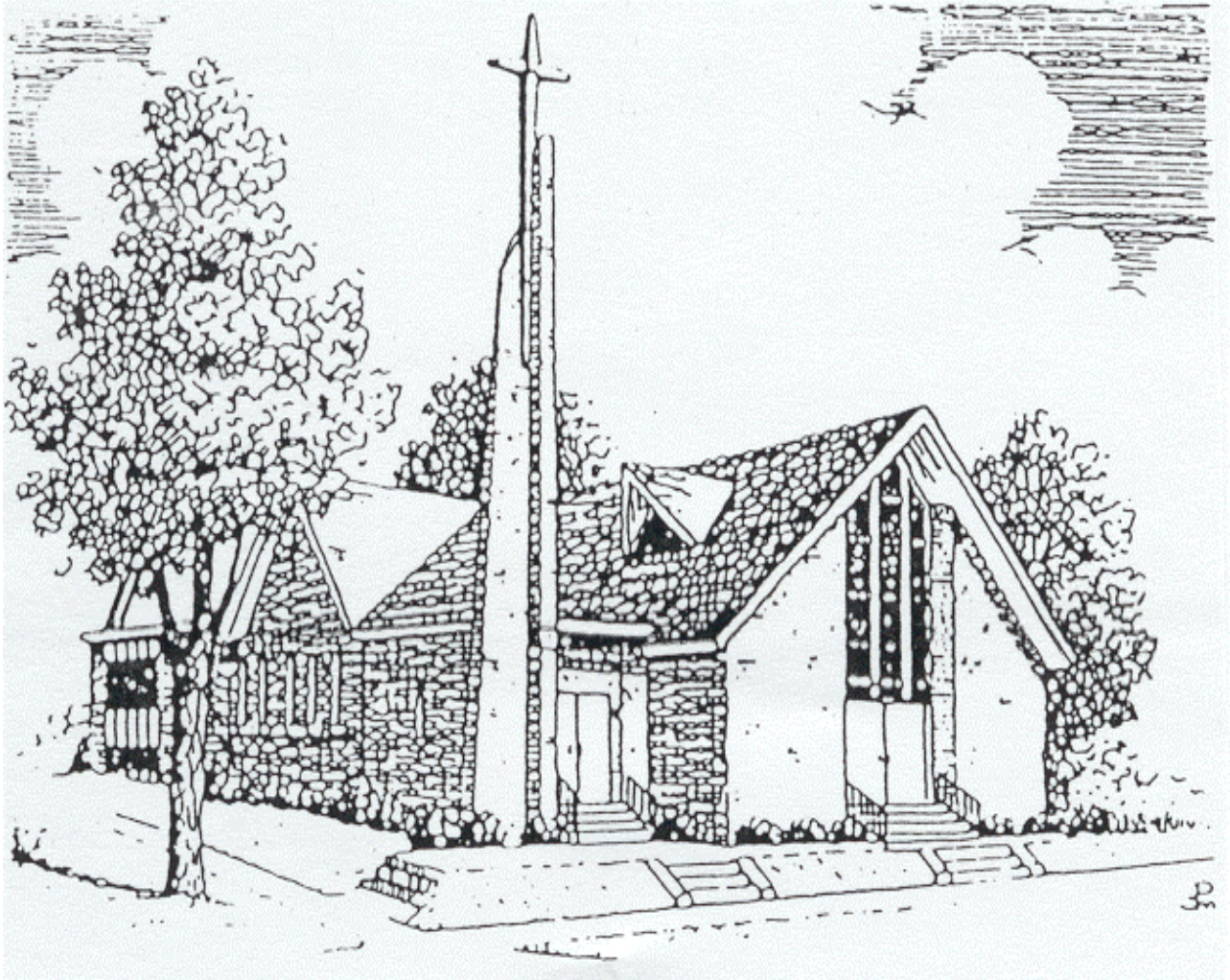




# St. Paul's Episcopal Church

## Good News



**May, June, July  
2021**

Sunday  
9:00am  
In Person  
Alternating

10:30am  
Zoom  
Rites 1 and 2

Office Hours:  
Tues., Wed., Thurs.  
10:30 - 2:30

Good News Editor  
Sandy McEwan  
Office Manager  
Sheri Hall  
Priest in Charge  
Rev. Kristen C. Foley

Office Manager Hours  
Tue, Wed & Thur  
10:30 - 2:30

# Clergy's Corner

May 1, 2021

Dear Sisters, Brothers, and Siblings in Christ,

"Are we there yet?" That dreaded question that plagues people on road trips - especially when kids ask adults. Asking this question is not just expression of impatience - although impatience is a factor. Asking this question is also an expression of anxiety - especially when the trip is unfamiliar.

"Are we there yet?" Without familiar sights serving as touchpoints, our anxiety rises. Where will we get lunch? What if we get a flat tire? When will we arrive at our destination?

"Are we there yet?" People asked me this question frequently, especially during Lent. Although they are not asking about arriving at an unfamiliar physical location, their anxiety is real.

"Are we there yet?" The faithful folks of Saint Paul's Episcopal Church are not asking out of impatience, but out of a desire for familiarity. Our anxiety can feel overwhelming without familiar touchpoints on our life's journey.

"Are we there yet?" Even as in-person worship safely resumes, we are not there yet. Even as some pandemic restrictions gradually lift, we are not there yet. Even as the vaccination rates rise, we are not there yet.

"Are we there yet?" Perhaps we can use this anxious time to reevaluate what there means to us as individuals, as a church, and as a country. Perhaps we can use this unfamiliar time to discern what there should look like - what should be kept and what should be discarded in the service of ushering in the Reign of God.

In Christian Hope,

Rev. Foley

732-356-0247 (office)

732-956-8115 (cell)

priest@stpaulsbb.org

## Senior Warden's Report

The good news for the "Good News" is that in-church services resumed on April 18th. All CDC guidelines are in place including the wearing of masks while inside the church building. Zoom meetings will continue for those not yet comfortable coming into the church. Through all of the upheaval caused by Covid, Rev. Foley has been a beacon of hope and selfless dedication to the families of St. Paul's. We are thankful to have her as our Priest.

Some in our church family have been able to get the Covid-19 vaccinations already while others are still on waiting lists. Be patient but be persistent and register on all vaccine sites available. I also want to remind everyone to take all precautions for their own health and safety.

Unfortunately, our fundraising took a serious hit in 2020. We had to cancel our Rummage Sale and Silent Auction. Both events brought our treasury a fair amount of revenue. That's why it's so important for everyone to recommit to financially supporting St. Paul's. To those that have already returned their Pledge Card thank you. If you haven't yet renewed your Pledge, please do so as soon as possible. Our ministries and buildings depend on your generosity more now than ever.

For the second year we hosted a "Giving Made Easy" fundraiser through the Shop with Scrip program. St. Paul's realized a profit of just over \$500 that will be put into our general funds to be used to cover any shortfall on pledges.

The Vestry put together a Warm Clothing drive and we were able to give coats, hats, gloves, scarves and even shoes to some of those who join us for our Lunch On Us outreach ministry. A special blessings to all that contributed in any way. There is nothing more Christian than giving of ourselves to the less fortunate. Thank you.

We also ran two food drives for the benefit on the students in the Bound Brook school district. The first one in February allowed us to donate 88 cans of soup and about 120 other food items including cereal, peanut butter, pasta, etc. In addition, several of our church members also donated directly to Bound Brook.

The second and more recent was our Lenten Box food drive also benefiting the families of children in the local school district. Several volunteers delivered 19 boxes filled with food and some personal care items to the school. Thanks to Kim Rollinson for spearheading the event and to Rev. Foley for her avid support.

Most recently, Rev. Foley organized to distribute Lenten Bags containing various religious items. They went out to 25 church families all who expressed appreciation for the gift and kind thoughts. Thanks to Judy, Rita and Elena for helping with the distribution.

As most are aware, we have a "12 Step Program (AA)" meeting in Rennell Hall on Saturday nights. There is now also a group meeting on Tuesday night. Both groups have fulfilled our requirements (given Covid-19 restrictions) and have expressed their gratitude for allowing them the use of our facilities. This is another great example of our Outreach Ministry helping those in need.

I want to thank the many in our church family who are keeping in contact via Zoom meetings and phone calls with each other and offering a helping hand when needed. A special thanks to Rev. Foley for all her spiritual guidance, hard work and efforts to keep us connected through her many Zoom meetings.

My thoughts and prayers go out to everyone in this difficult time.

With His love, Irene Parker

## Weekly Gatherings:

Sunday: 9 am - In-person worship, alternating weekly between Right 1 and Rite 2

10:30 am - Online worship, alternating weekly the opposite Rite of 9 am

12 noon - Lunch On Us

Tuesday: 6:30 pm - Decaf Coffee Hour (online)

Wednesday: 12 noon - Midday Prayer (online)

1 pm - Bible Study (online)

Thursday: 9 am - Open Office Hour (online)

1st & 3rd Fridays: 9 am - Coffee Hour (online)

## How to Connect via Zoom or Phone:

Here is the connection information for all gatherings:

<https://zoom.us/j/9742222349?pwd=aGhrazh3ZFIBZTVdQ2VjbEQ2N0M3dz09>

Meeting ID: 974 222 2349

Password: 498459

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 974 222 2349#

There is no participant ID, so press #

The password is 498459#

## Outreach Thanks!

St. Paul's took on a "Giving Project" for Lent and it was a huge success! Thank you to all the members of the congregation who stepped up and gave from their hearts over the Lenten Season. We were able to gather 20 boxes of food and toiletry items to donate to the Bound Brook community. St. Paul's connected with the Bound Brook Schools to distribute a complete box to each of 20 families in the school district. The Lamonte School on W.2nd St. here in Bound Brook has a Food Pantry in their unused cafeteria. They were so appreciative of the generosity of our parish. Our church community may be small but our hearts are huge! Thank you! Thank you for always giving and caring for those less fortunate.

Prayerfully submitted by  
Kim Rollinson

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Please remain faithful in your financial commitment to Saint Paul's by mailing your regular offering to the church office, and returning your 2021 pledge card:

214 Church Street, Bound Brook, NJ 08805

1/1/21 through 3/31/21 - Total income \$30,421.91 and total expenses \$33,692.70

resulting in a shortfall of \$3,270.79.

Art Hoffman