



A Note from the Rector

The Rev. Carolyn Eklund

Advent is a time for us to slow down and take stock of our lives and to pay attention to the kind of life Jesus is calling us to live – righteous people, loving and faithful. It is a time of hope and promise. But also a time that God comes to judge, when God's kingdom will have no end.

The theme of the First Week of Advent is one of "getting my house in order." Our homes is not to be "perfect". But we are to prepare them to be hospitable for family members and guests alike. Are there people in our lives who are alone this time of year? Might they benefit from the joy of your family's company? After all, one of the guests might be "an angel." ("Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it." *Hebrews 13:1-2*)

The theme of the Second Week of Advent is John the Baptist calling us to baptism. That means we are to remember the promises we made in baptism and to repent when we have fallen short. John the Baptist appears in the Third Week of Advent, too. He declares the good news that God's reign is dawning (thus the pink Advent candle), and that Jesus is coming to fulfill the kingdom of God in his life, death, resurrection and his coming again.

The Fourth Week of Advent celebrates that "God is present 'in the flesh' of human life." This is called the Incarnation. We rejoice in his birth because we believe "For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary and was made man." Mary and Joseph, in saying "yes" to God, were given the responsibility to be the parents of Jesus. They accepted this dreadful responsibility fearfully, but joyfully. They are our model of righteousness.

I am looking forward to celebrating my first Christmas with the good people of St. Paul's, Brunswick. I'm looking forward to the Children and Family Eucharist on Christmas Eve at 4:00pm. This is an invitation to all families:

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Bring your children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, neighbors and friends for a fun and holy "come as you are" Nativity Pageant!

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From the Rector (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

Terry Leitzell and **Nancy Johnson** confirmed that we have plenty of costumes to go around: angel wings, shepherd crooks, kings' crowns, animal costumes and stars for our children to don. Our teens will serve as the "prophets" who will tell the story of Jesus' birth.

Come to the Solemn Christmas Eve Eucharist early at 9:30pm to hear the special Christmas music played by local musicians and some of our very own talented musicians. Enjoy listening to our superb choir led by organist and choirmaster Bob Judd. Be prepared to sing joyfully and gloriously the beautiful hymns of Christmas at the Service of Holy Eucharist which begins at 10:00pm!

I invite you visit a Youtube video of the children of our "sister" parish, St. Paul's, Auck-

land, New Zealand, "They called him Baby Jesus, and they loved him." [Nativity Story](#)

I love to watch it multiple times every Christmas Season because it makes me smile! It reminds me of what Jesus said, "Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me." (Matthew 18:4-5)

It is my prayer for our parish that we receive the Christ child with joyful wonderment, and that we may rejoice in God coming to us with humble mercy and glorious love. Blessed Christmas to one and all!

Your friend in Christ,

Carolyn+

Dear Friends,

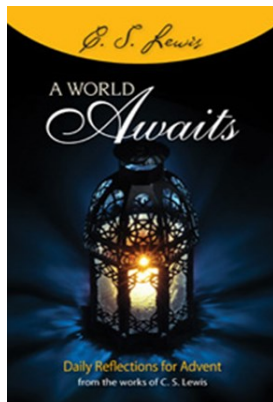
I am pleased to announce that the Rev. Mary Ann Hoy has accepted the interim assignment for Christian Formation Director at St. Paul's beginning December 4. She will bring her considerable communication and organizational skills to this position as we grow our ministry with children and families. A long-time former member of St. Paul's, Mary Ann was raised up to the priesthood by this parish. After having spent many years as a writer and editor for Portland newspapers, Mary Ann served as Associate Rector for 12 years at St. Andrew's, Newcastle. Recently, she has served St. Paul's filling in graciously during our time of transition. She will also be continuing her ministry in the Diocese of Maine with Alzheimer's and dementia patients.

During the interim, I will assemble a search committee to help me find a candidate who has the experience, energy and creativity to help us connect in a deep and meaningful way with our young people, children and families. Please help me welcome Mary Ann, our trusted friend, back to St. Paul's!

Your friend in Christ,

Carolyn+

Advent Resources, pick your copy up at St. Paul's

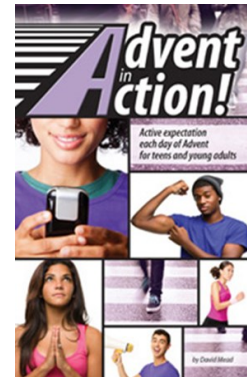


Advent Devotional booklet for adults.

Stop by the parish for your copy!

And online at *Stories: Tending Family Faith in Cyberspace*. Where the Ven. Mary Lee Wile has special daily Advent posting. Very short retellings of Scripture stories with suggestions for "ornaments" to make for a Jesse Tree.

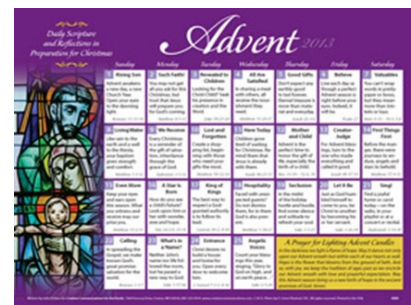
www.familyfaithincyberspace.blogspot.com



Advent Devotional booklet for Young



Advent Calendar Card for



Advent Calendar for all

Advent Spiral

Sunday, December 22

8:00 –Noon

4:00-6:30 p.m.

Advent is a special time of preparation for the coming of the Christ and a time to renew our spirit. Please make time to join us as we slow down and find a quiet time to prepare for the coming of the light of the world.

Walking the path of the Advent Spiral, by the light of the Christ Candle that awaits us at the middle, allows each of us to reflect on the gift that God gives us in the birth of his son. Adding our own light to that path reminds us that we must let our love of Christ shine for all to see.



Earthcare Commission

St. Paul's Earthcare Commission is looking into the possibility of building storm window inserts that can significantly reduce heat loss, save money, and be kind to the environment by cutting down on greenhouse gas emissions. We have made announcements during Sunday services and have made a display featuring a window insert made by Lucy Leitzell. A number of congregants have indicated an interest in learning more. The Rockland Unitarian Church volunteers started a building program several years ago which has expanded to include many other churches. Thousand of window inserts have already been built and home owners are saving thousands of dollars with reduced heating costs.

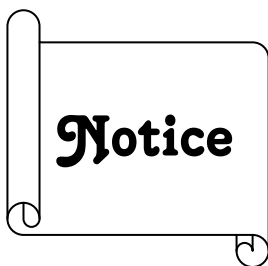


February Frank Mundo from Rockland "Window Dressers" has agreed to make a presentation to St. Paul's. In the meantime go online at www.windowdressersusa.com and get details on costs, construction, savings and much more! At St. Paul's this is an exciting opportunity to participate in a worthwhile effort to help protect God's good earth and save on heating bills all at the same time. Let me know how many windows you may want measured professionally in you home at no cost and whether you would be willing to help with finishing the installation on factory made window frames, then we can get started!

Richard Brautigam
82 Matthew Dr.
Brunswick
rkbraut@gmail.com

We will be checking with area churches to ascertain their interest in the project. In late

Annual Meeting Jan. 26th



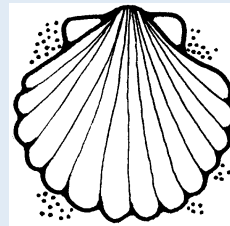
Mark your calendars, the Annual Meeting of St. Paul's will be held on Sunday, January 26th.

All Commission /Committee chair people are asked to please submit their annual reports to the parish office by Monday, January 6th for inclusion in the Parish Annual Report.

Next Date for Baptism

The next date for Holy Baptism is Sunday, January 12. We will be celebrating the Baptism of the Lord. If you would like to be baptized or you would like to have one of your children baptized at that time, please

contact The Rev. Carolyn Eklund at the church office.



Lay Pastoral Visitors Ministry

We welcome and encourage new members (male and female).

Our mission is to support and assist our rector, Carolyn, in providing pastoral care for our St. Paul's community.

*“Do
small
things
with
great
care.”*

We honor privacy and confidentiality. If you have a need please call the parish office and speak to Susan Tyler

Members of pastoral care feel they “gain more than they give” “to live joy is to give joy” It means so much to someone who is unable to attend church to have the

church come to them ~ with words of comfort and support and a listening ear with an open heart. We are returned with a “thank you” and a warm smile.

Ongoing support, training and education are provided through regular meetings. Prayerfully consider being part of this rewarding and spiritually enriching ministry.

Please call one of us:

Jean Mulligan 798-6765

Barbara Blanchard 725-9240

Susan McCracken 846-0150

Christmas Flowers



If you would like to remember loved ones with a donation towards the Christmas Flowers, please enclose your contribution in the pew envelopes. Print the name of person(s) then place in the offering plate, or mail the names to the parish office by December 17.



Musical Offerings

Brunswick Ecumenical

Service of Lessons and Carols!

WHERE: St. John's Roman Catholic Church, Pleasant Street

WHEN: Sunday 15 December, 3 p.m.

A number of members from St. Paul's will be singing in the choir, and our rector will be reading a lesson. Come early for best seats: it'll be crowded!

Hymn Sing

WHERE: St. Paul's

WHEN: Sunday, December 29, 7 p.m.

Come to St. Paul's the Sunday after Christmas and enjoy an hour of fellowship and song with your favorite hymns and carols for the season! Sunday December 29, 7 to 8 p.m., in the sanctuary. Light refreshments follow.

Security

St. Paul's is the focal point for many activities organized by a variety of groups and organizations. As such, the church remains open as much as practicality, hours and security will allow. However, with such a large frequency of traffic, we must remain vigilant not to leave the church unlocked when unattended. If you are one of the last persons exiting St. Paul's in the evening or during a time of apparent non-activity, please ensure that doors leading to the outside are locked or that someone has taken on the responsibility. We want our parish to remain open to the community while ensuring that both persons and property are protected. Your assistance is appreciated.

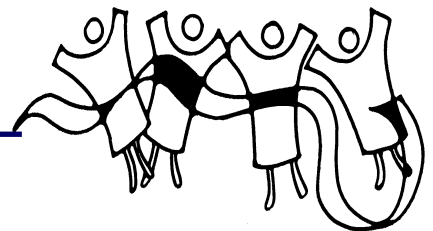
The Messenger is published monthly. With a combined July/August issue. It is emailed to the parish. Paper copies are available at the church for those who prefer them. It is also mailed to those who do not have email.

Please send submission for the January issue by the 20th of December. Articles may be emailed to stpauls@stpaulsmaine.org or placed in Susan Tyler's box in the parish office.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday

12/02 Hugh Savage	12/18 Dee Little
12/03 Sally Jeanne Kappler	12/18 Jonathan Appleyard
12/04 Steve Thomas	12/19 Ian Peck-Moad
12/04 Rebecca Schuman	12/20 David Frazier
12/06 Ann Peden	12/21 James Ford
12/06 Nicholas Dempsey	12/21 Maeley Bedard
12/07 Robert Brownell	12/22 Hope Haug
12/09 Christopher Dempsey	12/22 Mira Levine
12/09 Cameran Coyne	12/23 Marcia Clayton
12/11 Lexy Weller	12/24 Mark Moore
12/12 Sean Clegg	12/24 Megan Moore
12/13 Callum Smith	12/25 Nicholas Smith
12/15 Erika Morgan	12/29 Hannah Judd
12/15 Sharon Pedersen	12/30 Charles Mull
12/15 Emma Nickerson	
12/17 Keely Forestell	



Happy Anniversary

12/28
Hugh & Caroline Savage

12/30
Mark & Beth Ann Nickerson

12/31
Steve & Carol Thomas



Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m.

Festive Holy Eucharist
With Nativity Pageant!

9:30 p.m. Choral Prelude

10:00 p.m.

Festive Holy Eucharist

Christmas Day

10:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist

Thursday, December 26th

Noon Eucharist

First Sunday after Christmas

8:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist Rite I

9:30 a.m.

Family Eucharist

10:30 a.m.

Lessons and Carols with
Holy Eucharist

7:00 p.m.

Hymn Sing

**ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL
CHURCH**

DECEMBER 2013

27 Pleasant St.

P.O. Box 195

Brunswick, Maine 04011

Phone: 207-725-5342

E-mail: stpauls@stpaulsmaine.org

The Rev. Carolyn Eklund, Rector

The Ven. Mary Lee Wile, Archdeacon

The Rev. Chick Carroll, Deacon

Terry Leitzell, Senior Warden

Pat Ryan, Junior Warden

Robert Judd, Music Director

Susan Tyler, Parish Administrator

Kimmy Edwards, Nursery Caregiver

Lois Kwantz, Children's Choir Director

Aubrey Farmer, Sexton

Lois Kwantz, Junior Choir Director

We're on the web

www.StPaulsMaine.org

And Facebook

*Bring your children,
grandchildren, great-grandchildren,
neighbors and friends for
a fun and holy "come as you are"
Nativity Pageant!*

4:00 p.m. December 24, 2013