

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.

Saint Mary Magdalene



July 22 is the Feast Day of Mary Magdalene. She is a helpful model. Grateful for her healing and citizenship in the kingdom of God, she followed Jesus and shared her resources. Faithful to the end, she met the risen Lord and proclaimed the good news.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son restored Mary Magdalene to health of body and mind, and called her to be a witness of his resurrection: Mercifully grant that by your grace we may be healed of all our infirmities and know you in the power of his endless life; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Dear Friends,
We are officially in the season after Pentecost,

so-called “ordinary time” in which ordinary people like you and I are called to do extraordinary things. The spirit of fire lit upon the heads of all the faithful at Pentecost, and all of us being baptized have been “sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ’s own forever” (see the Baptism service in the Book of Common Prayer). What could this mean for you and I in our daily lives, in our ordinary times?

It could mean a lot of what we take for granted but need to be more conscious of. Courage, that allows an 85 year old to undergo risky surgery, and to awake from the anesthesia ready to take on the painful course of healing and rehabilitation. Patience, to confront mental illness, and the trust that caring professionals and family members can see the way to health we cannot see ourselves. Forgiveness, to accept that in our humanity we make mistakes that disrupt our own lives and the lives of others, and cause us grief. Goodness, that brings individuals with complex lives into the church offering their energy, creativity and time. Faithfulness, that takes on the daily or weekly tasks that bring beauty and order to our altar, our coffee hours, our liturgies. Gentleness, that helps us all to honor one another, and kindness to help sweeten the bitterness of life we may all be subject to. All these are gifts present among us, and I know them to be gifts of God. All these begin in faith, are nurtured by love, and are the fruit of the Spirit, for as the Apostle Paul says “...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control” (Galatians 5:22f).

While it may be hard to be consciously aware of your own gifts, I invite you to be on the lookout for the grace of God that surrounds you, brought to you through the lives of family, friends, neighbors and strangers. Pay attention not only to what is going on, but “how” what is going on here at St. Paul’s may be an expression of grace, an offering of love. Pay attention to the lives of

those around you and you will discern God’s grace at work: we have, after all, been “sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ’s own forever.”
Peace.

David+
W. David Dobbins
Interim Rector
David+

“Our sanctification does not depend as much on changing our activities as it does on doing them for God rather than for ourselves.”

—Brother Lawrence

June 2011 Christian Action Notes

This month, we chose to contribute \$500 to City Camp, an organization that allows inner city children to go to camp in the country.

In addition, Crossroads Rhode Island will receive \$500. This organization provides a continuum of housing ranging from emergency shelter through transitional housing to permanent supportive housing to individual men and women, couples and families in Rhode Island. In North Kingstown, the Kingstown Crossings project is visible on Devils Foot Road. It will be one of the first multi-family affordable housing programs with LEED for homes certification. Ultimately, there will be 104 one- to four-bedroom homes for families and individuals with limited resources, who may be at risk of losing their housing

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Godley

*From the
Assistant Rector*



Friends,
This summer we've got a number of events planned with the youth of St. Peter's

by the Sea in Narragansett. On July 17th as well as August 21st, they've invited us to join them at Narragansett Beach for Evening Prayer, something to eat and some time to just hang out at the beach. On July 23rd we'll be going up to Lazergate in Fall River to play Lazer Tag. On a Saturday in August (tentatively August 13th) we'll be heading to a parishioner of St. Peter's lakeside property for a BBQ; on August 18th we'll be heading up to McCoy Stadium for a PawSox game. All of these events are open to High School and Middle School Youth (also, to any adults who would like to chaperone and drive).

The High School Youth will meet in the Guild Room on July 10th and on August 14th at 5pm. Throughout the Summer both Middle School and High School Youth are invited out on Wednesday Nights for Evening Prayer, dinner and time to just hang out with each other beginning at 5:30 and ending at 7:00. Wednesdays we will NOT meet are: 7/6, 8/3 and 8/10.

Starting in July we'll be having monthly movie nights for the Middle School Youth. For the summer they'll be held on Wednesday Nights following Evening Prayer, running from 7:00-9:00. We'll set up a projector in the guild room, grab some snacks and watch a movie on the wall. These will take place on July 20th and August 24th.

I hope everyone has a safe and fun summer and I hope to see many of you at these events and meetings!

Dates to Remember:

- 7/6, 8/3 & 8/10- No Wednesday Meetings.
- 7/10- High School Youth Meeting in the Chapter Room (in the Offices) at 5:00
- 7/17- Evening Prayer at Narragansett Beach with St. Peter's beginning at 5:30
- 7/20- Middle School Movie Night, 7:00-9:00
- 7/23- Laser Tag, meeting at St. Paul's at 11:30am and returning around 4:15
- 8/13- Tentative Lakeside BBQ with St. Peter's

8/14- High School Youth Meeting in the Guild Room at 5:00

8/18- PawSox Game; Game begins at 7:05 leaving from St. Paul's at 6:00

8/21- Evening Prayer at Narragansett Beach with St. Peter's beginning at 5:30

8/24- Middle School Movie Night, 7:00-9:00

Yours in Christ,
Patrick+



**From the Director of Music,
Organist and Choirmaster :**

Please join us for worship this summer in The Old Narragansett Church. If you would like to join the "pick-up choir" to help lead hymns and service music from the choir loft, feel free to join us at 9:25am.

St. Paul's Youth Choristers will be attending the Royal School of Church Music Training course at Salve Regina University in Newport August 1-7.

Choirs will begin regular rehearsal schedules the week after Labor Day. Watch the bulletin and next newsletter for updates!

Happy Summer!

Peace, *Mark*

This is what you should think if you wish to see God: "God is love." What face has love? What form has it? What height? What feet? What hands? No one can say. Yet it has feet, for they lead to the church; it has hands, for they care for the poor; it has eyes, for through them the needy one is known.

- Augustine



Summer is here, and it brings a time to bask in His glorious creation, while reflecting on the past year. It is a great time to plan for the future, while enjoying the less hectic pace that enfolds with the summer months. The last year has brought many changes to the face of the church, yet we stand firm in our convictions and values. As we launch "the search," we look forward to what the future holds for us, and we embrace the possibility of an even brighter tomorrow.

This past spring the Sunday school presented a survey to determine the wants and needs of the parish in regards to the children's religious education. When the new rector arrives, the information obtained from your answers will show how passionate people's views are in regards to the Sunday school. Your voice may shape the future of the education of our youth. Many parishioners responded and filled out these forms; some families gave their opinions less formally and spoke to me directly. I thank everyone for their opinions. These surveys are still available if you would like to participate. Presently, these are the results:

Would you like to keep the SS the unchanged? Yes 88%, no 1, no answer 2

Would you like to continue with the children's message? Yes 91%, no 6%

Would you prefer SS first, then have the youth come in for communion? Yes 9%, no 81%

Would you like SS to take place after the service, with adult ed. programs? Yes 3%, no 81%

If SS was after the service, would you still attend services? Yes 25%, no 34%, maybe 12%*
* *but with decreased attendance noted.*

Would you attend adult education programs, if offered? Yes 12%, no 31%

Would you like to keep the pageant at the 3pm, Dec. 24th service? Yes 81%, no 9%

Should confirmation be taught only by clergy? Yes 3%, no 78%

Would your child be available to attend evening classes for confirmation? Yes 18%, no 40%

In listening to people's thoughts, it has been very clear how important the children are to this church. One parishioner shared this thought, "I think hearing from the kids helps the church as a whole embrace and honor the youth. A church needs to retain both the experience of its elders and be invigorated by the innocence and wonder of its "little people" to be strong." It has been very helpful to hear all your opinions. I would also like to thank the numerous people who volunteered to share their stories, of God's work in their lives, with the confirmation classes, or who have volunteered to teach next year. I am very grateful.

This summer, some of our children are participating in a multi-denominational vacation bible school at Camp Canonicus - Surf's Up! This year's bible based beach theme is a sure way to fun, as the kids swim, create, and make a joyful noise to the Lord. This is our seventh year participating in this fun-filled camp. It is a joyous week.

We look forward to our start up in September; more information will be available in the next issue of the *Communicant*. If you would like to help us out, we are still looking for a couple of teachers for next year. No experience is necessary. We pair new teachers with more experienced ones and we provide curriculum. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please call me @ 294-9908. The children, here at St. Paul's, are a very special group.

Have a peaceful summer, and we'll see you in September.
Lori

Art Festival Time Again

The St. Paul's Dining Extravaganza for the Wickford Art Festival will be happening again on July 8, 9 and 10. There are many opportunities to participate in this congregation-wide activity:

- Thursday set-up
 - Friday, Saturday and Sunday food preparation and serving
 - Sunday afternoon and Monday pack-up
- Any questions or to volunteer, please call Leslie Kershaw 295-8171.

Come and bring your friends for chowder, clamcakes and lobster rolls--and of course lots of fun and fellowship!



News

St. Paul's Nursery School

Although our school year has ended and the children are home for the summer, my work has just begun. There are files to weed out, supplies to order and put away, storage closets

and book shelves to straighten, letters for September to write, parent handbooks to re-do, enrollment to fill and staff to hire. We have one - 2 day, three year old A.M. opening left (Tues. – Thurs. 9:00 – 11:30). We also have four - 4 day, four year old P.M. openings (Mon. - Thurs. 12:30 – 3:00) to fill for September. The “good news” is that we do have a license and will open in September for, I believe, our 55th consecutive year.

We are currently looking for 2 preschool teachers to join our team. We need teachers with Early Childhood Certification. This is the new requirement by The RI Department of Education. Someone with experience is preferred and a special education degree is always a plus. If you know of someone who fits the bill, have them send their résumé to: St. Paul's Nursery School; 76 Main Street; Wickford, RI 02852; Attention: Linda Taraborelli or leave a voice message at the school 295-7320.

God Bless, *Linda*

Intercession

Real profound intercession is not a detached unimpassioned shopping list of the needs of the world which it can sometimes feel like, but a profoundly loving and closely holding up of others before God. It is becoming close ourselves to the heart of God in our prayers of loving adoration, and then bringing those we love and long to be healed with us.

-Br. Geoffrey Tristram



Education for Ministry

Every baptized Christian is called to ministry. The Education for Ministry (EFM) Program provides persons from all walks of life the education to “be” Christians and to carry out their ministry. All Christians need a Christian education that supports their faith and that prepares them to express that faith in day-to-day events. EFM emphasizes that the foundation for bringing Christ to the world lies in a church empowered by active, theologically articulate laity.

EFM is a worldwide program developed by the School of Theology of the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee. Completion of the program takes four years, during which participants study the Old and New Testaments, church history, and theology. Students meet regularly in seminar groups led by a trained mentor. EFM teaches students how to think theologically, to bring together the events of everyday life, scripture and Christian tradition. It deepens their faith and understanding of their Christian heritage and provides them with a new confidence to be a Christ's minister.

We are thinking about resuming this program in the fall. We need at least six people. Students may enroll only for one year at a time if they prefer. If you would like more information, the following St. Paul's parishioners are EFM graduates and would be glad to talk with you: Bess Wilson, Eleanor Cote, Jean Whatmough, Mike Cerullo, Laurie DeRuosi, Camilla De Rochambeau. If you feel ‘nudged’ by the Spirit to explore this program, please call Ninni Jacob at 401-294-3004 or send an email to ninnijacob@hotmail.com.

Memorial Flower Fund (Suggested Donation \$15, \$25, \$50)

The following Sunday dates are available during **2011-2012**. Please indicate the date desired and the name and occasion you wish to have remembered. (No flowers during Lent)

September 4,11,18,25
October 2,9,16,23,30
November 6,13,20,27
December 4,11,18
January 1,8,15,22,29
February 5,12,19

April 15,22,29
May 6,13,20,27
June 3,10,17,24
July 1,8,15,22,29
August 5,12,19,26

Date

Name

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

2011 Christmas Poinsettias & Decorations (\$15)

2012 Easter Lilies & Spring Flowers (\$15)

Sanctuary Lamp (\$10)

Date Name

1. _____
2. _____

Name _____ Envelope # _____