

THE EPISTLE



Reprinted with Permission
from Davison Welch

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

61 Wood Street
P.O. Box 165
Hopkinton, MA 01748

Tel: 508-435-4536
Fax: 508-544-8205

Office E-mail:
office@stpaulhopkinton.org

Vestry E-mail:
Vestry@stpaulhopkinton.org

On the web:
www.stpaulhopkinton.org

Worship
Holy Eucharist
Sunday, 10:30 AM

Coffee and Hospitality
After Service



A Message from the Rector

Summertime in New England is mostly spent celebrating the good weather and beautiful place in which we live. This is to say, summer church attendance is "light" compared to attendance during the rest of the year. As you return to Saint Paul's this fall, you will immediately notice that there has been a major spruce up. The Property Committee, headed by Ann Bertucci-Bissonette launched an "Adopt a Room" program back in the late spring, in which members of both Saint Paul's and Grace United Methodist were asked to make donations for specific projects to enhance our physical plant. The details of the program are reported on elsewhere in this newsletter — but you will see the results almost everywhere you look. Thanks to the faithful efforts of the programs leaders, Dianne Belamarich from Saint Paul's and Dave Dry from Grace UMC, almost every room in the church has seen a dramatic facelift. Thank you Anne, Dianne, Dave and Ruth, and thank you to all the folks who made donations to the Adopt a Room program — Saint Paul's looks great. Come and see for yourself.

This fall we will be making membership appeals for two new committees, each of which will have a major impact our Saint Paul's in the years to come. The first will be a Pastoral Care Committee — folks to keep up with our shut-ins, help with meals in times of sickness or a death in the family, and to be prayer partners for folks who want a Christian companion during a rough patch. I've asked Ruth Warner to help organize the Pastoral Care Committee, and will be offering training to the committee members on scriptural, prayer book and personal resources for pastoral care. The second will be a Mission and Outreach Committee — folks who will initially allocate the limited parish outreach budget for 2010, and then work to grow Saint Paul's participation in the greater mission of The Episcopal Church, and our outreach into the community around us. I've asked Nancy Jennison to help organize the Missions and Outreach Committee. To assist Saint Paul's in forming this new committee, the Diocese of Massachusetts has graciously assigned the

Our Mission *The mission of St. Paul's is to minister unconditionally to all in the name of Christ through shared worship, teaching, healing and service.*

Our Vision *St. Paul's is called to be an inviting, embracing, nourishing and life-giving fellowship in the family of Christ.*

Rev. Deacon Maggie Geller. Maggie comes to us with a substantial ministry in the missions of the diocese, and a true passion for helping us to find our own mission.

As we move into the fall, friends will be in church again, Christian Education for children, youth and adults will start up, and we will be enjoying the benefits of our refreshed facilities thanks to the wonderful work done in the Adopt a Room Project. See you all in September!

Faithfully, Mike

St. Paul's 275th Anniversary Celebration and Fair — September 25th



St. Paul's is planning an anniversary celebration and fair. We eagerly look forward to this event that will take place on Saturday, September 25th. We will extend invitations to other church members and clergy, to dignitaries, to the Hopkinton community, and to our members at St. Paul's. Please set aside this Saturday afternoon on your calendar and join us for this exciting event.

Schedule of Events at the Celebration – 3PM to 7PM

3PM – Children's games and community activities will begin.

3:30PM – Historical presentation by Chuck Joseph will take place inside of the building while games for children continue. Babysitting will be available during the presentation.

4:30PM – Barbecue will be served.

6:30PM – Sunset Service will take place.

Invitation and Ticket Information

Tickets will cost \$5 per person, or \$15 per family. We will sell tickets at church on September 5th, 12th, and 19th.

We will email invitations in late August.

We will place fliers announcing the event in the bulletin on the last Sunday in August.

Community Activities

Bake Sale and White Elephant Table

Sale of memorabilia for the event: note paper with sketches of the old and present St. Paul's Church on the cover, mugs with the image of the church on it

Face Painting

Raffles

Sale of baskets made by parishioners

Committees

We welcome and really need your support! Please contact Pam Litchfield at pamlitch@comcast.net

We have many openings on the following committees: **Food; Decorations, Set-Up, Clean-Up, Babysitting, Publicity, Music, History, White Elephant, Bake Sale, Baskets, Activities and Games**

Sunday School Update from Linda Lee

This year we had 40 students in our Sunday School program. The youngest kids had lots of fun learning about Jesus with our Godly Play curriculum program. The program allows their young hands to manipulate the pieces as they hear the wonderful stories.

Our first through fifth graders utilize the Living the Good News curriculum. This program ties their lesson to the gospel reading for the day. The students have fun reading the stories and then exploring their meanings through activities and crafts.

Our older students use the Rite 13 and J2A curriculum. This program helps the students explore their place in the church as young adults.

We are currently gearing up for our coming year. Welcome Back Sunday and our first day of Sunday school is scheduled for September 12th. We hope to see you all there!

Thanks - Linda Lee

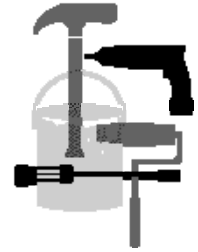
Looking Forward To the September 25th Historical Presentation

Chuck Joseph, Hopkinton History Teacher and Realtor, is scheduled to make a presentation at our 275th Anniversary Celebration. He has a fabulous collection of photos dating back to the early days of our community, and he brings the significance of these to life with his extensive knowledge of the history of Hopkinton.

The history of our parish and its community, of course, are intimately interrelated — spiritually as well as physically. Saint Paul's once owned a significant percentage of the land comprising the Town of Hopkinton ("almost to a half", in the words of our founding Rector, Roger Price). We held the largest acreage of any parish in Massachusetts — and erected five church worship buildings in town. Additionally, services were conducted in several other buildings on a rental basis. Some photos of these buildings will be part of the presentation. It should prove an interesting opportunity to glimpse the development and evolution of the community over the centuries, and thereby gain a better understanding of the lives of the saints of Saint Paul's who came before us and played such a large part in the community's evolution. The culture of the Town progressively changed from "wilderness" to "agricultural" to "industrial" to "residential", and the presentation promises to bring those changes to life for us. Everyone is encouraged to review our parish history prior to the event in order to better understand how we fit into our community's historical development. History accounts are available at the Parish and Town libraries. It is hoped that all will be able to attend the ceremony on September 25th.

Adopt-a-room Update

You have probably seen lots of positive signs of the St Paul's/Grace UMC's exciting church wide program called Adopt-a-room or AAR. This program was developed to advance these goals:



- 1.) To bring the entire congregation together to achieve a common goal
- 2.) To elevate everyone's pride in the church and to create "opportunities" for outreach
- 3.) To make necessary repairs/purchases

With AAR, the assets or projects that needed repair or replacement were put up for adoption. Parishioners could then adopt these items in the celebration, honor, or memory of a friend or loved one. You may have seen the framed AAR adoption notices on the walls, on behalf of completed projects.

The results have been terrific so far...new appliances, new carpeting, new entry façades, bathroom renovations, the shed, the cross and others. The AAR program will be ongoing. Donations are still needed. One way to participate, in spite of a limited budget, is to purchase a "painting share" at \$25.00.

Some of the projects that were completed with AAR since the program's inception

Sanctuary façade and entrance: The doors were repaired (the bottoms were deteriorating), repainted and decorative trim applied to create dimension and depth. Damaged wood on the ceiling was replaced and painted. As well, new molding was put on the entry way to create a more inviting entrance and the railings were painted black.

Classroom repainted: Three coats of paint have been applied (over dark blue) and several new wall hangings added.

Stairs to basement: The stairs were patched with cement epoxy to fill holes. The cement stairs, the metal casing and the walls in this area were painted. The existing kid's gate was painted and repaired to close more easily. The Plexiglas was also replaced.

Painting share donations were used for this project.

Hall deck: This was primed and painted. AAR took on and completed this project instead of outsourcing it, achieving a substantial savings.

Gutters/downspouts: These are now complete. Notice the corrugated pipe donated and installed by the roofing contractor that directs water away from the building. A downspout near the hall door was also redirected thanks to the efforts of Matt Dry. Matt dug a trench and buried a 25 foot corrugated pipe to redirect rain water run-off.

New appliances: We now have a new dishwasher, refrigerator, and freezer. These are all energy-efficient appliances.

Next Steps:

Landscaping by sanctuary entrance: This project is being planned.

For additional information about the AAR program and future plans, contact Dianne Belamarich or Dave Dry (Grace UMC).

Musical Note from History



Saint Paul's has a rich and varied musical history, from the early days in the 1730s when members sang psalms unaccompanied by instruments to the types of church music we enjoy today. One of the major undertakings taken by our members to bring a new level of music to our services took place in the early 1980s. How an historic organ found a home at Saint Paul's was recorded in May 1983 by Fred and Lois Dodson (parents of Carol Spengler), as follows:

"Early in 1981, the church purchased the "Hook and Hastings" organ from the Hopkinton Congregational Church. It had been installed in 1882 and Saint Paul's bought it to replace a rather grumpy Hammond. The men and women volunteers removed it piece by piece, placing the 1200 pipes in various parishioners' homes. These pipes were cleaned and shellacked and replaced with the console in the organ loft. The consultant for this enormous project, Mr.

Laws, was the son of the man who repaired the organ after it was damaged in the 1938 hurricane. The volunteer crew, under the direction of David Spengler, and members of the choir, worked Thursday nights, weekends and holidays. We were privileged to hear this beautiful instrument at our Easter service this year. This has been a remarkable experience for the congregation, a true labor of love."

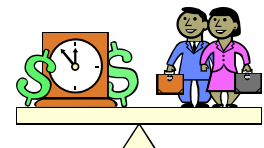
Our services in 2010 continue to feature the unmatched tones of the Hook. All are especially invited to join in at our service of the 275th Anniversary Celebration on September 25th, where we once again recognize the treasures of our heritage, including our historic organ. Additional details regarding the organ can be found in our Parish History Library.

Stewardship Update from Mitch Palmer

It's August. The days are hot and, for some school is less than a month away. For parents, this is probably a good thing; for the kids, not so much. August is the end of meteorological summer and the beginning of autumn.

Why does this matter? Traditionally, autumn is the time for the annual Stewardship drive in most churches. St Paul's is no exception to this tradition.

However, this year I would like for you to think about stewardship in a different light. Yes, we still need offerings and pledges to run the parish. But we also need 2 additional things that our particular parish has an abundance of: Time and Talent. I would ask that this year you think about pledging your time and your talents to God in the same manner you pledge your financial resources.



Rather than concentrate on stewardship in the strictly monetary sense, I would ask you to consider the following definitions: Christian stewardship is the grateful, joyful, and responsible use of God's gifts to do the work God has given us to do as revealed in Jesus Christ. Christian stewards, empowered by the

Holy Spirit, commit themselves to conscious, purposeful decisions about the use of God's gifts.

As it is written in 1 Corinthians 12:8-10 the list of spiritual gifts includes, but is not limited to, wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, and many others.

I would ask that you prayerfully consider the gifts God has given you and how you can be a steward of these gifts to you as you do the work of Christ.

More information will be forthcoming as we move into the fall season.

Getting a Perspective

Do you think the 2010 economy is a huge problem? Perhaps it would not seem such a big deal if considered in historical perspective! Consider these problems that members of Saint Paul's parish have faced and overcome over the years:

- Attempts to prohibit building an Episcopal Church in Hopkinton by local church and government authorities, as well as from competing Episcopal parishes located in other towns in the 1730s.
- Seizure of our Church and property by local and state government authorities in the 1770s.
- Forceful expulsion of our clergy from America in the 1770s.
- Destruction of our church by both fire and hurricanes in the 18th and 19th Centuries.
- Narrow escape from a door-closing Diocesan tax levy proposal in 1886.

Are you interested in more details of these historic events?

Be sure to attend our 275th Anniversary Celebration on September 25th — a wonderful presentation of our community's history will be made. In the meanwhile, consider checking out a parish history book from the Parish or Town Library.

Adopt-a-Soldier Outreach Ministry



St. Paul's Church sponsors a soldier as part of our Outreach Ministry. We are part of AdoptaPlatoon, a national organization that sends soldiers gift packages and cards. Our special soldier's name is Robyn. She is single, twenty-three years old, and her birthday is January 6th. She was deployed from Georgia to IRAQ until sometime in 2011. We have adopted her through December, 2010.

We have been asked to send Robyn WEEKLY cards, notes, and letters. Robyn is eager to get to know all of us.

We send Robyn MONTHLY care packages, usually around the 15th of every month.

The Adopt-a-Soldier Committee welcomes all of your contributions! Please drop off cards and items for Robyn in the meeting room of the church.

Here is more information about Robyn and a list of some of her favorites:

All about Robyn

Birthday – January 6th

Family – Mom, Dad, Sister

Holidays that she celebrates - New Year's, St. Patrick's Day, Easter, July 4th, Christmas

What she needs - Washcloths

What she wishes that she could have - Mary Kay products, razors, and shaving cream

Allergies - to Tide laundry detergent (Robyn said that she doesn't need any laundry supplies.)

Robyn's Favorites

Cookies – Oreos

Candy – Reese's Peanut Butter Cups

Chips – Plain potato chips

Books – Fantasy

Magazines – Horsemanship

TV Shows – NCIS, Hogan's Heroes, Mash

Music – Country
Sports – Steelers
Movies – All movies
Games - Fighting games

FYI: Robyn has access to a DVD player, Game Systems – Play Station 2, Computer, and DSI.

Warm Weather Needs: The warm weather season in Iraq extends from June through the end of September. So, these are additional possible items to purchase for Robyn for warm weather months: sticky fly paper, insect repellent with DEET, sunscreen with high SPF, lip balm with SPF, Cortisone cream (Anti-Itch Cream), and medicated body powder for heat rash. Thank you!

History of the Old Stone Church



Most within the present 2010 congregation of Saint Paul's Parish at 61 Wood Street have a curiosity about, but no firsthand knowledge of, the previous church building often referred to as the "old stone church".

Prior to the congregation moving to the Wood Street facility in 1966, worship services were held in the stone church, and Sunday School and other parish activities were held in the parish's nearby Community Building.

The stone church was located in the center of Hopkinton, on Main Street across from the block of buildings which includes the Town Hall, the building that is now known as "Bill's Pizza", and the Hopkinton Savings Bank. It continues to stand there today adjacent to

the Price Manor as the east wing of the Town Library (to which it has been attached). The Parish Community Building stood on the site of the three original Episcopal edifices facing the Common at the intersection of Main and Ash Streets. It remains there today as a private office building.

The stone church was built in 1898, a replacement for the 1818 worship house that was destroyed by fire in 1865. During the 33-year lengthy interim period between 1865 and 1898 the membership had rented halls in the center business area for worship space while striving to find the means to build a new church.

The driving force behind the effort to achieve that goal was Reverend Waldo Burnett — he was the Rector of Saint Paul's in the late 1800s, and also served Saint Mark's in Southboro as its Rector. After years of diligent effort, the new Saint Paul's was raised in 1898. We can well understand the joy the congregation must have felt as the stone church was opened on Wednesday, December 7, 1898, with the Bishop, Rector and numerous dignitaries and members in attendance. The church was located on land originally owned by Reverend Price (the parish founder) and was gifted by Price's descendant, Sarah Whitin — she also gifted the abutting land to the Town on which to build a public library. The structure was small (60 feet high, with a foundation size of 73' X 32'). It was designed by clergyman-architect Reverend Wood — it was his thirtieth church, and of his own reckoning, his best. The building was constructed of local field stone donated by Alfred Phipps. The spire contained the bell gifted by the students of Fay school, Southboro. Two stones were removed from Price's churches in England and mounted in the front wall of the belfry of Saint Paul's in America. Historical artifacts were inserted with the cornerstone as it was placed at the corner of the tower. Saint Thomas Church in Taunton gifted the pulpit and chancel furnishings, which were of fine walnut finish, like the altar. The radiant and beautiful "Gethsemane" Stained Glass Window was placed above the altar, a memorial gift of Mrs. W. R. Williams in memory of her husband. As expressed by historian Angelo Spinosa, the church was "furbished in the

Victorian Gothic style, but its magnificent walnut eaves and white stucco architraves lend less a formidable than a warm and homey sensibility". Mrs. Robert Burnett "topped off" the building by mounting a cock weather vane on the spire as an old ecclesiastical symbol "to warn Christians against yielding to temptation to deny their Lord, like St. Peter" had done.

The Parish Community House (at the corner of Ash and Main Streets) served as the Parish House for the old stone church congregation. When space became too limited, the members in 1966 built a new and larger facility on Wood Street, and sold the beloved old stone church to the Library and the Parish House to a private firm.

St. Paul's Outreach – Project Just Because

Project Just Because (PJB) has been St. Paul's primary outreach ministry in recent years. The ministry's mission is to help those in need. A particular need is clothing for all ages, especially school aged children. Equally important to children are toys and games for birthdays and Christmas, toiletries and baby items. Consider donating anything that your own child might need.

The ministry began in the basement of Cheryl Ann Lambert Walsh's home and quickly grew to include the storage areas of five other Hopkinton residents. As more space was needed, the ministry expanded to three other facilities. PJB is now located in a warehouse on South Street. Many Hopkinton residents as well as high school students volunteer daily. Ruth Warner is the PJB liaison for St. Paul's Church.

At this time we have a huge back to school campaign in process. We are looking for backpacks, lunch boxes, hand sanitizer (small), calculators, rulers, pads of paper, spiral notebooks, again any item that your child may need to start school.

PJB also houses the Hopkinton food pantry. The first Sunday of each month is food pantry Sunday at St. Paul's. Bring your non-perishable items to church on that Sunday.

Articles can be dropped off Tuesday through Thursday mornings.

What is the Rector's Discretionary Fund?

For many generations Episcopal Churches have provided direct assistance to those in need through a small fund administered by the rector. This fund is named, "The Rector's Discretionary Fund." At Saint Paul's this fund is maintained through the "loose plate" offering on the first Sunday of each month. In 2008 the vestry decided that the minimum monthly amount provided to the fund would be \$50.00. The fund can also be used for a limited number of other ministries of the church that fall outside the normal budget. In the past five years the vast majority of The Rector's Discretionary Fund of Saint Paul's has been used to help individuals in need. As the economy continues to be much slower than anyone would prefer, and as unemployment continues to be high, the recent requests for assistance have also been high. Your designated offerings to Saint Paul's Rector's Discretionary Fund will help local folks get through these tough times.

St. Paul's Redeemables Ministry

Did you know that St. Paul's has raised operating funds through the collection of redeemable bottles and cans ever since the Massachusetts Bottle Bill was enacted in 1983? The town of Hopkinton offers the redeemables concession at their town recycling center to charitable groups on a rotating basis. St. Paul's "owns" this concession approximately 8 Saturdays per year. Bob Snyder schedules the concession for the town and also mans the station on the St. Paul's Saturdays.



The upcoming St. Paul's Saturdays are:

- September 18
- October 23
- December 4
- January 15
- February 19

To contribute, bring your clean returnable bottles and cans to the town recycling center between 7AM and 3PM on one of those Saturdays. Separate plastics from aluminum from glass. (Bringing glass in the same cardboard boxes that they're sold in is helpful.) This activity has raised about \$600 for St. Paul's in 2010 over 6 Saturdays, and perhaps kept our planet a bit greener.

A recycling container is in the St. Paul's kitchen for the purpose of collecting redeemables from Church activities. Rinse out these bottles and cans before putting them in this container.

As an aside, the legislature nearly updated the 1982 bottle bill this year by adding the five cent deposit to plastic water bottles. In the end however, the distributors successfully fended off this action. It is estimated that 3 billion drink containers are sold each year in Massachusetts, 1 billion of which are water bottles. One third of the water bottles are recycled. Eighty percent of the redeemable containers are recycled. It is estimated by the Sierra Club that the one year's worth of unrecycled water bottles that end up in landfills or woods, would fill Fenway Park.

Hopkinton Medway Collaborative Ministry News

Andy and Kathy Anderson, of Christ Church, invited the members of St. Paul's and Christ Church to their Medway home for an outdoor picnic on August 8. The event was a grand success with an attendance in excess of 30. Thanks Andy and Kathy for this gracious offering.

The Sabbatical Planning Committee met over the summer to help plan for Father Mike's 2011 sabbatical. (This committee is another collaborative between the churches.) A grant application was submitted to the Diocese.

The Diocese has since approved \$2900 to the churches to offset Mike's sabbatical expenses in 2011.