



THE EPISTLE

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

June 2022

Eastertide at St. Paul's



Palm Sunday



Maundy Thursday



Good Friday



Easter Vigil



Easter Sunday



Cross of Flowers



A Message from our Rector

Dear Friends,

A few weeks back the Wardens sent an e-mail to the parish about my upcoming sabbatical. I am very grateful to the Vestry for offering me the opportunity to take a leave for rest, refreshment, and study. I will be out of the office from Thursday, June 16th until Tuesday, August 16th.

During this time, I will have the opportunity for a guided retreat and both independent and directed study, as well as some travel and visiting with family and friends. In early July, I will serve as the weekly Episcopal Chaplain at the Chautauqua Institute, presiding and preaching daily and teaching a few programs at the Episcopal Cottage. My time at Sarum College (UK) has been

postponed until the third month of my sabbatical; I need to continue medical treatment for a minor, but persistent, back injury and overseas travel is inadvisable at this time.

Know that Rev. Jay, Natosche, and the Wardens, as well as the whole staff, are ready to assist you as needed. Also, know that I will be keeping the parish list with me so that you all will rotate into my daily prayers by name

Again, thank you to the Vestry, and to you, for offering me this extended time for rest and renewal. Please know of best wishes for a happy and safe summer and I look forward to seeing you in August.

Yours in Christ,

Dear Friends,

In the Fall of 2019, the Vestry affirmed the parish's commitment to offering our Rector a three-month sabbatical in 2020.

Unfortunately, COVID put those plans on hold. Now, we are glad that Rob will be able to take some of this renewal time over this summer.

Sabbatical time is not primarily a time for intense productivity or other self-justifying activity. We believe that this time away from his primary ministry for rest, refreshment, recreation, travel, reading, study, hobbies and the renewal of personal relationships will not only be beneficial for Rob's vocation but will also greatly benefit St. Paul's. We are also committed to making sure he takes his well-deserved third month of sabbatical, as well.

We wish him well! Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Sincerely yours, Your Wardens
Erin Glanton and Ingrid Stanlis

Save the Dates

NOVEMBER 6TH
at 4:00pm
Festival Service and
Reception

NOVEMBER 18TH
at 7:30pm
10th Restoration
Anniversary Organ
Recital with
Bradley Welch
AND MORE!!

125
YEARS ON EAST AVE



Welcome to St. Paul's

Meet Sonja Slother, Director of Communications and Digital Ministry

Sonja, whose background is in graphic design, has been the Director of Communications and Ministry Development at St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral in Buffalo for the past seven and a half years. A member of the network of Episcopal Communicators, Sonja has won numerous "Polly Bond" awards for her creative graphic design. Polly Bond was a founding member of the Episcopal Communicators and the award recognizes outstanding work in communications and design on a national level.

A native of Pittsburgh, Sonja is married to her college sweetheart, Shawn and together have two young adult sons, Logan and Chase. Sonja's aspiration for St. Paul's is to use her creative talent, ideas, and vision to further the mission and outreach of St. Paul's.



Meet Lydia Arnts, Seminarian Intern



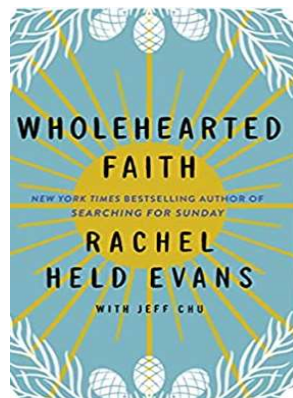
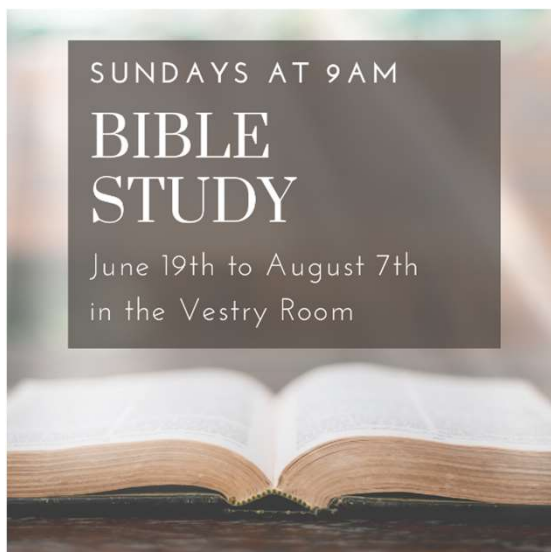
Lydia will join us beginning in mid-August. As a seminarian here, her role is to learn about all areas of parish life — from pastoral to liturgical to administrative and everything in between. She will be with us about ten hours a week.

A note from Lydia to St. Paul's parishioners:

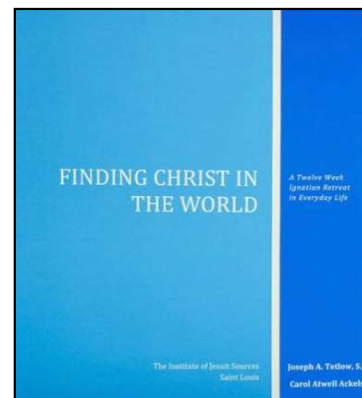
I am extremely excited to be joining the St. Paul's community this year. I cannot wait to meet and work with you all and learn from this opportunity. I am from Bath, NY, where I have attended St. Thomas' Episcopal Church for the past 18 years. I recently graduated from Ithaca College earning my Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance. Next fall, I will be attending Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School and pursuing my Master of Divinity. I look forward to getting to know you and am deeply grateful for your willingness to have me as a Postulant in your Parish. Blessings to all!

Summer Learning Programs

To learn more about any of these programs, contact Nancy Gear at 585-305-5727 or nggear@stpaulsec.org.



Summer Book Study
Wholehearted Faith by Rachel Held Evans with Jeff Chu
Mondays, July 11-
August 1 at 7:00 P.M.



Exercises of Saint Ignatius
Investigate Ignatian practices. Mid-June, every other week for the 12-week program. Details to be determined by participants.

Recent Celebrations

Pentecost & Baptisms

On Pentecost, June 5, at both services groups of parishioners helped to read the account of Pentecost in multiple languages. In addition, since Baptism is traditionally offered on Pentecost, Tessa Ann Spaker and Theodore Frederick Surdyka were received into the house of God through Holy Baptism during the 10:15 A.M. service.

RIGHT ABOVE: Reading the Pentecost lesson from Acts at the 8:00 A.M. service are the Rev. Sue Ouellette, Jim Dorr, Tim Dewart, Nancy Gear and the Rev. Rob Picken.

RIGHT BELOW: Baptism of Tessa Ann and Theodore Frederick by the Rev. Jay Burkardt. (Baptism photos by Louise Moore.)



Commemorating Dr. Robert Poovey's 15 years at St. Paul's

During the 10:15 A.M. service on June 12, Dr. Robert Poovey was recognized for his 15 years as our parish's Music Director.

RIGHT: Dr. Poovey leading the choir, receiving a gift from the Rev. Rob Picken, and addressing the congregation.



Photos by Linda Hayes

Parish Picnic

After the 10:15 A.M. service, parishioners moved outside to enjoy our first parish picnic since 2019. Everyone enjoyed hot dogs, burgers, beans, and salad as well as ice cream from a food truck as they took this opportunity to enjoy one another's company.



TOP ROW:
Parishioners being served meals hot off the grill; ice cream truck serving treats; parishioners enjoying themselves.

MIDDLE ROW:
Younger and not-so-young parishioners enjoying an inflatable bounce house.

BOTTOM ROW:
Picnic-goers enjoying find food and good company under a tent which kept off a few raindrops that didn't dampen the fun.

Photos by Linda Hayes

Holy Week at St. Paul's



Palm Sunday

TOP LEFT: The Bell Choir performing
MIDDLE LEFT: Choir members singing the Passion Gospel.



Maundy Thursday

BOTTOM FAR LEFT: After commemoration of the Last Supper in the celebration of the Eucharist, the clergy removed the reredos cross and palms, and cleansed the Altar as the choir chanted Psalm 22.



Good Friday

BOTTOM LEFT: Worship focused on the Passion of Christ; Choir members changed the Good Friday Gospel reading



Easter Vigil

TOP RIGHT: On Saturday evening, the Pascal Candle was lighted, baptismal vows were renewed, and the Great Vigil of Easter was celebrated.

Easter Day

MIDDLE RIGHT: Brass instrumentalists accompanied triumphant Easter music, the Rev. Rob Picken preached and celebrated the Eucharist.

BOTTOM RIGHT: The choir sang the Alleluia Chorus from "Handel's Messiah" as well as "Love Bade Me Welcome" by David Hurd.



Easter Gratitude

Thank you to Jane Chapman, Margaret Cochran, Mary Gulick, Pat Moran, Kate Sturman, Peggy Willard, and Gretchen Zenner who helped plan, placed the many colorful plants in the nave and columbarium, and watered all the plants until the Second Sunday of Easter. Thanks also to the Rev. Jay Burkardt, Bob Potter, Dave McEntee and Jim D'Angelo for their support. *Nancy Andrus*

Many thanks also to all of those who helped to make our Holy Week services possible: our Clergy; our Musicians led by Dr. Poovey and Augustine Sobeng; our Altar Guild Members; Acolytes; Office Staff; and Property Staff.



Cross of Flowers

On April 24, practicing a long-standing tradition at St. Paul's on the Second Sunday of Easter, parishioners created a Cross of Flowers. Thanks to those who prepared the blooms provided by Kittleberger Florist for use on the Cross of Flowers.

TOP LEFT: Completed Cross of Flowers which was decorated by parishioners during both Sunday services.

TOP CENTER: The Rev. Rob Picken, during the 10:15 A.M. service, blessing prayer shawls created by parishioners.

TOP RIGHT: Cross of Flowers Preparation Team- Jane Chapman, Stan and Anne Refermat, and Nancy Andrus.

BOTTOM: Parish young people dismissing the congregation in front of the completed Cross of Flowers.

Cross of Flowers photos (this page and cover) by: Nancy Andrus, Kevin Frisch, Erin Glanton, Rita Lancy, and Erin Wright.



Serving Others



Concert supports Foodlink

The last *If Music Be The Food* concert of the program year was held here on April 3 to benefit Foodlink, our regional food bank. Those attending heard students and music faculty from ROCmusic perform works by Bach and Mozart.

Needs continue at St. Joseph's House

St. Joseph's House of Hospitality. The needs continue to be personal items like those listed at the right. On the first Saturday of each month, St. Paul's contributors provide sandwich meals for St. Joseph's guests. Thanks to all who have responded generously!

Meredith Halter mhalter@rochester.rr.com

<p>DONATE TO</p> <p><i>St Joe's House</i></p>	
<p>DROP OFF AT ST. PAUL'S</p> <p>SUNDAY MORNINGS IN NARTHEX</p> <p>TUESDAYS-THURSDAYS</p> <p>10:30AM TO 2:30PM</p>	<p>NEW SOCKS, NEW MEN'S UNDERWEAR, TRAVEL-SIZED PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS, BOXES OF INDIVIDUAL SUGAR PACKETS, TEA & COFFEE.</p>

Lay Weeders get the parish grounds ready for spring

Parish Lay Weeders were at work on Saturday, May 7, weeding, raking, and planting flower pots.

TOP RIGHT: Erin Glanton and Bill Moore taking a break to chat; Judy McGrath power-washing the office ramp.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Judy McGrath and Bill Moore raking the flower bed and tackling the weeds; Steve Chepiga weeding the front bed.

Also helping but not pictured were Jim Brock, Maureen Chepiga, and C-Weeder Rob Picken.

Thanks to our Weeders for making our grounds more attractive and welcoming.



Learning opportunities this past spring

Unabashedly Episcopalian

In May, parishioners studied the unique Episcopalian way of being Christian which included the following topics:

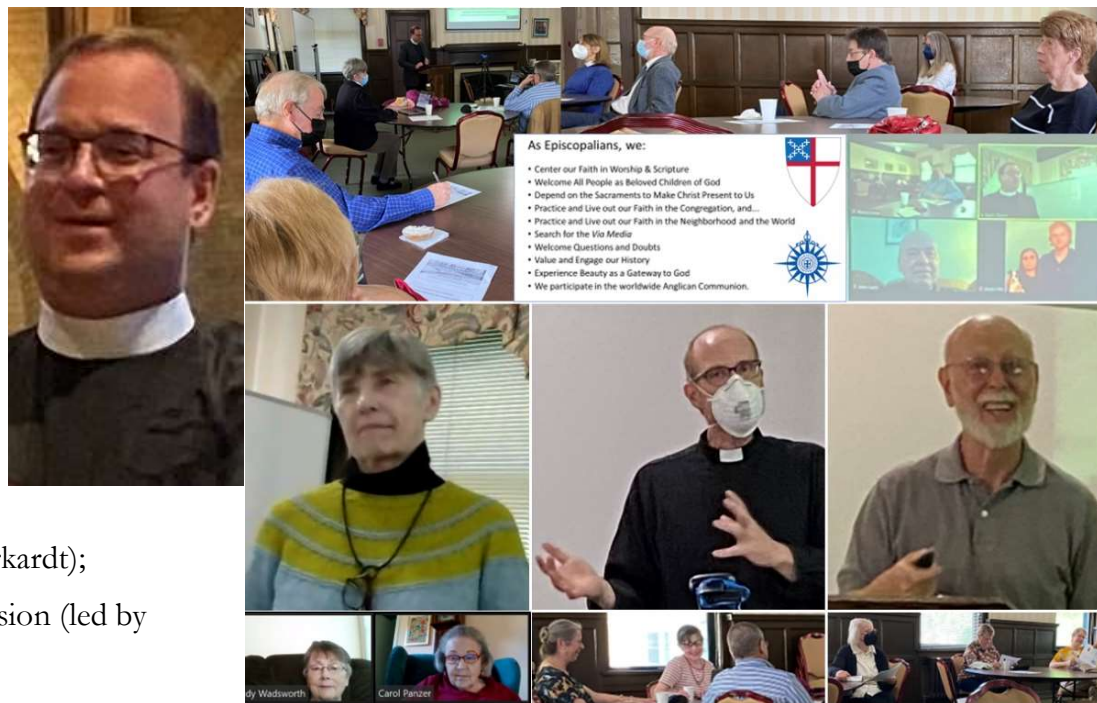
On May 1- Anglican Vision (led by Rob Picken);

On May 8- Purposes and Varieties of Prayer (led by Nancy Gear);

On May 15- Ethics (led by Jay Burkardt);

On May 22- Social Witness & Mission (led by John Hazzard).

RIGHT: Presenters and some of the participants.



Book group reads *The Fullness of Time* and meets with its author



During May, interested parishioners met via Zoom to discuss *The Fullness of Time* by the Rev. Dr. Kara N. Slade. On June 6, they met with Dr. Slade to discuss issues raised in the book. Author Slade is seen at the left during the June 6 conversation with book group members.

SERVICES, MEETINGS

Parish opportunities for worship and learning are provided in person and electronically. Check your email daily for updates.

12-STEP GROUPS

Some of the 12-step groups which normally meet at St. Paul's have resumed meeting. Some may be available online. Contact Alcoholics Anonymous at Rochester-NY-AA.org. For other 12-step groups, please check with your local or national office.

Merciful God,

we entrust to your never-failing care and love

**James Atwater, Gordon Brown,
Nancy Gleason, and Kathleen Sposato.**

Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord;
And let light perpetual shine upon them.

May their souls, and the souls of all the departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Parish Activities



April 24 Parish Breakfast

On April 24, parishioners gathered between worship services for enjoy one another's company during a delicious breakfast prepared for them by Vestry members. Many thanks to the Vestry for sponsoring and preparing our first parish breakfast since the pandemic brought a stop to all social gatherings.



Linens photos by Erin Glanton & Judy Wadsworth.

Turning Linens into Silk!

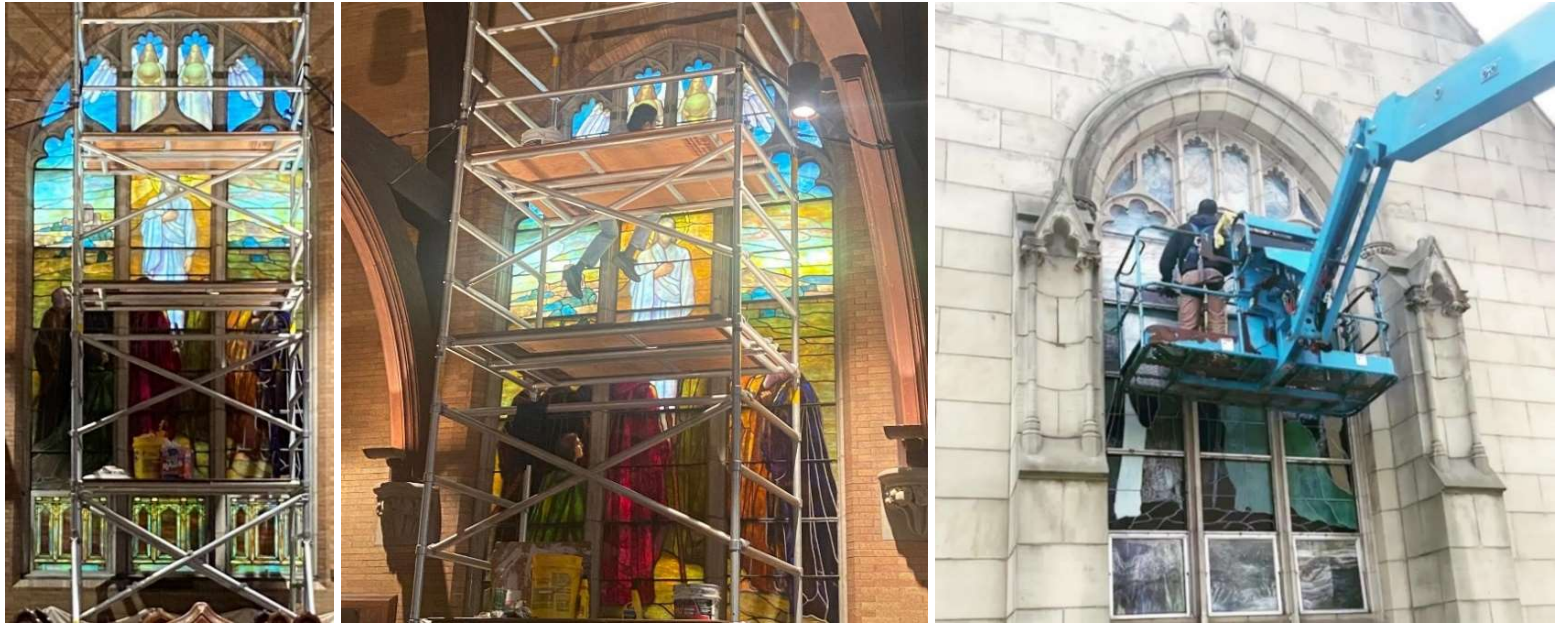
On May 15, parishioners browsed through linens donated several years ago to our St. Paul's Antique Show. These beautiful gems, many of them handcrafted, had been put into storage and forgotten. Purchaseers could name their price and buy from a wonderful selection of tablecloths, napkins, lace, and other items. The sale raised \$637.00, all of which will be used to purchase and restore Altar hangings and silks.

New member blessed

During the 10:15 A.M. service on April 3, baby Theodore seen here with parents Will and Maura and older sibling, was blessed by the Rev. Rob Picken.



Chantry Window Repair

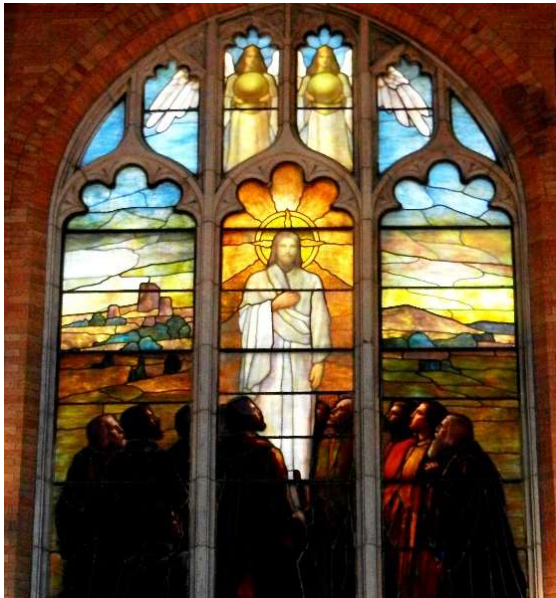


Seen above are the scaffolding and a worker cleaning the window inside as well as an exterior view of the same process.

Two stained glass windows in the Chantry are being cleaned and restored this summer: the large Ascension window and the apse Good Samaritan window next to the Altar. During interior work on the Ascension Window, which involved scaffolding taking up space for a few Sundays, the 8:00 A.M. Eucharist on Sundays was celebrated in the Nave.

The cleaning and restoration project in the Chantry was paid for by the estate of Marylu Andrews and parishioner Bill Moore.

See the next page for more on the Chantry and the restoration of the Good Samaritan window.



Ascension window before (left) and after (right) restoration



Pledge Update

In 2022, over \$388,000 was pledged or contributed to St. Paul's. Thank you for your support!
For those of you traveling this summer, remember that you can use your pledge envelopes to mail your donation to the Office.

Chantry then & now



The St. Paul's Chantry as seen in the black and white photo from 1899 housed an ornate reredos behind the altar which is attached to the wall, an ornate lectern, and pews that take up the entire width of the Chantry without a center aisle.

Tiffany windows were placed on either side of the Chantry altar. The window to the left of the altar shows one man comforting another—perhaps the Good Samaritan, although there are no records of the original intent of the designer. The window to the right of the altar is an interpretation from the parable of the talents, “Well done, good and faithful servant...” (Matthew 25:21).



Bottom row photos by Rob Picken.

The colored photos show the Chantry as it looks now.

In the bottom row is seen the Samaritan window before its dismantlement, the window as it is being removed for restoration, and the exterior view of the dismantlement process. The restored window is expected to be reinstalled by the end of summer.

Interfaith Prayer Vigil held for victims of gun violence



On Wednesday, May 25th an Interfaith Prayer Vigil for Victims of Gun Violence was held at Asbury First United Methodist Church. Our Rector, Rob Picken, joined other interfaith clergy in offering words for comfort and hope in the aftermath of the school shooting in Texas, the shooting in Buffalo, and the church attack in California, as well as for victims of gun violence in our city and beyond.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office is open Monday - Thursday
10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

For emergency pastoral needs after hours,
call 585-483-0472.

Follow St. Paul's on Facebook, Instagram,
and email to receive messages.

Clergy and staff closely monitor mail, phone calls, and e-mail.
For urgent pastoral concerns, call 585-483-0472.

To contribute information for *The Epistle*,
contact Judy Wadsworth, Editor.

View the full church calendar at:

www.stpaulsec.org

• Visit us on Facebook



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Web Site: www.stpaulsec.org

«Label»

«Address1»

«Address2»

«City», «State» «Zip»

Our Vision

We pray that all who enter St. Paul's
experience God's presence in this community
of faith, a community that through Christ
strives to be loving, joyous, inclusive,
transforming and filled with God's Grace.

St. Paul's Ministry Staff

Rector

The Rev. Robert A. Picken

Assistant Rector

The Rev. Jay P. Burkardt

The Rev. Sue Ouellette, Ph.D., Deacon
Lydia Arnts, Postulant

Director of Music
Dr. Robert Poovey

Organ Scholar
Augustine Sobeng

Director, Adult Faith Formation
Nancy Grear

**Director, Children and Youth
Faith Formation**
Amy Welker

Sunday Child Care
Dorothea (Dorrie) Champlin
Candace Hoffman-Hussain

Wedding & Funeral Coordinator
Judy Loveland

**Director of Communications
& Digital Ministry**
Sonja Slother

Parish Office Administrator
Natosche Holt

Parish Accountant
Judy McGrath

Accounting Assistant
Lisa Werner

Property Manager
Bob Potter

Maintenance Associates
Dave McEntee
Jim D'Angelo