

St. Paul's Epistle

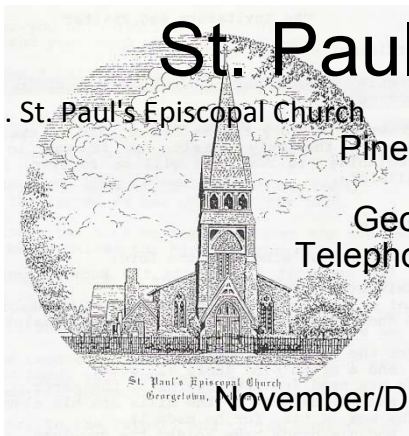
St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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November/December, 2014

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November - December – The Epistle 2014

FROM THE RECTOR

As you receive this edition of the Epistle we will be within seven weeks of the closing of the year 2014. We will just have remembered our Veterans of military service in our Sunday celebration of Holy Eucharist and will be looking forward to counting our blessing and offering our gratitude in our national celebration of the Day of Thanksgiving. I'm certain it is a result of my advancing years but this year seems to have passed more quickly than all the rest that I can remember.

I truly love every part of the year and during this season I love the opportunity to set my focus especially toward the gift of hospitality- the gift of welcoming others into our lives. For me, I have in mind all the people God has given me in my life whom I can love. In the past three years the Saint Paul's parish family has become for me, and Nick a treasured Gift from God for which we are most grateful. Perhaps it is because my time Saint Paul's has been my longest term as and Episcopal priest; or maybe it is because I moved away from my home to be with St. Paul's and we have been so warmly made a part of the Saint Paul's family; but for whatever reason I have come to rely on St. Paul's family and I do my own family. For that I am truly thankful.

In this season of hospitality, the members of the pastoral care committee have both verbally and by way of invitation invited members of the congregation who have joined us in the last 18 month or so, to share in a Newcomers Dinner. This is an opportunity for newcomers to be 'welcomed and to share a meal with the women and men of St. Paul's who serve in the leadership of the various facets and ministries here at the parish. The hope is to provide an awareness of how each of us can find a place to share in our church's mission of following in the Steps of Jesus.

Our celebration of Thanksgiving will include services of Holy Eucharist on Wednesday evening, November 26, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. and also on Thanksgiving morning Thursday, November 27, at 9:00 a.m. Please join us as we offer our praise and thanks to God for all the wonderful blessings in our lives.

The Sunday after Thanksgiving November 30, 2014, a new church year begins and the Season of Expectation, of Hope and of Preparation, the Season of Advent is upon us. As Christian people we are in the process of celebrating God's greatest gift to us – the sending of His Son to take on human form to be for us the Word of God Incarnate - the Child to be born in Bethlehem – our Lord and Savior.

As Christian people we have a Christmas Story that we hold dear and love to hear told and see depicted in various forms especially during this time of year. Once again we will display the Stations of Advent. Two years ago our youth members of YELL (Young Episcopal Leaders and Learners) created– The Stations of Advent - a beautiful graphic presentation of the broader Christmas story. It looks very much like stained glass and is truly an effort of love and creativity that the youth have prepared as a gift for all of us. These panels will be on display within the parish buildings for all to share and enjoy. Hopefully during the holiday season former members of YELL will be returning from college or wherever life has taken them, and see how their efforts continue to inspire and gratify their St. Paul's family.

Please make every effort to join us as we celebrate the Birth of Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us in the

parish celebrations of Holy Eucharist. On Christmas Eve we will gather on for two services. At 4 o'clock p.m. we will have our family oriented Christmas celebration of Holy Eucharist during which the youth of the parish will present the annual Christmas Pageant. Then at 10 o'clock p.m. we will gather for a Celebration of Holy Eucharist and singing of Christmas Carols/Hymn, including selection from the parish Handbell Choir. Then on Christmas morning we will gather at 9 o'clock a.m. for a celebration of Holy Eucharist and singing of Christmas Carols/Hymns.

I find that for me, our gatherings with our parish family on these occasions while providing wonderful opportunities for warm fellowship also gives us time to hear again about the wonderful things our God has done for us in sending His Son to be born as one of us and to celebrate God's continuing and loving presence in our lives.

Keep an eye out for further celebrations of the Christmas season that will be discussed in the following pages of this month's edition of the "Epistle" which you are now reading.

I wish you a wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas Season, joyful times with family and friends and many blessing in the New Year.

In Christ,

-Joe Rushton



We as a church still need to complete paying down our Diocesan line of credit, which amounts to \$500 a quarter. The vestry counts on your Capital Fund pledges to meet this obligation. Please don't forget to pay your Capital Fund pledge. Of course, even if you didn't pledge, one can contribute to the Capitol Fund at any time!



Food Bank

Please remember to bring in breakfast and lunch items for the children attending Primeros Pasos as well as non-perishable food items for the Georgetown Food Pantry. There is still an emphasis on meat products and all items can be placed in the basket by the baptismal font. Your food donations may be brought in at any time and they will be distributed throughout the month. Thank you for caring.

And thank you to Bill and Bobbie Quillen who graciously give their time and energy by collecting the donated food and distributing it, as well.



Meals on Wheels

One of our ministries at St. Paul's is Meals on Wheels. St. Paul's has been faithful in providing a very basic need to the elderly and homebound population in Sussex County.

We can always use another person to deliver meals on Wednesdays as an alternate one week a month.

If you are interested in participating in this ministry, please call Judy Dean. If you're not sure, you may ride along with someone who is delivering to see if this is something you'd like to do.



From the Kitchen – Emily Peterson

This year is rapidly coming to a close, and I wanted to thank each and every one of you who has brought food or donated to St. Paul's food pantry. Every little bit helps to defray the cost of providing a coffee hour each and every Sunday. Coffee Hour is a time when people can "catch up" with their church family, share ideas and just plain take a break from the hassles of the previous week.

Beginning in January I will ask you from time to time to bring in a box of crackers, a package of cheese, or snack items such as chips or pretzels etc. As usual, I will provide the set up in the morning, so all you will have to do is bring in your item(s). This will enable all of us to share in bringing about this special time of the week.



A very special Scary "thank you" to Nick Codd for his decorating skills for our special Halloween coffee hour in October.

And, thanks again for all you do at St. Paul's.



**Book Club
Janet Jones**

St. Paul's Book Club

Our book club is open to anyone and everyone and we meet at St. Paul's the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 11:30 a.m. in the church library. We always have a lively discussion of the book we read that month and also go to lunch together somewhere in Georgetown.

The books we will read and discuss in 2014 are the following:

- September - "The Husband's Secret" by Liane Moriarty
- October - "Noon at Tiffany's" by Echo Heron
- November - "The Invention of Wings" by Sue Monk Kidd

We would love to have new members, and if you are interested in joining us, please get in touch with either Emily Peterson (302) 933-7329 or Janet Jones (302) 629-5354



We still have a supply of Dr. Maynard Mires' book, "Stories for a Sunday Afternoon." Please call or come by the office if you want to purchase it. Maynard has generously donated proceeds to benefit St. Paul's.

The purchase price is \$18.



**Sunday, November 2 and Sunday, December 7th –
Discretionary Sundays**

Loose plate offering and checks will be given to the Rector's Discretionary Fund to help people in need.

**Saturday, November 22 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.
Parish Life Day at St. Anne's Episcopal School,
Middletown.**

**YELL Meetings, Saturday, November 15th and
Saturday, December 20th. All are welcome!**



**Wednesday, November 26th - Thanksgiving Eve.
Service at 7:00 p.m.**

**Thursday, November 27th, Thanksgiving Day Service
at 9:00 a.m.**



**CHRISTMAS SERVICES: Wednesday, December 24th
Christmas Eve Services at 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.**

**Thursday, December 25th Christmas Day Service at
9:00 a.m.**



November Birthdays

11/2 Janet Jones
11/7 Libby Stevenson
11/9 Chris Atallian
11/12 Peter Goebel
11/15 Cindy Henk
11/16 - Harrison Littleton
11/28 Emily & Harvey Peterson

December Birthdays

12/1 Amanda Goebel
12/3 Karen Sam
12/11 Jayne Sheahan
12/13 Laura Muhlbauer
12/16 Nancy Whelen



November Anniversaries

11/8 Fred and Judy Dean
11/12 Frank and Nina Kruger

December Anniversaries

12/12 Bill and Nancy Whelen
12/12 Robert and Carol Atallian
12/21 Peter and Debi Goebel
12/29 Ed and Jane Rohfling
12/31 Joe Rushton and Nick Codd

Birthdays/Anniversaries – If you don't see your name(s) listed in the birthday or anniversary list, please let Maureen know so you can be added to the list



Let's give thanks to all our ministries here at St. Paul's and all of the people who participate in them

- Our Altar Linens
- Meals on Wheels
- Our Music programs
- YELL
- Office Volunteers
- Our Men's Group
- Our Friends in Faith Group
- Our Altar Guild
- Our Worship Committee
- Our Web Page
- Our Pastoral Care Committee
- Our Chalcists and Lectors
- Our Acolytes
- Our Ushers
- Our Birthday Greetings
- Our Hospitality
- Our Stewardship/Capital Campaign Committee
- Our Vestry
- Our Volunteers for Rides
- Our Home Meal preparation Deliveries

Thank you to you all!



JUST FOR TODAY

Just for today I will try to live through this day only, and not tackle my whole life problem at once. I can do something for twelve hours that would appall me if I felt I had to keep it up for a lifetime.

Just for today I will be happy. This assumes to be true what Abraham Lincoln said, "Most folks are as happy as they make up their minds to be."

Just for today I will adjust myself to what is, and not try to adjust everything to my own desires, I will take my life as it comes, and fit myself to it.

Just for today I will try to strengthen my mind. I will study. I will learn something useful. I will not be a mental loafer. I will read something that requires effort, thought and concentration.

Just for today I will exercise my soul in three ways, I will do somebody a good turn, and not get found out: if anybody knows of it, it will not count. I will do at least two things I don't want to do - just for exercise. I will not show anyone that my feelings are hurt; they may be hurt, but today I will not show it.

Just for today I will be agreeable, I will look as well as I can, dress becomingly, talk low, act courteously, criticize not one bit, not find fault with anything, and not try to improve or regulate anybody but myself.

Just for today I will have a program. I may not follow it exactly, but I will have it. I will save myself from two pests - hurry and indecision.

Just for today I will have a quiet half hour all by myself, and relax. During this half hour, sometime, I will try to get a better perspective of my life.

Just for today I will be unafraid. Especially I will not be afraid to enjoy what is beautiful, and to believe that as I give to the world, so the world will give to me.

Submitted by Nancy Whelen



Can Tabs?

Please continue to save and bring in your can tabs as they are still needed. Thank you.



Organizations using the Facilities

Primeros Pasos

First Wednesday 9 a.m. to Noon

A.A. Meetings

New group – Every Monday 8:00 – 9:00 P.M.
Adult Children of Alcoholics Tuesdays 7:00 p.m.
A.A. Inner Group. 1st Thursday 6:00 -7:30 P.M.
Saturday Women's Group -11:00 AM
ACA Meeting each Thursday - 7:00 p.m.

NA Meeting

Thursday 6 - 8 P.M.

Girl Scouts

Friday Troops 1272 & 1012 - 5:30 – 8:30 P.M.

I-Adapt

Third Tuesday 3:00 P.M.

The Way Home

Second Wednesday 9:00 a.m. - Noon

Foster Parents Support Group

Fourth Wednesday - 6:00 – 8:30 P.M.

St. Paul's Vestry

Senior Warden – Chris Bennett
Junior Warden - Gene Quaciari
Fred Dean, Treasurer
Jayne Sheahan, Scribe
Ruth Myers – 2015
Nancy Whelen – 2016
Maureen Leary – 2016
Chris Bennett - 2016
Judy Dean – 2017
Mary Ann Torkelson - 2017

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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Rector - The Reverend Joseph M. Rushton
(302) 858-4070

Rector email:

rector@stpaulsgeorgetown.org

Secretary to the Rector – Maureen Leary
(302) 856-2894

Office email:

office@stpaulsgeorgetown.org

Music Director/Organist – Mary Ann Torkelson

Sunday

✠ Holy Eucharist, 8:00 a.m.

✠ Holy Eucharist, 10:30 a.m.

