



## **ANNUAL REPORTS 2008**

### **ST. PAUL'S CHURCH**

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**Our mission at St. Paul's is to be a community reflecting and demonstrating God's compassion and love to all through prayer, education and outreach.**

## **ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING**

**All those who have an active interest in the life of St. Paul's are more than welcome to participate in the annual meeting. Everyone who is present with us strengthens our fellowship. Voting at the annual meeting is limited according to the Church Canon.**

### **Diocese of Vermont: Canon 13**

**Those who are communicants in good standing and are enrolled on the canonical register of the Parish are eligible to vote in the annual meeting. Similarly, delegates to various offices within the church also need to be Communicants in good standing. Communicants in good standing are defined by the Canons as:**

### **The Episcopal Church: Canon 17**

**The Canons (regulations by which the church is governed) of the National Church indicate that all whose Baptisms have been duly recorded in this Church are members thereof, that members sixteen years or older are to be considered adult members. All communicants of this Church, who for the previous year have been faithful in corporate worship, unless good cause prevent, and have been faithful in working, praying and giving for the spread of the Kingdom of God, are to be considered communicants in good standing.**

### **The Diocesan Canon III, Canon 13.6**

**Those persons who are entitled to vote in a Parish meeting are defined as follows: those persons who are communicants in good standing and are enrolled upon the canonical register of the Parish or Mission in which they habitually worship.**

## **ELECTIONS**

**Vestry: Three members to each serve a three year term  
Two members to each serve a one year term  
Three delegates and three alternates to Diocesan Convention  
Delegates to Deanery Chapter (no more than three)**

## PARISH OFFICERS 2008\*

<b>Interim priest:</b>	<b>The Re. Wm. Davidson (Jan. to Sept.),</b>
<b>Rector:</b>	<b>The Rev. Alan Kittelson (Sept. and following)</b>
<b>Deacon:</b>	<b>The Rev. Lucy Pellegrini</b>
<b>Senior Warden:</b>	<b>Carol Knauss</b>
<b>Junior Warden:</b>	<b>Judy Langeway</b>

**The Vestry 2008-2009:** Carol Knauss, Bootsie Morris, Sarah Cowan, Tim Earle, Anne Sevee, Judy Langeway, George Chauvin, Madelaine Calise, Betty Bristol

*Term Ending 1/25/2009* Sarah Cowan, Bootsie Morris, Madelaine Calise, Carol Knauss, Anne Sevee

*Term Ending 2010* Judy Langeway

*Term Ending 2011* Tim Earle, Betty Bristol, George Chauvin

**Clerk of the Vestry:** Lenore Morse

**Treasurer:** Betty Bristol; retired, Laurie Earle; resigned

**Assistant Treasurer:** Betty Bristol; retired

**Designated Funds Treasurer:** Betty Bristol; retired

**Delegates to Diocesan Convention:** Margaret Lowe, Laurie Earle, Madelaine Calise

**Alternates to Diocesan Convention:** Steve Lowe, Mary Gordon, Anne Sevee

**Ministry Discernment Committee:** Claire Clay, Sarah Cowan, Tim Earle, Mary Gordon, Bob Laidman (chair), Lee Martel and Jeanne Wisner

### **Other Ministries: Prayers, Mind and Deeds of Christ**

**Acolytes:** Hailey White, Nick Earle

**Altar Guild:** Martha Clark, Carol Knauss, Mary Gordon

**Bridges:** Jeanne Wisner, Mary Gordon, Marcie Merryman-Means, Margaret Lowe, Laurie Earle

**Chalice bearers:** Carol Knauss, Tim Earle

<b>Choir:</b>	Cricket Laidman, Bob Laidman, Madelaine Calise, Johna Tierney, Bonnie Huizenga, Jeanne Wisner
<b>Counters:</b>	Cricket Laidman, Jeanne Wisner, Steve Lowe, Sarah Cowan, Anne Sevee, Mary Gordon, Carol Knauss, Betty Bristol
<b>Deanery Representatives:</b>	Laurie Earle, Anne Haigis
<b>Episcopal Church Women:</b>	President: Carol Knauss, Treasurer: Penny Goodkind, Secretary: Pat Barrows
<b>St. Paul's Epistle (newsletter):</b>	Pat Barrows (editor), Judy Martel, Penny Goodkind
<b>Finance Committee:</b>	Sarah Cowan, Laurie Earle, George Chauvin
<b>Flower Guild:</b>	Lenore Morse, Rebecca Chauvin, Mary Gordon, Carol Knauss, Diane Merrill, Bootsie Morris, Anne Sevee, Jeanne Wisner
<b>Food Shelf:</b>	Judy and Lee Martel
<b>Hospitality:</b>	Cricket Laidman
<b>Leaflets:</b>	Pat Barrows, Penny Goodkind
<b>Lectors:</b>	Bill Hanson, Tim Earle, Bob Laidman Betty Bristol, Sarah Cowan, Helen Cowan, Bonnie Huizenga, Madelaine Calise, Steve Lowe, Nan Guilmette
<b>Memorial Day:</b>	Mary Cassidy, Bonnie Huizenga
<b>Organist &amp; Choir Director:</b>	Judy Woods
<b>Sexton:</b>	Beth McAllister
<b>Steward:</b>	Bob Laidman
<b>Sunday school:</b>	Margaret Lowe, Meghan Olsen, Jennifer Cassarino, Lenore Morse, Cricket Laidman, Rebecca Chauvin, Madelaine Calise
<b>Welcomers:</b>	Cricket Laidman, Lenore Morse, Steve Lowe, Margaret Lowe, Mary Gordon

*\*With our apologies if anyone has been left out!*

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
January 27, 2008

Present: Betty Bristol, Rebecca and George Chauvin, Sarah Cowan, The Rev. Bill Davidson, Marion Davis, Albert De Vine, Laurie and Tim Earle, Nick Earle, Mary Gordon, Nan Guilmette, Anna Haigis, Bill Hanson, Carol Knauss, Cricket and Bob Laidman, Judy and Alan Langeway, Lenore Morse, Judy and Lee Martel, Margaret and Stephen Lowe, Mary Morris, Meghan Olsen, Anne Palmer, The Rev. Lucy Pellegrini, Anne Sevee, Helen Vrooman, Jeanne Wisner.

Carol Knauss called the meeting to order at 11:45 a.m. and The Rev. Davidson offered the opening prayer. Carol asked those present if they wished to ask a question or respond in discussion to stand up and address the congregation. Second, Carol asked if everyone had an agenda and the biographical notes for nominees for the vestry. Turning to the minutes of the January 28, 2007 annual meeting, Carol requested corrections and changes. Bob Laidman stated that on page six, in paragraph three, under number three, "challenges lie aged" should read "challenges lie ahead." Bill Hanson made the motion to accept the minutes as corrected; the motion was seconded by Jeanne Wisner and passed unanimously. Next, Carol requested nominations for the vestry. Jeanne Wisner nominated Anne Sevee for the one-year term, and Judy Martel asked how many terms were open. Carol replied that one one-year term and three three-year terms were open. Helen Vrooman made a motion to accept the recommendation of the nominating committee as listed in the biographical notes for nominees and asked the clerk to cast one ballot for the four nominees, noting Anne Sevee's nomination for the one-year term; the motion was seconded by Stephen Lowe and passed unanimously. Accordingly, Anne Sevee was elected for the one-year term, and Betty Bristol, George Chauvin, and Tim Earle were elected for three-year terms.

After explaining the responsibilities of Diocesan Convention delegates including the pre-convention meeting in Rutland, Carol called for nominations. Carol Knauss nominated Madelaine Calise, second by Jeanne Wisner. Time Earle nominated Laurie Earle, second by Sarah Cowan. Judy Martel nominated Margaret Lowe, second by Sarah Cowan. Nominations were closed and the three nominees were elected by a unanimous vote. Next, Carol called for alternate delegates to the convention. Sarah Cowan nominated Mary Gordon, second by Bill Hanson; Jeanne Wisner nominated Cricket Laidman who declined. Judy Martel nominated Stephen Lowe, second by Jeanne Wisner; Mary Gordon nominated Anne Sevee, second by Laurie Earle. The preceding nominees as alternates to the Diocesan Convention were elected by a unanimous vote. Noting the rarity of meetings of the Otter Creek Deanery, Carol requested nominations for representatives from St. Paul's. Tim Earle nominated Laurie Earle, second by Jeanne Wisner; Bob Laidman nominated Anna Haigis, second by Betty Bristol. The nominees for Deanery Chapter representatives were elected unanimously.

The Rev. Bill Davidson noted the contents of the Deacon's report regarding pastoral care and outreach and expressed his appreciation of The Rev. Lucy Pellegrini, the impact of her leadership, generous gifts of time and effort, and consistent advocacy of those in need. Parishioners added their applause. Second, Bill expressed his thanks to Carol Knauss, not only as senior warden but also as one who multi tasks, taking responsibility for administrative duties which support the parish. The congregation expressed appreciation. Finally, The Rev. Davidson recognized twenty-two years of extraordinary service by Helen Vrooman, the retiring treasurer of St. Paul's. Tim Earle read the following resolution:

That whereas, since the time has come for our Treasurer, Helen Vrooman, to close the books, cap the inkwell, and lay aside her check-writing pen,  
And whereas the members of Saint Paul's Parish recognize the generosity she has demonstrated in her twenty-two years of faithful service as Treasurer of the Parish  
Now, therefore, we, the Wardens and Vestry of Saint Paul's, on its behalf, offer our appreciation for her long service; for her scrupulous accounting; for her (at times) monumental juggling of funds (or lack thereof); and we do hereby declare ourselves for ever indebted to her for her tireless and unceasing efforts to preserve the financial health of this Parish, and we pledge ourselves to follow the example of fiscal integrity and honor she has

so firmly set for us, And we request that this resolution be affixed to the minutes of the Annual Meeting of this Parish on January 27, 2008.

Carol presented Helen with gifts from the parish, and the choir serenaded Helen with special lyrics written by Carol for "The Month of Maying." All joined in a standing ovation for Helen. Bob Laidman praised Pat Barrows' longtime efforts and the subsequent fundraising involved from the mulch program, contributions applauded by the parishioners present. Carol noted and Judy Langeway read the vestry's statement of appreciation, a statement initially offered during the November vestry meeting. The framed text in calligraphy (copied by Judi Honeywood) was presented to The Rev. Davidson and acknowledged with an enthusiastic ovation by the parish. The statement of appreciation follows:

In this season of Thanksgiving, we the Wardens and Vestry of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Vergennes, Vermont wish to express publicly our heartfelt appreciation and support to The Rev. William A. Davidson for his dedicated, conscientious, and spiritual direction to this parish in its period of transition. We are grateful to him for the generous giving of his time, energy, and wisdom to us as we face the future. We believe we are a better parish and a better people for his presence with us. On behalf of the parish, we humbly thank Almighty God for sending this good man to minister to and with us (Vestry Minutes, November 25, 2007).

Cricket Laidman offered thanks of the congregation to Ministry Discernment Committee (MDC) members for extraordinary effort and time commitment as they developed the parish profile, a list of skills and talents sought in a rector, and other elements of the search. On behalf of the parish, Jeanne Wisner offered many thanks to The Rev. Lucy Pellegrini for all she has accomplished at St. Paul's, especially her extraordinary work in pastoral care and outreach. Bob Laidman described the dedication, effective leadership, long hours, and hard work of Madelaine Calise as she spearheaded the rectory rehab.

In presenting the MDC report, Bob Laidman described the voyage of self-study to determine parish goals and search for a new rector for St. Paul's. Following phone conversations with several candidates, committee members visited two candidates in their parishes. One candidate withdrew and the MDC will continue the search. Jeanne Wisner observed that members are now a tight family, and they feel that the parish has grown and should capitalize on that potential. Sarah Cowan agreed with the preceding and added her appreciation for the incredible leadership and faith of Bob Laidman, chairman of the MDC.

The Rev. Davidson stated how much he had enjoyed his term as interim priest of St. Paul's, his appreciation for the work of MDC members, and his certainty that the parish will find a priest who will serve the parish well. He added that ministry is shared, a collective calling, and the parish should be willing to stretch and remember that resources are more than buildings, people are the key. He concluded, "This is a wonderful parish; don't give up the big dreams."

Carol Knauss stated that regarding an operational budget for 2008, the vestry intended to level fund for the most part but could not present a firm package due to lack of a salary package for a new rector. Betty Bristol stated that percentages for each line item on the 2007 report indicated possible increases. Helen added that, to date, pledges were down. Bob Laidman strongly recommended maintaining at least the present 3.2 percent pledge for outreach.

Under other business, Carol reminded vestry members of the need to set a date for a workshop with the rector, possibly February 9 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The Rev. Davidson noted the need to meet similarly with a new rector, but he will forward a suggested agenda for this earlier workshop. Carol asked the vestry to meet following the annual meeting to elect the junior and senior wardens and the treasurer. With no further business to address, Stephen Lowe made the motion to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Betty Bristol and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lenore Morse, Clerk

## REPORT FROM THE RECTOR

An *annual* report assumes a year. Where I've only been among you a quarter of that time, perhaps you'll allow me merely one-fourth of a report . . .

This rector's first Sunday at St. Paul's Church was in late September. I again thank you for the warm and accommodating welcome I received. Through many acts of kindness, the welcome has actually been ongoing. It is very apparent the large team that worked on repairing/preparing the rectory, and those who contributed funds, did a fine job, and now I'm very comfortably housed. With the help of a number of you, the office space has grown more and more functional, and beyond normal operations it has provided a good venue for meetings of the vestry.

In that he was at St. Paul's for the bulk of 2008, I wish to thank Fr. William Davidson, whom I once met briefly, for the time he served as the interim rector at St. Paul's. The assistance of The Rev. Lucy Pellegrini has been marvelous. I offer thanks daily for the conscientious diaconal presence she provides. Where the maps aren't always clear, the wardens and vestry have been invaluable in guiding me through new territory. Finally I am most grateful to this entire congregation, both those I see each week at liturgy and those I see a little less often. I will confess that one concern I've developed during this brief tenure is watching a lot of efforts falling on a few shoulders. Ideally, the work of a parish is a shared enterprise and something that all partake in as they're able.

What a privilege, in that I've been here such a short while, to have already experienced the joy of officiating at three Baptisms. It seems that the City of Vergennes is undergoing something of a renaissance, and happily I think that is also happening in the Parish of St. Paul's Church. This is a great gift we have been handed. It is my hope that as a congregation we can step up to the opportunity this presents for allowing the Body of Christ to grow. Around us is an aching world and as purveyors of the Good News, it is our privilege to offer relief to those who are weak and heavy laden.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Alan L. Kittelson  
Rector

## DEACON'S REPORT

My ministry with the St. Paul's community continues to be one of great joy as we explore together, the many ways we can be Christ's hands in the world. Ours is a loving and energized, hope-filled reaching out to those within and outside the boundaries of the church walls. My primary areas of focus continue to be pastoral and outreach, and I find that many members of the congregation find overlap, either being served or serving within those areas.

Again, the parish responded to the needs of Mothers Without Borders in both the Sew-a-thon and the Newborn kits. We collected supplies and assembled flood buckets for flood victims in the Midwest. Collecting foodstuffs each Sunday, which are then delivered to the Food Shelf by Judy and Lee Martel, keeps us connected to local needs. The parish has also been involved in helping with two Pantry Express deliveries as well as deliveries of pallets of goods from Wal-Mart. Members of the Parish marched in this year's CROP Walk. The parish continues to donate a percentage above its fuel bill to the Fuel Assistance program, and has assisted several local people with fuel needs and gas cards. In addition, the parish collected newborn items for a family at risk who was identified by parishioners.

A new initiative took shape in Pennies for Peace, which grew out of the work of Greg Mortensen who wrote Three Cups of Tea. The children have been very attentive to the collection of pennies to fund children's education in Pakistan and Afghanistan, a project that will end at the beginning of Lent 2009. Once again, the Global Bazaar

offered gift alternatives from Beads for Life, Bishop's Blend coffee, Cristosal, the Hunger Site, Episcopal Relief and Development and ECCRT.

Locally, several members of the congregation have been involved in the Economic Crisis Community Response Team, an ecumenical effort to address the needs locally stemming from what originally seemed to be just an energy crisis. Members of the congregation took part in the Energy Fair as part of Vergennes Day, organized a food preservation workshop, coordinated garden produce deliveries to Job Corps nutrition classes which created casseroles for church freezers, and identified heating as a primary focus for funds.

Some of the same people on Outreach have also been active in Pastoral Care, offering rides, delivering food, and visiting. The freezer has been well-stocked with mini-meals for parishioners on a routine and emergency basis. Again this year, the committee assembled gifts for our elders and those who had had health issues this year. Three members of the committee are waiting to be licensed as Eucharistic Visitors.

Always, I give thanks that I am part of such a loving, responsive community, reflective of God's light and care for this world. It is truly a family, and this year, I hesitated to include names for fear of omitting some. I am convinced I would have to list the whole directory and then some, as all of us have been part of this work.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lucy C.B. Pellegrini, Deacon

## SENIOR WARDEN REPORT

On a couple of occasions in the not too distant past, in some of our *Jottings* and other materials, there have been references to ships, and St. Paul's Parish has been likened to a ship, plowing its way through sometimes uncharted waters, looking for a safe harbor. Our new parish shield in fact has a ship on it, and reminds us of our patron saint's many journeys by ship in the Mediterranean world, as he worked tirelessly to spread the gospel of Christ. There are a lot of references in the Bible to ships—Noah built an ark, Jonah was on board a ship when the frightened sailors fed him to the whale, and ships figure prominently in the gospels, as the many stories of Jesus in and around ships attest. So it's not unusual to use the analogy when we talk about our parish.

The good ship St Paul has had a busy year. We have called a new rector, "rehabbed" the rectory, plunged into ECCRT with a will, sponsored a "global bazaar," collected (still in process at this writing) pennies for peace, supported the local food shelf, contributed to ERD, and assisted in the outreach to area migrant workers. We have made our parish hall available to local groups (AA, Rotary, and Vergennes Day). All of those efforts have taken time, planning and execution, and many people have contributed in many ways to the success of these projects.

We have welcomed into our parish family several new members, both adults and infants. Our roster of tots has grown at an astounding rate: we have several infants attending faithfully with their parents, and older siblings keep the Sunday school staff busy. All of them gather on the rug in the church, and while they play with blocks and crayons and stuffed animals, they are absorbing the worship of the church.

I have to say a word of thanks to Fr. Bill Davidson, our Interim Priest for two years. During his time with us, he nurtured and cared for us, prodded us when we needed prodding, as we often did, taught us to look outside the box, encouraged our efforts and gave us confidence to try again and anew. He laughed with us, paraded with us (led by "Susie Snowflake"), and buoyed us up with his enthusiasm and love. We are forever in his debt.

Our new Rector, Alan Kittelson, arrived early in September and assumed his duties later that month. We are getting to know each other as we work and worship together. His compassion is evident in his visits to the sick and shut-ins

of our parish family; his interest in the local scene has prompted him to join the area clergy in their discussions of area concerns and needs. We look forward to a long and fruitful collaboration.

And there is Lucy. I could go on and on about Lucy, and indeed could write a poem about Lucy, but in deference to her, I will say that she has been an amazing presence in this parish. She has taught us to look outward, to give, and give, and give, and we have responded to this message eagerly and willingly. She has been at our side in times of sickness, trouble and death, and has shared our joys and sorrows. And we have been privileged to share *her* joys and sorrows: the death of her husband and her father, the illness of her mother, the joy of her daughter's marriage. We are grateful to have her with us, and thank God for her presence with us. We pray that she may continue her work with us as *we* continue to serve God, our community and the world.

Ours is a giving parish. We are a small one albeit a growing one, thank God. But our strength lies in our collective willingness to roll up our sleeves, pick up our tools (which include garden tools, prayer books, paint brushes, hammers, saws, calculators, computers, Sunday School lessons, music, coffee pots) and get on with efforts to enhance the life of our parish and our local and global communities.

I want to express the appreciation of the parish to the members of the Ministry Discernment Committee, who served long and faithfully to fulfill their appointed task to find a new Rector. We are fortunate to have members in the parish so devoted to this place, and to the work of God *in* this place, who have given freely of their time and energies in this effort. I think I speak for the parish when I express our heartfelt thanks to Jeanne, Sarah, Tim, Mary, Lee, Claire and Bob Laidman, who accepted the job of chairing the MDC.

On January 11<sup>th</sup>, this year, Bishop Ely came to St. Paul's to officiate at The Celebration of a New Ministry, and at that liturgy, Alan Kittelson officially became the Rector of the parish. That celebration is now a memory, albeit a very new one. The service was wonderful, the church was full, and the reception afterwards was cordial and filling (no shortage of goodies there!). A great deal of effort went into it all and thanks are due, to the Bishop for giving of his time to celebrate with us, to Anne Brown who covered the event for *The Mountain Echo*, to Judy and the Choir for truly lovely music, to Diane Merrill for memorable flower arrangements, to greeters and ushers, to the many visiting clergy, to our neighbors to the immediate south at St. Stephen's in Middlebury, who also came, to old friends of Alan's from Massachusetts who made the trip north to share the day with him and with us, to providers of food and supplies and set-up and clean-up services, to our acolytes, and to The Vergennes Opera House Management, which donated the space for the reception.. To all of them, and to all of you who supported us with prayers and good wishes, thank you.

Our search chapter has ended. The SS St Paul, after testing unknown waters and enduring a few scrapes among a few shoals along the way, has come safely to harbor. We have a new captain of the ship, who with God's grace will pilot us in the future. We look forward to riding quietly at anchor for a while, but we know that we are also ready to sail when the need arises; and when the call to ship out comes, we will answer it in the affirmative, and take up whatever task is given us to do, with the assurance that God will be with us to steer our vessel safely. For that assurance, and for the hope and trust it brings us, we give thanks.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Knauss  
Senior Warden

## JUNIOR WARDEN REPORT

As a Junior Warden with a full time job it is not easy to keep up on things. I do, however, know that there are many people helping me out and doing things for me. I appreciate this tremendously. There have been many projects done this year. I believe the largest was the Rectory redecoration and repair with new furnace and radiators. It was a labor of love and very well done! There are constantly little and big projects popping up as happens with old buildings. With the economy in a funny place the projects could be more costly and harder to accomplish but I will keep plugging. Thank you all for what has been accomplished in 2008,

Judy Langeway

## FLOWER GUILD 2008



During 2008, the members of the Flower Guild supplied and arranged flowers on the altar most Sundays, except during Lent. On Easter and Christmas and for special memorials and celebrations parishioners contributed flowers. The generosity of parishioners at Christmas and Easter has been especially appreciated. Besides the gifts outright for Christmas wreaths and other decorations, parishioners gave \$125.00 for Christmas poinsettias. In addition, many parishioners joined Flower Guild members in decorating the church for Christmas and, at a moment's notice, provided much needed manpower to take down the decorations. Further, the December 31, 2008 balance for Flowers and Altar Supplies (operating budget line #1726, expenses of \$601.45) was \$598.55. Members of the 2008 Flower Guild were Rebecca Chauvin, Mary Gordon, Carol Knauss, Diane Merrill, Bootsie Morris, Lenore Morse, Ann Sevee, and Jeanne Wisner. Anyone interested in giving memorial flowers or serving on the Flower Guild should call Lenore Morse at 877-2477.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lenore Morse

## CHOIR REPORT



Our small but mighty members include Johna Tierney, Alan Kittelson, Bob and Cricket Laidman, Jeanne Wisner, Madelaine Calise and Bonnie Huizenga. Carol Knauss faithfully fills in when Judy is away.

Family Sunday is a service of folk music, with Johna and Solon Coburn on their guitars, Bob whistling his harmonica, Judy at the piano, and some bells here and there. It is definitely a change from our traditional organ accompaniment.

Unfortunately our caroling had to be canceled the Sunday before Christmas due to the wild weather. But we did pay a visit earlier in the year to Verna Evarts for some singing together. The residents seem to enjoy our company as we did theirs.

We welcome the Sunday school children who keep many different beats with their percussion instruments. We welcome hymn requests from the congregation and we welcome anyone who would like to join us for practice on Tuesday evenings at 7pm in the parish hall.

Making a joyful noise,  
Judy Woods

## **MEMORIAL DAY**



2008 was another successful Memorial Day sale for a very hard working group. They gathered to sell the usual fried bread dough, cotton candy, hot dogs, corn dogs, and soda, The day ended with a profit of \$1700.00. A tithe was given to Jackman Fuels. Thank you to all of those who worked so hard to make the day a success. Please join us this year as many hands make light work.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Cassidy



## ST. PAUL'S EPISTLE

The Epistle, as in past years, is published once a month. The staff consists of Pat Barrows, editor, Judy Martel and Penelope Goodkind. Pictures and contributions are welcome and will be printed as space allows. If you have information that would be of interest to the parish, please let us know. Pat Barrows, [pbarrows@pshift.com](mailto:pbarrows@pshift.com) and/or Judy Martel, [jerm@gmavt.net](mailto:jerm@gmavt.net). This is your paper.

## UNITED THANK OFFERING

The United Thank Offering is gathered, usually, in the spring and fall; this year we had a fall ingathering, and we thank all participants.

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

ECW has been relatively inactive for the last two years, but we stand ready to help our parish and the community. We will try to call a meeting early in the spring, and hope that you will want to join us.

### ECW FINANCIAL REPORT 2008

Forward	\$1176.11
Disbursements (Aggie Pudvah Memorial Expense)	\$35.95
Total Disbursements	\$35.95
Income	\$0.00
Interest	\$11.12
Balance In Account	\$1151.28

Respectfully Submitted  
Penny Goodkind, Treasurer

## ALTAR GUILD

Membership in the Altar Guild has continued with two people, Martha Clark, Directress, and Carol Knauss. Late in the fall of 2008, Mary Gordon expressed a willingness to participate, for which we thank her, and welcome her involvement. Betty Bristol has assisted during the year with laundering linen. We appreciate Mary Gordon and Bootsie Morris giving time and elbow grease to brass polishing as needed!

Respectfully submitted,  
Martha Clark, Directress

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

<b>ASSETS AND LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Fund Balances as 31 Dec 2008</b>	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>
<b>Regular Check Book</b>	41,631.70	
<b>Designated Account Funds Total</b>		16,767.00
Hanson Fund		
Wills Fund		
Price Fund		
Roof and Rectory Fund		
Property Improvement Fund		
Flower Fund		
Youth Ministry Fund		
Sabbatical Reserve Fund		
Memorials Fund		
Unallocated Interest		
Episcopal Church Women Account		1,151.28
Rector's Discretionary Fund		500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>41,631.70</b>	<b>17,918.28</b>
 <b>The George Swift Fund</b>		 <b>286,661.08</b>
 <b>The Endowment Fund as of December 31 2008</b>		
<b>Diocesan Unit Fund, Hickok and Boardman</b>		<b>120,775.67</b>
	<b>41,631.70</b>	<b>425,355.03</b>
<b>Total Cash Assets</b>		<b>466,986.73</b>

<b>NORMAL OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>2008 Year Ending 31 Dec 2008</b>
1401 Anonymous Plate Cash	2,121.98
1402 Seasonal Offerings	620.00
1404 Stewardship / Pledge	44,203.00
1404 Stewardship/Pledge 2007	812.00
1408 Use of Building Income	200.00
1413 Unit Trust Fund Endowment	5,647.47
1413 Swift Fund Interest	10,474.70
1414 Designated Account Interest	164.49
1417 E CW Interest	183.05
1419 Undesignated Gifts	150.00
1421 Miscellaneous Income	10,643.00
2420 Donor Designated For Normal Operations	3,062.00
<b>Normal Operating Income Total</b>	<b>78,281.69</b>
<b>NON OPERATION INCOME</b>	
3410 Gifts to Capital Improvements	325.00
3412 Hanson Fund Interest	254.18
3413 Property Improvement Fund Interest	380.36
3414 Wills Fund Interest	287.02
3415 Fund Raising for Capital Improvements	2,216.18
3416 Mulch Sales for Capital Improvements	-56.40
3420 Donor Designated Gifts for Major Equipment	15.00
3425 Swift Account Dividends	0.00
3460 Designated Gifts for Memorial Fund	1,303.00
3460 Special Offerings for other Institutions	
<b>NON OPERATION TOTAL</b>	<b>4,724.34</b>
<b>TOTAL ALL INCOME</b>	<b>83,006.03</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>	
<b>Diocese and Work Outside the Parish</b>	
1701 Diocesan Assessment	6,998.04
1702 Other Work Outside Parish	
1704 Rectors Discretionary Fund	
1705 Gifts to Bishop's Fund	
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>6,998.04</b>
<b>NORMAL PARISH OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	
1711 Total Clergy Stipend	15,732.87
1713 Sunday Supply Clergy	643.60
1713 Clergy Travel Reimbursements	10,139.65

1714 Organist Compensation	3,245.12
1714 Supply Organist	1,125.00
1716 Church Pension Fund Premiums	0.00
1717 Workers Comp Insurance	1,157.84
1718 Church Share of FICA	1,684.68
1719 New Rector Search Process	2,494.31
<b>Total Personnel Expenses</b>	<b>36,223.07</b>
1721 Education & Program	141.36
1722 Youth Ministries	0.00
1723 Adult Education	77.65
1724 Parish Life & Hospitality	680.27
1726 Flowers and Altar Supplies	914.80
1727 Liturgy and Worship Material	476.52
1728 Organ and Music	598.00
1729 Stewardship Development	0.00
<b>Total Church Program &amp; Development</b>	<b>2,888.60</b>
<b>Page 2 January 2008 Finance Report</b>	
1731 Postage	592.60
1732 Bulletins and Printing	102.51
1733 General Office Supplies	479.34
1734 Photo Copier Costs	1,686.05
1735 Telephone	608.73
1736 Broadband Services Verizon	
1737 Bookkeeping and Audit	938.72
1738 Computer Expenses	266.45
1738B Web Site Expenses	144.99
<b>Total Administration Costs</b>	<b>4,819.39</b>
1741 Snow Removal	70.00
1742 Trash Removal	434.29
1743 Cleaning Services	2,481.62
1744 Minor Repairs / Maintenance	4,422.57
1745 Supplies & Other Building Expenses	78.74
1746 A Rectory Heating Fuel	1,776.04
1746B Church Heating Fuel	3,255.45
1746C Parish Hall Heating Fuel	1,328.43
1746D Gas for Cooking	0.00
1747A Rectory Electric Energy	478.45
1747B Church Electric Energy	940.15
1748 Water and Sewer	919.79
1749 Comprehensive Insurance	2,215.25

<b>Total Property and Equipment Costs</b>	<b>18,400.78</b>
1751 Advertizing	376.00
1752 Diocesan Convention Costs	186.00
1753 Gifts for Members	121.83
1754 Miscellaneous Expenses	100.00
1755 Annual Meeting Expenses	0.00
1757 Church Calendar Project	0.00
1758 Balance Adjustments	100.58
<b>Total Miscellaneous Expenses</b>	<b>884.41</b>
<b>Total Regular Parish Operating Expenses</b>	<b>63,216.25</b>
<b>TOTAL ALL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>70,214.29</b>
<b>SPECIAL AND NON OPERATION EXPENSES</b>	
3901 Ministry from Wills Fund	
3902 Wills Fund Disbursements	
3904 Transmit of Special Offerings	
3905 Personal Assistance Grants	
3910 Capital Building Improvements	
3915 Capital Equipment	
3916 Purchase of New Prayer Books	
<b>Total Non Operational Expenses</b>	
<b>TOTAL ALL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>70,214.29</b>
<b>Total Income less Total Expenses</b>	<b>12,791.74</b>

## **Summary Report of St. Paul's Ministry Discernment Committee**

The Vestry formed a Ministry Discernment Committee (MDC) in August 2006. This committee included Jeanne Wisner, Lee Martel, Claire Clay, Mary Gordon, Tim Earle, Sarah Cowan and Bob Laidman. We were charged to develop a Parish Profile, define the parish challenges and strengths, and then perform a search for a priest with the talents and strengths that matched our profile. Over the past two years we learned that discernment of this nature is hard work.

In September 2006 we developed a detailed plan and defined all the tasks involved. We were assisted through the overall processes with guidance from diocesan consultant Rolfe Lawson and diocesan deployment officer Thad Bennett. A parish Self Study was conducted and then we wrote the Parish Profile and a Parish Brochure which summarized the findings. The vestry made a decision to support our search for a full-time rector with the caveat that they would also consider a well qualified part-time clergy if that person preferred a part-time arrangement. This is the first time in over twenty years that St. Paul's has considered a full-time rector and we are excited about this. In May 2007 we published the Parish Profile and integrated it on St. Paul's web site to facilitate sharing with potential candidates. Then the search began which meant sifting through numerous potential candidate profiles, resumes, requesting written responses to questions and discerning the content of those responses. Then numerous telephone interviews, site visits, and candidate interviews which prayerfully lead us to two final candidates whom we recommended to the Vestry in June 2008. The vestry met with the finalists and in August Reverend Alan Kittelson accepted the call to be our rector.

This is the best committee I have ever worked with. All members were willing contributors, completed individual assignments, attended our meetings and shared their thoughts and prayers. Claire has now moved to Santa Fe, New Mexico and we certainly missed her during the last few months of the discernment. Claire – we did it! I also wish to thank Thad Bennett and Rolfe Lawson for their help and guidance during this process. Our Interim Priest Bill Davidson was a wonderful blessing who helped us move forward and grow in both spirit and body. Lucy Pellegrini kept us thinking about outreach as well as pastoral care; our reasons for being here. And now we begin (and continue) our ministries with a much better defined sense of purpose and the challenge that poses. Thanks be to God!

Bob Laidman Jr.