

## WELCOME TO ST. PAUL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**WELCOME.** In the name of Christ, we offer you welcome to this church. May those who sorrow, find comfort; the weary, rest; the troubled, peace; the stranger, friends; the unhappy, joy; and to all, the sense of God's presence in this Holy Place. If you are new to this parish community, please give your name and phone number to the Rector or sign our guest register on the stand in the back of the Church. As our honored guest, we want to welcome you. *Book of Common Prayer* and the larger blue book is the *Hymnal*.

**THE SERVICE.** There are two main books used for our service; the smaller red book is the *Book of Common Prayer* and the larger blue book is the *Hymnal*. There is also a *Gray Hymnal*. They can be found in the bookrack on the back of the pew in front of you. A *Bible* can be found at the ends of the pew. The page / hymn numbers in the service bulletin help you find your place in these service books. We invite you to participate fully in our worship.

**RECEIVING COMMUNION.** Holy Communion in the Episcopal Church is open to all who are comfortable participating in the Communion of the Lords' Table. To receive communion, please form two lines in the center aisle and approach the front of the Celebration Altar. Please stand with one hand cupped on top of the other to receive the consecrated bread from the Celebrant. Then step to the side to the Eucharistic Minister and **take** the chalice and drink from it; or you may intinct the bread by dipping it in the consecrated wine. If you do not wish to receive Holy Communion, please come forward for a blessing (fold your arms across your chest to indicate that you do not wish to receive Holy Communion). Return to your pew by way of the side aisles.

**The First Sunday of Advent**

**December 2, 2018**

**9:00 a.m.**

Call to Worship

Presider: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**All:** And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and forever.

Amen.

Presider: The time has come to wait:

**All: For a world to end and a life to begin.**

Presider: The time has come to listen:

**All: For the thunder of change and the whisper of hope.**

Presider: The time has come to watch:

**All: For a dead branch to blossom and a barren tree to bear fruit.**

Presider: The time has come to wake.

Collect for Purity  
Collect of the Day  
First Reading Jeremiah 33:14-16  
Psalm 25:1-9  
Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13  
Gospel Luke 21:25-36  
Sermon  
Nicene Creed

Prayer Book, page 355

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Insert

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Rev. J. Patrick Peters  
Prayer Book, page 358

## Prayers of the People

Prayer Leader: My brothers and sisters, may God strengthen your hearts in holiness. Trusting in God, let us pray.

Prayer Leader: God our hope, make us increase and abound in love for one another. Keep your Church, especially Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Audrey, our Bishop; James and Barbara, the Bishops of our Lutheran brothers and sisters; Ronald, the Bishop of our Roman Catholic brothers and sisters; clergy, especially Patrick, our Rector; Gina, Ingrid, Sud, Tim, Mark, Peter, Beth, John, and Nancy, the clergy of the Rim Parishes; and all our brothers and sisters of the Rim Parishes, on the paths of love and faithfulness. **(Silence for a few seconds)** O come, O come, Emmanuel:

**All: Be our hope and our salvation.**

Prayer Leader: God our hope, usher in your reign of justice and righteousness. May all the world, especially Donald, our President; the Congress and the Courts; Thomas our Governor; the Legislature of our Commonwealth; our Borough Council; and Leo our Mayor, and all who wield power and authority in the world, know your peace and safety. **(Silence for a few seconds)** O come, O come, Emmanuel:

**All: Be our hope and our salvation.**

Prayer Leader: God our hope, you place signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars. Give us the eyes to see, the wisdom to prepare, and the faith to trust in you. **(Silence for a few seconds)** O come, O come, Emmanuel:

**All: Be our hope and our salvation.**

Prayer Leader: God our hope, under your reign divisions are

overcome and unity restored: bring the people of this nation – from every city, village, and town, - together in a spirit of love and respect. **(Silence for a few seconds)** O come, O come, Emmanuel:

**All: Be our hope and our salvation.**

Prayer Leader: God our hope, remember your compassion and love. Heal and restore the sick and the suffering, the anxious and the grieving. We pray especially for...

**(read the names of the sick listed on the prayer list. Also read the names [if any] listed under “for the special needs of ....,” read the names [if any] listed under the heading of “for healthy pregnancy and safe delivery”)**

(then say: “the congregation is invited to add others names aloud or in silence”)

(then continue)

God our hope, we give you thanks for all the blessings we have received. We remember especially...

**(mention any thanksgivings [if any] listed under the heading of “thanksgivings”)**

(then say: “the congregation is invited to add other blessings aloud or in silence”)

(then continue)

God our hope, keep us blameless before you that we may meet the coming of our Lord Jesus with joy. May we, and all who have died, rise to life immortal with all your saints. We remember especially...

**(read the names of the departed listed on the prayer list)**

(then say: “the congregation is invited to add others names aloud or in silence”)

(then continue)

**(Silence for a few seconds)** O come, O come, Emmanuel:

**All: Be our hope and our salvation.**

Prayer Leader: For all people of every race, nation and language: May your love so embrace us all, that its power

overcomes our conflicts, our defenses, and our fears. Awaken us to our true nature as your children that we may love one another. **(Silence for a few seconds)** O come, O come, Emmanuel:

**All: Be our hope and our salvation.**

Prayer Leader: For those who live in fear and confusion: Whether they be stateless people in refugee camps, or settled people hidden behind high fences, give to the vulnerable strength, and to the secure vulnerability, that our human compassion for one another may end injustice and give our society a human face. **(Silence for a few seconds)** O come, O come, Emmanuel:

**All: Be our hope and our salvation.**

Prayer Leader: For this Parish Family of Saint Paul, especially for those who suffer most, for the emotionally and physically ill, for the dying, for those who grieve. May we all, out of our own suffering, give comfort and support. **(Silence for a few seconds)** O come, O come, Emmanuel:

**All: Be our hope and our salvation.**

Prayer Leader: For the larger community around us, especially for the newborn children, the homeless, and the imprisoned: may we create a world where shelter, food, and medical care are available for all and where the law protects people for a better chance and better choices. **(Silence for a few seconds)** O come, O come, Emmanuel:

**All: Be our hope and our salvation.**

Prayer Leader: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*(a brief pause for the private confession of our sins)*

## **Prayer of Confession**

Very present God,  
it is our shame to admit that we choose not to notice  
the signs you offer us of consequence.

It is our shame to admit that we ignore what we don't want to observe, what we don't want to hear, and what we don't want to know.

It is our shame to admit that we are willful in our sin,  
lusting for what has not been entrusted to us,

hoarding what we are called to share,  
putting off our own servanthood  
so that we can sit in judgment on the servanthood of  
others.

Be present to forgive us, Gracious God,  
and to nurture us to faithfulness  
so that all brokenness can pass away  
and your holiness can come to fulfillment. Amen.

Absolution  
The Peace

Prayer Book, page 332  
Prayer Book, page 360

### Greetings and Announcements

Offertory  
Eucharistic Prayer  
Sursum Corda  
Sanctus  
Memorial Acclamation

Presider: Let us proclaim the mystery of Christ  
**All: When we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in  
glory.**

The Great Amen  
Our Father

Prayer Book, page  
364

The Breaking of the Bread

Prayer Book, page  
364

Prayer of Humble Access

Prayer Book, page  
337

Communion  
Prayer of Thanksgiving  
The Blessing

Prayer Book, page 366

Presider: May God, by whose providence our Savior Christ  
came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light  
of his blessing and set you free from all sin.

**All: Amen**

Presider: May he whose second Coming in power and great  
glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope,  
and constant in love.

**All: Amen**

Presider: May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life.

**All: Amen**

Presider: And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

**All: Amen**

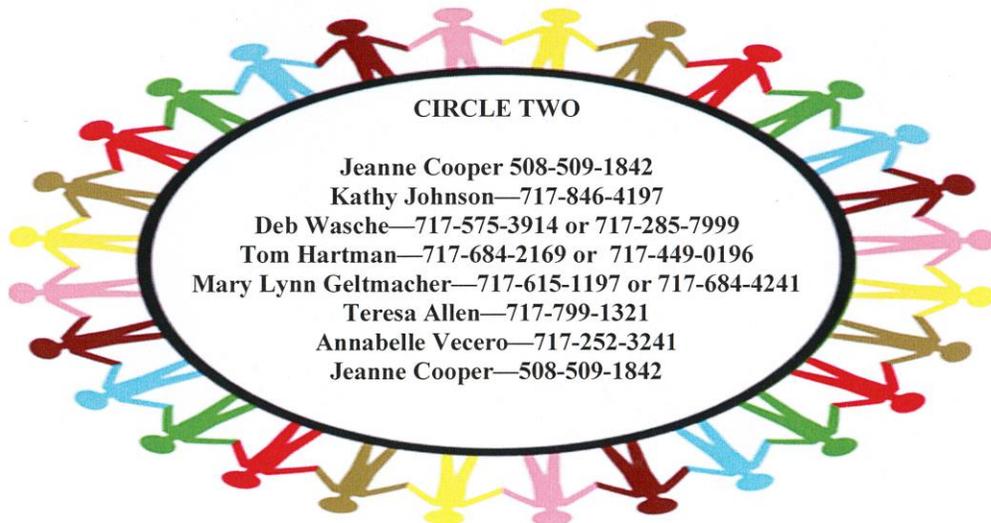
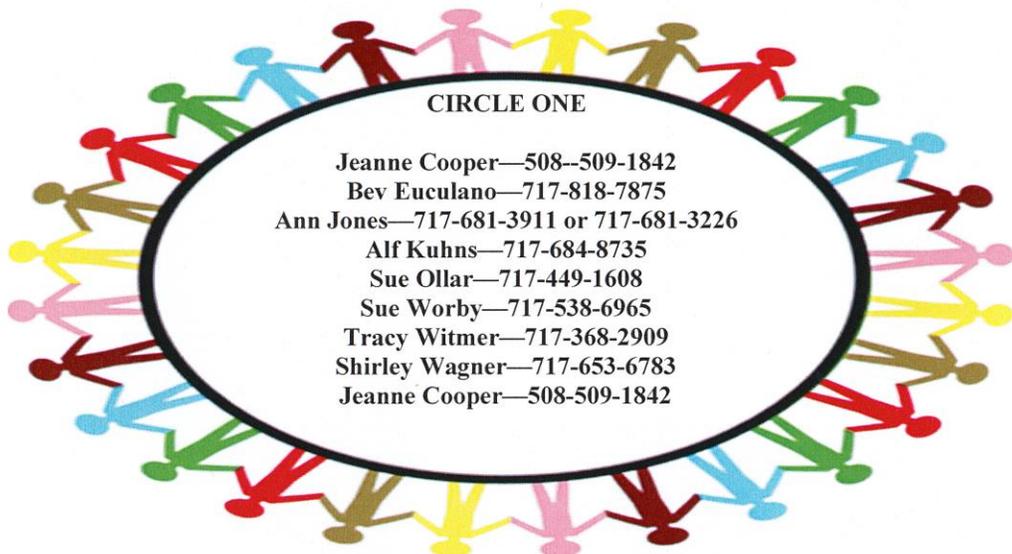
Dismissal

# PRAYER CIRCLE

Dear Members of St. Paul,

The person at the top (Jeanne Cooper) will call the next person on the list. Ex.: Jeanne will call Bev Euculano; Bev will call Ann Jones; Ann will call Alf Kuhns; and so on. The last person on each list will call Jeanne back, thus completing the circle.

The person being prayed for will remain on the list for 30 days; then they will be taken off unless you request that we keep them in our prayers longer. If there are any questions, please call Jeanne Cooper.





**CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE**

**Saturday / Sunday, December 22 & 23 – Fourth Sunday of Advent**

5:30 p.m. – Saturday – Saint John Herr Estate Chapel – Eucharist

8:50 – Sunday – Mary Elizabeth Bair Parish Center – Sunday School

9:00 a.m. – Sunday – Church - Eucharist

10:30 a.m. – Church – Final decorating of the church

(The Hanging of the Greens will take place on Sunday, December 16 – 10:30 a.m.)

**Monday, December 24 – Christmas Eve**

3:30 p.m. – Mary Elizabeth Bair Parish Center – Children's Christmas Pageant  
Rehearsal 5:00 p.m. – Church – Christmas Festive Eucharist / Children's Christmas  
Pageant

**Tuesday, December 25 – Christmas Day**

7:30 – 9:30 a.m. – Mary Elizabeth Bair Parish Center – Free Community Christmas  
Breakfast

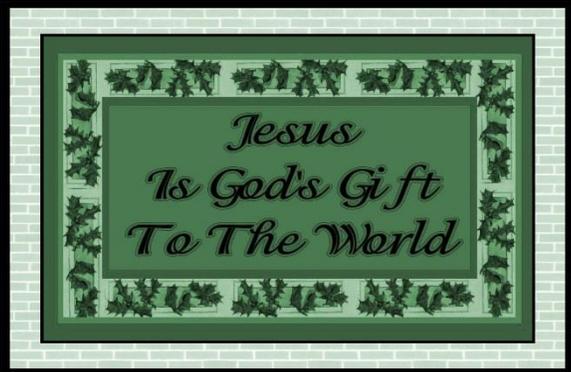
10:00 a.m. – Church – Christmas Eucharist

**Saturday & Sunday, December 29 & 30 – First Sunday After Christmas**

5:30 p.m. – Saturday – Saint John Herr Estate Chapel – Eucharist

9:00 a.m. – Sunday – Church - Festive Eucharist

All are invited to share our table to be fed, nourished, and sustained during this Christmas and Holiday Season. Come to the Table of the Lord to be nourished in Word and Sacrament! Come to our table for Christmas Breakfast to be nourished in body and fellowship. All are invited! All are Welcome! All are Expected! Bring a friend!



*Jesus  
Is God's Gift  
To The World*

## **Prayer Requests December 2, 2018**

### **Hospitalizations**

#### **Homebound**

Delores Baker (Saint Anne); Ethel Edelman (Autumn House West); Alverta Hossler (Paramount Senior Living, Maytown)

#### **Intercessions**

Sue Ellen; Ruth; Ethel; Alverta; Mike; Joann; Carolyn; Vickie; Ralph; Danielle; Neil; Alf; Bruce; DJ; Bryan; Bobby; Father Tim; Robert; Bentley

#### **Birthday**

12/8 Mary Lynn Geltmacher

#### **Anniversary**

12/6 William and Linda Gewiss

#### **Departed**

Richard "Buzz" Bair; Jane Fritz

#### **For Those in Positions of Public Trust**

President Donald Trump; Governor Tom Wolf; Mayor Leo Lutz; All legislative bodies & all courts of law; for the leaders of all nations and people

#### **For our Bishops, Rector, and Parish Members**

The Most Rev. Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury and his staff; The Most Rev. Michael Curry and his staff; The Rt. Rev. Audrey Scanlan and her staff; The Rev. J. Patrick Peters; the staff and people of this parish, especially Brian and Angel Abramo and children Adelynn and Jackson; Jessica Brandt and children Darren, Dylan and Declan; Darlene Swartzbaugh

#### **World Cycle of Prayer**

12/2 Bosnia and Herzegovina; 12/3 Botswana; 12/4 Brazil; 12/5 Brunei; 12/6 Bulgaria; 12/7 Burkina Faso; 12/8 Burundi

#### **Anglican Cycle of Prayer**

12/2 Pray for The Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain (E-P to the Archbishop of Canterbury; The Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain, The Rt. Rev'd Carlos L-pez-Lozano; 12/3 Kibungo, The Rt. Rev'd Emmanuel Ntazinda; Kigeme, The Rt. Rev'd Augustin Mvunabandi; 12/4 Kigezi, The Rt. Rev'd George Bagamuhunda; 12/5 Kilmore; Elphin & Ardagh, The Rt. Rev'd Ferran Glenfield; 12/6 Kimberley and Kuruman, The Rt. Rev'd Oswald Swartz; 12/7 Kinkiizi, The Rt. Rev'd Dan Zoreka; 12/8 Kinshasa, The Rt. Rev'd Achille Mutshindu

## **Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

12/2 Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark; 12/3 Evangelical Lutheran Church of Iceland; 12/4 Evangelical Lutheran Church of Norway; 12/5 Church of Sweden; 12/6 Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church; 12/8 Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Slovakia

## **Diocesan Cycle of Prayer and Parish Cycle of Prayer:**

Trinity, Jersey Shore and their congregation; Washington Boro United Methodist Church, Washington Boro and their congregation

## **Companion Parish Cycle of Prayer:**

### **Ecumenical:**

Rev. Beth J. Costlow and the people of Saint John Lutheran Church, Columbia

Rev. Mark Kopp and the people of Saint James Lutheran Church, Columbia

Rev. Stephen Kelley and the people of Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church,  
Columbia

Rev. Anthony Swamy Anthappa, MSFS and the people of Saint Peter Roman Catholic  
Church, Columbia

Rev. David Powers and the people of The Columbia Presbyterian Church, Columbia

Rev. Thomas Grubbs and the people of The Columbia United Methodist Church, Columbia

Rev. Patricia McAllister and the people of Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church, Columbia

Rev. Hub Smith and the people of The Columbia Christian Fellowship, Columbia

Revs. Gordon and Angie Misal and the people of Impact Christian Center, Columbia

Rev. Charles Deutsch and the people of Ironville United Methodist Church, Columbia

Rev. Mary Ann Kingsborough and the people of Concordia Lutheran Church, Columbia

Rev. Dione Kleptka and the people of Saint John Herr Estate Retirement Community

### **Rim Parishes of the Lancaster Convocation:**

Rev. Gina Bautista and the people of Saint John Episcopal Church, Marietta

Rev. Ingrid Andersen and the people of Saint Luke Episcopal Church, Mount Joy

Rev. Sud Tiwari and the people of Saint Paul Episcopal Church, Manheim

Rev. Tim Small and the people of Hope Episcopal Church, Mt. Hope

Rev. Mark Scheneman and the people of Bangor Church, Churchtown

and the Revs. Beth Mollard, Pete Greenfield, John Emmert, Ellie Garner and Nancy  
Rementer

## **Peace and Justice**

South Sudan; Nigeria; Iraq; Israel; Kenya; Afghanistan; Palestine; Somalia; Iran; Libya; Syria; Egypt; Tunisia; Yemen; Ukraine; Venezuela; North Korea; Turkey

Amount needed each week to meet the 2018 **income budget:** \$2,763.00  
 Amount budgeted each week from fundraisers and investment income: \$1,764.00  
 Amount needed each week in pledge and plate to meet income budget: \$ 999.00

Amount needed each week to meet the 2018 **expense budget:** \$3,535.00  
 Amount expected each week from fundraisers and investment income: \$1,764.00  
 Amount needed each week in pledge and plate to meet expense budget: \$1,771.00

	11/25/18	11/26/17
St. John Herr Estate	14	15
9:00 a.m.	<u>36</u>	<u>44</u>
	50	59
Pledge and Plate:	\$1,600.00	\$1,342.00

Please remember to return your Declaration of Faith card for 2019 (and your cookie papers)

Weekly Impact: w/e 11/25/18: 247

**Be Thoughtful**  
**Be Silent**  
**Be Reverent.....**  
**For this is the House of the Lord**  
**Before the service,**  
**speak to the Lord**  
**During the service,**  
**let the Lord speak to you**  
**After the service,**  
**speak to one another**

**REVERENT**



**December 8, 2018**  
**St. John Herr Estate**  
**5:30 p.m.**

**Lector:** Darlene  
**Eucharistic Minister:** Peter  
**Prayers of the People:** Charlene

**December 9, 2018**  
**9:00 a.m.**

**Lector:** Jessica/Mary Lynn  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Christine/Danielle  
**Crucifer:** Christine  
**Server:** Christine  
**Gospel Bearer:** Danielle  
**Prayers of the People:** Mary Lynn  
**Ushers:** George/Ralph  
**Greeters:** Evelyn/Ralph  
**Verger (Open):** Janet  
**Verger (Close):** Janet



## THIS WEEK AT SAINT PAUL

- Sun:** 8:50 AM – Sunday School – small classroom in the Mary Elizabeth Bair Parish Center  
9:00 AM – Eucharist – Church – Birthday Sunday  
10:30 AM – Coffee Hour in the Mary Elizabeth Bair Parish Center  
10:45 AM – Finance and Investment Committee Meeting in the Mary Elizabeth Bair Parish Center – Library
- Mon:** 9:00 AM – Columbia Ministerium meets at Manor Church  
7:00 PM – Adult Forum – St. John Herr Estate Dining Room – **“Building the Reading and Columbia Railroad – An Amazing Feat!”**
- Tue:** 6:30 PM – Daisy Scouts meet in the Mary Elizabeth Bair Parish Center
- Wed:** 9:30 AM – Morning Prayer and Healing Service in the Rector’s Office  
3:45 PM – Valerie Henry – Mary Elizabeth Bair Parish Center  
6:00 PM – Rim Advent Service – Hope Church (6:00 p.m. – dinner – 7:00 p.m. service)
- Thu:**
- Fri:**
- Sat:** 7:30 AM – Free Community Breakfast in the Mary Elizabeth Bair Parish Center  
8:00 AM – 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Cookie Sale and Crafts Sale in the Church  
5:30 PM – Eucharist at St. John Herr Estate
- Sun:** 8:50 AM – Sunday School – small classroom in the Mary Elizabeth Bair Parish Center  
9:00 AM – Eucharist – Church  
10:30 AM – Coffee Hour in the Mary Elizabeth Bair Parish Center  
10:45 AM – Vestry Meeting in the Library  
4:00 PM – Girl Scouts meet in the Mary Elizabeth Bair Parish Center

*A man who does a daily blog named Seth Godin recently wrote the following and I have to think this describes where Saint Paul is right now:*

*There are two polar opposites: Staying Still and Breaking. It’s easy to visualize each end of the axis, whatever the activity. In between is Stretching.*

*Stretching is growth. Extending our reach. Becoming more resilient, limber and powerful. Stretching hurts a bit, and maybe leaves us just a little bit sore.*

*But then, tomorrow, we can stretch further than we could yesterday. Because stretching compounds. If you're afraid of breaking, the answer is not to sit still but to dedicate yourself to stretching.*

## **PRAYER AND WORSHIP**

**The Altar Flowers** are available for the weeks of December 9, 16, 23, 30.

**The Sanctuary Candle** is available for the weeks of December 9, 16, 23, 30.

**The Bread and Wine** is available for the weeks of December 9, 16, 23, 30.

**Prayer Ministry:** Please take an active part in our three Core Prayer Ministries:

- 1) Send those birthday cards to the people who have a birthday in December. The names and dates are on the Prayer Calendar you received and there is also a list on the table in the back of the church. Birthday cards are available in the back of the church for a small donation.
- 2) Remember your Prayer Partner every day in December. Take the time to pray for them and the needs that they may have. Just remember them and ask God to bless them.
- 3) The Daily Prayer Intention Calendar was sent out for December. Please use it. Prayer changes lives! Lots of prayer changes lots of lives! Your prayers are heard and answered! Pray always!

**Prayer Meditation:** Each month you will find a meditation by Steven Charleston in our Sunday bulletin. These messages are taken from his book "The Medicine Wheel". I pray you will find Bishop Charleston's meditations/visions are as inspirational as I have. Shirley Wagner

### **For December**

And the prophet said: for unto us a child is born. That is the message. That is the meaning. A child, a pure unspoiled hope, an embodiment of all that is decent and honest and good, a new beginning, a fresh vision, a blessing and a challenge, is born, made real, come alive. Not born to the special or the few, not born to the privileged or the powerful, not to the followers of this religion or that politician, but to us. To us, all of us. The poor us, the forgotten us, the immigrant us and the native us, the us of every culture and language, of every class and condition. For unto us a child is born. Unto the deserving and the undeserving, the broken and the lonely, the tired and frightened, unto the whole tribe of the human beings, the child is born, the hope is given, the healing is offered. Let us believe what the prophet said, and by our believing, set one another free.

**Rim Advent Service:** On Wednesday, December 5, the Rim Parishes of the Lancaster Convocation - Saint Luke (Mt. Joy), Saint Paul (Manheim), Hope (Mt. Hope), Saint John (Marietta), Bangor (Churchtown), and Saint Paul (Columbia) will hold a joint service of Advent Prayer at Hope Episcopal Church in Mt Hope. We will begin with a light dinner at 6:00 p.m. in their Parish House followed by a prayer service in the church at 7:00 p.m. Take time during this busy season of preparing for Christmas to prepare your soul and heart by being part of this beautiful service of Scripture, song, and silence. Come and bring a friend! If you would like a ride, please call the parish office (684-8496). This is designated as a Combined Rim Parish Event

and we need everyone to support our companion parish relationship that is the Rim Parishes of the Lancaster Convocation.

**Columbia Christmas Walk-A-Mile:** One of the great traditions of Columbia is its Annual Christmas Walk-A-Mile sponsored by the Columbia Ministerium. This year's walk will take place on Monday, December 17 beginning at 7:00 p.m. We will begin at Salem United Church of Christ (324 Walnut Street). Following a reading from Scripture, a hymn, and a prayer, we will walk to Columbia United Methodist Church (Corner of Walnut & 5th Streets), Columbia Church of God (Corner of Walnut and 7<sup>th</sup> Streets), Grace Evangelical Church (Corner of Walnut and 8<sup>th</sup> Streets), and the Chapel at Saint John Herr Estate Retirement Community – Personal Care Entrance (200 Luther Lane). We will have light refreshments and conversation in the Rotunda at Saint John Herr Estate following the service. At each stop, there will be a Scripture reading, a hymn, and a brief prayer. Come and experience the wonderful Advent and Christmas traditions of each church. This walk is open to all members of the community – so bring a friend. Bring someone from outside of Columbia and let him or her see how we come together in prayer at this most sacred time. (Please note that we will have a bus for those unable to walk but who would like to participate in the Walk – the bus will leave from Saint John Lutheran Church (corner of Locust and 6th Streets) at 6:30 p.m. and return there after the walk). **Please note: The walk will take place rain or snow.**

**Wednesday Morning Prayer and Healing Service:** Our Wednesday Morning Prayer and Healing Service is held in the Rector's Office at 9:30 a.m.

**Missed You Cards:** Father Patrick continues to send his weekly "Missed You Cards". Coming together each week is very important and we hope that you will make every effort to attend our Sunday Eucharist. Common Family Parish Prayer on a Saturday evening or Sunday morning is important every week.

**“Rediscover Jesus”:** On the table in the back of the church are copies of “Rediscover Jesus”. If you would like a copy of this book, please take one after the service. There is no charge for the book.

**Hanging of the Greens:** Please note that the date for the Hanging of the Greens is Saturday, December 15, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. and **not** Sunday, December 16, 2018 as indicated in the latest newsletter. Father Patrick will be treating to lunch.

**Thank You – Thank You – Thank You:** For 70 years Alf Kuhns has been actively involved in all aspects of the life of the Parish Family. Last Sunday, Alf retired – a well-deserved retirement. Alf has been on Vestry, a Senior Warden, a choir member, a Lector, a Crucifer, an Acolyte, a Eucharistic Minister and has helped out in so many other areas during his life. Thank you Alf for your hard work, your faithfulness, and your prayers. Peace and Blessings our brother and friend in Christ.

**-CHRISTIAN FORMATION-**

**Sunday School:** Our Sunday School—for children age 4 through 10 will continue today at 8:50 a.m. in the Mary Elizabeth Bair Parish Center.

## **MONDAY NIGHT ADULT FORUM**

**SPONSORED BY:**

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH,  
ST. JOHN'S HERR ESTATE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY  
and  
ST. PAUL EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

*All sessions, except as noted, take place in the dining room of the St. John's Herr Estate Retirement Community. Please enter through the Personal Care entrance and go down the hallway toward the rotunda. The dining room is on your right. There is plenty of parking.*



*All sessions, except as noted, begin at 7:00 pm.*

*All are welcome!*

*There is no charge for any of the sessions, and you do not have to register in advance. Just come and enter into God's presence in this holy place!*

### **December 3            BUILDING THE READING AND COLUMBIA RAILROAD - AN AMAZING FEAT!**

Learn the incredible tale of how the Reading and Columbia Railroad was built. Using only wheelbarrows and shovels, a determined group of men completed the mind-boggling feat in record time - all of it accomplished while this country was in the midst of a Civil War! Hear more of this astonishing achievement.

John Brown  
Retired

### **December 10            CHRISTMAS CAROL SING-ALONG**

Singing Christmas songs is one of the joys of the season! Pastor and Mrs. Wegehof's accompaniment will make it even more so. Bring your enthusiasm and your voice—on key or not!—as we join to celebrate the season with both sacred and secular songs.

NOTE: This session will meet in the chapel, so we have access to piano and organ.

Accompanists: Rev. Bob Wegehof, Mrs. Irene Wegehof

**December 17**

**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS WALK-A-MILE  
(WALK #3)**

Salem United Church of Christ  
Columbia United Methodist Church  
Columbia Church of God  
Grace Evangelical Church  
Saint John's Herr Estate Retirement Community

Light Reception to follow service (Rotunda)

**FINANCE AND INVESTMENT**

**Finance and Investment Committee Meeting:** Today, December 2, 2018 the Finance Committee will meet in the Library at 10:45 a.m.

**From Our Treasurer:** If you are behind on your pledge, we would appreciate your catching up on it. Thanks, Bev

**Pledge of Faith Cards:** If you have not already done so, please return your Pledge of Faith card as soon as possible.

**PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

**Thank You:** We want to thank Bob Brubaker for his hard work in painting the doors of the church, the chapel, and the front doors of the parish center. Thank you, Bob!

**OUTREACH MINISTRY**

**Food Donations:** You are reminded to bring your food items to church each week so that on the last Sunday of the month we can present them to the Lord for blessing and then give them to the food bank. Whenever you go shopping, please add extra non-perishable items to your order for this outreach ministry. Jesus never forgot the last, the lost and the least in his ministry and neither can we.

Adult Cereals (less sugar)  
Soups  
Spaghetti Sauce

Peanut Butter  
Rice

Jelly  
Boxed Potatoes

Let's all bring one non-perishable food item each week as committed to in our Mission and Ministry Plan.

**Food Bank Hours:** Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday – 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. The Columbia Food Bank is closed on holidays.

**Free Community Breakfast:** In order to help coordinate the generous donations to our Free Community Breakfast on Saturday, December 8, 2018, there is a sign-up sheet in the parish hall on which you can indicate what items and/or time you will donate. This way we will know what needs to be bought.

**Christmas Day Free Community Breakfast:** On Tuesday, December 25, Saint Paul will host its 15th Annual Free Community Christmas Breakfast from 7:30 – 9:30 a.m. in the Mary Elizabeth Bair Parish Center. This breakfast is open to anyone who wants to come together for conversation, friendship, and food. Donations of food and time will be appreciated. There is a sign-up sheet in the Mary Elizabeth Bair Parish Center on the Sign-Up Board.

**It's Time: 32 Seniors Need You (Angel Tree Ministry):** Our shared mission in our Episcopal Home provides a loving, safe home for up to 32 seniors. The average age of those seniors is 89! Our donations provide benevolent care to many who outlive their savings. Together, our 63 parishes share a mission in support of the Episcopal Home, providing community and safety. If every family in each of our 63 parish communities gives at least \$25.00 (the price of one resident's daily living cost), and take one or more tags from the Angel Tree, we can support this safe haven for another year. Thank you for your help.

**Greeting Cards:** We are collecting old greeting cards so that adults with autism and other intellectual disabilities can recycle them into new greeting cards. Don't throw away your greeting cards – just bring them to the church and put them in the box on the back pew. This will be an ongoing outreach ministry project. Thank you.

## ADMINISTRATION

**Christmas Flower Memorial Envelopes:** Included in this week's bulletin is an envelope for Christmas Flowers. Please return your envelope by Sunday, December 16, 2018 in order to include them in the Christmas bulletin.

**Vestry Meeting:** The Vestry will meet next Sunday, December 9, 2018 at 10:45 a.m. in the Library.

**Parish Hall Health Inspection:** On Monday, January 14, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. the Borough Office will conduct their Annual Health Inspection of the Parish Hall, Kitchen and Restrooms. We will need volunteers to help clean these areas to get ready for the inspection. Please contact the Parish Office or speak with Father Patrick if you are willing to help. Thank You.

**Parish Office Hours:** The Parish Office hours are: Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday – 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. The Office is closed on holidays.

**Use of St. Paul's Facilities:** Please call the Parish Office if you want to reserve the Parish Hall or Church.

**Reminder:** Please remember that when you use the Parish Hall nothing can be put on the walls or the woodwork. Using scotch tape, duct tape, masking tape, and even some types of painter's tape has the possibility of pulling the paint off the wall or damaging the surface. Items can only be placed on the wooden food bank cabinets or the metal kitchen window and its metal surround. Only masking tape or painter's tape can be used on these surfaces. This applies to both parish members and outside groups that use the hall and is clearly stated in the policy outlining use of the parish hall or the church. Thank you.

## PARISH EVENTS

**Friendly's Family Fun Night:** Our next "Fun Night" will be held on Wednesday, December 12, 2018 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Friendly's on Centerville Road. Come out and have dinner and enjoy some time with your parish family! St. Paul receives a percentage of all sales between 5:00 and 8:00 p.m.

**Annual Parish Christmas Pot-Lock Luncheon and Christmas Party:** The Annual Parish Christmas Pot-Luck Party will be held on Sunday, December 16 beginning at 1:00 p.m. in the Mary Elizabeth Bair Parish Center. All members of the parish and their guests are invited to bring an entrée, side dish, salad, or dessert to share. The parish will provide the beverages. The sign-up sheet is on the Sign-Up Board in the Mary Elizabeth Bair Parish Center. If you wish to bring some wine or beer, please feel free to do so. It will be placed in the kitchen to be served .

**Attention Readers:** St. Paul has a small library located in the Mary Elizabeth Bair Parish Center – Middle Classroom. Feel free to borrow a book (or books). When you have finished reading it, please drop your book into the "Book Return" basket located to the left of the book shelves. We have also included a donation box if you would like to make a contribution. Enjoy! Thanks to Vickie Stump for all her hard work in organizing and setting up our library.

**Quilts for Kids** – If you know how to quilt, want to learn how to quilt, know how to sew, don't know how but want to learn, or just have a relaxing hour or two finding out how, we can cheer up a sick kid with a quilt. If you have quilting supplies you do not need anymore, we may be able to use them too. Call Gayanne Basham through the parish office (717-684-8496) if any questions. The quilting group meets Wednesday afternoons.

## OTHER EVENTS

**Free Sunday Breakfast:** On the last Sunday of every month, the Columbia United Methodist Church offers a Free Community Breakfast at 8:00 a.m. in their Fellowship Hall. All are invited.