

December 2024

# St. Paul's

P A R I S H

# Epistle



## Advent and Christmas Worship

**Advent I - December 1st**  
10:00 am Holy Eucharist

**Advent II - December 8th**  
10:00 am Holy Eucharist

**Advent III - December 15th**  
10:00 am Holy Eucharist

**Advent IV - December 22nd**  
10:00 am Holy Eucharist  
Greening of the Church  
Followed by a Potluck Coffee Hour  
A-M please bring sweet  
N-Z please bring savory

**Christmas Eve - December 24th**  
4:30 pm Festive Music  
5:00pm Holy Eucharist

**Christmas - December 25th**  
No Service

**The First Sunday after Christmas - December 29th**  
10:00 am Holy Eucharist

**The Feast of the Epiphany - January 5th**  
10:00 am Holy Eucharist

# Rites of Passage

## Birthdays

Kathy Anderson	December 8
Kim Cantrell	December 8
Elizabeth Lepre'	December 8
Jack Shaum	December 11
Douglas Kaufmann	December 12
Sharon Burak	December 13
Alan Griffith	December 17
Eleanor Strietman	December 28
Hailey Melton	December 29
Martha Shaum	December 29
Carolyn Carney	December 30
Dan Rugg	December 30
Alli Ayres	December 31



Gary & Kathy Anderson December 27



*If you do not see your birthday or anniversary please call the parish office at 410-758-1553.*

## Pastoral Emergencies

Please call the parish office at 410-758-1553 and leave a message.

## Office Contact Information

Senior Warden, Bob North

[northstar1@atlanticbb.net](mailto:northstar1@atlanticbb.net)

Junior Warden, Charlie Ackermann

[charlieack@gmail.com](mailto:charlieack@gmail.com)

Director of Music, Stef Scaggiari

[sscaggiari@verizon.net](mailto:sscaggiari@verizon.net)

Treasurer, Diane Freestate

[treasurer@stpaulschurch.org](mailto:treasurer@stpaulschurch.org)

Parish Administrator, Michele Miller

[michele@stpaulschurch.org](mailto:michele@stpaulschurch.org)

WEBSITE: [www.stpaulschurch.org](http://www.stpaulschurch.org)

Office Phone: 410-758-1553

Fax Number: 410-758-2238

## What is the Episcopal Church doing in the World?

Eco Justice

[www.episcopalchurch.org/blog/EcoJustice](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/blog/EcoJustice)

Refugees and Immigrants

[www.episcopalmigrationministries.org](http://www.episcopalmigrationministries.org)

Office of Government Relations

[advocacy.episcopal/church.org](http://advocacy.episcopal/church.org)

# Junior Warden

Continued efforts to stop the leak in the basement. The guys injected a sealant solution that covers the entire outside wall from the footing up. They also needed to inject from the inside to cover the area behind the outside porch.



# Treasurer's Update

St. Paul's Finances		2024			
		St. Paul's Finances - October			
		Actual	Budget	Difference	
<b>Revenue</b>					
Pledges	\$	248,857	\$ 251,456	\$ (2,599)	Unfavorable **
Other Offerings	\$	30,225	\$ 33,859	\$ (3,634)	Unfavorable **
Building Fund Offerings	\$	36,395	\$ 27,126	\$ 9,269	Favorable
Other Income	\$	66,673	\$ 71,596	\$ (4,923)	Unfavorable **
Total Revenue	\$	382,150	\$ 384,037	\$ (1,887)	Unfavorable **
<b>Expenses</b>					
Total Personnel	\$	175,094	\$ 177,367	\$ (2,273)	Favorable
Buildings and Grounds	\$	59,166	\$ 82,398	\$ (23,232)	Favorable
All Other	\$	126,504	\$ 126,035	\$ 469	Unfavorable **
Total Expenses	\$	360,764	\$ 385,800	\$ (25,036)	Favorable
Revenue minus Expenses	\$	21,386	\$ (1,763)	\$ 23,149	Favorable

**\*\* Unfavorable**





Giving Sunday will be on December 1, 2024. Please bring your pledge cards to church. We will collect them during the service. You can also bring them to the parish office or mail them in.

Our Finance Committee is working hard on the budget for 2025. It is a great benefit to see the pledge totals for 2025.

Our current pledges are 63% of our 2024 total pledged. Please prayerfully consider making a pledge to the operating fund.



*"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4:10*



*“For unto us  
a Child is born..”*

## *A Christmas Prayer*

Heavenly Father,  
we celebrate the birth of Your Son,  
Jesus, remembering the words of  
the angels on the night of His birth,  
“Peace on earth to all of good will.”

Today, as never before, Almighty  
God, we pray for Your loving peace.  
May peace be the guiding force in the  
hearts of our world leaders. May peace  
reign in every corner of the globe and  
in the hearts of every man, woman and  
child upon this earth.

This Christmas and always, may we  
embrace Your wonderful gifts with  
courage and conviction. In so doing,  
we will also be embracing Your greatest  
gift to us, Your Son, the Prince of  
Peace!

*Amen.*

**Advent Study**  
**Practicing Incarnation:**  
**Seeing God in the Ordinary Moments of**  
**Life**



*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.*  
*John 1:14*

For Three Wednesdays in Advent, we are going to pray with scriptures appointed for the following Sunday. We will use lectio divina (divine reading) as our method. This prayer comes from the monastic practice of reading scripture in community with a contemplative orientation – in other words, listening together for the message God has for you on that day and time.

Debra will guide us through the prayer process, offer her own reflections and then invite sharing with each other.

Carolyn will guide us through a unique journaling reflection meant to help us experience God's presence and comfort in our everyday lives.

December 4, 11, and 18, 2023 at 11:45 in the Harper Room. Bring a sandwich and we will share a treat

Blessings Dear Ones,  
Debra and Carolyn



# **St. Paul's Parish Survey**

**- Results and Review -**

This September, St. Paul's Parishioners were invited to participate in a "Parish Survey" to ascertain our congregation's views and preferences as we entered a period of transition to seek a new rector.

This information will be used to help build our in-progress Parish Profile, which will be St. Paul's "advertisement" to prospective new clergy.

About 95 parishioners participated in the survey. On October 29, our Vestry and the Transition and Search Committee participated in a lengthy review and interpretation of the survey results.

It is now time for our wider congregation to review and respond to those same survey results. The results will be presented as follows:

## **Sunday, December 8**

**In St. Paul's Sanctuary**

**Following Services**

### **You Are Invited!**



# May All Voices Be Heard

## St. Paul's Transition and Search Committee

Our parish is beginning a new journey of faith and hope. In the coming months, we will engage our St. Paul's community in Holy Conversations and prayers, inspired by Christ and by one another, as we seek a new Rector.

This effort must truly "hear all the voices" of St. Paul's. Therefore, before each Sunday Service, a parish member – from the Vestry, the Search Committee, or the congregation-at-large – will offer a short prayer or reflection about our parish transition. These messages will be forward looking and personal, full of joy, and hope for our community of faith.



### Haven Ministries Dinner Volunteers

St. Paul's is scheduled for providing a dinner for the upcoming dates of December 7 and 8, and Jan 2, 3, 27 and 28. Please check the signup sheets on the bulletin board or in Donaldson Hall for dates still needing to be covered. When providing a dinner, it can be meat and vegetables, or a main dish casserole and salad, and bread. Dessert is optional. Drop off is at 6:30 pm at Kent Island Methodist Church. I will let you know how many guests they are serving closer to the date. Please contact me with any questions at [barbackermann@gmail.com](mailto:barbackermann@gmail.com) or 443-797-4569. Thank you! Barb Ackermann

## St. Paul's Clergy Schedule

December 1	Rev. Nathaniel Pierce (Advent)
December 4-Wed.	Rev. Mark Delcuze
December 8	Rev. Mark Delcuze
December 11-Wed.	Rev. Mark Delcuze
December 15	Rev. Mark Delcuze
December 18-Wed.	Rev. Mark Delcuze
December 22	Rev. Mark Delcuze
December 24-25	TO BE DETERMINED
December 29	Rev. Mark Delcuze



The parish office will be closed  
December 24, 2024—January 1, 2025  
*Pastoral emergencies please call the parish office  
at 410-758-1553 and leave a message.*



## Worship Schedule

Sunday:

10:00am Holy Eucharist

Wednesday:

11:00am Informal Eucharist

- Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment
- Holy Matrimony may be administered at anytime outside the seasons of Advent or Lent
- Holy Baptism is especially appropriate at the Easter Vigil, on the Day of Pentecost, on All Saints' Day or the Sunday after All Saints' Day, and on the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord (the First Sunday after the Epiphany). It is recommended that, as far as possible, Baptisms be reserved for these occasions or when a bishop is present. (BCP 312)

## The Susan Whitaker Prayer Shawl Knitters

### Please Join Us

**Tuesday, December 17th at 2:00pm**



A Prayer Shawl is a shawl that is handmade, blessed by the Priest, and given lovingly to someone who is suffering and in need of comfort or someone who is celebrating a great joy. If you have ever received a prayer shawl or shared one with someone, you know how special they are.

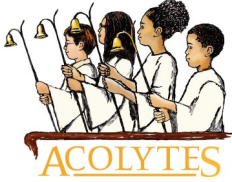
The Prayer Shawl Group meets in the Richardson Room (sitting area next to the church office) at 2:00 PM on the third Tuesday of the month and we would like to encourage anyone who can knit or crochet or anyone who wants to learn either of these to join us! We get together each month to knit and crochet, help those just learning, provide solutions for problems, answer questions, and basically enjoy the time together. There is no pressure in this group and everyone works at their own pace and in their own way. Some members have been knitting or crocheting for a long time and others are just starting out. At this point, our prayer shawl supply is low and we really need more members in our group.

Please consider joining our group and contributing to St. Paul's in this way. For more information, contact Jean Hilleary at 410-758-1858 or Susan Johnson at 203-623-4221.

We would love to see you at our next meeting!!

Jean and Susan

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>1</b></p> <p><b>Giving Sunday</b> The First Sunday of Advent 10:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>10:00am Homeschool Group</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>9:00am Bible Study</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>11:00am Eucharist Service, Healing Prayer and Meditation  11:45am Advent Study  5:15pm Handbell Choir  7:00pm Choir Rehearsal  7:30pm AA  7:30pm Al-Anon</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>9:00am Backpack for Kids Packing the food</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>ECW Chicken Coop  8:15am Men's Breakfast at the Creamery</p>
<p><b>8</b></p> <p>The Second Sunday of Advent 10:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II 11:15am Parish Survey Results &amp; Review</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>10:00am Homeschool Group  5:00pm PEO Set Up</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>8:00am PEO Meeting  9:00am Bible Study  5:00pm Corsica River Conservancy</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>11:00am Eucharist Service, Healing Prayer and Meditation  11:45am Advent Study  5:15pm Handbell Choir  7:00pm Choir Rehearsal  7:30pm AA  7:30pm Al-Anon</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>9:00am Backpack for Kids Packing the food  6:30pm Northbrook HOA</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p>
<p><b>15</b></p> <p><b>Newsletter Articles Due Today</b> The Third Sunday of Advent 10:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>10:00am Homeschool Group</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>9:00am Bible Study  2:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry  5:00pm Vestry Meeting</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>11:00am Eucharist Service, Healing Prayer and Meditation  11:45am Advent Study  5:15pm Handbell Choir  7:00pm Choir Rehearsal  7:30pm AA  7:30pm Al-Anon</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>9:00am Backpack for Kids Packing the food</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p>
<p><b>22</b></p> <p><b>Greening of the Church &amp; Potluck Coffee Hour</b> The Fourth Sunday of Advent 10:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>10:00am Homeschool Group</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p><b>Eve of the Nativity</b> Office Closed  <b>4:30pm Festive Music</b>  <b>5:00pm Holy Eucharist</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>No Wednesday Service Office Closed 7:30pm AA 7:30pm Al-Anon</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p><b>28</b></p>
<p><b>29</b></p> <p>10:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>Office Closed  10:00am Homeschool Group</p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p>Office Closed  9:00am Bible Study</p>	<p><b>1</b></p> <p>No Wednesday Service Office Closed 7:30pm AA 7:30pm Al-Anon</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>9:00am Backpack for Kids Packing the food</p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>8:15am Men's Breakfast at the Creamery</p>



# Ministries Schedule for December 2024

Ministry	12/1 10:00am	12/8 10:00am	12/15 10:00am	12/22 10:00am	12/29 10:00am
<i>Lector-Lessons</i>	Jack Shaum	Judy Webster	Mark Freestate	Judy Webster	Carolyn Carney
<i>Lector - Prayers</i>	Dan Rugg	Sharon Burak	D. Donnelly Barton	Ned Aull	D. Donnelly Barton
	Doug Kaufmann	Eleanor Strietman	Tom Andrews	Haley Melton	Bob Ozinga
<i>LEM</i>	Haley Melton	Chris Pupke	D. Donnelly Barton	Doug Kaufmann	Tom Andrews
<i>Ushers</i>	Mike Grace	Scott Hazuda	Sally Cooper	Steve Parkhurst	Mark Freestate
	Kim Hazuda	Tom Andrews	Bill Clark	Tad Stewart	Sharon Burak
	Stoney Duffey	Dan Rugg	David Cooper	Bob North	Miranda Burak
<i>Acolytes</i>					
<i>Server</i>	Haley Melton	Eleanor Strietman	Tom Andrews	Haley Melton	Bob Ozinga
<i>Crucifer</i>	Doug Kaufmann	Jimmy Miller	Mark Freestate	Doug Kaufmann	Jimmy Miller
<i>Acolyte</i>	Alex Leary			Alex Leary	
<i>Vestry Rep</i>	Wendy Emerson	Bob North	Charlie Ackermann	Diane Freestate	Pat Jamison
<i>Counters</i>	Byron Luna	Myron Richardson	Barb Ackermann	Bob Ozinga	Char McClatchy
<i>Tuesdays</i>	Diane Freestate	Pat Jamison	Gail Brown	Michele Miller	Susan Johnson
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Sharon North	Sally Cooper	Laura Kaufmann	Jessica Sellers	Jessica Sellers
	Dot Abbott	Diane Freestate	Haley Melton	Penny Lins	Penny Lins
	Kathie Moore	Ann Grace	Barb Ackermann		
	Chrissy Aull				



Christmas Eve	12/24
<i>Ministry</i>	4:30pm
<i>Lector-Lessons</i>	Sharon Burak
<i>Lector - Prayers</i>	Chris Pupke
<i>LEM</i>	Doug Kaufmann
<i>LEM</i>	Chris Pupke
<i>Ushers</i>	Steve Parkhurst Stoney Duffey Bob North
<i>Acolytes</i>	
<i>Server</i>	Eleanor Strietman
<i>Crucifer</i>	Mark Freestate
<i>Vestry Rep</i>	Bob Ozinga
<i>Counters</i>	Char McClatchy
<i>Tuesdays</i>	Susan Johnson
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Sharon North Dot Abbott Kathie Moore Chrissy Aull



## Operation Christmas Child

Barb Ackermann delivered the donated boxes to the drop off location. WOW! Our people of St. Paul's will be blessing 39 children with a Christmas shoebox!



**Please note: The Wednesday service on November 27 has been cancelled.**



**Men's Breakfast**  
December 7, 2024 8:15am  
At The Creamery in Centreville

The men's breakfast group meets the first Saturday of the month at the Creamery at 8:15am. Everyone is invited. We look forward to seeing you soon.

2024

# Holiday Candlelight Tour of Historic Homes



*New Historic Homes  
Music on the Square  
Commemorative Ornaments  
Artisans Fair at QACAC  
Hot Cocoa!  
Lunch Specials!*



*Saturday  
December 7th, 2024  
12:00-4:00PM  
Centreville Historic  
Town Square*

*Tickets: [www.QACLF.org](http://www.QACLF.org)  
20% off before 11/15*

**St. Paul's  
Will Be On the Tour  
Come Visit the  
Episcopal Church Women's  
Chicken Coop  
In the Richardson Room**

## St. Paul's Episcopal Church

The Rt. Rev. Santosh Marray, *Bishop*

Bob North, *Senior Warden*

Charlie Ackermann, *Junior Warden*

Diane Freestate, *Treasurer*

Stef Scaggiari, *Director of Music*

Nancy Cook, *Bell Choir Director*

Michele Miller, *Parish Administrator/Assistant Treasurer*

Elsie Ozinga, *Registrar*

Laura Bittinger, *Parish Nurse*

Chris Pupke, *Lay Reader Director*

Dan Rugg, *Head Usher and Acolyte Director*

Matt Ward, *Production Manager*

Coleman Sellers, *Sexton*



### The Vestry

'25 Laura Bittinger  
Julia Eaton  
Kim Hazuda

'25 Wendy Emerson  
Judy Webster  
Bob Ozinga

'27 Peggy Andrews  
Pat Jamison  
Sherri Ward



*The mission of St. Paul's Parish, Centreville, is to be a strong and caring community of faith, rooted in Christ, welcoming, serving, and loving all.*



## Christmas Flowers and Candles

Dear Parishioners:

If you would like to honor your family and friends on the Christmas Memorial List or give thanks for the people and blessings in your life, please send the names to me **no later than December 12th.**

A monetary offering for Greenery or Evening Service Candles may be made to St. Paul's. Please put Christmas Flowers in the memo line.



Your Name and Phone Number

Names to be remembered:

In Thanksgiving For

-----Check enclosed for Greenery or Candles,  
(Suggested donation \$25.00 or more.)

Thank you very much!

Please return to:       St. Paul's  
                                  P.O. Box 278  
                                  Centreville, MD 21617

We would like to ask you to please pick up your poinsettia after church on January 5th because we would like to have the church decorated for the Feast of the Epiphany. Thank you very much!

St. Paul's Parish  
P.O. Box 278  
Centreville, MD 21617

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Stevensville, MD  
Permit No. 54

*Change Service Requested*

Deadline for the  
January issue will be  
on December 15, 2024

*On the Lighter Side...*

