

Stewart Bell Jr. Archives
Handley Regional Library & Winchester-Frederick County Historical Society
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St. Paul's on-the-Hill Episcopal Church Collection
1826 THL

ACCESS RESTRICTIONS: Collection is open to all researchers.

TECHNICAL ACCESS: Photographs from the Church's fiftieth anniversary and of the labyrinth are held as JPEG files on DVD. A computer with a DVD drive is needed to view these images.

USE RESTRICTIONS: Restrictions may apply concerning the use, photoduplication, or publication of items in this collection. Consult a member of the archives staff for information concerning these restrictions. The user assumes all responsibility for identifying and satisfying any claimants of copyright.

PROCESSING INFORMATION: Processed by Lorna M. Loring, February 2023.

ACCESSION NUMBER(S): 2023-003-THL

EXTENT: 5 volumes, 1 folder, 2 DVDs

CREATOR: St. Paul's on-the-Hill Episcopal Church, Frederick County, Va.

DATE: 1976-2007

SCOPE AND CONTENT: The St. Paul's on-the-Hill Episcopal Church Collection contains five scrapbooks of photographs documenting the congregation's activities. Also included is a short history of the congregation written by the Rev. Susan MacDonald, the Church's last newsletter, and two DVDs of photographs from the fiftieth anniversary and the building of a labyrinth in 2011.

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL: The Rev. John Baden, rector of Christ Episcopal Church in Winchester, Va., established St. Paul's on-the-Hill as a mission church in 1967. The church building was located in Frederick County at 1527 Senseny Road. Initially, the clergy of St. Paul's on-the-Hill were sent out from Christ Episcopal Church. In 1984, the Rev. Michael Mohn was appointed vicar, and later became the congregation's first rector in 1996 when the Diocese of Virginia granted parish status to the mission church.

St. Paul's on-the-Hill faced numerous challenges over the years and an unstable membership, but nonetheless maintained a presence in the community with its food pantry and other mission activities. In 2016, the congregation recognized the need for affordable senior housing in Frederick County, and it sought to build an apartment complex on the Church's five-acre lot. Zoning challenges and other setbacks hindered the project, leading the congregation to make the decision to demolish the church building to achieve their goal. In early 2023, Senseny Place opened to provide 63 below market rate apartments.

The congregation continued to meet at other locations and online. However, on October 23, 2022, the congregation decided to end worship at the end of 2022 and close permanently in January 2023. The last worship service took place on November 6, 2022.

RELATED MATERIAL: Christ Episcopal Church Records, 684 THL

CITE AS: St. Paul's on-the-Hill Episcopal Church Collection, 1826 THL, Stewart Bell Jr. Archives, Handley Regional Library, Winchester, VA, USA.

ACQUISITION INFORMATION: Acquired as a gift.

CONTAINER LIST:

BOX 1

Scrapbook, 1976-1996

Scrapbook, 1996-1998

Scrapbook, 1998-2002

Scrapbook, 2002-2007

Scrapbook, Misc. and Members

Papers (folder contains the following):

“St. Paul's on-the-Hill Episcopal Church, 1967-2023: Mission Accomplished,” by the Rev. Susan MacDonald, (2023)

Newsletter, Dec. 2022

Photographs (envelope contains the following):

DVD, Photographs (JPEG), 50th Anniversary

DVD, Photographs (JPEG), 2011 Labyrinth