



St. Paul's Quarterly Newsletter
St. Paul's Episcopal Church Worcester Parish
3 Church Street, Berlin, Maryland 21811

Advent/Christmas 2020 Edition

From The Rector

Dear Parish Family:

Advent begins on the last Sunday in November – right around the corner! As we have proceeded through this time of Pandemic, I believe it is important to reflect on choices we have made for our lives together as a Parish. We need to see what is working and what might need to change.

An example of this has been returning to two services on Sunday and alternating between Livestream and In-Person. What we have found is that attendance at the 8:30 Service has maintained a steady attendance near what we had before the Pandemic. 10:30, however, has been very sparse, usually five or less.

What we are going to be trying for the Seasons of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany is to have In-Person Worship at 8:30 and Livestream at 10:30 every Sunday. One of the blessings that will come with this is the ability to be more creative in providing music at 10:30. When we have people in the congregation, we have not been able to sing. We have felt comfortable singing with the small group of people who are present for the Livestream. At the end of Epiphany, we will again evaluate if this is a best way to continue offering worship at St. Paul's.

You will also note on another page in the newsletter that we will be having only one service on Christmas Eve. It will be at 8:00 p.m. There will be incense used, and we will also be instituting a reservation system for that service only. The plan we submitted to the Diocese says that we can have a maximum of 50 people. If you are planning on attending the Christmas Eve service, please email (churchstreet3@aol.com) or phone (410-641-4066) the office to make your reservation. This service will also be Livestream for those who cannot be there in person.

Some other things to note about Advent are that we will be having a preaching series, as well as a Virtual Advent Tea. You will see more information on other pages.

It is my hope that perhaps the pandemic will give us a little more time to be quiet and less busy. Please take the time to prepare for Jesus during Advent.

Blessed Advent,

The Very Rev'd Michael D. Moyer OGS



Andrew Cropper Ordained on Sunday, November 1st

On Sunday, November 1st, All Saint's Day, Andrew Cropper was ordained to the Sacred Orders of Deacons at St. Paul's by Bishop Santosh Marray. I was surrounded by family and friends that have supported me through my discernment to get to this point of ordination. The journey started back in February 2007 when I received my call to the ministry. Almost 14 years later of prayerful discernment and conversations with family and friends and especially the conversations that were had with Barry Neville and the support that he provided through being my former professor, to being his graduate teaching assistant, to co-teaching courses in religion, and to him working with me on Friday's at Atlantic General as a Volunteer Chaplain. Barry always told me to "hang on it was going to be a long journey and that Life is Good!" On the day of my ordination it was a very rainy day with storms passing through the area but it was midway through the service that at the point of the ordination when the Bishop laid his hands upon me in the liturgy the rain stopped and the sun came out at the point in the service and I knew that Barry and several of my other friends and mentors that have passed on were looking down from heaven and celebrating with me on this special day. In the days after ordination I am looking forward to starting my ministry as a Deacon as I continue on the road to the ordination to the Priesthood. I will only be to St. Paul's for a few more weeks until Christmas Day and then I will be assigned as the Transitional Deacon at All Hallows in Snow Hill under the direction of the Rev'd Chuck Hatfield. I ask for continued prayers as I continue discerning my ministry to become a priest in the Episcopal Church.





My name is Alisha King and very soon I will have the opportunity to become a part of the St. Paul's family. I am excited to become your

deacon! I was ordained to the diaconate on October 11, 2020. I am looking forward to sharing our stories as we get to know one another. I'm depending on you to help me grow and equip me to serve as a bridge between the needs of the world and the church. Here's a little about life as I know it up until now.

In 2013, I became a member of St. Alban's Episcopal Church in Salisbury, Maryland. After joining St. Alban's, I had the opportunity to serve as a Worship Leader, Eucharistic Minister, vestry member, junior warden, Eucharistic visitor, and alternate delegate to the 2017 Convention of the Diocese of Easton. I served as a chalice bearer during the Investiture of Bishop Santosh. I was a lay deputy to General Convention, a lay deputy to the Province III Synod, and a member of the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Easton. In years past, I received the blessing of being able to spend a few Saturdays on Assateague Island with some of the kids from AGAPE.

I was raised in the United Methodist Church, in South Carolina. In 2006 I joined the Episcopal Church and was confirmed by Bishop Jones at St. Paul's on-the-Hill in Winchester, Virginia. I moved to the Eastern Shore from the Shenandoah Valley, in Virginia, 7 years ago. My family includes: my best friend, Gail; our two Welsh terriers, Ian and Finn; and three cats, Joey, Smudgy, and Mouse. During my years in the Diocese of Virginia,

I served in leadership positions at both the parish and diocesan levels.

Parish – member of vestry, senior warden, junior warden, Eucharistic Minister, lector, member of altar guild, treasurer, and chairperson of the parish search committee.

Diocesan –

President of Region XIV (Shenandoah Valley)

2010 – Member of Resolution R14 task group to

"recommend consistent standards to be written into diocesan canons so that, if services of blessing same gender unions are authorized, our clergy and laity have a clearly understood and enforceable set of rules to guide the application of clergy discretion in providing pastoral care to same-gender couples seeking such blessings."

2011 -Title IV Canons -

Disciplinary Board member

2011 – Resolution R10A Task Force on Giving

We are all charged to keep the promise of the Baptismal Covenant "to strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being."

As part of the Jesus Movement, I have to seek out those folks who feel they have no voice and make sure that they know that God loves them and so do I. Most days that looks a lot like - going to Assateague with some kids who've never been to the beach, volunteering at a food bank, listening to someone that wants to be heard, or picking up trash.

Please Note that all In-Person worship is subject to change based on Covid Precautions.

Advent Events 2020

Sundays (Until Further Notice)

8:30 — In Person

10:30 — Livestream

Advent I

Sunday, 29 November

Great Litany at both Services

Preaching Series: "Prepare! The Past"

Advent II

Sunday, 6 December

Preaching Series: "Prepare! The Present"

Saturday, 12 December

Paper Product Drop Off for Hope4Recovery House

11:00—1:00 p.m. *

Saturday, 12 December

Virtual Advent Tea *

1:00-3:00 p.m. via Zoom

Advent III

Sunday, 13 December

Preaching Series: "Prepare! The Future"

Wednesday, 16 December

Game Night via Zoom — 7:00 p.m.

Advent IV

Sunday, 20 December

8:30 — In Person Eucharist

10:30 — Livestream Advent Lessons and Carols

*Details on other pages of this newsletter!

Christmastide
Christmas Eve

8:00 p.m. In Person Solemn Eucharist (Incense)
This service will be Livestreamed as well.
Please Note: Reservations Required for In Person*

Sunday, 27 December
Feast of St. John the Evangelist
*** Livestream Only @ 10:30 ***

Sunday, 3 January
The Second Sunday of Christmas
8:30 — In Person Eucharist
10:30 — Livestream Christmas Lessons and Carols

Wednesday, 6 January
Feast of the Epiphany
Pre-Recorded service available on Facebook Page



*Details on other pages of this newsletter!



Advent Calendar of Giving



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 ADVENT I 25 cents for each candle in your Advent Wreath	30 1 cent for every light bulb in your house	1 Our Parish was founded in 1825, put in \$1.78, a cent for each year	2 1 cent for every shoe in your house	3 Put in the cost of one dinner	4 50 cents for each TV in your house	5 2 cents for each child in your family
6 ADVENT II 25 cents for every house you have ever lived in	7 25 cents for each animal in your immediate family	8 1 cent for each canned good in your pantry	9 10 cents for every room in your house	10 25 cents for every Holiday party you have been invited to	11 10 cents for each member of the Vestry (10x 7= 70)	12 Advent Tea @ 1:00 2.95 — price of a cup of tea at Starbucks!
13 ADVENT III 1 cent for every minute of your favorite Christmas movie	14 2 cents for every clock in your house	15 1 cent for every Christmas card you have received	16 2 cents for every Christmas card you have sent	17 2 cents for every ingredient in your favorite cookie recipe	18 1 cent for each word of your favorite carol	19A tithe (10%) of the most expensive gift you have purchased
20 ADVENT IV ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS 6 cents, 1 cent for each lesson	21 2 cents for every figure in your Nativity Set	22 \$1.00 for every Christmas tree in your home	23 Add up your total and the round it up to the next dollar!	24 CHRISTMAS EVE Service at 8:00	25 CHRISTMAS DAY Christ our Savior is Born!	

Directions: Follow the items as indicated for each day, put the money in an envelope and bring to Church on Christmas Eve or mail a check to the office!

Christmas Memorials

Memorials for Poinsettias* and Greens...Remember your loved ones with a donation to St. Paul's Flower Guild. All donations will be used to buy the decorations for our Church for Christmas.

Make checks payable to St. Paul's Church — Flower Guild — and either place in the offering plate or send to P.O. Box 429, Berlin MD 21811. The deadline for contributions is Thursday, 10 December. Please indicate how you want your donation listed. Thank you.



* The Poinsettias which are purchased range in price from \$5.00 - \$10.00

Christmas Memorials

Your Name _____
 In Memory of: _____
 In Honor of: _____
 or, In Thanksgiving for: _____

From the Treasurer

We continue to be thankful for those who have been sending in their offerings during this time of pandemic. We are currently \$11,000 under budget in our offerings. Although we have our endowment for a cushion, we hope that those who make yearly contributions will again do so this year. The budget for 2021 was created with the hope that we will be returning to the average giving in past years. Thank you for your stewardship.

Advent Retreat For Diocesan Clergy

The Bishop has called on the Clergy of the Diocese to join him in a Virtual Advent Retreat on Tuesday, 1 December and Wednesday, 2 December 2020. He has asked the Clergy to take these two days off and participate in the Virtual Retreat. Please note that Fr. Moyer will be participating. With the exception of emergencies he will not be available on those two days.

Cluster Paper Product Collection

As we have done for the past few years, we will be having a paper product collection to be given to Hope4Recovery House. You will be able to drop off your paper products outside on Saturday, 12 December from 11:00 – 1:00. A collection box will also be available in the Narthex at worship on Sunday, 13 December. This is a part the Ocean Cluster's (St. Paul's, Berlin and St. Paul's By-The-Sea and Church of the Holy Spirit in Ocean City) ongoing relationship with Hope4Recovery House.



A Reminder of General Information For In-Person Worship:

Sanitizing: We have purchased two automatic hand sanitizers. When we begin in-person worship parishioners will wipe their area upon entry and again before they leave.

Social Distancing & Masks: The pews will be roped off to designate seating based on the social distancing capacity. Seating will be on a “first come, first serve” basis.

Until further notice, congregation members will enter for worship by the front door only.

Ushers are keeping a log of who attends each service in case there is a need for contact tracing.

All parishioners are to wear masks from the time they leave their car to the time they return after the service (except when taking communion). Extra masks will be available.

Books and Bulletins:

Electronic Bulletins will be sent weekly . Paper Bulletin copies of these are to be taken home after the service (not returned to the Narthex).

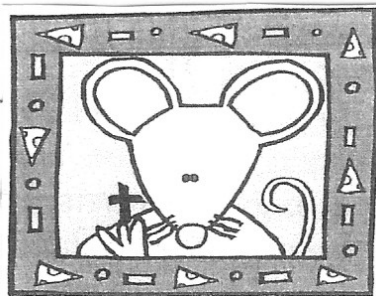
There will be no books in the pews.

Parishioners who have their own Prayer Book will use them and / or may purchase their own to bring to church. (They will bring books to church and take home)

CHURCH MOUSE & OUTREACH
Scheduled Outreach
November/ December

Children's Home Foundation
Samaritan shelter
Diakonia
GOLD (emergency food fund)
Developmental center
Bless our children
Toys for Tots

On Friday
November 27
we will have
extended
hours 11:00
AM-9:00
PM. Each
customer will
receive a
Jingle bell while supplies last.
The Jingle bell makes a joyful sound as we
celebrate the birth of Jesus.



We will continue with the present schedule
open Thursday - Saturday 11:00-
3:00. Also we are continuing to follow all
the CDC guidelines.



REMINDER:

The 5th Annual Advent Tea
Saturday, December 12, 2020
1:00 on Zoom

The Advent Tea will still be held for
members, friends and family of St. Paul's
Church.

We will have all the usual parts of
the program including some surprises.

To sign up for the tea, please send
your email address to Carol Vaughan at
carolv1962@yahoo.com to reserve your
spot.



We will not be able to have the
special tea and all the goodies, but we can
still enjoy the fellowship that has been part
of the Advent Tea from the beginning.

If you do not have the Zoom app on
your computer, you will have to download
[us.zoom](https://us.zoom.us) to be able to participate.

Looking forward to sharing another
season of Advent with the St. Paul's
family.

Carol Vaughan



December Birthdays

- 2 *Lauren Fsham*
- 6 *Dick Brown*
Cindy Bratten
- 8 *Bunky Schul*
- 11 *Wade Wellman*
- 17 *Cathy O'Neill*
- 18 *Sabra McIntosh*
- 20 *Gail Whaley*
James Angstadt
- 22 *Harrison Beckstead*
- 25 *James Hall*

January Birthdays

- 7 *Claire Fsham*
- 8 *Sasha Moyer*
- 9 *Parker McIntosh*
- 11 *Nicholas Lehman*
- 14 *Garrett Cook*
- 21 *Sara Reid*
- 22 *Betsy Abbel*
- 23 *Susan Hutchinson*
- 24 *Susan Wimbrow*
- 29 *Lorraine Westrope*

February Birthdays

- 5 *Bill Mariner*

- 6 *John Westrope*
Skip Smith
- 8 *Austin Main*
- 11 *Douglass Cook*
- 18 *Nancy Cummins*
- 20 *Bonnie Wooten*
- 22 *Gloria Fsham*
- 24 *Bob Abbel*
- 25 *Paula Lynch*
- 26 *Roger Pacella*
Blair Ranneberger



December Anniversaries

- 1 *Bob & Dianne St. Clair*
- 17 *Col. & Mrs. James Short*
John & Lorraine Westrope
- 20 *Douglass & Lisa Cook*
- 22 *Fr. Michael Moyer, Priest*
- 27 *Franklin & Paula Lynch*
- 28 *Ray & Leslie Coates, Jr.*
- 31 *Billy & Gloria Fsham*

January Anniversaries

- 6 *John & Gail Whaley*

February Anniversaries

- 10 *George & Susan DeGroft*

St. Paul's Tower Herald

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
3 Church Street
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Office: 410-641-4066
Fax: 410-641-1960

Address Label Here

Mission Statement

*Our Mission is to offer and nourish a
relationship with God in Jesus Christ, our
Lord, through worship, outreach, fellowship,
and study.*

Vestry and Officers

Senior Warden: Ray Coates, Jr.,
Treasurer: Susan Wellman,

Vestry Members:	Bob Abel	Ray Coates, Jr.	Dave Hammond
	Sarah Hooper	Sandy Pacella	Deb Ritz
			Anthony Turner

Traditional Worship. Contemporary People. Serving Our Community.