

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 2016

The Rev. Virginia "Gini" DiStanislaio, Priest in Charge

Advent

The word Advent comes from the latin root meaning "coming". This is the season that we await the coming of Christ. This is the beginning of the liturgical year when we move from darkness to the light of Christ at Christmas. As much as I like this season of preparation, I have great difficulty with the waiting. Phil will be the first to attest to the fact that I am an extremely impatient person, but I believe that it is all relative.

If I am waiting for something that I do not want to do, have little time for or am anxious about, I fail miserably with the process. I become irritable, short and unpleasant. Examples of this are when I am waiting in line to check-out at a store, watching for my number to appear on the board at DMV or wanting to hear the test results.

If I am waiting for something that I want to do, I believe that I accomplish it quite well and try to enjoy it. An example of this is waiting in line for a fun ride at Disney World or stopping at a red light just long enough to hear the end of the chapter of a book on tape.

I realize that it is all about my approach to the situation and I intend to be better at experiencing the waiting during Advent this year. As excited as I am about Christmas coming, I will strive to enjoy each day as we approach seeking to see how Christ is present and shining in my life. I will choose to embrace each check-out line as an opportunity to see Christ in those around me. I will enjoy the gatherings of friends and family thankful for having so many in my life. I try to focus on the Word through prayer and meditation to strengthen me for the busyness of the season. I believe that how we wait during Advent will make the coming of Christmas more joyful.

Blessings, Gini+

December - Worship Assistants Schedule

Lay Readers

12/4 Larry & Vyta
12/11 Peter & Tucker
12/18 Pageant
12/24 Margie & Nikki

Acolytes

Jakob & Emma
Emily & Ann Turner
Pageant (all)
Jeb, Jakob, Emma & Jackson

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

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



Rev. Gini DiStanislaio
Cell phone: (804) 337-0556

Vestry and Staff

Chris Buchanan, *Sr. Warden*
Jim Duffy, *Jr. Warden*
Nikki Amos, *Registrar*
Mary Lou Daniel
Sallie Ann Buchanan
Mike Prather
John Stugart
Steve Israel (*newly elected*)
Janice Puleo (*newly elected*)

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

Upcoming Calendar of Events

Saturday, December 3rd 1:00 pm – ECW Luncheon at the home of Eileen Duffy

Sunday, December 4th – EYC Pageant practice and Bowling following the service

Sunday, December 11th –

9:30 am - Pageant practice

10:30 am - Pageant & Holy Eucharist; Parish party following at the home of Sallie Manson and Randy Glenn

2:00 pm - Caroling with Cristyl

7:00 pm - Compassionate Friends Candle Lighting – Victoria Library

Saturday, December 24th – 5:00 pm - Christmas Eve Service

NOTE: No Service on Sunday, December 25th

Sunday, January 1st – 5:00 pm - New Year Celtic Service

Stewardship

Please return your pledge cards by December 4th or as soon as possible so that the Finance Committee can begin budgeting and planning for the 2017 Centennial Year. Your support in helping us celebrate the past 100 years as we plan for the next 100 is greatly appreciated. Please see Stephen Amos or Margie Nevins if you have any questions.

Vestry

Thank you to Chris Buchanan and Mary Lou Daniel as they rotate off the vestry this year. Their service to our church through leadership and example are greatly appreciated. We welcome Janice Puleo and Steve Israel who will be serving for the next term.

Memorial Poinsettias – Decorating the Church for Christmas

Please contact Vicky soon if you have not placed your orders for a memorial poinsettia(s) for decorating the church.

Decorating the church – Thursday, 12/22 – 5:00 pm. All help will be appreciated!!! Each year our church is particularly beautiful for our Christmas service and this requires a lot of “hands”. There is always a job for everyone!!! If you have greens in your yard that you can contribute, that would be helpful as well. Any specific questions, please contact Vicky.

Caroling with Cristyl

Cristyl will be visiting area assisted living homes on Sundays throughout Advent. If you are available to help sing, or to visit with residents, please join her! She will announce the time and location each Sunday during the service.

Second Sunday Forum

Please note that we will not have a Second Sunday Forum in December due to the Pageant.

Sunday, January 8th – Understanding the Liturgy of the Episcopal Church – Why do we do what we do?

Confirmation, Receiving and Renewal of Baptismal Vows

The Bishop will be visiting us in May of 2017 for our 100th Year Anniversary. Gini will be working with those who are interested in being Confirmed, Received in the Episcopal Church or renewing their Baptismal Vows. If you are interested or would like more information, please see Gini. Youth Confirmation classes will begin in January.

Treasurer's Report

	Oct. 2016	Year to Date	Overall %
Pledges Received	\$4,431	\$47,990	74.7% (Pledged \$64,262)
Building Fund	\$0	\$436	51.9% (Pledged 840)
Open Plate	\$201	\$3,197	----

EYC

Thank you to Jakob and Jackson who transported boxes for Operation Christmas Child to North Carolina over Thanksgiving break to prepare them for shipping overseas.



Bowling – December 4th following the service. Please join us to get your parts for the Pageant after the service and then to head out for some bowling fun. Please let Gini know if you will be joining us so that we will have enough transportation.

Advent Wreath Making at its Best



Communication

Facebook Link:



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

Prayer List

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

Alice	Joan	Jerry
Teresa	Beneatha	David
Amandalynn	Hunter	Jimmy
Grace	Hailey	Isaiah
Janice	Betty	Tyler
Joe	Anna	Barry
Alicia	Paul	Jim
Buck	Don	Ed
Bobby	Billy	Shirley
Tyler	Tom	John
Paul	Harry Lee	Ginny
Anthony	Merrill	Linda
Margaret	Larry	Libby

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 *Aaron, Rodger, and Jody*. We pray that their courage and sacrifice may bring lasting peace wherever they serve

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.