

## We're Back! Or Are we?

We had a great time restarting coffee hour in May, then...Covid made its restart, too.

Meantime, we are being cautious and are following CDC guidelines, praying for another restart, the theme of this edition of Pathways. These pictures were taken in July by Charlene Connolly (except for the one she's in, which was taken by Lee Perry).

Top photo, L-r Brad Estes, Jodi Clair, Phyllis Estes, Sharon Carnell, Joyce Cashin, Steve Carnell and Andy Heisinger.

Middle photo, Fr. Tom, Charlene and Tom Connolly and Jan and Rich Shea.

Bottom photo, clockwise from lower left Evie, Paulette and Gary Dickerson, Michelle Bright, Anne Kinsley, Laurie Harvey and Barbara Pearce.



## Inside

Sacred ground.....	2
We need to talk.....	2
Pondering restart.....	3
From the vestry.....	4
How to reboot.....	5
Her short, bald date.....	7
Letter to Mother.....	8

# Toward a beloved community

By Steve Carnell

Sharon and I recently completed Sacred Ground—a dialogue on faith and race. It's a 10-part series produced by the Episcopal Church as part of its Beloved Community initiative. We took the course via Zoom with 25 other people, most of whom live in Naples.

The course includes a number of readings and videos that detail the story of America and the horrific subjugation of various people groups to form and expand the new nation.

Among the “lowlights:”

Ø The first settlers taking lands from native American tribes to the chattel slavery of pre-Civil War America; and

Ø The continental expansion of the 19th century where native Americans were forced to leave their ancestral lands and native Mexicans were compelled to become U.S. citizens, but not afforded the rights and protections of citizenship; and

Ø Forcibly “mainstreaming” native American children into white culture, requiring them to forsake their ancestry; and

Ø Segregating black children into “colored” and poorly funded schools; and

Ø Placing black men alongside whites in the front lines of World War II, but largely excluding them from important transformational post-War veterans benefits such as the GI Bill.

One might hope that the passage of civil rights legislation and other legal protections over the past 60 years has remedied the problem. But as we see in our world today and as we learned in the class, tremendous inequities still exist, many of which stem from the inequities of the past.

For many in the class, learning about our history in such a focused and honest manner was eye opening and troubling. To help us process all



of this, we would break into small groups during each session and discuss what we had learned, share our own life experiences and what we might change in our lives moving forward. I found these discussions to be extremely helpful in my own journey to come to grips with all of this and to figure out what I and others can do to promote authentic equality. The challenge is overwhelming, but the opportunities to make a difference are plentiful.

The Sacred Ground series isn't ultimately about what it means to be black, Hispanic, native American or any other minority demographic. It's ultimately more about what it means to be white in America and to be a follower of Jesus Christ in a nation caught in tribalism and stark inequality. For me, one of the most compelling sessions was centered on understanding the challenges that white, working class people face today and how accusations of racism against them often don't accurately explain or reflect what they believe.

The Sacred Ground course isn't about hating America. It's about loving our country and each other enough to work to make it more Christlike. If you're interested in learning more about Sacred Ground, please let me know or call the church office.

## We need to talk!

By Tom Connolly

Does hearing the phrase, “critical race theory” tie your gut into knots? We need to talk. Are you convinced America is a racist country through and through? We need to talk. Doubt there's such a thing as “white privilege?” Please, let's talk.

Who can best lead this talk? The Episcopal Church was born in the midst of a great struggle involving the very oath of ordination taken by all its clergymen. That vow set them politically against those in the pews bent on overturning the vow priests took to be faithful and loyal to the crown.

Four score and seven years later brother went to battle against brother in the Civil War. The Episcopal Church again took up the hard

work of reconciliation after the cessation of war. Church leaders, lay and ordained, had to discuss what amounts to politics, a word feared mightily in church circles. One might think that the 11th Commandment is “Do not mix politics and religion.”

But consider: Politics is the art of men and women coming together to agree on a social contract, the ways in which we wish all to behave for the betterment of all. How can church refrain from politics? It hasn't, shouldn't and won't.

Karl Barth said a preacher should preach with one hand on the bible and the other on the newspaper. The church has to know what is happening in society and what

*Continued on Page 3*

# Let's talk

From Page 2

underlying myths and actions cause us to behave and believe as we do. That behavior has to be compared and contrasted to what we profess in the name of Jesus.

Steeped as she is in navigating perilous shoals (and, coincidentally, led\* by a Black man, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry) the Episcopal Church offers a powerful resource for dealing with one of the current culture wars, race.

Like Steve and Sharon Carnell, (please read Steve's piece, *Toward a beloved community*, on Page 2), 10,000 persons have participated in the church's "Sacred Ground." It is a ten-part series of videos, papers and discussions on race and racism.

Nora Broszeit and I, and perhaps others, would like to facilitate such a discussion group at St. Paul's. What will be said at these discussions will be kept in confidence and all views will be respected. Even if you firmly believe you don't have a racist bone in your body, you are a candidate for participation in this educational series. If you think all of this is part of some Marxist movement, come with an open mind, and just for the facts. Telling the truth is never an ideology, but suppressing it almost certainly always is.

Let's get political! But *not* partisan.

Finally, there is a ton of quick-read and quick-view material on our website, where you can also signal your intention to join us this fall:

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

\* Led not like a pope, who has full and final say, but rather as a symbol of unity.

# Pondering a restart

By Dan Fischer

Greetings from the bucolic north fork of Long Island, where I spend the other half of my snow-birding. A favorite pastime is to sit on our back porch overlooking the Long Island Sound and watch the sun set. It is a daily kaleidoscope that changes by the second. Such displays of nature's beauty is a heavenly harbinger of something we don't always think of because of the magnificence right before us. The day is ending and is laying out the plans for a new beginning, a reboot or a restart.

We all have reboots and restarts in our life. Many times they are marked by emotional or seismic events. I cannot help but think of the life our own beloved St. Paul who 'saw the light' so to speak as relayed in Acts 9. Paul was a zealous persecutor of Christians. The metamorphosis to a follower of Jesus Christ, believer and leader of the faith is extraordinary. Talk about restarts!

If one visits a twelve-step program meeting as I did as part of my Masters program, you will hear of many astounding restarts. But not all restarts are as dramatic as Paul's. Not all restarts require sinking to the depths of degradation to 'see the light.'

One of the truly consistent things I have noticed about restarts is the root of the change. I am reminded of the passage ( Mt. 2:12 ) where the three wise men "returned by a different route." We may have not noticed the significance there. ANYONE who meets Jesus will never return the same way. Meeting Jesus in person as they had, or in our hearts of faith, we are automatically and systematically changed, never to return to our old ways again. We act differently, see things differently, we love more expansively. It really is a restart.

How do we restart or reboot ourselves without being struck by lightning or by blessedly surviving the pure evils of addiction of some sort?

In the Roman Church of my youth, the sacrament of Confession was instrumental in this. It is an opportunity for the penitent to assess their life and actions while showing a vulnerability to God and a willingness to reboot, restart and begin fresh again in the loving arms of God. That would be the ideal.

I was blessed to discover "Confession" as a chat on the pastor's front porch, discussing ways I failed to emulate Christ, perhaps why I had done one thing or another, or hadn't done what the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation were calling me to do. How had I not honored my commitment to the Lord?

In the case of confession, which really is a self-evaluation and repentance to facilitate a restart in our life, we humble ourselves and acknowledge a lack of light in some part of our life. We are asking for what St. Paul had, we want to see the light, be converted to The Way, even if we have already claimed to have done so.

Part of the common practice of watching sunsets here is really a communal meditation on the beauty of our world, our life and thankfulness for all we have been graced with. If we can see the glorious lights bouncing on the horizon before us, we can also hope for the opportunity of the new day approaching us. We can have a restart in the Lord, a new opportunity to hope, love and evangelize in deed what we profess in our hearts.

# From your vestry

*Brief, but important*

**By Rich Shea**

After a one-month Summer hiatus, the vestry met on Thursday, August 19. This gathering contained good news, important decisions and even a few guests...which are always welcome.

As Father Tom said, we are very happy with the returning attendance at the Eucharist and at Coffee Hour. Following the dark days of the pandemic, you never know what life will be like. But we are having a good attendance in person and a few zooming in. And that is the heart of the matter...the communal celebration of our Saint Paul's community. So please, everyone, keep coming and praying and singing.

We felt a little like Santa Claus as we approved some capital im-

provements, all funded by special donations. The Saint Paul's sign out front on Davis Boulevard will be refurbished and cleaned up, the



kitchen electrical system will be upgraded (no tripped fuses when we make two pots of coffee), the security system in the Church, Parish Hall and Serson Hall will be enhanced, some paving around the property will be repaired, and tah dah!, a new riding lawn mower will be purchased to make life easier for our wonderful group of God's Gardeners.

Financially we are definitely holding our own and then some and all of our generous members of Saint Paul's Community can share in the credit for that. We are certainly running ahead of the dark days of last year so please continue your crucial generosity.

Maybe the most exciting news is that we have added new members to our community this Summer, including a couple who are young and tech savvy and others with some very important gifts which we are tapping into already. And almost every week we see new familiar faces who are returning from up North and from Covid quarantine.

One final note: we will be looking for candidates for next year's vestry. The main requirements will be a hefty amount of common sense, a love of Saint Paul's, and a willingness to be a pledging member of our parish. So put that possibility into your daily prayer.

-O-

Minutes of our vestry meetings are posted on the website:

<https://www.saintpaulsnaples.org>

## Got any ideas?

Fr. Tom asked vestry members to bring to September's meeting at least one solid suggestion to be incorporated into St. Paul's long range plan. Steve Carnell, chairman of the planning group, was on hand to offer his help in translating suggestions into action plans.

It would be a good time for all parishioners to think about how they would institute, change or enhance any of our programs and practices and have a chat with a vestry member about your ideas.

Vestry members are Dave Abernethy, Judy Allen, Don Anderson, Richard Breithaupt, Nora Broszeit, Joyce Cashin, Dick Emerson, Van Geog-hegan, and Rich Shea. Fr. Tom is a member ex officio.

It is always appropriate to approach any member of the vestry with your ideas and suggestions.

## Stewardship leader needed

After her long tenure as leader of the parish stewardship ministry, Linda Connelly is willing to break in her replacement. Stewardship is a year-round ministry with special emphasis in the fall and early in the new year.

Stewardship is that function that asks parishioners to give of themselves, through talent and treasure, for the betterment of their church.

The Episcopal Church provides much in the way of training resources for stewardship. In fact, there is a stewardship workshop in our diocese on Saturday, Aug. 28. If you have even just a slight inkling this job is for you, why not spend a couple of hours learning about stewardship? The workshop is on Zoom, and here's the link: <https://www.episcopalswfl.org/Congregations/stewardship.html>

Linda will be focusing her time and attention on the resumption of her career in commercial banking.



**Pathways** is published periodically by and for members and friends of St. Paul's. Aside from the few copies printed by the office and mailed to those without access to computers, no church funds are used in its production.

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We would be very happy to add your name to this list!

# How folks would reboot church

## Judy Allen:

I am delighted that we are getting back to "normal" with our services. I also hope we continue streaming the services for those who can't attend in person. I would like to see musical instruments at our EOW (Enriching our Worship; neither Rite I nor Rite II) Sunday.

## Dan Fischer:

I often find that the music is older and more traditional than my taste. This could be a result of the demographics of our community (or of Florida in general). I have attended services at many faith communities over the years and several have had nuances to songs or specially created songs in place of traditional spoken or sung prayers. An example of one was a rather unique Our Father - that was in a Roman Catholic Church. We do not have the benefit, or need for multiple services like a large parish might have but perhaps we could have alternating styles of music with a different musical group on certain weekends?

Inclusivity—I have always felt very welcome here as a gay man. In fact, many people have gone out of their way to even welcome my husband (who is Jewish). I would love to see a visible sign of inclusiveness by a use of a rainbow flag, or a message or banner that might say, "God welcomes all, so do we." This could go a long way to increasing attendance, perhaps even lowering the median age of our congregation.

I would also like to see some courses that deal specifically with educating people about the so-called clobber passages that are often misused to demean and stigmatize LGBTQ people. This could also focus on gay positive examples in the Bible. Through history scripture has been used to support slavery, control women and other minorities.

## Vox Populi

In planning this issue of Pathways Tom Connolly and I were thinking of ways to address the idea of "restarting" after more than a year of isolation and separation due to Covid restrictions. It seemed like a great opportunity to initiate programs or change some that exist. We chose not to make up our own list, but instead to conduct a poll of sampled fellow and fellowesses (I know, but there should be), parishioners.

So I wrote up a letter basically asking a random number (24 in all) of St. Paul congregants. "What new or altered 'things' would you like to see in place as our church moves into this 'restart' phase?"

Herewith are the responses.

--Ken Eastlack

I would like to look into the idea of our support for Naplespride.org, the headquarters of which is probably less than a mile away on Airport-Pulling Road. Perhaps an option for volunteers?

I can see the idea of a covered walkway along the side of the church as a positive idea. If this is even feasible, perhaps it could incorporate a solar roof to offset in some way our electric costs?

**Bob and Judy Daniels had this to say:**

Thank you for including us in the poll. We are seasonal residents of Naples. We would enjoy more opportunity for small group discussion on social issues with other members.

**Michael and Marilyn Grindstaff replied:**

I would really like it if the main service could be at 10:30 a.m. When we first started at St. Paul's, there were three services, an early service without music, a 9:30 service for the congregation that Fr. Tara folded into St. Paul's, and then the 10:45. I think the 9:00 off-season service time was a compromise between the early and late service folks.

We will probably never return to two full-time priests and three

services again. Still, I wonder how many parishioners would favor a later service time. If we ever take a poll, I would recommend that this subject be included.

Chanting is uplifting if done well. I'm not a hide-bound conservative in any context, but I miss the beauty of chanting. I also miss the canticles of Morning Prayer, but I don't want to go back to that service. I'm not recommending it for St. Paul's, but I would like to hear Compline again someday, somewhere.

Please excuse the excessive rambling. I will still be a happy camper even if these things don't come about.

**Joan Farmer adds:**

I am more "high church" Anglican than the average parishioner at St. Paul's. Chanting the Eucharist sounds great to ME!! Having a daily Mass (like the Romans do) with the Eucharist or at least an extra Mass during the week.

Perhaps some prayers could be posted for our use—all types, adoration, etc. Or at least some references for the different types of prayers. We need to pray for one another!

More activities would be good too.

*Continued on Page 6*

# What would you change?

From previous page

I don't know if Tai Chi is still being taught/practiced right now. I think we used to begin in November. I know I want to get back into that practice. Yoga would be another good practice and perhaps an exercise program for both sexes together would be fun!

Activities might involve expanding our minds; perhaps puzzles, card games, things to improve cognition, which deteriorates for most of us aging adults. We all are probably concerned about getting dementia.

**Mary Lou Dogoloff had these thoughts:**

I would like St. Paul's to continue many of the accommodations made during the pandemic even though I understand the extra work this entails. I find the online Sunday service, Sunday bulletin, and printed sermon text helpful. The bulletin allows me to read the blurbs about the readings ahead of time so I can process the readings better at Church. I often share the sermons with others and frequently reread them to better understand. I also think the online service is a blessing for those who are incapacitated.

I am a fan of "By Request" and find the verses and commentary both enlightening and helpful. I would like to see it continue (but again, more work).

As you know, when God's Gardeners meets, we often have the opportunity to ask questions about a range of issues from driveway repaving to the history of the bell to the origin of various rituals/customs related to the Sunday service. Perhaps, from time to time, the Bulletin could include a Q and A or "Ask the Rector" piece to address some of them.

I love the idea of a cover of some sort between the Church and Hall or some kind of umbrella availability. I've seen a few falls on the sidewalk

and also wonder whether there is some cost-effective device that might help (perhaps a railing).

I am very grateful to St. Paul's for providing what I consider a welcoming, spiritually nurturing, and supportive community and I look forward to a "restart" that preserves these features while adding others to both sustain and further its mission.

**David Entner would like:**

Kneel at the altar for Eucharist.

**Gene and Susie Bartley suggest:**

We would like the healing station at the back of the church or a healing service to return.

More promotion of St. Paul's and its programs at the farmers' market might attract new members. Concerts and lecture programs might also attract younger members.

**Lee Barron lists:**

Activity night. Game day/night? From puzzles to dominos...

Craft day/night. Those who know a craft could either teach a class (How about a dance class?) Those who craft get together and whatever we make we sell at the Farmers' Market.

A full parking lot of vendors again for Farmers' Market.

How about a church picnic either at the church or a park? Everyone could bring their own food.

A one-day "Fall Cleaning" where everyone comes to really clean things, for example, the tables in Trinity Hall need to be scrubbed clean. We could use help polishing the silver used for the Sunday Services. The altar should be refinished. The top is S000 chipped, scratched, and scuffed.

How about a row of rakers from the school fence out to the parking lot. With 10 people raking we'd get rid of a lot of those leaves that blow

into the gardens.

Does anybody still like square dance anymore?

Bring back the Trivia contest!

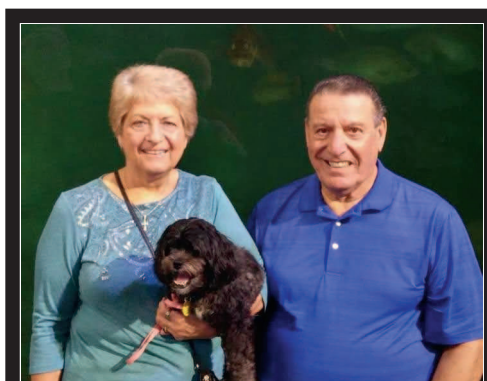
I'd like to see the church try to get the public involved (to potentially draw new people in!). How about a town-wide apple pie, chocolate chip cookie, chili, or fried chicken, etc. taste contest. (Or even just among church members) We could invite some noteworthy (?) people to judge (Father Tom of course). The Mayor? A known car dealership person? A newscaster from Wink news? People who might attract others to attend... (Prizes??)

Again, inviting the public, how about a hot dog or chicken wing or pie eating contest? What would the winner get?

[Ken's reply: all the hot dogs, chicken wings and/or pie they ate! Tom's reply: plus all the regrets for having participated!]

**Carol Tracy offered:**

I would like to return to a 10 a.m. service, or at least 9:30. As a member of the altar guild, I have really enjoyed having only one service.



## In Memoriam

Funeral services will be held at St. Paul's at 11 a.m. Sept. 4 for Anthony Cimaglia, who with his wife Judy attended St. Paul's many years. He died July 22 after a long illness. R.I.P. Anthony.

# A chat with our master gardener

By Jan Shea

A zip-lining grandma... and God's Gardener. These two phrases begin to encapsulate the person who is Diane Breithaupt. But there is more.

Born on a small island off the coast of Victoria, B.C., she began her education in a two-room school. One room had first through sixth graders, the other high schoolers. When her parents moved east to Montreal at age 16, it was an amazing adjustment. Not only because it was a big city, but it was a French city. All of a sudden, she had to speak French or not pass the grade; she made it.

After high school, she and her girlfriends would go to parties in groups with boys from McGill. One night at a fraternity ball, her friends fixed her up with an alum in town, a blind date. On the way they tried to prepare her, saying he was a bit short, a little bald, and slightly chubby. But he was such a great guy and what the heck, it would only be one night, then he would go back to New York.

When they got to the party she kept looking around for a bald, short, chubby guy who was by himself. No luck, there was only this really tall, good looking guy who was obviously looking for his unknown blind date. And that is how she met Dick Breithaupt. At the end of the evening, he said to her, "I am going to marry you." She gave him the 1960s equivalent of "Yea, right."

But he persisted. It took a year of long distance phone calls, letters and a half dozen in-person weekends, but as soon as he finished his last year at Columbia Law School, their banns were read in church, they married and spent their honeymoon driving to Denver for his first job. She was 19.

They lived in Denver raising two girls, Tori, and Tina. Once the kids were in elementary school, she and a woman friend began a business of in-house painting called Persnickety Painters. They advertised once and the rest was word of mouth. For 18 years, they showed up, finished on time, came in at budget, cleaned up, and found they loved the work.



*Top: Jan, left, and Diane in the St. Francis garden.*

*Left: Our bride and her not so short, not so chubby hubby.*



When retirement time rolled around, Dick and Di toured the country to find home. They did a circle from Denver through North Carolina to Key West around to Texas and then back to Denver. Lucky for us, Naples won and they arrived in 2002 and came to St. Paul's in 2005. Soon after settling in, Diane surveyed the grounds around the church and decided to get to work.

As a master gardener, she has learned what will and what will not thrive in our tropical climate. Until Covid, it was Diane and five men who did the work. Covid has brought in a few women volunteers (She calls them her angels). But picture this, Saint Paul's people, there she is digging in the dirt, weeding and transplanting in July and August. Diane says simply, "I do it for God." And she means it.

When she is not spending Thursday mornings in God's Garden, Diane does yoga and Pilates. She volunteers at the master gardeners' extension center. She and Dick do lots of traveling. One trip was a cruise to Alaska with a grandchild for a tenth birthday present, a tradition with their grandchildren. That was where the zip-lining took place. Another grandson was very recently treated to a road trip to New England.

Traveling has been a huge part of Diane and Dick's 56 years together and Covid put an unwelcome stop to that. In the past they have done many cruises; tandem bicycling through Europe, China; and scuba diving in Hawaii. She even loved parachuting out of airplanes until a hurt ankle sidelined her. Now they look forward eagerly to beginning again and are already planning trips to Greece, Egypt, Israel and Paris.

Not one to sit long, it was amazing that Diane stopped long enough to talk. Once we parted, she was out in the front yard again by the Saint Paul's Church sign, digging away in the noontime heat.

# Notes to 'Mom'

By Ken Eastlack  
keastlack.2@gmail.com

*What's a Mama to do? From a St Paul's family of 300 only one takes a few minutes to let me know how the Summer is going? Santa Maria! No reunions? No birthday or anniversary celebrations? Read what sister Lee sent, and let Mama know how you are doing.*



Dear Mother:

Well, here I am in my home, 'Camp Lee-Me-Alone-A' in the Adirondacks, upstate New York. It has been raining so much I found mold on my arms the other day. I've been busy doing Spring cleaning, as we haven't been here for over 18 months. I've also been gardening as the plants and flowers were mostly dead and the gardens were full of weeds from neglect.

The highlight of coming home is the deer who is my "wild pet" who thankfully is alive and has returned to me. She is "Doey" (she even knows her name, although I suspect she thinks it means food). We met about five years ago when I saw her eating bird seed from under the bird feeder. I was about to refill the feeder from a large can I was shaking to mix. She looked up at me and didn't run! I shook it again and she didn't move. I then found a flat pan and filled it with the birdseed and approached her. She ran about 75 feet into the forest but stopped so she could watch me. I set the food down by the bird feeder and walked away. Slowly she emerged and started eating the seed. When she had finished, she meandered across our driveway into the woods. I figured that was a one-time coincidence—except the next day she was back, feasting on what she had left (that the chipmunks or crows had not eaten.) Over the years she has brought both other deer along with her (who run away if I come out of the house) as well as her fawns.

I thank God that she has not been hit by a car or died from the -30 degree winters. When we leave for Florida, it's as if she knows and comes to



visit me either the day before or the day of our departure. Now, Mother, do not fret, she does not rely on my feed to sustain her; she has her fill then wanders into the woods to munch on the green ground vegetation or tree leaves, so she knows what to eat. I feed her the type of food she should be bulking up on in the fall to get her through winter and I slow down the feeding in October for her to forage on other plants (like my flowers, and hydrangea leaves).

About a mile down the road there is a wildlife rescue gal who takes in abandoned or injured fawns and tends to them for about a year, then opens the barn to a fenced area that has the plants and trees wild deer eat. In the late summer she opens a gate from the grazing area into the natural forest. The deer then come and go as they please, but ultimately, go on their way, rehabilitated, into the environment in which they belong. I think Doey is a rescue, as she obviously knows what a shaking can of seed means. One day my husband looked out the window and Doey was in front of the closed garage, as if to say, "Hey, where's the food, I know you keep it in there, open up!"

It is lovely to have such a sweet "friend" (other than those from St. Paul's) here with me who is one of God's beautiful, innocent creatures and brings me such joy.

—Lee Barron



Say hello to Tashina Cenozier, left, our new coffeeshour assistant, and her sister Corina, her helper. Their family worship at the 5:30 p.m. Sunday Episcopal service in Creole, the language of Haiti.