

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The

EPISTLE JANUARY 2016



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Nancy Adams
Donato Caferra
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Rick Harris
Sandy House
Kay Saderholm
Nancy Tompkins
Liz Whitman

Treasurer Marilyn Kirchner
Assistant Treasurer
Terri Ghee
Clerk of the Vestry
Kay Mackey

Music Director
Marilyn Kirchner

Organist
Alice Cann

Epistle
Kay Mackey

Seeking Together– Happy Epiphany 2016

“During the darkest months of the year, the church finds itself in the season of Epiphany, the season of light. In Epiphany, our scripture readings remind us that through the gift of Jesus, God has caused a new light to shine in our hearts. Jesus has come to fulfill what has been said in scripture that is to cast a new light, a new story, a new possibility, a new way out of darkness. And I dare say a creative way out of the darkness, a way that shows us a world that is overwhelmed by light.”

—*Jack Alvey*



Dear St. Paul's Parish Family:

A very blessed new calendar year to each of you! We began our church new year with the season of Advent, and now we are given another opportunity to reflect on our daily lives as followers of Jesus. Many of us will decide to make New Year's Resolutions for 2016, and that is not a bad idea. In addition to the list we make for the new year and all of the possibilities ahead of us, the season of Epiphany offers us space and time to remember where we have been— and to recommit to where we are going. Or at least who we are following!

May the peace of God be with each of us as we continue to put one foot in front of the other in our daily lives. May the love of God sustain us for the journey. And may the hope we have through experiencing the person of Jesus fill our hearts with joy no matter the circumstance.

O Come Let Us Adore Him!

In Peace,

Mother Megan

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Sunday Services

***Holy
Eucharist
8AM-Rite I
10AM-Rite II
With music***

***9:45AM– Sunday
School
Join us for fellow-
ship and refresh-
ments following
the 10 AM service***

***Wednesday
9:15AM Morning
Prayer***

***Friday
5:30PM Evening
Prayer***

Happy Epiphany 2016 *continued*

Collect for the Feast of the Epiphany:

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen



Please mark your calendar and plan to attend the 10am worship service Sunday, **February 7, 2016.**

The following important events will take place that will be of interest to all members of St. Paul's.

1. Participation in the election of vestry members. Nominations may be made from the floor.
2. Treasurers Report
3. Committee Reports- A handout will be available to everyone containing results of all the activities that went on at St. Paul's in 2015, as well as reports on fundraisers, the annual financial and budget reports.
4. Questions and comments will be gracefully accepted and addressed.

——Comments from your editor,” Before I became a vestry member and then clerk of the vestry I was unaware of the tremendous involvement of so many parishioners as well as our Rector and friends of St. Paul's that it takes to make our parish run smoothly. That is why I encourage every member of the church, who is able, to attend this yearly meeting. Since this is the season of light this meeting will shine a light on how St. Paul's will live into our mission.”——*Kay Mackey*

True to our motto of “feeding the body and soul”, a pot luck luncheon will follow the meeting.



A photo from the pot luck luncheon following the 2015 Annual Meeting.

Prayers of the People



One year ago we tried a new pattern of prayer during our worship services. We began asking for first names of those for whom you requested prayers. That way they would be prayed for in a consistent manner while they were sick or in need. We will continue with requests for prayers either silently or aloud. We will be using Form 4 on p338 BCP during the Epiphany season.

We have found that our lists are not consistently updated by those requesting prayers so we are planning to revise the prayer list the last Sunday of the month. The names of the sick or those in need will be kept on for one month. If you wish to have prayers continued please e-mail or call Mother Megan or one of the Eucharistic Ministers to update the list.

We continue to pray for those serving in the military and foreign service, and the current names as those we know are continuing to serve. Please contact Mother Megan or a Eucharistic Minister to update this list.

We will continue to use the Prayer Box to receive prayers that are said during the Friday—Evening Prayer service at 5:30pm. Please attend as you are able.

“Pondering from the pew”

We have had requests for a section of the “Epistle” to be dedicated to thoughts, comments, questions that you wish to share. You may write this on a scrap of paper and hand it to your editor, Kay Mackey or mail it c/o Mother Megan at St. Paul’s, or email it to stpaulspv@verizon.net. Use the word “pondering” on the subject line.

One of our recent questions, prior to this article, was “Why are many Episcopal church doors painted red?”

The following is a comprehensive response from the following website: ameganfindsartinphilly.sweblog

Radical and controversial symbols (19th & early 20th century): “... Obviously, there is no one definitive answer to this query. The story as it was delivered to me is that church doors were painted red — as a sign of sanctuary, — as a reminder of the Passover, — as a sign of the Holy Spirit, — as a reminder of the Martyrs etc... all of the things mentioned. And yes this history is long and goes back indeed to the Middle Ages (or perhaps even to the time of the Torah in the Hebrew Scriptures). However, with all of this rich imagery abounding it still was the case in Great Britain and Canada in the 19th and early 20th century that only certain parishes painted their doors red. These were Anglo-Catholic parishes of the Oxford Movement (at least this was how it was reported to me by Urban Anglo-Catholic slum priests in Detroit and Toronto). In addition, a cross might appear on the parish steeple on these parishes. These were bold and controversial symbols at one time. Candles on the altar, liturgical vestments, Processional Crosses, Red Doors, Steeple Crosses, Weekly Eucharist, (not mention incense, bells, and lights that twinkle — ie votive candles) these were all considered radical. ... The American Church experience has always been more eclectic. A few decades ago “High Church” or “Anglo-Catholic” parishes probably had red doors more commonly than “Liberal Protestant Parishes” (these were far more common in the American experience than the Evangelical parishes of Britain and Canada). ...” —Kenneth M. Near, Rector St. Paul’s Church, Englewood, NJ (1)



**St. Paul's Episcopal
Church is a Christian
family of caring
people who strive to
support and nurture
each other and
their community
through faith and the
grace of God.**

Mark your Calendars for January 2016

January 6th– 6:30-8pm St.Paul's volunteer night at PVE Food Pantry, followed by gathering at Madisons.

January 10th Sunday– Members of the nominating committee will be announced to the congregation (this is one month before the Annual Meeting (Feb. 7th)

January 11th– 7pm– Vestry meeting. Committees meet at 6:30pm

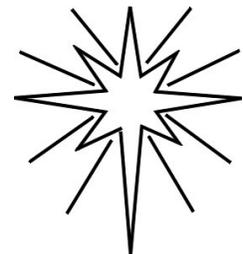
February 7, 2016– Sunday– Annual Meeting & Election

January 2016– Happy Anniversary and Happy Birthday to all

4. Trampus Evans
5. Liz Whitman & Alyce Senior
7. Rita Ann Carver
8. Greg Baluzu
9. Donald McCarthy
11. Jessica Shaw
12. Keith Beyer
13. Robert Cameron Strain
16. Will Kern
Michael Macak
Bryant Rawls
17. Jeff Kutner
Tanja White
18. Tara Tumbarello
22. Ken Beyer
Teddy Shaw
23. Barbara & William Albrecht
24. Anna DeMarco
Rev. Megan Sanders
26. Scott Case
28. Daniel Olson
29. Geraldine Knechtel
31. Troy Hassan



WORDS OF WISDOM
for the season of Epiphany



“As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led to Thee.”

Hymn 119– 1982 Hymnal

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2015



