

The Letter

from
Saint Paul's Church
Summer 2019



20 Fair Street, Nantucket, Massachusetts, 02554 Telephone: 508-228-0916

Get Ready! The Fair is coming to Town - July 11-

This year's St. Paul's Fair is gearing up to be another fun-filled day. Once again, Fair Street will be closed and become the home of Kidstreet where many games and challenges will be set up for the younger generation. The fun of winning coins at the games and trading them in for prizes fills the children with excitement, making this a special day for all our young visitors.

Christine Borneman and Sister Susanna Fronzuto have been busy ordering prizes and checking the games to make sure everything is in good shape and ready to go for the Fair. This year, we have again received a grant, from last year's donor, to fund entirely our Kidstreet project, allowing us to continue to make Kidstreet free of charge to all children on the Island. Our sincere thanks goes to our generous donor, who wishes to remain anonymous.

Also, again this year, The Nantucket Hotel will be giving rides around the Fair Street neighborhood on its 1946 fire engine. This was a BIG hit last year with the kids (and their parents) and a wonderful addition to the Fair. Special thanks to Greg Knapp and the crew from the hotel for their personal participation, generosity, and enthusiasm.

New this year, Mary Lacoursiere, in conjunction with the NHA, has arranged for a special event for the kids. A program on scrimshaw will be presented (10:30am, back of the Church garden) and the children will have the chance to make and take home their newly created work of art and history.

Bishop Gates Celebrates Pentecost at St. Paul's

On June 9, Bishop Alan Gates celebrated Pentecost Sunday with our congregation, and in his message, he reminded us that Pentecost serves up "the good news of Jesus risen."

More than 150 congregants participated in this special service, and we were fortunate to have the Bishop on Nantucket for two days where he had dinner with the confirmation class, met with the Vestry and offered his full support in our church's continued journey.

The Bishop referred to the divisions that currently engulf our society. "Fifty years ago, we were living through a similarly divided time. In referencing the words of the late Martin Luther King Jr., he said we will beat your force with soul force. We will still love you, and we will meet hatred and violence with love.

Gates noted the presence of the Holy Spirit is a gift and enables us to overcome challenging times. "By the motivating power of the Holy Spirit, we must press ahead and be joyous and faithful disciples and stewards."



St. Paul's Fair

THURSDAY - JULY 11 - 9:30 TO 2:00
20 FAIR STREET
An Island Tradition Since 1903
Art - Antiques - Gifts - Houseware -
Furniture - Books
Silent Auction
Raw Bar - Burgers - Hot Dogs -
Snow Cones - Cotton Candy
KIDS STREET
FREE FOR KIDS
Games Galore - Prizes - Crafts - Face Painting
Rides on antique Fire Engine
Scrimshaw making (10:30am)

The St. Paul's parking lot will be transformed into a Food Court with tents filling the parking lot plus food stations and plenty of tables and chairs available for a leisurely lunch. Malcolm MacNab is heading up the Snack Shack serving hot dogs and hamburgers; Dave Fronzuto is coordinating the Raw Bar; Yvette St. Jean is busy making baked goods to display and sell at the Bake table; and Bill Moore is in charge of making the sweet treats at Novelty Row. At 11am, the upbeat music of New Life Ministries will fill the parking lot for everyone's enjoyment.

continued on page 6

The Start of Something Big

Our parish family recently celebrated the feast of Pentecost with an uplifting pastoral visitation from Bishop Alan Gates. With our far-flung Diocese of 175 parishes and so much more to oversee, we cherish the days that our Bishop took to be with us on the island.

He led us all in prayerfully participating in the Confirmation, Reception and Reaffirmation of Vows of 15 parishioners, and was uniquely present and encouraging with each.



"Wow!" My wife Olly remarked that it was the most moving Bishop's Visitation that she has ever witnessed. It was truly a Holy Spirit experience!

At the same time, we just reached a milestone along with our music director, Joe Hammer, of serving at St. Paul's Church in Nantucket for one year now. It has been a wonderful year. There is a joy among our staff, leadership and members as we work together, and a shared hopefulness in the parish as we move forward. Although a different theme, I am reminded of Steve Allen's great old song "This Could Be the Start of Something (Big)," by the grace of God. I am especially delighted when I hear so frequently in public from non-parishioners, "St. Paul's is such a loving parish." That is our experience, and that is our commitment.

Olly and I so enjoy walking the streets of town, as does our terrier Meatball, and fully participating in the myriad of the nearly monthly old-fashioned community events, plus all of the fabulous gatherings our own Fellowship Committee sponsors in all seasons. In a year, I have left the island only to visit my Mom and for a few clergy meetings, Olly even less, for an appointment and to spend two weeks on Block Island in March, even quieter than Nantucket. We could happily be one of those couples of which they say, "They haven't left the island in 25 years."

Thank you for welcoming us and supporting the faithful efforts and loving presence of St. Paul's Church in Nantucket. God has called each of us here to this extraordinarily beautiful part of Creation to be a strong welcoming presence in the community and witnesses to God's unconditional love. O Lord, let it be so.

—Father Max Wolf



An Update from Our Wardens

The past six months have been a busy time for St. Paul's Church, and we are amazed at all the activity and energy that has characterized our parish in this period of time.

Our Priest, Father Max Wolf, has brought a level of dedication, engagement, and energy to his ministries at St. Paul's and in the greater community of Nantucket, that we truly value. It seems that Father Max is everywhere and involved in all aspects of our parish life. We feel blessed by his contributions and by the added contributions of his spouse, Olly. It is hard to believe that Father Max has just completed his first year as our Priest in Charge! It seems like he has been here much longer, given the way Father Max has become one of us.

The Fellowship committee has been stalwart in their support of so many different events along with hosting wonderful coffee hours after Sunday morning services. Every member of this valuable committee deserves our praise and the gratitude of all parish members for their dedication and for the hospitality they provide to all. The Buildings and Grounds committee has continued to address the preservation and repairs of St. Paul's Church building. This project is of the utmost importance for the long-term life of our church building and we feel blessed by the progress that has been made. We are fortunate to have such a beautiful campus, but we are also fortun-

nate to have such good stewards of our many buildings and grounds.

Sunday morning services continue to be central to the life of St. Paul's and we are thankful for the enrichment of these services with the music programs that our Music Director, Joe Hammer, and the choir have provided. Through the cold and somewhat quieter months of winter, our hearts have been warmed by the beautiful music offered by the talented musicians and choristers at St. Paul's. The Vestry had a special, Saturday half day meeting in April to develop plans and additional focus for some of our ministries and committees moving forward. We have already seen activity and energy channeled towards some of the items we highlighted at our meeting, most notably the welcoming of newcomers and added communications efforts to keep everyone informed.

We have entered phase two of the three phase Priest-in-Charge process with Father Max. Phase one involved the parish and Father Max getting acquainted and engaged. Phase two involves mutual and collaborative planning and goal setting, which we are actively engaged in doing. Phase three is discernment. We are pleased with our progress thus far and have optimism for the future of this vitally important endeavor.

Thanks to all of you for the ongoing support and commitment you bring to our life together at St. Paul's.
Peace and Blessings,
Lou Gennaro and Pam Goddard
Co-Wardens

How Hymns Have Evolved in the Church

In England, metrical psalms directly modeled on the Bible were the main liturgical diet – hymns, with their vague scriptural references, were frowned upon. Worshippers became dissatisfied with metrical psalms because their texts were not of the rhetorical quality of the Book of Common Prayer and many were very poor adaptations of scripture.

It was the great Isaac Watts (1674 – 1748) who began the reform of congregational singing in England. He wrote many fine hymns – Joy to the World and O God our help in ages past are examples – and started from the principle that texts should express the religious feelings of the people. This was a total turnaround from the previously-held view that they should be scripturally based!

Isaac Watts' principle holds today--I write as the General Editor of two hymn books, both of whose editorial committees were guided by it. It was the Wesley brothers, John and Charles, who, early in the 18th Century and almost contemporary with Watts, set out to change worshippers' views of hymnody. They were not only the founders of Methodism, but they insisted that hymns, both words and music, should be written to stir the congregation, reinforce its religious emotions and play on the "feel good" factor. The Wesleys made hymns the central feature of Methodist worship, and before long many people began to admire the Methodists for their hearty and fervent singing. The qualities of sincerity and conviction were a vital part of the Wesley approach and congregations responded with vigor

and enthusiasm. So powerful was this surge that many were attracted away from the established church into Methodism.

A number of forward-looking Church of England clergymen began to see the need for a similar musical revival in their own church. But many Anglicans resisted the introduction of evangelical-style hymns because they were still wedded to the metrical psalm – the musical embodiment of Scripture.

The matter came to a head in Sheffield, England in 1819 when Vicar Thomas Cotterill imposed Methodist-style hymnody on his congregation. The people rebelled and took him to the Diocesan Consistory Court. The case was heard by the Chancellor of the Diocese of York who, in a typical Anglican compromise, concluded that both hymns and metrical psalms were illegal in Anglican liturgy but, because their use was widespread, he didn't feel able to enforce his decision!

This opened the floodgates to all manner of hymns – including Gospel Hymns – and, coupled with the pioneering work of Watts and the Wesleys, laid the foundation of Anglican hymnody as we know it today.

The other great impetus was the publication in 1861 of Hymns Ancient and Modern. Its enlightened committee insisted that the book should reflect the very best of the many traditions of hymnody. It was an amazing success – sales reached 500,000 annually (and this was at a time when many people couldn't read or write) and by 1912 it had sold a staggering 60 million copies and it's still in print today!

—Joe Hammer



St. Paul's Community Outreach Going Strong With Laundry Love

On June 9, during the announcements segment of the Sunday service, the Outreach Committee presented Bishop Gates with two Laundry Love T-shirts, one reading simply "Laundry Love" and the other "Love Never Ends – neither does laundry." The Bishop has charged his Missioner for Networking and Formation to connect the nine Episcopal churches in Massachusetts that currently sponsor Laundry Love events and that is under way.

St. Paul's was recently advised that the Community Foundation's Nantucket Fund will be making a \$4,000 grant to St. Paul's to further our Laundry Love efforts. To date, St. Paul's Outreach Committee has held 20 free laundry events at Holdgates Laundromat. At these two-hour, monthly events, we provide an average of 15 Island families free washing and drying of their clothing, bedding and towels. "Laundry Love" (laundrylove.org) is a national organization dedicated to encouraging non-profit entities to sponsor free laundry days at their local laundromats.



Blessings in Cuba; St. Paul's is Held in High Regard

My California son, Adam, and I decided to spend a week in Cuba with Road Scholar. He was learning Spanish and was interested in Cuban Culture. We both had been in Austin, Texas for the Episcopal Church's General Convention where Episcopal Church reintegration happened for Cuba, Cuba, si!

When we arrived in Cuba, I asked if I could attend an Episcopal Sunday Service in Havana. Our People to People Visa status had already included a Sunday morning event so the Sunday Service wasn't to be. I asked if our bus could, at least, drive by the Episcopal Cathedral. On the last day our Cuban Guide, Jose Luis, said that while our tour group was at lunch, he would walk with Adam and me to the Cathedral.

While Adam was taking pictures of me outside the Cathedral, Jose Luis spoke to a woman walking around the corner. He interpreted a conversation for us. The woman had just received bottled water from the Cathedral. He shared that I was from Delaware and Massachusetts and how people I knew were helping to establish safe water in Cuba. She directed us to use the side door to enter the Cathedral.

continued on page 6



Craftsmanship, Patience and a History Lesson

Finding New Treasures During Bell Tower Renovation

As you know, in 2018 we undertook an extensive renovation of our Bell Tower. This work, done by Florentine Masonry of Boston, addressed the long-term problem of water leaks in the tower. This work appears to be successful as we no longer have to put buckets or plastic wastebaskets in the Narthex to catch the water dripping (or even running) from the tower. Damage to the Church's interior walls has ended and, as the water soaked walls dry out, we will be making more extensive interior repairs.

We think we were fortunate to have selected Florentine to do the work. Fabio Bardini is a true craftsman, a real master mason. He has been a delight to work with and his love of and interest in his work shines through in any conversation. He has a deep understanding of masonry, its history and how practices have changed over time. This background has been an important part of the work that he has done and will continue to do for St. Paul's.

Fabio and our consultant Brian Pheiffer had identified the problem with our tower to be that an unfortunate combination of factors had created a potentially catastrophic condition in the tower. First, in 1902, stonework commenced late in the year and freezing temperatures probably compromised the original lime mortar. Subsequent repairs to the tower used damaging Portland cement. Bizarrely, while deteriorated mortar allowed water in, the Portland cement repairs locked it in. In the winter, this water froze creating hair-line cracks that allowed even more water in. The further passage of time only served to magnify the issues and by the time Florentine commenced their work, our tower had loose stones that in time would have fallen from the Tower.

Thus, last year Fabio undertook the repair work to the tower, basically replacing the old mortar with a new more elastic Italian mortar that will allow the building to breathe. Following the work on the Tower and better understanding what he found, Fabio proceeded to evaluate the remainder of the Church since the structural problems were not unique to the tower, but were amplified there due to its height and full exposure to weather. His recommendation was that we do additional work on the Church's four South, East and North exposures, starting with the West wall, and specifically the area around our Tiffany Water of Life window. We had the chance to spend some time with Fabio and his

team while they were doing this work that was completed in mid-May. Fabio's patience was remarkable as he tried to explain to this English major the important issues in repairing and maintaining masonry. Essentially, it is critical that the stones in a masonry wall be supported across their entire length by a uniform bed of mortar. Further, this mortar should not shrink and should allow the walls to breathe. The earlier restoration using Portland cement – a



very hard and non-porous substance was at odds with older practices – dating back to Roman stonework that used mortar that breathed. At St. Paul's, as the existing mortar aged due to the wash out, the stones in the wall became supported only in a few places as opposed to across their entire length. In some cases this resulted in the cracking of the softer now unsupported brownstone trim and the loosening of granite blocks. If you look carefully, in some places you can see where stones have been pushed out of the plane of the wall by internal ice pressures.

As we talked with Fabio and watched his team at work, we asked why he had five gallon buckets of yogurt in his work area. Fabio patiently

explained that the yogurt was in fact lime mortar that is made using older techniques. A block of lime is heated to about 900 degrees until all moisture and carbon dioxide are driven out of it. While hot the stone is treated with water, and it powders and combines with the water to form the "yogurt". This is then mixed with a red dye to match our existing mortar. This mortar not only breathes, but gradually becomes increasingly hard as it reabsorbs carbon dioxide from the atmosphere – it eventually turns again into limestone. We asked how long the process took and were told about 100 to 400 years! We also asked how long it would take our water soaked tower stonework to fully dry out and he suggested 10 years. This is work for a patient team.

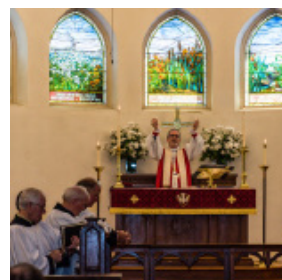
The deterioration of the West wall was so severe that in places there were actually holes in the stonework that went through to the interior – in May we even had scaffolding inside the Church. As noted above, the brownstone that supports the Water of Life window was actually cracked in several places. However, with Fabio's application of his "yogurt" mortar both the West wall as well as the bell tower are now stabilized and should serve us well for the foreseeable future. As a part of the West wall work the entrance doors to the Narthex were removed and the framing – compromised by trapped water – was replaced.

Fabio has presented the Building Committee and the Vestry with a proposal for further work on the East and North side of the building and its chimneys where similar but less severe issues were found. We expect this work to take place over the next couple of years.

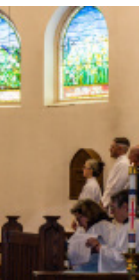
This work has presented some pleasant surprises. With scaffolding in place around the Water of Life window we learned that the window carries Louis Comfort Tiffany's name – meaning it was designed by Tiffany himself. Additionally, Fabio found a Latin "hologram" in one of the window's roundels that reads – Pater, Filius Spiritus Sanctus non est est - Father, Son and Holy Ghost – not is, is. Father Max can give you an explanation.

We'd like to add a special thanks to Luke Thornewill for his coordination of this project and his invaluable input to this article.

The Saint Paul's 2018



2019 Photo Scrapbook



God Bless America

Lord God Almighty, in whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain our liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. (The Collect for Independence Day) Soon, Nantucket will celebrate America's birthday, Independence Day, and rightly so.

The founding of our new nation was, and is, something to be celebrated. Never before in the history of the world had a nation come into being built on the principles of the equality of all men and the "unalienable Rights [of] Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness." As we all know, those words have had to be expanded over the 200+ years since they were first written—slavery had to be done away with so that all men, regardless of the color of their skin, might be included; and "men" had to be expanded to include women as endowed with those same inalienable rights. Indeed, Thomas Jefferson, sometimes called the "most democratic of the [Founding] Fathers," wrote in a letter to James Madison, "no society can make a perpetual constitution or even a perpetual law. The earth belongs always to the living generation."

The earth belongs always to the living generation. It is our responsibility, then, as citizens to always review and reimagine what those principles of equality and the unalienable Rights of Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness mean and how they can be extended. Even more so is

it our responsibility as Christians. In the Gospel reading for Independence Day, Jesus reminds us to, "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you . . . for [God] makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous." I would go a step further and say that God makes the principles of equality and the unalienable Rights of Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness also to "rise on the evil and the good, and . . . on the righteous and the unrighteous." It is not for us to judge; we are called only to love and to pray.

This brings me to those words of one of our nation's most cherished anthems, "God Bless America." For a long time I didn't like hearing this song at all—I felt that it is so often sung not as a plea but as a demand, or as a fait accompli, a done deal—but that's because it is so often sung without its first verse:

While the storm clouds gather far across the sea,
Let us swear allegiance to a land that's free,
Let us all be grateful for a land so fair,
As we raise our voices in a solemn prayer.
As we raise our voices in a solemn prayer.
That prayer being that God would bless America,
not that God has already blessed America. As citizens and Christians, it is our responsibility to pray for God's blessing on America and to do the work of realizing that blessing through ever expanding the ideals of equality and the Rights of Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness to all, even to those we call our enemies.

God Bless Us All,
Alan N. Yount

Milestones at Saint Paul's

Confirmation Class

Kenneth L. Beaugrand	Louis R. Gennaro
Lucy Bixby	Pamela Joan Goddard
Abigail Rose Borneman	Anna P. Macintyre
Elizabeth Nancy Borneman	Fredrick P. McClure
Christine Lynn Borneman	Erin Miller McCormack
Paul Borneman III	Martin McKerrow
Dorothy B. Gennaro	Elizabeth Cantrell McCusker
	Elizabeth Tracy

Weddings

Angela Jones and Charles Mahan
Amanda O'Brien and Michael Smith

Deaths in our Parish

William Yarmy
Ruth Yarmy
Lillian Foster Ketchum
Roger Brown
Bernard Bartlett
Blair Goddard
Pamela Ann Bartlett-Little
William Walker
Quinn Cantrell McCusker
Victoria Harvey
Bernard Bartlett
J Pepper Frazier

The Fair (continued from pg. 1)

Located in the Parish House, the Gift Chalet is your "go to" place to find the unique, high-end items on which St. Paul's Fair has built its reputation as the best fair on Nantucket. Olly Wolf, Bonnie Ford and Susan Phillips are gathering the decorative, the antique, the Nantucket memorabilia, and all the special items for this ever popular shop.

Also in the Parish House will be the "better than ever" Silent Auction with exciting new items to "Buy Now" or place a bid on. Lucy Leske and Pat McGill have outdone themselves putting together a fabulous, "something for everyone" array. To mention just a few - Red Sox tickets, rounds of golf at Sankaty, a cocktail cruise aboard the Belle, a Boston Symphony package with travel and accommodations, gift certificates for top Nantucket restaurants, a jazz trio for your next party, vacation weeks in the Cotswolds, Nevis and Florida.

Hodge Podge, the white elephant/yard sale of the Fair, will be relocated this year and join the Book Sale in Gardner Hall. Ginger Browning will oversee the offerings of housewares, toys, sports gear, etc., and Joe Hammer will manage books.

Thanks to all who have volunteered to help make this Fair the best one yet. All we need now is YOU - donate, underwrite, bake, sign up to work a shift and, please, join us at the Fair on Thursday, July 11, 2019 from 9:30 am to 2 pm.

A Lifelong Dedication and Commitment to Christ

Sister Susanna Margaret made her Solemn Profession on May 29 after seven years of formation and discernment with the Companions of St. Luke, Order of Saint Benedict. In a ceremony conducted at Conception Abbey in Missouri, Sister Susanna lay prostrate on the sanctuary floor covered by a funeral pall while the Litany of the Saints was chanted, a sign of her death to the world. Sister Susanna then sang the Suscipe chant three times and read her vows of profession as a sign of lifelong dedication and commitment to Christ and the Church.

So, what is a vowed religious doing at St. Paul's? The Episcopal Church canonically recognizes 18 religious orders and 14 Christian communities for men, women, or both. While some commit to holding their possessions in common and living a celibate life in community and in obedience to their Rule and Constitution, communities may also be dispersed, meeting several times a year and carrying the monastery in their heart. Sister Susanna attended St. Paul's as a child and feels blessed to be able to continue her work as Coordinator for Children and Youth Formation.

At Solemn Profession, each Brother or Sister receives an assignment from the superior of the community. Sister Susanna has been assigned as formation master for two novices who were clothed in the Benedictine habit last week. She has also been assigned to further the presence of her Benedictine community in Canada, England, and Brazil. This is truly the journey of a lifetime.



Blessings in Cuba (continued from pg. 2)

The Dean of the Cathedral said that we should wait. He would talk to us after the prayer group that was in session was over. Between Jose Luis, Adam and the people gathered we had a lively and loving conversation. The Dean, Jose A. Gutierrez and his wife Lucrecia, affectionately spoke of Lucy Bixby and the caring people from Nantucket and Massachusetts who visited Cuba and helped in establishing safe drinking water. After photos, the people gave me altar flowers. With tears of joy filling my eyes, I pondered how God plans wonderful adventures for us beyond mortal imagining!

--Love in Christ, Deacon Susan

Activities Abound for our Youth



Children and youth continue to be an integral part of parish life. Whether it's participating in the Wednesday night Advent program, The Gift of the Nutcracker, making pies for the American Legion Thanksgiving dinner, serving tea at Sherburne Commons, exploring issues of faith or serving in church as acolytes, lectors, choristers or ushers, St. Paul's is blessed to have young people involved in the life of the Church. Sister Susanna and Father Max also were involved in preparing three of our youth for Confirmation on June 9 with Bishop Alan Gates.

Church school doesn't end when school is out for the summer! Look for our summer schedule in the next few weeks detailing camp-outs, pizza and pajamas, the summer fair and youth group mission travel to Texas and Tennessee.



Pat Does Her Part to Tidy Up Nantucket

Family, etc. call me "the trash lady." I guess that began when I began my walks here during our off season and carried bags with me for all the incidental trash on the roadside. I could not pass by the mess along the lovely byways I passed through. The majority of my catch were plastic bottles and nips, the majority of which were found Sundays and Mondays, demonstrating the allure of same on the weekends. Recently, eight of those were found in shrubbery at Stop and Shop.

Of course I use my walker when in town due to the physical risk of streets and sidewalks in our town. (Don't get me started). Many drivers are extremely courteous as well as a woman who called the Police Department to say I was unsafe. When the officer pulled over and said "what are you up to now?", I showed him my bag of trash and my ability to navigate to and fro in safety. (Questionable.)

Another day as I walked up to the Old Mill, I foolishly left my walker by the side and walked in to pick something up. Of course I fell into the brush and my walker rolled merrily down Mill St. (I don't do that anymore). Of course, it was a nice way to meet multiple kindly guys on their way to work who "got me back together again." And, my obsessions with trash led me to Madaket Mall, a trash collectors heaven. What a community there!

People from all walks of life and economic status surround you. Treasures abound! It is a joy to see folks with pillow cases filled with clothing to be sent to El Salvador, Venezuela, Brazil, etc. Hundreds of pounds removed each day to be recycled properly. As for me, I am delighted the Mall contributes unlimited success in my

need for wool sweaters to make mittens and quilts. I have made nearly 100 hundred pair of mittens for winter fairs plus three quilts for myself and family who winter in colder climes. Each quilt removes three pounds of material. Sometimes I come across a sweater in very good condition and some with name labels which I cannot bear to destroy and they go to the resale shops on island for further recycling.

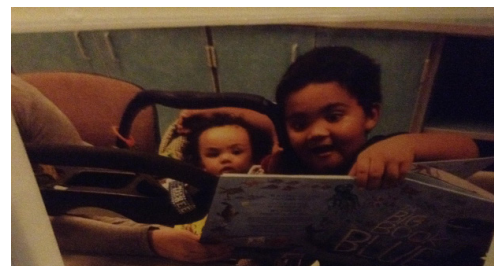
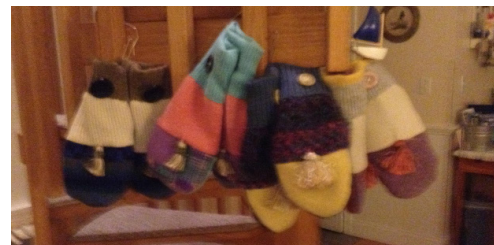
My spouse, David, makes lamps out of musical instruments and The Mall contributed a trombone this year. Our daughter now has a standing reading lamp in her home. Dave is now donating two lamps to our July Fair at St. Paul's.

Dave volunteers at the Second Shop and was donated a largess of children's books as has the Mall which we send to a teacher in North Carolina who uses her own money to buy books. Many of these children have never owned a book of their own. (Our grandkids get a book in their hands almost the moment they are born!) These children had a Book Party with ice cream and books laid on tables. They sent thank you notes and photos to us of the party. My favorite photo was of one boy kneeling down near his sibling in a stroller reading to her. The proud smile in his face was a joy.

A widowed woman tailor in NH receives huge bags of plastic coat hangers each time we go there. The usual plastic ones are now out-dated. She previously has bought them but now has an improved "bottom line."

This amounts to a raindrop in the ocean, but the plastic island in the South Sea give me nightmares. So, I am known on this Island as the "Trash Lady". My Mom always said to my sisters and me, "Act like ladies". Well, I am trying.

—Pat Dick



The Crowns Cross and Rosary Cove; A Nantucket Pilgrimage

I like to walk and sail for a cause; it's a mission for me. I do it now for Jesus, and I do it with the Rosary. I'm an Episcopalian, but also a Marion. I honor Mary. I believe in the power of the Rosary and Magnificat prayer. Not long ago I went on pilgrimages to Medjugorje, Bosnia- Herzegovina. I follow closely what's happening there because it's there where heaven clearly touches earth. Mary the Mother of God has been appearing to six visionary children and bringing messages from heaven to us since 1981. The Crowns Cross discovery were the fruits of my faith and of Medjugorje.

Inspired by the dramatic hikes and walks to various Crosses in Medjugorje, I wanted to find something similar on Nantucket that one could make a pilgrimage. After a year of searching,

I found an extraordinary and beautiful spot on Nantucket--remote and almost impossible to find it was revealed to me specifically through the Rosary. Called the Crowns Cross, it's located at Rosary Cove. Again, this summer I'm offering to take anyone who would like to go to this sacred secret spot. It's meant for those who are in pursuit of God and the pursuit of healing. It is a destination for private worship and prayer. It has been blessed by Father Max, Father John Beach and a Catholic priest. For those who take the hike, you will be given Rosary beads and a miraculous medal from Medjugorje. Crowns Cross is nature's chapel at the edge of a bird refuge, perched above the water and in a small clearing surrounded by trees. The sanctuary is made from sticks woven together found on the forest floor. It's a place to sit, gaze out on the water,

watch the fish jump, the ducks and swans glide by and the herons and osprey sweep the shore line as well as watch the boats sailing in the distance.

This is a place where "My soul doth magnify the Lord and spirit rejoices in God our Savior", its Mary's Place on Nantucket. This is a place I like to share with those like-minded. I have been going there for over three years in all weather conditions--blizzards, Nor'easters, heat waves, sunshine.

It's a place that once you know where it is, I hope you will bring others and this is what makes it so special as a secret and sacred place. For me, it passes the torch forward and can offer you a chance to show others the "Way." If this journey is of interest, it takes about an hour or so round trip typically. If you would like to take the pilgrimage, I would be happy to set up a time to lead you. Just text me at 508-333-0702. Luke Thornewill

Saint Paul's and the World are Better Places Because of Libby and Cece

In this edition of The Letter, we sat down with two active members of the congregation. It was great to chat with Libby Tracey, a year-round Nantucketer, and with Cece Fowler, one of our summer friends. They both have one thing in common: a love for St. Paul's.

Getting to Know Libby Tracey

When did you first come to Nantucket?

It was in the 1950s that our mother rented a house on Pine Street and we started coming here. For many years, I loved coming here in the summer and it was really great when my sister, Randi (Wight) and her husband, Ned, settled here.

Was it an easy decision for you to decide to be on Nantucket year-round?

Well, the first thing I wanted to do was spend a winter here before deciding. So I did that in 2015 and I have Ken Beaugrand to thank for finding a cottage for me to rent. And, during that time I met Dr. Margot Hartman (the Nantucket Hospital administrator) and I soon started working as a nurse practitioner in the oncology section of the hospital. Once that happened, I told myself, it looks like I am not leaving.

Tell us about your family.

I have four children, a daughter who lives in Brooklyn and three sons who live in Connecticut. And they come to Nantucket a lot during the summer which I enjoy greatly.

How did you get involved at St. Paul's?

My sister, Randi, is responsible for getting me active in St. Paul's.

What do you love most about our church?

It is really the embrace of this congregation, and I feel so embraced by Max and Olly. We have a really strong, committed and invested group at St. Paul's. I have the church to thank for helping me be a better person.

What really keeps Libby Tracey going day after day?

You have to feel good about yourself. Nantucket is all about community and this community is teaching me new things every day and I am helping by giving back.

Tell us about your early childhood days.

I grew up in St. Louis and we attended an all-black Presbyterian church. Both my mother and grandfather were active in that church and he believed it was important for me to know other cultures.

What gives you hope for tomorrow? And what concerns you about the future?

You need to see the good in every person. And when you humanize a relationship, it pays off. There is so much good out there and you have to hope that the next generation will be one of compassion and generosity and will be strong enough to carry the load.

What do you do for fun?

I like to sing karaoke at The Box and I love singing in our choir. I like to go to the movies and I love dog movies. Plus, I love being with my kids.



Getting to Know Cece Fowler

How long has Nantucket been your summer home?

We made our first trip to the island in 2000 for a friend's birthday. Then, in 2002, we came back for the Daffodil Festival. It was a rainy day so we went and looked at houses to buy. We put an offer in and that was it! We really fell in love with Nantucket.

Tell us how your life has been so connected to the Episcopal Church.

My Episcopalian experience began growing up in Newport Beach, CA. When we are not on Nantucket, we live in Houston where I have been deeply involved in Christ Church Cathedral from the Vestry to chairing the Day Center program, helping develop a park, and for a time, I worked at the Cathedral as director of stewardship and communications. For four years, I served on the College of Preachers National Cathedral in Washington, DC, and chaired the capital campaign for Virginia Theological Seminary.

What has your St. Paul's experience been like?

I have loved coming to St. Paul's. It is a welcoming and accepting community, and it was good to have served for six years on the Vestry. I count St. Paul's as a very important part of a very rich life.

How did you end up in Houston?

My husband, Mack, was in the oil business so we moved to Houston in 1977 from New York City. I thought our stay would be short, but 40 years later, I can say Houston feels like home to us.

How do you believe churches should be part of the community?

I think Christ Church is a perfect model for how a church gives back to the broader community. In our cities, we see so many families struggling and homelessness growing. At Christ Church, we recognized this and made outreach central to the mission of the Cathedral with our Day Center and the Beacon program which helps people stay on top of their basic needs, their health care, legal and financial services, and more.

What are your hopes for St. Paul's?

We hope it can engage a younger population, and that means engaging in outreach. Outreach cannot take a back seat. It can really can change how a church functions. I encourage everyone to choose an area they would like to focus on. Each one of us can do a lot of good things over time, and it's easy to see how outreach feeds into all of the many pieces of the church.

Where does Cece Fowler get all of her energy?

My belief is the more you do, the more you can do.

How do you spend your free time, your R & R moments?

I grew up on the water sailing, I raced as a young child and crewed on the national champion USC team. One of the reasons I wanted to be on Nantucket was to sail again.



The Letter From Saint Paul's

Max Wolf: Priest in Charge

Scott Widmeyer: Editor

Photography: Beverly Hall, Martin McKerrow