

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH IN NANTUCKET

SEPTEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

*Our Mission is to Make the
Love of God More Widely Known*

FATHER MAX, OUR 33RD RECTOR!



- At its September meeting, the Vestry voted unanimously to adopt the Discernment Committee's recommendation to call Father Max Wolf as our new Rector.
- Bishop Alan Gates affirmed our selection. He shared his joy with these words: "It gladdens my heart to hear this good news!"
- Max joined St. Paul's in 2018 as Priest-In-Charge and came to the island with his wife, Olly.

FROM FATHER MAX

Olly and I love Nantucket and our island community, and we feel so blessed to be called here to serve. St. Paul's Church has long had a commitment to open table fellowship, where people of all backgrounds and walks of life are invited to receive Holy Communion, not just members only. Long known for our gracious hospitality, parishioners are also now more than ever working together to meet local needs. I also find quite rewarding and enlightening my affiliation with Community Foundation for Nantucket, Nantucket Cottage Hospital, Nantucket Interfaith Council and Fairwinds Counseling Center. We find Nantucket to be such a caring community.



- Welcome to our newsletter, with its new look!
- As the pandemic continues, we reflect on the strength, generosity, love and care our clergy, staff and congregation have shown each other, bringing our parish family closer.
- We are thankful for the gift of technology that has kept us connected to each other and helped us reach out to our island community and beyond.
- While we are poised and ready to regather when the time comes, our top priority remains the safety and health of our parishioners, clergy and staff.

Our Discernment Committee recommendation memorandum about Father Max and our new Parish Profile have been emailed to all members of our congregation and are now available on our website. Printed copies may be obtained by mail from the church office.

As the Parish Profile states, St. Paul's is committed to being a congregation that is ready to Love, Serve and Build Sustainability by:

- Being magnetic, enthusiastic and welcoming through the use of our liturgy, our music, our altar as an open table and by being fully inclusive.
- Being unique in our way of embracing families no matter how constituted and by providing broad spiritual, pastoral and educational support and hope.
- Growing our numbers, managing our finances, sustaining our campus and devoting creative efforts to stewardship.



Father Max holds a Sunday Morning Prayer service in the Memorial Garden earlier this month, with parishioners wearing masks and sitting well-distanced.

MEET OUR NEW INTERN

- At its September meeting, the Vestry approved Father Max's request to retain Lt. Jonathan Smith, US Navy Reserve, as an intern at St. Paul's. This is part of his training to become a Navy Chaplain and to be ordained as an Episcopal priest.
- Jonathan is working toward his master's degree at Harvard Divinity School. The Navy requests that its Chaplains receive supervised parish experience.
- Jonathan has a background in communications and website design—he once worked as a news producer at MTV, the music video channel! —and joins us with his dog Linus.



Jonathan Smith preached his first sermon with us on Sept. 13.

PARISH NEWS

- Members of the **Mission Committee**, in partnership with the Community Foundation for Nantucket and the Nantucket Catering Company, safely distributed more than **600 free meals** in May and June to island families facing hardship. The Committee is now considering how it might expand this service jointly with our **Fellowship Committee** by safely preparing and distributing more meals as the pandemic disrupts employment and earnings of more island families.
- **Laundry Love** provides free monthly washing and drying to island residents who need financial help to do their family's laundry. The Committee assisted more than 80 families with the cost of their laundry in the first quarter of 2020 and, since then, has been mailing 36 laundry cards monthly to its regular patrons (216 cards as of the end of September).



Members of the Mission Committee prepare to safely distribute free meals to island families in need.

- Committee members continue to provide \$50 gift cards from restaurants and Stop & Shop in support of the 26 staff members at **Fairwinds Counseling Center**.
- St. Paul's is a member, and Father Max is the new president, of the Nantucket Interfaith Council. The Council operates the **Nantucket Food, Fuel and Rental Assistance** program. The Committee donates funds to NFFRA, and its members volunteer to assist with the distribution of goods by the pantry.

FINANCES

- St. Paul's is blessed to be in a strong financial position with good liquidity.
- *Total Income* through August 31st was \$405,000--about 10% more than budgeted.
- Factors driving income have been steady pledge payments, additional unrestricted gifts, special offerings and mission donations (an unbudgeted category).
- **Thank you! Your continuing support will allow us to fund ongoing operations and extend community outreach in an uncertain outlook for the pandemic and the economy.**
- Our July unFAIR, which replaced our cancelled Summer Fair, helped offset lost fundraising income through the sale and curbside pickup of 176 delicious lobster and chicken dinners.
- *Total Expenses* were 4% below budget, thanks to prudent spending adjustments and a lower-than-forecast cost of running our campus.



- In August, the **Stewardship Committee** began its annual discussion of ideas and goals for its fall campaign for next year.
- The Committee hopes to follow up on a successful campaign in fall 2019 that saw a record amount of funds pledged for supporting St. Paul's work and mission in Nantucket.
- You will be hearing more from us about this in the next few weeks.

MUSIC AT ST. PAUL'S

- Music Director Joe Hammer plans to continue providing instrumental and vocal music for weekly services and to explore interesting music topics for **Music Monday**, streamed on the church's Facebook page on Mondays at 8:30 PM.
- He is planning a live-streamed **Holiday Stroll Variety Show**, along with Advent and Christmas Eve music programs. Details to come.
- St. Paul's organ will be featured in the Nantucket Community Music Center's **Holidays in Music: A Parade of Nantucket's Pipe Organs!** – a 90-minute music program premiering on NCTV18 and social media streaming outlets on Friday evening, Nov. 27. The program will highlight Nantucket's six mechanical action instruments with performances of music of Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas and New Year's.



Music Director Joe Hammer

SAVE THE DATE



Father Max will safely conduct the **Blessing of the Animals** at 8 AM on Sunday, Oct. 4, outdoors in the Memorial Garden and also on that day's online 9:30 Morning Prayer service broadcast—have your pets blessed via Zoom, Facebook Live or YouTube! Watch for details in parish email notices.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Do you feel called to get more involved? The various committees and ministries of St. Paul's welcome your participation:

- Altar Guild, led by Dottie Gennaro, dbgennaro@gmail.com
- Buildings and Grounds Committee, led by Robert Inglis, inglisra@aol.com
- Fellowship Committee, led by Penny Macintyre, pennymacintyre@comcast.net
- Finance Committee, chaired by Sandy Keys, sandrabkeys@gmail.com
- Long Range Planning Committee, chaired by Ken Beaugrand, ken@nantucketrealestate.com
- Mission Committee, (formerly called Outreach Committee), co-chaired by Bob Felch, rdfelch@gmail.com, and Frank Robinson, afr1870@aol.com
- Music Committee, chaired by Malcolm MacNab, mwmacnab@comcast.net
- Stewardship Committee, chaired by Peter Barnes, peterbarnespersonal@gmail.com, and Patsy Wright, vintagepatsy@comcast.net
- Summer Fair, chaired by Sharon Robinson, zeeeturtle.@aol.com
- Christmas Market, chaired by Sheila Daume, trebuzza@comcast.net, and Olly Wolf, wolfsanddogs@verizon.net

OUR STAFF

St. Paul's benefits from the leadership and services of a small staff of employees as well as the volunteer leadership of the Vestry and Committee chairpersons. Presently, the staff consists of Our Rector, The Rev. Max Wolf, Music Director Joe Hammer, Parish Administrator Christine Borneman, volunteer Verger Curtis Barnes and parttime bookkeeper Becky Mack.

OUR VESTRY

The Vestry and Executive Officers of St. Paul's are Wardens Lou Gennaro and Pam Goddard, Treasurer Martin McKerrow, Clerk Susan Coffin, and Vestry members Kirk Baker, Peter Barnes, Beverly Hall, Robert Inglis, Sandy Keys, Lucy Leske, Malcolm MacNab, Jay Riggs, Phil Smith, Yvette St. Jean, Libby Tracey, and Scott Widmeyer.



Young friends enjoying KidStreet at 2019's Summer Fair.

FOLLOW US

As we await the opportunity to regather inside St. Paul's, we continue our online broadcasts:

- Watch Sunday Morning Prayer at 9:30 AM via Facebook Live or Zoom (with the meeting ID # 939 2050 1485)
- Join Thursday morning Bible Study 11:30 AM-12:30 PM via Facebook Live or Zoom (with the meeting ID # 957 8383 4554)
- Watch Prayers from the Attic & Compline Tuesday through Friday with Max and Olly at 8:30 PM on Facebook Live.
- Hear Joe Hammer's Music Monday at 8:30 PM on Mondays on Facebook Live.
- All of our Facebook offerings: Bible Study, Morning Prayer and Prayers from the Attic may also be accessed live by conference call at 1-605-313-4820, passcode 268007#.
- All of our online offerings are taped for later viewing and are also available on YouTube at St. Paul's – Nantucket. Contact the church office if you need help or instruction on how to do this.



Olly and Max read during a Facebook Live broadcast of Prayers from the Attic, guarded by their ever-faithful Meatball!

Do we have your correct contact information? Mailing address? Email address? Cell and home phone numbers? If not, please share your updates and corrections with Christine in the church office, office@stpaulschurchnantucket.org.

CONTACT US

For pastoral care or other matters, please contact Father Max by email at fathermax@stpaulschurchnantucket.org, or on his cell, 302-542-5587.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

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