

# The Messenger

*A Path for the Future of St. Paul's  
from the Priest-in-Charge*

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SEVERAL PEOPLE IN THE PARISH HAVE ASKED, quite pointedly, "Where are we headed?" "What's the plan?" I applaud such questions—they get straight to the heart of the matter.

Our Vestry unanimously adopted a document called "A Path for the Future of St. Paul's" at its regular October 10th meeting. It lays out directions and destinations in the next five years for the various parts of our parish and, in detail, what we have to do to get there. I wrote the first draft and members of the Vestry made corrections and amendments before adopting it.

"A Path" is not short and sweet. Rather, it is long and detailed—13 pages, in fact. It deals with our institutional life together in 12 sections:

1. **Worship**—"Intent of Worship Services and Worship Spaces"
2. **Music**—"Music at St. Paul's"
3. **Stewardship**—"A Proposal for a True Every Member Canvass"
4. **Parish Finances**—"Adequate Parish Revenue Sources"
5. **Financial Systems**—"Financial Procedures"
6. **Education**—"Education at St. Paul's"
7. **New Member Ministry**—"Marketing Strategy at St. Paul's"
8. **Communications**—"Letting the Whole Parish In - Transparency in Action"
9. **Social Outreach**—"Engagement with Those for Whom Life is Not Working Well"
10. **Pastoral Care**—"Pastoral Care for the Aged, the Sick, and the Searching at St. Paul's"
11. **Buildings & Grounds**—"A Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan"
12. **Staff**—"Staff Development in the Near Term"

You will recognize several parts of "A Path" since they have already been achieved; others have barely begun. Over time, course corrections will be made as new opportunities and problems arise. Flexibility is critical in the details, but we now have a plan for the future, and I think that you will find it both exciting and practical. For your information, "A Path" is available in the following ways:

- The Parish Office will send it to you by email.
- It is available on our Website—[www.stpaulsenglewood.org](http://www.stpaulsenglewood.org)
- We will make you a paper copy in the Parish Office on request.

Our Wardens, Vestrymembers, and I will be interested in your comments, your corrections, and your ideas. This is about OUR future and it's critical to our growth as a Christian community dedicated to spreading the Word and celebrating God and what he has done for us. We look forward to hearing from you.

Warmly,

"...we now have  
a plan for the  
future, and  
I think that  
you will find it  
both exciting  
and practical."

- Fr. Bob

*Time to say Godspeed.....not goodbye!*

*The Reverend Jane F. Ellis, Deacon*

OVER THE LAST SEVERAL MONTHS DUE TO HEALTH ISSUES associated with a deteriorated joint and subsequent shoulder surgery, I have had ample time to be still and listen. I know first hand that God can provide most extraordinary circumstances to get our undivided attention—no matter where we are on the journey. All **He** expects of us is to listen.

I will be celebrating my tenth year of ordination as deacon on December 9th. It came as both a surprise and somewhat frightening discovery that this recent, forced-alone time resulted in an enlightening discernment for me. In the quiet of my recovery and rehabilitation I have heard a call of that "still small voice" urging me to make "clean edges" in my life. This will mean changes in my ministry from congregational to more one-on-one.

It is with sadness and excitement that I have submitted my resignation as your deacon to take up a new direction in my ministry. Holy Name Medical Center has embarked on the development of a comprehensive service line to include the opening of a new inpatient hospice facility in Saddle River. I am volunteering my ministry in the pastoral care of patients in palliative and hospice care. Concurrently, I have also completed training to serve as a spiritual director, a ministry that I welcome.

The term Godspeed means "successful journey" and originated from the name given one of the three English ships in 1607 that voyaged to Jamestown to settle the new colony of Virginia. You can't get more adventuresome than that of sailing a wooden, three-masted ship from England to the frontier occupied by only native Americans. So, I choose to say Godspeed rather than goodbye, because I wish for St. Paul's and each of you a successful journey. My parting words to each of you are filled with gratitude for the five-and-one-half years that I have spent with you as deacon. I will recall with great happiness each of your faces and also your loving acceptance of me as one of you. I am grateful for your warmth and the Christ-centric spirit that will carry you forward. Blessings on St. Paul's and each of you on your spiritual journey.

Peace. **Jane+**

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## Music Notes

by Mark Trautman, Music Director

### A NEW VOLUNTEER CHOIR

Music has been an important part of the mission and outreach of St. Paul's Episcopal Church for nearly 150 years. Our historic sanctuary continues to serve as a place of prayer and respite of beauty for the residents of the greater Englewood area and beyond.

We have many people in the congregation who long to sing in a choir, but are tentative about joining the St. Paul's Choir. Maybe it's been a long time since you have sung in the choir. Perhaps you don't read music or can't commit to the schedule. For these reasons, I'd like to propose the formation of a new, all-volunteer parish choir. All adults are welcome—come with a desire for good singing and great fellowship. The Choir will sing a few times per semester at the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Eucharist during the academic year, and on various other occasions.

If this interests you, please feel free to email me (matrautman304@gmail.com), call me in the Parish Office, or speak to me after church on Sunday morning. I look forward to hearing from you!

### ST. PAUL'S CHOIR PREPARES

As we begin November, we look toward our annual *All Saints'-All Souls'* observances and the beginning of Advent. For nearly half a century, the St. Paul's Choir has prepared a special choral offering in honor of all the saints past and present in our community. This year's celebration will be Sunday, November 7 at 7 p.m. Our choristers have been working hard, and I hope you come and support us in this ministry.

Advent begins on Sunday, November 28, and our *Annual Lessons and Carols* program will be on Sunday, December 19 at 7 p.m. Both the Small Voices Choir and the St. Paul's Choir will sing a wide variety of carols and anthems for the season. Each program will be followed by a reception sponsored by the Music Committee.

## November Birthdays

11/02 Jane Ellis	11/14 Maureen Wilson
11/02 Robert Burr	11/15 Hannah Lokko
11/03 Dilder Yamusah	11/16 Robert Campbell
11/05 Gamma Hammond	11/16 Katie Thorn
11/05 Mia Robinson	11/17 Hannah LeMée
11/07 Patrick Marshall	11/18 Christine McDonald
11/07 Coralius Noble	11/20 Pearl Duncan
11/08 Kyra Acquah	11/21 Edith Simms
11/11 Murray Dwight	11/24 Christopher Garrison
11/11 Susan Johnson	11/26 Lena Ford
11/14 Andrea Kinloch	11/28 Lennie Brice
11/14 Anissa (McDonald) Cunjie	11/29 Whitford Luke
	11/30 Leah Baker

### WOMEN OF ST. PAUL'S:

If you would like to form a women's reading group, please call Janice Walker at 201-833-4081, or Peg Slaven at 201-767-6117.

## DEACON JANE'S CELEBRATION RECEPTION

THE REVEREND JANE F. ELLIS IS LEAVING ST. PAUL'S CHURCH to pursue her abiding interest in hospice work.

To celebrate her years of dedicated work in our Parish as Deacon, we are holding a celebration in her honor by hosting a reception following the 10:30 am Eucharist on Sunday, November 14.

As many of you as can be there, please repair to the Parish Hall immediately after the conclusion of the Holy Eucharist service.

**ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH**

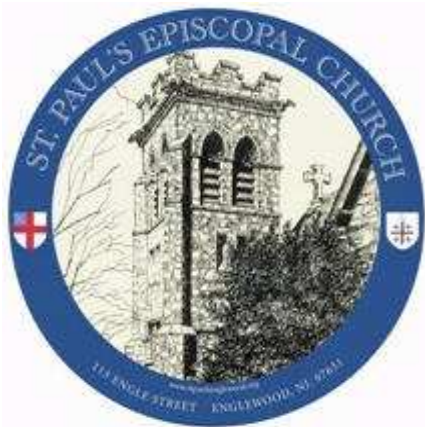
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***We're on the Web!***

*See us at:*

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



***Where We Are by Bill Payne, Treasurer***  
***- Operating at an increasing deficit overall -***

St Paul's continues to operate at a deficit, but the extra drawdown of \$20,000 from the Endowment late last month (September) has lessened the year-to-date deficit to \$39,493 as of September 30, 2010 from \$48,741 as of August 31, 2010. As of September 30, 2010, year-to-date income was \$305,584, including the extra drawdown of the Endowment, \$3,776 *below* the budgeted \$309,360.

However, this income shortfall is temporary due to an accumulation of overdue rents from all three major renters, most of whom have since caught up in the first two weeks of October. The year-to-date expenses are still in line: As of September 30, they were \$345,077, which is \$9,747 *below* the budgeted \$354,824.

Even so, because we have budgeted income and expenses for 2010 to operate in deficit, meeting or even slightly surpassing our budget projections still leaves us *operating at an increasing deficit overall*.

Please note that the necessary kitchen renovations, which are *capital* improvements, do not figure into our operating expense deficit. These renovations are being funded partly by earmarked parishioner contributions, largely by a generous contribution from the **Top Stone Church** congregation, and mostly by a drawdown from the **All Saints Fund** [*note that this is not part of the endowment total noted below, but a separate fund which cannot be used for operating expenses.*]

The value of the Endowment Fund has grown to \$1,082,420 as of September 30, 2010 after the drawdown on September 24.

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church**

**113 Engle Street, Englewood NJ 07631**

