



# St. Paul's Epistle

*"To know Christ and to make Christ known"*

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## FROM THE INTERIM RECTOR

### So long, Farewell, Auf Wiedersehen, Good-bye...

As an intentional interim priest, I live with the very clear knowledge that I will be saying good-bye. That comes with interim ministry; from the first day, even from the time the invitation to join a parish, interim clergy know that the good-bye is on the horizon.

And it is time for me to say goodbye to you. My Letter of Agreement was for a little more than ten months, ending July 31. For several reasons I offered to stay a little longer. Now that your Search Committee has moved into the discernment phase of the search, engaging in conversations with priests interested in the possibility of being called as St. Paul's next rector, it's time for me to move on.

My last Sunday at St. Paul's will be August 29. I will then pack up the office and take some accrued vacation time in September. Aside from a brief trip to the mountains with friends in early September, I expect to just lay low, rest, read, and be with my husband. I am also moving towards formal retirement, but I'm not at all sure what this will look like, so I too will be in discernment mode, trying to learn what God may be calling me to do in the coming months and years.

This past year has been a challenging one for everyone, for all of you, for our parish, and for me. I deeply regret that the pandemic so limited my ability to be with you, to share in ministry, to learn and laugh together. I am delighted that we have been able to return to something a bit more normal on Sunday mornings, offering in-person worship and the Eucharist with both bread and wine. I wish I could say with confidence that the worst of the pandemic is behind us—I hope it is, but the current rate of vaccinations in Johnston County and the emerging variants of the coronavirus concern me. Please follow the lead of your Wardens and Vestry if the need arises to take a step or two back; they will be following the direction of our bishops, as we all try to take care of ourselves and others who may be more susceptible to infection or who cannot receive the vaccines.

I hope to see many of you on the 29<sup>th</sup>—even if that is to meet you and say goodbye on the same day. Know that I will hold you all in my prayers as you move towards welcoming your next rector. And remember that you are loved. Always. By God. And by me.

Blessings and peace,

Jill+

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## Save the Date... August 29!!

Please join us after the 11 am service on  
Sunday, August 29, for a very special coffee hour.

Stay tuned to email blasts and Sunday bulletin announcements  
over the next couple of weeks for updates and details!

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## **New Rector Search**

Keep our St. Paul's Search Committee in your prayers, as they have now received names and documentation from the Diocese pertaining to our potential next Rector. In the words of our Search Prayer, "Guide the members of our Search Committee as they labor to be faithful in seeking your will."

We give thanks to God for the dedication of these members, and their service to St. Paul's.

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### **St. Paul's Search Prayer**

Almighty God, you know the needs of your Church in every place: look graciously upon the people of St. Paul's, and grant us the guidance of your Holy Spirit as we seek a new Rector for this parish. Give us discernment, wisdom, and confidence in your timing. Guide the members of our Search Committee as they labor to be faithful in seeking your will.

We pray for the life of our parish, that we may continue to be strengthened in our mission to be Jesus Christ's heart, hands, and feet to our neighbors no matter where they are on their journey of faith. Bless us with mutual trust and respect, courage, and foresight as you shepherd our community through its journey. Grace us with continuous direction and inspire us toward genuine self-reflection. All this we ask as we walk in your ways to the glory of your name. Amen.

# NEWS AND NOTES...

## Finance Committee

Our July 20 meeting was held in person in Lawrence Hall. Lindy Faulconer reported that as of June 30, 2021, monthly receipts were \$1,952 above budget and Year-to-Date revenue was \$20,279 above budget, which includes \$25,267 of PPP loan funds. The PPP loan funds will also be available to supplement the revenue for July and August. Expenses for June were \$1,666 above budget due to timing issues of quarterly paid expenses. For the year expenses are \$7,285 below the budget.

Concerning the sale of the rectory, the contract for the sale has been approved by the Diocesan Standing Committee, and the anticipated closing for this all-cash transaction is the end of July. The sale price is \$180,000. The net proceeds after closing costs are to be utilized to start the St. Paul's Legacy Endowment Fund. The Vestry has appointed a special committee to oversee the establishment of the endowment.

The Committee extensively discussed the revision of the Finance Manual. Rev. Beimdiek and Pat Hovorka have edited the manual for needed updates. The proposed revised manual is scheduled to be presented to the Vestry at their July 27 meeting. One of the major changes is for the Finance Committee to meet quarterly rather than monthly, with the provision that additional meetings could be called if needed. The Treasurer will continue to provide monthly financial statements to the Rector and Wardens. The revised manual also includes updated wording regarding the electronic transactions for tax, recurring expenses, parishioner payments, etc.

We are seeking volunteers for committee members and a clerk. No special financial knowledge is required, and the clerk does not have to be a committee member.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bob Kendall, Chair

## July Vestry Highlights

At its July 27 meeting, the Vestry

- Received the Financial Report for June (see Finance Committee report, see left hand column on this page)
- Gave thanks for the completed sale of the rectory, and the ongoing work to establish the St. Paul's Legacy Endowment Fund.
- Elected Theresa Rose as the third delegate for St. Paul's to the Diocesan Convention, and Mike and Sherrill Weathers as alternates.
- Heard an explanation by Finance Chair Bob Kendall about the changes made to the Finance Manual
- Discussed and resolved several outstanding issues in the Finance Manual revision, and accepted the revised Manual
- Considered options for health insurance coverage for the Rector and Office Manager and adopted a policy that will become effective with the new Rector and on January 1 for the Office Manager.

## Attendance and Pledge Obligations 2021

Last Week		Year to Date	
7/25/2021		1/1/2021 – 7/25/2021	
Pledge Payments	\$1910.00	Pl. Payments	\$128,676.28
Weekly Pledge Target	\$4507.40	Pledge Budget	\$140,494.28



ECW continues their summer break. While you're enjoying cookouts and family reunions, think about some of those recipes that are "must haves" for your family. THOSE are the recipes that we need for our cookbook! If you don't have time to enter it online, snap a pic of your recipe with your smartphone and text it to Nancy at 919-906-5782. Easy as that! No smartphone? Make a copy and drop it off at church either in the ECW mailbox in the hallway or just slide it through the mail slot. Save the date... Saturday, September 18 at 10 am for our next meeting. Make plans to join us!!!

We do good work in His name!

~ Nancy Gibbs, President

\*\*\*Recipes are still needed!! The cookbook project is still alive, just tabled for publication until later. PLEASE continue to submit your recipes for our Cookbook Project either by entering them online or by using the enclosed form.

To submit a recipe(s) online go to:

<https://www.typensave.com>.

Enter the login: **stpaulsecw** and password: **pickle213**

To submit a handwritten recipe, please use the form in this newsletter. Mail it to St. Paul's or drop it through the mail slot on the office entry door. Feel free to copy the form for additional submissions.

If you have any questions regarding the cookbook project, please contact any of the following committee members: [Nancy Gibbs](#) (committee chair), [Pat Hovorka](#), [Theresa Rose](#), [Kay Hewitt](#), [Sherrill Weathers](#), and [Jenny Batten-Wiley](#).

*Each month ECW members gather together for fellowship and to discuss ways in which we can assist those in need in our communities. We invite all women of St. Paul's to join us. Please come and take part as we bring our projects to realization. Your input is important, plus new and fresh ideas are always welcome!*

## Kitchen Guild

The Kitchen Guild will resume their monthly meetings starting on August 3. At this time the team consists of Betty Smith, Jane Hawk, Debby Jenkins, Jan Branch, Karen Kendall, and Sherrill Weathers. We are always willing to welcome new members!! We meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 10:30 am in the church kitchen. Generally, we check supplies for coffee hour, dinners, etc. and clean the counters, refrigerators, and stove top. Whatever needs to be done in a kitchen. We have a lot of fun talking and have been known to go for lunch afterwards.

Please join us if you can. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact co-chair Debby Jenkins, [djenkins2615@nc.rr.com](mailto:djenkins2615@nc.rr.com), or co-chair Sherrill Weathers, [sherrillw@gmail.com](mailto:sherrillw@gmail.com).

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## Altar Guild

First, I want to thank Bill Jordan for repairing one of our Altar Candles. This saved the Altar Guild a lot of time and money by not having to send the candle out for repair. We really appreciate Bill taking the time and having the patience to do this for us.

After being in limbo for the past 16 months, we are going back to our regular schedule and look forward to being "normal" again! Many thanks to our team members for hanging in there and being willing to get back in the swing of things.

Anyone who is interested in joining the Altar Guild team please contact me and I will be happy to answer any questions you might have.

Sherrill Weathers  
[Sherrillw@gmail.com](mailto:Sherrillw@gmail.com)  
(919) 553-5738

# NEWS AND EVENTS

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## My Kid's Club

The children of My Kid's Club appreciate these snacks: fruit, lower-sugar or sodium items and juice boxes.

Meg Scovil will pick up donated snacks and deliver to My Kid's Club. Should you wish to donate these items, simply leave your donations on the bench outside the church office door on a weekday. Mike Hugo will place your donated items in the office hallway and contact Meg.

Thank you for your continued support of this ministry.

~ Meg Scovil



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## The Outreach and Social Justice Committee

meets four times per year.

Co-Chairs: Diane Every and Debby Jenkins

Contact info: [Diane Every](#): 919-934-5080, [Debby Jenkins](#)

The Outreach and Social Justice Committee is officially back in session! We met the last week in July to catch up on all our news. We were happy to receive information on what our annual budget will be, so we are able to designate and share to the many funds in our community that St. Paul's supports. There were plenty of "thank you" notes from these funds, which had been received throughout the year. It is always a pleasure to read these notes and learn that we are, indeed, appreciated.

Checks have been sent to both Camp Courage and Camp Hugs for their summer programs for in-need children. Habitat for Humanity reports that they will be building six homes between Smithfield and Clayton. We will be sending checks out to them in support of their endeavors. We look forward to both new and on-going projects and any new ideas that are steered our way.

We thank Jim and Joyce Gibson for their generous donation, which we used to purchase bottled water for the San Jose vaccination clinics.

Outreach is beginning to collect backpacks and back to school supplies. Please bring items to the church no later than Sunday, August 22. Thank you in advance for your help.



The Committee is pleased to have the Blessing Box up and running and would appreciate canned and packaged foods to be donated to keep the Box stocked.

And, please continue to bring your aluminum pop-tops and leave them in the container on the Outreach table outside Lawrence Hall.

Thank you for your continuing support.

~ Diane and Debby

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## Stewardship Corner

“Help Wanted”

We see this sign more and more as activities and businesses reopen. Guess where you can help? St. Paul’s needs you.

It might just be the right time to remind ourselves of the interests and talents we listed on our pledge cards to see how we can help. Opportunities are available for lectors/intercessors, ushers, counters, crucifers, and acolytes to serve our Sunday worship services. Were you (or are you a future) Sunday School teacher? Want to lift your voice in song with the choir? These activities will return again soon, but our worship services need help right now, and those of us who have shouldered the load during the shutdown are happy to welcome new faces and voices. Want to try something new? Please do. Remember whatever activity you choose, you’re among friends.

Let’s turn the page to stewardship beyond Sunday. August brings a new school year with more in-person classes. That means school supplies for young learners. Bring your gifts of backpacks and school supplies to the church by August 22 and we’ll bless them at the 11 a.m. service that day. Let’s fill the need.

Lastly, a word of thanks to my fellow members of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, who constructed the Blessing Box for the Outreach Committee, and to everyone who helps supply it. By the number of times it needs to be filled each week, we know there is definitely a need. Here is a small food closet that is available anytime for anyone.

Thanks be to God for all who help!

Curtis Brookshire  
Stewardship Committee



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## ~ COFFEE HOUR HOSTS NEEDED ~

Now that we’re gathering for fellowship after the 11 am service, we need volunteers to host.

There are some restrictions... food must be individually packaged or served by someone masked and gloved. But, it’s still pretty easy to do.

Sign up to host a Sunday with a friend or two. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board outside Lawrence Hall.



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## Sunday Worship Via Internet

Our Zoom link for Sunday-morning worship will be posted in our weekly email blast and bulletin. We will not post the link outside parish news due to recent problems with hackers.

Our Facebook link is the home page for the St. Paul’s Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/St-Pauls-Episcopal-Church-Smithfield-NC-130758673995> .

Note: one need not subscribe to Facebook to watch the livestream. Simply choose “not now” if asked about adding an account.

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# BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

**Sunday, August 22**

**The Outreach and Social Justice Committee is collecting backpacks and school supplies. Please bring items to the church no later than Sunday, August 22 and we will bless them before they are distributed to young scholars in our community.**

**And if you are a young (or not so young) scholar, or teacher, bring your backpack to the 11 a.m. service on the 22nd so we can bless it—and you—and you begin a new school year. (And you'll**

**also get a cool tag to put on your backpack!)**



## St. Paul's Episcopal Church



### Sunday Schedule

**8:00 am Sunday Worship**

**11:00 am Sunday Worship**

### Upcoming Dates to Remember

Aug 3 Kitchen Guild, 10:30 am

Aug 5 Brotherhood, 6:00 pm, Lawrence Hall

Aug 24 Vestry 7:00 pm, Lawrence Hall