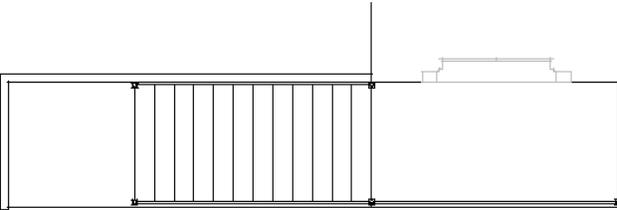
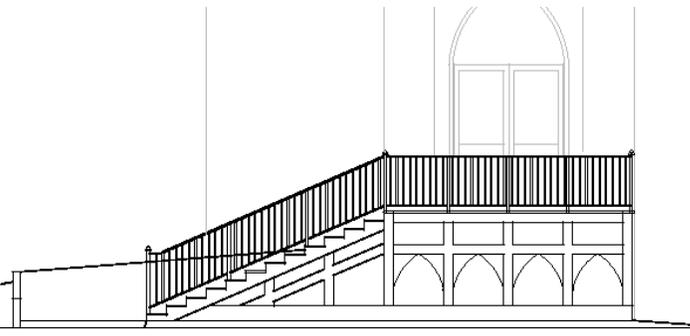


# St. Paul's Epistle



**JULY 2014**

The Vestry has been seeking a solution to our decaying front entry since last year. We have received the design (shown here) and a quote of approximately \$36k which includes a new sign on the front of the church and lighting built into the steps themselves. As part of our work with the people from the Strategic Investment in Sacred Places we will be working on sources of funding to lighten the financial burden to our parish. This process is moving forward, albeit slowly, and your Vestry members would love to hear your feedback or answer your questions as best they can. ( Vestry members are listed on the back page).

	<p><b>Construction notes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Frame work- pressure treated materials</li> <li>•Fasteners are either stainless steel or pressure treated compatible</li> <li>•Posts for frame will be below frost line where appropriate</li> <li>•Composite deck and tread material</li> <li>•Synthetic materials for the exterior of structure</li> <li>•Reuse and match existing steel railing where possible bringing it to code</li> <li>•Will need to reform concrete landing at base of stairs to accommodate larger deck (out to edge of tower)</li> </ul>	<p>199 Main St. Shoreham, Vt 05770 802.897.5555</p> 
<p>plan view</p>  <p>north elevation</p>	 <p>west elevation</p>	<p><b>ST. Paul's Church</b> Vergennes, VT</p> <hr/> <p>Entry Stair proposal</p> <p>Date: 4/7/2014 Scale: 3/16"=1' DRAWING NO.</p> <p><b>AI</b></p>

## PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR PLEDGE OFFERING THIS SUMMER

Hello, Friends! As always, thank you for your generosity to St. Paul's Church and the work that we do in this community. As we are in full summer swing, I'd like to take a moment to encourage you to keep up with your pledged offering during these summer months. As you know, getting behind in our pledges places us in a difficult position to meet our worship, outreach, and educational mission. As of this month, we've received a total of \$23,231 in pledged gifts for the 2014 calendar year out of an expected \$62,000. That's about 1/3 of our total goal and yet the calendar year is half over.

Meeting our individual pledges is important to helping St. Paul's meet our charitable giving goals and pay for our ongoing commitments. Please let me know if you have any questions about your pledge contributions for 2014 or St. Paul's finances generally. I will be glad to talk about them with you.

Kind Regards,  
John Stroup, Treasurer



Our Community Garden

Our garden is planted, thanks to Chris Hale who was able to assist with a tiller and haul compost while Helen and Sarah Cowan turned over the soil and planted. Diane Merrill skillfully grew our tomato seedlings and they look hearty and healthy. The paths are laid with mulch to keep weeds down and Sarah covered the rows of plants that tend to get attacked by pesky beetles.

Now it's time for weeding and watering. We'll be picking beans by the end of July and the rest will start to ripen in early August. Please consider helping out! A mere hour a week is all it takes to weed. Another hour for watering (because we have to rewind the hose!). Once the beans start to come in, we should pick twice a week to keep up.

But, the efforts are all worthwhile. Fresh vegetables for all!

There is a sign-up sheet posted in the parish hall behind the door. It's always fun to have company in the garden. Try signing up with a friend or with your children! Sarah C is very willing to assist and show beginner gardeners how to develop their green thumbs!

Sarah Cowan, your garden steward.

## STEWARDSHIP CORNER

As I am writing this article on June 21 (the deadline for the Epistle, thanks Judy!), it occurred to me that today is the summer solstice, the time when the sun reaches its northernmost point in the sky. That means that today, June 21<sup>st</sup>, is the longest day of the year, at least in the northern hemisphere. I just learned that although our calendar says that June 21<sup>st</sup> is the first day of summer, solstices don't really mark the start of winter or summer at all; they are actually the midpoint of each season, especially if you follow older seasonal calendars marked by celebrations. In England, for example, Midsummer's Day or St. John's Day is celebrated near the summer solstice, on June 24<sup>th</sup>, and marks the birth of St. John the Baptist; just as Christmas Day is celebrated near the winter solstice (December 21<sup>st</sup>), to mark the birth of Jesus. More could be said about the tie-in to the seasonal astronomy, but I'll leave that to Father Alan.

But whether or not it's the official first day of summer or technically midsummer (according to some), it doesn't matter. It's a time when school's out and summer travel and vacationing have started. Grilling outside is a fun occasion. There is time to spend outdoors, soaking in the summer sun and thunderstorms. People are tending to their gardens, awaiting the bounty of the fall. But after today, days will be getting shorter and shorter until the shortest day of the year, December 21<sup>st</sup>. A lot goes on between these two endpoints for our congregation. It is a busy and fruitful time of year.

I was recently asked in a form from the Strategic Investment in Sacred Places (SiSP) program what major events, outside regular worship, our church had planned for the following six months. So thinking about the time between St. John's Day and Christmas, we have a lot going on and a lot to be thankful for, in terms of our ministries and the people who are involved in them. These are some of the things I wrote down (and a few more I'm just remembering now). I am sure I could have mentioned more, but please forgive me if I didn't catch everything.

- Community Garden tending and harvesting, summer into fall
- Hosting a Table of Grace meal in July
- End of Summer worship/potluck (?)
- Stewardship Training for Walking the Way
- Fall Stewardship campaign

- Stewardship Ingathering
- Diocesan Convention
- Start of new Sunday School year
- Congregation year-end Christmas group activities: advent wreath creation, decorating Xmas tree, planning Christmas pageant, Xmas baskets, choir sing

I could have mentioned our day-long events for training for the SiSP program itself, as well as all the weekly opportunities for service such as Food Shelf volunteering (with donations from home and community garden), weekly snacks to Boys and Girls Clubs, monthly outreach at Vergennes Residential Care Home, our monthly newsletter, and monthly and quarterly committee meetings, Vestry and otherwise. And I would have mentioned all other support to our worship services (liturgical, flower, choir, etc.) as well maintenance of our facilities and grounds. But since they were asking about “events” outside our regular worship, I was trying to keep the list short. But as I said, the list could go on and on. Lucky I didn’t have to start at the beginning of the year: Shrove Tuesday Talent Show, Memorial Day, etc.!

The work in our congregation is abundant, even when the days get shorter and shorter. There is always work to be done. We do need your support in terms of the pledges that we have made this year. Summer can be busy; people can be out of town. Hopefully we can keep on top of making sure the summer pledges come in a timely way so that our church and ministries are supported. Mid-year (not Midsummer) pledge reports will be out in July/August timeframe, and I hope we can report good news on that front for the first half of the year.

In gratitude,  
Bo Price for the Stewardship Committee

## DONATIONS NEEDED FOR SiSP

I think by now everyone has heard about the exciting opportunity that St. Paul’s is embarking on. We, along with nine other Vermont churches (Episcopal and United Church of Christ) have been selected to participate in a program offered through the Partners for Sacred Places, a national not-for-profit organization. Partners for Sacred Places works with places of worship throughout the United States, helping them to evaluate their assets—buildings, programs, people etc. and how best to use those assets, in small and large ways. The actual program, Strategic Investment in Sacred Places (SiSP) brings together Partners for Sacred Places, the two denominational sponsors (Episcopal Diocese of Vermont and Vermont Conference, United Church of Christ), and the Preservation Trust of Vermont.

Although the Vestry made the final decision on whether to participate in this program, they did it knowing that it needed to be a full congregational effort. People have heard announcements, read newsletter articles, and have had informal conversations with Vestry members and

others involved, and everyone has been encouraging. There is a core group working with Partners, attending trainings and individual meetings at St. Paul’s. This is roughly a year-and-a-half program. And there is a startup cost which we need to provide.

We are hoping that members at St. Paul’s can make an individual contribution toward this program. It would benefit every single person at St. Paul’s, as we move forward into our future together. The amount we need to raise is \$2500. The initial \$1250 is due in August; the remainder is due next year. If you can make a contribution, either a single contribution, or one now and one later next year, it would be really helpful. Any amount you could contribute toward this program would be helpful. St. Paul’s will receive a \$5000 seed grant at some point, so it is money worth investing.

If you would like to make a contribution, please speak with John Stroup, or send a check to St. Paul’s with the designation for the SiSP program.

Thank you,  
Bo Price

**OUTREACH COMMITTEE** will have its regular quarterly meeting on Sunday, July 6 @ 11:30am? We will be talking about setting specific dates for our monetary disbursements, cooking for the July 25 Table of Grace meal, recruiting a chairperson for the committee, and other odds & ends.

Anyone interested in helping prepare food for the July 25 Table of Grace meal to contact myself @453-6002 or [learle@gmavt.net](mailto:learle@gmavt.net) or Mary Gordon @877-3291.

*Laurie Earle, Chairperson*



Keith Carrig has been mowing the church lawn every week. How about signing up for a week and giving him a break? He has donated a neat electric, light, easy to mow with, does the whole lawn on one charge, mower. (It’s cute too...). There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

And while I’m soliciting much needed help...how about being a lector or a welcomer? No experience needed. Once a month? Once a quarter? Any time you can donate would help out those who do it all the time. See Alan or me.

## JULY 2014 AT ST. PAUL'S, VERGENNES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4  8pm AA	4
6 Pentecost 4  8am Eucharist 10am Child Care 10am Eucharist 11:30 Outreach Mtg.  7pm AA	7	8	9	10	11  8pm AA	12
13 Pentecost 5  8am Eucharist 10am Child Care 10am Eucharist 7pm AA	14	15  7pm Vestry	16	17	18  8pm AA	19 <b>ABSOLUTE EPISTLE DEADLINE</b> <a href="mailto:jerm@gmavt.net">jerm@gmavt.net</a>
20 Pentecost 6  8am Eucharist 10am Child Care 10am Eucharist  7pm AA	21	22 Feast of St. Mary Magdalene 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I	23 10:30am Morning Prayer Vergennes Res. Care Home	24	25 5:30-6:30pm Community Meal, Congo Church  8pm AA	26  Stewardship Mtg. with Canon Emerson
27 Pentecost 7  8am Eucharist 10am Child Care 10am Eucharist  7pm AA	28	29	31			

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE ON THE DAY SHOWN PLEASE ARRANGE TO SWITCH SUNDAYS WITH SOMEONE. THANK YOU.

## JULY SUNDAY CHART

<u>Date</u>	<u>Flower Guild</u>	<u>Sunday School/ Child Care</u>	<u>Coffee Hour</u>	<u>Counters</u>	<u>Chalice</u>	<u>Welcome Comm.</u>	<u>Acolyte Crucifer</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Readings</u>
July 6 Pentecost 4	Diane Merrill	Pam Macauley	Nan Guilmette Sarah Stroup	Cricket Laidman Carol Knauss	Tim Earle Carol Knauss	Steve Lowe	Catie Macauley  Carol Knauss	Nan Guilmette	Zechariah 9:9-12 Psalm 145:8-15 Romans 7:15-25a Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
July 13 Pentecost 5	Anne Sevee	Sarah Hale	Lenore Morse Kim Hatgen	Steve Lowe Nate Guilmette	Carol Knauss Judy Langeway	Margaret Lowe	Alisdair Chauvin  Carol Knauss	Steve Lowe	Isaiah 55:10-13 Psalm 65:1-14 Romans 8:1-11 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
July 20 Pentecost 6	Rebecca Chauvin	Rebecca Chauvin	Rebecca Chauvin Bo Price	Mary Gordon Kim Hatgen	Tim Earle	Lenore Morse	Catie Macauley  Tim Earle	Bob Laidman	Isaiah 44:6-8 Psalm 86:11-17 Romans 8:12-25 Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
July 27 Pentecost 7	Mary Beth Hamilton	Sarah Stroup	Sue Berkenbush Chris Hale	Laurie Earle Lenore Morse	Judy Langeway Carol Knauss	Lee Martel	Alisdair Chauvin  Tim Earle	Steve Lowe	1 Kings 3:5-12 Psalm 119:129-136 Romans 8:26-39 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52
August 17 <sup>th</sup> will be the Parish picnic at the Macauley's in Charlotte.		Keep the date open for the outdoor Eucharist, pot luck lunch, fun in the pool or on the beach.		Directions in next month's Epistle.		There will be no 10am Eucharist at the church that day.		The kids have a ball.	

## YOUR VESTRY

### Rector

- The Rev. Alan Kittelson 877-3322

### Sr. Warden

- Timothy Earle 453-6002

### Jr. Warden

- Marcia Merryman-Means 877-8398

### Clerk of the Vestry

- Lenore Morse 802-578-7225

### Treasurer

- John Stroup 870-7055

### Class of 2015

- Timothy Earle 453-6002
- Mary Beth Hamilton 877-6668
- Lee Martel 759-2408

### Class of 2016

- Susan Berkenbush 870-7151
- Madelaine Calise 475-2901
- Marcia Merryman-Means 877-8398

### Class of 2017

- Sarah Cowan 877-2382
- Cricket Laidman 877-3566
- Judy Langeway 877-3737

## CHURCH COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- **Outreach:** Laurie Earle at 453-6002 or [learle@gmavt.net](mailto:learle@gmavt.net)
- **Education:** Marcia Merryman-Means at 877-8398 or [mmmcubed27@comcast.net](mailto:mmmcubed27@comcast.net)
- **Liturgy:** Alan Kittelson at 877-3322 or [alankittelson@gmail.com](mailto:alankittelson@gmail.com)
- **Stewardship:** Bo Price at 877-2031 or [boltonprice@comcast.net](mailto:boltonprice@comcast.net) and Bob Laidman at 877-3566 or [bobl@pshift.com](mailto:bobl@pshift.com)
- **Sunday School:** Sarah Stroup at 870-7055 or [sarahsnip@hotmail.com](mailto:sarahsnip@hotmail.com)

**WOULD** you prefer to receive the epistle via e-mail?  
Let me know, [jerm@gmavt.net](mailto:jerm@gmavt.net).

If you would like to see the pictures in color, just go to  
St. Paul's website: [www.saintpaulsvergennes.org](http://www.saintpaulsvergennes.org)

