



# *St. Paul's Epistle*

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**SEPTEMBER 2018**

**This September marks Father Alan's 10th year  
as Rector of St. Paul's!**

Please come and celebrate with us at coffee hour after the 10AM service on Sunday, September 9th.

## **Youth Group Resumes**

The youth group of Vergennes Congregational Church and Saint Paul's Church is called "Go!" and is for kids in grades three, four, and five. Fall programming begins in September.

During the school year, the group meets twice a month from September through June. Meetings combine service, learning, and fun. For example, we might learn about the Jewish stories that are the foundations of our faith and build a harvest hut in celebration of Sukkot. We will also enjoy seasonal activities such as apple picking or a fall hike.

The first outing will be on Sunday, September 16th, at 2 p.m. We will gather at Vergennes Congregational Church for games, getting to know each other, an activity about faith and water, and some small boat building.

Our next outing will be on September 30th. We will meet in Middlebury to join in the Crop Walk in support of ending hunger.

## **SISP Update**

Over the past few years, we have shared our SISP efforts with Bishop Ely and he has encouraged us to apply for support from the Diocese. The SISP committee, including Sarah Stroup, Bo Price, Madelaine Calise, and Sarah Cowan, submitted an application on July 15 to the Grants and Loans Committee. On Sunday, August 19, Tom Eshelman, the committee's chair, called to share the good news that the Episcopal diocese of Vermont's Grants and Loans Committee had approved our request for a \$22,500 grant to support the repair of one of our stained glass windows and replacement of one of the external covers. Ben Anderson-Ray was our committee liaison - many thanks to Ben, Tom, and Lynn Bates at the Diocese. We should receive the check in the next couple of weeks, and we are working with a window repair specialist, Kathy Chapman, to make specific plans about a work schedule.

-Sarah Stroup

## **September Birthdays**

2 Anne Seeve	4 Diane Rooney	8 Megan Seymour
11 Marcia Dunne	12 Elrik Jay	14 Nick Jennings
16 Elayna Jennings	17 Jona Tierney	17 Aaron Seymour
18 Diane Merrill	19 Pete McAllister	20 Kassidy Jay
20 Betty Bristol	21 Dave Merrill	24 Tim Jennings
24 Todd Jennings	28 Sarah Cowan	28 Sarah Cowan
30 Justin Huizenga		

St. Paul's Episcopal Church parish has been exploring ways to use their facilities, located on Park Street in the heart of Downtown Vergennes, in ways that benefit the entire community. After gathering input from parishioners and residents, they decided to redevelop their west-facing lawn into a public gathering space adjacent to the City Green.

Parishioners reached out to The Vergennes Partnership to see if public funding was available. Although religious organizations are exempt from state funds tied to the Designated Downtown program, a portion of the church lawn is owned by the city, making that section (the Park Street sidewalk and retaining wall) eligible. City Council members supported the church's proposal to rebuild and widen the narrow sidewalk, making it accessible to those with disabilities, and to replace the retaining wall -- both of which are key components of St. Paul's broader landscape design. That paved the way for the Partnership to apply for a Downtown Transportation Grant on behalf of the municipality, to help fund the city's portion of the project.

Fortunately, the grant proposal was accepted, providing \$46,200 in state funds to add to the amounts the city and the church will pay for this improvement project. St. Paul's is now seeking funds for two other changes: (1) repair of the beautiful stained-glass windows that will serve as a backdrop and (2) re-landscaping to create seating areas and rain gardens.

The Vergennes City Green has long been a special place to celebrate, commemorate, relax and connect. The St. Paul's improvement project promises to provide an *even more* inviting green space in the center of town for the public to enjoy.

To learn more about Vermont's Designated Downtown program, from which Vergennes greatly benefits, go to

<http://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/designation-programs/downtowns>

To learn more about St. Paul's Church and its improvement project, visit [www.SaintPaulsVergennes.org](http://www.SaintPaulsVergennes.org) or contact St. Paul's project chair Sarah Stroup at [stroup.sarah@gmail.com](mailto:stroup.sarah@gmail.com).



**Rector:** The Rev. Alan Kittelson 877-3322  
**Sr. Warden:** Bo Price 877-2031  
**Jr. Warden:** Chris Hale 877-1059  
**Clerk of the Vestry:** Steve Lowe 877-3783  
**Treasurer:** John Stroup 870-7055

**YOUR VESTRY**

**Class of 2019**

Mary Cassidy 453-3004  
Bo Price 877-2031

**Class of 2020**

Sarah Cowan 877-2382  
Chris Hale 877-1059  
Jeff Mangini 453-2144

**Class of 2021**

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

**Church Committee Chairs**

**Outreach:** Mary Gordon 877-3291 or  
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**Education:** John Stroup 870-7055 or  
strouj0@gmail.com

**Liturgy:** Alan Kittleson 877-3322 or  
alankittleson@gmail.com

**Stewardship:** Bo Price at 877-2031 or  
[boltonprice@comcast.net](mailto:boltonprice@comcast.net) and Bob Laidman at 877-  
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