Bon Samaritan School • Christian Education • Music at St. Paul's • Family Promise • Seek{ers}
Vacation Bible School • Daughters of the King • Worship • Jumble Sale • Prayer Shawl Ministry
Brotherhood of St. Andrew • St. Paul's Day School • CROS Ministries • Paul's Place • Pastoral Care
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I M P A C T

Our Ministries at St. Paul's

The first in a series of reports on St. Paul's ministries and outreach, each of which are funded by parishioners' annual pledges and contributions.

A Rich Heritage of Worship Is at the Heart of St. Paul's Ministries

Over the past **111 years** St. Paul's evolved from a small Episcopal mission in what was a remote, isolated area of this southeastern Florida coast, to operate today as a vibrant parish in Delray Beach. Today, St. Paul's is a spiritual leader in this community, ambitiously engaged in many successful ministries, and is the oldest continually functioning Episcopal Church in southern Palm Beach County.

St. Paul's congregation in 1904

Since the first formal worship began in 1904, caring parishioners have shared their treasures in offerings and contributions to expand the church and to reach out to those in need. Progress was slowed at times by hurricanes and difficult economic periods.

Due to the faithful support of parishioners over the years, St. Paul's is a place for worship in an extended and widened holy sanctuary. Several buildings have since been added to create the campus that we enjoy today. From and within these structures, led by clergy and staff, we conduct today our worthy ministries.

For the members of the parish, the foremost of our vital ministries is a rich and enduring heritage of the worship of God, Father, Jesus the Son, and Holy Spirit.

Each weekend in our sacred sanctuary and before our altar, we find our inner core as Christians and Episcopalians in the celebration of the Eucharist. In this Holy Sacrament we believe that Jesus is truly present with us. We find a connection with God and with a community both present and yet beyond ourselves.

BAPTISM

We are also worshiping through the many other rites of our Episcopal faith. These rites become milestones in our growth as individuals, as families and as Christians.

We baptize our children.

We receive individuals through confirmation and transfer.

We witness couples begin new lives through the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony.

We are inspired by hymns and music.

We learn from the Word of the Lord.

We offer prayers for those in need.

We conduct the rituals of memorial and burial after death.

While life's cycle is a part of our experience at St. Paul's, it is through these rites and our worshipping together that we are bound together in our community of fellowship.

A few Episcopalians are recorded to be among the first settlers that cleared the dense, sub-tropical growth from an area first called "Linton" which is today bustling Delray Beach. From those first few worshippers, we are today 741 parishioners. Among these are members whose extended families worshipped for decades at St. Paul's, some almost from its beginning; Chapin, Diggans, Kabler, Gracey, Moore, Shealy and Simon, to mention a few. Four Simon brothers, Ernie, Sandy, Charles, and Roy remain in service to the parish and have worshiped here for more than 80 years.

Roy Simon's description of his involvement and devotion to this parish is a model for us all. We give thanks for what he and so many others have done and are doing to perpetuate a radiating spirituality and commitment as we worship together at St. Paul's.

Through Him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge His name. ~ Hebrews 13:15

St. Paul's acolytes and choir lead the Palm Sunday procession.

Can you find Roy Simon in this picture of the St. Paul's Acolytes from years past?

Confirmation

Marriage

O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!
~ Psalm 95:5

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Roy M. Simon • A.I.A. • Architect
architects and planners

September 9, 2015

Fellow Parishioners of St. Paul's, Delray Beach, Florida:

With devoted Christian parents, our home was a place of prayer, Faith, and service to God. My grand-father, an ordained priest, and my God-Father, the Bishop of the Syrian Orthodox Church in America, recommended that we attend the Episcopal Church, since there was no Eastern Orthodox in Delray. When I was about four years old, I began attending St. Paul's Episcopal Mission and was awed by the God-like Dr. Brewster Hubbs, our Pastor. That is how St. Paul's became my place to be.

In 1939, in response to my Sunday school teacher's request, I began my career as acolyte and crucifer, as well as a member of the choir, and continued this service until leaving for college in 1948. I was privileged to serve as acolyte for our Mission Pastor, Bishop William Moreland, our first Rector, the Reverend Charles Farrar, and the Rt. Reverend Henry Louttit, our Diocesan Bishop.

My involvement in the activities of St Paul's continued to expand through the years. When St. Paul's Mission became a Parish in 1946, the Reverend Charles Farrar was called to be our first Rector, and he set about many changes to upgrade St. Paul's, including the need for Acolytes and servers, since I was the only Acolyte/server and was performing at all services. Reverend Farrar instituted a training program for Acolytes and installed me as the instructor. At one period in 1947, Reverend Farrar became ill, and instructed me to conduct the Sunday Family Services for several weeks until he recovered (he provided me with sermons); hence I became a Lay Reader.

Upon graduation from college in 1953, I returned to St. Paul's choir while awaiting the call to active duty in the Air Force, and upon discharge from military duty in 1956, I rejoined the choir for the next 30 plus years.

In1959 I was elected to the Vestry and served under Reverend Marland Zimmerman and his successor, Reverend Stiles Lines. Two decades later I was elected to serve on the Vestry under The Reverend Donald Clawson, serving as Junior Warden. Early in his administration Reverend Clawson initiated the position of Chalice Bearer, and had three of us appointed by the Bishop to serve. All three of us were Lay Readers and members of the choir, as well.

With each progression of assignments, I felt closer to God. I believe that I have experienced Spiritual growth and growth in my Faith through my service to God and St. Paul's. I feel that I have served my church well as a member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, as a Lay Person, and in my professional capacity as an architect. And I feel blessed to have been able to do so.

Roy M. Simon

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