

# *moving forward*

## St. Paul's Vestry

Rev. Mike Dangelo  
*Rector*

Abbe Moore  
*Sr. Warden*

Richard Shafner  
*Jr. Warden*

Kwame Ofori-Asante  
*Treasurer*

Carl Ogren  
*Clerk*

Sue Cafazzo

Sheila Callaghan

Jessica Faulkner

Gretchen Garlow

Chuck Gilliam

Gail Purtz

Barbara Savage

Chris Simoneau

Jim Vath

## Where Have We Come From and What Is This Parish Going To Be?

On Tuesday, June 8th, members of the St. Paul's Vestry met with Phil Whitbeck, a coach from the Diocese, to conduct a Mutual Ministry Review. A Mutual Ministry Review is a way for every parish to ask, "How are we doing?" It is a time to celebrate what has been done well and to understand what might be done better. As Christian people we must always ask: "What is God calling us to do and to accomplish here in this place?" And then, "How can we best practice this ministry?"

As part of this exercise, each person wrote three (3) positive experiences he/she had at St. Paul's in the past two (2) years and/or things the parish accomplished during that time on a notecard and then shared these with the group. We were also tasked with writing and sharing one challenge the parish faces.

Here are the responses to our discussion. Please feel free to contact any member of the Vestry if you'd like to know more about the exercise.

### Positive Experiences / Accomplishments of the Parish

- EfM
- Confirmation class
- Operation Helping Hands
- Cooking pancakes with the boys
- Lay Weeders
- Put on the picture board
- Loving care for rector's family
- Holy Week – Maundy Thursday 2010
- Attendance at 8:30 am service increased
- Choir
- Easter Vigil
- Small Groups – Bible Study, etc
- Lenten Series (Intro to Bible / Supper together)
- Friendship with Father Mike
- Noise of children in church
- Friends
- Welcome and support of parish and town
- Energy
- Created website for church – sharing gifts
- Growth in congregation – make treasurer happy
- Car Wash – FREE
- Christmas caroling on the sly
- Dick's work for Katrina aftermath – parish support
- Acceptance of family
- Transparent financial picture
- Maintenance of building – acceptance of
- Being asked to be on the Vestry
- Increase in outreach activities
- Father Mike's Institution Service – all parish participation
- Father Mike is the Man - for Youth too.
- Passion of congregation to work & share gifts
- Preschool

### Challenges We Face

- Retaining and engaging new parishioners
- Managing the growth
- Keeping sense of community we now feel/have
- Keeping Father Mike from burnout
- Lay burnout
- Maintaining cohesiveness
- Reaching agreement for growth of preschool
- Maintaining the physical plant
- Blending old and new parishioners
- Formation of leadership
- Keeping youth engaged in church – pre and post confirmation

