

*St. Paul's Episcopal Church*  
*Welcome Packet*



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*Your presence is welcome here !*

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# St. Paul's Ministry Booklet 2021-22

*We are pleased to provide you this Ministry Booklet. Inside, you will find many of the ways the community and St. Paul's work together to support the mission of the church. We encourage you to consider in which of these ministries you might feel called to participate. If you would like more information on a particular ministry, please contact the parish office at [office@stpaulsbrookline.org](mailto:office@stpaulsbrookline.org) or 617-566-4953.*

*As you will see, we are a vigorous and vital parish with activities for diverse interests and gifts. We invite you to join us in doing God's work at St. Paul's, in the community and in the world!*

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

127 Main Street, Owego, NY 13827

607-687-2830

[www.stpaulsowego.org](http://www.stpaulsowego.org)

## Worship

### Acolytes

Acolytes serve as altar assistants to the presiding clergy during Sunday services. Depending on age, acolytes serve as torchbearers, servers and crucifers. Everyone in second grade or above is welcome (including adults!).

## **Altar Guild**

The Altar Guild takes pride in preparing the altar for our services and caring for the linen and Communion vessels. Some members also enjoy laundering and pressing the linens as well as polishing the brass and silver pieces to a glowing shine. The Altar Guild also works closely alongside the Flower Coordinators to enhance the worship space with Christmas poinsettias and Easter flowers on those special holidays.

## **Chalice Bearers**

Chalice Bearers administer the wine during Holy Communion.

## **Lectors**

Lectors read the scripture lessons and intercessory prayers at our worship services.

## **Ushers**

Ushers welcome us to worship each Sunday and facilitate newcomers finding their way around St. Paul's, including getting to coffee hour! Ushers also distribute service leaflets, collect and present the offering, and guide the congregation during Holy Communion. Ushers of all ages are welcome. Friends and family are invited to serve together.

## **Music**

### **-- Choir**

Members of the choir help lead the congregation in singing hymns as well as other service music. Beyond this fundamental mission, the choir offers anthems, and other choral works to nourish and sustain our individual and collective spiritual journeys. Music is a vital part of worship.

## **Pastoral Care**

### **Eucharistic Visitors**

Eucharistic Visitors are trained to bring Holy Communion to members of the community who are unable to be with us on Sunday mornings, whether short or long-term. Licensing is granted by the Diocese after a training by your clergyperson.

## **Care Team**

The Care Team aims to coordinate parish outreach to members who are home-bound, sick or have other needs which our community can help to meet. Services can include bereavement care, food, day cards, caregiver support or simply an ear to listen or a shoulder to lean on.

## **Stewardship**

**Fall Appeal** - The Stewardship Committee oversees our annual Stewardship Appeal each fall.

## **Food Ministry**

Several members of St. Paul's Church, provide free meals to Owego low income families and individuals who need additional food that they cannot afford to buy through the Allied Christians of Tioga County (ACT).

## **Walk For Hunger**

Every fall, St. Paul's participates as a team in the Tioga County Crop Walk to benefit those who are food insecure.

## **Refugees**

St. Paul's, along with others in the community, has formed a Owego Refugee group to offer housing to refugees and support other groups and organizations that wish to do the same through education and discussion.

# **Property**

## **Buildings and Grounds**

The Buildings and Grounds Committee meets to discuss and plan capital needs, as well as ongoing maintenance of the church and parish buildings.

## **Green Team**

The Green Team helps St. Paul's think intentionally about our stewardship of the environment and to assist us in finding new ways to protect our natural resources and lower our carbon footprint.

## **Children and Youth**

### **Church School**

Grades Pre-K through Elementary School gather for Christian Education every Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

### **Confirmation Class**

Annually, a confirmation class is offered to adults and youth who wish to make a public affirmation of their faith by either being confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church and for those who wish to reaffirm their faith.

## **Adult Formation**

### **Adult Education Forums**

Please contact the church office for the current Adult Forum schedule. The forums are typically held on the third Sunday of the month from September through May for discussions with the Rector and guest speakers.

## **Fellowship**

### **Hospitality**

The mission of the Hospitality Committee is to coordinate Coffee Hour each week.

### **Prayer Shawl Group**

Knitters of every skill level get together once a month to knit prayer shawls and anything else they might be working on. Our only agenda is the pleasure of each other's company, and our needles and yarn. Any and all are welcome.

### **Monthly Fellowship Meal**

The Fellowship meal is an opportunity for individuals, couples, or those without families in the area, to connect with others in the St. Paul's community over a shared meal. On the Second Tuesday of the month, we gather at a local eatery for dinner and some good conversation. Come join us.

### **Newcomers**

Do you have a gift for making people feel welcome? We invite you to join a newly forming "welcoming ministry". The work of the ministry includes making our

building and materials inviting to newcomers, greeting visitors and organizing activities to invite newcomers deeper into the life of the parish.

## **Elected Leadership**

### **Vestry**

The Vestry is the lay leadership body of the parish. A Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Clerk and six members-at-large meet monthly to discuss the mission and vision of the parish and to oversee matters of finance and policy.

## **Congregational Support**

### **Budget and Finance**

The Finance Committee meets with the Wardens to assist in planning the Annual Budget in order to present it to the vestry for approval. It also works throughout the year to discuss the parish's investments and budget planning.

### **Communications**

If you have a knack or interest in writing or publishing in print, on the web or using social media, this is the group for you! Communications provides support for our website, outreach and visibility materials, and keeping our social media sites current.

## **Find Us Online**

Website: [www.stpaulsowego.org](http://www.stpaulsowego.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsowego>

## **Church Staff**

Diane Miller  
Patty Baranski  
Amy Dunham  
Hilton Baxter  
Patricia O'Connell  
William O'Connell

Parish Sexton  
Parish Administrator  
Parish Treasurer  
Organist  
Choir Director  
Verger

## **The Vestry**

### **Wardens**

Debra Standinger      Senior Warden  
James Hankey        Junior Warden

Class of 2022	Scott Calkins	Andrew Robertson
Class of 2023	Laura Coppens	Jennifer Kotski
Class of 2024	Kathy Medovich	Bill O'Connell

Clerk of the Vestry      Laura Coppens

**All Members of St. Paul's are Ministers of the Church**