

Belonging to St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Belonging to St. Paul's - First and most importantly, for you to be a full part of the life of the parish, nothing is required but your presence. Every person who worships regularly and joins in our life as a church is a vital part of St. Paul's. Occasional "Welcome Sundays" allow us to recognize newcomers as a part of our community of faith.

Becoming an Episcopalian

Becoming an Episcopalian by making a public affirmation of faith includes many different paths depending on circumstance.

- ❖ **Preparation for Baptism** which marks entry into the Christian life; speak with Tim. Opportunities during the year are given to explore the Episcopal faith and to learn more about St. Paul's and its ministry.
- ❖ **Persons who were baptized** as infants or children in another denomination are expected to affirm their faith as adults through the rite of Confirmation by the bishop.
- ❖ **Persons who have been confirmed in another denomination** by a bishop in the apostolic succession (for instance, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Eastern Orthodox or Roman Catholic) are *received* into the Episcopal Church by the bishop.
- ❖ **Coming from another Episcopal church** - If you are transferring to St. Paul's from another Episcopal church, simply request a letter of transfer from your former parish. You will be welcomed during a Sunday worship service.

Each year opportunities are given to participate in a "Catechumenate (an early Church word for "seekers" or "inquirers") Study and Sharing Group." In these Q&A groups, matters of faith, the Prayer Book, worship and spiritual growth are considered. Speak with Tim if you have questions or are interested in participating in the next opportunity in July and August (Tuesday evenings, 7-8:30).