



ST PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Messenger

113 ENGLE STREET, ENGLEWOOD, NJ. 07631

SEPTEMBER | OCTOBER 2006



Dear Companions,

In 1983 Arlin Rothauge, published a classic work on congregational development—**Sizing Up Your Congregation**. Using sociological data Rothauge analyzed the characteristics, relationships, and needs of parishioners and determined that congregational life in large part is determined by the size (i.e. number of parishioners) in the parish. The characteristics of three congregational types are highlighted below:

- **The Pastoral Church** (50-250 members): In this congregation the priest is the center of pastoral support. Parish life may be seen as a series of concentric circles – at the core is the leader (i.e. the priest), next comes the closest fellowship ring (those members closest to the Rector), and the final ring is the general membership. Parishioners in these congregations know one another well. Everyone in the choir knows who is in the Youth Group etc. Program life in these congregations may be limited but members enjoy the intimacy of small community life. Most Episcopal Churches are *Pastoral Sized Churches*.
- **The Program Church** (250-750 members): The rector acts as the enabler of ministries and chief administrator: there is usually at least one assistant; and members usually receive their pastoral support and experience spiritual growth through membership in a smaller program unit or organization within the parish. The program life may be more sophisticated (the choir may be superb—more outreach may be done—etc.) but there is a tradeoff—a lack of immediacy. The Altar Guild may have absolutely no idea who is in the Youth Group etc. These congregations depend on the expertise of volunteers to enable program life and this has led to significant stress. In the past women with disposable time generously shared their talents

with the church. Today, however, fewer and fewer individuals have disposable time to give to the church—especially here in the New York City metropolitan area. St. Paul's Church, Englewood, is clearly a program church.

- **The Corporate Church** (750+ members): The rector is the chief of a multi-layered church staff of lay professionals and ordained persons each with specific duties, ministries, and responsibilities. Community life is arranged through subdivisions, with primary and secondary leaders and governing boards. Financial and human resources make it possible for these congregations to offer very sophisticated programs. However, there are trade-offs. This is a place to come and experience excellence in program but the intimacy and immediacy of a smaller community life may be lacking. This is a place where consumers may experience the very finest program.

The vestry and I are aware of these dynamics at play in our congregational life and we have attempted to maximize the effectiveness of our ministry through its program life. At the same time we have tried to maintain a firm commitment to healthy interpersonal relationships and are mindful of the needs for intimacy and trust in our parish. Each month on the Vestry's agenda time is set aside to review our program life. We utilize an acronym: **S.W.E.E.P.S.** This stands for: Service (outreach), Worship, Education, Evangelism (i.e. communications—including this newsletter), Pastoral Care, and Stewardship. Because we do not have the financial resources for staff to oversee each part of our program (as would be the case in a corporate church) we attempt to be accountable to one another for overseeing our program life. This makes us mutually accountable to one another.

As we examine our lives here at St. Paul's Church we are indeed grateful for the time and expertise that our members give to enable the witness of this incredible parish. In the pages of this edition of the Messenger you will see images and text highlighting the rich diversity of witness of God's transformative love.

Yours in faith,

Service:

St. Paul's Church has a very active Outreach Ministry Program. Outreach is defined as ministry of service for others with no expectation whatsoever of those we serve becoming members. We serve because Christ would have us do so.

1. On the second Sunday of every month, we as a church are committed to feed the hungry at the **Clergy Coalition Shelter** in Hoboken. Through the generosity of the people of this parish, we serve over 100 people each month and the word on the street is that the recipients look forward to St. Paul's coming because we offer the best variety and most generous helping of quality dishes.

Each and every month we need your help! Prepare food—deliver food—or serve food at the shelter! It is an incredibly rich and dare I say it—HOLY EXPERIENCE—to serve a sister or brother in need! Check the sign-up sheet and volunteer! Mark these dates on your calendar!

- **September 10th**
- **October 8th**
- **November 12th**
- **December 10th**

2. Two weeks each year, members of St. Paul's work side by side with the Jewish community of Kol HaNeshama and offer hospitality at the Inter Religious Faith Shelter (IRF) located at St. Cecilia's Church, Englewood. During this time each evening we prepare and serve dinner to the residents and also make bag lunches for the following day. We also serve as overnight hosts. The residents are families with children. This is not a place for homeless men. We need your help! Our weeks this year begins on Sunday, November 5th and we end with clean up on Saturday, November 18th. Won't you join us?

I conclude this report with a word of thanks to Issie Cherevko, Diana Lohse, Karen Near, Gale—Andra Shade and Janice Walker—who participated this year in the C.R.O.P. walk and backed by the monetary pledges of St. Paul's members raised \$866 to fight hunger both nationally and globally.

We are proud of our service involvement. To volunteer or find out more, please contact me through the church's office: 201-568-3276

Gary Mason.



Jerona Babb prepares dinner.



Gloria Luke and Myrna Harrison get dinner ready.



St. Paul's Church prepares a bountiful table for the hungry!

Worship

In the last Annual Report to the Parish Ken Near noted that Worship is the very heart of our life here at St. Paul's. Anyone who worships here knows that this is true. We are the inheritors of a very beautiful place. As I think about this place I am reminded that the writer of Psalm 28:6 got it right when it was said: "Lord I love house in which you dwell * the place where your glory abides." Truly, this is a place where the glory of God abides!

Gary Mason, Warden and Vestry Liaison for Worship



Sopranos and Altos in Action (photo 1999).

St. Paul's Choir

The Saint Paul's choir will begin its 2006/2007 season on Sunday, September 10, for our Homecoming service. The choir provides meaningful and inspirational music for the beautiful liturgies that we offer here. In addition, several special services of music are planned for the year. The first will be our annual *All Souls' Day Requiem* in early November. This year a simple plainsong setting of the Requiem will be sung. The choir will also sing a dramatic setting of *Lux Aeterna* (Light Eternal) by the American Composer Morten Lauridsen.

A unique ministry undertaken here at St. Paul's brings highly talented young people into our midst for advanced training. Soon we will welcome yet another young and talented Organ Scholar. His name is Noah Wynne-Morton. Noah will be a second year student majoring in organ performance at the Juilliard School in New York City. You may look forward to his reading profile in the next issue of *The Messenger*. We also look forward to adding two new outstanding High School choristers to our ranks.

The Ministry of Music at St. Paul's has always been one of the aspects of our worship that has distinguished us and set us apart. Once again, I wish to offer an invitation to all who may want to join in this incredible ministry by joining the St. Paul's Choir. It is a heavy commitment, but it is absolutely one of the



best and most profound ways to worship. If you think that you may want to be a member of the choir, please contact me in the music office or through the parish office.

Paris L. Simms, Director of Music,
St. Paul' Church, Englewood

Chapel Renovations

During renovations in the chapel in 2003-2004, the altar table was brought forward, necessitating a reshaping of the altar rail. This was done in such a way as to make use of the existing cushions to preserve as much of the integrity of our past as possible. However, it became apparent that two new kneeling cushions were needed to fill out the Altar Rail. Fortunately, perhaps even miraculously, Brenda Brown Bogren, who designed the original needlepoint in 1984, graciously agreed to take on this project though she no longer concentrates her business in needlepoint design.

Betty McCloone and I met with Brenda to plan the project. We chose new images for the centers of each cushion from the clerestory windows in the church nave. In April 2004, we began needlepointing. Barbara Besson, Katherine Dwight, Rose Raynolds, and the late Jean Foster each helped. Kai Alston and Jane Dwight started out with us, but had to stop because of their busy schedules. The cushions were completed and delivered to the Chapel on July 29, 2006. Their first use took place on Sunday, July 30, 2006 at the 8:00 a.m. At that liturgy the Rector noted that things are made holy and are blessed through their use. We have blessed cushions now! Please come take a look at them!

Ruth Herrick



Education

At St. Paul's education is more about the formation of Christian life than the imparting of information. It is also more about conversation and dialogue than lecturing. This is true for the youth as well as the adults. The primary Education Program for Adults takes place on most Sundays from 9:15- 10:20 a.m. at the Adult Forum. Classes are usually held in the Guild Room just off the Parish Hall. Each week between 20 and 40 adults gather for stimulating conversation. Our education for smaller children takes place mostly through the Church School program held most Sunday mornings beginning at 10:20 a.m. The St. Paul's Youth (SPY) meets at various times at the convenience of the participants.

Here is some information on what's coming up next!

Adult Forum

1. *Perhaps you have seen the rather banal bumper sticker: W.W.J.D.?—What Would Jesus Do?*
At St. Paul's we have a slightly different take: W.W.J.D.?—i.e.—What Would Jung Do?

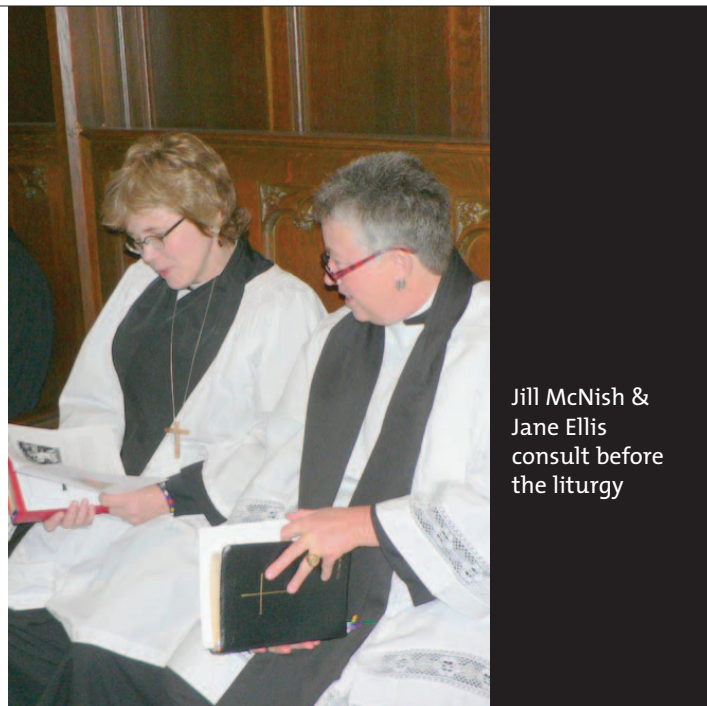
Sunday Mornings @ 9:15–10:20 a.m.—

September 17, 24, and October 1

The Rev. Dr. Jill McNish will facilitate our discussion.

She notes that:

C.G. Jung was a Swiss psychiatrist and an early disciple of Sigmund Freud. Indeed, Freud had designated Jung as his successor to lead the psychoanalytic movement. However, Jung split with Freud because unlike Freud, who believed that the energy of repressed human sexuality was our most influential impulse, Jung believed that humankind's most essential impulse was the impulse toward spirituality and religiosity, broadly defined. Jung's work has profound significance for anyone interested in exploring the meaning and power of myth and symbols, how they are mediated in our own dreams and longings and the psychological meaning of Christianity. Come one, come all!!!



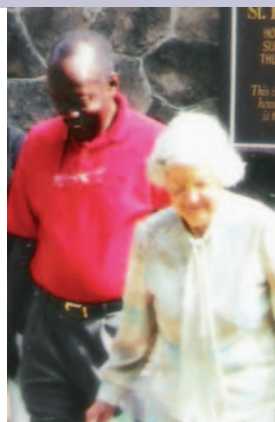
Jill McNish & Jane Ellis consult before the liturgy

2. *Back to the Future: Three Conversations About the Proposed Capital Campaign*

Sunday Mornings @ 9:15 - 10:20 A.M. - October 8, 15, & 22

The Rev. Jim Warnke and The Rev. Ken Near together with members of the Vestry will facilitate our discussion.

For three Sundays, members of the parish will gather to discuss various aspects of the proposed capital campaign. We are titling the series Back to the Future because our goal is to move St. Paul's forward while honoring its rich heritage. The first conversation is subtitled Getting to this Point It will focus on the "what," "whys" and theological foundations of the accessibility and renovation projects being considered. The second conversation, subtitled Process Dictates Outcome, will review such issues as developing a timeline, the choices made in choosing our consultant and architect. On the third and final Sunday, Ken Near along with members of the Capital Campaign's Discernment Committee will present the findings of the Architect and discuss the Engineer's Report. Please come. Your input is invaluable.



Nat Nelson & Molly Masland walk the McKelvey Labyrinth during the Adult Forum



Byron Babb & Ormand Harrison enjoy coffee after the Adult Forum

St. Paul's Church School

Homecoming Sunday is scheduled for Sunday morning, September 10, 2006. We will be registering children at our annual *Pancake Breakfast* which begins at 9:00 a.m. All children from age three through the fifth grade are encouraged to register. If you are unable to be there for breakfast you may also register at the coffee hour following the 10:30 service. The Church School Program itself begins the following Sunday, September 17, 2006. Please bring the children to church no later than 10:20 a.m. so class can begin promptly.

Once again we will be using the outstanding curriculum *Young Children* and *Worship* developed by Jerome Berryman. This program introduces children to the great stories of faith contained in the Bible and allows them to respond to these stories through creative projects.

We really need help. I find teaching church school to be a spiritually rewarding experience not only for the children but for me too. So please, anyone who feels he or she wants to contribute to Saint Paul's future while enhancing their own spirituality, please contact Debbie Williams or me through the church's office. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Jeff Johnson



Children offering Church School Program on a Sunday morning

St. Paul's Youth (SPY)

St. Paul's Youth or SPY is designed for youth in grades 6 through 12. At times we all meet together. At other times we divide in age appropriate groupings. Regardless of our age grouping we have three distinct aspects to our program:

1. **We intend to have FUN!!! This program is designed with fun in mind**
2. **We intend to SERVE. Many of our activities involve outreach service in the community beyond our walls.**
3. **We intend to LEARN something about God through studying the Bible and learning more about our tradition as Episcopalians.**

Why don't you contact Jill McNish through the church office 201-568-3276 or at MCNISHREV@aol.com to learn more about our activities?



Youth gathering for bike riding fund-raising project with adult sponsors Gary Mason (3rd person from right) and Jeff Johnson (far right)



Youth preparing Pizza Night while working with Issie Cherevko in Homeless Shelter in Englewood



Edith Holiday & Molly Masland recently served a Coffee Hour together

Evangelism

Communications

St. Paul's has embarked on an intensive campaign with the primary purpose of communicating information concerning all the Good News, wonderful programs and the shining stars within our congregation. At the launch of our new campaign we placed an advertisement in the Bergen Record inviting the community to experience our wonderfully uplifting Christmas music program brilliantly organized by the very talented Paris Simms. Needless to say, we successfully filled the house and kicked off our season in song and prayer!

Our new and improved weekly bulletin has communicated our right-on mantra, "worshipping and serving beautifully" with new colors and more information about all of the church's multifaceted efforts to worship & serve the Lord and support the community. That's what we do here at St. Paul—worship and serve, beautifully.

The New-Year brought a fresh perspective on embracing new members and enhancing our after-service fellowship efforts. Our coffee hours have been a smashing success now that various members of the congregation have lent their support in fellowship and celebration. The new-year has also launched new efforts with delivering St. Paul's undertakings to our internal and external community. With the new and improved Messenger, we focus on communication that is "image rich and content deep." The beautiful new Messenger is a feast for the eyes and is a true testament to our very diverse community. We have enjoyed stories about the secret talents held by members of our congregation and the ground-breaking efforts of our youth.

We do not intend to stand still. As we begin the new program year we'd like your input. How do we take our communication efforts to the next level? On the table near the chapel you will find a questionnaire and a box to place your response. We ask you to please complete a short survey and place your anonymous responses into the designated box. Your information will be helpful in improving our communications and programs for the coming year!

Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care Ministry Program of St. Paul's challenges us to respond to the needs of the members of our parish family who cannot physically be with us for one reason or another.

Deacon Jane Ellis

Lay Pastoral Ministers

"Let us go forth in the name of Christ" These are familiar words. They come at the end of liturgy or to put it better—at the beginning of the service which begins as we leave church! And the people respond—"Thanks be to God!"

We all realize that by virtue of our baptism each one is called to service and ministry to those in need. Our *Lay Pastoral Ministers* are commissioned for a vital and valuable ministry of inreach. They reach in to provide a helping hand to those members in our parish family who need help and care. They visit the sick or frail, the shut-ins and the lonely. They visit anyone in our parish who is in need. At special times during the year the lay pastoral minister and others may take flowers that adorn our Altar at Christmas and Easter to those who could use a brightening of their day. They may provide a ride to someone who needs a lift. *Lay Pastoral Ministers* are the legs and arms of the church, constantly moving the good news into the world where we can make a difference and shine the beacon of hope from St. Paul's into our own community.

In addition—members of this unique team are supervised and twice per year a special forum for *Lay Pastoral Ministers* and others is held to help sharpen listening skills and the capacity for compassionate care. NOW—I invite YOU to come and be a part of this vibrant ministry...Remember the words of our Savior—"Whatever You Did Unto One of the Least, You did unto me."

To discern or discuss if you are called to this ministry, or to simply sign up, please call Deacon Jane directly at: 201.541.7972.

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The Rev. James W. Warnke, Priest Associate
The Rev. Dr. Jill McNish, Priest Associate
The Rev. Jane Ellis, Deacon Associate

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Parishioner Margaret Johnson with Ken Near during a recent pastoral visit.

The Trans-Atlantic Prayer Book—Peg Slaven

When Ken Near told me that a prayer book—printed in the reign of George I of England—had been ensconced in the safe at St. Paul's since 1966, he had my complete attention. I had a hundred questions, and Ken patiently explained what was known about the book.

In 1965 St. Paul's celebrated its 100th anniversary. To honor that milestone, David Gillespie, then rector of St. Paul's, accepted on behalf of the church a Book of Common Prayer printed in 1724 and brought to him by Margaret Johnson. Margaret Greenhalgh Johnson was born in England; married Dr. Leonard Johnson, an American; and came to live in the United States when she was eighteen years old. Long a resident of Englewood and parishioner of St. Paul's, she now resides in the Sunrise Assisted and Independent Living complex in Cresskill, New Jersey.

Back in 1966 her brother, Colonel Greenhalgh, still living in England, arranged the gift of the prayer book—a gift from St. Nicholas Church in Overstone, their family's parish church. Correspondence from the time reveals that it came as a gift "with the goodwill of the rector of St. Nicholas, the Rev. Hilary Davidson, M.A., the Church Wardens and the congregation." A letter of thanksgiving for the gift was sent by our rector at the time, David Gillespie, on behalf of the vestry and people of St. Paul's Church, Englewood.

The history of the Church of St. Nicholas dates back to 1222 AD, when it was built in Overstone Parish, near North-hampton, England. The present church, built in 1807, after the original burned, continues to use—every Sunday—a silver communion cup and paten that were given in 1736.

The prayer book that was presented to St. Paul's was printed by a distinguished printer of the day, John Baskett, who began printing Bibles in 1709. We know that for a period of time it was kept in St. Nicholas's belfry! Some of our parishioners have seen it, as David Gillespie told me that it had been on display at least once, possibly twice, back when Martin Clarke was arranging exhibits in St. Paul's hall showcase.

Ken began a search for the Prayer Book this summer after he received a letter from the Reverend Duncan Beet, the current incumbent at St. Nicholas, requesting its return. He discussed the matter with the Vestry. The Vestry's consensus of opinion was that the Prayer Book should be transferred to the offices of the Bishop of Newark until it's decided where it's permanent home should be.

Stay tuned for further developments!

Stewardship

Proposed Capital Campaign

Joanne O'Neill Communication Liaison to The Vestry.

Of course the big news in stewardship for the coming year is the proposed capital campaign. Perhaps you have already heard about it. Bulletin inserts have been written by members of the campaign's Discernment Committee. You will be hearing a lot more as the church program year begins. But for now, let's answer the question a number of you have been asking: What is a discernment committee? More specifically, what is the St. Paul's Discernment Committee and what is its role in the capital campaign?

At a recent Vestry meeting a capital campaign consultant was chosen—the Holliman Associates. This firm has a long track record of working with Episcopal Churches. In fact they are the consulting firm of the Episcopal Church Foundation. At the recommendation of our consultants a vestry-approved committee was formed to engage in the work of gathering input from every segment of the parish regarding necessary renovation projects to update our dated facilities and to enhance St. Paul's current level of accessibility.

The Committee will then evaluate and prioritize those needs and make recommendations to the wardens and vestry. The ultimate goal is to provide facilities accessible to all persons and to upgrade the current facilities to better serve all the important ministries of our community now and in the decades to come. The Discernment Committee will also serve and support any fundraising efforts necessary to achieve these goals; it will be oriented to the process that lies ahead, establish timelines and be sent forward with initial tasks.

A good way to think of the Discernment Committee is as the bridge between the Vestry and members of the congregation. In case you missed some of the inserts this summer, here are a couple of excerpts.

I love St. Paul's and I long for a liturgical space in which I can feel more connected to those to whom I am ministering and with whom I am worshipping. Members of your vestry and other parishioners have plans to make that happen on a regular basis. And there's more in the way of renovation projects to make St. Paul's more accessible and usable for us today and for those who inherit this wonderful space way into the future. In the upcoming weeks and months you will be hearing about these plans—and you will be encouraged to share your ideas with us.

**Jim Warnke, Clergy Supervisor,
Capital Campaign**

I see a wonderful future here at St. Paul's. The parishioners here have really opened up their hearts to me and made me feel quite welcome, appreciated, included, as well as needed. With that in mind I look forward to being involved with the Discernment Committee in an effort to transform St. Paul's into a barrier-free community church. Whether we be sighted or using wheelchairs, or in need of accessible bathrooms, wider hallways and doors, and more comfortable pews, we must meet the need future parishioners that are coming to St. Paul's.

**Barbara Appel,
Discernment Committee Member**

Concerned about alterations to our strikingly beautiful church? I am probably as sentimental as anyone about this church. Here I was married and my father-in-law remarried, here my children were baptized and confirmed, here my son and I have served as acolytes and lay readers, my wife and I taught Sunday School, my daughter took care of the nursery, and here I have worshiped almost every Sunday for over thirty years. I love every inch of this church just the way it is. But when I consider the superb renovation recently performed on our chapel I have every confidence that our main church will be treated with the tasteful sensitivity, respect and reverence that it deserves.



*Lord, I love the house in which you dwell
The Place where your glory abides! - Psalm 28:6*

**Lionel Garrison,
Discernment Committee Member**

Recently three of us—Betty McLoone, Issie Chervecko, and I—sat down to discuss the kitchen at St. Paul's. The impetus for this discussion was the idea that the physical structure of the church needed attention and perhaps improvement. We focused on the kitchen. In the light of the proposed renovations a kitchen may not sound like much but, a kitchen needs to reflect love and care. Even—maybe especially—church kitchens.

**Peg Slaven,
Discernment Committee Member**

Be on the lookout for more information about the proposed capital campaign. Especially consider attending the Adult Forums on October 8, 15, and 22; they are dedicated to presenting many more details about the Campaign, how it came to be, the kind of work being considered, and who will be taking part.

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