

The Rev. George M. Chapman
Rector

Saint Paul's Church
Episcopal
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The Rev. Pamela L. Werntz
Associate Rector

Dear Friends and Family,

In June, I will participate in a mission trip from St. Paul's Church, Brookline, to Honduras. This trip, our fourth year of commitment by St. Paul's, is being planned in cooperation with the Episcopal Diocese of Honduras. I'd like to tell you more about this important project and my commitment with hope that you'll consider making a contribution to our mission trip.



In the summer of 2003, the rector at St. Paul's, George Chapman, and his wife Margie visited the Deanery of El Paraiso in southeastern Honduras. With the guidance of members of the local lay and religious communities, a calling was discerned in Chaguite, a remote rural community located in a mountainous area about 50 miles southeast of the capital city, Tegucigalpa. Made up of approximately fifty families, Chaguite has no electricity and limited sanitation.

In 2004, a mission travel team of 14 members, together with the people of Chaguite, constructed a school house. In 2005, missionaries and community members initiated a public health program that included the construction of latrines and a water system and, through our counterparts in the church in Honduras, the provision of an education program. In response to the community's request for continuing support of the water and sanitation project and the construction of a church, nineteen missionaries traveled to Chaguite in 2006.



This year the St. Paul's community plans to send two travel teams of missionaries to Honduras during the last two weeks of June. Local lay and religious community members have asked for assistance with the expansion of the water distribution system begun in 2005 so that more households in Chaguite may have access to clean water. Additionally, the needs of the nearby community of Los Tablones, whose hospitality St. Paul's missionaries have enjoyed for the past three summers, have been recognized. Through the Deanery, Los Tablones is seeking support in the construction of an elementary school kitchen. And, again at the request of the community itself, we will, if possible, also start construction of a kindergarten facility in Lainez, another neighboring community. As with previous years, the communities will complete these projects when we leave. This is a huge undertaking, and we will need assistance from many people to bring these projects to fruition.



You might wonder, wouldn't it be more cost-effective to just send money than going to all the effort and expense of travel? No! To quote another Episcopal missionary in Honduras, *"When you show up, you are giving the people the assurance that the Lord is sending you to help them... And you can see the depth of God's love in a way that you would never have seen if you had not been present."*

Our overall fundraising effort will cover travel and living expenses for both teams and the costs of supplies and equipment for the projects. I am enclosing a brochure to give you more information along with a donation card. Please consider being part of this effort. Checks should be made out to "St. Paul's Church" with a memo for the Honduras Mission. You may mail them to me or to the church address: 15 St. Paul Street, Brookline, MA 02446.

Thanks for reading this letter and thank you if you can donate to this mission trip. I'll be sure to send you a detailed letter upon my return!

Sincerely,



PS: To see more photos of our previous mission trips, go to the St. Paul's web-site at <http://www.stpaulsbrookline.org/> and click on the Honduras link on the bottom of the first page.