

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Pleasant Valley, NY



On The Road to Damascus...

Weekly Email Blast

December 7, 2018



For those celebrating Birthdays & Anniversaries:

Jenny Lee Martens, Rebecca Tumbarello, Stephen Garrison,
Todd Hixson, Zachary Ferris, Ellen Towers



Christmas Eve services
will be at 1:00 PM &
5:00 PM in the church.

Holy Eucharist Rite II
with Carols & Hymns.

Everyone is always
invited!

For Christmas Eve Service, we are still in need of
the following. If you can help, please contact [Kay](#)
[Mackey](#):

Ushers - 1pm, Lector - 5pm, Ride for Alice



VESTRY MEETING FOR DECEMBER:

Monday, December 10th meeting and Pot Luck Dinner at 6pm at the Rectory.



THIS WEEK!

Rural and Migrant Ministry

Sunday, December 9th: Last day for RMM donations!



Renewal Works -

Thank you to all who listened to last week's presentation. And to those who were able to stay for our Prayerful Coffee Hour. Stay tuned to see what Renewal Works has in store next.



Acolyte Training

THIS SUNDAY

Sunday, December 9th

11:30 AM - 12:15 PM

In the church

Have you been thinking of serving as an acolyte?
Has someone encouraged you to pray about serving as an acolyte?
Do you want to know more about the whole Acolyte thing?!

Mother Megan will be leading a training on Sunday beginning at 11:30 (for approximately one hour- maybe less!).

Can't attend this training but want to attend one? We'll have more training opportunities throughout the year for different ways to serve in church. Please talk to Mother Megan- she loves this stuff!

Youth Ministry (CONNECT)

THIS SUNDAY

Sunday, December 9th

4:00 - 8:00 PM

at Grace Church, Millbrook

Teenagers from Mid Hudson Valley area Episcopal Churches (and any of their friends!) will gather this Sunday at Grace Episcopal Church in Millbrook. Please call Mother Megan if you're able to go this Sunday- thank you!



From the rector: Living the first, and preparing for the second week of Advent

Welcome to the end of the first week of Advent, people of St. Paul's! I'm looking forward to Sunday and to continuing our walk together toward the Incarnation at Christmas. Following Jesus of Nazareth is always an ADVENTure. When I think about adventures, I think about shoes. Proper footwear can help any adventurer. And when I think about shoes, I think about feet. The people I know and have known throughout the course of my life feel differently about pedicures. I love to talk about pedicures. It's not always pretty, but much about life isn't the kind of pretty that this culture would want photographed and published in a magazine. Still, I'm going to talk about pedicures. Many people I know don't like them. Some have not experienced them. Of those folks, some are not thinking about it, some would like to try one and others have not had one on purpose. And some people love them. I am one of those people. I love the whole thing. No matter how fresh, relieved and relaxed my feet feel after having intentional attention paid to them, I seem to forget about that relief and

relaxation until the very moment I make time to get one again. I wonder if any or all of you reading this can identify with my experience...

For me, this short vignette about pedicures has become somewhat of a life metaphor. A human life is an amazing thing to have. There are days when I feel more aware of this gift of my life, and there are days when I am less aware. I would like to tell you more about those latter days, but I don't recall very much about them because of my lack of intentional awareness living through them. Anyway, here we are, and here's what I want to share with you: we are human beings and we live in human bodies. During this season of Advent, I have felt invited by God through the person of Jesus to reflect on what it means to live an embodied life. A life where I pay attention to little things that really aren't so little, and things that seem big, too. The living God comes among us as a human being in a human body at Christmas. What can we receive from God's gift of humanity and our own? What does living in a human body among other humans living in bodies give us access or insight in to that we can use to connect to one another? Or divide from one another? What does it mean to you and to us to reflect on any of these thoughts and questions?

I'll be praying for us and with you along the way to Christmas. Remember where your feet are. Literally and/or figuratively. I am present when I am where my feet are.

And I am grateful for this life and to be walking in and through it with all of you.

In peace,
Mother Megan



*** REMINDERS ***

Adams Gift Cards: Year-Round Fundraising

Available at both Sunday morning services. Please see Debby, Ginny, or Marilyn. St. Paul's receives 10% of the card value bought through our church. If you shop at Adams or give gift cards as gifts, our ministries benefit from this fundraiser. Thank You!

Communications

If you use Facebook, please like & follow the [St. Paul's page](#). Also, please invite people you know who may be interested in the mission and outreach ministries at St. Paul's. Let's get the WORD out!



Weekly Ministry Schedule

First Wednesdays -

1:00 PM Holy Eucharist - Rite II w/prayers for healing - ADA Access

6:45 PM Ecumenical Food Pantry

PV United Methodist Church, Volunteers Welcome!

All other Wednesdays:

1:00-2:30 PM Bible Study: Sepe Room, Parish Hall

Fridays:

6:00 PM: Evening Prayer in the Church

Sundays:

9:45 AM Sunday School

11:30 AM - 12:00 PM Adult Ed: Sepe Room, Parish Hall





Are you enjoying the newsletter, On The Road to Damascus? Do you have suggestions? Is there someone else you think might like to receive a copy? To subscribe simply send an email to stpaulspv@gmail.com with the name and email address you want added. Help us spread the Word.

Do you have an announcement you would like included in this newsletter? Send an email to stpaulspv@gmail.com with the details. It's that easy!



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