



# *St. Paul's Epistle*



**FEBRUARY 2020**



We are so fortunate to have had Bishop Shannon presiding over a special service to receive Rebecca Chauvin and Nan Guilmette. In addition to the good news of Rev. Sherry Osborne being called as our interim Rector, we learned the Lucy Pellegrini has been appointed as our Deacon!



### **Senior Warden Message-Sarah Cowan**

It's been a year! When Father Alan asked me to step up to be senior warden, I expressed much hesitation. I knew that he would be leaving us, that we would be searching for a new priest and that we, as lay people, would have to step up to carry on the ministries, activities and business of St. Paul's. Selfishly, I was anxious and I was not sure whether I had enough energy to do what would have to be done while we searched for a new priest. I agreed because of how important St. Paul's has become to me and because I didn't want to risk the possibility that St. Paul's might not be there for me in the future. I knew I would not shoulder the whole responsibility of making sure the services continued, that we provided fellowship and care to each other and to do everything else that had to be done, but the thought, just the slight inkling of a possibility that St. Paul's would somehow not be here for me was enough for me to say "Yes," to Father Alan. Conducting our annual meeting this past week was testimony that St. Paul's is still strong so I wonder why I even had that fear that it might not be here for me. The contributions that every member of the parish makes to St. Paul's, whether through Time or

Talent or Treasure pale in comparison to what I have done. We all ensure the future of St. Paul's and I am looking forward to our continued journey.

I will not name all the milestones and accomplishments we have achieved this past year. We only have to look at our new stone wall and sidewalk and our beautiful stained-glass windows to see some of the physical accomplishments. And the walks got shoveled, the leaves got raked

and flowers were planted. Inside the doors of St. Paul's, we continued to celebrate our Holy times, Lent, Easter, Advent and Christmas. We have heard beautiful music, thanks to our choir and to Judy and it was

wonderful to hear more guitars and piano this past year. Our children – our AMAZING children – are learning and teaching us about the Baptismal Covenant. This year we have been reintroduced to and have celebrated Morning Prayer and our supply clergy have introduced us to alternative passages during our Eucharistic services. I have been enlightened and delighted by different sermons and have taken something new from each service with our rotating Priests.

Looking ahead... After our annual meeting we conducted interviews with the candidates for our interim priest and have called Reverend Sherry Osborne who will begin on February 9<sup>th</sup>. I know you will all welcome her into our church family as we have always done – inviting her into our community with prayer, fellowship and friendship. And our new Bishop! I hope you were able to be with us when we celebrated with her on January 30<sup>th</sup>. I know evenings are not ideal, but she was very accommodating to our need for having two members of our Vestry be received into the Episcopal Church. Please welcome Rebecca and Nan!

Beyond these next few weeks, our new Vestry leader, Senior Warden Rebecca Chauvin and all Vestry members will need your support and your assistance. They have a big year ahead and they cannot carry the torch (or the cross!) alone. Yes, getting an interim priest in place will allow them to catch their breath but an interim is just that. We must move to the next phase with your input and participation, our Bishop's input and leadership and the support from our whole community. We'll do this while we carry on our other ministries. We will continue to support the Food Shelf, make cookies for Boys & Girls, get phase 3 of our SiSP project going, shovel the walks and rake the leaves. I look forward to being here side by side with each of you. Please don't worry if you see a few tears running down my cheeks on occasion. They are tears of joy and my way of expressing my love for our St. Paul's community. Thank you for allowing me to serve you this past year. It has been my privilege and an honor.

THANK YOU, Sarah, for serving as Senior Warden this past year and as a vestry member for 4 (yes, that's 12 years!) terms.



### **Vergennes Community Food Shelf**

Tuesday 1:30 -4:00 PM

Thursday 2:00 -4:00PM

Saturday 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM

Remember last year's Monopoly promotion? Shaw's will be doing it again starting in February. If you don't use the tickets, I would appreciate it if you would leave them in the envelope on the bulletin board. And if you save them please donate any free tickets for things you don't eat (last year we got lots and lots of free donuts along with more nutritious food).



February  
BIRTHDAYS

4<sup>th</sup> Kim Hatgen

4<sup>th</sup> Cricket Laidman

4<sup>th</sup> Noah Macauley

5<sup>th</sup> Hayden Jennings

5<sup>th</sup> Nancy Lennox

6<sup>th</sup> Rorrie Jay

12<sup>th</sup> Bonnie Huizenga

19<sup>th</sup> Keith Carrig

20<sup>th</sup> Lucy Macauley

24<sup>th</sup> Bo Price

24<sup>th</sup> George Chauvin

25<sup>th</sup> Lisa Stockwell

26<sup>th</sup> Colin Jennings

27<sup>th</sup> Theresa Davis

**Rector:** Reverend Sherry Osborne

**Church Committee Chairs**

**Sr. Warden:** Rebecca Chauvin 578-7312  
**Jr. Warden:** Chris Hale 877-1059  
**Clerk of the Vestry:** Steve Lowe 877-3783  
**Treasurer:** John Stroup 870-7055

**Outreach:** Mary Gordon 877-3291  
[romargordon@yahoo.com](mailto:romargordon@yahoo.com)

**Education:** John Stroup 870-7055  
[stroupjt0@gmail.com](mailto:stroupjt0@gmail.com)

**Liturgy**

**Stewardship:** Bo Price at 877-2031  
[boltonprice@comcast.net](mailto:boltonprice@comcast.net)  
Bob Laidman at 877-3566  
[blaidman@gmail.com](mailto:blaidman@gmail.com)

**YOUR VESTRY**

**Class of 2021**

Rebecca Chauvin	877-1370
Nan Guilmette	453-8515
Kim Hatgen	877-6947

**Class of 2022**

David Merrill	475-2160
Bo Price	877-2031

**Class of 2023**

Chris Hale	877-1059
Jeff Mangini	453-2144