



The Road to Damascus

August, 2012



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Thanks, Noreen and Mark; Welcome Back, Tom

This summer has certainly passed quickly. It seems like yesterday that we were wishing Tom all the best in his sabbatical journey. Now we say a big "Thank You" to Noreen Suriner and Mark Hatch, and a "Welcome Home" to Tom.

It has been a challenging and rewarding time for the St. Paul's community. We look forward to the fruits of Tom's travels in the weeks and months to come!



He walks *in* the Sea of Galilee.
More photos on page 3.

A Message From Our New Bishop



I am so very grateful to the people of the great Diocese of Western Massachusetts!

Throughout this discernment process Betsy and I have been moved by your prayerfulness, your willingness to listen to the Holy Spirit, your appreciation of the many gifts God has blessed you with and your courageous desire to embrace the challenges of a new age. With God's grace, I am ready and willing to serve.

Thank you to Rich, Ron, Nancy, and Mark who engaged this process with their hearts and souls. We are blessed to have them as spiritual leaders in our Church. Thank you to the Search and Transition Committees that conducted this discernment process with integrity and Spirit. Thank you to Bishop Scruton who has shaped a Diocese that is rooted in prayer.

Betsy and I and the Fisher Family look forward to life with you in Western Massachusetts. Glory to God, whose power, working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus forever and ever.

Doug+

St. Paul's Christian Education

Godly Play...



It was another great year for our Godly Play group. On the final Sunday, children and leader Anne Skakel constructed and planted a special garden along the path between the Church and the Parish House.

... And Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School was wildly successful as both younger children and teens explored that in all things, at all times, in all events, and no matter who you are TRUST GOD!! Special crosses were made, arts and crafts, games, songs, snacks and good fellowship was had by all!!



Images from an Around-the-World Journey



Tom's sabbatical blog is still up!

Follow his amazing journey
at tomsabbatical.blogspot.com

On September 9th we will have an after-church picnic to welcome Tom and Marthe back.