



THE COURIER

September 2011 Volume 4, Issue 8

Calendar

September 7, 14,
21 & 28 -
Eucharist &
Bible Study

September 3-
St. Luke's /
San Lucas
Soup Kitchen

September 13-
Vestry Meeting

September 18-
Blessing of the
Backpacks /
Sunday School
Registration /
Youth Group
Kickoff

September 20-
All Parish Potluck

September 27-
Outreach Meeting

On Prayer

What is prayer? There are just two definitive things that can be said about prayer. First, prayer is about communication, and, in general, communication is a two-way street. Prayer is a way to get in communication and communion with God. Second, prayer is personal. Each of us prays in our own unique ways. This essay attempts to set out how I see prayer. As they say, your results may differ.

The Rector's Corner

There are four general types of prayer: praise, thanksgiving, intercession and petition. Praise is a way of emphasizing the nature of our relationship to God. Thanksgiving is the recognition of all the gifts we have received, not by our own efforts, but those freely given to us. Intercession is when we desire something for someone else, asking God to intervene. Petition is when we desire something for ourselves.

What can be said about prayers of praise? Do we really believe God

needs our praise? Would God become despondent if we failed to give adequate praise? I think not. It is true that God wants our praise, but God does not *need* this. So why do we offer prayers of praise? Perhaps the answer is to reinforce in us what our relationship to God actually is, that we are the sheep of a benevolent shepherd worthy of praise. Prayers of praise are, in fact, directed toward ourselves as reminders of God's worthiness.

Most (if not all) of us have many reasons to be thankful. When something good happens, we are appreciative and often feel this deeply in our hearts. So why offer prayers of thanksgiving? Doesn't God know already what is in our hearts? Of course, so why do we need to tell God about it? It is easy for us to lose sight of the myriad of great and small gifts we have received. The reason for prayers of thanksgiving is that we get to re-appreciate all these blessings. In some sense we are again reminding

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THE JOURNEY INWARD

On Prayer (cont.)

ourselves of the source of all good things.

What then about prayers of intercession? Do we need to tell God about our concerns for others? Isn't God omniscient, knowing these concerns already? God certainly doesn't need to hear this from us. So what use are these prayers? They surface for us the concerns of our hearts and focus our attention on what God has to say about these concerns. These are the times we need to listen attentively to God's voice. The question now is not what God will do about these concerns, but what God is telling **us** to do about them. Recently a friend had a serious heart attack. He survived and commented that he felt there was an angel looking over him. He was right; the angel was his friend who called 911, the first responders who arrived, and the doctors and nurses who attended to him in the hospital. Prayers of intercession are about listening to what God wants us to do and acting on what we hear. We are God's hands in this world.

Lastly, prayers of petition tell God what we really want. They can be prayers asking for forgiveness of sin, strength in adversity, comfort in pain and trial, and many other things. God sees into our hearts and knows this already. God doesn't need to be told and once more, we are reminding ourselves and listening for God's answer. Without prayer the din of our lives tends to drown out God's soft voice. In my experience, God rarely shouts and most often whispers. Without these prayers God's soft voice might not be heard. These prayers help us to hear.

Prayer is a powerful enabler. God created humankind with free will. God is not a puppet master. The only way we can live into the life God wants for us is to hear what that life should look like and take the appropriate action. We will never know this unless we listen through prayer. In sum, prayer is reminding ourselves of God's worthiness and generosity, and listening to God. More than anything, prayer is listening and then doing something about it.

~ Carl Ogren



THE JOURNEY OUTWARD

Getting to Know the Parish: Barbara Drozek



Barbara Drozek (a “depression kid”) began attending services at St. Paul’s when she was 16 years old. Before then, she and her five sisters went to the Congregational Church, walking there each week from their house on Walnut Street.

“We kind of liked it,” Barbara said of St. Paul’s, which, at that time, was meeting in the little house next door. “It was the cutest little chapel” and held only about a dozen people. Back then, seminary students served the small congregation and eventually, all six (Molly, Betty, Barbara, Jean, Susan, and Doris) were baptized at St. Paul’s.

Barbara attended high school in Wakefield (Lynnfield didn’t have a high school then) and, when she was 21, married Joe at a house wedding officiated by the priest in Wakefield. Joe, from Chelsea, had met Barbara when he visited Lynnfield to stay in one of the summer camps around Pillings Pond. Joe worked at GE and Barbara worked for a Boston law firm. Early in their marriage when they lived in Nahant, they didn’t go to church, being from different

religious backgrounds (Joe was Catholic). When they moved back to Lynnfield in 1965, Barbara returned to St. Paul’s. She quit working to raise their three adopted Amer-Asian children – Jinny (Korean), and Joey and Ellen (Chinese/Irish/Italian) – and got active at St. Paul’s, ending up teaching Sunday School for 15 years, and served on Altar Guild for 25 years. In other words, she “Kept busy.”

Joe died with Alzheimer’s in 1993 after spending six years in the Soldiers Home in Bedford. And Jinny passed away in 1996. Today, son Joey lives in Salem and works for a printing firm; Ellen lives in Keene, NH, and works for the U.S. Postal Service.

Barbara keeps in touch with her sisters by phone (Molly’s in Canada, Betty’s in Florida, Jean’s in California, Susan’s in Middleton and Doris is in Connecticut). She has four grandchildren “off on their own pursuits” and four great-grandkids who, she said, “I will either never see or very seldom due to today’s erratic and odd ways of living.” Barbara has been involved with the Lynnfield Historical Society and Historical Commission. She also paints watercolors, writes short stories, and has a systematic method of doing jigsaw puzzles. And she’s just finished knitting a second beautiful shawl for St. Paul’s Shawl Ministry project.

THE JOURNEY INWARD

All Parish Potluck

Come celebrate an old fashioned all parish potluck on **Tuesday, September 20th from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.** We'll gather in the New Room for food and fellowship. Drinks, plates and utensils will be provided.

If your last name begins with:
A-G - Please bring a Main Course
H-M - Please bring an Appetizer
N-S - Please bring a Salad
T-Z - Bring a Dessert

Please RSVP with the parish office at office@stpaulslynnfield.org or 781-334-4594.

St. Paul's Farmer's Market



If you find yourself in need of some fresh vegetables, come down to St. Paul's parking lot on **Wednesdays from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.** where there will be

a small Farmer's Market offering some fresh local produce from Hamilton, Massachusetts.

The vegetables are being made available from First Light Farm, which is the same farm that several fellow parishioners have been enjoying a share of this summer. The produce is usually picked the same day.

Please stop down and check it out and let your friends and neighbors know they are welcome.

Sunday School



Starting this September, Godly Play will serve as St. Paul's new curriculum for children's Christian formation.

Godly Play is based upon the recognition

that children have an innate sense of the presence of God. All they lack is the appropriate language to help them identify and express it so it can be explored and strengthened. The Godly Play approach teaches classical Christian language in a way that enhances the child's authentic experience of God so it can contribute to the creative life of the child and the world.

The Sunday School Registration and Picnic will be held on **Sunday, September 18** following the 10 a.m. service.

If you have questions, please contact Caroline Sacca at sundayschool@stpaulslynnfield.org.

Blessing of the Backpacks



The annual Blessing of the Backpacks will take place on **Sunday, September 18** during the 10 a.m. service.

This is a great opportunity to invite family, friends or neighbors to St. Paul's!

THE JOURNEY INWARD

Lynnfield Remember 911 2001: Tenth Anniversary

REMINDER: A committee of citizens and first responders in Lynnfield are preparing activities of remembrance for the community for this coming September.

For more information and volunteer opportunities, please see Lynnfield 911 Website: <http://sites.google.com/site/lynnfield911/home> or Google: Lynnfield911 (with no spaces)



Youth Group Kickoff

Youth group members will gather at St. Paul's at **5 p.m. on Sunday, September 18** for a brief meeting and then head to Border Cafe for dinner on at 6 p.m. returning around 8:15 p.m.

For future meetings—beginning 9/25: Due to space constraints, we'll continue to gather on Sunday evenings at St. Paul's from 5 to 7p.m. for dinner and fellowship.

"Game Changer:" We would like to try a different approach to dinners this year. We would like to invite each youth group member (with the help of his or her family) to provide the food for the group on a rotating schedule.

Please don't feel pressured to cook something fancy! As you know, the kids prefer pizza, or Subway sandwiches, or Chinese food, etc. We could easily make the kitchen at SPEC available just prior to the meeting if you wanted to warm pasta and sauce, for example. Whatever is easiest.

We'll have a sign up sheet available at our meeting on September 18 so that each family can choose a convenient Sunday.

Thank you in advance for your support of the SPEC youth group. We're looking forward to another good year. Please contact Pam Simoneau or Paul Bowen if you need transportation for the September 18 event or for further information.



THE JOURNEY TOGETHER

St. Paul's Volunteer Calendar—September 2011

	September 4	September 11	September 18	September 25
Acolytes	Nathan Huebschmann Sam Huebschmann Grace Huebschmann	Joshua Mentzer Tyler Mentzer Nnenna Nwangwu	Patrick Scheeler Kristen Scheeler Nnenna Nwangwu	Emily McKenelley Spencer May Stephen May
Lay Readers 9:00 a.m.	LEM Peggy Hansen Lector Doreen Hammond	LEM LEM Sue Mentzer Lector David Garlow	LEM LEM Jim Rosato Lector Priscilla March	LEM Carl Ogren LEM Barbara Savage Lector Jim Rosato
Ushers	Sue Bourdon Suzi Huebschmann	Amy & Cal Council	Sheila & Kevin Scheeler	Susan Cafazzo Ken Rosenthal
	Team Three	Team Four	Team One	Team Two
		In memory of Nancy Yung by Isabel Ho & Richard Curtis by the Scheeler Family		
Coffee Hour	Need Volunteers	Sue Mandeville Lucie McInnes	Debbie Kassiotis Gretchen Garlow	Patricia May & Family
Anniversaries	Miriam & Dick Shafner Barbara & David Savage Jane & Jack Friedman Susan Cafazzo & Ken Rosenthal		Lisa & David Plante Erica & Guy Cioffi Judy & Steve Plotner Jen & Jim Vath	Sue & Tom Bourdon
Birthdays	Sarah Old Brianna Goulet Leo Barrett Holly Scopa	Jack Allan Nancy Anderson Sue Bourdon	Doreen Hammond Jay Kimball	Amy Council Jeffrey Knox Nathan Vath Jason Bornstein Matthew Kimball Kathy Surette
Recycling	The Ogren's	David Manoogian	Sue Mentzer	Priscilla March

THE JOURNEY TOGETHER

Music Committee Established



At a recent meeting of the newly-formed music committee, Father Mike asked, "What would you like the music program of St. Paul's to look like in five years?"

In the coming months, the committee will focus on how music can enhance worship at St. Paul's. Members of the committee plan to visit other churches for inspiration, and they want to hear from the congregation about their ideas. Near term goals include growing the choir by continuing the student scholarship program and inviting parishioners to join the choir. If you want to share ideas or are interesting in joining the choir, contact committee members Steve and Judy Plotner, Priscilla March, Harry Mandeville, Kathy Surette, or Bob Sorrentino.

Staff and Vestry

Clergy and Staff

Rector	The Rev. Michael B. Dangelo	781-334-4594
	For after hour emergencies only	781-910-6922
Organist	Kathleen Surette	
Bethlehem School Director	Jennifer Baez	781-334-6436
Administrative Assistant	Lauren Ferrari	781-334-4594

Vestry Officers

Senior Warden	Abbe Moore	781-334-2377
Junior Warden	Richard Shafner	781-334-6478
Treasurer	Kwame Ofori-Asante	781-334-7229
Clerk	Carl Ogren	781-334-6705

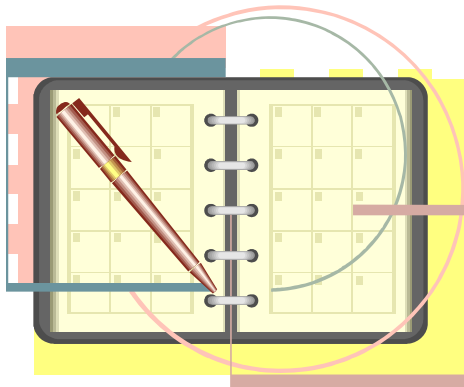
Vestry Members

Katie Ahearn	978-531-0468
Sue Cafazzo	781-334-0198
Brian Croxon	781-334-6518
Jessica Faulkner	781-405-6810
Gretchen Garlow	781-342-5130
Jim Rosato	781-245-0161
Barbara Savage	781-334-4430
Chris Simoneau	781-334-2194
Jim Vath	781-334-6098

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
127 Summer Street
Lynnfield Massachusetts 01940
Phone: 781-334-4594
Cell Phone: 781-910-6922
(for after hour emergencies only)
Website: www.stpaulslynnfield.org
Email: office@stpaulslynnfield.org



Don't Forget!



Sunday, September 11, 2011
Regular Services Resume
@ 8:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.