

# Annual Report 2016



## RECTOR'S REPORT

I want to take this opportunity to tell you how grateful I am to be serving as the seventh Rector of St. Paul's! 2016, my first full year serving as your rector, was truly a memorable one. It is an incredible joy and privilege for Irene and I to be a part of this loving, welcoming, and active parish family. The following report is an attempt to highlight some of the many wonderful events and initiatives that made 2016 so special.

### **Vision 2020 Strategic Plan**

Beginning in January with our small group Meet & Greets, we, as a parish, entered into a strategic visioning process that will culminate with the publication of our Vision 2020 Strategic Plan. This will be a living, transformative document that will help to guide us through the intricacies of our common life over the next four years. Through our strategic visioning process, we were able to craft new mission and vision statements that reflect the joys and challenges of our mutual call to discipleship in this ever-changing community and wider world. Our Vision 2020 Strategic Plan is focused on achieving five goals: Growth in Membership, Enhancing Our Spiritual Vitality, Increasing Opportunities for Fellowship, Outreach to Those Broken by Life Circumstances, and Strengthening Our Christian Education and Spiritual Formation.

### **Clergy and Staff**

In 2016 we had several transitions in our pastoral staff. In May, we celebrated the ministry of three incredible parish staff members: Patti Daniell, who retired after serving 26 years in our Day School, 23 of them as Director; Bill Hurd, who retired after serving 17 years as our Parish Administrator; and Mary Herin, who ended her two-year term serving as our Interim-Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry. These three "good and faithful servants" left a legacy of kindness and compassion that will be felt for generations to come!

With the support of our Vestry, we were able to welcome seven new incredible people to our parish staff: Liz Ryan, our Day School Director; Caren Kilpatrick, our Parish Administrator; Deacon Helen Trainor, our vocational deacon; Isabel Hernandez our Coordinator for Church School and Children, Youth, and Family Activities; Taylor Kilpatrick, the Assistant Director of our Paul's Place After-school program; Gracie Aho, a new teacher in our Day School; and Dieula "Titi" Alexis (a graduate of Paul's Place), who is working with our Day School "Stay and Play" extended care program. After an extensive search to hire a part-time director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry, our Vestry and I, after much discernment, realized that God was calling us to reimagine and restructure this vital parish ministry. We asked The Rev. Kathleen Gannon, our Associate Rector, to devote a significant amount of her time to directing this effort. She embraced this new opportunity, and is currently serving as our Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry, where she works closely with Isabel Hernandez, our newest staff member. Rev. Kathleen, our seven new staff members, and our other clergy and lay staff members are truly our greatest parish resource!

### **New Initiatives in 2016**

In addition to sustaining many of our flourishing ministries and outreach partnerships, in 2016 we initiated new ministries, while revitalizing and reimagining others.

- Lay Healing Ministry: Our worship has been enhanced with the addition of a healing rite offered monthly at each of our weekend services. We have trained and commissioned six new lay healing ministers who provide intercessory prayer and anointing for the well-being of our congregants.
- Community-wide Blessing of Animals: In October, we partnered with the Delray Beach Children's Garden to celebrate a Blessing of Animals for our parish members and the wider community. It was yet another way that St. Paul's reached out to serve the greater good of Delray Beach.
- New Church School Initiatives: In June, we began "Popcorn and Parables," a summer supplement to our Church School program. Since the Fall, our Church School has partnered with the Children's Garden to offer opportunities for our children to integrate nature and care for our environment into their faith formation. We also integrated a choir program and drama into our Church School, encouraging our children "to make a joyful noise unto the Lord," and experience Scripture through re-enacting stories from the Bible.
- Book Group: For adults, we added a new book club, the "Off the Ave Book Group" which offers opportunities for compelling conversations around contemporary best-sellers.
- Seekers Strategic Plan: Our vibrant Seekers Ministry for young adults in their 20s and 30s began a strategic planning process of their own over the summer. This plan has led to the creation of a leadership council. It will give birth to initiatives that will enable Seekers to grow their membership and help this ministry to meet the needs of young adults in the coming years.
- Mental Health First-Aid: In the ever-vital area of pastoral care, we continue to build on many vibrant ministries such as our Lay Eucharistic Visitors and our Prayer Shawl Ministry. In addition to introducing our new monthly healing ministry, in 2016 we partnered with the National Alliance on Mental Illness and Jewish Family & Children's Services to offer to our parish and the wider community a two-day seminar on mental health first-aid. As we look ahead, we look forward to revitalizing our Stephen Ministry, as we continue to respond to Christ's call to be his healing and comforting presence in the world.
- Let's Do Lunch: In the Spring, we responded to the expressed desire for more social opportunities by creating our "Let's Do Lunch" program, at which we welcome people to enjoy great food with a side of fellowship and interesting presentations on a variety of topics!
- Foyer Groups: In response to the call for more small group social gatherings, we introduced Foyer Groups. These dinner groups offer both couples and singles the opportunity to gather together to enjoy good food and conversation.

### **Sustaining Active Ministries in 2016**

As a community that embraces our Baptismal Covenant to "seek and serve Christ in all persons," we continued to support vital ministries in our community and beyond. In January of 2016, we celebrated the grand opening of the Delray Beach Children's Garden, a teaching garden that offers a variety of programs on indigenous plant life, the environment, and sustainability. Our Paul's Place after-school program continues to thrive, serving as a model for public and faith-based partnerships to the benefit of our children. Paul's Place recently

won the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Leadership Award for Outstanding Organization from Palm Beach State College. In 2016, we expanded our collaboration with the Blessed James Holly Haitian Episcopal Mission in Delray. In addition to worshipping together on various holidays, we gave support to a Thanksgiving Day meal for the homeless that was sponsored by Blessed James Holly. We continue to partner with and support other community outreach organizations, including: C.R.O.S Ministries, Family Promise, Episcopal Charities of Southeast Florida, Habitat 4 Humanity, and the South County Recovery Residence Association. We also continue to support and partner with international outreach organizations, including: Bon Samaritan Church and School, and Kay Timoun orphanage in Bondeau, Haiti, through the South Florida Haiti Project; and the Madagascar Mission in the Diocese of Toliara, East Africa.

### **Sacramental Life in 2016**

As Episcopalians, we are a sacramental people. We celebrate significant life events through our ritual prayer in community. From baptism to burial, we journey the cycle of life together as disciples of Jesus Christ. At St. Paul's in 2016, we welcomed 35 people into the fellowship of Christ through the life-giving waters of Holy Baptism, 11 people were sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit in Confirmation, we received five people into the Episcopal Church from other traditions, five couples were joined together in the bonds of Holy Matrimony, and 31 people were prayerfully commended to the eternal joy of God's kingdom through Christian burial.

### **2016 Finances**

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our parish members and friends, and the good work of our Vestry and Finance Committee, we ended 2016 with a budget surplus of over \$13,000! We were blessed with a tremendous response to our special appeal, which was launched to bridge the income/expense gap after our 2016 stewardship pledge drive ended. Through the generosity of so many, this special appeal, together with our first ever "Trinkets and Treasures" Fall fundraiser, provided us with the critically needed income to meet our expenses. As we look ahead, we anticipate that our 2017 pledges will meet our goal of \$725,000. This pledge income, together with our other budgeted income sources, will allow us to be all that God is calling us to be as a parish without having to make a special appeal in 2017.

### **Real Estate**

Since 1997, St. Paul's has moved some its investment portfolio from stocks, bonds, and interest-bearing accounts into real estate. This forward thinking plan has resulted in land ownership that will allow us to expand our existing facilities, build new facilities, and/or lease some of our real estate holdings in order to generate income to support our ministries in the years ahead. Currently, we own eight lots directly to the west of our main campus. One of the structures on one of the lots serves as a parish storage space. Two other lots serve as over-flow parking areas and a basketball court for our Paul's Place children. One quarter of our total property west of campus is leased to the Delray Beach Children's Garden. Our Real Estate Task Force, formed in 2015, will continue to advise our Vestry as to options for best use of the real estate that we are blessed to own.

### **Looking Ahead**

As we look forward to 2017 and beyond, we do so confident that God is faithful and walks with us at all times. This year, our Lectionary Cycle A for Sunday worship invites us to enjoy the spiritual nourishment of the Gospel according to Matthew. One of the unique features of Matthew's Gospel is Jesus being identified as the "Emmanuel," a name which means "God with us." My prayer for our parish family is that we will live our faith with the courage and blessed assurance that comes from knowing that God is with us always, and that when God sends us to serve in Christ's name, we are never alone.

In Christ, our Emmanuel,  
The Reverend Paul J. Kane, Rector  
7<sup>th</sup> Rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church

# ASSOCIATE RECTOR'S REPORT

When I look back at the year of 2016 it was certainly a year of beginnings and endings.

Our Episcopal Church, our Diocese of Southeast Florida and indeed our congregation culminated a time of change that began as Bishop Michael Curry became the Presiding Bishop on the Feast of All Saints, November 1st and The Rev. Paul Kane became our Rector on December 1st – both as we ended 2015. We bid farewell to the Rt. Rev. Leo Frade as we celebrated his ministry on January 9th and we welcomed our new Bishop Peter Eaton as our Bishop Diocesan on January 30th – both as we began 2016.

For St. Paul's we continued the path as we prepared for the retirement of Bill Hurd as our Parish Administrator, Patricia Daniell as our Day School Director and Mary Herin as Interim Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministry – all properly celebrated on April 22, 2016. In 2016 at St. Paul's we have embraced the new as we welcomed new staff members and as we have worked at hearing God's call to us in the faithful work of our Strategic Planning.

For me personally, 2016 was the year of my Sabbatical. St. Paul's received a Lilly Endowment Clergy Renewal Grant that included both funds for me to travel and funds for St. Paul's to cover some of my roles while I was gone. The experience was extraordinary... I left on February 1st and returned on June 1st which was eleven years to the day that I started at St. Paul's – June 1, 2005!

My Sabbatical journey took me out of Delray Beach for all but a few planned days in that four-month period. I was intentional about being in a different environment and yet determined to return for the retirement celebration in April!

My travels began with time at my alma mater The Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, Virginia, followed by Lent on Long Island, Easter in New York and the time from Easter to Pentecost in England, Scotland and Ireland. My goals were to spend time with family stateside and to breathe some Celtic air across the pond. Before I returned I 'retreated' to the Holy Cross Monastery in upstate New York for some time of reflection before reentering parish life.

I arrived back at St. Paul's in time for Day School Graduation Day, a wonderful week of Vacation Bible School and in time to meet with the youth and mentors from our Journey to Adulthood program as they prepared to depart for their pilgrimage to Canterbury.

As I reentered our parish life, I was glad to reenter the rhythm of life here: prayer, worship, music, service, engagement with the Gospel in such a way that our community is informed and encouraged. I caught up on the continued beginnings and endings, new babies and the passing of elders...

As we are in a time of Strategic Planning, we are striving to hear God's call to us, I want to share just two of the many calls we have heard. Our Seekers Ministry engaged in Strategic Planning over the summer and their work will be folded in to the plan for the congregation. Participation in Seekers has grown this year to about 30 each Sunday and for our special events up to 60 participants, God is blessing this work. It is my privilege to work with the growing leadership team of Seekers.

We are called to reimagine our ministry to Children, Youth and Family. In the last days of 2016, The Rev. Paul Kane and the Vestry asked me to take on the role of Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministry (CYF) and with prayer and discernment, I gladly accept that role. 2017 will be a year of growing engagement with our families – stay tuned!

Respectfully submitted,  
The Rev. Kathleen Gannon, Associate Rector

# PAUL'S PLACE REPORT

During the past 16 years, Paul's Place has remained steadfast in our commitment to bring meaningful services to "at risk" children in the Delray Beach Community. We provide a safe haven for our students, but also to feed, tutor and enrich their lives in as many ways as possible. Paul's Place has transformed into a program that is far more comprehensive than any other after-school program in the area. Our students do not "age out" of the after school.

Current daily enrollment at Paul's Place is 27 students ranging in age from 6-20. In addition, we have college students who continue to arrive at Paul's Place to receive academic counseling, help with financial aid, computer access or just a quiet place to study. It is our hope that our relationship will empower them to successfully navigate through college culminating in the attainment of a college degree.

Here are some of the things that we are currently doing:

- Serving the daily academic needs of our elementary, middle and high school students with separately tailored academic programs guided by staff and loving volunteers, followed by supervised recreational activities and a hot family-style meal
- Earned Friday Field trips
- Providing a music program twice a week. Performances at Thanksgiving, Christmas and Paul's Place Sunday.
- Making regular contact with our students' teachers, guidance counselors and principals
- Guiding parents through critical social services, like obtaining employment, housing and hardship relief
- Identifying scholarship opportunities at private schools for our most driven students
- Funding pre-college assistance, including private SAT/ACT tutoring and college tours
- Providing a Summer Enrichment Program which offers simulated kinds of real-world activities that are intended to prepare our teens for adult responsibilities. Some of the activities include career planning, finding jobs, paying bills, grocery shopping, budgeting, live interviews and managing the curve balls that come in life
- Creating The Paul's Place Scholarship Fund which provides need-based scholarships to our high school graduates as they embark upon a college degree and assistance to our students enrolled in private schools.
- Offering continued assistance to our former students, who are in college (i.e., registration help, academic counseling or quiet study areas)

During 2016 there were some changes in staffing. Taylor Kilpatrick, who grew up at St. Paul's, joined Paul's Place as Assistant Director. She received her Master of Social Work in 2015 from Barry University and has much experience in working with children over the years. During the summer she stepped up to lead the Summer Enrichment Program for our teenage students. Miliene Dallegrand is an assistant who is of Haitian-American descent. She is in the process of completing her degree in Education at FAU. Miliene works closely with all age groups, assists Taylor with the summer program and provides a very important cultural link to our parents. Akeem "Coach" Morrissaint is in his second year with the after school. Not only does he tutor the elementary and middle school students, but he is in charge of recreational activities. It is our firm belief that outdoor time is extremely important for all

students. Kathy Fazio continues as Director and has been with the program in that capacity since 2007.

Paul's Place is unlike any other after-school program. Experience has taught us that changing the fate of these low income students requires more than a safe place to play. It takes an intervention. With that in mind, we are making every effort to influence the positive outcomes of these children. We are grateful to The Clergy, Vestry and Parishioners for always supporting us in our mission.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Fazio, Director of Paul's Place



# DAY SCHOOL REPORT

The Day School banner says “A Child Shall Lead Them” from the 11th Chapter of Isaiah, verse 6. And that is true in lots of different ways! With Jesus guiding St. Paul’s Day School, we are blessed to have many wonderful little leaders as well! Each Tuesday as we march to Chapel, a child will lead us, dressed as the crucifer. They take their job very seriously, holding the cross high! I often have to remind them to smile as I capture their picture. But those smiles are everywhere when we sing praises and pray and play and learn in the Children’s Village that is the Day School!

Reporting for 2016 is slightly different for the Day School than for the church, as our year runs July 1st through June 30th like most schools. So there are portions of two school years included in this narrative. The end of the 2015–2016 year, and the beginning of the 2016–2017 year.

2016 started with beloved Director Patti Daniell preparing to retire after 23 years. I was blessed to be hired to fill her absence and I prepared to step into the role of Director. I spent two months shadowing Patti as she deftly managed the day school and shared her loving and joy-filled spirit with the children and families. What a gift to “learn the ropes” from such a kind, generous and faith-filled soul! One of the things I learned is that the Day School has been blessed to have three very talented teachers, Kathy Yates, Diane Simpson and Moran (Farrell) Miller! They very obviously cared for each of the students in their care and their classes were lively and energetic places!

The enrollment for 2015–16 varied throughout the year, but topped out at 27 children making up two classrooms. 17 in the Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) –4 Yr. old class with Mrs. Yates and Mrs. Miller co-teaching, and 10 in the 3 Yr. old class with Mrs. Simpson teaching.

Numbers tend to change based on economic stability and the availability of schools in the community. Our enrollment was a little lower for 2015–16 because of the number of schools open for preschool in our area (including public elementary schools). A marketing plan was put in place, with ads, social media and signs for local families to see. We encouraged parents with children currently attending to post “reviews” of St. Paul’s Day School on the Facebook page and on Google. The numbers for Fall registration seemed to reflect the success of those measures.

We said “Thank You” and “Happy Retirement” to Mrs. Daniell in June and I became the Director of St. Paul’s Day School – only the third since the Day School’s founding in 1963!

Our enrollment for the 2016–17 year showed an increase...allowing us to move Mrs. Miller into her own classroom, giving us two VPK classes and one 3 yr. old class. We started with 18 VPK students (9 in each classroom) and a full roster of 12 three year olds. (We later added 4 more VPK students bringing us to capacity in that age group in Jan. 2017.) Mrs. Simpson announced her intention to retire at the end of this school year and so we made plans to hire another teacher for the 3 yr. old class. In December, we hired Ms. Gracie Aho, who comes to us with a passion for teaching young children as well as a background working with children with special needs. (Ms. Aho started in January of 2017, shadowing Mrs. Simpson, allowing us to



have a seamless transition in the 3 yr. old class when Mrs. Simpson retires. Her presence also allowed us to add 3 students to the 3yr. old class.) Our enrollment stands at 37!

We are proud that we have been able to provide scholarships to several children who might not otherwise have been able to attend St. Paul's Day School. In the '15-'16 school year there were 6 children who received partial scholarships and in the '16-'17 year there are 5 children. The amounts vary by need and are approved by the Day School Board.

Another change that came along was the need for Mrs. Miller to give up her extended hours for "Stay 'n' Play" to assist her husband with his family's business. We hired an alumna of Paul's Place who is an adult now, Dieula "Titi" Alexis, and she provides the additional adult support needed from 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM, assisting in clerical duties while I supervise "Rest time". She also helps with playground supervision when all the children are up from their naps.

The Day School has been a very busy place, with visits from Ms. Ginger the Dental Hygienist, Engine #112 and the crew from the Delray Beach Fire Department, and The Animal Kindness Unit from the Palm Beach County Sherriff's Department. That's not even mentioning our walks to the Delray Beach Children's Garden and our monthly science enrichment program visits from High Touch, High Tech!

All of this work is supported by a terrific, dedicated group of people who make the Day School a happy place to learn! "It takes a village" and the "village" who help us give the children a special place to attend preschool include: Our teachers (Mrs. Yates, Mrs. Simpson, Ms. Aho and Mrs. Miller); Our priests, Fr. Paul Kane, Reverend Kathleen Gannon and Fr. David Angelica (who make Chapel a holy and special time in our week); Dr. Keith Paulson-Thorpe (who has given us beautiful and joyful music each week and whom we will miss terribly!); Caren Kilpatrick who keeps track of our income for the school; the Day School Board who lend their time and talents at every opportunity - Jennifer Kilpatrick and Sherry Fleming, Co-Chairs, Tippi Breakwell, Joanne Grubman, Carolyn Helm, Catherine Hinds, Isabel Hernandez, Tania Shelley and Michelle Warden (we are so grateful for their ideas, helping hands, and tireless support); and the attention and care of Mr. Roscoe Campbell and Mr. Brian Geraghty. (Who have been known to come to the rescue when "messes" occur without warning!)

We're all - the families, the teachers and I - so blessed to have this space in this place! As we pray for the people of St. Paul's church, we ask your continued prayer that each child will develop a lifelong love of learning, and that they may know the importance of following Jesus and being kind to all!

Respectfully submitted,  
Elizabeth "Liz" Ryan, Day School Director

# MUSIC MINISTRY REPORT

As I prepare for retirement, I can look back at ten wonderful years of ministry with the people of St. Paul's. The staff has been incredibly warm and collegial, always willing to help each other to get things done. Our priests make it a joy to make music in our liturgies, but it is truly the amazing congregation that makes it all worthwhile. I have been privileged to work with such loving and Christian people.

Our new Director of Music Ministries, Dr. Paul Cienniwa, is a remarkable musician, and a charming, kind and most capable person. I know you will welcome and embrace him as you have me, and I am confident that with his guidance, the music at our parish will remain prayerful, vibrant, and uplifting. We are fortunate to have him joining the team.

Words fail me in describing how much I have loved working with the St. Paul's choir. So many of our choristers give of themselves beyond what could ever be expected. And many have stepped up to assist in the transition, including Anita Smith and Mary Catherine Salo. Sandy Norman, Emily Carter, and Don Jones also served on the search committee. A special thanks this year goes to Glen Rovinelli and Allen Webber for having written some inspiring works for us to perform, and to Glen Rovinelli, Allen Webber and Marie Ridolfo for their performances on a variety of instruments that enhance our worship experience.

The Music at St. Paul's concert series continues in its 29th season, providing affordable concerts to the South Palm Beach community. Special acknowledgment must go to Brigitte Kumpf whose tireless efforts have insured that the concerts work smoothly. We have been able to present the best of local artists, including our wonderful choir, as well as performers of international renown – such as the sumptuous concert by “Fuoco E Cenere” in November, presenting music they had performed for the acclaimed French public broadcasting series Versailles. The concert series remains in the black, financially, but with a significant number of our larger donors having departed this life recently, there will be challenges in the year ahead.

The Saturday afternoon Illuminated Worship has been blessed throughout my tenure at St. Paul's with the talents of Larry Mellone, Anita Smith, and Fred Weng. They provide continually some of the best liturgical jazz playing around, and it has been an honor to work with them.

Thank you for the many blessings of these past ten years!

Respectfully submitted,  
Dr. Keith A. Paulson-Thorp, Director of Music Ministries