



## September 2011

### From the Rector

Sunday, August 21, was a great day at St. Paul's. Not only did we have 90 people in church for the two services, we had Summer Sunday School going on downstairs, and social hour and a backpack drive going on upstairs. This latter venture, in which we were asked to bring 18 backpacks for children whose mothers are incarcerated in the Women's Correctional Center in Chicopee, far exceeded its goal thanks to the generosity of so many of you. It is a powerful thing to be able to pray:

*Dear Lord, in about a week it will be the first day of school, a happy, exciting and sometimes scary time for many children in Western Mass. We ask your blessing on these backpacks and supplies which have been gathered here this morning for the children of women incarcerated in Chicopee, and we give you thanks for those members of St. Paul's Church, Holyoke, and St. Christopher's and Grace Churches in Chicopee, through whose thoughtfulness and generosity these backpacks have been provided. Bless the young people who will receive them, and open their hearts and minds to the world of learning, that the first day of school may be for them the first of thousands of days in which they know the depth of your love and the constancy of your care. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.*

During August we welcomed José Reyes, our pre-seminarian intern, who will be with us at St. Paul's during this school year, learning about ministry in Holyoke from a variety of sources and teaching us a lot along the way. We look forward to his participation with the youth group, in liturgy, and in seeking to develop a ministry with our Spanish speaking neighbors and friends at St. Paul's. It will be an exciting year for all of us.

I'll be trying something different beginning September 2, switching my day off from Thursday to Friday. It turns out Thursdays are so often needed for meetings that it's better just to plan to work on them, and with the very capable Debra Plath in the office, we should do just fine. I'll continue to be available in the office most mornings, Monday through Thursday and Saturday.

Blessings to you as the school year begins. May its arrival bring you joy in anticipating what God is and can be doing among us, amid the cooler days and the changing colors. A delightful time of year!

-Rev. Barbara

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### Thanks

- ❖ To Libby Waring and Ginny Benoit, the active members of the Prayer Group, who have decided to close this chapter of the prayer group's life. The Prayer Group, begun decades ago, has done wonderful work and we are grateful to all who have been a part of it. The prayer list will continue, so please submit names to the office of people and situations you would like St. Paul's to be praying for.
- ❖ To Matthew & Alison Giuliano, Amanda, AJ and Ashley Lajoie, Trina House, Trudy Monson, Joan Daly, Nancy Romeo, Marilyn & Ray Nadeau, Ginny Benoit, Lee McGarrigle, Shirley Gero, Laurie Messer,

Rev. Barbara, Jasmine Ortiz, Kelly Geneczko, Jeannette Pamaylaon, Ina Stockton and three other members of the community who were leaders in our Vacation Bible School during July, a wonderful time for the children and real gift to and for St. Paul's.



- ❖ To Donna Sroka, Jeannette Pamaylaon, Ed Farrell, Alison Giuliano, David & Robin Martins, Nicole & Chantelle Denette, and José Reyes, for the gift of their time and talent as Summer Sunday School teachers this past July and August, and to the families who brought the kids for them to teach.
- ❖ To Kathy and Tim Champagne for reviving the St. Paul's Supper Club in its August outing to Bub's Barbecue in Sunderland. More to come!

### Youth Group is back, too

The Youth Group leadership team, Deb Sexton, Chantelle, Nicole and Teddy Denette, and José Reyes, are excited about what will be happening at St. Paul's this coming year. They have invited the young people of St. Paul's in grades 8 to 12, and their parents, to meet with them on Sunday, September 18 after the 10:00 service to talk about their plans for this coming year. Good times are coming!



### Sunday School is back

Sunday, September 11, the Sunday School will be having its registration following the 10:00 service at the social hour on the lawn, weather permitting. We'll be inside if it's raining.

Sunday, September 18, First Sunday of Sunday School. Our teachers are excited to be coming back and look forward to seeing everyone soon. If anyone is interested in teaching our Jr. Youth Group or helping out with our classes, please see Alison Giuliano or Reverend Thrall.



### Confirmation/Inquirers' Class

With the visitation of the bishop on Sunday, January 8, 2012, a class for those interested in being confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church, and for those interested in learning more about what our church is and does, where it came from and where it might be going, is being offered this fall. A series of ten sessions over four months, to be held on Sunday evenings, begins on September 18 at 5 p.m. in the library. If you would like to know more, please be in touch with Rev. Barbara. 532-5060, rector\_stpauls@yahoo.com.

Little bits. . . 

- The first choir Sunday will be September 11, preceded by a rehearsal on Thursday, September 8 at 7:15 p.m. in the choir room upstairs. If you would like to know more about the choir or are interested in singing with us, please speak to our choir director, Monica Czausz. Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings from 7:15 to 8:45 p.m., and at 9 a.m. on Sundays, in preparation for singing at the 10:00 service. All voices, soprano, alto, tenor and bass are needed!
- On Sunday September 11 at our 8 and 10 o'clock services we will remember in prayer and song those who died 10 years ago, and those who have served to keep us safe. There will also be an ecumenical service at Veterans' Park in Holyoke at 8:45 a.m. that day. In addition, on that morning our preachers will be Chantelle & Nicole Denette, who will share with us the life-affirming gifts they experienced on the Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic in July.
- Kate's Kitchen, Thursday, September 15. Casseroles are due here at St. Paul's by 9:30 a.m. so that they may be transported to Hamilton Street. A note about the food – the recipes in our Sun newsletter are suggestions, and really any main dish in a 9x13 inch pan will do. Beans and rice, chicken and noodles, American chop suey, lasagna, three bean chili, upside-down pizza, whatever you like that you purchase or make yourself – these are all good. The idea is to offer nourishing food to feed a crowd. Variety is appreciated and economy is understood.
- Celebrate the last Friday of Summer at the Habitat for Humanity Silent Auction, Friday, September 16, beginning at 6 p.m. at All Saints' Episcopal Church, 7 Woodbridge St., South Hadley. Tickets are \$15 for hors d'oeuvres, dessert, live music and a silent auction of 93 (and counting) goods and services. To purchase a ticket please call

413-532-8917. This is a wonderful effort to help All Saints' fulfill its \$10,000 commitment to a Habitat house being built in Holyoke.

- Tuesday, September 20 – preliminary election in Holyoke and elsewhere, Vestry meeting at 6 p.m., Sun newsletter deadline. A very full day!
- Sunday, September 25, Donna Sroka will be with us following the 10:00 service to tell us more about her trip last spring to China as part of an educational exchange through Smith Vocational High School. Come and hear how Donna was treated like the rock star she is, and share some refreshments as well.
- Spirit of St. Paul's group meets on Tuesday, Sept. 27 at 5:30 p.m. at Joan Daly's home.
- Our St. Paul's/YMCA afterschool tutoring program is planning to jump off later in September and we are looking for tutors who can volunteer on a weekday (Monday through Thursday) from 3:45 to 5:30 p.m. We are focusing on increasing our enrollment, so we will be needing lots of volunteer tutors. If you are interested and want to know more, please be in touch with Ed Farrell at 322-9198.
- Congratulations to Donna Sroka, a very busy person, who has been appointed a member of the Bishop Search Committee. Her IT skills should come in handy. Here is the prayer we are being asked to pray for God's help in our search:

*Loving God, we thank you for the gift of your Church. Empowered by your Holy Spirit, guide us as we seek the bishop of your choosing who will guide and equip our diocese in its mission, shepherd us as we seek to worship you and preach your Holy Gospel, and walk with us as we strive to be your hands and heart in the world. All this we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

- **Upcoming**...Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, October 2. Open flower dates, Sundays, October 2 and 30. Please call the office to let us know you would like to give flowers on one of those days.



### Centering Prayer Group

A number of people have asked me over the years about ways to deepen and broaden their spiritual foundation. Although there are as many spiritual paths as there are seekers, prayer is one sure way to build on the bedrock of Jesus' love for us. And to that end, we would like to establish a group for Centering Prayer here at St. Paul's.

Prayer can be "centering" in at least two ways. First, it can help us find that quiet space within ourselves where, to paraphrase the great Christian writer Thomas Merton, we are in constant and inescapable contact with God. God is always with us but often the white noise of the world keeps us from awareness. Centering prayer is an antidote to this.

Centering prayer has a corporate aspect as well; it is at the center of what our life together as a parish is. Praying together can help us discern what God intends for each of us individually and for St. Paul's as a whole. It can extend us in love and action in directions that we have not yet imagined. Both blessing and challenge, our prayer moves with us into the world.

You can help in two ways. First, join us. The first gathering of St. Paul's Centering Prayer Group will be on Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup> from 10 to 11 a.m. in the church. And if you cannot be with us, pray with us and for us at a distance. How prayer works is a mystery – but that prayer works is beyond doubt.

*Rev. Barbara*

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### **Rays of Hope** **Sunday, October 23, 2011**

This is the 10<sup>th</sup> year that **Cindy's P.A.L.S.** will be walking in the *Rays of Hope, Walk toward the Cure for Breast Cancer!* We had 68 team members in 2002 and only about 10 last year. Won't you help us increase our team in honor of our 10<sup>th</sup> year?!?!?!? Please consider joining us! See Cindy Valentine or Tammy Shafer for further information.



### First Communion Classes to Begin In October

St. Paul's First Communion classes will begin on **Sunday, October 2 at 10:30 a.m.** Our program is designed for children in grades 1 and 2 but is open to any child who wishes to attend. Classes are usually held from 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. on the first Sunday of each month. The students will receive their First Holy Communion on the Sunday before Palm Sunday, March 25, 2012.

Anyone who wishes to participate in the First Communion Classes should fill out a registration form. These forms are located in the Church School Office (Room 4).

If you have any questions about the program, please see Joan (Room 1) before or after Church School. Joan can also be reached at 533-4118 or [jdal2@verizon.net](mailto:jdal2@verizon.net).



### Vacation Bible School "Thank You"

St. Paul's Church hosted a wonderful Vacation Bible School program during the week of July 18 -22. Thirty-five children attended and were taught by a wonderful group of volunteers. Following our theme of a *Beach Bash*, we rented a waterslide and enjoyed a cool experience during a very hot week. Through our daily offerings we collected \$166.00 for the Salvation Army to help tornado victims. We also collected multiple boxes and bags of food for The Food Bank— (c/o Margaret's Pantry in Holyoke.)

Thank you to everyone who volunteered or who donated money, snacks, or craft supplies to help support our program. It was a wonderful week and a great experience for all!

*Joan*



**Fall Family Festival**  
**Saturday, November 12, 2011, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.**

There will be a meeting held on **Sunday, September 11** from 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. and on **Tuesday, September 13** from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. in the library for anyone interested in lending a helping hand and/or offer ideas to make our Fair another great success. Some unfinished projects from past Fairs, as well as works-in-progress were found and will be available at the meetings. If you would like to complete any of the following, please come to a meeting or contact Nancy Romeo, 533-3381 (leave message) or email, nanrom126@yahoo.com

**\*Sewing panels**

- 3 pillows
- 9 hearts and wreaths
- 12 mallard ducks

**\*An unfinished fleece quilt**

Some pieces have already been sewn together. Pieces that are left to complete are pre-cut and ready to sew.

**\*Cross-stitch**

- 1, 5"x7" frame
- 2 baby quilts
- 1 beautiful, stamped cross-stitch table runner which is half completed
- Several small 2"x3" and 5"x7" kits
- Some Aida fabric

**\*Plastic canvas**

- 2 small lions

**\*Crewel**

- 1, long-stitch which is half complete
- 3, long-stitch scenic projects

**\*Other craft supplies**

We also have on hand ribbon, mini flowers, mini glass ball ornaments, old-fashioned pipe cleaners, red pom-poms and fleece fabric. If you have some ideas of what you can make with any of it, please feel free to use any of the supplies.

**\*Chinese Raffle**

We have some ideas and items for filling the baskets and if you are willing to make one, please come to one of our meetings and take a look or contact me.

**\*\*\*\*\* Donations Needed\*\*\*\*\***

We are looking for scrap pieces of LUAN plywood, 1/8" thickness and the pieces need to be 5"x6" or larger—Also, if anyone has a bandsaw, we could use some help making the cut-outs.

## Ushers/Greeters

We are looking to develop a group of people to be ushers/greeters at the 10:00 service. Have you been given the gift of hospitality? Do you share in the belief that everyone should be warmly welcomed when they come to St. Paul's? If you would like to join Felix Rivera and Ina Stockton in their role as greeters on Sundays and at other times, we want to hear from you. Please speak to Rev. Barbara, Gina Nelson or Dexter Gess.

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## News about people



Congratulations to Jason Lee-Thomas King, Paul and Linda Dupont's first grandchild, who was baptized on August 14. May God bless him and his mom, Anne, who is Paul's daughter.

Gina Nelson received the Commander's Coin for her excellent work at Westover Air Force Base over the past many years. Gina is due to retire from Westover toward the end of this year. Ask her if she is excited.

Congratulations to Channon, Nick and Lukas Vallas on the birth of Ava on July 1. If it were not enough that the family had a baby daughter, they also sold their house just like that and moved to Easthampton over the summer. Our hats are off to all of you!

Our organist/choir director Monica Czausz, took part in an organ camp at Curtis School of Music in Philadelphia at the end of June. The class's performance on the Wanamaker organ, the largest working pipe organ in the world, was recorded for radio. It is available online at WRTI (90.1 FM). Look for the 5 p.m. Sunday Organ series that aired on August 7.

Welcome to Deborah Nevill who has been worshipping with us at the 8:00 service.

Our condolences are extended to Joan Steiger on the death of her aunt, Anne Corcoran, and to Carla Newton, on the death of her father, Jim. May they rest in peace.

## September Birthdays & Anniversaries



- 2 Ginny Benoit, Ken Garrow,  
Jeff Nadeau, Jessica Nadeau
  - 3 Jesse Monson
  - 7 Tricia Washington
  - 8 *Joe & Kathy Fontaine*  
Antonin Durchanek  
Erica Dominquez
  - 10 Rob Klopfer
  - 11 Ethel West
  - 12 *David & Lee McGarrigle*  
Connor Flannery  
Mackensie Provost (2010)
  - 15 Eamon Thrall
  - 16 Jennifer Klopfer Provost
  - 18 David McGarrigle
  - 19 Skip LeBlanc
  - 20 Marjorie Shaw
  - 21 *David & Robin Martins*
  - 23 William Thompson
  - 24 Robin Bineau
  - 27 Danielle Gero  
Kathy Champagne
  - 28 Kathy Fontaine
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## St. Paul's Nursery School

There are still a few openings in our wonderful Nursery School classes. If you know a family who has a 3 or 4 year old child who is looking for a developmental educational experience based on literacy, play-based exploration, and nature-based learning, please have them call St. Paul's Nursery School (532-4890) to schedule a visit or for more information. Our Nursery School offers 2-day, 3-day and 5-day sessions. The regular class schedule will begin the week of September 12. (Adjustment Days begin the week of Sept. 8.) Our little school offers the very best preschool experience in the area. Please help spread the word!

## Kate's Kitchen

### Recipe of the month

*Due at the church by Thursday, September 15, 2011*



### Spaghetti Pie

- 1 lb. spaghetti – cooked and drained
- 5 tbsp. butter or margarine
- 1 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 5 well-beaten eggs
- 2 cups cottage cheese or ricotta cheese
- 1 lb. ground beef – cooked and drained
- 1 cup chopped onions
- 1 large green pepper, chopped
- 1 28oz. can chopped tomatoes
- 2 tsp. oregano
- 1 tsp. garlic powder
- 1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese

Stir butter into the hot spaghetti. Stir in the Parmesan cheese and eggs. Lay spaghetti mixture on the bottom of a buttered pan and spread cottage (or ricotta) cheese on top of the spaghetti.

Cook ground beef, onion, and green peppers till done. Stir in undrained tomatoes, oregano and garlic powder; heat through. Turn meat mixture onto spaghetti and cheese layer. Bake uncovered in 350 oven for 20 minutes.

Sprinkle mozzarella cheese on top. (Kate's Kitchen will complete baking.) When wrapping casserole for transport, use a wax paper barrier to prevent the tomato from coming into contact with the foil.

## From the Prayer Group



### *ALMOST AUTUMN*

The Days of Summer dwindle down  
And Autumn's song I hear,  
The leaves will soon desert the trees  
When frosty nights appear.

The air now holds a promise  
Of the season's golden glow,  
And as Summer takes her leave  
Fall soon will overflow.

The beauty of each season  
is always on display,  
Summer, Winter, Fall or Spring-  
hand in hand on God's highway.

*~Nora M. Bozem*





**St. Paul's Nursery School**

***Spaghetti Supper  
Fundraiser***

***Where:*** St. Paul's Church Auditorium  
485 Appleton Street, Holyoke

***When:*** Friday October 21st  
4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

***Tickets:*** AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR  
\$5.00 for adults and kids (ages 13 and up)  
\$3.00 for kids (up to age 12)  
\$15.00 max per family

***We hope you will join us!***



