

Saints Alive!
The Episcopal Church of St. Paul and St. Andrew
 512 S. Broad St. • P. O. Box 248 • Kenbridge VA 23944 • (434) 676-3448
website: <http://www.stpaulandstandrew.com>



Saints Alive! - December 2017

ADVENT

As we begin this new season of Advent, the season of arrival, especially of something momentous, please know that your Vestry is meeting regularly and working diligently with Cindy Barnes and Reverend Charles Robinson to facilitate our search for a new priest.

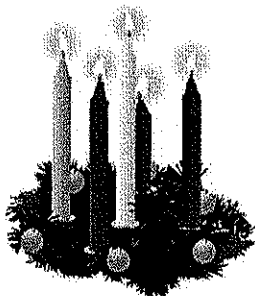
Our *Search Committee* is in place and will be meeting regularly with Cindy in preparing a portfolio of our needs and wishes for a new priest. Committee members are: John Allen, Eileen Duffy, Randy Glenn, Peter Hasso, Margie Nevins, Susan Mackenzie, JoAnne Stugart.
 The first Search Committee meeting is December 5 and weekly sessions will follow.

We are pleased that supply priests are in place for each Sunday through Christmas Eve.
 December 31st will be Lessons and Carols.

We are looking forward to hearing from different priests and their different styles as we journey through this transition in our search for a new priest.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact a Vestry member.

Sallie Ann



December - Worship Assistants Schedule

<u>Lay Readers</u>	<u>Acolytes</u>	<u>Godly Play</u>
12/10 Peter & Eileen	Jackson & Emma	Nikki
12/17 Nikki & Margie	Wiyot & Ann Turner	
12/24 Steve & Margie	Emma, Jackson, Jakob, Emily	Evening Service
12/31 Kathleen & Randy	Kyle & Bobby	No Sunday School

If you cannot serve on the day assigned, please secure a substitute to cover.

Godly Play – Assistance Needed for this Important Ministry!
 Volunteers are still needed to assist the Godly Play teachers each Sunday!
 Please contact Nikki if you can assist!

Sunday Schedule

9:30 AM Second Sunday
 Forum
 10:30 AM Godly Play &
 Church School
 10:30 AM Worship – Holy
 Eucharist
 Refreshments and fellowship
 following the service



Vestry and Staff

Sallie Ann Buchanan, Sr
 Warden
 Jim Duffy, Jr Warden
 Nikki Amos, Registrar
 Mary Lou Daniel
 Mike Prather
 John Stugart
 Steve Israel
 Janice Puleo

Treasurer: Margie Nevins
Music Director: Eileen
 Duffy
Pianist: Cristyl Word

What the Season of Advent Means

The New Year in the Church begins with the season of Advent – a time to help us prepare for Christmas, when we celebrate the fulfillment of our longing for the Savior with the birth of Jesus. So, what is Advent? It's the season that lasts about four weeks, beginning four Sundays before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. The Church's Christmas season begins on Christmas Eve and lasts for twelve days. *So, Advent is a season of anticipation that leads up to Christmas.*

During this time, we observe a season of prayer and reflection – followed by anticipation, hope and joy. Each Sunday during Advent we light a candle on the Advent wreath. Advent as a season has evolved throughout history. What began as a liturgical season focused mainly on repentance now embodies joyful preparation for Christmas. Though the precise beginning of the celebration of Advent isn't known, there are writings from as early as the 5th century that mention the season of Advent.

One of the primary traditions of Advent is the lighting of the Advent wreath. Each candle lit represents an aspect of the spiritual preparation for the coming of the Lord, Jesus Christ. The circle of branches of the wreath symbolize the eternal cycle of the seasons while the evergreens and lighted candles signify the persistence of life in the midst of winter. The Advent wreath contains 4 candles. All of the candles are purple except the third (which is rose). The symbolic meanings of the candles can vary but they are often:

1. **Hope** – *expectation of what is to come and sometimes prophecy*
2. **Love** – *sometimes called the Bethlehem candle*
3. **Joy** – *this rose candle is often called Mary's candle*
4. **Peace** – *it can often be called the Angel's Candle*

The color of Advent is purple. Purple is used at Advent as it is at Lent to represent the penitential nature of the season. In fact, Advent used to be known as "little Lent". The color is a symbolic reminder for us to be preparing ourselves for the coming of our Lord.

The third Sunday during Advent is called Gaudete Sunday. The word Gaudete means "rejoice". On that Sunday your priest may wear rose vestments. This color is meant to remind us that Christmas is drawing near.

Church Christmas Party

The Children's Christmas Party (for the youngsters as well as the young of heart) will be held on December 17 in the parish hall.

NEEDED:

Christmas tree – approx. 5 ft. (preferably pre-lit). If you have one that you are not using, please let Vicky know!

Outreach



'Tis the season to be jolly and nice. Random acts of kindness go hand in hand with the Christmas season. So, here are some ideas for young and old.

Random Acts of Christmas Kindness: Make a card for a soldier – Make cookies for a neighbor – Donate toys to your favorite charity – Tell silly jokes to make someone laugh – Make a hug coupon for someone – Donate food to your local food pantry – Let someone go ahead of you in line – Tape change to a vending machine – Call a faraway friend or relative to say hello – Take supplies to an animal shelter – Do a chore

for someone – Give a compliment to a friend – Take treats to the fire or police station – Feed the birds – Pay for a stranger's coffee – Leave a happy note for someone to find – Give treats to the mail carrier – Smile at everyone you see today – Do a secret act of kindness for someone

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted." - Aesop

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it" - Hebrews 13:2

ECW

The ECW Christmas party will be held on December 9th at 1:00 pm at the home of Sallie Ann Buchanan.

Honoring Gini and Phil

On November 5th, Bagley Reid hosted a reception for Gini and Phil. It was a wonderful event with great hospitality and great food in a beautiful venue!
Many thanks to Bagley!!!

Bagley & Gini



Church Gang enjoying the meal.



Gini (w/Mary Ann & church painting)



Good fellowship.



Cristyl & Gini



Phil... probably talking sports.

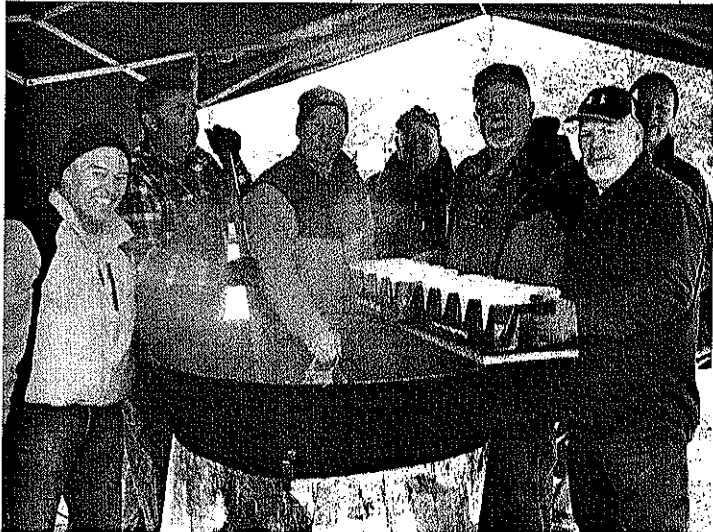


ECW Stew – SUCCESS!!!

Preparation on Friday night – peeling potatoes and onions!!!



Stew Team hard at work, led by Stew Master, John Mahaney!



ECW ladies packing it up!



Saints

Prayer List

- Please keep the following parishioners and friends in your daily prayers for healing in mind, body or spirit:

Alice	Billy	Erin
Teresa	Tom	Charlie
Amandalynn	Harry Lee	Carol
Grace	Merrill	Shelli
Janice	Larry	Kalina
Joe	Jerry	Doris
Alicia	David	Lou
Bobby	Jimmy	Randy
Tyler	Isaiah	Tiffnie
Anthony	Tyler	Mark
Margaret	Barry	Gayle
Joan	Jim	Reggie
Beneatha	Ed	Jay
Hunter	Shirley	Karen
Hailey	Linda	Stacy Lynn
Betty	Libby	
Anna	John	
Paul	Neil	

PLEASE NOTE: If you would like for someone to be on the list, please fill out a prayer request card found in the pews. All names currently on the list will be removed and only those with a prayer request card will remain on for the time designated on the card. Thank you for your help and input with this new process.

We commit to God's gracious care and keeping all the men and women of the armed forces at home and abroad, especially *Joe, Aaron, Rodger, and Jody*. We pray that their courage and sacrifice may bring lasting peace wherever they may serve.

Communication

Facebook Link:  Find us on Facebook

Website: <http://www.stpaulandstandrew.com/>

MISSION STATEMENT of The Episcopal Church of St. Paul and St. Andrew

It is the mission of the Parish to be present in our community as living examples of Christ's love; to be good stewards of God's creation, to seek out the needy, and to bring others to know Christ.