

ST. PAUL'S LETTER

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Cary is home to an active, caring, and diverse congregation of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina. Through corporate worship, spiritual development, fellowship, and service we continue to grow together in faith. We strive to be Christ's welcoming, reconciling and transforming presence in the world through our many and varied ministries.

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Dates to Remember

May 2	20's & 30's Game Night
May 3	Official EYC Closing
May 9	Youth Babysitting Fundraiser
May 12	Youth Music Celebration
May 17	Last Day of Sunday School
May 15-17	Middle School Mission Trip
May 20	Last Day of Preschool
May 25	Memorial Day — Office closed
June 7	Parish Picnic, Ritter Park
June 20-27	Appalachian Service Project
June 28	20's & 30's Cookout
July 4	Fourth of July — Office closed
July 18	VBS Decorating
July 19	VBS Pot-Luck
July 20-24	Vacation Bible School !

Letter From The Rector

The Rev. George Adamik

Dear Friends,

I am thoroughly enjoying the stories being shared by our 16 parishioners, 10 high school youth and 6 adults, who participated in the mission trip to New Orleans in April. Be sure to catch up with them and listen to these wonderful stories. Not only was the experience in New Orleans powerful, but so too was the experience of "radical welcome" at the three parishes the missionaries stayed with during the trip. On the way to New Orleans St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Atlanta, Georgia, offered not only a place to sleep for the night, but food and showers, as well as the opportunity to worship on Palm Sunday.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Harvey, LA offered a place to stay for the entire time in New Orleans. And then on the way home St. Mary's-on-the-Highlands Episcopal Church in Birmingham, Alabama offered our travelers a place to stay for the night. Relationships were established and we would hope someday to welcome parishioners from those parishes to visit with us here at St. Paul's.

And this was just the beginning of 2009 being a mission year. Another mission trip, the first of its kind, is planned for our middle school youth on May 15 through May 17 to Newton Grove, NC. There the youth will have an opportunity to meet with farm workers and learn about how they live and work. While St. Paul's primary relationship has been with both the Episcopal Farmworker Ministry, through the annual Hermano Day, and with the Tri-County Community Health Center, through the annual St. Nicholas Day, this trip will build and deepen those long and firm relationships. During their trip the youth will join with the Episcopal Farmworker Community for a Sunday celebration of the Eucharist led by Fr. Tony Rojas.

Then in June the annual mission trip, through the Appalachian Service Project, will once again invite our youth to make a difference in the lives of those they help. 2009 looks to be a year of mission.

Thank you to the youth community of St. Paul's for taking the lead in this transformational work. And thank you to the adults who support the youth in this wonderful work. The sharing of your time and talent truly changes lives.

Perhaps this could open up conversations within our parish regarding future mission trips. The Diocese of North Carolina has what is referred to as a "companion relationship" with the Diocese of Costa Rica in Central America, as well as the Diocese of Botswana in Africa. I wonder what it would be like for St. Paul's to establish a relationship with a parish in Costa Rica or Botswana?

George

**Next Newsletter Deadline:
May 20 at 10:00 a.m.**



St. Paul's: A Growing Community

What's on my mind? Stewardship is on my mind. It is in the forefront of my thoughts for several reasons. I am well aware of the difficult economic times that our country is facing. I have watched the budgeting process and seen the difficult choices the vestry has made to approve a budget for our parish. I have passionately worked with the Stewardship Committee and seen their efforts to share "How God is Working Through Your Gifts" and what God calls us into as Christians. I anxiously wait as each Sunday passes to receive a report which shows how we are doing in relationship to our stewardship goal. And I dread the thought of going back to our budget for revisions if we don't make our goal.

Our stewardship report (as of April 13, 2009) includes some wonderful and encouraging news. Did you know that our average overall pledge is over \$3,000? And that over 42% of our pledging households who pledged last year have increased their

pledge commitment. Another 38% have been able to keep their pledge commitment the same. We have pledge commitments of \$788,798 from a total of 270 pledging households of which 28 are new this year! At this point, if we did not receive any more pledge commitments from new households and just received the same pledge amount from the households that pledged last year, we would come close to \$890,000. What a blessing that would be given our economic times!

If you have not already handed in a pledge card and would like to join us in a journey of faith and giving, please pick up a pledge card in the narthex or church office OR confidentially email Chris Lewis at financial@stpaulscary.org.

Thank you so much for all of the gifts you generously give to St. Paul's!

Mary Wood, Senior Warden 2009

Update on St. Paul's 5-Year Vision

The vestry, clergy, and wardens of St. Paul's Church worked closely with many ministry leaders to establish a Long Range Vision in 2007. The purpose of this Vision was to capture the major needs of the parish and help prioritize the use of our resources. Since then, some of these needs have been met, other needs have been modified, and still other needs (such as a new Minister of Music) have emerged. The original Vision 2007 was organized into 5 focus areas, and progress has been made in each area. In the area of Children & Youth, we now have strong staff leadership for both the church school and the youth groups, and through their efforts and the efforts of many adult volunteers, the youth have become much more visibly a part of our parish life. The younger children are seen on Sundays participating in the worship service, and the older youth are known and supported for their mission trips.

In the area of Outreach, the budget devoted to Christian Social Ministries has increased year after year, and counseling opportunities on site have been expanded.

The opportunities for direct hands-on participation have been expanded, for example through the "Stop Hunger Now" program, and more outside groups, such as the Concert Singers of Cary, are using the St. Paul's facilities.

For the focus area of Inreach and Expand and Enhance the Parish, the church website has been promoted and utilized much more to share information internally and with outside visitors. A stronger and more vibrant 20's & 30's group is developing for our young adults, and programs were put into place to promote diversity awareness. In the area of Buildings & Grounds, the former office building has been transformed over the past two years into the "Kid's Club" for our youngest children. A fund for the maintenance of our grounds has been more realistically funded for 2009 thanks to everyone's contributions, and a strategic planning group was formed to more closely keep track of the state of our facility. The Finance group is working hard to ensure the church staff and clergy are paid

(Continued on page 3)



St. Paul's 5-Year Vision (continued)

(Continued from page 2)

in a manner comparable with churches of similar size, and the Stewardship Committee is successfully working to increase the number of parishioners that financially support St. Paul's. Our current Planned Giving and Endowment program is being revitalized and expanded.

The 2009 vestry is constantly addressing these and other issues, and we welcome

your feedback. More information on the original Vision 2007 document can be found on the church website at www.stpaulscary.org/newsletter_cal/SeptemberNewsletter2008.pdf. (See page 3.) Each of the individual focus areas will be highlighted in more detail over the next few months.

Submitted by John Hemperly, Junior Warden



Hospitality, Parish Life, and Pastoral Care

About Our Church

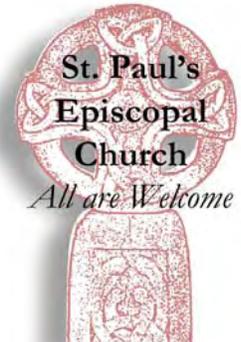
We rejoice in the baptisms of Daniel Alexander Muller, son of Daniel and Tara Muller; Addison Leigh Ansele, Frank Cole Ansele, and Jack Tucker Ansele, children of John and Heather Ansele; and Heather Jordan Ansele.

Congratulations to Milli Hayman and Roger Barr on the birth of their daughter, Hannah Beatrice Barr born on April 6, 2009.

We express our sympathy to Mary

Catherine Troxler for the death of her grandmother, Catherine Davis Cardwell Whitney; to Greg and Debbie Cole for the death of their brother-in-law, David Livingston; and to Paige Layno for the death of her husband, Daniel Lee Winn.

*Submitted by Melanie Fairbrother
Office Manager*



Coffee Talk

Coffee Talk meets September - May on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 7pm in the library. Childcare is provided. In May we will take on a library service project while we enjoy coffee and fellowship. Join us

while we improve our meeting place. We are a casual women's discussion group. Please contact Jen Dobridge via the church office for more information

Submitted by Jen Dobridge



Coffee Talk

Don't forget your nametag!

Nametags are so helpful to our new and long-time parishioners. Please remember to wear your nametag to church events. If you need a nametag, please sign up in the narthex and you will receive one in just a few weeks.

Submitted by Mary Wood

News from the Fellowship Committee



Thanks to ALL who brought goodies for the coffee hour on Easter! What a feast!

Please mark your calendar now for these upcoming events:

Sunday, May 10 - Our Mother's Day celebration with our Strawberry Celebration. Please sign up to bring anything STRAWBERRY for coffee hour that day. The sign-up will be in the narthex.

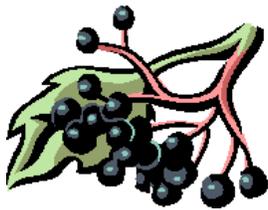
Thursday, June 18, 7:00 p.m. - Let's go to the ball game! Our Senior Choir is singing the National Anthem at the Durham Bulls'

game. Tickets are only \$8 and will go on sale during coffee hour. We must place our order for our tickets by Friday, May 22 to get our seats all together.

Want to join in on the fun? Our committee meets the first Sunday of the month in the conference room. So grab your coffee cup and join us to help plan food and fun for our parish events! Any questions, call Lorrie Todd - 362-4211 or send email - ltodd@nc.rr.com

Submitted by Lorrie Todd

Elderberries



Perhaps better known as the "Seniors", the Elderberries group meets monthly for support and fellowship in the form of pot-luck luncheons and varied programs of interest or fellowship and social events. In May, the Elderberries



will gather on Wednesday, May 20 at noon in the Youth Wing of the Church. Bring a bag lunch and join us to play Bingo! All are welcome!

Submitted by Lois Reardin

Women Welcoming Women



Women Welcoming Women (WWW)

Women Welcoming Women (WWW@St. Pauls), a new organization at St. Paul's that provides women of all ages and stages in our parish with the opportunity to meet and socialize.

Get your calendars out because our next evening is scheduled for June 28 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share (store-bought food is highly encouraged). Also, please bring \$1 to pay for paper goods as we prefer to meet and greet over food

rather than washing dishes and cleaning the kitchen. Our event in June will be hosted by Jen Dobridge, Nancy Harrell, Leah Dail and Glenda Swann. More information will be forthcoming in the June newsletter and bulletins. We welcome any and all inquiries so if you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sherri Hubbard (sherri.hubbard@ncdoi.gov) or Jennifer Shy (churchschool@stpaulscary.org).

Submitted by Sherri Hubbard



Newcomer News

About 30 newcomers to St. Paul's have been enjoying a course on the ministries and missions of St. Paul's during the month of April. Led by the Rev. George Adamik, the Rev. Sally Harbold, and the Rev. B. J. Owens, they will wrap things up with a social in the

Youth Wing on May 6 at 7:00 p.m. If you haven't been able to attend the class, come on out and mingle on the 6th!

Submitted by Ann Lockhart

Preschool

News from St. Paul's Preschool

We are back in full swing after Spring Break; rested and ready to finish out our school year. We had class pictures in April and several classes went strawberry picking. I have two brave teachers that took their 2-year old class to the strawberry patch. The children had a ball and did very well not eating the strawberries until they had been washed.

May finds us preparing for Mother's Day, Father's Day and our End of the Year Celebration. Our 3-,4- and 5-year olds are excited about performing songs for parents, grandparents, and friends. Children are excited about the warm weather and summer activities that are to come. We have had fun watching flowers and trees bloom and seeing the birds return to the

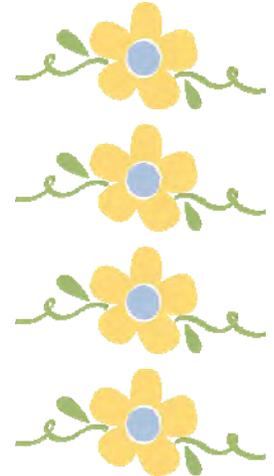
area. Our last day of school is Wednesday, May 20 with our End of Year Program at 11:30 a.m. in the Church.

Our Summer Fun Program is the first two weeks of June, Monday through Thursday. At this time registration for both weeks is full, but we have started a waitlist for anyone that is interested. If we have enough children on the waitlist we can open another class, so call the Preschool Office for information at 467-3788.

I hope you all have a happy May.

Love In Christ,

Mary Catherine Troxler
Preschool Director



Children's Ministries



Summer News

- ✓ **The last day of Sunday School is May 17. Classes will resume again in September.**
- ✓ **Children's Chapel will continue throughout the summer. We are planning to offer an entire summer series on King David. As always, we need volunteers to help us with summer instruction. Everything will be planned for you – all you need to do is perform! Please sign up to spend 20 minutes on an occasional summer Sunday to teach our children during worship service.**

- ✓ **VBS is coming July 20-24, from 9:00 a. m. - 12:00 noon. We have many volunteers who are working to make our summer camping adventure the best ever. We still need volunteers to make this a great camp experience. Also, sign up sheets are in the narthex and the education building if you wish to register your children. Fees are \$10 for the 1st child and \$5 for each additional child. Sign up early as spaces are limited.**

Teach for Your Health ☺

As we age, we are always on the search for things that will keep us young. Spending an hour teaching God's love to our youngest parishioners is guaranteed to lead you to that youthful vigor we are all

searching for! Our children will energize your mind and soul with their vitality, so sign up to tap into some of that vitality next Fall. See Jennifer Shy to book your way to better health!



Teach
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Children's Ministries

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Family Fun Nights are Back!

Back this summer by popular demand are Family Fun Nights hosted by the Children's Ministries Committee. These special evenings are informal gatherings where St. Paul's families can meet and play together during the lazy days of summer. Parents and children of all ages are welcome to join in the fun.



We're planning our first event for June. Watch out for further news in the weekly bulletins. And, if you have any questions or any ideas for fun activities, please share with Jennifer Shy!

Children's Stewardship



Children's Stewardship

Each year, our fourth grade class is charged with selecting a deserving recipient of the Children's Offering. This year (June, '08 – May, '09), the children have been offering their coins to SMILE TRAIN, an international medical organization that provides corrective surgery for cleft palate for eligible children in underdeveloped nations. The collection for SMILE TRAIN will continue through the

end of May.

The fourth grade class has recently chosen the Africa Hope Center as the recipient of the Children's Offering beginning in June, 2009. This organization operates in Kenya and provides basic services (food, clothing, education) to orphans who have lost both parents to AIDS. For more information on Africa Hope Center you may view their website at

www.africahopecenter.org

Africa Hope Center . . .

... your partner in the fight against HIV/AIDS

Congratulations!

We would like to congratulate the 32 students who completed Communion instruction with Rev. George and Rev.



Sally. On March 29, the following students were recognized at the 9:00 a.m. service for completing this liturgical milestone: Bennett Barnes, Ben Bricio, Ethan Barry, Sydney Brock, Madi Carter, Zach Carter, Preston Coates, Kristina Dzamba,

Sarah Elam, John Erb, Evelyn Flickinger, Warren Fusco, Olivia Howe, Elise Hubbard, Ashleigh June, Will King, Lauren Langston, Jack Lloyd, Ashley Oliver, Thomas O'Neal, Isabella Panek, Sarah Patisaul, Alyssa Pederson, Lilly Recchie, Emily Schertz, Lucy Shoaf, Anna Thomas, Julia Walden, Mary Kate Walden, Yannie Wilburn, Garrett Williams, and Jacob Youmans.



Thank You to Carla Traudt!

Our fourth, fifth, and sixth graders have had a wonderful opportunity this year to develop their own youth community on Sunday nights, called Pre-EYC. We are so grateful to Carla Traudt, who planned and implemented a year of meetings, including

preparing meals, providing activities, and helping the fourth and fifth graders explore the liturgical year in fun and meaningful ways. Many thanks to Carla for all her work! Look for Pre-EYC to resume next fall.

EYC UPDATES

Episcopal Youth Community

Fred Lowry, Youth Director
youth@stpaulscary.org
www.stpaulscary.org/youth
 919-437-1477 ex. 37

School Supply Collection for ASP

During the time leading up to ASP we will be collecting school supplies for the children of Tennessee. There will be a collection box in the narthex.

Please help us out with pencils, pens, binders, paper, glue, etc. For questions contact Sheila Reilly 919-303-6248.



Mothers Day Babysitting Fundraiser

St. Paul's Youth Group will offer drop off babysitting at the Church on Saturday, May 9 from 4:00 -8:00 p.m. We will play games, have crafts, and watch a movie. Drop off dinner with your children and enjoy the evening. Sign up will be in the narthex. Donations accepted



Upcoming EYC Events

- May 3 Official EYC closing
- May 9 Babysitting Fundraiser
- May 10 No EYC
- May 15-17 Middle School Mission Trip
- May 31 Senior Recognition
- June 20-27 Appalachian Service Project

Mission Trip to NOLA

Ten high school youth and 6 adults ventured out in mission service from St. Paul's, Cary to New Orleans April 4-11. Along the way we stopped in Atlanta and stayed at St. Paul's, Atlanta. We stayed at St. Mark's in Harvey, LA while we were in New Orleans, and on our way back home we stayed at St. Mary's-on-the-



Highlands in Birmingham, AL. If you would like to help thank these wonderful Episcopal churches for their hospitality, feel free to write them a letter and drop it off in the Youth Director's box. They will be mailed out May 20th. Thank you so much for all the parish support in this new mission initiative!

Final EYC Meeting

All Episcopal youth are encourage to join us from 4:00-7:30 p.m. as we have our closing EYC May 3. It will be a blast. You can expect food, Capture the Flag, and many other

crazy and fun games. We will also have a special presentation for the EYC seniors, so you don't want to miss out.



Middle School Mission !

Middle School mission trip to Episcopal Farmworker Ministry in Newton Grove, May 15-17.

Stop Hunger Now event planned for May 16



There will be a Stop Hunger Now event at St. Paul's on Saturday, May 16, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. We will need about 80 volunteers to pack 15,000 to 20,000 meals (last time we packed 10,000 meals).

The funds collected at the Easter loose-plate offering will be used to help offset the cost of the "participation fees" needed to pay for the cost of the food and materials in SHN events. This is good news for folks who want to participate in this wonderful ministry without feeling a financial burden. The cost, if any, to participate in this meal packaging event

will be determined just as soon as the contributions to the Easter loose-plate offering have been tallied.

Stop Hunger Now is one of the most exciting and popular outreach events at St. Paul's. This is a great way to teach kids about outreach, as well as being fun and enriching for adults.

Be sure to sign up in the narthex. For more information, contact Glenda Swann at 362-9950 or at swannet@pipeline.com.

Submitted by Glenda Swann



Many thanks from the Episcopal Farmworker Ministry in Newton Grove for your generous donations of clothing and bedding for the farm workers. Thank you, too, for \$960 in monetary donations. The clothing, sheets, and towels will be distributed to migrant farm workers in more than thirty labor camps in and around Newton Grove. Fr. Tony Rojas will use the monetary donations to provide medicine and other necessities. Thank you very much for your generous support of the Episcopal Farmworker Ministry.

Submitted by Gale Herrman



Thanks to everyone who participated in our annual Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction on March 27. We had a great turnout and raised approximately \$6000 which will benefit the Youth Group's mission trips. Special thanks go to the Men's Group, and especially Bill Fierke, for the wonderful meal. Thanks also go to the auction committee and everyone who helped make this event possible, especially Sheila Reilly who secured the terrific auction items. Good luck and best wishes to the Youth Group in their mission work!

Submitted by Debbie Graves

Stewardship — Time, Talent, and Treasure

Stewardship: more than just money

Is stewardship just an ongoing effort to raise money that allows St. Paul's to survive? No, stewardship is about nurturing and supporting a community in which all are welcome. We have made many decisions during our first 50 years that have allowed us to grow and reach out to all.

All of us can't be on the Stewardship Committee, but each of us is an integral part of the stewardship effort each and every day. Each time a new person visits our church, we are responsible to reach out in a warm and welcoming way. We are stewards to the children whom God has entrusted to us, to see that they are raised to know God's love and constant presence. We have been blessed with an exceptional clergy that helps us nurture our souls and a staff that makes sure the buildings and programs we have stay warm and inviting and continue to grow.

We at St. Paul's have built a faith community that is vibrant, progressive, and is living into the life that our Lord Jesus Christ asked. We reach out both within our parish and beyond through the many activities and missions we have undertaken. In this, we have created an environment through which people of varied backgrounds can come together to build a stronger relationship with God. Stewardship is a wonderful privilege and gift we all share and every single member of St. Paul's should be applauded for seeing fit to support everything we do with our time, talent, and treasure that will carry us through the next 50 years!

A most sincere thank you from the Stewardship Committee!

Ken Anderson
Stewardship Committee



Sunday Service Schedule

7:30 a.m. Eucharist Rite I 10:10 a.m. Education Hour
 8:45-12:30 Kid's Club 11:15 a.m. Eucharist Rite II
 9:00 a.m. Eucharist Rite II 11:15 a.m. Children's Chapel
 9:00 a.m. Children's Chapel 4:00 p.m. Middlers EYC
 10:00 a.m. Fellowship-Coffee 5:15 p.m. Senior EYC



2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 7:00pm Treasure Keepers	2 8:00pm AA
3 Sunday Service Schedule 12:30pm Mar Thoma Last Day of EYC: Special Closing Program	4 12:00pm Staff Meeting 8:00pm AA	5 10:00am Archives 6:00pm Canterbury Bells 6:00pm Children's Ministry Committee 7:00pm Youth Choir 8:00pm High School Compline	6 12:15pm Liturgy Meeting 6:00pm Stewardship 7:00pm Newcomer's Class 7:00pm Baptism Class 7:30pm St. Paul's Choir	7	8	9 8:00am St. Gregorios 2:00pm Youth Babysitting Fund Raiser 8:00pm AA
10 Sunday Service Schedule 11:30am St. Gregorios No EYC 	11 12:00pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Finance 8:00pm AA	12 10:00am Archives 12:00pm Women's Study Group 6:00pm Youth Committee 7:00pm Youth Music Celebration	13 9:15am Julian Gathering 12:15pm Liturgy Meeting 6:00pm Stewardship 7:00pm Coffee Talk 7:30pm St. Paul's Choir	14 7:15pm Jubilate Choir	15	16 8:00am Stop Hunger Now 8:00pm AA
17 Sunday Service Schedule Last Day of Sunday School No EYC 12:30pm Mar Thoma	18 12:00pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Vestry 8:00pm AA	19 10:00am Archives 6:00pm Preschool Slide Show set up	20 10:00am Newsletter Deadline 11:30am Preschool End of Year Program 12:00pm Elderberries 12:15pm Liturgy Meeting 6:00pm Stewardship 7:00pm Women's Study Group 7:30pm St. Paul's Choir	21 7:15pm Jubilate Choir	22	23 8:00am St. Gregorios 8:00pm AA
24 Sunday Service Schedule No Sunday School No EYC	25 Office Closed 7:00pm Care n Share 8:00pm AA 	26 10:00am Archives	27 9:15am Julian Gathering 12:15pm Liturgy Meeting 6:00pm Stewardship 7:00pm Coffee Talk 7:30pm St. Paul's Choir	28 7:15pm Jubilate Choir	29	30 8:00pm AA
31 Sunday Service Schedule No Sunday School No EYC 						