

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The

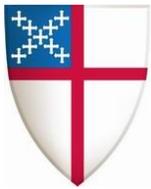
EPISTLE

December 2013



PO Box 1449 (Traver Rd. at the corner of Rte. 44), Pleasant Valley, New York 12569
Tel: 845-635-2854 stpaulspv@verizon.net www.stpaulspv.org

Bishop of New York
The Rt. Reverend
Andrew Dietsche,



Wardens

Debby Glynn, 635-8756,
Nancy Lutz,
Office 463-5446
Cell 464-8484

Vestry Members:

Nancy Adams
Donato Caferra
Terri Ghee
Rick Harris
Toni Howell
Kay Mackey
Lesley Sprauer
Roger Tumbarello
Liz Whitman

Treasurer Marilyn Kirchner

Assistant Treasurer
Terri Ghee

Clerk of the Vestry
Kimberly Marker

Music Director

Marilyn Kirchner

Organist

Alice Cann

Epistle

Kay Mackey

Letter from your Wardens

Advent begins December 1st. This is a time to prepare our hearts and homes to celebrate Christ's birth. It is also the time to join together to prepare our church for this important event. We will be having our Pageant on December 22 during the 10 a.m. service. Father Richard Witt will be with us for both services that Sunday. We will be 'greening' the church and Parish Hall after church and will then enjoy a light lunch together as in years past.

We welcome back the Rev. Deborah Dresser for the 6 p.m. Christmas Eve Eucharist. Alice will be playing hymns for us to sing prior to the start of the service. Come early. St. Paul's will be aglow with candles, wreaths and pointsettias. Join us for this beautiful service commemorating the coming of the Christ Child. We end with the singing of Silent Night in the darkened church. It is truly a magical moment.



CROPwalk Update***

For the second year in a row, St. Paul's raised more than \$1,500 for CROPwalk! Many thanks to all our walkers and supporters, especially Brianna Harris who brought in over \$500 by herself! Congratulations to Brianna from all of us. See photo of Brianna & her father on page 5.

La Clase de Ingles Como Secundo Idioma

Our class in English as a Second Language is scheduled to begin December 10. If you know someone who would be interested, please spread the word. The class is free and will be held on Tuesday nights. Grace Church Millbrook is helping us to organize it and will support us during the start up. A big thank you to Evelyn Garzetta from Grace Church and Denis Freeman, who has offered to teach the class.

Diocese of New York— Marilyn Kirchner and Debby Glynn again were the attendees. The candidates were seated in front of the group and responded to various questions. Debby Glynn will be attending the Diocesan Convention on December 7 to participate in the election..



Sunday Services

*Holy
Eucharist*

8AM-Rite I

*10AM-Rite II
With music*

*9:45AM– Sunday
School/ Infant and
child care*

*Coffee hour
Follows the
10AM service*

Brief Notes from the recent past

The Mid Hudson Regional Council met at St. Luke's Beacon on October 26. The theme of the gathering was Celebrating Diversity. Marilyn Kirchner and Debby Glynn, who attended, heard an address from Bishop Dietsche, saw a talent show by members from the council, and celebrated the eucharist, Bishop Dietsche presiding, at the end of the day.

A funeral and burial service was held for Andre Hartzell at St. Paul's on November 8, the Rev. Charles Kramer officiating. Andy and his wife Martha were long time active members of St. Paul's before moving to Florida. They will be sorely missed.

A 'walkabout' at Trinity Fishkill was held November 12, for local clergy and parishioners to meet the candidates for Suffragan Bishop for the Diocese of New York. Marilyn Kirchner and Debby Glynn again were the attendees. The candidates were seated in front of the group and responded to various questions. Debby Glynn will be attending the Diocesan Convention on December 7 to participate in the election.

Priest Schedule for December

DEC. 1,8 & 15- Father Michael Shafer

Dec. 22nd- Rev. Richard Witt- Pageant, with greening of the Church, Followed by soup and sandwiches.

Dec.24th- 6PM- Rev. Deborah Dresser- Come early as there will be Christmas carols prior to the Celebration of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Dec. 29th– 8AM Morning Prayer
10AM Morning Prayer with hymns

See the Parish website calendar for a list of days and times for the Church School, Teen Program, Adult Christian Education, Sunday Reading & Discussion, and Evening Prayer.

Outreach

FOOD PANTRY— Please continue to bring non perishable goods to Sunday Services. Our parish volunteer evening is the first Wednesday of the month from 7 to 8 PM. Are you able to spare one hour a month to help feed the hungry? Contact Liz Whitman at 845-26-3903 for more information.

RURAL & MIGRANT MINISTRY CHRISTMAS STORE— See flyer in parish hall for list of items requested. New, unwrapped items. Leave price tags on please.

COLLECTION ENDS December 8th.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE—begins December 10th, in the Parish Hall, 6-9 PM. See page 1, message from the wardens and see flyer on our web page.

Outreach-continued

THRIFT SHOP

Thrift Shop Luncheon Meeting



A St. Paul's Thrift Shop luncheon meeting was held October 25th at the Village Restaurant in Pleasant Valley. Ellen Kutner had sent out an invitation letter prior to the meeting, and in it she asked for ideas on changes people thought might be helpful in making the Thrift Shop more efficient. The Thrift Shop is the largest fundraising endeavor at St. Paul's and over the years it has contributed between \$4,000 and \$6,000 per year. It is also a continuing part of St. Paul's mission to the community.

The meeting was opened with a prayer led by Kay Mackey. Ellen Kutner then thanked all for coming and for their work at the Thrift Shop. Ellen then explained the work that is done by the behind-the-scenes volunteers at the Shop. They sort incoming merchandise, price it, and hang it. They bag up items that will be donated, put out the trash, vacuum, clean, and decorate the Shop. If you, or someone you know, would like to be part of this behind-the-scenes work please contact Marilyn Kirchner or Ginny Johnson, or leave a message at the church office at 635-2854.

Ellen also explained that to keep the Thrift Shop neat and the merchandise fresh, we periodically donate excess inventory of useable clothing to various agencies in the area. This year we have donated to the Lutheran Care Center, the Lunchbox, AOK, Dressed For Success, and Suited To Succeed.

Ellen went on to thank the volunteers who man the store during the Thrift Shop open hours (Wed & Sat, 10am to 1pm). We currently have 9 people who sell in the Thrift Shop. We are interested in exploring the possibility of expanding the hours or days of operation. If you, or someone you know, would like to be part of the Thrift Shop sales force please contact Marilyn Kirchner or Ginny Johnson, or leave a message at the church office at 635-2854. You can work along side an experienced salesperson to learn more about the job.

The luncheon meeting was very enjoyable and gave the Thrift Shop personnel many new ideas on how to organize to help increase sales and improve the look of the Shop. Thanks go out to all those involved for their hard work and continuing support of St. Paul's Thrift Shop.

Search Committee news

The search committee is happy to report that we are now at the stage of Receiving Names of those who are interested in being the next permanent priest at St. Paul's! We ask your prayers for wisdom and guidance during this process.

We also need to remind all parishioners that this process is completely confidential. Members of the committee cannot discuss possible candidates.

Thank you for your prayers, your confidence and understanding.

Christmas Flowers-Please help us decorate our lovely church for Christmas. Send names of those you wish to remember to Barb Rawls (barbara.rawls2@verizon.net) or to the church by 12/18. Checks may be sent to St. Paul's or put in the plate on Sunday.



**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.**

In Appreciation for all you do

A message from your treasurer-

Our stewardship campaign is coming to a close. We have received 41 pledges as of Nov.22 with at least 6 more expected. Our total at the moment is close to \$60,000. The stewardship homilies were most inspiring and I am thrilled to say that over half of the pledges have increased for 2014. Thank you for showing how much St. Paul's means to you.

If you want to know where you are at this point with your 2013 pledge, call Marilyn Kirchner (635-3431). The end of the year statements will be issued in January.

Thank you everyone.

We had a very busy October and November with many fun-draising activities as well as service to others and work to keep our church and church grounds looking great.. We had Crop Walk, UTO, a Craft Fair, Pampered Chef Party, and Fall clean up. This all takes your time and talents and we are grateful for each others friendship and fellowship. .



Mark your Calendars– December coming attractions

Dec.1st; Dec.7&8; and Dec. 14&15. (Three weekends)

St. Paul's has been invited to run the food wagon at Fabulous Furs Christmas Tree Farm, 664-702 Van Wagner Road, Poughkeepsie this Christmas season.

Shifts to run the food wagon are 11:30– 3PM

St Paul's offers a simple menu of hotdogs, chili, sausage and peppers, coffee, cocoa and hot spiced apple cider. We are looking for volunteers to help sell and serve at the wagon and also for donations of baked goods such as individually wrapped cookies and brownies. If you wish to make any goodies you can drop them off at the parish hall. If you have any questions or wish to sign up, contact Nancy Adams 635-1448 or 464-2659.



Dec. 7– Diocesan Convention-Our warden Debby Glynn will attend to vote on the new Suffragan Bishop.

Dec.8– Last day to leave gifts for Rural & Migrant Ministry Christmas store

Dec.9– Vestry Meeting

Dec.17– Claudio Coppola Cares, Memorial Food Drive– Last day to bring in non perishable foods for the food drive.

Dec.22– 10AM– Christmas Pageant, greening of the church, followed by a soup/sandwich lunch.

Jan.25th (Snow date: Feb.8th) - Safe Church Workshop– see poster on the website and posted in the parish hall.

December Birthdays

- 1 Catherine Arena
- 2 Linda Rothman
- 3 Christi Battistoni
- 6 William Kern
- 9 Rebecca Tumbarello
Stephen Garrison
- 10 Elissa Colgan
Todd Hlxon
Zachary Ferris
- 12 Barbara Rawls
- 15 Ellen Towers
- 19 Turk Hassan
Arlene Marchant
- 24 William Ottaway
- 26 Gina Olson
- 28 Sean House
Ryan Caferra
- 29 Esther Ottaway
Kyle Beyer
- 30 Laura Wetzel
- 31 Tristan Battistoni

Anniversary

- 1 Bill & Ingrid Kern



Rick & Brianna

