



E-newsletter / December 13, 2017

ST. PAUL'S CARES

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF WILKESBORO, NC

336.667.4231 • office@stpaulwilkesboro.org • The Rev. Ann Dieterle

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Thursday, December 14:

- 11:30am Crisis Assistance in Parish House
- 12:00noon Al-Anon in library

NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday, December 17:

Advent III

- 8:00am Men's Breakfast
- 8:30am Holy Eucharist in Chapel
- 9:45am Adult Choir Practice
- 10:15am Nursery opens in the lower level of the Main Sanctuary
- 10:30am Holy Eucharist in Sanctuary
- 11:45am Vestry meeting in library
- 4:00pm "Living Through the Shadows of Advent" in Parish House
- 5:00pm Christ the Liberator in Chapel
- 12noon Children & Youth caroling event

Monday, December 18:

- 4:30pm Centering Prayer

Tuesday, December 19:

- 1:00pm Sojourners Book Group
- 7:00pm Al-Anon in library

Wednesday, December 20:

- 5:30pm Holy Eucharist in Chapel
- 6:00pm Chez Paul
- Following dinner
 - Greening of the Chapel & Church
- 6:30pm Choir practice
- 7:00pm Dick Underwood Book Club in Parish House

LOOKING AHEAD

Thursday, December 21:

- 12:00noon Al-Anon in library
- 6:00pm "Blue Christmas" service in Chapel



The Men's Breakfast will meet on **Sunday, December 17th from 8:00-10:15am** in the Parish House and will be cooked and served by the men of St. Paul's. A donation of \$5.00 per person to cover our cost is appreciated. Come join your fellow parishioners for delicious food and fellowship.

If you would like to get involved with the Men's Breakfast, please contact Ken Canter at rkencanter@aol.com.



Children, Youth, and Families of St. Paul's: We will be caroling this **Sunday, December 17th**, at Rose Glen Village and Westwood Hills nursing home. We will gather following the 10:30 service in the Parish House to have lunch and bake some cookies. We will depart the Parish House at 12:40 for Rose Glen Village. We have the Multi purpose room there reserved for sharing cookies and carols at 1:00. We will stay there until about 1:45, and then depart for Westwood Hills. They are expecting us to walk around the halls singing carols starting about 2:00. We will return to the church by 3:00pm.

I will have some songbooks to help with the lyrics, but we will sing what we are most familiar with. This event is open to anyone who would like to join us and the youth are invited to bring friends, please let Rachel know in order to provide enough transportation.

Poinsettia Season - Christmas Remembrances

This Sunday, December 17th, is the last Sunday to turn in your requests for Christmas flowers. Look in the Sunday bulletin for inserts to sign up to give one or more poinsettias in honor or in memory of someone. This helps us fund the purchase of flowers to decorate the church throughout the upcoming year. **The cost is \$17.00 per plant.** You can leave the donation in the collection plate with your information or drop it by the church office. You may also mail a check to the office at PO Box 95, Wilkesboro, NC 28697 with your request(s). Please write the check out to St. Paul's and put the person's name that you wish to honor or memorialize in the memo line. Names of the people being honored or memorialized will be published in the Christmas Eve bulletin.



Surviving the Shadow of Christmas

Many people experience sadness and emotional pressure during the holidays, but for those coping with serious illness, sad memories of "Christmas past," grief from loss of loved ones, or other situations that pose big lifestyle changes, finding comfort and joy in this holiday season can be a difficult task.

Anyone who finds themselves in any of these situations are welcome to **join us in the Parish House from 4-5:30pm on Sunday, December 17th.**

We will discuss dealing with the holidays, and hopefully participants will find comfort and feel less pressured by the impending holidays by exploring the sense of peace the Christian sea-

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son of Advent can provide for us all.

Ken Asel and Dot Beamon will serve as facilitators and will use the book *Night Visions: Searching the Shadows of Advent and Christmas* by Jan Richardson as a guide.



Chez Paul / Greening of the Church & Chapel

Join us for a Soup, Salad, and Sandwich Chez Paul on **Wednesday, December 20th at 6:00pm** prior to our Greening party to decorate the church. You can sign up to bring a soup, salad, sandwich, or dessert in the Commons on Sunday December 17th or by emailing Rachel at stpaulscyfm@gmail.com.

Remember to bring berries and greenery for decorating the church. These may be brought on Sunday, December 17th.

Longest Night ("Blue Christmas") Service in the Chapel Thursday, December 21 @ 6:00pm

For any who are not feeling the Christmas cheer- for whatever reason- this time of year can be difficult. In addition to the regularly

scheduled service on **Wednesday, December 20th at 5:30pm**, we will have a service on this night with a theme especially geared for those who are seeking comfort and healing. Anyone who would like to is welcome to go for a bite to eat after the service.

No Rehearsal Nativity

Children, youth, and families are invited to join us in our Christmas pageant on **Christmas Eve at the 6:00pm service**. This pageant will require no rehearsal for the characters and children are invited to bring a costume or borrow a costume on Christmas Eve.



NEXT WEEK'S CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

18-John Oliver
18-Naomi Faw
18-Lisa Beard
20-Caleb Hawkins

ANNIVERSARIES

17-Tim & Heather Murphy
20-Bob & Alline Skees

PRAYER LIST

Please remember in your prayers

All those who are ill or unemployed.
All those who are on our prayer list.

ILLNESS

Rik Absher, Carol Ambrose, Jim Andrews, Lizzie Baity, Joe Barber, Rayburn Byrd, Ken Canter, Hayden Cleary, Rancene Cook, Ann Davis, David Eller, Ernestine Freas, Ann Fortuna, Gail Gattis, Mike Graf, Edward C. Griffith III, Janet Hartzog, Margo Hurd, Steve Jackson, John Jacobson, Joan Knox, Jack Lucas, Wes Martin, Maggie McCann, Ann McNeill, Bertie Pardue, Jeffrey Parisi, Curtis Parker, Ester Small, Duane Smith, Gaynell Stone, Jacob Triplett, Jerry Waddell, Donna Webber, and Cole Younger.

ARMED FORCES

Let us pray for the safety of **all our troops**, especially Rob Beauchaine, Alex Cline, Philip Cooney, Karl Duerk, Mike Earley, William Grant, Edward C. Griffith IV, Jonathan Johnson, Brandon Moore, Russ Necessary, Charlie & Lauren Pendry, Adam Pinkerton, Philip Southwell, Mark Stone, Nathan Wyatt, and all others who serve in Iraq, Afghanistan and throughout the world.

Please send to the church office the addresses of troops with connections to office@stpaulwilkesboro.org.

Outreach Food Collection:

For December, our collection is canned spaghetti. At the end of the month this collection will be taken to Hospitality House. A box will be placed in the Commons for all donations.

The Outreach Committee appreciates your support in our efforts!



Dish Cloth Project



Attention all knitters, we need knitted dish cloths for our project. We are giving them to Safe House and the Assistance program.

If you are not a knitter and want to participate we will need travel size bottles of shampoo, conditioners, lotion, toothpaste, body wash, baby powder, etc. If you knit and need a pattern for the cloths or if you have any

questions please contact Carol Canter at 336-838-9122 or 336-566-1311 or e-mail at ccanter123@gmail.com.

SUNDAY'S READINGS: THE LITURGY FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2017

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me;

he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,

to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;

to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;

to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,

the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;

they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.

For I the Lord love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;

I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;

all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;

for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,

as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,

so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

Psalm 126

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

Then they said among the nations, *
"The Lord has done great things for them."

The Lord has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.

Restore our fortunes, O Lord, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.

Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.

Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

John 1:6-8, 19-28

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

Sunday Servants	December 17
Chalice Bearer/Lector 8:30am	Bob Will
Usher 8:30am	Paul Hubbard
Chalice Bearer 10:30am	Kent Wansley Gwen Temple
Lector 10:30am	Mary Southwell
Prayers of the People 10:30am	Cynthia Palazzolo
Oblation Bearers 10:30am	Ron Myers Tana Myers
Acolyte Leader 10:30am	Faw
Acolytes 10:30am	Crucifer 1-Luke Sturdivant Torch-Julie Koch Torch-Amelia Koch Gospel Carrier-Bram Koch Server-Bram Koch
Greeters 10:30am	Monty Shaw Diane Shaw
Communion Bread	Sheree Sloop
Ushers 10:30am	Joe Manolovich, Chief Colleen Manolovich Steve Jackson Robert Baugh
Altar Guild	Mary Lankford Betty Morris Sharon Greene
Nursery Volunteer	Mark Williams Rachel Minick
Feed My Sheep Shepherd	Gwen Temple

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.