



## A Note from the Rector by The Rev. Carolyn H. Eklund

If you want to understand the Christian community, read the writings of our namesake, St. Paul. Read the Letter to the Thessalonians to understand a well-functioning community who loves their founder (St. Paul). Or the Letter to the Galatians to understand a broken community that has deeply hurt their founder (again, St. Paul.) For St. Paul's most mature commentary on a multitude of early theologies of the Christian Church, read his Letter to the Romans. And for the best description in all scripture on the aspects of what a Christian community looks like and how it functions, definitely read Romans 12, the entire chapter.

There are two verses that stand out for me in the Romans 12:

1, (v. 4) "For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members of one another."

No one stands alone in the community. No one hoards their gifts for individual benefit. Though we are individuals, we are not to deny the fact that "we are members of one another." (in the Collect from Compline in the Prayer Book, p. 130, we pray for those who work while others sleep, "...for we depend upon each other's toil.")

2, (v. 9) "Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor."

This verse resonates with me personally because it is so contrary to how the world works and yet it is easy to do if only we make IT our practice instead of living lives suspicious of others' motives and driving wedges between loved ones and enemies alike. I witness "mutual affection" at St. Paul's all the time.

These words seem strange to us in a culture of war and division, so clearly sinful and broken. But these are the words and actions that endure. Christ's community is one body, members of one another who live in mutual affection. We don't stand

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9:00 a.m.  
First Sundays

Life  
Together

[www.stpaulsmaine.org](http://www.stpaulsmaine.org)

**Sunday, October 2**

**Celebrate  
St. Francis and  
God's Creation.**



**Followed by making  
Butterfly kites in the  
parish hall.**

## A Note from the Rector *continued*

*(Continued from page 1)*

apart even in our differences, which in truth are many. Even in our sorrows, even in our joys, we follow St. Paul's commandment in verse 15, "Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep." Don't evaluate if their politics match yours. Allow yourself to be their sister in Christ, members of one another.

Back in February 2016 the Vestry of St. Paul's studied over a weekend what it meant to be the Body of Christ at St. Paul's. Cristle Judd led us in our retreat and she had us study the passage of St. Paul's in First Corinthians in which he uses the "body" metaphor. We prayerfully engaged the meaning for us of the verse, "we who are many are one Body in Christ."

A couple of weeks after our weekend retreat we met with the Rev. Canon Michael Ambler to begin planning for our Mutual Study of Ministry. It is an obligatory process at about the 2 1/2 year point with a new rector to assess progress on the parish goals outlined in the Parish Profile. The first thing we did was to examine the Parish Profile. We discussed those things that we felt we had achieved, those things we'd like to revisit, and new areas God might be calling us to.

We then formulated four questions to ask a broad variety of parishioners in one-on-one interviews. The wardens and I compiled a list of people from each of our four congregations. We divided up the names between the vestry members who then conducted face-to-face, one-on-one interviews. Pat Ryan, our Senior Warden, collected the feedback from about 24 parishioners and submitted that data to Canon Ambler. He then created a report and presented it to us at our July Vestry meeting. We felt energized by the feedback and encouraged by your generally positive comments about the direction we were taking.

Pat Ryan then presented the report at our Fall All Parish Picnic (one of the things you said you'd like us to do more of – gatherings like picnics and outings). A copy of the full report is included in this

October issue of "The Messenger." I invite you to read the report and to engage with it by offering your own thoughts on the four goals. You can enter your thoughts on Twitter or our Facebook page. In addition, feel free to offer via email, [stpauls@stpaulsmaine.org](mailto:stpauls@stpaulsmaine.org) the comments you have about our direction and the four questions from the Mutual Study of Ministry.

We are growing in faith and we are expanding as new families of all ages join us in our "Body of Christ." We need YOU in ministry to help us do Christ's work in St. Paul's and in the world. If someone invites you to be a part of one of our ministry groups, by all means pray about it. But in the end, lead with a "yes!" For we need you engaged in the ministries of this parish to be complete and whole and strong so that we can reach out into the world to serve Christ and praise God.

And if you think I'm a "Johnny one-note" on "The Body of Christ" theology, I freely admit that I am! Dark forces of the world are a "Johnny one-note" of division and darkness. Let us be the community that counters division!

*Carolyn +*



### BAPTISM

The next feast day for baptisms is All Saints' Sunday, November 6, 2016. Please contact the Parish Office if you or a loved one desires to be baptized.

# Mutual Study of Ministry July 2016

In the Spring of 2016, the Vestry of St. Paul's conducted a Mutual Study of Ministry. The Rev. Canon Michael Ambler, Canon to the Ordinary for the Diocese of Maine, facilitated. The process consisted of an initial meeting between the Rector, the Vestry, and the Facilitator, at which the Vestry identified several questions it wished to pose to representative members of the congregation. Vestry members then interviewed two or three members of the congregation each, and sent notes of their interviews to the Facilitator. The following report summarizes the results of the process. It is broken down as follows.

*Part A* represents Canon Ambler's impressions and overview of the interview summaries. What stood out? What picture of the congregation and its ministry emerged?

*Part B* consists of conclusions and recommendations for next steps, which will be the subject of a meeting between the Rector and Vestry and Canon Ambler in July, 2016.

## **Part A: Impressions and Overview**

### **Goal 1: Bring in new families and young people; develop Family ministries, music, spiritual growth for parents, young adults and singles**

The interviews, viewed as a group, suggested that this goal was very important to the congregation of St. Paul's (one respondent noted that it had been identified as a key ambition in the 2012 Parish Profile). The responses suggested that the steps the congregation has taken to achieve this goal are being successful and are well appreciated. One representative comment observed that St. Paul's is the best it's been in twenty years, in part because of the presence of young people.

In particular, there is a strong base of enthusiasm for the 9:30 service. One respondent who identified herself as a mother of young children appreciated



the "laid back" feeling of the service.

Within the context of this general enthusiasm, there was a subset of responses that was concerned about limited interplay between the 9:30 service and other aspects of life at St. Paul's. One respondent who was identified as a high school student noted that the 9:30 service draws families, but that they tend not to stay afterwards for Sunday School—could that be, the respondent wondered, because there is no parallel offering for parents? At least one other response noted the same phenomenon, and suggested that it might be helpful if there were more picnics or other fun activities to help incorporate 9:30 service participants.

Several other responses made similar suggestions, for events like picnics, retreats, and other parish-wide gatherings apart from Sunday services. This same idea surfaced in several responses to Goal 3 (unity among different parts of the congregation).

In addition to the 9:30 service, the personal qualities of the Rector were identified by a number of responses as being particularly responsible for the growth in family and youth ministry.

"Carolyn is a boost," observed one, a sentiment shared in different words by several other responses.



There were several notes of caution raised, though in each case by only one or two respondents. One worried that Sunday could start to feel too busy, and not enough like a Sabbath (my words). One older respondent said that he couldn't find his way around the First Sunday service, and no longer came; this service was addressed more in responses to Goal 3, below. Another older respondent said that older people needed written materials to be able to follow the liturgy, and to take home afterwards (I wasn't entirely clear whether that had to do with the

## Mutual Study of Ministry July 2016 (continued)

First Sunday service or was a general observation). One wondered whether the weekly schedule of four distinct services was too much. And one was concerned that J2A graduates didn't continue in church. And there were a handful of general suggestions. A



couple of people suggested using music as a way to attract people. One wished for parents' nights out, with non-parents providing child care. One expressed appreciation for the Thursday service and the community that

gathers there, and wished for more use of lay eucharistic ministers.

### Goal 2: Develop St. Paul's role in the larger community and nourish outreach

This goal was also viewed as important by respondents, though it did not attract quite as much response as Goal 1. The Gathering Place was singled out by several responses as a "fantastic" (in the words of one response) ministry, and the Rev. Carroll's work as exemplary. One of these responses noted that St. Paul's outreach was Biblically rooted, "bringing Jesus to the world." One response which praised the Gathering Place also expressed a worry that the congregation might be getting stretched too thin.



Other ministries that received accolades included Gourmet Meals, and the Window Dresser project.

One person who expressed happiness with St. Paul's outreach also expressed surprise that people at St. John's seemed unaware of St. Paul's or its beliefs. A couple of responses suggested increasing work with young people, such as by offering a homework club; another suggested finding ways of serving Bowdoin students. Yet another suggested using music as a form of outreach, such as by offering a mothers-and-

babies music program.

### Goal 3: Create opportunities for members of all four congregations (including Thursday's Eucharist) to relate with each other as a community of Christ

There were a large number of comments in favor of the First Sunday service, which was viewed as a helpful way of bringing the different Sunday congregations together. The high school student referred to above noted specifically that the "Festival" character of First Sundays gave them a special place. One respondent noted that there was a trade-off between convenience and unity, and the balance seemed about right.



Not all respondents shared the enthusiasm for First Sundays. A couple noted that it is more successful at unifying the 8 and 10:30 congregations, and the 9:30 group is missing. That same observation was echoed by a parent who regularly attends the 9:30 service but does not come on First Sundays because it is not so family-friendly, and is too early. Others expressed skepticism generally about First Sundays.

Several responses echoed a theme first raised in response to Goal 1: that there be more parish wide activities apart from Sunday services. Suggestions included retreats, picnics and other social activities, some of which used to be more common (such as Advent dinners and a fall retreat).

### Goal 4: Minister with empathy and care to individual parishioners in need

Pastoral care can be the "third rail" of parish life—because errors or omissions can resonate so personally—and it was wonderful to see how pleased the respondents were to the quality of pastoral care at St. Paul's. The Rector in particular, as well as the deacons and the Vestry, were identified as very attentive (one person noted a fear that Rector could be subject to burn-out, and wondered if St. Paul's needed a curate). Several respondents reflected on per-

## Mutual Study of Ministry July 2016 (continued)

sonal experience of being well cared for.

There were several suggestions for how pastoral care could be extended further. They included a transportation ministry, to help older parishioners get to services and parish events; an end-of-life study, perhaps using Gawande's *Being Mortal* as a text; a group for those struggling with depression; and a wish by a couple of respondents for a singles' group.

Finally there were a couple of respondents who did not view proactive pastoral care as particularly important—they said, in slightly different ways, that they knew help was available if it was needed.

### Other Comments, Suggestions and Observations

There were a number of comments that did not seem to fit specifically within any of the four Goals, but nonetheless are important to take note of.

Some had to do with education. One wished for a class on Islam, and particularly for help understanding the Sunni/Shia divide, as a way of helping to reduce fear by offering knowledge. Another was unsure of how education programs were chosen. The high schooler mentioned above thought programs should be smaller and fewer, such as discussion groups where ad hoc participation (rather than a commitment at the outset) would be ok.

Others had to do with the character of the congregation. One suggested coaching leaders of ministries on how to be inclusive and avoid clubbiness; another urged congregational selfawareness of how welcoming the congregation was to newcomers.

Other specific suggestions included easier music, a St. Francis Day Blessing of the Animals outside of the church and advertised through the Humane Society, and a chapel space.

### Part B: Conclusions and Recommendations

The purpose of the Mutual Study of Ministry is to allow parish leaders to conduct a "structured check-in:" to ask representative members of the congregation to reflect on key aspects of congregational life. This is not a statistical survey; while there are times that I note a larger or smaller number of responses,



this is more a listening exercise than a counting one. In particular, the fact that each Vestry member inevitably posed questions in different ways, that each parishioner answered in their own terms, that the Vestry interviewers recorded answers in different styles, all means that what we have here is a series of anecdotes, not a scientific poll.

There is a great deal to hear from this listening exercise. Members of the parish seemed to give serious thought to the questions being posed, and have some important reflections to offer.

Before we get to those reflections, though, there are some things that are important from their absence. No matter what the questions, people usually find a way to say what's on their minds, and particularly to raise unhappiness or dissatisfaction. That didn't happen here: there were no sad or sour notes anywhere in these responses. There were plenty of suggestions, but the overall tenor of the responses was happy, engaged, and enthusiastic. Even those which expressed reservations about one thing of another—such as the First Sunday service—tended to do so from a position of supporting the underlying purposes being advanced.

It's also important to note that clergy, and especially rectors, can serve as focal points for congregational energy and mood. The Diocese of Maine is blessed with good priests; but even so, it's rare to read the responses to an MSM and not see a single word of criticism or anger directed toward the Rector. This was that rare MSM, and the

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## From the Music Desk...

This fall at St. Paul's has been a particular joy, for I've been able to begin this year with you instead of landing mid-journey as in last 'season.' To have summer hours dedicated to healthy planning has been a gift of huge proportion, allowing me to find our stride and begin this adventure with you on more sure footing.

The newest segment of this trip we're making is "NAVE @ 9." For **all** parishioners of **all** ages, the time frame from **9-9:20 a.m.**, or 'Nave @ 9,' is a short rehearsal space where various groups from within the congregation, assisted by the adult choir, can gather and find their voice. Singers who joined summer ensembles will find more opportunities to sing together. Friends, family, and co-workers can add their voices.

So.....If you:

- Want to sing with a group, but only once or twice a year

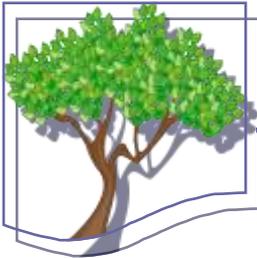
- Sang this summer, enjoyed the experience, and want to do so again
- Need a low-threshold turn-key opportunity to make music in worship with others,



Then....Join me and fellow singers or players in the "Nave @ 9" on Sundays (except the first Sunday of the month). Watch for schedule information on posters, bulletin announcements, and newsletter articles like this one.

Let me help you and those you know find your voice. Like the inclusive statement found repeatedly in the English translation of the Psalms, "Clap your hands, **all** you people. Shout unto God with a **voice** of Zion."

In gratitude for the joy found at St. Paul's,  
*Randy Day*



## Outreach/Salt/Christian Formation/Heat/ Forums/Salaries/Love/Support

Sooner than we think, Christmas will be upon us and we'll be listening to the lovely Shaker ballad

"Jesus Christ, the Apple Tree." St. Paul's is also a tree. With its many interconnected branches (some listed above), St. Paul's provides a warm place for WIC, AA and worship (by no means last on this). Outreach, a manifestation of our faith reaches those in need in Brunswick, throughout Maine and our country, and abroad. Efforts are underway to present an interfaith forum to help bring many faiths closer together through dialogue, understanding, and appreciation of our common goals. Another forum will focus on the problem of homeless youth. Again, St. Paul's is a construction site: nearly 300 window inserts assembled to help the environment by improving energy efficiency - many done via donations for the needy. During the spring and summer, our memorial garden was a place of beauty (lots of compliments), a place of interment, a place of worship, and a place of relaxation and fun.

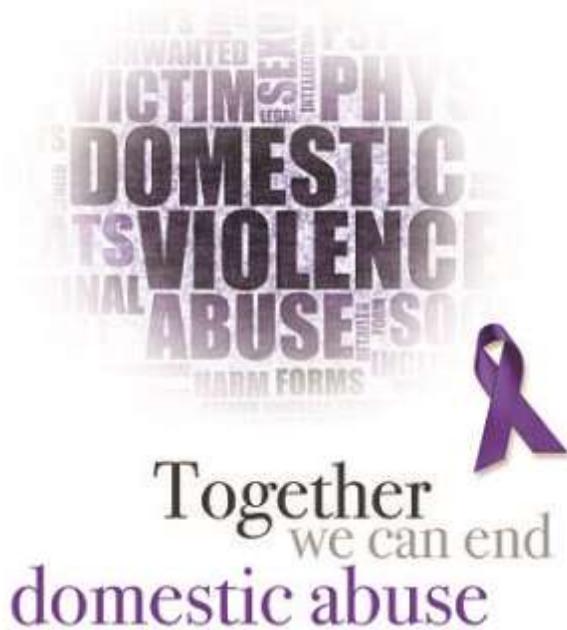
Come this winter, it will probably snow; parishioners will come to worship and walk on shoveled/salted walkways and sit in a heated nave. Speaking of the nave, would you like to see it painted and with improved lighting? So would we. Soon, each of us will be asked to consider what the above means to us and be asked to support St. Paul's. St. Paul's is a healthy tree and through your giving, it will remain so. What commitment is God calling you to make?

Do you have a will? Most life-planners, legal experts, and financial advisors recommend that everyone have a will. The one thing we cannot predict is when we will leave this earthly domain. If you are thinking about a will or are planning to update your will, please remember St. Paul's. Suggestions on how to incorporate St. Paul's into your estate planning are available at the office.

In peace, St. Paul's Giving Ministry (Stewardship)

# October—A Time to Remember

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month



October—a month that delights us with its beautiful colors, brings a smile to our faces as we open our doors to trick or treaters, as well as reminds us that winter is just around the corner. But October also has a shadow side; that is; it's the month that has been set aside to remember all who are either living in an unsafe environment or have been the victims of domestic violence. In 2015, there were 25 homicides in the State of Maine—40% of these were directly related to domestic violence. Nationally, 30% of all homicides were committed by either a spouse or a family member. And closer to home, Family Crisis Services of Cumberland County received 6,356 hotline and service calls. Studies have also shown that 1 in 4 women are living in an unsafe environment. What can we do? WE CAN PRAY THAT ALL OF OUR HOMES WILL BE SAFE PLACES. Also, Family Crisis Services of Brunswick is in need of personal care products (shampoo, toothpaste, etc.) and cell phones with chargers. A donation box will be set up in the office where items can be dropped off. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

*Terry Howell*

*Frontline Committee*

## Youth Homelessness: A Community Forum

This spring, St. Paul's Frontline Committee began to look at the issue of vulnerable teens in our community, talking to teen service providers like Donna Vander Holler, Jordan Cardone at the Brunswick Teen Center, school counselors and others to educate ourselves. We learned that a local Ad Hoc Homeless Youth Housing Committee had been studying this issue, and then we learned that some members of St. Charles Borromeo in Brunswick were doing the same. The three groups decided to join forces to try and increase community awareness. Thus, the idea of a series of community forums was born.

The second forum, on **Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup>**, will focus on potential solutions (looking at models that have been used elsewhere) as well as some of the barriers to providing services to unaccompanied minors, especially those related to Maine state laws.



The October forum will feature Patricia Julianelle, Director of State Projects and Legal Affairs for NAECHY (National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth). Patricia has advised attorneys, educators, and policymakers across the country on the rights of children and youth experiencing homelessness and works to enforce those rights through direct advocacy, education, outreach, and legislative advocacy. She graduated from Yale University and received her J.D. *summa cum laude* from Northwestern School of Law of Lewis & Clark College.



Patricia Julianelle, keynote speaker

The forum will be held at the Topsham Public Library from 6–8 pm. For more information, please contact Andree Appel at [andreeappel@gmail.com](mailto:andreeappel@gmail.com)

# What's on Tap for October? Adult Formation

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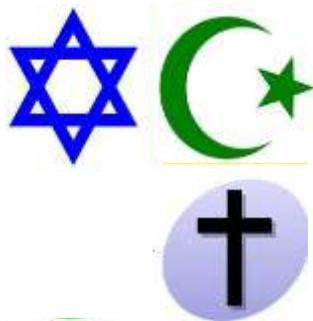
Adult Formation is offering one forum and two small groups in the month of October. Please see detailed information about all three that follows.

You've already heard quite a bit about the interfaith forum on Sunday, October 30, 1:30-5:45 pm and I hope you have already saved that date on your calendar. The forum will be presented with the help of the Frontline Ministry, because it is something we will be offering to the diocese and the wider Brunswick community; the focus of the program is much broader than our small world of St. Paul's parish.

We are excited to tell you about one important update to the forum: The afternoon will begin with a short performance by a women's cappella group, Full Circle. Coming from various communities all the way from Portland to Sabattus, they practice every week and have been singing together and performing concerts in Maine since 1994. Their purpose in performing is to celebrate the human spirit, a mission that fits very nicely with the purpose of the afternoon forum. They will be performing for us at the beginning of the afternoon to welcome everyone and set the tone for our time together. So, please come a little early to register and ensure you won't miss hearing them. They're a great group.

## Interfaith Discussion

The goal of this forum is to explore a new way for Muslims, Jews, and Christians to be together with sensitivity to one another's faiths. Against the backdrop of the recent divisive political rhetoric in this country that has demonized "the other," our hope is to look at the three Abrahamic faiths, represented by three speakers, in an effort to move beyond passive acceptance of those who hold different religious beliefs to a place of seeing all people as brothers and sisters, all people as children of God. We hope to find unity in diversity and to come to a belief that what is held separately can be richer in relationship. Our hope also is that the forum will model interfaith dialog that honors differences and demonstrates respectful listening.



We have put together an outstanding panel to help us explore this topic. The Rev. Bob Patterson, who has decades of experience with interfaith dialog, will be the moderator for the panel. Reza Jalali, an Iranian Kurd now living in Maine, who formerly taught Islam at Bangor Theological Seminary and who currently is the coordinator of Multicultural Student Affairs at USM and the Muslim chaplain at Bowdoin College and is the

author of three books, will represent the Muslim faith. Rabbi Carolyn Braun, who serves temple Beth El in Portland and has been deeply involved in interfaith activities, will represent the Jewish faith. Dr. Christopher Leighton, who is a Presbyterian minister and retired academic and is currently the executive director of the Institute for Islamic, Christian, and Jewish Studies in Baltimore, will represent the Christian faith. This is, by anyone's measure, an outstanding group!

The afternoon will begin with a performance of the women's cappella group Full Circle. Following will be a discussion among the three panelists and, by means of a Q&A segment, an opportunity for those attending the forum to engage actively with our three guests. There will be a break for sharing some light refreshments, following which the dialog will continue in small groups with suggested discussion topics. We will end with more Q&A time with the panelists. We hope that people from the diocese and the wider Brunswick community will join us for this special afternoon.

Please mark your calendars for this important program. You won't want to miss it.

When: Sunday, October 30; 1:30 p.m.-5:15 p.m.

Facilitators: The Rev. Bob Patterson, Reza Jalali, Rabbi Carolyn Braun, Dr. Christopher Leighton

# What's on Tap for October? continued

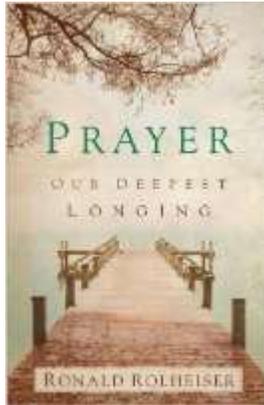
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## Small Groups

### Prayer: Our Dialog with God

This is a six-week group in which participants will read and reflect on a book by the Rev. Ronald Rolheiser, *Prayer: Our Deepest Longing*. His approach to prayer is deeply personal and refreshingly honest. Canadian-born with an international reputation, Rolheiser has written more than a dozen books, keeps an active speaking schedule, and leads retreats and workshops. The group will explore the richness of prayer and develop a new approach to praying, one that fully engages our hearts and the Spirit of God alive within us. Profound yet practical, this book seeks to encourage us to grow in our life of prayer, “seeking mercy and grace . . . and discovering in our God all that is deficient in us. . . . God intends our prayer and trust to be magnanimous.” (Julian of Norwich)



The group is full, a wait list is being kept at the office.

When: Six Tuesdays—September 27, October 4, 11, 18, 25, November 1; 4:00 p.m.– 5:30 p.m.

Facilitators: Liz Messler and Sarah Arnold

### Writing Spiritual Memoir

Writing is a wonderful way to keep track of where we've been and where we're going. Writing clarifies; writing helps us discover. Writing can also be an act of prayer, deepening our relationship with the Holy by helping us better understand God's role in our lives.

Beginning on Thursday, October 6, and then running for the rest of the year on the second Thursday of the month from 4:00-5:30 p.m. in the Library at St. Paul's, we will discover, examine, and share some of the ways God has entered our lives and given it meaning. We will explore ways to “re-vision” our lives through image, metaphor, and story.

You don't need to be a polished writer to come! All you need is your story (the one you've been “writing” all your life) and a desire to put your story down on paper and share with others.



When: Three Thursdays—October 6, November 10, December 8; 4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

Facilitator: Rick Wile

*Pam Nugent, Adult Christian Formation*

# Maine Council of Churches Presents Civil Discourse Event Featuring Senator George Mitchell

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*From Mudslinging to Mutual Respect:*

*How to Make Politics More Civil*

Featuring Senator George Mitchell

Thursday, October 20th

Best Western Hotel, 375 Main Street, Waterville

Doors open at 7:30 a.m. for continental breakfast

Program begins at 8:15 a.m. sharp

Free and open to the public but seating is limited.

Pre-registration is requested.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/from-mudslinging-to-mutual-respect-registration-26164413465>



The event will focus on what grassroots constituents and voters can do to support those candidates and elected officials who abide by the principles of civil discourse, and to hold accountable and change the behavior of those who do not. Senator Mitchell will reflect on these questions in light of his own experiences building bipartisan coalitions in the Senate from 1980 to 1994, and working for peace as U.S. Special Envoy to Northern Ireland (1995-2001) and to the Middle East (2009-2011).

## Automatic Giving

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St. Paul's encourages giving through automatic donations. Giving this way provides St. Paul's with a steady flow of the money needed for our day-to-day operations. If you are already giving electronically so via St. Paul's partner [Vanco](#) or through another system at your bank, thank you. If not, please consider doing so. Click on the "Donate" button on our web site ([www.stpaulsmaine.org](http://www.stpaulsmaine.org)) or stop by the office for further information. We KNOW that we have a good system that is easy to navigate, responsive (receipts are issued simultaneously with your donation), and flexible to complement our needs. However, as good as it is, it DOES NOT notify St. Paul's of your total pledge. If you increase your pledge for 2017 (and we hope you do), please inform the office by updating your pledge card. Knowing the total of the pledges is essential to good financial management and budget planning.

*Paul Womer*

# Christmas Fair

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St. Paul's Annual Christmas Fair is Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. **100% of the Fair profit is used for Outreach in the Greater Brunswick area and beyond.**

Suggestions for donations:

Baked Goods for the Bake Table	Knit & gift items for the Knit & Gift table	Desserts for the lunch room
Treasures for the Treasures Table	Religious items for the Religious Table	Cash for fair expenses
Fresh Green decorations for the Greens table	Jewelry for the Jewelry table	And so much more!

(Watch the Sunday bulletin & future Messengers for more information on how and when items will be needed. )

**What you can buy at the fair:** Christmas cards, Advent calendars, baked goods, treasures, wreaths and other greens, Christmas decorations, jewelry, Cabot Cheddar Cheese, Rada knives and kitchen utensils, St. Paul's Cookbooks (bargain priced at \$1 each), fish chowder and other lunch foods, bid on Silent Auction items, and so much more.

## What can I do to help?

Volunteer to help with set up, clean up, or work the day of the fair, donate goods for us to sell, and **BUY** our donated items. Tell your neighbors and friends about St. Paul's Fair. Our profit depends on donations and selling. Please help if you can.

John Cordts (353-5081 or cell 212-9501) and Bonny Labonte (729-5226)

## Wreath & Greens Reminder

Please think of the Wreath & Greens table at the Christmas Fair when you are clearing your garden of dry seed pods, grasses, etc We use many of these when decorating our wreaths. You may bring them to the church and Nancy Whitehouse, [nancyw797@gmail.com](mailto:nancyw797@gmail.com) or 777-5665 will store them until decorating time. Decorating will be done on Monday and Tuesday before the Fair; please plan to join us for those fun filled days. Lots of jobs to be done and materials will be provided.



## Mutual Study of Ministry July 2016 (continued)

*(Continued from page 5)*

leadership and congregation of St. Paul's should be very aware of what an extraordinary thing that is—and what it says both about the Rector, and about the tenor of life in the congregation overall.

As the leadership thinks about goals, several things stand out from the responses.

First, there is enormous support for the work the congregation has done and continues to do to attract and serve families and children. There are some specific “side effects” of that work that are not universally popular, such as the First Sunday services, but even these are generally viewed with good humor.

Second, there are a number of questions about whether First Sundays as they are now celebrated are quite achieving their purpose. It seems that those who usually come to the 9:30 service are generally absent from the First Sunday services, and that First Sunday attendance is generally lower than on other Sundays (that impression would be easy to verify or disprove). If that is the case, then it's possible that First Sundays have not yet achieved their unifying purpose... and in that case, it might be appropriate to ask whether there might be other

ways, including adjustments to First Sundays, to come closer.

Third, there is a significant cluster of responses that wish for more parish-wide activities outside of Sunday morning services—most especially parish picnics in the summer and dinners in general, and also parish retreats. The desire here seems more for fellowship and company than for programming. Might there be a space at St. Paul's for a Ministry of Fun?

Fourth, the outreach and social ministries at St. Paul's are generally viewed as both important and appropriate. There is great support for what is being done; there is practically no mandate for doing more or differently. The Vestry might want to spend a little time with that, and ask itself—does this satisfaction mean that we're doing enough, or that we're asking of ourselves too little? This survey does not offer any help answering that question, but the question itself seems apt.



# St. Paul's Mutual Study of Ministry Addendum

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Synopsis of raw responses

Goal 1: New People/Families/Young People •

- Likes 9:30 ++++++
- Carolyn a boost ++
- Use musical programs to attract people +
- As mother of young children loves 9:30—laid back—would like more outdoor services or services in Great Hall b/c family friendly—can't attend evening programs
- Carolyn great at bringing young families—key goal of 2012 profile +
- Concern that 9:30 service participants not integrating into larger parish, even Life Together or Sunday School—maybe solve with more picnics, shared activities +
- Happy with St. Paul's—best in 20 years—especially great is presence of young people
- Not involved with youth; children are grown; supports youth ministry
- HS Student—notes that 9:30 draws families but they don't stay after for Sunday School... is it because there's no parallel opportunity for adults then?
- HS Student—HS groups get to know adults through 8 am coffee service; could Middle Schoolers have same opportunity?
- HS Student points out that there's a group of HS students of various denominations who meet Wednesday at Little Dog to discuss issues of faith
- Invite all to volunteer; be blunt
- Is four weekly Eucharists too much?
- Sunday worship important time to step out of everyday life • Retreat would be helpful +
- Be good to have fun picnics offsite +++
- Sunday risks being too busy—fee like workday rather than Sabbath (my words)
- Likes music and new Music Director +
- Does not like 9 am service; can't find his way around it, no longer comes
- Likes the Thursday service; avoids the “big” services; wishes lay communion givers still

used. Values the Thursday community

- Older people need written materials
- Supports 9 am services; values traditional liturgy at 10:30 (communion with those far away using same liturgy)
- Would enjoy parents' night out with childcare +
- Concern about J2A grads not continuing in church

Goal 2: Larger Community/Outreach

- Likes what's going on +
- Maybe expand work with young people and families +
- Chick Carroll's work with Gathering Place “fantastic”; St. Paul's outreach Biblically rooted, “bringing Jesus to the world”
- Happy with outreach; surprised people at St. John know nothing of St. Paul's ministry or beliefs
- HS Student—direct invitations to help would be good
- Outreach important +
- Window Dresser ministry is good; ditto Gourmet Meals. St Paul's can seem upscale— barrier to entry? Non-church activities hosted at St Paul's engage community.
- Applauds Gathering Place, but worried we're stretched too thin +
- Outreach important but respondent unable to do much +
- Helps financially; aware of Gathering Place • Music as outreach: “Moms and Babies” music classes
- Should find way to serve students from Bowdoin
- Downtown church with clear mission

Goal 3: Relation among all four congregations

- 9 am Life Together service is helpful +++++
- Skeptical about Life Together service +
- Music as unifier; maybe hymn sings?

*(Continued on page 14)*

(Continued from page 13)

- As parent of young children likes idea of unity but skips Life Together b/c in church so not as family friendly, plus too early +
- Life Together brings 8/10:30 together and is great; 9:30 missing. +
- suggest picnics, retreats that whole parish can share +
- Would like more shared activities but not more Festival Sundays
- Appreciates demise of old cliques (military/Bowdoin/other) “Programmed” for early service but might try Thursday morning after retirement
- Balance of unity with convenience/options seems about right
- HS student: likes combined services 1st Sundays: chance to get to know people; treating as “Festival” gives these services a special place
- Music at 9:30 seems unconnected to Music Director; who is Randy?
- Misses the Weds night dinners—important fellowship. Seems like less social activity + • Miss the fall retreat
- Misses the Advent dinners

#### Goal 4: Pastoral Care

- Idea: lay sermons on St. Paul’s ministries to update parish
- Attention to end-of-life issues; use Being Mortal
- Carolyn very attentive. +
- Vestry very attentive
- Lots of older parishioners might attend if were transportation help available to services and other events
- Clergy pastoral care is good +
- Grateful for pastoral response to death of mother
- HS Student—Rector personally connected to each person/family
- Carolyn great; needs to beware of burnout.

#### Need for curate?

- Not important to respondent; more concerned not to intrude
- Visits important; need not be only clergy—lay visits as well
- Would like singles group +
- Would like group for people struggling with depression
- Home visits for newcomers important—have lost potential new members b/c were hoping for visits that never materialized
- Communion for shut-ins important

#### Other

- Would like class on Islam, including Sunni/Shia divide: knowledge to help address fear
- Not much contact with other parishioners but everyone seems happy
- HS Student—suggests programs be smaller and fewer; discussion groups where ad hoc attendance is ok
- Music is too demanding
- Way education programs chosen is a mystery
- Suggestion: survey members to see what gifts they want to share
- Fellowship is most important
- Should check to see if we’re being welcoming
  - Could coach ministry leaders on inclusion, avoid clubbiness
- Would like St. Francis Day blessing of Animals—outdoors, in afternoon, publicized through Humane Society etc.
- Need a chapel space
- Parishioner reflected on prior experience of Cathedral Counseling in Chicago—no specific suggestion, but it was what first attracted her to the Church

# Birthdays and Anniversaries

## Happy Birthday!

- 10/01 Katelyn Martens
- 10/02 Craig Rendell
- 10/02 Caroline Howes
- 10/03 Louise McIntire
- 10/08 Abbie Van Doren
- 10/10 Elizabeth Butler
- 10/11 Tinker Barron
- 10/14 Tracey Peck-Moad
- 10/14 Gregory Millert
- 10/16 David Hawkins
- 10/17 Lynda Chandler
- 10/18 Chris Baker
- 10/18 Pat Forsyth
- 10/18 Al Hipkins
- 10/20 Laura Lindquist
- 10/20 Julia Walkling
- 10/26 Angela Clegg
- 10/27 William Gardiner
- 10/27 Adam Lindquist
- 10/27 David Gardner
- 10/28 Alison Kennedy
- 10/31 Linda Baker
- 10/31 Margaret Sumner

## Happy Anniversary!

- Bob & Cristle Judd 10/01
- Paul & Charlotte Loveless 10/26
- Peter & Susan McCracken 10/26



## A Puzzle for you

Elsewhere in this edition of the Messenger, there are seven underlined words. Can you find them? The answers are left to right, right to left, top to bottom, and diagonal. Answer in the next edition.

L	K	A	L	K	J	J	L	E	C	I	T	T	E
W	L	K	J	K	J	W	H	U	E	Z	L	V	E
N	C	K	D	M	C	O	U	T	R	E	A	C	H
Q	J	K	E	L	J	M	O	Z	W	N	S	T	O
Z	I	O	U	D	N	Q	U	I	C	K	F	O	M
P	Q	J	L	J	C	B	E	O	S	Z	O	W	I
Q	P	C	K	L	C	P	A	G	N	I	V	I	G
L	A	K	J	I	O	M	E	V	O	L	P	C	X
D	Y	P	Z	J	L	R	E	D	W	N	M	T	U

If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please let the office know so that we may update our files.

*The Messenger* is published monthly, excluding January and with a combined July/August issue. It is emailed to the parish. Paper copies are available at the church for those who prefer them. It is also mailed to those who do not have email. **Please send submissions for the November issue by October 21.** Articles may be emailed to [stpauls@stpaulsmaine.org](mailto:stpauls@stpaulsmaine.org) or placed in Susan Tyler's box in the parish office.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH  
OCTOBER 2016

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Paul Womer, Junior Warden  
Randy Day, Music Ministry Director  
Susan Tyler, Parish Administrator  
Melanie Chicoria, Administrative Assistant  
Kimmy Edwards, Nursery Caregiver  
Aubrey Farmer, Sexton

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We're on the web!

[www.StPaulsMaine.org](http://www.StPaulsMaine.org)  
and Facebook

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## All Saints' Sunday, November 6



9:00 a.m.  
First Sundays

Life  
Together

[www.stpaulsmaine.org](http://www.stpaulsmaine.org)