12:** Sunday school registration following the 9:30 am service

**September 19:** Teacher Dedication Sunday and first day of Sunday school

**September 26:** Regular Sunday school

**October 3:** Regular Sunday school, first day of the high school class/confirmation class. There will be a mandatory parent/student meeting following this class. Registration forms can be filled out on first day of class. If possible, please make sure you or your teen is aware of their date of baptism prior to filling out the registration card.



**Welcome to Rev. Deacon Patrick Greene**

I would like to take a few words to introduce you to Patrick Greene, our new Assistant to the Rector. A native Rhode Islander, Patrick grew up in Barrington, RI as a member of St John's. Like most young people he didn't take his faith seriously until his involvement with the Middle School Youth Group. He became more and more involved during his High School years. It was then that Patrick began to feel that his direction was pointed towards the priesthood.

After graduating from Barrington High School, he went on to the University of Rhode Island earning a B.A. in Philosophy in 2006. Patrick is a serious student and is very interested in intellectual pursuits, but he is not all about studying. During his college years and afterwards he spent a significant amount of time working with the youth at both St John's, Barrington and the Episcopal Conference Center as well as playing ultimate Frisbee. He served as Head counselor for boys and Summer Program Manager at the Conference Center and was well liked by the campers and staff, including both of my children who spent time with him as campers and CITs.

After college, Patrick spent a year in the diocesan discernment program exploring his desire to become a priest and then moved on to attend the Virginia Theological Seminary. During his time in seminary he served at several very different parishes. He worked with a variety of parishioners and was given increasing amounts of autonomy in his roles. He graduated with his Master's in

Divinity in 2010. He arrives at St Paul's as a young man, full of youthful exuberance, ready to begin the learning process of being a new priest. His desire to learn and grow in this new role is a great asset for St Paul's. He brings to our community a fresh approach and a desire to serve God and our community in the best way possible. Please join me in a warm welcome to Patrick.

*Kirsten Rounds*

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**Reminder**

If you know of anyone who is homebound or hospitalized and would like a visit from clergy or Lay Eucharistic Visitor, please contact the Parish office at 294-4357. As you probably know, hospitals no longer contact Parishes with this information, and we would never want anyone to feel neglected. Thanks for your help.

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**Keep Tuned**

The Christian Formation Team is working on interesting possibilities for Autumn education for all age groups. Watch the bulletins and Communicant for more details.

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## Self Study Committee

### Interim Self-Study Committee

The first part of the transition process after a rector’s departure is focused on the church - defining and affirming the church’s history, current mission, vision and goals for the next three years. This part of the process is led by the Self-Study Committee, assisted by our Diocesan Consultant, Rev. Deacon Jan Grinnell. The Parish Officers (Wardens, Treasurer and Clerk ) submitted the following names to the Vestry who approved the Team at the August meeting: Walt Burrows, Pat Carlson, Alicia Cranston, Don Hagist, Tabitha Jorgensen, Ken LeBlanc, Dick Lewis, Jeff Manickas, Russell Shippee, Jane Tiernan-Reilly, Peggy Todd, and Colleen Tolhurst.

Members represent the following areas of Parish life: each of the three service congregations, Vestry members, “old guard” (long-time members), new members (within the last five years), families with Sunday School age children, Music, Altar Guild, Ministry Discernment Team, volunteer involvement; youth input will be gathered via youth Vestry members and youth ministry participants. Additional input will be gathered from the congregation at large. The Committee members will be called upon to exercise their gifts of cooperation, articulating the positions of their various areas, and concentrating on the welfare of all of St. Paul’s.

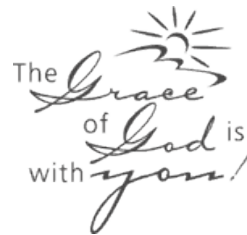
The Self-Study Committee is responsible for producing a profile of the congregation which will be used to introduce prospective candidates to the

mission, ministries and future plans of the congregation. The profile generally contains the following: history of the church, current mission, ministries, statistics, facilities, budget and financial data, vision, and plans for the future. From this prospective of past, present and future, the leadership of the church will identify the skills and gifts necessary for a new clergy leader to assist the congregation as they move forward into their vision. Many churches now place their profile on their website rather than printing a document.

Please keep the Team in your prayers as they begin this important work on behalf of the people of St. Paul’s.

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### Learning timelessness



We tend to think of our lives in terms of past, present and future. Therefore, we easily become time-bound, living under the restrictions of

clocks, calendars and seasons.

The concern of the truly spiritual person, however, is the “now” — that suspension of the flow of hours, days and years. God, who isn’t time-bound, breaks in upon our lives, and we sense, however distantly, the eternal. And we’re refreshed, healed and lifted up.

The experience of the eternal may happen any time, even amid distraction. But the witness of the mystics is that it most frequently occurs in the time of quiet abandonment in prayer. As we grow spiritually, we become less time-bound and discover that the God of grace isn’t limited to the passage of the hours, days and years.

**Foyer Groups**



**Food and Fellowship**

Since parishoners who participated in last year’s Foyer Groups enjoyed the fellowship, we will offer them again this year. Foyer Groups meet in the homes of members throughout the year to share a *simple meal and friendship*. There is no agenda other than gathering for fellowship and spending time together to build Christian community in St. Paul’s parish. The lack of formal structure facilitates open conversation and free access to the Holy Spirit.

**Groups of seven or eight adults** will be formed and ready to begin fellowship together by late October. The Foyer Coordinator will notify a ‘kick-off’ host or hostess, who will contact the other members to organize the initial dinner. The role of host/hostess rotates throughout the year. Groups are encouraged to share the work of preparation by using a pot-luck approach in which the host/hostess provides the main course; other couples in turn provide appetizer and wine; another couple bread and salad; another couple dessert. Groups meet four times: once before Thanksgiving; again in January - February; March - April; and May - June. Each group decides its own schedule and method of dining.

Questions? Please contact the Foyer Coordinator, Thomasine Manickas at [manickas@cox.net](mailto:manickas@cox.net).

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*“Love one another, as I have loved you”*

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<b><i>Foyer Group Signup</i></b>	
Please return to the church office by October 3, 2010	
Name(s) _____ and _____	
Telephone _____	Email _____
<p>_____ I / we are not able to commit to a complete series of four Foyer dinners, but would like to be contacted to fill in as an alternate if any Foyer Group member(s) cannot attend their next scheduled dinner.</p>	