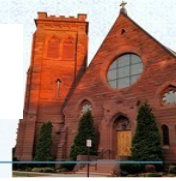


The Messenger

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

A progressive community of faith with ancient roots.



**JANUARY
2025
Volume 29
Number 1**

Holiday Highlights

The Fourth Sunday in Advent, **December 22nd** will be a service of *Lessons and Carols*.

Christmas Eve Service will be, Tuesday, **December 24th** beginning at 5:00 p.m. with the Eucharist and celebration -- we throw open the stable doors and rejoice: Unto us a Child is born, a Son is given, Christ our Hope. See article on late-breaking 11:00 p.m. service (below).

On the 5th **Sunday, December 29th** we will again be Morning Prayer in the Chapel.

As we Embrace Being and Becoming Beloved Community, and we gather to celebrate the Birth of Jesus, we want to invite into our space other cultures, and experiences of creation and people not of European ethnicity. The Manger scene, or Creche, is a gift we use to focus on the gift of Christmas. This year we would like to share our space with multicultural Nativity Sets. If you would like to loan St Paul's a multicultural nativity set; we would love to be able to have them in our worship space in a window ledge or in front near our Manger. Plans are still in the coordination stage so, keep watch. We would like them to be at St Paul's on Sunday, **December 22** after church as we Green the Sanctuary, as well as through the Christmas Season, **January 5, 2025**.

Midnight Christmas Eve Service

by *Margie West*

With the blessings of Marna and the Liturgy Committee, the Wests and the Slotterbacks will be worshipping in the chapel at 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve, Tuesday, **December 24th**. The service will be based on the Book of Common Prayer. This will not be a service with Eucharist /Communion, but there will be carols and candles, the Christmas story, prayers and a hushed moment for meditation. Everyone who longs for the candle glow of lingering light in the midnight darkness is invited to come and share in quiet worship.

This is not meant to be an addition that commits anyone beyond what they have already decided to do. The Wests will be with the worshipping congregation at 5:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve. The Slotterbacks will be at the airport picking up their family. The midnight service fills a need for both families and if this is a service that would meet your desires, we would warmly welcome you. If you are all booked up for Christmas Eve then we send all our Christmas cheer letting you know you are gladly off the hook for any other commitments. So, Hurrah, Christmas is almost here, in large and magnificent worship in our beautiful sanctuary at 5:00 and in small and quiet worship in our small and stunning chapel. Our thanks to all who have worked diligently to share Christmas Worship.

Questions? Please call me or Charlie at (906) 226-3314 or Trish and Floyd Slotterback at (906) 250-6411

Walk In Love – 2024 Stewardship Report

by Charlie West

As of December 15, we have received 26 pledges for just over \$75,000 to support the mission and ministry of St Paul's Church for next year. Thank you to all who give, whether you pledge or not! It is exciting to think of the things we will be able to do as a church family as we "Walk In Love" together through 2025. If you haven't made a pledge yet (either in your mind or on paper!) we encourage you to think and pray and talk about what amount would feel good and right for you to give to God's work through St Paul's Church. Then if you would like to join your pledge to those 26 others, fill out a card (available at the church) and drop it off in the office or put it in the offering plate. Or scan it and email it to StPaulsChurch201@gmail.com, or just mail or email or telephone your name and the amount to the church office! Thanks.

Postulancy Meeting with Bishop Ray a Success

by Marna Franson



After eighteen months of studying and growing together, St. Paul's Covenant Group passed its first milestone in the successful completion of the Postulancy visit with Rayford. The route to ordination and commissioning for Ministry Support Teams is a three-part process: Postulancy, Candidacy, and Ordination/Commissioning. A certain amount of group study and process has to happen before the Postulancy visit so the Bishop can see the group has come

together in such a way that it can be recommended for the route to ordination/commissioning and formation of the Ministry Support Team.

The Covenant group has diligently met every first and third Tuesdays of the month and has tackled subject matters like: the ecclesiology of mutual ministry, church history, Anglican ethos and church canons, racial reconciliation as related to the Doctrine of Discovery, and much more. The group has also prayed together, had focused conversation, grappled with the unfolding identity of the modern church, and laughed at the lunacy of life.

We are so thankful for their dedication.

Covenant groups are open to ongoing discernment so if this process piques your interest or curiosity and you would like to learn more, be sure to contact Marna for conversation. In the meantime, please keep the group in your prayers and thanksgivings.

SAVE THE DATE!

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SAVE THE DATE!

Creative Aging Lunch and Learn – The Hidden Support of Physical Therapy

(bring your lunch if you like, beverages and desserts will be provided)

When: Wednesday, January 15th 2025

Time: 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

Where: St. Paul's Chapel

What: Join in the exciting conversation about physical therapy with three practitioners from Active Physical Therapy of Marquette. We will be learning from them how physical therapy can be used as a tool to maintain strength and flexibility, improve balance, prevent falls, etc. We will learn how to ask our physicians for referrals, how to enlist physical therapists as supportive partners in maintaining health and well-being. We will have time to ask questions and converse about all things related to this topic.

January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
29	30	31 New Year's Eve	Jan 1 New Year's Day	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20 Inauguration Day Martin Luther Kin...	21	22	23
26	27	28	29 Lunar New Year	30

REMEMBER THE DATE ... INVITE SOME FRIENDS

Acolyte (Altar Server) Anyone?



There is tremendous joy in having a liturgical job to do at church during the services.

We have one young person who is ready to be trained as an acolyte. Are there more? If you are interested or think that your child might be interested in exploring the option of serving at the altar, please contact Marna because she wants to have a training after the first of the year.

Finance Wants You

by Linc Frazier

Frank Kerwin recently announced his intention to retire from the St. Paul's Finance Committee. Frank's skills as an accountant have been invaluable and very much appreciated. We will certainly miss his cheerful input on a range of important issues. All the Finance Committee members wish both Frank and Sue the very best and look forward to updates about their Team Brownsville work with new immigrants in South Texas.



St. Paul's Finance Committee will be looking to replace recently retired committee member Frank Kerwin. An accounting or business background including some experience with QuickBooks is desirable but not necessarily required. We hold meetings once every quarter via Zoom, with the exception of one or two face-to-face gatherings in the summer months. If you or someone you know in the congregation would be interested in working on the Finance Committee, please contact Linc Frazier, Finance Committee Chairman, at (562) 480-7723.

Electronic Bulletin Board

by Linc Frazier



Do you want to know at a glance what's going on at St. Paul's? Take a look at the screen in the north entry of the church. This is our new electronic bulletin board. On display is the very latest version of the church calendar, important volunteer assignments, and some fun images from activities all around the church. Let Sierra know if you would like something posted electronically. Your announcement will be hard to miss!

Scrip Sales

We are steadily decreasing our inventory but still have a number of cards for stores in the area. Cards available are for Babycake's, Tadych's Marketplace (Econo), Circle K Gas (Holiday), Marquette Co Op, Togo's, and Vango's. See Barb Carpenter or Ann Smith after Sunday church service or contact Barb by phone at (906) 362-3875 or by email at bandcarpenter@charter.net with your order or questions.



Submission date for FEBRUARY's

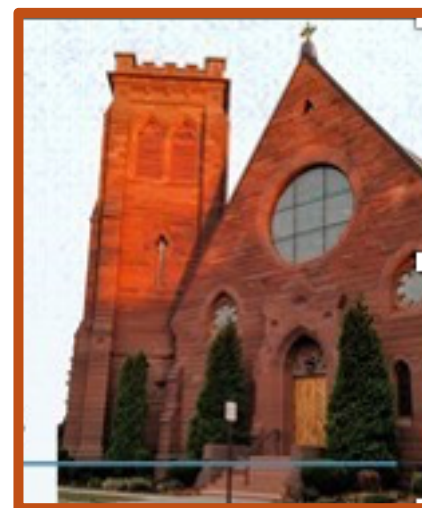
The Messenger

is

Friday,

January 24th

6pm



January Birthdays

Jane Ryan	2
Margaret Jajich	10
Dan Carpenter	11
Peggy Sheehan	28



The Messenger

The Messenger Team

Editor Meg Goodrich

Copy Editor - Jane Ryan **Lay-out** - Jim Edwards

Reporter - Bob Railey **Copier** - Sierra Larson

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