



the CHIMES

WORSHIP ✠ MINISTRIES ✠ OUTREACH

The Newsletter of Saint Paul's Episcopal Church in the City of Chattanooga and The Diocese of East Tennessee

December 2013 — The Seasons of Advent and Christmas

YEAR-END DONATIONS

In keeping with IRS regulations, please remember that year-end donations must be delivered to the Church by noon on Tuesday, December 31, or postmarked by December 31 to receive credit for 2013. Please contact Financial Administrator Gail Winterbauer at winter@stpaulschatt.org or 602-5662 if you have any questions. Thank you for your prayerful support of all of St. Paul's ministries!

2013 CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTION TAX STATEMENTS

Year-end tax statements for 2013 will be USPS mailed by January 31, 2014. Please contact Gail Winterbauer at 602-5662 or winter@stpaulschatt.org if you do not receive your statement by this date or if you have questions. It is advised that you do not file your 2013 tax return until you receive a written acknowledgement of your contributions from the Church.

2014 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Envelopes are not needed for recording your donation. If you give cash and need credit or would still like envelopes, please call 602-5662 or see Gail at the Church Office and she will assign one to you. Thanks!

ANNUAL GIVING

We have received more than 150 pledges of financial support for our ministries together in 2014. These pledges total so far \$475,000. All Vestry members and clergy have pledged. We invite your support of our Annual Ministry Budget through your pledge today. Every pledge counts; every dollar is a ministry dollar. Thank you to all those who have already pledged!

From the Rector

Advent: A Season of Wonderful Things to Come

We sometimes think that we are enlightened and live in the light now — and that at death comes darkness. The Advent Season — a time of things “to come” — reminds us that we live now in an “already but not yet” world in which we do not yet see the fullness of the light of Christ. We see as through a glass, darkly, says Saint Paul. On the First Sunday in Advent we will pray that God will give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. We look forward to the coming of Christ in glory.

And in Advent we look forward as well, of course, to the celebration of the Nativity of the Christ Child.

And these days I am excited about some trends here at St. Paul's in particular: we are ready to focus on ministries more — and to talk about facilities' needs less (even though they are getting ongoing attention from the Capital Projects Team and Vestry). And we are talking more about young families: children, teens and parents — without diminishing our care for parishioners of all ages.

A personal word about pastoral care: As I write I am preparing to be away from the parish for 48 hours, to visit my late mother's only surviving sibling, on her 90th birthday. I have not seen her since a family wedding five years ago — and because she lives in Florida I may not see her in this life again. Trouble is, it requires me to miss a funeral of a courageous and spirited parishioner here. Tough choices. “Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us...” the nineteenth century blessing goes. One of my joys here at St. Paul's is that I get to know parishioners of all ages, and to have a bit of time with them on occasion. Sometimes at birth, sometimes at illness. Sometimes in joy, sometimes in sorrow. We really don't have much time, and so we strive to seize the day, *carpe diem*.

I am heartened by the election of new Vestry members. Any of the ten nominees would be great. The five elected are especially well-suited to needs and opportunities now. They are Hank Hopping, Alison Shaw, Bo Hixson, Russell Craig and Randy Odle. Vestry has elected them Delegates to Diocesan Convention in February — so they join other Vestry members in being “on board” with Diocesan ministries. Great things will come of our Vestry in 2014-1017. (We don't say “goodbye” yet to retiring Vestry members in that they don't retire till February 1.)

Something to which we can all look forward: On Monday, January 6, The Feast of the Epiphany, all adults in the parish are invited to a dinner here hosted by the Legacy Society of the congregation. Put it on your calendar! Chris Andersen, President of the national Lutheran Community Foundation, is our dynamic keynoter.

And in early February the vibrant and spirited Bishop of Aberdeen, Scotland is with us. So the new year is bright!

May you be heartened and encouraged in the quiet Season of Advent — a spiritual respite from all the commercial “holiday” stuff of our culture. We look forward to God's future for us.

Blessings,
Donald

WORSHIP . . . at the heart of all we do

WORSHIP AT SAINT PAUL'S

Sundays

8:00 a.m. Said Eucharist, breakfast following.
10:30 a.m. Sung Eucharist with St. Paul's Choir.

Weekdays (Monday - Friday)

12:05-12:30 p.m. The Holy Eucharist.

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism will be offered on Sunday, January 12. If you are interested in Baptism on that day or in our worship on another day, please speak with the clergy and contact Susan Cardwell cardwell@stpaulschatt.org for receipt of materials.

The Rev. Zach Drennen Returns

Our Guest Preacher on Sunday, December 15 is The Rev. Zach Drennen, founding director of Elewana Education Project in Kenya. Zach is a native of West Virginia and a graduate of Harvard Divinity School. Elewana is a project devoted to developing and expanding the educational opportunities of young Kenyans through cross-cultural partnerships, scholarships, and scholastic resource development. By pairing schools in the U.S. and Kenya, and facilitating interactive relationships between the respective students and administrations, Elewana addresses the significant lack of funding and resources faced by East African schools by drawing together scholastic institutions whose students and faculty can help each other in a relationship of love, mutual respect and support.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS AND GIFTS FOR SPECIAL MUSIC AT CHRISTMAS



To donate poinsettias for Christmas (\$20 per name), please complete the form below and place it in the offering plate of mail it to the Church Office by **Friday, December 6**. Please make checks payable to St. Paul's and indicate *Poinsettias* on the memo line. If you would like to remember or honor someone by helping provide special instrumental music for our Christmas Eve services, please complete the form and indicate *Christmas Eve music* on the memo line of your check.

Christmas Poinsettias _____ or Special Music _____

In memory of _____

In thanksgiving for _____

From _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Christmas at St. Paul's

Tuesday, December 24 — Christmas Eve
New Times!

3:00 p.m. Family Service. Senior Choir Ensemble, St. Andrew, St. Nicholas Choirs. Handbells, Organ, Brass. Arrive very early.

7:30 p.m. Prelude Music.
Senior Choir, Adult Handbell Choir, Organ, Brass, and Timpani.

8:00 p.m. Festival Eucharist.

10:30 p.m. Prelude Music.
Senior Choir, Adult Handbell Choir, Organ, Brass, and Timpani.

11:00 p.m. Festival Eucharist.

Wednesday, December 25 — Christmas Day

No Breakfast, Coffee Hour, or Nursery.

10:30 a.m. Christmas Day Eucharist. Senior Choir & Organ.

Sunday, December 29 — The First Sunday after Christmas

No Breakfast, Coffee Hour, or Nursery.

8:00 a.m. The Holy Eucharist.

10:30 a.m. The Holy Eucharist. Senior Choir & Organ.

Christmas Pageant: Sunday, December 22



Children ages 3 years – 5th Grade are invited to participate in the annual St. Paul's Christmas pageant. There are no tryouts or lines to learn! The Preschoolers are traditionally the angels. The

K – 3rd grades choose between wise people, animals of all sorts, and stars. The 4th and 5th graders can be readers, and they get to draw for a chance to be Mary, Joseph, and the Angel of the Lord. All of this is very relaxed and designed to be fun for the participants and the audience. **Rehearsal is on Saturday, December 21 at 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

If your child can't be at rehearsal and wants to participate, come to the Yo Room upstairs at 10:00 a.m. on the Sunday of the pageant. We will have plenty of costumes to spare. A "Happy Birthday Jesus" cake will be served during the coffee hour as a celebration!

Advent Devotion Resources

As together we watch, wait and wonder in Advent, consider using daily devotionals provided by our diocese and the Society of St. John the Evangelist (SSJE). Go to www.etdiocese.net or www.ssje.org for daily reflections. The SSJE calendar reveals a new window each day with a special Advent word, meditation and image for a moment of solace and reflection on the meaning of Advent and the coming of the Savior's Nativity. Beginning December 17, at that same site you can also access a series of short videos focused on Jesus' coming.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR ADULTS: SUNDAYS AT 9:15 A.M.

December 1 — First Sunday in Advent: Intergenerational Sunday

Advent Wreath Making. Key-Andrews Hall.

December 8, 15 & 22 — Jesus Didn't Really Mean *That*, Did He?

Three-part Series. The Rev. Dr. Rebecca Wright, School of Theology at The University of the South, Sewanee. People who have heard me before probably expect that I will put "social" issues under this heading, and you are right. But I also think we need to start with the foundational statement Jesus makes to disciples and potential disciples: "Follow me." The four gospels report his saying it at least seventeen times. What did he mean? What would our obedience to that command look like today? It probably would have been easier if he had said, "Believe in me" or even "Believe the Creeds." But, alas, that's not what we have in Scripture. And yes, we will probably get to some specific social issues. Huckabay Hall.

Vestry Highlights

At its regular November meeting your Vestry welcomed the newly-elected Vestry members who have seat and voice until they officially assume office February 1: Alison Shaw, Bo Hixson, Russell Craig, Randy Odle and Hank Hopping. Vestry also elected them Delegates to the February Diocesan Convention. Alternate Delegates elected are Rick Govan, Marie Williams Cleary, Andrea Odle and Herb Knowles. Vestry noted a St. Paul's Legacy Society Event on Monday, January 6, The Feast of the Epiphany (a banquet for all adults), and set Saturday, January 25 as the date for the Vestry's Annual Retreat.

Vestry accepted gifts from parishioners who donated an icon from the *Icons in Transformation* Exhibit, as well as three works by Ludmilla Pawlowska:

Old Testament Trinity — Gift of John and Ann Woody, for the Nave

Eyecon — Gift of Lynn Hodge and Barbara Seals, for the Chapel

Door to Paradise — Gift of Carlos Baleeiro and Jennifer Keates-Baleeiro in memory of Hosannah de Oliveira and Martha Barnshaw Keates, for the Nave.

Mirror of Your Spirit — anonymous gift, for the Nave.

Vestry authorized the Capital Projects Team to proceed with restriping of the portion of the rear parking lot nearest our buildings to add additional handicapped and additional "Senior" spaces, at the request of the Rector. Vestry also approved a plan to proceed toward restoration and protection of the "Conversation of Saint Paul" stained glass window in 2014. Funding comes from ongoing gifts to the Capital Campaign.

The Treasurer reported excellent cost and spending controls by staff — but expressed concern that giving is sluggish by some regular donors who give but do not pledge. He encourages them — and pledgers — to help us fund our present Ministry Budget.

The Annual Giving team reported more than 150 financial pledges in hand for 2014, including all Vestry members and the Rector. Pledges are asked of all parishioners.

The Rector reported he is heartened by the Design Team's events to strengthen our family ministries. Five Vestry members are part of those events and brought news of this exciting work to Vestry.

The Rector cited the outstanding ministries of Deacon for Outreach Ann Weeks and said he is glad we are now able to talk more about ministries and less about facilities' needs.

Vestry meets the third Monday of the month. Parishioners are invited.

The Ayai Family's Habitat for Humanity House

The Rev. Ann Weeks, St. Paul's Deacon for Outreach, is pulling together resources and volunteers in support of a Habitat House project for St. Paul's parishioners the Ayai family. The Ayai family came to Chattanooga in 2010 as refugees from the Republic of South Sudan, which has been embroiled in war for over half a century. Your financial contributions and volunteer hours for this project can directly help the Ayai family and their goal of home ownership. To donate to this fundraising effort, please make checks payable to St. Paul's with the memo *Ayai Habitat House*. For more information, contact The Rev. Ann Weeks: 423-802-0939 or weeks305@gmail.com.

What's Goin' On Around Here?

Did you ever wonder about what goes on Monday – Friday at St. Paul's? The weekly Parish Calendar gives some clues, but the real story is in the people, organizations, ministries and more which come through the church doors every day. Our amazing Office Volunteers led by Carol Beard are the welcoming faces and voices of St. Paul's to all who arrive for assistance, meetings, and more. Here's a glimpse of a sample M-F in your church home: Weekday Eucharist at 12:05; 11 or more food vouchers through the Food Bank referred by United Way 211 and other agencies; 20 or more inquiries for assistance with utilities, rent and more from Metropolitan Ministries, United Way, Partnership of Families and Children, the Community Kitchen and more; AA meetings, Symphony ensemble rehearsals, Veterans Support Group, Chamber of Commerce meetings, Diocesan entities, Forward Bereavement Recovery, Centering Prayer, Overeaters Anonymous, and more; Gatherings and rehearsals of a dozen or more ministry groups, Bible Studies, Choirs; 14 women/children are welcomed to the doors of St. Catherine's for lodging, food, and encouragement. Come spend some time with the Office Volunteers and staff to see all that goes on within and beyond the walls of St. Paul's!

New Postulants for Holy Orders

We are pleased to announce that Ben Thomas and Spencer Cantrell are new postulants for Holy Orders — meaning they will be planning to apply to seminary and possible ordination.

Christmas Cards

This Christmas, support a child's education at St. John the Evangelist School, Haiti. The Rev. Ann Weeks, Deacons for Outreach, has St. John School's Christmas Cards available, with a picture of the students on the cover. Inside, you can honor a special person and include your name. **Your card indicates what your gift in their name supports: \$15 (lunch for a year); \$25 (books/uniform); \$100 (one year of tuition).** Make checks payable to: *Outreach Haiti*. Contact Ann Weeks: Weeks305@gmail.com or 423-809-0939.

Episcopal Relief and Development's Gifts for Life

Looking for a way to give to those in need around the world this Advent? Consider Episcopal Relief and Development's Gifts for Life. What is Gifts for Life? It is a special way to change our world for the better by providing lasting solutions that fight hunger, create economic opportunities, support health education and strengthen communities around the world. By putting your faith into action, Gifts for Life empowers both individuals and communities all over the world to transform their lives. **All gifts received by December 6 will be matched to our Global Needs Fund up to a total of \$500,000.** For more information: www.episcopalrelief.org.

Christmas Sharing

The Angel Tree is up in Key Andrews, and the angels flew off the tree, thanks to all of you who started early! We have several more angels for children who wouldn't have Christmas without us! Please sign your Angels out and get the directions and a plastic bag for your unwrapped gifts. **We will be signing out tags until Sunday, December 1, and everything is due back to St. Paul's by December 8.** (Please check the list when you return the gifts.) Shannon Mowrer, 827-4432.

Also, the WalMart Card Tree is beside the Angel Tree, and it will be there until Christmas. You can help our clergy and staff by providing WalMart gift card (\$25) to help those in need. St. Paul's is a United Way 211 site and gives out food vouchers and WalMart cards to those seeking help for everything ranging from food to clothes to gas. Please bring cards to the Outreach person sitting by the trees on Sunday morning or to members of the staff during the week. **Thanks for being such giving people!**



SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

305 West Seventh Street at Pine Street

Chattanooga, TN 37402

(423) 266-8195 • www.stpaulschatt.org

Address Service Requested

Thank you for being a part of your Annual Giving Ministry

**Our Sunday service is broadcast
live each week at 10:30 a.m.
on 95.3 FM WPLZ.**

Or, listen online at: catcountry953.com.

Click on *Listen Live*.

Find the Order of Service at www.stpaulschatt.org. **Are health issues keeping you away from church on Sundays?** Perhaps you might join in our weekday Eucharists in the chapel at 12:05 Monday through Friday. The brief daily service can be a good option when you do not have the stamina for an hour's worth of church. Come join us there, or let us know if you need Communion at home.

Send your email address to steward@stpaulschatt.org to receive *eChimes*, our weekly email newsletter! Deadline for the January issue of *The Chimes*: December 15. Send news to stpaulspubs@gmail.com

SPECIAL EVENTS . . . at St. Paul's Church and around the Diocese

66th Annual Advent Concert Series

During the Season of Advent, concerts are offered as gifts to our community on Wednesdays at 12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist is offered after each concert and concludes at 1:00 p.m. Free-will offerings support the Advent Concert Series. Soup lunch is available at 1:15 p.m. (\$6)

December 4: Chattanooga Girls Choir; LuAnn Holden, director.

December 11: Bryony Stroud-Watson, Violin & David Dunn, Clarinet.

December 18: Chattanooga Symphony Orchestra Woodwind Quintet.

YAMs Third Sunday Lunch

St. Paul's Young Adults will head out to Mojo Burrito (Red Bank) on **December 15**. We'll gather in Key-Andrews Hall after the 10:30 Eucharist and carpool to Mojo Burrito for great fellowship and a tasty meal! Contact The Rev. Andy Olivo: olivo@stpaulschatt.org.

Exum Gallery Show: *Harmony & Hostility*

The Exum Gallery Committee invites you to an exhibit of the works of sculptor John McLeod. His work has been exhibited in multiple galleries throughout the southeast as well as in New York City, with numerous pieces in private collections. **The show runs through December 29.**

Epiphany Dinner: Monday, January 6 at 6 p.m.

Hosted by St. Paul's Legacy Society

All adults in the parish are invited to celebrate the Light of The Epiphany with St. Paul's Legacy Society. Join us for dinner and fellowship! \$12 per person. Key-Andrews Hall.



ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS

Sunday, December 8 at 4:00 p.m.

With St. Paul's Senior Choir, St. Andrew Choir, and Adult Handbell Choir. This beautiful service of scripture, music and prayers, provides a quiet space for our own preparation for the coming of the Christ Child. Be sure to make time to join us. Free-will offerings support St. Paul's outreach projects. Reception follows in Key-Andrews Hall.

Greening of the Nave: Saturday, December 21

Your help is needed in arranging greenery, candles and other traditional decorations which enhance our worship as together we celebrate the birth of the Christ Child. May Mitchell and our other Flower Guild members welcome your help beginning at 11:30 in the Nave. Refreshments will be provided. Come be part of this special time of ministry and fellowship!

The Feast of Lights Pageant

The 77th Annual Feast of Lights Epiphany Pageant will be presented by the youth of St. Paul's on Sunday, January 12 at 6 p.m. All youth in the Parish grades 6-12 are invited to join the fun and fellowship. There will be a brief rehearsal for all those in the Nativity tableau and the characters in the pageant on Saturday, January 11 at 10:00 a.m. Please contact Adam Webb (240-9599 or awebb4vols@hotmail.com) to let him know that you will be able to participate. A King Cake Party will follow the pageant in Key-Andrews Hall.