



Worship Time Changes

Middle service time change. Beginning January 8, 2012, the 8:45 am service time will move to 8:30 am. This will allow more time for Christian education. Classes will begin at 9:50 a.m.

Other services. The 7:30 a.m. service time will not change. We will be using Rite I at the early service. The 11 a.m. service will not change. Please call the parish office if you have any questions about these changes. Thank you for your patience and consideration as we make these necessary transitions.

Renovations in Early January

Some exciting renovation projects will happen at the church from Monday, January 2, through Saturday, January 14. Work will occur Monday through Saturday. The expectation is that our worship and fellowship will not be significantly affected on Sunday, January.

If you plan to use the parish hall or the chapel during this time please contact the office. The renovation work includes:

- The hallway leading from the chapel to the parish hall will be enlarged to facilitate traffic flow on Sunday mornings.
- The catechesis atrium off of the parish hall into a multipurpose room. A large doorway will connect this room to the parish hall allowing for increased seating for fellowship events.

- The old sacristy, lay vesting area and storage room will be converted into a new classroom space for the catechesis program.
- A wall will be constructed to separate the chapel from the south transept, creating a large hallway and gathering place on Sundays for coffee and nametags.
- The old columbarium in the chapel will be converted into a lay vesting area and sacristy for the chapel.

As St. Paul's continues to grow we must be good stewards of the facilities with which we have been blessed. These renovations are in response to the work of the Long Range Planning Committee. We believe these small changes will help us use our facility more effectively as we seek to worship God and to bring all into a loving relationship with Jesus Christ.

Epiphany Party

Epiphany is the Christian feast day that celebrates the revelation of God the Son as a human being in Jesus Christ. Join us as we celebrate Epiphany at the home of Ken and Lisa Halliburton (1126 Campbell Court, Murfreesboro).

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Pilgrimage Spring 2012

Our faith exploration program for adults, called Pilgrimage, will begin Monday evening, January 9, 2012. It will continue for a total of nine consecutive Monday evenings. Each session will start at 6:30 p.m. and end at 8:00 p.m.; child care is provided as needed.

Pilgrimage offers an environment of trust and shared ideas in small group settings. We will provide to each pilgrim and sponsor the book *Velvet Elvis* by Rob Bell as the basis for some of our discussions.

Among our topics will be the Christian/Anglican culture, Christian symbolism, the Old and New Testaments, grace and sacramentalism, approaching God with our personality and with our prayers, and how we might respond to God through stewardship and ministry.

Pilgrimage's original intent was preparation for confirmation or reception into the Episcopal Church. But through the years, many people have participated just for the experience and the opportunity to explore their faith. Our bishop's visit and service of confirmation and reception is scheduled for Sunday, March 11, 2012.

Registration forms are on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall and on the welcome table in the Narthex. If you are interested, please fill one out and place it in the Pilgrimage mail box in the Parish Hall, or you may give it to a greeter at the welcome table.

If you participated in the first session this past fall, we encourage you to continue with this upcoming series (please fill out a new form). If you did not attend the first session, it's just fine to begin in January. The two sessions are independent of each other, and can be done in either order.

Remember, too, we need a sponsor for each pilgrim. If you have been through Pilgrimage, please consider this ministry. Sponsors should also fill out a registration form (green paper).

If you have any questions please contact Joyce Adkins.

The Epiphany



On the heels of Christmas Day, and at the conclusion of the 12 days of Christmas, we have the great Christian feast known as the Epiphany. Since Christmas is always on December 25, and always lasts 12 days, the Epiphany is always on January 6.

Epiphany comes from the Greek word which means showing forth. The full name of this Christian celebration is "The Epiphany, or The Manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles" (BCP p. 31). At its core, it is about the showing forth of Jesus Christ to the world -- his manifestation as the Messiah, the Christ, the Anointed One of God.

In the early Church in the East, Epiphany was celebrated as the feast of Jesus' birth. In the years since there is more uniformity in Christmas observances. Epiphany is now not only a particular feast day, but also the season that leads us to Lent.

Our observance of Epiphany focuses on three major events in the early life and ministry of Jesus. First, there is the visit of the Magi (from which comes the hymn *We Three Kings*), although there is no reference in the gospels to three wise men. Second, there is the baptism of Jesus, which we observe on the first Sunday after the Epiphany. That day is one of the five primary days for baptism in the church (the others being Easter, Pentecost, All Saints and when the Bishop visits). Third, there is the wedding at Cana, which served as Jesus' "coming out party" as he performed his first miracle: changing water into wine.

All of these events bear witness to the unique natures of Jesus of Nazareth -- fully human and

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fully divine, together in one person. These events are the manifestation, the showing forth of the Messiah to the world. Jesus was manifested to the world by his words, by his deeds, and by the witness of others.

We are called to be modern-day heralds, or epiphanies to the world. As Christians, we are called to be the manifestation of the Risen Lord to a world that is in sore need of his good news. I invite you to reflect on how you manifest his presence to those around you. Which of his characteristics do you embody? How does the world, and how do your family and friends see the manifestation of Jesus through you? What could your acquaintances discern about the nature of Jesus, knowing that you are one of his followers?

If you are wondering how we are called to be that manifestation, and what that manifestation might look like, I can point you in two directions. First, look at the scriptures, most especially the gospels. Second, I encourage you to review the Baptismal Vows found on pages 302 through 305 of the Book of Common Prayer. These vows summarize succinctly how Christians are called to reflect the image of Christ.

We do not enter that role as a fully developed reflection of Jesus. It is a process -- a process of sanctification, whereby we grow in grace, day by day, into the person God created each of us to be. It is a lifelong journey, and one that we are to seek to travel daily.

May God continue to richly bless you as you seek to manifest Jesus!

Polk+

Loving God with All Our Mind



We have some exciting classes and programs for 2012.

There are too many to list in this article but I want to draw your attention to a few of these offerings.

Sunday morning Christian education begins on January 8 with three classes:

1. Dr. David Rowe and Dr. Ron Messier will be teaching "Exploring the Four Gospels." This will be held in the chapel. This class will explore each gospel, learning how each presents a slightly different picture of Jesus, of the early Church, and of the communities that gave rise to Christianity. It will also discuss how the four gospels represent a new kind of biblical literature, different from the prophetic and wisdom literature Jews had known in the Hebrew covenant.
2. Fr. Polk will be teaching "Whol-i-ness" in the parish hall. Drawing on the scriptures, Polk will talk about what it means to be a "whole" person -- a person in right relationship with themselves, with others, and with God.
3. I (Colin) will be teaching our lectionary-based study entitled "Feasting on the Word" in the back classroom. Each Sunday we will explore one of the lectionary readings for the day asking the questions, "WHAT is important to know?" "WHERE is God in these words?" "SO WHAT does this mean for our lives?" and "NOW WHAT is God's word calling us to do?"

Lent. On Wednesday, February, 29, at 5 pm our Lenten program will begin. Entitled "Finishing Well," this class will discuss what it means to "finish life well" and what concrete steps we need to take today to achieve this end.

Beginning in January our youth will begin a Wednesday night study entitled "The Way of St. Margaret." In this group, our youth will practice intentional community, spiritual disciplines, and making vows. They will learn about a variety of historical and modern Christian practices, (like fasting, icon prayer, singing, chanting, praying the hours, rosaries, and centering prayer) as well as learning the stories of our faith's mystics, martyrs, saints, and heroes.

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And lastly, beginning in January the True Vine Bible Study will be offered for our young children. True Vine has traditionally been offered for children in grades 2 through 4 and is a study that seeks to deepen a child's understanding of the Eucharist. The Bible Study concludes with a weekend retreat in March.

This is just a sampling of the classes and programs offered at St. Paul's this winter and spring. We invite you read through the program book you received in the mail to learn about them.

God calls us to love Him with our all mind - join us as we try to live into this command.

Blessings,
Colin+

Vestry in 2012

Hello, fellow St. Paul's congregants. I am honored and humbled to have been selected as senior warden for 2012.

We have five new members joining the vestry in 2012 – Don Clayton, Nancy Loucky, Phillip O'Reilly, and Don Whitfield are starting three-year terms. Jennifer McGuire will be serving a one-year term to fill a vacant position.

At the end of 2011, Richard Detmer, Dan Felciano, Stan Golden, and Tina Whitfield finished their three-year terms.

Though I have been a member of the Episcopal Church for most of my adult life, my first vestry participation has been here at St. Paul's. It has been a tremendous learning and growth experience. And, it has led me to understand the importance of the work of the vestry in furthering St. Paul's mission "to worship God, and to bring all into a loving relationship with Jesus Christ".

I will prayerfully fulfill the role of senior warden, with God's help and your prayers, to represent the best interests of St. Paul's in all matters of contracts and financial issues; to work with the rector to insure the best possible functioning of our programs and facilities, and to be available to support his ministry towards realizing our mission.

Additionally, I look forward to working closely with other members of the vestry to accomplish the goals of our many ministries, both inreach and outreach.

In the coming months I will endeavor to share aspects of the important work that we -- the congregation, vestry and rector of St. Paul's -- are doing to share the love and grace of Jesus Christ with each other and the community around us.

In His Service,

Jimmie Beasley

St Paul's is in the SOUPer Bowl!

By Barbara Thomas

St Paul's is coming back to defend its winning title!

On Super Bowl Sunday, February 5, we will collect food for our community food banks. St Paul's was the winner in last years friendly competition with downtown churches - First Baptist, First Presbyterian, Central Christian, and Antioch Primitive Baptist. In January 2011 we collected 2,437 food items to earn the title of highest number of food items collected in that drive.

As part of Operation In As Much we will again collect canned goods and non perishable food items for distribution among our community food banks. On Super Bowl Sunday, February 5, 2012, let's meet a goal of 3000+ food items to put a dent in hunger in Rutherford County and defend our title.

Put your game face on , get suited up, and let's score a winning touchdown for the hungry among us. More info to come.

Trivia Night is Back

By Steven Lefebvre



January 28: 7pm
Suggested donation: \$20 per person
Adults Only: 21+
Childcare is provided

Hosted by yours truly, this promises to be a magical night. For a suggested donation of \$20 per person you'll get all you can eat and drink (we'll be having BBQ) as well as chance for prizes

from some of your favorite local restaurants.

One of the new components of the trivia this year will be TEAM TRIVIA, we will be dividing people into teams of 4-6. So grab a couple of your bestest best buddies, come up with a clever team name, and study up because it's on!

The reason for this event is because all of our youth's operating costs are from fund raising. From taking a student out to lunch, to what we do on Sunday night, to going on a mission trip or retreat, we depend on the generous support of the parishioners of St. Paul's. It is our belief that every dollar contributed to our youth programming goes directly to the discipleship of our teenagers! St. Paul's youth is a community of young people who are intentionally seeking a deeper and holistic relationship with Jesus Christ. Come partner with us on the journey (and have a little fun too!)

Centering Prayer Workshop

St. Paul's Episcopal Church will host a Centering Prayer Workshop, Saturday, March 21 from 9:30 a.m. -- 3:00 p.m.

The workshop will be conducted by The Reverend Tom Ward of Contemplative Outreach of Middle Tennessee. \$35 Registration (includes lunch and materials)

For more information contact Ronny Clemmons.

One of the things that contemplative prayer will affect is the intuition of the oneness of the human family, and indeed, the oneness of all creation. ~Fr. Thomas Keating

Men's Club and Ladies Night Out

Men's Club. Join the men of Saint Paul's Thursday, January 5, 2012, for fellowship and dinner. Fellowship starts at 6:00 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m. Sign-up sheet in Parish Hall. January is our annual Chili and Soup Night hosted by David Rowe. Please bring a pan of your favorite chili or soup to share. When signing up to attend note if you can bring chili or soup. Let us know if you would be interested in cooking in 2012. If you have questions contact Jim Calder or Fred Koechlein.

Ladies Night Out. January 5, 6:00 p.m. at the home of Libby Willis. Ladies Night Out. Come and fellowship with us. If you have questions please contact Libby at 545-0220.

180th Annual Convention of Diocese of Tennessee

The 180th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Tennessee will assemble at St. Andrew's-Sewanee School, Sewanee on January 20-21, 2012. The convention will begin with a Eucharist at St. Andrew's Chapel at 1:00 p.m.

Convention will conduct the business of the diocese, including: electing members to Bishop and Council, Standing Committee and the Dandridge Trust Board; approve a budget for 2012; receive reports from various ministries of the diocese; and act on any resolutions brought before the convention.

The Rev. James K. Polk Van Zandt has been nominated to serve on the Standing Committee. The Rev. Colin Ambrose has been nominated to serve on Bishop and Council.

Delegates to convention from St. Paul's in addition to the clergy include Laney Golden, Tracey

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Huddleston, Rebecca Potts, and Jimmie Beasley. Alternate delegates are David Rowe and Kent Sterling. Please pray for the church, the convention, and your delegates.

Upcoming Schedule at St. Paul's

January 2. Office will be closed

January 3. Office will re-open

January 4. No Wednesday services

January 6. Epiphany Party

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

will organize a chapter of the

Episcopal Peace Fellowship

Sunday, January 29

St. Andrew's Chapel

Immediately following

11:00 am service

EPF is composed of Episcopalians answering the Gospel call to seek justice, dismantle violence and promote peace.

The chapter will work to achieve these objectives through prayer, reading, group discussions, speakers, forums, and direct action.

For more information contact
Ronny Clemmons: tenn16@att.net

"Peace demands the most heroic labor and the most difficult sacrifice. It demands greater heroism than war. It demands greater fidelity to the truth and a much more perfect purity of conscience."—Thomas Merton

Birthdays

01/02 Olivia Tretter
01/04 Louis Deken
01/07 Karen Rogers
01/08 Sam Kropog
01/09 Robin Newell
01/10 Glenn King
01/10 Ginger Jeffreys
01/10 Fant Smith
01/10 Natalie Carpenter
01/11 Jennifer Courtney
01/12 Andrew Workman
01/13 Bob Hughes
01/13 Susan Emory
01/13 Gregory Morris
01/13 Rachel Oravetz
01/14 Michelle Carpenter
01/14 Sophie Hutchens
01/15 Rick Michaelson
01/15 Isabella Pyszka
01/16 Julie Ennamorato
01/17 Cathryn Hadaway
01/18 Dale Brown
01/18 Abigale Curtze
01/18 Jon-Mical Courtney
01/19 Shirley Misconi
01/19 Cunny Prytula
01/20 Henry Butler
01/20 Ralph Jackson
01/20 Suzanne Cate
01/21 Linda Johnson
01/21 Bill Denner
01/22 Ainsley Gordon
01/22 Robert Gordon
01/23 Mary Probert
01/24 Jane Smith
01/25 Jackson Gibson
01/26 Laura Nelson
01/28 John Miller
01/29 John Dayton
01/29 Ben Palmer
01/30 Brian Cash
01/30 Melinda Erwin
01/31 Donna Jones

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***Our Mission is to worship God and to bring all
into a loving relationship with Jesus Christ***

St. Paul's Staff

James K. Polk Van Zandt, Rector
The Rev. Colin M. Ambrose, Associate Rector
The Rev. Gene Wise, Rector Emeritus
Steven Lefebvre, Youth Minister
Angela Tipps, Organist, Choir Director and RSCM
Susan Greenall, Office Administrator
Kathy Warlick, Administrative Assistant
Nikki Butler, Nursery Director
Morris Hamby, 7:30 a.m. Musician
Joyce Adkins, Assistant to the Rector
Kathleen Herzog, Assistant to the Rector
Dr. David L. Rowe, Assistant to the Rector

Contact Us

Address: 315 East Main Street,
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Website: <http://stpaulsmboro.org>

You can listen to Father Colin Ambrose's sermons online at <http://colinambrose.wordpress.com/>. Click on older posts at the bottom left to access archived sermons.)

To obtain a copy of Father Polk Van Zandt's sermons please contact the Parish Office at 893-3780.