

YOUTH MINISTRY

TODAY: Family - Friendly Picnic & Games on the Common

Bring a blanket and a bite to eat and meet us on the Common after our 10 AM service today (Sunday August 19). As always, all ages are welcome. Even if you can't stay for long, please stop by and say hello.

Join Us Online

Looking for a simple way to connect with other families here at St. Paul's? Sign up for our new Facebook group "**St. Paul's Parents & Family Connection**".

This group is meant to be an online place where we can share ideas, news, advice, laughs... anything we think might help support or encourage each other as parents & families.

To sign up, request an invite at

[https://www.facebook.com/pg/stpaulsrothesaycanada/groups/?ref=page_ternal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/stpaulsrothesaycanada/groups/?ref=page_internal)

Blessing of the Backpacks Service: September 9

School is just around the corner, and many of us (students *and* parents) are busy getting ready for all the excitement and activity that come along with it. Here at St. Paul's, we love to share in the spirit of this season too.

On Sun, **Sep 9** at 10 AM, you are invited to our annual **Blessing of the Backpacks Service**: A time for us to celebrate and pray with Students & Teachers as a new school year begins. So bring your Backpacks to Church September 9, and start the year off blessed.

St. Paul's Sunday School: Resumes September 16

Children ages 3+ are invited to join our St. Paul's Sunday School, located in our Christian Education Centre downstairs, and beginning at 9:50 AM Sunday mornings during the service.

Our Sunday School gives children an opportunity to sing, hear engaging stories, make cool crafts and make new friends, all while learning about Jesus Christ and God's great love for us all.

During the offertory hymn, parents are invited to come downstairs to accompany their children back into the service before the Eucharist.

Our Nursery Room is also available for parents with younger children, but all children are welcome to stay upstairs and worship with their families too. We have plenty of activities ready for them in our St. Paul's Activity Centre (by the doors to the lobby).

Once a month we will be having *All-Together Services* in which our Sunday School will remain upstairs with the rest of the congregation, giving us all a chance to learn and experience worship together with our whole Church family.

For more information, please contact our Family & Youth Minister: the Rev'd. (Deacon) Rob Montgomery rob.montgomery@anglican.nb.ca

PARISH NOTES

Blessing of the Animals

A Blessing of the Animals Service will take place at St. Paul's on **Saturday, September 29th at 2 p.m.** Everyone is invited come come along with their animals on that day to receive a blessing. We will be gathering in the space outside between the church and hall, weather permitting. The animals in our lives are such a blessing to us. Following the example of St. Francis, we will praise God for creation and ask God to bless our animal companions. Even if you don't have an animal to bring, you're still very welcome to attend this service. All creatures - great and small - will be blessed.

Parish Pilgrimage 2020

There have been a number of people who have expressed interest in joining a potential parish pilgrimage in 2020. Our main goal would be to see the Passion Play in Oberammergau but also to visit other cities in Germany, Austria and possibly beyond. There will be an information session for all those interested on **Tuesday, September 4th, at 7:30 p.m** in St. Clement's Room (downstairs). Attendance does not constitute a commitment to join. We will be exploring possible destinations, associated costs, as well as gathering questions.

The Dog Days of Summer

Dexter the Beagle and Gertrude the Basset Hound (as well as their humans, Fr. Paul and Kath, respectively) will be keeping office hours on **Wednesday, August 22, 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.** Parishioners who would like to meet with any of the above are invited to drop by the office on that day.

Parish Visioning Day

Our Parish Visioning Day is scheduled for **October 6th, approx. 9am - 3 pm**. It's important to state that the purpose of this day is not to make sweeping changes to our parish or the way we operate. It's simply a good thing, on a regular basis, to step back and assess where we are and where God wants us to be. There are numerous goals for our time together that day. First of all, it will be a time for us to celebrate our strengths and to give thanks for the many wonderful things God is doing through us, both within and outside our walls right now. Secondly, it will be an opportunity to identify growth areas which need more attention. And thirdly, you will have a chance together to dream about what our common ministry might look like in the future. Above all, this will be a day of listening - to God and one another. Please make plans to come along.

Summer Coffee Hour

We are in need of volunteers to assist with coffee hour during the month of August. Please consider helping out. Grab a couple of friends and sign up on the sheet in the lobby. If you have any questions, please call Ann Smith at 847-3722.