

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
31 Rider Avenue
Patchogue, New York 11772

Bulk Rate
US
Postage
Paid
Permit No.
00000

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Mailing Address
Street Number and Name
City, State 98765-4321



Vestry

Wardens: Conni Still and Cathie Pliszak

Ronnie MacDonald, Scott Harris, Maurine Jacobs, Laura Cooley, Barbara Greco, Nancy Western, Teresa Julian, Charles Klagges

Clerk: Laura Cooley

Treasurer: Barbara Lapinski;

Editor: Conni Still

Parish

Office Phone: 631-475-3078 **Thrift Shop Phone:** 631-307-9154

Email: stpaulschurchny@optimum.net

Website: www.stpaulspatchogue.com

Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 9:30 AM- 1:00 PM Office Closed on Mondays

Rector: the Rev. Elisabeth E. Tunney

Parish Administrator: Ronny Pliszak

Parish Ministers: All the People of St. Paul's

St. Paul's Epistle

Vol. XVIII ed. 9

September 2019



St. Paul's Parish Mission Statement: to be a thriving, loving, Christ-centered parish; a parish who knows Christ and makes Christ known.

We take seriously our Baptismal Covenant that says we will respect the dignity of every human being.

You are welcome to worship with us, to join with us in fellowship, and in our ministries, regardless of age, economic status, marital status, nationality, race, sexual orientation or gender identity, ability or disability, and wherever you are in your spiritual journey.

A Word from Warden Conni Still

By the time you receive this newsletter Mother Liz will almost be returning to St. Paul's after her Sabbatical. We have all missed her and hope she missed us too. I'm glad that we had no unexpected problems to require calling in outside help. Dee and Ron and Cathie Pliszak did a great job dealing with squirrels, I opened doors for visiting clergy, Scott and Ronny made sure the mailbox was emptied and organized and of course Ronny kept the office running smoothly as always. Teresa Julian and Diane Butler did a wonderful job with the plantings all around and Jeannine and I are enjoying watching the bees and butterflies outside the thrift shop.

Thanks go to the strong men who brought the air conditioners and fans from the basement to keep our offices and church as comfortable as possible this hot summer. To quote a sign I saw

“ Our Church is Prayer-Conditioned!”

We have a full calendar of events coming up. Please try to attend as many functions as you can. The concert by our music director Kyle is going to be excellent. The Stewardship Retreat is a great opportunity to see your committee at work. The Harvest Fair needs many hands for a success.

Good Luck to the students and teachers returning to school. Blessing of the Backpacks on September 1 at the 9 AM service.

Welcome Back Mo Liz!

Vestry Highlights

The 2019 PARISH DIRECTORY is in the narthex. Please pick up your copy.

The Harvest Fair is going well, Phipps Hall is almost sold out and spaces for outside are still available. Charles reported on availability of dunking booths for “Dunk the Priest”!

The Sip 'n Paint Night was a fun and financial success and Barbara Greco is planning future events. This was the last vestry meeting for Barbara Ruest who is moving to Pennsylvania. We had a little celebratory cake, but we will miss her very much. This leaves a vacant seat on the vestry. If you are interested in serving St. Paul's in this important ministry please speak to Mother Liz or a member of the vestry to put your name in consideration.

The Scout Troop that we sponsor has asked for some storage space, vestry is considering the best area for this request.

A donation of \$25 was approved for the Patchogue Ambulance Company.

Due to some more squirrel damage we recommended obtaining additional traps.

STEWARDSHIP

Our Faith Community Seeking to do God's Work

My Fellow Parishioners,

I must admit that I have not been a very good steward of time as of late and have thus drawn a blank as the time I have been allotted to write this letter to you has come to its conclusion. I therefore have compiled a list of some of my favorite quotes regarding Christian Stewardship in the hope that you will absorb them and pray on them as we approach the time of our Stewardship Retreat. The retreat is a fun afternoon workshop type of gathering where we brainstorm ideas and develop our forthcoming stewardship theme. The retreat is open to all parishioners and the committee will feed you. Sounds good doesn't it?

1. If we belong to Christ, it's logical that everything we have truly belongs to Him.
2. If you want to feel rich, just count all the things you have that money can't buy.
3. Wealth shines in giving rather than in hoarding: for the miser is hateful, whereas the generous man is applauded. *Boethius (480-524?), Roman statesman, philosopher and Christian martyr*
4. Examples are few of men ruined by giving. *Christian Bovée, mid-19th century American author*
5. People go through three conversions: their head, their heart and their pocketbook. Unfortunately, not all at the same time. *Martin Luther (1483-1546), German theologian, initiator of the Protestant Reformation*
6. Remember this—you can't serve God and Money, but you can serve God with money. *Selwyn Hughes, English pastor and author*

7. A Christian is one who does not have to consult (a) bank book to see how wealthy he/she really is.
8. The world asks: "What does a person own?" God asks, "How does a person use what he or she has been given?"
9. Some people say, "Give till it hurts." But God recommends that we give until it feels good. God loves a cheerful giver! *Brian Kluth, pastor, generosity speaker and author.*
10. When you give to God, you discover that God gives to you.
11. Give to God what's right – not what's left over.
12. Choose rather to want less, than to have more. *Thomas à Kempis (ca. 1380-1471), priest, monk and writer (The Imitation of Christ)*
13. Christian stewards seek the heart of God in faithfully, joyfully and gratefully managing all the gifts God has given.
14. You have not lived until you have done something for someone who can never repay you. *John Bunyan (1628-88), English Puritan writer and preacher*
15. Dearest Lord, teach me to be generous; teach me to serve you as you deserve; to give and not to count the cost. *Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556), Jesuit founder*

There are many many more and I look forward to sharing more of them in the near future.

May God bless you all,
Martin Minogue for your Stewardship Committee:
Phyllis Voegeli, Conni Still, Laura Cooley,
Scott Harris and Martin



BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS



I want to thank my St. Paul’s family for all of your support throughout Ken’s illness and passing. So many of you said prayers, sent cards, called, texted, made food, donated money for food delivery and were simply there for us. I could not have survived without all of you and I felt God’s presence through you and your kindnesses. May God bless you and keep you well.”

Laura Cooley

400 Quadrillion to 1

Scientists are telling us that those are the odds of being born, here on earth, to our parents, where and when we came into being. This stuns me and I am dazzled to think I have been privileged to have been given the great gift of life. I also consider what I have and have not accomplished, and which paths I chose. Sometimes I wonder what if....?

I’m preparing to make the September Birthday Cards now and as I reflect upon the congregation here at St. Paul’s, the realization of just how special each of us is, is overwhelming. We are God’s children, each of us, precious in his sight, and his own forever.

My life now is filled with health issues of increasing complexity and I am grateful for every lovely day I am blessed to enjoy and **every day** I have is a lovely day!

Neil Diamond, in his song “Done too soon”, wrote “[we] have all sweated beneath the same sun, and looked up in wonder at the same moon, and wept when it was all done, for being done too soon.”

But, I’m not quite done yet; there is still more I can do with this remarkable opportunity of life here on this beautiful planet in this place with these beautiful children of God.

Building & Grounds Committee Update- Summer 2019

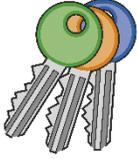
The Building & Grounds Committee (B&G) met monthly over the summer and worked hard to keep our beautiful and busy parish buildings and grounds looking loved and cared for. In August we welcomed new committee members, Gail Davis and Diane Butler to our ranks. Thank you Gail and Diane for gardening pitching in with work tasks at your very first meeting. Thanks also go out to Warden Cathie Pliszak for joining us in August to both work and help plan our immediate and long term "list" of things to do.

Any other parish members interested in joining B&G, or participating in a specific project of choice, are asked to contact a committee member or sign up in our new B&G notebook available in the Narthex starting September 1. Our next big project will be to clear out unnecessary items from the Parish Hall basement. More organized storage space is needed to provide better and safer access to parish materials and items used by our Boy Scout troop.

The B&G committee members ask you to enjoy the rest of the summer and do "stop to smell the roses"...well...lots of other flowers in our newest garden located on the south side of the St. Nicholas Wing.

Best wishes from your B&G team 

Bill Beebe, Diane Butler, Gail Davis, Scott Harris, Teresa Julian and Dee Laffin



Do You Have Keys To Our St. Paul's Kingdom?

If you have keys to any door in the church or parish hall please let Ronny Pliszak parish administrator know. List your name and your contact information, phone and email. Thank you.



Those who are serving in the armed forces and their families:

Samantha Schwartz, Nicolas LoRusso

Thanksgivings and Acknowledgments

All the members of St. Paul's for all you did this summer! You came to church even when it was hot, you paid your pledge or put money in the plate. You sang hymns and said prayers. You made lemonade or bought cookies. You picked weeds and planted flowers. You supported the Altar Guild by donating flowers and the Sanctuary Candles. The Altar Guild, the Ushers, the Counters, the Lay Readers, the Acolytes, the Chalice Bearers, the Musicians, the Kindercare Crew, the Vestry, the Thrift Shop Volunteers, the Food Pantry Volunteers, Buildings and Grounds, St. Clare's Guild, Parish Administrator, and the visiting Clergy and Mo Liz for spending some of her Sabbatical time to learn how to make St. Paul's even more the thriving, loving, Christ-centered parish; a parish that knows Christ and makes Christ known.



"Christ has ... no other hands but yours"
St. Teresa of Avila

Raise the Roof

Thanks to all who have contributed to this and who continue to do so; we'll have updates for you in a couple of months. It's not too late to begin to pledge, the work is ongoing, see the office for a pledge card.

Please include in your prayers this month:

Craig Shaber, Dylan & Family, Ed Smith, Linda Bocca, Mike, Marcy, Lillian Hemmert, Janis McEvoy, Nikki, Phyllis Trypuc, Martin Gunkel, Bill Whyland, Jeannine Cranor, Steven Wallner, Emeka Azinge, Conni Still, Pauline Minogue, Rosemary & Larry Smith, Seamus Butler, Kerri Jo Da Leo, Michael Daly, John Daly, Fred Miller, Dawn, the Cooley Family, Tim Ernst, Joanne, Kenny, Nancy Fava, Melissa Dengeles, Janine Hope, Dick Stevenson, Mary Anne Musacke, Melissa Dengeles



Sunshine Fund

Have you had a pleasant vacation or family visit that you are grateful for? Or a wonderful lobster dinner out, or fun barbecue in the backyard? Perhaps you would like to contribute a small "Thank You" to the Sunshine Fund as an appreciative gesture for the good things in your life. This money is earmarked for those in our parish who need some sunshine in their lives. Just put it in an envelope with your name and mark it Sunshine Fund and it will be credited to your pledge account. Thank you.

Thrift Shop Doings

July was another great month bringing in \$1,210.53. This demonstrates that many people understand the Gospel reading from Sunday where Jesus said to sell your possessions and follow me. Mother Bernadette elaborated on this and said it also means we should take the opportunity to organize our closets and our homes by selling or donating our unneeded clothing or household goods. The donations we receive and sell go to our general fund and help to fund the programs that St. Paul's provides to the community. After church this Sunday Scott, Donna and Conni all realized that everything we were wearing was Thrift Shop purchases (and didn't we look great?) Please keep donating and please come shopping.

Jeannine Cranor and Conni Still



Volunteers are needed to host the coffee hours after the 8 and 10 o'clock services. Sharon Minogue will give you all the instruction on how to make delicious coffee and where all the equipment is kept, and the goodies are up to your imagination and baking or shopping skills! Best of all you can be reimbursed for your purchases. Please see Sharon to sign up



St. Clare's Guild

St. Clare's Guild will resume on Friday, September 6, 2019 at 2:30 PM We welcome all knitters and crocheters and crafters to join us making projects to donate, sell at the Fair or learn or teach. Come have fun too!

SAVE THE DATES!



September 6, 2019 Friday 7:30 PM

Solo concert-Kyle Collins on Clavichord

"Dive into the world of gothic horror with Jane Austen as we explore London's most popular novelists and the music they once heard. With pieces befitting of a dark and gloomy castle, music from modern horror games, and selections from the library of Jane Austen, this program will give audiences an in-depth look at one of the strongest literary fads of the early-nineteenth century."

Featuring music from the library of novelist Jane Austen

September 8, 2019 Services return to 8 and 10

September 8, 2019: Stewardship Retreat- 12-2 All are welcome to attend.

September 29, 2019 7:00 PM Sunday

Concert 19th & 20th Century Re-Imaginings

Erin Heisel, soprano & Daniel Keene, guitar

October 5, 2019 Saturday 9-3 Harvest Fair

Fun, food, crafts, and more! See Cathie Pliszak to sign up to help.

October 12, 2019 Saturday, Safe Church Training, Mercer School 9am-4pm

October 23 at 7:30 pm. Wednesday, Pre-Convention Meeting

October 27, 2019 Stewardship Breakfast 9 AM



You are invited

To join us for the annual Stewardship Retreat! In St. Paul's parish hall

September 8th, 12-2pm

Reflecting & brainstorming with food

Getting ready to deliver 36 backpacks and school supplies for distribution to children of Eastern Farm Workers. Thank you to all the generous members

and friends of St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Patchogue.



Mother Bernadette gave Barbara her birthday
blessing



A pot of gold of bargains awaits you in
St. Paul's Thrift Shop



Monarch on Butterfly Bush



Fr. Rand Frew blesses Donna and Georgia for their birthdays.



Barbara cuts the cake to commemorate her last vestry meeting



Canon Claire brought the congregation together for laying on of hands with Barbara Ruest for a Farewell Blessing



Nancy Western received a blessing before her trip to Greece. Bon Voyage!

