

Cross Connections



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

December 2017



Advent Worship Schedule

- ▶ Wed, Dec 6 at 7 pm: God the Potter – "We are shaped by a God who loves us"
- ▶ Wed, Dec 13 at 7 pm: God the Shepherd – "We are led by a God who loves us"
- ▶ Wed, Dec 20 at 7 pm: God the Weaver – "We are woven together by a God who loves us"
- ▶ Sunday, Dec 24 at 8:30 and 11 am: God Incarnate – "We are accompanied by a God who loves us"

Wednesday Suppers during Advent!

We will begin suppers on Dec 6, 13, and 20, at 5:45 pm to accommodate the earlier practice time for handbells of 6:15 pm.

- ▶ The meal on Dec 6 will be soups, salad, bread, make-your-own PBJ sandwiches, and dessert.
- ▶ On Dec 13, we are doing another potluck salad and dessert meal! Any kinds of salad can be brought, such as pasta, veggie, green, macaroni, bean, Cobb, potato, taco, egg, chicken, fruit, tuna, etc. Any dessert is welcome as well! Sign up on the atrium board
- ▶ On Dec 20, we will have our Christmas celebration dinner! There is a sign-up on the atrium bulletin board so we can plan for numbers. If you can help with this meal, please contact Betty Hinshaw, Doug Whitfield, or Karen Hassett.

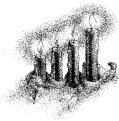
Christmas Pageant - Sunday, Dec 17 at 5:00 pm

Rehearsals will take place on Saturday mornings (Dec 2, 9 and 16) at 10:00 am in Trinity hall. Parents who can help, contact Jody Timmins. All children are invited to participate. Pageant will be followed by our traditional lasagna supper.



Sunday, December 24 worship schedule:

8:30 am and 11:00 am – Advent 4 worship services (No Sunday School)



4:00, 7:00 and 10:00 pm – Christmas eve worship services. The 4:00 service is family oriented, the 7:00 service includes the choir and handbells.

The Rev. Scott M. Anderson, Pastor

Susan Esposito, Parish Administrator & Editor

Jacqueline Nappi, Minister of Music

Amanda Stoen, Preschool Director

Adam Schultz, Vicar

Rev. Laura Wind, Duke Lutheran Campus Pastor

Ali Tranvik, Vicar, Duke Lutherans

The Rev. Dr. Charles R. Huggins, Pastor Emeritus

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Facebook: St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, ELCA * Twitter: #St_Pauls_Durham

From the Pastor...

Advent is almost upon us. **Advent** is a season observed in many Christian churches as a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas. The term is a version of the Latin word meaning "coming." The latin *adventus* is the translation of the Greek word *parousia*, commonly used to refer to the Second Coming of Christ. For Christians, the season of Advent anticipates the coming of Christ from three different perspectives. "Since the time of Bernard of Clairvaux (d.1153), Christians have spoken of the three comings of Christ: in the flesh in Bethlehem, in our hearts daily, and in glory at the end of time." The season offers the opportunity to share in the ancient longing for the coming of the Messiah, and to be alert for his Second Coming.

Advent is the beginning of the Western liturgical year and commences on the fourth Sunday before Christmas (sometimes known as Advent Sunday), the Sunday nearest to St. Andrew's Day (30 November), in the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church, the Western Rite of the Orthodox Church, and in the Anglican, Lutheran, Moravian, Presbyterian and Methodist calendars.

This year our calendar gets very interesting. Christmas Eve, December 24th, is a Sunday. We will hold the fourth Sunday of Advent worship services at 8:30 am and 11:00 am on that day and Christmas Eve services will be at our usual 4 pm, 7 pm, and 10 pm. The choir and handbells will be playing at the 7 pm worship service this year. In previous years the handbells played at 7 pm and the choir sang at 10 pm, but we are changing things this year. Our attendance at 4 pm and 7 pm has increased and indicates a desire to make these the primary services that evening.

Evening Advent worship will be led by Vicar Ali Tranvik and the Duke Lutheran community. Advent 1 is Wed, Dec 6 and the theme will be God as Potter – We are shaped by a God who loves us. Advent 2 is Wed, Dec 13 and the theme will be God as Shepherd – We are led by a God who loves us. Advent 3 is Wed, Dec 20 and the theme is God as Weaver – We are woven together by a God who loves us. And then we will celebrate Advent 4 fully on Sunday morning December 24th with the theme – God as incarnate – We are accompanied by a God who loves us.



My prayer is that you will come and join us on Wednesday evenings, Sunday mornings, and for Christmas Eve worship.

My prayer is that you will pray for the three comings of Christ, at Christmas, in your heart daily, and at the end of time.

Pastor Scott

From the Vicar...

As we begin this Advent season, one of the things that stands out to me is all the beautiful Advent and Christmas music – both sacred and secular – devoted to this time of year. One song in particular from my childhood is by The Statler Brothers, and was a favorite of my grandmother's. The lyrics of the song talk about the scandalous story of the nativity from the perspective of Nazareth's and Bethlehem's townspeople. Whispers and rumors are running wild about this unwed, young mother about to give birth who is claiming to be a virgin since the baby's father is actually the Holy Spirit. Moreover, some smelly, impoverished shepherds now claim that some angels appeared to them telling them that God's son was born in a barn! The story may be so familiar to us that we fail to hear the scandal in the tale, but indeed it is there. The chorus of the song goes:

*And who do you think could believe such a thing.
Could believe that the story is true?*

*And who do you think could believe such a thing?
Well, here's hopin' to Heaven you do!*

This may have been one of my grandmother's favorite Christmas songs because she understood all too well the scandal of this story. My grandmother's own scandalous story involved her own hurried wedding to get her married before the baby arrived where she wore a baby blue crushed velvet wedding dress she had sown herself. The wedding took place in my grandmother's mother's farmhouse kitchen because "there was no room for them" in the church. Less than six months after the wedding, my grandmother gave birth to a boy, my uncle, who was not born as the Son of God but was claimed as a child of God through Baptism weeks later. There were no angels but lots of smelly, impoverished dairy farmers in this tale. My grandmother was no virgin mother, but through her story, we can access the scandal of God's Christmas story.

We all have stories to tell that intersect with and diverge from the Scriptural narrative – stories of failure and redemption, stories of promise and hope, stories of forgiveness and reconciliation, stories of

humor and joy. February 8-10, 2018, you will have the opportunity to learn about how to tap into the power of your own true stories. The evening of Thursday, February 8, we will gather for a workshop on the art of storytelling led by professional storyteller Rev. Rebecca Anderson (www.earshotstories.com). Friday, February 9, you will have the opportunity, if you so choose, to meet with her one-on-one to help shape a particular story. Saturday, February 10 there will be more opportunities of one-on-one meetings, culminating in a storytelling event on Saturday evening where approximately 8 people will share their stories around a particular theme. Whether you participate in the storytelling workshop or not, you are invited to come hear the stories of your sisters and brothers in Christ that evening. Registration for the storytelling workshop is free but required; there will be a limited number of seats available. Look for the sign-up sheet to come out in January.

We will use this storytelling workshop experience as a springboard into our Lenten journey together when we will share stories along the way. Please prayerfully consider whether you would like to be considered to share a story either the evening of February 10, 2018 or during our Lenten worship. If this is something you are interested in or would like to push yourself outside of the box a bit, please contact me: vicar@stpaulsdurham.org or 919-489-3214.

The stories of our lives are the stories of God's narrative – God's story; our lives.

Love in Christ,

Vicar Adam

Midweek Advent Services: Images of God

by Vicar Ali Tranvik

A Jewish son of a carpenter from the backwater town of Bethlehem is certainly not the image we had in mind for God. As theologian Will Willimon writes, "God surprised us not only by appearing in human form, but as a person who looked suspiciously like the annoying guy next door, an undeniably human person who hungered, thirsted, rejoiced, suffered, raged, wept, and died as all persons do." Yet this surprising image of God is not merely an image. The incarnation – that for which we wait in this Advent season – is the ultimate display of God's love, the free gift of grace that reconciles us to God and one another, the manifestation of and promise of Life. This Advent, as we prepare for God's incarnated arrival, we look for and celebrate the many other strange and surprising

ways in which Emmanuel dwells with us already. In doing so, we recognize that although God appeared in one particular place at one particular time, God's appearance there changes everything everywhere. Through the images of God that appear in this Advent's lectionary texts, we'll discover how different biblical images of God break open new possibilities experiencing God, ourselves, and one another.

Images of God shape how we see God...

"In an incarnational faith, it's okay to think about God using human analogies," writes Willimon. We see such analogies throughout Scripture, some of which may be familiar to us (like father, king, or rock), while others might be new (like gardener, clothing, laughter, or mother hen). The rich abundance of scriptural images shows us that our imagination, our language, is insufficient for grasping the divine. God is far too big, too mysterious, too unpredictable to be captured in one image.

Many biblical images of God have become all too routine in our spiritual and ecclesial repertoire. Once shocking and even offensive to biblical hearers, many images no longer sound strange. Thus, exploring these advent images of God will both "strange-ify" familiar images and reintroduce images that perhaps new, overlooked, or ignored, helping us reimagine the God of many names.

Images of God shape how we see ourselves...

Exploring images of God not only helps us better imagine who God is, but also helps us see ourselves in a new light. If we are created in God's image (Gen 1:27), and if God is imaged as a potter, for example, what does that say about us? If God is described as a shepherd, who are we? If God is a weaver, a warrior, or a woman in labor, what does that mean for you and me?

Images of God shape how we see one another...

Rev. Dr. Lauren Winner argues that the images we use for God also shape how we see each other. That is, the attributes we say belong to God are those we end up valuing in society. For example, if we picture God exclusively as an old white man, we end up giving greater esteem to old white men. Following this same logic, if we see Jesus as a homeless person, we may value homeless people in our society more. If

we worship Jesus as an arrested man on death row, we might think differently about our incarcerated population. If we imagine God as a woman giving birth, perhaps we might start seeing women and mothers through new eyes. Our spiritual imaginations matter. In changing the way we see God, these different images change the way we see the world.

So join us this Advent as we experience together the richness of God Emmanuel, the fullness of God-with-us, as we worship the God of many names.

Schedule of Advent Worship

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Advent Clothing Drive

"For he has clothed me with garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels."

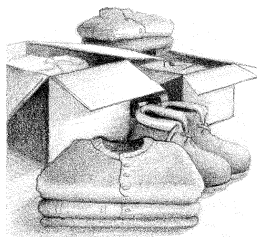
This is Isaiah 61:10, one of the lectionary texts for the 3rd week of Advent. It portrays God as One-Who-Clothes-Us, perhaps like a weaver, knitter, or tailor. This is one of the images we'll explore during this year's midweek Advent services.

Given Scripture images God as One-Who-Clothes-Us, and given we are created in God's image, we are therefore a people called to clothe one another. As a way to live into this image, this identity, we will be collecting clothing this Advent (Dec 3 - Dec 24). Collections boxes will be placed in the foyer. All donations will go to Urban Ministries.

New and gently-used items accepted (if used, items must be washed). Specific seasonal needs include:

- Men's clothing, especially casual pants (jeans, sweatpants, dockers, etc.), sweaters, sweatshirts, shoes, and belts
- Women's winter clothing, especially casual pants

Clothes for those in need



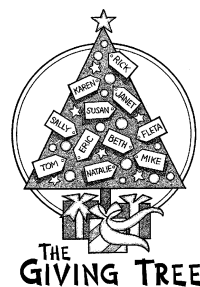
- Children's winter clothing (pants, long-sleeved tops, sweaters, sweatshirts, particularly for sizes 3T - 6X, and 7-16)
- Warm winter jackets, hats, and gloves
- NEW underwear and NEW socks (no used undergarments accepted).

We are wrapped up and woven together and generously clothed by a God who loves us. I look forward to working together to "go and do likewise" for our neighbors in need this Advent.

Vicar Ali

All I want for Christmas is...

This Christmas season our "Giving Tree" will be gifting Adults and Children through Durham Urban Ministries. The tree is positioned in the atrium by the Creation Garden windows, complete with stockings and directions for giving. **Items will need to be brought back to St. Paul's by Sunday, December 3!**



Instructions:

- ▶ Select a stocking
- ▶ Please write your name next to the number on the log sheet matching the stocking number
- ▶ Purchase **all of the items** listed on the stocking you have selected, but **do not** wrap them. All items need to be **new items**.
- ▶ Return your items to St. Paul's by **Sunday, December 3**
- ▶ Check your name off of the log sheet to indicate you have returned the items you purchased.

These items will be used to provide our neighbors in need with gifts and "shopping" opportunities through Durham Urban Ministries. We will be delivering all of our gifts to Durham Urban Ministries during the week of December 4 as they have requested.



What are Stephen Ministers?

Stephen Ministers have sometimes been called the "after people" ready to come alongside you and provide support and comfort for as long as needed "after" one gets hit with the problems/unexpected circumstances/crises/hard

knocks, etc. which seem to happen way too often as we travel through life.

They are men and women – children of God – who walk beside someone who is hurting; are members of our congregation who are carefully selected to serve in this role because of their care giving gifts. They are lay people who have 50 hours of training in providing high quality distinctively Christian care; a caring Christian friend who listens, cares, prays, supports and encourages. They are someone you can count on, to be there when they say they will – and for as long as that caring support is needed.

Here at St. Paul's we currently have 11 active Stephen ministers, as well as 3 Stephen Leaders. And we are looking to start another training class beginning in mid-January. If you would be interested in learning more details and/or have questions, the Adult Sunday School class on Dec. 10 at 9:45 am will be the place for you to be! Meanwhile, spend some time in prayer, asking God for guidance and for help in discerning your gifts and how you may best serve as His disciple.

Preschool Pitter Patter



by Amanda Stoen

We enjoyed many gatherings during the month of November at the preschool. Together with their families, our classes shared meals together and enjoyed delicious food. We talked about who and

what we are thankful for – our family, friends, teachers, turkey, cake, slides, the color red, sunshine and even Chic-fil-a!

In November, our St. Paul's Gives Back service project we painted kindness rocks for the preschools to place around the Triangle area and spread a little kindness to our neighbors. Visit www.thekindnessrocksproject.com to learn more about spreading kindness by randomly placed rocks along the way. You can search the preschool and find photos of our rocks! Vicar Adam blessed the rocks during Chapel Time and then we sent them home with each child.

In January, we will begin enrollment for Fall 2018. We will be offering classes for children ages 10 months - 4 years old. If you are interested or know of anyone who is, registration forms will be available and tours will begin in January. If you have any questions in the meantime, please let me know. We ask for your continued prayers throughout the school year.

Here in God's Garden

by George Seiz



Another fun and inspiring garden year is almost over.

The community of caretakers who graciously give their time

and effort to being good stewards of the church campus deserve much praise and credit for the approximately 450 labor hours served. This roughly equates to someone working an 8 hour day, one day per week for the entire year. Here are some of the highlights:

- ✿ Bulb planting project with Girl Scouts
- ✿ Spreading of 50 cubic yards of shredded mulch and 12 cubic yards of pine bark mulch
- ✿ Routine maintenance and pruning of shrubs, flowers and other plants including the Damascus house, Creation Garden, Journey Plaza, and Memorial Garden.
- ✿ Routine watering and maintenance of interior plants
- ✿ Planting of a Laceleaf Japanese Maple tree adjacent to the Creation Garden
- ✿ Installation of 3 replacement shrubs at Journey Plaza and 4 replacement shrubs around parking area. Also installation of 7 ornamental grass plants (drought resistant).
- ✿ Extensive pruning of 7 crape myrtle trees adjacent to Damascus house driveway.
- ✿ Significant watering during hot summer months.
- ✿ Assisted with cleaning and organizing of storage sheds.
- ✿ Planting of 160 bulbs at various locations for next spring.

About 24 church members contributed in some way or fashion this past year to provide maintenance and garden care to our campus. They include: Ellen and Kevin Lavery, Jim Shoaf, John Foreman, Curtis and Maria Chi, Tracey Dissel, Dick Clendaniel, Tom Kraska, Doug Whitfield, Curt Hahn, Dean and Marcia Redman, Audrey Busch, Tim and Kim Hoke, Phil and Sally Hart, Robin Winfree, Ted Dominick, Jeff Anderson, Marilyn Hawley, George and Janet Seiz. If I have left anyone out, I am truly sorry. Let me also thank Susan Esposito and Pastor Scott for their continued support of this ministry.

If you would also like to be a steward of God's Garden at St. Paul's, please contact me or Susan Esposito. Work usually takes place on Saturday mornings from roughly 9 am till 11 am. You don't need to be there every Saturday and hours are flexible. Contact George Seiz at geoseiz@aol.com or 919-824-0130.

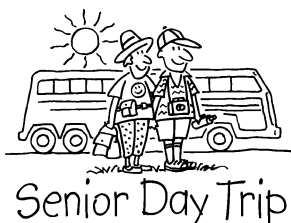
Katherine Circle

The Katherine Circle will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, December 12 at 10:00 am in Trinity Hall. Please note that this is a date change! We will enjoy singing favorite Christmas songs, and a light lunch will be served. All women of the congregation are invited.

Young In Spirit Group is Traveling!

The Young in Spirit have an outing planned for Wed, Dec 13 to go to Ascension Lutheran Church in Danville, VA to see and be told about the wonderful collection of Chrismons. The making of these special ornaments was begun in this church in the 1950s. The ornaments they have are many of the original ones plus unusual ones from all parts of the country, including a seal skin one from Alaska. Afterwards, we will go to The Gingerbread House for lunch – another treat. We will meet at the church at 9:30 am. We will be able to use the NEW church bus – now that is the real treat! We should return around 4 pm latest, because we may stop at Yoders Country Market, a small Amish store if all of us are ok with that.

Sign up sheet is on the desk in the reception office. We need a head count so we can tell the small restaurant.



the participation of all members in the process of committing and giving to the work of God at St. Paul's for next year.

Got a question or comment? Talk with any member of the Stewardship Committee. Thank you! Alice Barnes, Curt Hahn, Linda Foreman, Deborah Steed, Marilyn Bell-Hawley, Tracey Dissel, Barbara Ellertson, Greg Hudgins, Tom Kraska. Or you may also speak with Vicar Adam Schultz or Pastor Scott Anderson.

**We want to Share the
blessed Christmas with you.
Linda and Charles Huggins
wish you the most blessed
Christmas ever and if you can,
we want you to come to our house for
our Christmas party.
It's at 7:00 pm
Friday, December 15, 2017
712 North Franklin Drive
Sanford, NC
"Be of Good courage Christ is Born"**

Silent Auction

by Bess Line

Thanks to everyone for giving to the Silent Auction and purchasing from the Silent Auction. This year we did a grand total of \$1,650. Please keep it in mind for next year so we can double this amount!

In the mailbag...

Thank you for supporting the CROP Walk. This year we raised over \$153,000 to fight hunger.

Bob, for the CROP WALK leaders

* * * * *

Thank you for your gift of \$1,315.00 to Lutheran Disaster Response. With this gift you are providing emotional and spiritual care, supplying emergency relief and addressing long-term recovery.

The Rev. Daniel Rift

Director, ELCA World Hunger & Disaster Appeal

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who already turned in a Commitment Card on Consecration Sunday – or anytime before or after!!

If you have not yet returned your 2018 pledge, there is still time to do that. There are extra Stewardship materials on the usher table.

If you haven't already, there is also still time for you to help with our three challenge gifts this year! Anonymous donors have promised:

- 1) \$50 for each pledge received over **112**, the number returned last year.
- 2) \$50 for each family/individual who **increases** their pledge amount over last year and start giving at that level now.
- 3) \$50 for each **new** family/individual who signs up for Simply Giving (the automatic bank draft).

The purpose of these challenge gifts is to increase

New Members

On Sunday, November 19, we welcomed the following new members:



- **Stuart Behling**, who transferred from Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Austin, MN. He is a graduate student at Duke in Neurobiology
- **Cindy Dorner**, transferred from St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Urbana, IL. She is an elementary teacher in the Durham Public Schools.
- **Rachel Foster** transferred from Our Savior Lutheran Church in Thomaston, CT. She is retired.
- **Andrew Hawkey**, transferred from Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church in Lexington, KY. He is a postdoctoral Associate in Research at Duke, Psychiatry. His wife is Elizabeth Hawkey.
- **Steven and Karen Mzyk**, transferred from St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Goldsboro, NC. Steven was in the Air Force and was a teacher, is now retired. Karen is a teacher at Hill Center.

New member information has been added to our app directory. If you have not downloaded the app on your phone, information is available on the credenza in the atrium on how to do it. It is an app to access our directory on your phone.

Picture Time!

Yes, this time of year we seem to get photos taken of our family. Please consider sharing these with the church so we can update our photo directory in the coming months. Send your new photo to Susan Esposito: admin@stpaulsdurham.org and it will be put in the next directory. We will also be taking new photos in January on Sundays between services.



Memorials Received

We thank the following persons for their donations as designated.

In memory of Anita Johnson:

Robin Winfree, Durham
Karl and Otti Freundt, Durham
Mary Sturgeon, Carrboro
Lee and Lillie Howard, Wichita, KS
Maurice Johnson, Wichita, KS
Martha and Roy Tye, Pittsboro

Lawrence & Carole Ostrowski, Hurdle Mills
Marlene Coulter, Roxboro
Julie Cahillane, Chicago, IL
Timothy and Kimberly Hoke, Chapel Hill
Kevin and Ellen Lavery, Durham
Steven and Barbara Anderson, Hopkins, MN
Anthony and Penni Perrotte, Durham
Katherine and Thomas Shea, Chapel Hill
Jane Johnson, Durham

In memory of Diane Eaker:

Kevin and Ellen Lavery, Durham

In memory of Charles Spangler:

Robin Winfree

Our sympathy to the family and friends of Farris Duncan (brother-in-law of Jennifer Bowling) who died in November.

We have a Bus!

Due to the generosity of our members we have purchased a 2009 Chevrolet G3200 15 passenger bus. It is equipped with a wheel chair lift and can accommodate 2 wheel chairs as well as other passengers. If no wheel chairs are in use, we can accommodate 14 people plus the driver. Because this is a 15 passenger bus it does not require a commercial driver's license to drive it. The bus has about 168,000 miles on it but has been fully refurbished. Larry Hawley, spouse of Marilyn Bell Hawley, will offer a safety class on one upcoming afternoon. Anyone interested in helping us drive please contact Pastor Scott. We hope to use it to pick up members who do not drive at night for the Wednesday night Advent meals and worship services. In addition, we already have two people who have answered the call to drive it and pick up members on Sunday Morning. Our anticipated pickup spot will be at Croasdaile Village at least initially.

Sunday between services and after late service we will have the bus open for inspection.

Alternative Gifts

The Social Ministry Committee would like to encourage people to consider alternative gifting this season. Options are:

- ▶ ELCA Good Gifts: <https://community.elca.org/elcagoodgifts>
- ▶ Lutheran World Relief donations: <https://lwr.org/>

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, ELCA
1200 West Cornwallis Road
Durham, NC 27705-5731

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New Book Group Starting Up!

Do you like to read? Do you like to discuss what you've read? St. Paul's is beginning a book group in 2018. The group will meet Sunday, February 18 following the 11:00 worship service to discuss the logistics of this book group (how often we would like to meet, how long we would like to meet for, the best times to meet, what to read, etc.). If you're interested in joining or have questions, please let Barb Shade or Vicar Adam know. Please bring any book suggestions to our first meeting on February 18!

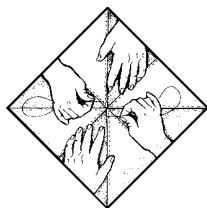


Community Café on Dec 16

This is the time for the congregation to step up and volunteer for a Saturday morning from 11:00 am - 1:30 pm. This is easy, fun work with time to get to know your fellow parishioners. You will also leave with the good feeling that you have helped others. We need to fill our last date of the year – Saturday, Dec 16. Please contact Nancy Dewhirst either by calling or texting 919-451-8872 or emailing nancydewhirst@yahoo.com. Help her out by responding early! Thanks!

Quilting Ministry

This year the Tongue and Thimble group has created 118 comforters and 5 NICU blankets, which will be donated to UNC Children's Hospital Pediatrics, UNC Children's Cancer Center, Duke Health Center Pediatric Clinics as well as creating 23 Christmas stockings which will be donated to Murdoch Developmental Center in Butner. We also continue to



present a comforter to babies baptized at St. Paul's.

As our Quilting Ministry reaches out, we are always in need of financial donations to help defray the cost of batting for the quilts, or specific fabric or notion needs. If you wish to give a donation, please note it as WELCA/Tongue and Thimble and put it in the offering plate. THANKS to all for your support of this ministry!

Cross Connections Deadline

The deadline for the January issue of *Cross Connections* will be Monday, Dec 11 with "Holy Folders" meeting on Wed, Dec 20 at 1:00 pm. This will accommodate the office closure dates at the end of the year.

Community Blue Christmas service



In the midst of an often overwhelming holiday season, you are invited to a service of silence and contemplation, hope and peace at St. Paul's Lutheran Church on **Tuesday, December 19 at 6:30 pm**. We'll join together with Epworth Methodist, Westminster Presbyterian, and Pilgrim United Church of Christ in holding one another in collective Light.

The annual Congregational Meeting will take place on Sunday, December 10 following both the 8:30 and 11:00 am services. We will adjourn the meeting after the 8:30 session and reconvene at the start of the meeting following 11:00 am service. Agenda includes voting on new Council Members and the 2018 Budget.