

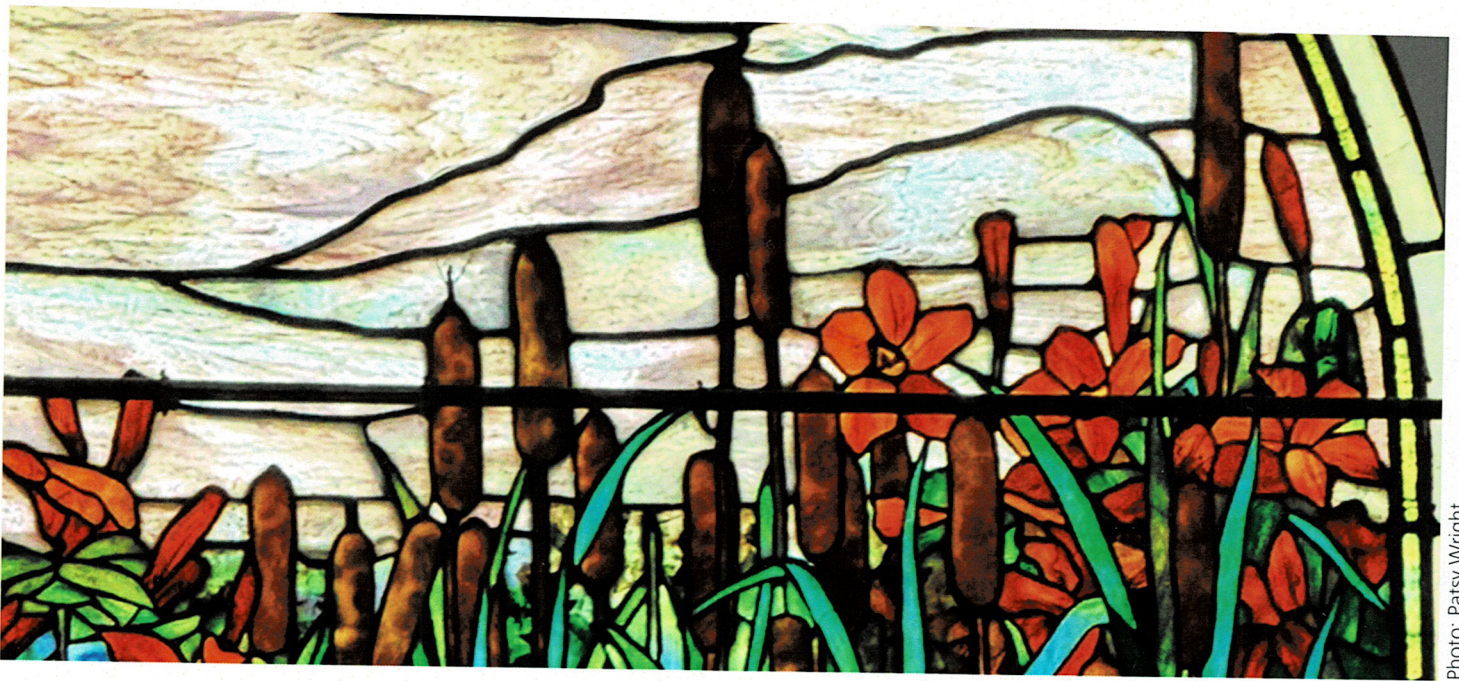


Photo: Patsy Wright

TIDINGS

Fall 2025

St. Paul's Church in Nantucket
20 Fair Street
Nantucket, MA 02554
StPaulsChurchNantucket.org

Rector's Message

All Creatures of Our God and King

One of the true joys of this summer past has been the doubling of the average Sunday attendance of our 8 AM outdoor service. After a slow beginning due to "January" weather, our usher Adam Dread had the creative idea to more intentionally invite children and pets to that Memorial Garden Eucharist. He shared his reasoning with *Inquirer & Mirror* reporter Sarah Roberts that the presence of our critters would more fully engage the children and keep them off their electronic devices. And he was absolutely right. Sarah wrote a front-page article about it all and word quickly spread. The rest is history.

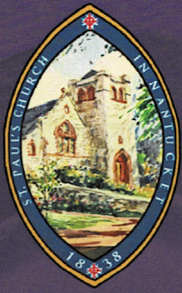
Over my nearly 30 years of ordained ministry, many have expressed their concern about the lack of children participating in church. This is true across most faith traditions, and it bodes ill for the wellbeing of our communities and society. So, as a

parish, we first pray for our children; we provide snacks for school and summer programs. We serve them afterschool with Ready, Set, Read, and with our upcoming Toy Library. Like Adam, we come up with creative ideas. We plant the seeds, others water, and we trust that God will give the growth.

Our summer experience is reminiscent of St. Paul's popular yearly Blessing of the Animals, this year on October 5, when we and our critters worshiped together. Then we sang William Draper's paraphrase of the words of St. Francis of Assisi:

"All creatures of Our God and King, lift up your voices and with us sing Alleluia, Alleluia! Let all things their Creator bless, and worship God with humbleness, O praise God, Alleluia!"

The peace and joy of Christ,
Max



St. Paul's Church in Nantucket

Our Staff

The Rev. Max Wolf, Rector
Joe Hammer, Music Director
Christine Borneman, Parish Administrator
Curtis Barnes, Verger
The Rev. Susan Phillips, Deacon
John Howish, Sexton

Our Vestry

Lucy Leske, Warden
Liz Bristow, Warden
Kirk Baker, Treasurer
Peter Greenhalgh, Clerk

Dorothy Baker
Peter Barnes
Toby Broadus
Colby Crenshaw
Cece Fowler
Lou Gennaro
Jan Jacobi
Ruthie Klinck
Steve Paradis
Sheri Perelman
Jay Riggs
Patsy Wright

Tidings

Patsy Wright and Peter Barnes, editors



Wardens Report

by Lucy Leske

After a wonderful, bustling summer, the Vestry is looking forward to a fall season when we can slow the pace and reflect on the many blessings of our shared faith community. We are so grateful to the St. Paul's community for its generous support of our annual stewardship and capital campaigns, which are enabling us to expand our outreach programs, invest in our campus and infrastructure, and fund our operations including our outstanding music program.

We are encouraged by all the positive feedback and offers of assistance this year. Sunday attendance this summer was robust, especially in the garden where it was occasionally SRO! Both long-time and new members of the parish are getting engaged like never before and chipping in where help is needed. The good word of the good works of St. Paul's is spreading, and people want to be involved. We are:

- *Launching the renovation of Gardner Hall and the installation of a sprinkler system and air handling throughout the building.*
- *Expanding our support of programs to address food insecurity.*
- *Opening the Nantucket Toy Library in the Parish House.*
- *Refining and strengthening our budget process.*
- *Initiating a parish-wide, on-line survey through Renewal Works from Forward Movement to determine current beliefs, spiritual practices and community involvement, to help us work to continue to chart a path of spiritual growth and vitality for the St. Paul's community. Look for more information about this in the coming months.*

Most of all, we are thankful for the ministry of Father Max and Olly, without whom we would not be where we are today.



PARISH COMMITTEES



Altar Guild

Ann Smith and Karen Bloomfield
co-chairs

Hospitality Committee

Olly Wolf, chair

Campus Oversight Committee

Steve Paradis, chair

Outreach Committee

Dorothy Baker and Liz Bristow,
co-chairs

"Call to Community" Campaign Committee

Peter Barnes and Bob Felch, co-chairs

Stewardship Committee
Peter Barnes and Patsy Wright,
co-chairs

Communications Committee

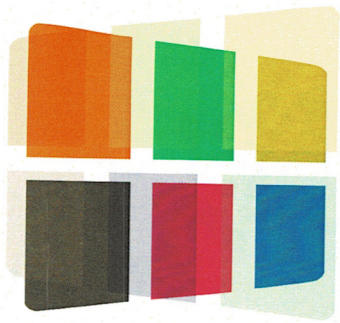
Patsy Wright, chair

Music Committee

Joe Hammer, chair

Finance Committee

Kirk Baker, chair



PERSPECTIVES

by Jan Jacobi

I have had the privilege of serving on the vestries of two thriving Episcopal churches: my church at home and at St. Paul's. What I have learned is that the enjoyment and satisfaction of the experience depends upon the leadership of the rector and the wardens.

At the Church of St. Michael & St. George in Clayton, MO, I was on the Vestry for 10 years. The church is fortunate to have a rector who has been highly successful. He's been with us for 25 years. In his first month he received an anonymous letter and had it published on the front page of the church's weekly newsletter. It set the tone. Most of my time on the Vestry was smooth sailing. The group was corporate, and I didn't have much to say. But once at a vestry retreat, when we were discussing the relationship between the church and its school, I let loose for five minutes. Everyone listened politely, most nodded in agreement, and then we went on to the next thing.

At St. Paul's it has been different. Although I'm an off-island representative, I've been welcomed warmly. I came aboard when Bob Felch and Libby Tracey were the wardens and Martin McKerrow was the treasurer. Bob's steady hand and his remarkable ability to pack the most meaning into the fewest words were a wonder to behold. Libby was the Mr. Rogers of the group. She always looked on the bright side and had a kind word for everyone. The ultimate nurturer, she should have been in charge of faculty morale at a school. Martin reminded me of the mathematician in *The Little Prince* who had charts and diagrams for every conceivable inflow and outflow. Once I got the hang of it, Martin's charts were very helpful, and he was masterful in enlightening us about the details of the church's finances. He always said it took him a few hours a week, but everyone knew his devotion to duty was a full-time avocation. Patsy Wright was the sprightly presence behind the church's commitment to increased communication, and Patsy and Peter Barnes were the leaders of a stewardship campaign that kept increasing its goal every year. Al will never rival the notes our clerk, Peter Greenhalgh takes at our meetings. In all of this and of it and through it is Fr. Max, working closely with his wardens, orchestrating the whole thing. It was a wonder to behold. I hoped it would never end. But, of course, it did. Bob, Libby, and Martin rotated off the vestry. I was broken-hearted.

Many organizations are weak in the area of succession planning, but not St. Paul's. Little did I know that behind the scenes a new cast of characters was in the wings. Lucy Leske had struck me as wise and sensible. She ran the audit committee with a tight fist, and claimed it was the most enjoyable meeting of the year! I volunteered, and she was right. When Lucy emerged as one of the new wardens, I was impressed. Liz Bristow, one of the newer members who had teamed up with Dorothy Baker to lead the outreach effort, became the other warden. Liz brought new energy and insight to the position, so I was hopeful. Over the years, Kirk Baker had worked closely with Martin on the finances and investments, and he was able to ease into the treasurer's chair. I liked Kirk, and we have a St. Louis connection. This new group had promise.

At the 2025 annual meeting, the baton was passed, and I can report that it has been highly successful. What has been heartening is to see that each of these new leaders does it in her or his own way. It's different, but I love it. Lucy gets right to the point, and she listens carefully. Liz is a passionate advocate for outreach, as is her partner, Dorothy. They are the gold dust twins. We get a detailed report on outreach every three months. Kirk has grown into his role, and his presentations give us the same sense of the church's financial position as did Martin's charts and diagrams. Patsy and Peter are upping the mark for stewardship, and Patsy is still on our case to make Tidings deadlines. Ruthie Klinck is chairing the Christmas Market, and Steve Paradis is our campus improvement mogul. There are projects galore afoot, and how lucky we are to have Steve on our team. Colby Crenshaw and Cece Fowler are our Texas stars "who are big and bright." The venerable Lou Gennaro adds institutional history to our discussions. And Toby Broadus got us so interested in the bylaws it was as if we were reading excerpts from an Elin Hilderbrand novel. Wise Jay Riggs shares her thoughts on the church's needs and values, and Sheri Perelman's calm demeanor fosters a sense of peace and calm within the Vestry. Peter Greenhalgh continues to take assiduous notes of the proceedings.

Did anyone ever tell me that being on a Vestry could be fun? It sure is at St. Paul's, but the Vestry is also a cohesive, effective group that is working each day to fulfill the mission of the church, "to make the love of God more widely known."

+ “Call to Community” + CAPITAL CAMPAIGN REPORT

by Peter Barnes & Patsy Wright

To date, we have received 97 pledges totaling \$3.1 million. For a church with 350 active members, this represents more than a quarter of our parishioners—a remarkable showing of generosity and of belief in the future of St. Paul’s.

Along with grants from the island’s Community Preservation Committee, we have used campaign proceeds so far to compete the restoration of our bell tower, which was at structural risk; to upgrade our front entrance, to make it safer and more accessible, and to make modest but needed renovations to our Parish House, including better office space for our staff.

We are now engaged in the final phase of our renovation work, the remodeling of Gardner Hall with additional upgrades throughout the church building:

- **A sprinkler system**, to protect our parishioners and our historic structure, especially the sacred space on the first floor and the priceless Tiffany stained-glass windows that adorn it.
- **Cooling and heating systems** to make our members, friends and visitors more comfortable in our building, upstairs and down, throughout the year.
- **A new electrical system** to replace the existing 50-year-old one, to power these upgrades.
- **New flooring, walls, ceilings and bathrooms** in Gardner Hall, which has not been renovated since its excavation in the 1970s.

Please join us in this important work with a pledge to the campaign. If you have any questions about the “Call to Community,” please contact the church office. Thank you!



Photo: Patsy Wright

Happy
Birthday,
Olly!



Meow!



Photo: Adam Dread

Boys play with Adam Dread’s adorable Bonnie at the outdoor “animal friendly” 8:30AM summer service.

Time — Talent — Treasure



JOHN HOWISH

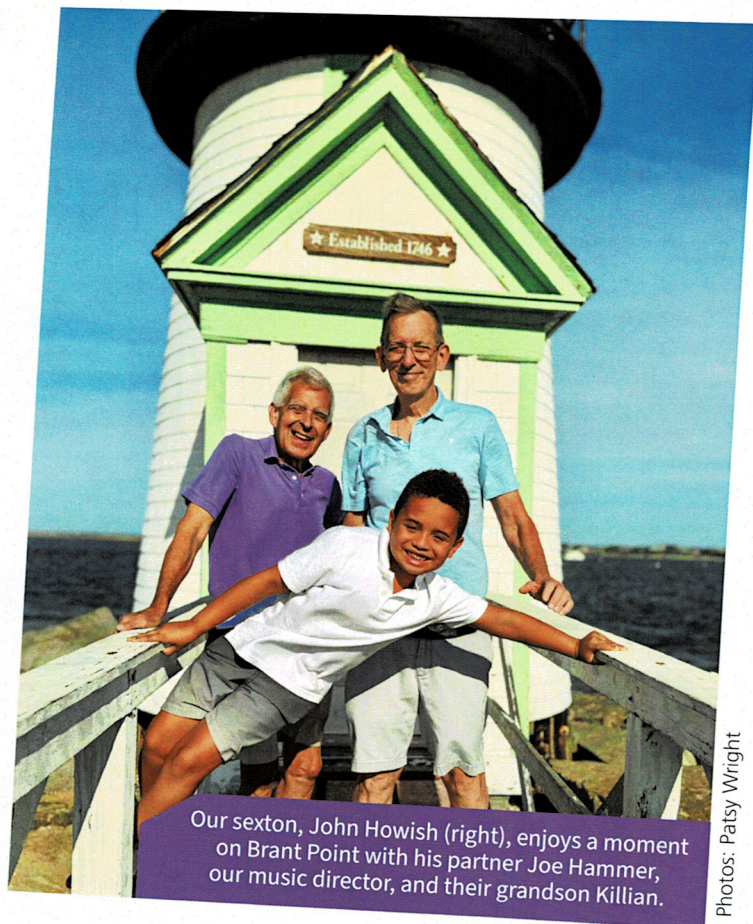
by Patsy Wright

Meet John Howish, the partner of Joe Hammer, our music director. He's a familiar face at St. Paul's and our dedicated sexton. If you've been around the campus lately, you've likely spotted John hard at work, quietly making a difference in our community. He's the kind of person who flies under the radar, shying away from the spotlight and the need for praise. Instead, he simply rolls up his sleeves and gets the job done with a smile. No job is too big or too small for him; you can see him taking out the trash one moment and power washing the parish house the next, and occasionally getting lassoed into a Tidings mailing, as this writer can attest to. It's hard to imagine how we managed before he joined us, and we're so grateful to have him as part of our church family.

I sat down with John recently and asked him a few questions about himself, his family, and his ministries.

PW: As a registered nurse and a church sexton, you play roles in caretaking. How do these two paths complement each other in your approach to caring for others and caring for the church?

JH: In my dual roles, both nursing and church sexton responsibilities focus on wellbeing. In my role as a nurse,



Photos: Patsy Wright

Our sexton, John Howish (right), enjoys a moment on Brant Point with his partner Joe Hammer, our music director, and their grandson Killian.

I provide essential physical care to others. In my role as sexton, I take pride in nurturing our church's physical campus. Both provide community service while promoting special awareness.

PW: Will you share with us your perspective on living on the church campus with Joe and Killian?

JH: Our unique housing situation has been a remarkable experience. It has given us an opportunity to live in a unique island community that we otherwise would never know. I feel living at St. Paul's has enriched our family in many ways.

PW: What is your perfect day on Nantucket?

JH: A peaceful bike ride or hike, perfect weather, and a well-behaved child.



OUTREACH IN

MOTION

SUMMER AND FALL UPDATES

OUTREACH AT ST. PAUL'S COMES IN MANY FORMS, FROM MEALS AND BOOKS TO BICYCLES AND TOYS. HERE ARE SOME HIGHLIGHTS:

Photos: Patsy Wright



Parishioner Whitney Burr sells rug raffle tickets on Main Street. Who wouldn't buy some from a retired priest with that smile?

NEEDLEPOINT RUG RAFFLE

Our parish stitchers, led by Sheila Daume, created a beautiful, hand-stitched rug that was raffled off in September to support our outreach ministries. Every ticket helps keep programs like Suppers, Laundry Love, and Ready, Set, Read running strong. We are grateful to the stitchers, to those who have sold tickets, and to all who have purchased them. Your generosity fuels this wide and varied work, and we thank you.

ST. PAUL'S SUPPERS

All summer, the Chef at Crosswinds has prepared these meals, while our intrepid summer volunteer drivers deliver them across the island on Wednesday afternoons. Week by week, this ministry has kept neighbors nourished and cared for. This ministry continues year-round, and we are deeply grateful to everyone who makes it possible.



Sheri Perelman about to deliver a carload of St. Paul's suppers.

Photo: Patsy Wright

Photo: Patsy Wright



Bikes await our J-1 visa student visitors.

BICYCLE LENDING PROGRAM

Thanks to generous donations, our bike lending program for international students now includes almost 300 bikes, helping students get to work and supporting them while they are guests on our island. Under Father Max's guidance and with the steady help of parish administrator Christine Borneman; sexton John Howich; two bike mechanics, Terry McGovern for the last two years and Steve Chase this year as well, this ministry has provided a practical welcome to our summer workers from around the world. Sheriff Jim Perelman improved the program with his donations of bike helmets and locks. To each of you who have supported it, thank you.

READY, SET, READ

On September 23, we returned to school and paired volunteers with kindergarteners for one-on-one reading every week on Tuesdays. Last year's tea party closed the school year with joy; this year, we look forward to new stories and new smiles. We are extremely thankful to our dedicated readers and would love to welcome more readers. It is a very rewarding program and flexible for seasonal and/or busy schedules

Photo: Father Max



The end-of-year party for our Ready, Set, Read program was a festive conclusion marking the end of the school year.



The Ready, Set, Read foursome.

FOOD PANTRY SUPPORT

St. Paul's continues our commitment to provide in-kind donations to the Nantucket Food Pantry: bags of groceries! As the Food Pantry races to find a new home by next April, we can ease the burden by keeping the shelves stocked. Please consider making a monthly grocery donation. Some generous parishioners have even arranged for regular Amazon/Walmart delivery directly to the Pantry through St. Paul's, a convenient way to provide ongoing support.

Most-needed items:

- Pantry staples: cooking oil (24–36 oz), coffee (ground or instant, small bags), shelf-stable juices, milk, or almond milk, condiments (ketchup, mayonnaise, mustard)
- Breakfast & snacks: jelly and jams, breakfast cereal (smaller boxes preferred), granola bars, protein bars
- Household supplies: cleaning products, laundry detergent, hygiene items

Thank you for your ongoing care for our neighbors.



Photo: Patsy Wright

LAUNDRY LOVE

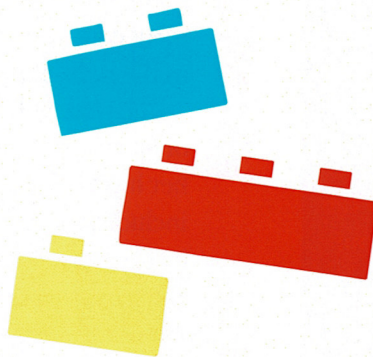
After a summer pause, Laundry Love resumed on Thursday, September 18. Clean clothes, warm welcome, and a bit of practical grace for our neighbors. This is a wonderful ministry that involves hands-on fellowship and practical support. Please join us!

LOOKING AHEAD

From meals and books to bikes and toys, every act of service counts.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING ST. PAUL'S PUT LOVE INTO ACTION,
PRACTICALLY, JOYFULLY, AND TOGETHER.

St. Paul's Church Nantucket Toy Library



The Nantucket Toy Library is a new ministry of St. Paul's Church, created to nurture play and belonging for island children and their families. Launching with a soft opening in October 2025 and a grand opening in January 2026, the library offers a welcoming indoor play space, access to an enclosed playground, and the opportunity to borrow toys for home play. Staffed entirely by Safe Church-certified volunteers, and supported by St. Paul's, as well as by grants and community generosity, the Toy Library invites families, especially those with children ages 0–5, to laugh, play, learn and share together. As we launch this new ministry, we welcome those who would like to be involved.

Motto: What will you play with today?

Mission: To celebrate and nurture play and to offer a place of belonging for children.

Who: A ministry of St. Paul's Church, open to all island families, especially children ages 0–5. Staffed entirely by trained volunteers, each Safe Church certified and CORI-checked.

What: A toy-lending library and indoor play space connected to our enclosed playground. Families may borrow one or two toys for two weeks.

When: Tuesdays and Fridays, 9am–12pm, plus alternating Saturdays. Soft launch: October 2025. Grand opening: January 2026.

Where: The newly created indoor play space in St. Paul's Parish House and our enclosed playground.



Photo: Father Max

How it's supported: parish support, together with Grants from the Remain Fund and CFN's Nantucket Fund, as well as generous community gifts.

Get Involved

Volunteer: Welcome families, manage lending, care for toys.

Donate: Toys in good condition, financial gifts, or supplies for safe play.

Spread the word: Invite neighbors, families, and friends to come play.



Photos: Patsy Wright

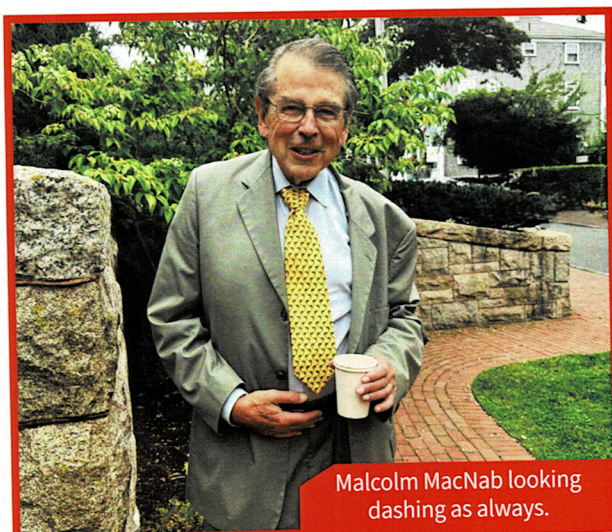
Lucky BIRTH Rustad, the winner of this year's beautiful needlepoint rug.

How to give

You may pledge and make pledge payments to our annual stewardship and capital campaigns securely online at our website, www.stpaulschurchnantucket.org, and click on the "Donate Now" button at the top of the homepage. On our giving page, you may also download copies of our pledge cards and materials. Call or email the church office with any questions or requests about donating your Treasure, along with your Time and Time. Our website details the various ministries you can support with your Time and Talent. **Thank you!**



Scan the QR code for more information.



Malcolm MacNab looking dashing as always.



SEEING THE SAINTS AMONG US

by Cece Fowler, Stewardship Committee

Jesus said, "By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another"

OVER 20 AGO we were new summer residents, and I was eager to find a parish home. Thumbing through the yellow pages—today's technology was yet to be invented—I found St. Paul's—under Churches, Episcopal. Entering through the great doors, I was struck by the beauty of the windows, and the familiarity of the architecture. Church was about to begin and so I hurried into the second to last row, left side. I didn't know a soul, but the woman seated in front of me turned and her radiant smile assured me that I had landed in the right place. I knew enough to be grateful.

The woman turned out to be Penny Macintyre, a pillar of St. Paul's Church. She sat alone at the service because her husband, Dual, sang in the choir and her busy morning included spreading the "Good News" which she did joyfully by example. I doubt Penny would have called it that, but generosity was just part of her DNA. Since Dual's passing, Penny has moved to be close to family, but I am confident she remains one of the saints among us.

Because of leaders like Penny, St. Paul's has long embodied a spirit of generosity, answering the many calls of our brothers and sisters. Whether it be feeding the hungry, ministering to the sick, nurturing the questioning soul, providing toys, doing laundry, sharing bicycles, or making a joyful noise unto the Lord from the rafters of our church, this parish shares the love of God with so many.

As parishioners of this holy place, each year we are reminded to pledge with prayerful gratitude for the blessings of this Nantucket life. I am grateful for the inspiration I have received here, for the many friends I have come to cherish, and for the abundant life I have found in this community. I hope you feel the same and will give with a smile as warm as Penny's and with gratitude in your heart.

TREASURER'S Report

by Kirk Baker



Thanks to the continued financial support of our congregation, friends and Nantucket community, St. Paul's financial position continues to strengthen as we have seen increased growth in the first eight months of this year.

Over the summer months, generosity has been the evident theme as every week we get a little closer to hitting our financial goal for the "Call to Community" Capital Campaign. We have also seen a great financial commitment to our Outreach Ministries in the community, which will help us continue to focus on our goal of making the "love of God more widely known" in the Nantucket community and beyond.

Although expenses have slightly exceeded projections in 2025, pledge contributions have surpassed the budget, balancing out the overall financial outcome. Our long-term assets are currently at an all-time high as everything financially continues to grow.

Thanks to all, your support and generosity are greatly appreciated!

Coffee HOUR

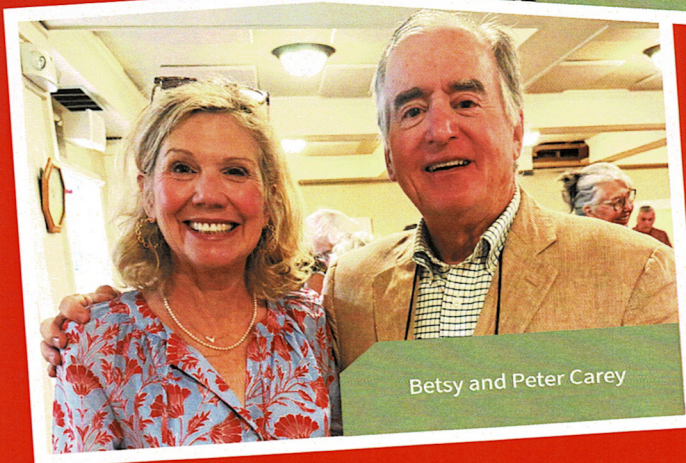


Joyce and Jim Morgan

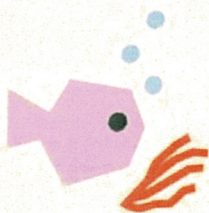
Photos: Patsy Wright



Judy and Paul Buie with Oilly



Betsy and Peter Carey



Recapitulaton (*REE-kah-pi-choo-LAY-shun*)

In music, recapitulation is when the composer restates the musical theme(s). For this Tidings Music Notes, I want to briefly “recapitulate” this summer of music at St. Paul’s.

*If I were to give the summer a theme,
“Q2” would be apt—quantity and quality.*

MUSIC NOTES

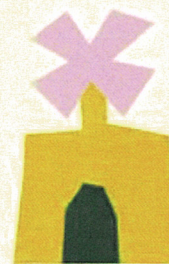
by Joe Hammer, Director of Music and Organist



Photo: Father Max

- **The Rossini Club**, a Nantucket-based summer chamber music organization comprised of young professional musicians from around the country, presented three of its Nantucket concerts at St. Paul’s. The 2025 performer roster included clarinet, piano, voice, bassoon, flute, cello, violin, oboe and French horn. Through the generous and vital support of the Nancy Tompkins Broll Music Fund, select musicians from the Rossini Club roster participated in three of the August 9:30 AM. Sunday services, enhancing the worship experiences of St. Paul’s parishioners and visitors.

- **The Musical Arts Society of Nantucket** presented its third season at St. Paul's, with seven concerts featuring world-class musicians. Concert goers, whether St. Paul's parishioners, Nantucket visitors or summer residents, experienced the joy of music performed on piano, violin, viola, cello, voice, and clarinet.



Summer parishioners Steve Kelly and Joseph Gioe

- **The summer of 2025** also saw the worship service participation of annual summer choir members, vocalists and instrumentalists, enhancing the foundation of St. Paul's dedicated year-round choir members. Of note is the participation of young musicians including pianist Andrew Byers, pianists and St. Paul's own Juliet and Clara Frable, as well as the dedicated music contributions of flautists Joseph "Joey" Gioe and Pam Goddard, and alto Ann Martindale.



The "Q2" theme promises to continue through 2025 with upcoming music experiences in worship and concerts including interesting special vocal and choral settings, the annual Nantucket Community Music Center Organ Crawl, Advent Lessons and Carols, the Holiday Stroll Concert, and much, much more.

But most importantly, the "quality and quantity" of music at St. Paul's would not be possible without the support and participation of Father Max, church administrator Christine Borneman, sexton John Howish, and bookkeeper Becky Mack, among so many others. Thank you!





St. Paul's Church in Nantucket

20 Fair Street

Nantucket, MA 02554

Visit Us

20 Fair Street, Nantucket MA 02554
stpaulschurchnantucket.org

Contact us

508.228.0916
office@stpaulschurchnantucket.org

Pastoral and other concerns

Please contact Father Max
fathermax@stpaulschurchnantucket.org
302.542.5587

Office hours

Tuesday-Friday, 9AM-Noon



DO WE HAVE YOUR CORRECT
CONTACT INFORMATION?
Email your updates to:
office@stpaulschurchnantucket.org

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You
Tube



on Facebook Live or Zoom

To join us on Zoom, please see our weekly Parish Update for the meeting number and password. Please contact the Church Office if you need assistance.

Our online offerings are recorded and available at St. Paul's-Nantucket.



Watch Sunday Eucharist live or taped, and videos of recent sermons and events on stpaulschurchnantucket.org.

9:30 AM*

Sunday Eucharist *8:00 AM in the Memorial Garden until Labor Day, Aug. 30
(Rain location: Chapel)

Noon

Tuesday Lunchbox Series

Noon

Joe Hammer's Music Wednesday
Half-hour concert

11:30 AM

Thursday Morning Bible Study
One hour, ends at 12:30 pm

GO IN PEACE TO LOVE and serve THE LORD!