

# The Messenger

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**St. Paul's Episcopal Church**  
50 Park Place • Pawtucket, RI • 02860

*January, 2011*  
*Volume 44 Issue 109*

*Prayerfully going forth...*  
*to love*  
*to care*  
*to work*  
*to share*  
*...in Christ's name*

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## ***From the Rector*** \_\_\_\_\_

One of the many themes that we have been engaged with during Advent and now in the season of Christmas is that of light. In the midst of the gathering gloom of winter, our Advent wreath offered up one small light, and then another, and another... Lights of hope and anticipation, reflected in all those readings from Isaiah that looked forward to the mighty work of God to redeem and restore God's people. The church blazed with candle light on Christmas Eve as we celebrated the birth of the one who would call himself – and us! – “the light of the world”. Our Gospel reading on the First Sunday after Christmas proclaimed with joy that the light had come into the world and the darkness had not overcome it.

Now we approach the Epiphany. Another light appears, this time a star in the East leading wise men to find the baby Jesus. Their openness to this light let the Magi undertake a seemingly foolish journey – following a star! And yet they knew that something new and wonderful was taking place. Being willing to look up, to notice the signs around them, not to be bowed down by the routine and pressures of daily life, lets the Wise Men discover and witness to the newborn king.

The Sundays after Epiphany – and we get all nine of them this year – will continue to raise up the theme of light as we walk with Jesus through his baptism, the calling of his disciples, the beginning of his ministry, and ending with the glorious light of the Transfiguration. May this be a time in which our hearts and minds are filled with the light of Christ as we too seek to proclaim the good news.

Peace,



The Rev'd William Locke

## ***From the Director of Music*** \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to use this space this month to offer some heartfelt and well deserved thank you wishes. Throughout December I was struck by those who give of their time and talent in the music program at St. Paul's Church.

Each choir rehearses about one-and-a-half hours a week. Additionally, there are extra rehearsal times when special music is being rehearsed (particularly in preparation for Christmas). Several choir members sang solos at Advent Lessons and Carols and on Christmas Eve. The choirs, ever faithful in leading the music of the parish, provided music on the two Sundays after Christmas when they might have enjoyed staying home for some well deserved rest. The St. Paul Choir, St. Nicholas Choir and the Handbell Choir provided music at Advent Lessons and Carols. Several handbell ringers covered extra bells, accepting a real challenge and ringing wonderfully. Several parishioners led the singing and played instruments at the Advent Taizé liturgy.

I appreciate all those who give of their time and talent in the three choirs. Thank you also to all who help with the receptions after these events. You work tirelessly to prepare delicious food and transform the Great Hall into a beautiful reception space.

Likewise, I am grateful to all in the parish for the support shown the music program: for financial support (both through the annual budget as well as donations and offerings); the kind words of support; and for being present at special musical offerings throughout the year. The New Year brings my gratitude to all of you for all you do and all you are.

*Patrick*

## A Word from our Patron Saint ---

For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.

But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God.

He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

*1 Corinthians 1:25-31*



### **A special welcome to**

The Ven. Dcn. Robin Higbie  
as our new Deacon at  
St. Paul's Church

If you haven't yet at the pleasure to meet Robin, please be sure to introduce yourself to her.

**The Epiphany**  
**Thursday, January 6th**  
**7:00 PM**

The Twelve Days of Christmas come to an end with the beautiful Feast of the Epiphany - **Thursday, January 6**. Come and celebrate the star, the Magi and the newborn King. Holy Eucharist at 7:00 pm with our choir.



**Visitation by the Bishop**

**The Rt. Rev. Geralyn Wolf**  
will be at St. Paul's for her official visitation  
on Sunday, January 16th  
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist



***Worship Opportunities in January at St. Paul's:***

**Holy Eucharist with Healing Service**  
**Tuesday, January 4th**  
**Noon**

**Wednesday, January 5th**  
**7:00 PM**

Trinity Chapel

**The Epiphany**  
**Thursday, January 6th**  
**7:00 PM**

**Wednesday Evenings**  
**7:00 PM**  
Trinity Chapel

**Morning Prayer**

**Monday - Thursday**  
**9:00 AM**

Trinity Chapel

**Taizé Prayer**

**Sunday, January 16th**  
**5:00 PM**  
**Great Hall**



## CHRISTIAN FORMATION NEWS

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### **Adult Formation Classes**

January 9 – 30: A four week look at the Gospel according to Matthew. Who was Matthew? When and to whom did he write his gospel? What does he have to say? Join us at 9:00 am on Sunday mornings in the St. Thomas Room (the St. Matthew Room wasn't available).

### **Confirmation Date Set**

The date for this year's Blackstone Deanery service of Confirmation has been set: Saturday, May 21, 10:00 am, at St. James' Church, Woonsocket.

As the Prayer Book reminds us, "In the course of their Christian development, those baptized at an early age are expected, when they are ready and have been duly prepared, to make a mature public affirmation of their faith and commitment to the responsibilities of their Baptism and to receive the laying on of hands by the bishop."

The service in May will provide three possibilities: 1) those who have not been confirmed, beginning (generally) with 10<sup>th</sup> graders and on to adults, may be *Confirmed*; 2) those who have been confirmed elsewhere by a bishop in apostolic succession (basically, former Roman Catholics) may be *Received* into the Episcopal Church; 3) those who have come to a significant moment in their own life of faith may *Reaffirm Baptismal Vows*. If you are interested in any of these possibilities, please speak with Fr. Locke.

### **SUNDAY CROCK POT CHAIN FOR THE HOMELESS**



We are asking folks to sign up for our Crock Pot Chain to provide a hot meal for the residents of our homeless shelter on Sunday evenings. You can bring your crock pot to church with you on Sunday morning or you can make sure it is here by 7 PM when the shelter opens at night. Please be sure to check the Sign-up sheet posted in the Great Hall on Sunday! The Shelter is open through the 1st of June. Please see Kerri Scott if you have any questions or for more information.

**FOOD CLOSET** - Non-perishable food items are always in need: soups, sauces, macaroni, canned vegetables, rice, etc.

**MANY THANKS** to all who provided the poinsettias and wreaths as memorials this year and to those who helped decorate St. Paul's for Christmas.

Debbie, in the church office, thanks the Altar Guild for receiving all the memorial donations and especially to Mary Ellen Kerr who typed up the list of names for the insert this year. Any questions or concerns about your family listing, please see Mary Ellen or Pam Doheny.

### **STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES**

The 2011 boxes of stewardship envelopes are in the Narthex . Please be sure to pick up your envelopes on Sunday morning.

### **ANNUAL LENTEN RETREAT! - Mark Your Calendars Now**

It's not too early to note the date for our annual Lenten Retreat at the Episcopal Conference Center. The retreat will be **March 24 - March 27, 2011**. More details will be forthcoming.

**Annual Meeting of St. Paul's Church  
Sunday, January 23rd  
Following the 10:30 AM Liturgy**

The agenda includes election of Officers and Vestry members, information on the budget, and other business that may come before the meeting.

**Annual Reports** are due in the church office  
**on or before:** Friday, January 14th  
Email Reports to: [office@stpaulspawtucket.org](mailto:office@stpaulspawtucket.org)

**KIDS PAGE** \_\_\_\_\_

“Arise! Shine! For your light has come - and the glory of the Lord has risen for you.” Isaiah 60:1

At the end of the Christmas season, we celebrate EPIPHANY. We remember the Wise Men who brought gifts to Jesus from far away. We are glad, because Jesus has come into the world, like a light shining in the dark.

Nations will come to your light

and kings to the brightness of your rising  
ISAIAH 60:3

Draw the star in the sky. Pretend you are a wise stargazer. What would you say? What gift would you give to Jesus?

## OUR FEBRUARY, 2011 CALENDAR:

Pencil in these important dates on your calendar — we'll have detailed information as the dates draw closer:

**February 2nd:** The Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ  
Holy Eucharist at 7:00 PM

**February 20th:** Taizé Prayer  
5:00 PM



## ***From the Parish Registers*** ---

### **January Birthdays**

- 1 Laurence Howard, Madeline Lafond, Amanda Aikulola
- 2 Irene Castro, Carl Hargreaves, Nana Boateng
- 3 Marguerite Pile
- 9 Rita Despres, Beulah Dumas, Janet White
- 10 Kenneth Dalton, Bethany Force
- 11 Dorrien Neild, Carey Ruo
- 12 Joseph Monteiro
- 13 Marion Pytka, Evaline Richmond
- 14 Thelma Brett
- 15 Bradford Bellows
- 18 Lou Marcoux
- 21 Matthew Provost, Stephen Traghella
- 22 Emma Locke, Joyce Feld
- 23 Paul Tsangarouli
- 24 Carolyn Baggett, Carol Varden
- 26 Marion Gale, Carol Lynch, Thadea & Thaden Leo-mensah
- 28 Barbara Greenwood, Margaret Dunphy
- 29 Amanda Rae Hindy
- 30 Sophie Harris



The deadline for the **FEBRUARY, 2011** issue of the  
*Messenger is*

**Sunday, January 16th**

Please send your news and announcements via email to Debbie in the  
 Church Office: [office@stpaulspawtucket.org](mailto:office@stpaulspawtucket.org)  
 Please include a phone number in case we have questions.



**Parish Directory – Vestry, Wardens, and Staff**\_\_\_

Q. Who are the ministers of the Church?

A. The ministers of the Church are lay persons, bishops, priests, and deacons.

Q. What is the ministry of the laity?

A. The ministry of lay persons is to represent Christ and his Church; to bear witness to him wherever they may be and, according to the gifts given them, to carry on Christ's work of reconciliation in the world; and to take their place in the life, worship, and governance of the Church.

*The Catechism*

**The Rev. William Locke**, Rector. . . . . 401-728-1148  
**The Ven. Dcn. Robin Higbie**, Deacon . . . . . 401-421-2457  
**Patrick Campbell**, Director of Music . . . . . 401-467-2563

**Kerri Scott**, Senior Warden . . . . . 508-761-3348  
**Mark Force**, Junior Warden . . . . . 508-761-9153  
**Sandra Gildea**, Clerk . . . . . 401-722-3328  
**Carey Ruo**, Treasurer. . . . . 401-419-3537

**Vestry members**

**Brad Bellows** . . . . . 401-333-0741  
**Robert Benson** . . . . . 401-722-4134  
**Donna DeCrescenzo** . . . . . 401-232-0867  
**David Despres** . . . . . 401-725-0393  
**John Kelley** . . . . . 401-726-6692  
**Mary Ellen Kerr** . . . . . 401-829-1530  
**Nancy Lotti** . . . . . 401-437-8316  
**Susan Monteiro** . . . . . 401-726-5296  
**Carol Varden** . . . . . 401-359-3902

**Debbie Smith**, Parish Secretary . . . . . 401-728-4300  
**Ruth Johnston**, Music Director *Emerita* . . . . . 401-728-3496

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P E R I O D I C A L S

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