

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

201 E Ridge St., Marquette MI 49855
906-226-2912

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday &
Friday 9am-5pm
find us on [Facebook](#)



This Week at St. Paul's December 18– December 25

Marna Franson – Missioner – marna@upepiscopal.org
Kris Mowafy – Senior Warden – kristenmowafy@outlook.com
Fred & Cathy Cole – Junior Co-Wardens – grecole@yahoo.com
Sierra Larson – Administrator – stpaulschurch201@gmail.com

Episcopal News Service is an excellent tool to inspire the Way of Love where we live. To sign-up for ENS you can connect at <https://www.episcopalnewsservice.org> and in the banner is Subscribe.

Congregational Survey

The Vestry team has thoughtfully developed a questionnaire to be distributed to the congregation. This survey will go out electronically to all members, and we will have paper copies available for those who prefer to fill it out that way. We feel that it is important to get a clear vision of what people are feeling about our church and our mission. Because we would like to meet with as many congregants as possible to discuss our findings, we have set several dates and times to meet. We will meet in the library of the church on Sunday January 14, from 11:30 – 12:30, Sunday, January 28 from 11:30 – 12:30, and Wednesday, January 31 from 4:30 – 5:30. The outcome of the survey will be discussed at the next Annual Meeting. I urge you to fill out a survey and come to one of the scheduled meetings so that your voice can be heard. Respectfully, Kris Mowafy, Senior Warden

[Navigating the Shadows](#)

"The holiday season is often synonymous with joy, celebration, and togetherness. However, for some individuals, it can be a time of heightened emotional

distress, leading to an increased risk of suicide. While the festivities may be in full swing, it's crucial to acknowledge and address the challenges that many people face during this time"

Click the link above to learn more.



*The Messenger Deadline for January's edition has changed! The new deadline will be Monday, December 18th by 5pm. Please get all submissions to Meg Goodrich & Jane Ryan.

* The church office will be closed from Monday December 25- Tuesday January 2nd returning on Wednesday January 3rd. There will NOT be a "This week at St. Paul's" during that time. Any important information that needs to be sent out will be sent out via email.

Our December soup supper on December 27th will be pizza. Donations of pop, for our guests, can be left in the church kitchen at any time. Also, cookies, bars or candy would be happily accepted, and can be left in the kitchen or in the refrigerator

Happening this Week

Monday 12/18:
Office Open 9-2:30

Messenger Deadline- Please be sure to get your submissions to Meg Goodrich & Jane Ryan

2-5:30pm: Voice & Piano Lessons Chapel

6:30–8:30pm: MSO strings rehearsal *Chapel*

Tuesday 12/19:

2–6:45: Voice & Piano Lessons *Chapel*

2–6:45pm: String Lessons *Church*

Wednesday 12/20:

Office Open 9–5pm

2–5pm: Voice & Piano Lessons *Chapel*

5–6:30pm: Tai Chi *Chapel*

2–6:30pm: String Lessons *Church*

7pm: Choir Practice *Church*

Thursday 12/21:

2–6:15: Voice & Piano Lessons *Chapel*

6:30–8:30pm: Winter Solstice *Chapel*

Friday 12/22:

Office Open 9–5pm

Sunday 12/24:

10am: Choir Practice *Church*



10:30–12pm: Holy Eucharist *Church*

10:30–1:30pm: Quakers *Library/J2A*

7pm: Christmas Eve Service *Church*

7–9pm: ACOA *Library*

SELF-CARE BINGO

 TOOK A SHOWER	GOT DRESSED TODAY	 talked TO A friend	SAT WITH MY FEELINGS	 gave myself a compliment
MOVED MY BODY JOYFULLY	 ate food	LISTENED TO MY BODY	 CHALLENGED NEGATIVE THOUGHTS	HAD FUN
 WENT OUTSIDE	TRIED SOMETHING NEW	STAYED ALIVE	practiced being mindful	 DID A HOBBY
used a coping skill	 LET MYSELF CRY	took a break	 ASKED FOR HELP	GOT SHIT DONE
 BRUSHED MY TEETH	practiced self compassion	 DRANK WATER	TREATED MYSELF	 got 7-9 hours of sleep

Think Scrip!

A smaller congregation at St. Paul's has led to a smaller participation in the scrip program. This program has contributed over \$10,000 to St. Paul's during the last 11 years and we would like to continue to give financial support. But we need your help to make this happen! Please "Think Scrip" when you are purchasing groceries, gas, gifts and eating at restaurants.

Questions?

Call Ann Smith at 906 249-9389 or Barb Carpenter at 906 362-3875

St. Paul's Episcopal Church Scrip Order Form

Buyers Name: _____ Phone: _____ Date of Order _____

Paid by: Check # _____ (Make checks payable to: *St. Paul's Scrip Program*) Cash _____

Vendor	% Profit	Dollar Denomination	Quantity	Total
Babycakes Muffin Co.	10%	\$10		
Border Grill	10%	\$25		
Donckers	10%	\$25		
Downwind Sports	10%	\$25		
Downwind Sports	10%	\$50		
Tadych's Marketplace	3%	\$25		
Tadych's Marketplace	3%	\$50		
Tadych's Marketplace	3%	\$100		
Getz Dept Store	8%	\$25		
Getz Dept Store	8%	\$50		
Circle K Gas Station	4%	\$25		
Circle K Gas Station	4%	\$50		
Circle K Gas Station	4%	\$100		
Huron Mtn Bakery	10%	\$10		
Jeffrey's Restaurant	10%	\$10		
Mqt Food Co-op	10%	\$25		
Mqt Food Co-op	10%	\$50		
Mqt Food Co-op	10%	\$100		
Snowbound Books	10%	\$25		
Snowbound Books	10%	\$50		
Snowbound Books	10%	\$100		
The Gathered Earth	10%	\$25		
The Gathered Earth	10%	\$50		
The Gathered Earth	10%	\$100		
Third Street Bagel Co.	10%	\$10		
Togo's Sub Shop	10%	\$10		
Vango's	10%	\$10		
Vango's	10%	\$20		
Wood Jewelers	15%	Any amount		
Order Total				

Date picked up: _____

Signature _____

Mail this order form with check or money order to:

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 201 E. Ridge St., Marquette, MI 49855

or drop this order form off at the church between 9 am – 5 pm, Mon, Wed, & Fri or on Sunday morning

Questions? Call 226-2912

Our St. Paul's vestry yesterday, welcomed the questions about "Where was the Manger Shed, and the empty manger? Why was the Creche

missing?” Thank you to those who asked one of our vestry members these very questions. Questions can often help to determine a focus.

We asked Bob Railey, our worship coordinator, to talk with us about how that came about.

As with most decisions, through a mix of conversations, the seasonal planning team made a recommendation to not display the creche this year. As a community of Faith, we are seeking, learning, and engaging in the mission of Becoming Beloved Community. Our Covenant group is reading “Walking the Way of Love” based on the work of Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, and a resource from The Episcopal Church: “Centered: A Christian Discipleship experience” All of these resources influence us as we seek to serve Christ in all persons and to respect the dignity of every human being. The seasonal planning team and others looked to the ethnicity of Jesus, Mary, Joseph, the shepherds and honoring their journey to Bethlehem and Christmas.

Our beautiful Manger and Shelter are missed this Advent. It is a way for us to focus our personal and community journey to Bethlehem. This gives us an invitation to ponder and treasure our vision as to how we see the journey to Bethlehem and how we honor the gift of the Crèche offered by the Glass family as well as to open our hearts to the Holy Family we see on the news, from Gaza, Palestine, Israel, the Ukraine, Russia and Brownsville Texas and beyond. Those of us of European descent also see ourselves in the Creche and honor our experience.

Thank you to those who asked about why the Creche is missing as it opens an opportunity for conversation and learning. Awareness is a valuable skill, and our planners are skilled, although humanity and its challenges also play a role. What a wonderful invitation to dream about inclusivity, and occasions to see the journey to Bethlehem as a circle of Creation.

The seasonal planning team decided to not display the crèche this year. We as a community of faith are learning and engaging in the mission of becoming beloved community. And being intentional in honoring the ethnicity of Jesus, and Mary and Joseph and others on their journey to Bethlehem and Christmas.

Thanks to those who asked about why it is missing as we now have an opportunity for conversation and learning. Awareness is a valuable skill, and our planners are skilled, although humanity and its challenges also play a role. Our Journey to Bethlehem is ongoing, and although we have done this for generations it is ever a new journey pregnant with possibilities to experience birth. The Nativity scene invites your conversations. Blessings as we get Nigh Bethlehem. (one of the Burt Carols)

St. Paul's will once again host the Alternative Gift Market this year. AGI is a non-profit organization that inspires support for humanitarian and environmental causes. They offer donors the option to designate charitable gifts through carefully selected agencies in the name of their relatives, friends and associates. On the last three Sundays of Advent-- December 10, 17 and 24-- someone will be at the atrium table to assist you with the order forms, inserts and cards; booklets will be available to read about the projects to support. Please consider making Alternative Gifts part of your family's Christmas tradition.

[*Click here for December's Messenger!*](#)

If you would like to be on the mailing list (email or paper copy) of the Messenger-- please contact Sierra and she will get you on the list!

January monthly Outreach collection will go to Messiah Lutheran's Asylum Seekers' Project

1) For those who may wish to provide support to Messiah's hosting of a family of five refugees from Honduras beyond just our one more per year, here is the mailing address for financial contributions:

Messiah Lutheran Church
Asylum Seekers Fund
305 W Magnetic, Marquette, MI 49855

2) For those who may wish to volunteer in support of this project, we provide the following information: The primary need at this time is for transportation (the family does not have a car). The principal needs in this area are for medical appointments and shopping trips.

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