

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

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Mailing Address  
Number Name  
City, State98765

Vestry:

Wardens: Conni Still, Ronnie MacDonald  
Emeka Azinge, Diane Butler, Tracy Classon,  
Barbara Greco, Martin Immel Jr.,  
Maurine Jacobs, Charles Klagges,  
Barbara Lapinski, Shinade Polley  
Clerk: Conni Still  
Treasurer: Barbara Lapinski  
Editor: Conni Still

Parish:

Office phone;631-475-3078  
Thrift Shop Phone 631-307-9154  
Email: stpaulspatchogue@gmail.com  
Website: www.stpaulspatchogue.com  
Office Hours:Tues-Fri9:30-1:00closedMonday  
Rector:  
Parish Administrator: Ronny Pliszak  
Parish Ministry: All the People of St. Paul's



# JANUARY 2022

## ST. PAUL'S EPISTLE

Vol. XXII ed.1

A Word from Your Wardens

Dear People of St. Paul's,

Happy New Year. We are sorry this is a little late, but we have been very busy lately. The Thrift Shop has been keeping us busy with lots of customers, the Altar Guild worked so diligently to decorate the church for Christmas, the Kindercare staff prepared the annual Pageant and the wardens and vestry were attending many meetings to prepare for our search for a new priest. All the prayers were well felt to keep us from feeling exhausted so we could enjoy Christmas with our families. Please keep the prayers coming as the work is still in process. Our finance and stewardship committees are working hard to get our budget together for the Annual Meeting. If you haven't sent in your pledge you can still do it now. We really appreciate the priests in our Deanery for alternating Sundays for us. They appreciate your attendance in person or on zoom.

Faithfully,

Conni Still and Ronnie MacDonald

*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*

### VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

The bills are paid with \$3,000 in the red, which should be even by 12/31/2021.

Investments are up.

Annual Meeting is January 23, 2022

Reports on the meetings with the consultant Diocesan Canon Christina Van Liew to prepare questions for interviews, Office of Transitional Ministries, Mock Interview

Candidates for Vestry for Annual Meeting: 1 Warden for a term of two ears to replace Conni Still, and two vestry persons for a term of three years, and that reduces the vestry by one member in accordance to the change made to the bylaws.

The number of pledges is down from last year. The vestry voted to personally contact parishioners who have not pledged yet to encourage them to pledge or see if there are any problems that is keeping them from pledging even a smaller amount than the past.

Respectfully submitted  
Conni Still, Clerk of the Vestry

## Stewardship

Beginning March 2020, our lives changed in extraordinary ways, social distancing requireme

nts and stay-at-home orders changed dramatically how and where we were able to work, eat, gather, serve, and worship. Yet we stepped forward to ensure the vital work of ministry continued. We gathered online for worship - our Sunday morning services on Zoom had been joyful, Spirit-filled gatherings. More recently we have begun to gather in-person on Sundays.

Throughout this time, we continued being church - in worship and witness, in connecting with each other and reaching out to our community. In all this we responded, in both word and action.

We cannot know what lies ahead of us, but we remain confident in the assurance of God's abiding and steadfast love. Because of your generous and faithful gifts, our church is able to keep doing what love requires of us by nurturing life-giving, joyful ministries both inside and outside our parish walls. You have always been so supportive – generously giving of your time, wisdom, experience, passion, and financial resources to sustain and grow our work and ministries. We thank you and may God bless you and your loved ones in this season.

And now for some humor:

There once was a strongman at a circus sideshow who demonstrated his power before large audiences every night.

Toward the end of one performance, he squeezed the juice from a lemon between his hands. He said to the onlookers, "I will offer \$200 to anyone here who can squeeze another drop from this lemon.

A thin older lady hobbled up the stage. She picked up the lemon and clamped it between her

two frail, boney hands. She squeezed. And out came a teaspoon of lemon juice.

The strongman was amazed. He paid the woman \$200 but privately asked her, "What is the secret of your strength?"

"Practice," the woman answered. "I have been treasurer of my church for forty-two years!"

Faithfully,

Your Stewardship Committee

Laura Cooley, Phyllis Voegeli, Conni Still,  
Scott Harris and Martin Minogue



## BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS



A sincere "thank you" to all Parish volunteers who continue to trim hedges and/or tend to some of our garden beds.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee Laffin & Scott Harris, Co-Chairs for the B&G Committee, Gail Davis, Bill Beebe.



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

### Raise the Roof

Thank you to all who have contributed to this campaign. The final payment to our loan was made. If you still have payments on your pledge to make, please continue to do so. Additional

Funds will be placed in the building Improvement Fund.

**Please include in your prayers this month:**

Dylan and family, Noe and family, Jeannine, Pauline, Greg, Larry and Rosemary, Craig, Jackie, Ada, Michael, Nikki, Conni, Wilma, the King Family, James, Shirley, Barbara, CJ, Georgia, Ellie, Joyce, Scott, Ed Smith and Family

If you would like a **name added to those who are sick or in need of our prayers**, please let the office know. We are starting the year with a clean slate.

**Prayer for the Parish**

Almighty and ever living God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**Thanksgivings and Acknowledgements**

- the Altar Guild and Building and Grounds for decorating the Church and buildings so beautifully for Christmas.
- Ronny Pliszak for making sooo many bulletins for the Christmas services.
- Tracy Classon, Kathie Pliszak, Kevin Weeks and Dan Minogue for the wonderful Christmas Eve Children's Service.
- Kevin Weeks and Scott Harris for being Acolytes at the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services.
- Michael Daly for Christmas music and Lessons and Carols
- Food Pantry Volunteers for handing out donated toys, scarves, mittens and hats to the community, in addition to so much food.
- Wardens and vestry for their dedicated work to the search committee.

**Thrift Shop Doings**

The Thrift Shop is doing very well, we have had many new customers find us and so many of our regulars come weekly. We have set up decorations for Christmas and will have them on sale for another week or so! Come and get your White Sales.

**Food Pantry**



Please consider donating food for the food pantry each week. If you are attending church in person then you can bring your donation on Sunday, if not, please call the office to find out when you can drop off your donation.

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE FOOD OUTSIDE WHERE THE RACOONS CAN GET IT. THANK YOU.



**SAVE THE DATES!**

**Masks will be required**

**January 6, 2022, Feast of the Epiphany, Service at Christ Church 7 PM**

**January 23, 2022: Annual Meeting 9 AM**

Christmas Eve 2021



"Silent Night, Holy Night, All is Calm, All is Bright"



"Lo, how a rose ere blooming," in December



Christmas Eve Children's Service



Christmas Day, Scott Harris, Very Rev. Hickman Alexandre, Kevin Weeks



Father Hickman Alexandre and Walter Schiff  
At the Blessing of the Memorial Plaque for  
Mother Paulette Schiff



Mother Christina VanLiew led the meetings to prepare the vestry  
For the search process and interviews.



Christmas Eve Children's Service



Dave MacDonald used his fancy leaf vacuum to clean the Grounds and prepare for snow! Thanks Dave.



Parish Summit received input from parishioners on strengths and Weaknesses of St. Paul's to help in the search process.