



ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Seeking. Serving. Loving. Together.

Parish Notes

June 2024 • Vol. 66 No. 7

A Time of Transition

Senior Warden Sam Hartwell



Change is inevitable and embracing it with faith is our best path forward.

As you likely know by now, the Rev. Jeanne Leinbach recently announced her decision to step down as rector after nine years. Jeanne leaves us in a strong place: spirited worship, vibrant ministries, wide community outreach, a hugely successful capital campaign. Coming out of the pandemic, we've been growing. It's not that we don't have challenges – we do – but we will, with new leadership, be able to address them with faith and courage as we enter a new era for St. Paul's.

The blessing of a strong parish means that we should be able to attract outstanding candidates, both for the interim role and for the permanent position of our 17th rector.

We will enjoy a great deal of structure and support in transition from the Diocese. Jessie Dodson, who was previously Associate Rector at St. Paul's, is the Canon to the Ordinary charged with helping us. She knows us well and will be a solid friend and advocate. Upon Jessie's recommendation, we interviewed and retained a search consultant with deep experience and broad connections within The Episcopal Church. Among other projects, she helped bring the Right Rev. Anne Jolly to Ohio as our Bishop.

We have two priorities in the next few weeks. The first is wishing Jeanne a joyful and fond farewell on June 16. The second is finding an interim rector. Jessie is primarily responsible for identifying candidates and we are in the process of reviewing and interviewing candidates. If our interim rector isn't in place by June 16, we've identified guest preachers who will ease the load on assistant rectors Rev. Patricia Rose and Rev. Gabriel Lawrence. Our strong staff and I, with the support of the vestry, will keep the place running smoothly. We are considering the possibility of hiring an interim assistant rector as well.

In the early summer we will build the search committee. It will be small enough to work effectively with the requisite skills, but large enough to represent the broad range of demographics and ministries in our parish.

The search committee will convene in the fall to determine what we want in a new rector. There will be many opportunities to gather input from all of you: listening sessions, interviews, surveys, and so on. Simultaneously, the committee will pull together our parish profile, our primary recruiting tool for candidates.

Late in the year we will begin to recruit candidates, with an eye to conducting interviews in the new year. Ideally, the search will be wrapped up in about a year but it could take much longer.

This is a long process, but an important one. Care, thought, time, and prayer are critical to getting it right. Thank you for your patience and your prayers.

Parish Events

More information is available on our website at stpauls-church.org/ev.

Worship

Summer Worship

Beginning June 2

7:45 a.m. | St. Martin's Chapel

9 a.m. | East lawn (or nave if it's raining) *ASL interpreted*

10:30 a.m. | Nave *Livestreamed* at www.stpauls-church.org/Live.

Pride Eucharist

Sunday, June 2, 9 a.m.

This service will celebrate the full inclusion of the LGBTQ+ community in the life of our parish, with readings and prayers chosen to highlight the diversity and goodness of all God's creation.

Combined Service and Farewell Reception

Sunday, June 16, 10 a.m.

We will hold a combined service at 10 a.m. for Rev. Jeanne's last service on Sunday, June 16. Then all are welcome to a Farewell Reception in Tucker Hall. Please sign up in the foyer to bring a food dish or dessert to share.

Bluegrass Holy Eucharist

Sundays, July 14 & August 11, 9 a.m.

The Forest City String Band will accompany our 9 a.m. Holy Eucharist services on Sundays, July 14, and August 11.

Fellowship

Pride in the CLE

Saturday, June 1

Join St. Paul's and other Diocese of Ohio congregations for Pride in the CLE, Cleveland's annual LGBTQ+ pride celebration. St. Paul's parishioners can gather for a breakfast at Coventry House at 8:30 a.m. and take the RTA.

Men's Council Annual Picnic

Tuesday, June 11, 6 p.m., Coventry House

All men of the parish are invited to a picnic hosted by the Men's Council. There will be plenty of food and fellowship for everyone. No RSVP is necessary, but if you have any questions, please contact Michael Carlstrom at mcarlstrom@gmail.com.

Sages Fellowship Event

Thursday, June 20, 2:30 p.m., dining room

The Sages group, our group for active retirees) will host a Challah Bake with local baker Meghann Hennen! \$10 per person. RSVP to the Rev. Gabriel Lawrence

Holy Hiking

Saturdays, June 22 and July 20, 9:30 a.m.

Lace up your hiking boots for an exploration of our local parks with our church community. We'll pause midway through our hike to share in a brief service of Holy Eucharist. The first hike on June 22 will be at Holbrook Hollows in Bainbridge.

Altar Guild Gathering

Thursday, June 27, 6 p.m.

Join the St. Paul's Altar Guild for an end of year gathering at the home of Virginia Taylor. Guest speaker, Rev. Gabriel Lawrence, will offer a burning ceremony for worn linens. Please contact April if you're interested in joining this important ministry. RSVPs to April at asgren45@gmail.com.

Music & Art

Jazz Vespers

Sunday, June 2, 5 p.m.

Jazz Vespers will be held featuring music from the Cleveland Jazz Orchestra, Paul Ferguson, director.

Carillon Festival

Sundays, June 9, 16, 23, and 30 at 6 p.m.

Enjoy the beauty of the St. Paul's 47-bell carillon on the front lawn of the church. Feel free to bring a picnic, lawn chairs, or a blanket.

Summer Art Gallery Exhibit

Parishioners of all ages are invited to create a work of art inspired by our beautiful stained glass windows to be hung in the Nicholson B. White Gallery this summer. Supplies will be provided during coffee hour on Sundays in June to create your own paper masterpiece!

Act II

Act II Jumble Sale

Saturday, June 15, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

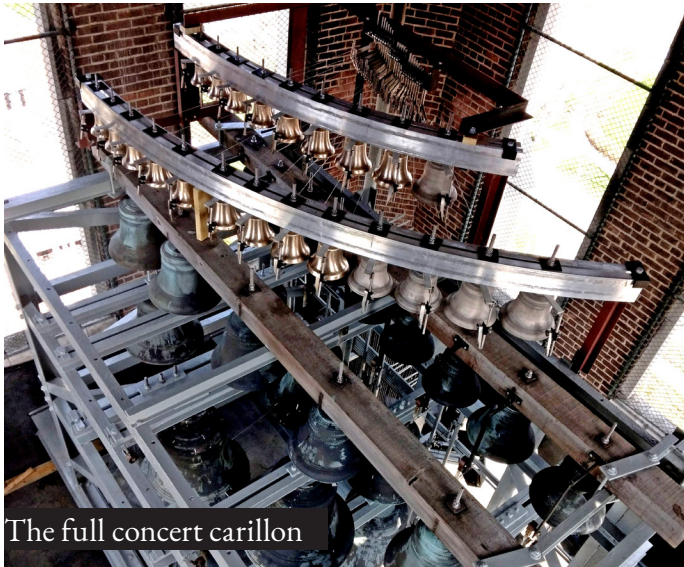
Act II will be open special hours for the Jumble Sale. Shop from 9 a.m. to noon, fill a bag for \$8 in the Fill-a-Bag area. From noon to 1 p.m., everything is 50% off (the Fill-a-Bag area and the main store)!

Outreach

Youth Pilgrimage

June 9-14

St. Paul's youth and friends will be enjoying the beauty of God's creation as well as helping others through community service in the Adirondack Mountains.



The full concert carillon

Capital Campaign Update

Pam O'Halloran

Because of the generosity of St. Paul's parishioners, several of the proposed capital projects are now complete or nearing completion. Here is a brief update on the campaign goals:

- The new sound system in the nave has been installed and those worshipping both in person and online should notice an improvement in the clarity of the spoken word. For those in person, new speakers enable a more consistent listening experience throughout the nave. A speaker has also been added in the narthex for ushers, late-comers, or those who have stepped out of the service. For those worshipping online, additional microphones throughout the nave enhance the listening experience.
- Security cameras have been installed throughout the church and the Act II shop. Electronic access and locking controls have been added to the rear and front entrances, enabling tighter control over church entry as well as building opening and closing times.
- New exit bars have been installed on the three Coventry Road doors, greatly increasing safety in the nave and chapel. Previous hardware required a key to unlock the doors.
- The south wing roof has been replaced after several years of a "whack-a-mole" approach to roof repair. Repairs were also made to the Coventry House roof.
- An assessment of the church masonry was carried out, and a request for proposals is being developed for receiving bids on much-needed masonry repair around the church and tower. We anticipate that the repair will begin this fall.

To date, \$1.2 million has been added to the church's permanent endowment fund from campaign proceeds. Growing our endowment is critical for maintaining current program levels. The goal is to add at least \$5 million to the endowment over the next 4 years.

St. Paul's Reading Camps

Betsy Hockey and Julie Micheletti, Reading Camp Co-Chairs

The idea for a St. Paul's Reading Camp began in 2005 when then Rector Alan Gates sent Anne Pillot and Betsy Hockey to Pine Mountain Settlement School in Lexington, Kentucky to support and learn about their reading camp program. Since 2009, the year of our first week-long overnight camp at Cedar Hills, St. Paul's has served many hundreds of children, helping them to advance their reading skills and foster a love of reading, while also having a full camp experience.

This summer, St. Paul's Reading Camp is partnering with Bellwether Farm and Open Doors Academy (ODA) to provide literacy programming. Beginning June 23, volunteers from St. Paul's will help staff a one-week overnight camp at Bellwether Farm for rising fourth and fifth graders. Campers will participate in literacy programs each morning, then will have the opportunity to engage in regular camp programming in the afternoon, including hiking, fishing, arts and crafts, farming and listening to stories around a campfire.

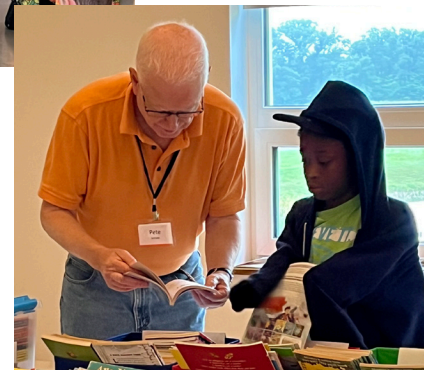
Volunteers from St. Paul's will also provide literacy programming at the summer camp offered by Open Doors Academy. St. Paul's will work with ODA campers for two weeks in July, Monday through Thursday mornings. All the children we work with are given carefully selected books to take home, donated by the people of St. Paul's from our annual Book Fair.

Children who attend the Bellwether Farm camp are referred by reading specialists and teachers of Cleveland Heights-University Heights, Shaker Heights, and Cleveland elementary schools. Often campers attend for two summers and younger siblings follow, so relationships with families are formed within our community.

An exciting moment came for camp organizers in 2022 when a former camper returned to overnight camp as a volunteer camp counselor. Having just graduated from high school, they could see that he had flourished into a strong leader and reader, and would begin college in the fall. Each year, St. Paul's donates money for our overnight camp experience as part of its outreach programming.

According to Reading Camp team member Julie Micheletti, our reading camps are an awesome experience for everyone involved. "It's an experience the children would likely not have otherwise," she said.

Volunteers are still needed July 15-18 for our morning program with ODA. Contact Julie to volunteer, michelettijulie@gmail.com



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

2747 Fairmount Boulevard, Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44106
(216) 932-5815

www.stpauls-church.org
info@stpauls-church.org

Pastoral Care Line: (216) 238-4001