

Contact us

St. Paul's Staff

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Vestry

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Valerie Blake

Doug Borchard

Phil Denoncourt III

Geoff Forester

Andrew Hardister

Jack Griffin, Clerk

John McGilvray

Joanne Martin

Steve Rook

Barbara Wanner

Lee Waples

Vacant

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

21 Centre St.

Concord, NH



THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

December 28, 2008

8:00 A.M

Contact us

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Vestry

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Doug Borchard

Robin Broadbent

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Jack Griffin, Clerk

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Barbara Wanner

Bob Washburn

Bob Wilson

Contact us: 603-224-2523

Web page: www.stpaulsconcord.org

Centre Point

This Week at St. Paul's:

Tues. December 30th – 12:10 PM Holy Eucharist

Thurs. January 1st – 12:10 PM Holy Eucharist

Thurs. January 1st – CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Fri. January 2nd – CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

FYI -Midweek Eucharistic services are held in the chapel and are about a half hour long.

Announcements

**Annual Parish Meeting will be held
Sunday, January 25th 2009 at 11:30 AM.**

12 Days of Christmas at St. Paul's Church

January 4 – 8 AM Holy Eucharist

10 AM Family Eucharist with Arrival of the Three Kings

January 6 – 12:10 PM Celebration of Epiphany with Holy Eucharist

Chantilly Basic School – St. Paul's Jamaica Committee is accepting donations for the Chantilly Basic School Tuition. The tuition for one school year provides a child with 10 months of basic education and a daily lunch. The cost of tuition is \$260 per child per year. A representative of the Jamaica Committee will be available between services to accept donations and answer questions. Any donated amount will be appreciated. Support of Chantilly Basic School is St. Paul's contribution to the Episcopal Church's Millennium Development Goals.

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs. 8:30am – 4:30pm

Fri. 8:30am – 2:00pm



Annual Reports – From all committees or groups are due for the annual meeting (Sunday, January 25, 2009). Please submit reports to the church office by the end of December 2008.

Vestry Candidates needed – Are you one? This year we will be choosing a Jr. Warden and four open vestry positions. This coming vestry will have the privilege of working with our new rector to plan the future course of St. Paul's. If you are interested, or would like to suggest a possible name, please contact the church office or one of the wardens.



Vestry News - The Vestry held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, December 16th. Most of the meeting focused on the 2009 budget, which is projecting a \$220,000 deficit. The Vestry reviewed the budget line by line noting expenses were almost flat or lower from 2008 but income was 20% lower. There are still over 150 pledges from last year that have yet to be received. Some of this can be attributed to where St. Paul's is in its journey but the larger issue is probably the economy and people's lack of confidence and fear for the future.

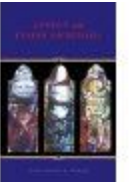
After much discussion, the Vestry approved the budget in a close vote - the vote is reflective of the Vestry's struggle to tackle this difficult decision. Those in the minority generally favored supporting a continuing resolution, which maintains 2008 expenses, which would still have had a \$200,000 plus deficit. Those in favor of the vote viewed it as the Vestry's affirmation of St. Paul's and a show of faith that we will be able to continue supporting our ministries and the pastoral and spiritual care for the parish. The treasurer and parish administrator will closely monitor all expenditures as the year progresses.

The budget will be available shortly and the Vestry will address this at a parish meeting to be held early in 2009.

May the Holy Spirit watch over us, guide us and show us the way. Peace and blessings of Christmas be upon us.

****Food Pantry Needed Items of the Week****
Baking Mixes, Crackers, and Plastic Shopping Bags

Adult Education - Growing in the Spirit through the writings of Evelyn Underhill, with Celeste Hemingson. We will not meet on Wednesday December 31. Our next (and final) meeting will be on January 7th. All are welcome, even if you haven't attended the earlier meetings. We have no more copies of the book, but you can order one online. As usual, discussions will begin at 6:00 PM, and you are invited to bring your dinner.



Parish Directory News - We're putting the final touches on the Parish Directory before it goes to the printer, and we want to make sure we've got everyone's names spelled correctly. Lists with the names of everyone who either submitted a picture or had their picture taken for the directory will be in the Parish Hall today. Please take a minute to review your name and make any needed corrections.

Nutrition Education - The Concord Cooperative Market is exploring ways that it can provide educational opportunities for members of the greater Concord community on the topics of healthy eating, local and organic foods, environmental sustainability, gardening and cooperative projects. To help with this process, a series of focus groups will be held at the start of the new year. Anyone interested in sharing ideas and on ways that the Co-op can be a resource for information, classes and projects, should contact Ruth Smith, Outreach Development Coordinator: rsmith@concordfoodcoop.coop for more details.

Book Club – Next month's meeting is Tuesday, January 13th at 7 PM. The book is "Age of Innocence" by Edith Wharton. The meeting will be at Cynnire Irwin's house, 7 New Castle Street, Concord.

SENIOR SPY IS GOING TO A BIBLE CONFERENCE! -We are planning a weekend retreat at Rumney Bible Conference in Rumney, NH, Jan 30-Feb 1. The weekend is \$120 per person (all inclusive!). If there is anyone who wants to sponsor a teenager for the trip or make a donation, that would be very helpful! Please contact Kellie with any questions or concerns 226-9113.

Crafts and Potluck - The next meeting will be held January 11, 2009 at 5 p.m. We will brainstorm craft ideas for next year's fair, enjoy a nice meal and fellowship. Anyone interested in joining this group is welcome to come to (one or all!) our meetings the 2nd Sunday of each month at 5 p.m. starting in January.

Calling all Friendly Faces - The Newcomers Committee is looking for volunteers to be official friendly faces of St Paul's at each service once a month. These friendly faces will meet and greet old and new friends thus making sure we do not miss the opportunity to welcome newcomers and introduce ourselves to each other. We want everyone to feel welcomed here. Please let us know if you would be willing to be one of those friendly faces. Contact Robin Broadbent 226-9149 or robinbroadbent@comcast.net.

Christian Education - **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY – DECEMBER 28, 2008 OR JANUARY 4, 2009 –HAPPY HOLIDAYS! NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 4TH 2009, WE WILL CELEBRATE EPIPHANY WITH A FAMILY SERVICE!**

Beginning again January 11 - Sunday school available for preschool through 5th grade - classroom doors open at 9:30am.

Nursery care is available every Sunday from 9-11:30 am for children to age 4.

BAPTISM – The next Baptism will be conducted on February 22nd. Interested persons should contact the church office.

We are having a **SAFER Church training** here at St. Paul's on January 17th – please contact Sarah Nyhan for information. Anyone at St. Paul's who regularly works with our children must attend one of these training sessions.

Mustard Seed Enrichment – a parent/child program for children aged 2-5 years is held on Wednesday mornings from 9-10:30am. We will NOT have class on 30th. Classes resume on January 7th. Contact Sarah Nyhan for information.

Confirmation classes are coming soon! Any youth in eighth grade or older who is interested, please contact Sarah Nyhan here at church. Confirmation is Sunday June 21st here at St. Paul's Church. Thank you.