

ANNOUNCEMENTS *for the good of the church*

January 26th, 2025

Altar Flowers are Presented to the Glory of God

*Altar Flowers are presented to the Glory of God and in honor of Christian's parents, Renate and Gunter Oertel, on their birthdays
— by Christian and Theresa Oertel.*

If you would like to make a recognition through the altar flowers, please stop by the credenza under the TV monitor in the atrium for a form in the lower box. Sign-up for the days(s) you would like and turn in your request form(s) which should indicate your announcement for the bulletin. Payment (\$40) at least one week in advance. If you have any questions, please speak to a staff person.

Adult Sunday School: We hope you can come join us during the Sunday School hour (9:45am to 10:30am) in Trinity Hall for these thought and action producing sessions. If you have any questions or would like to lead one of social ministry based sessions this spring please reach out to Megan Cunningham at mcunni16@gmail.com.

January 26th: Finding our place in creation led by Megan Cunningham or a team member of the caring for creation team.

February 2nd: Climate change as a public health crisis led by Megan Cunningham/member of the Caring for Creation team.

February 9th, 2025 - The Future of Farming led by Megan Cunningham/member of the Caring for Creation team.

Growing Through Grief : Tuesdays 4PM - 6PM

January 28th: Lynn Heath, "Three Secrets of Resilience"

February 4th: Aaron Klink (title TBD)

February 11th: TBD

Hiking Group:

Vicar Ashley will be starting a hiking/walking group to get together every other Saturday for easy hikes of 2-3 miles. Here is the schedule of upcoming hikes:

Saturday, January 25 – Sandy Creek Park, 3510 Sandy Creek Dr, Durham

Saturday, February 8 – Oconeechee Speedway, 320 Elizabeth Brady Rd, Hillsborough

Saturday, February 22 – West Point on the Eno Park, 5101 N Roxboro St, Durham

For each hike, we will plan to meet at church to carpool or caravan to each location. We will depart church at 9:30 AM. If you would rather meet us at a hiking location, please let Vicar Ashley know.

Bell choir and handbells will resume next Wednesday, January 29th, (handbells at 6:30 and adult choir at 7:30)

On Sunday, February 2nd, in the Sunday school hour between services (9:45-10:30) Pastor Scott will be training volunteers who would like to learn the roles of assisting minister and communion assistant for Sunday worship. All are welcome to join and learn how to participate in these important roles.

Please join us for lunch and a film to celebrate Black History Month:

On Sunday, Feb. 2, the Social Ministry Committee will host a Lunch & Learn event in Trinity Hall after the 11:00 worship. We hope you'll be able to join us for a light lunch and then stay to watch the first episode of "Amend: The Fight for America." This one-hour video explores the complex history and ongoing importance of the 14th amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Will Smith hosts this review of American history and the origin of "birthright citizenship." It's an informative, engaging film that gives important context to current political discussions.

Durham Jazz Orchestra to Play on Saturday, February 8

All are welcome to come and dance or just enjoy the music of the Durham Jazz Orchestra at St. Paul's on Saturday, February 8 at 7:00 pm. They will play a variety of swing and jazz music in Trinity Hall. Always a good time for all! Please bring a dessert to share.

Next Youth Group Sunday Fun Day Event:

Sunday February 16th, 2025 - Lunch and a Scavenger Hunt at church.

This event will require all participants to be at youth Sunday School (9:45am to 10:30am) to see who their partner for the afternoon scavenger hunt will be to help discuss a game plan.

Then during the 11am service the first clue will be part of the message of the service so listening carefully will be key. We will have sub sandwiches and chips for lunch before each team will be let loose in the church to solve the riddles of clues to get to the next clue and to eventually try to win the final prize and bragging rights.

CREATION CARE

We will no longer be collecting batteries at St. Paul's. We no longer have a source for the recycling of single use batteries. However, batteries can be recycled at the Battery Drop-Off at the Waste and Recycling Center in Orange County. We will research other possibilities. Anything With a Plug Recycling (Raleigh) recycles plastics in addition to metals and electronics, Included are:

-Plastic/metal patio and office furniture

-Plastic kids toys

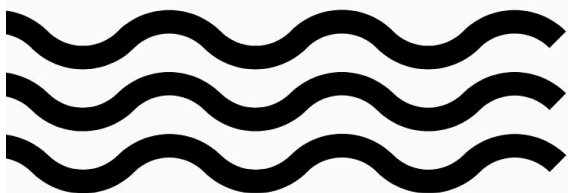
-All plastics (except bags) including lids and medical pill bottles.

The truck will be in Haverly's parking lot, Renaissance Pkwy, Durham on Saturday, February 15, 11-1 for drop offs.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH PRESCHOOL FUNDRAISER



Help us raise funds to replace the
playground seesaw and add a new gazebo!



Pasta Dinner – 6pm
Wednesday, February 19th



Scan the QR code
to give now!



Youth Group Sunday School:

Every Sunday during the Sunday School hour (9:45am to 10:30am) the youth group (6th graders - 12th graders) will be meeting in the youth room (downstairs through Genesis Hall across from the preschool) where we are "Exploring other Religions of the World."

Why We Keep Coming Back to Volunteer at Urban Ministries of Durham (UMD):

Since we enjoy our experience volunteering at this inner-city ministry feeding the hungry, we want to share what happens during our two hour shift. We arrive wearing closed-toed shoes, aprons, and baseball hats, to avoid donning a hairnet. After signing in, we are quickly put to work for the first hour with some simple food prep, such as washing fruit, cutting veggies, slicing bread, etc. The staff is welcoming, friendly, and helpful.

Then we form an assembly line to serve up the food. In quick fashion, one person plates the main dish, the next plates the sides, the third does the desserts, and the final person hands it to the recipient. We usually serve between one hundred twenty to two hundred ten people during this hour. There are different reactions shown by those receiving the meal – anywhere between a big smile and thank you to no eye contact. Most do show gratitude and appreciation for the food as well as our being there. We try to connect with them by greeting them and wishing them well.

So, what do we get out of it? We find it meaningful and invigorating to be in this setting, where we serve and engage with folks that we do not generally encounter but who deserve and need food and care and attention just as we all do. It is low stress and simple to master. A big bonus is that we get to know our fellow church members better.

There is almost always a need for volunteers. Why don't you give it a try? Our congregation staffs on the 4th Saturdays of the month from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Here is the link to the signup: [UMD Sign Up Genius](#). We want to thank Amanda Anderson who has arranged this ministry opportunity and serves as our liaison with UMD.

Submitted by Robert Fogel and Katherine Trexler

Help build our children's library!

In an effort to provide opportunities to connect young people to God in ways that are accessible and relevant to them, Vicar Ashley has put together an Amazon wish list. This wish list is full of new children's books that you can purchase and donate to the library to help update our children's section if you are so inclined. Thank you for considering contributing to our children's ministry and library in this way.

Amazon wish list: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/RFMU34AJJWU?ref_=wl_share

Children's Sunday school is meeting each Sunday from 9:45 to 10:45 AM, downstairs in the Genesis room (near the downstairs kitchen). All children are welcome and encouraged to join us for a time of Bible stories, crafts, cooking, and fun! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Carole Ostrowski or Betty Hinshaw.

Join the Coffee Hour on Mondays on Zoom from 10-11.

Topic: Coffee Hour, Time: 10:00-11:00 am on Mondays

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/91351103753?pwd=WVVCRLgrSUhhLzJWN3pPYnlyL25LZz09>

Meeting ID: 913 5110 3753 – Password: 292680

Thursday Morning Bible Study

We are continuing in 1 Thessalonians. We meet Thursday mornings at 10:30 in the conference room and via Zoom. Notes and Zoom link are emailed early in the week. All are welcome to join!

St. Paul's Readers: Please join us at our next book club meeting on Thursday, February 20, 2024, at 3 pm in the Conference Room. Ellen Lavery will lead our discussion of *West with Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge, 2021. This novel is an emotional, rousing, and incredible tale based upon a true story of two giraffes who made headlines and won the hearts of Depression-era America. As Woodrow Wilson Nickel, age 105, feels his life ebbing away, he finds himself recalling the unforgettable experience of transporting these giraffes from the Atlantic Ocean to the San Diego Zoo. Part adventure, part historical saga, and part coming-of-age love story, his narrative explores what it means to be changed by the grace of animals, the kindness of strangers, the passing of time, and a story told before it's too late. We are an informal, lowkey group who love to discuss books and their effect upon us. We invite all readers to come check us out even if you have not read the book. For questions, please contact Katherine Trexler (katherine.m.trexler@gmail.com).

Please consider contributing to our morning devotions. Send devotions to assistant@stpaulsdurham.org

Learn about Bees and Beekeeping!

On Thursday nights from January 16 to March 20, St. Paul's will host "Bee School." This course is offered every year by the Durham County Beekeepers Association, and it's a great chance to learn more about honey bees. Some people take it as preparation to become beekeepers while others are just "bee curious." The course always fills up, so don't delay if you're interested. Details and registration can be found at durhambeekeepers.org. And talk to Tina Bessias, Theresa Oertel, or Bill Gresham anytime about the hives at St. Paul's!

Join a musical ensemble at St. Paul's!

Interested participating in worship or learn more about music? You should join a musical ensemble at St. Paul's! Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings, handbells from 6:30-7:15 and choir from 7:15-8:30. Ensembles normally perform at the 11:00 service but occasionally at the 8:30 service. Ability to read music not required. If interested, contact Ted Turner, director of music at music@stpaulsdurham.org

PASTA for PARKTOWN! Help Stock St. Paul's Shelf at Parktown Food Hub!

Donate boxes of dry pasta to the bin beneath the bulletin board in the Atrium. These boxes are given to hungry families at the Parktown area by the Food Hub. The Women's Connection Group is leading this initiative and it is accomplished through your generosity.

Spring Adult Sunday School Leader Request:

I am starting to put together the spring semester adult Sunday school schedule and am in need of discussion leaders. We will be taking a look at the bible and our ELCA understanding within different aspects of social ministry. All sessions are from the ELCA so no preparation or creation will be needed, just a calling to lead the discussions. If you have a calling to lead a session or 2 please reach out directly to Megan Cunningham at mcunni16@gmail.com. The schedule is going to be released in the coming weeks so please be on the lookout.

Social Ministry Committee:

For anyone interested service opportunities, the Social Ministry Committee suggests that you use the Sign-up Genius links for either the Parktown Food Hub or the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina. Both of these organizations provide much-needed resources to our neighbors in need. They could use our help not only now, but throughout the year.

-Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina, 2700 Angier Avenue, Durham, NC
volunteer.foodbankcenc.org

-Parktown Food Hub: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0449a9aa2ba1f58-parktown#/>

Sign-up Genius Links

Please consider volunteering to assist in worship. Click the link to sign-up.

Sunday Worship: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a4a72fa5f58-sunday1#/>

Available Opportunities: lector, worship assistant, altar guild, communion assistant, and usher.

If you'd like to volunteer without using the website call or email Heather and she will add you to the list. (919-489-3214 or assistant@stpaulsdurham.org)

Our Afghan family support team would like to give express our joy and gratitude for all of the generosity of our community. The babies are growing! Our Afghan families now need of **size 3 infant diapers** and wipes. We are looking for a few more women drivers to help with getting families to their medical appointments. The families we support live just a few blocks from St. Paul's. If you are interested in helping, please contact Sally Hart, sallyshart1@gmail.com (or by phone, see church directory). Thank you!

Dropped Stich:

Meetings on the last Friday of each month at 1 pm in the church atrium where the sofas reside.

Jewelry Making:

Joyce Veazey is offering an opportunity to learn jewelry making! Just bring yourself, If you are interested, contact Joyce to set up a time meet with her. Please refer to the church directory for contact info.

PRAYER REQUEST EDITS

To streamline the process and help reduce errors, please visit the following link to add/remove people on the prayer list. <https://forms.gle/28wAjDpzQhEufuXu8>

PRAYER LIST

Prayers of the Church (Members)

Marcia Wilson, Greg Hudgins, Jan Franzen, Janet Ravert, Joyce Veazy, Phyllis and Larry Jenkins, Bob and Ellie DeVries, Mary Bader, John Friedrich, Pat Casper, Anna Snyder, Pat Cashwell, Susan Esposito, Rev. Wendy Waugh, and Charlie Bock.

Prayers of the Church (Friends)

Cliff Manley (Friend of Kathy Anderson), Ben Wright (Bill Elkin's father), Kay Matthews and Robert Meissner (Tony Perotte's Mother and Uncle), Diane Johnson (Penni Perotte's friend), Tim and Sue Williams (Friends of the Foremans), Sara Russell (Sister of Anna Snyder), Sayge Lindsay (Grandson of Alta Lindsay), MJ Chevalier (Sister of Marcy Brown), Roketta Hudgins (Mother of Greg Hudgins), Gay Reed (Friend of Robin Winfree), Jacki Stevens and daughter (Friends of Joan Pepper), Armenia and Artsakh (Friends of Judy Schlegel), William and Barbara Wilson (Parents of Bill Wilson), Linda Leslie (Mother of Sean Slane), Paul DeVries (Brother of Bob DeVries), Gini Rinkus (Friend of the Dominicks), Paul (Son-in-Law of Jan Huntley), Richard Dominick (Brother of Ted Dominick), Burr Hasselbeck, Holly Cashwell (Pat Cashwell), Patrick Howell (Friend of Waughs), John and Connie Heinz, Gregory and Colleen Davidson, Jack Taylor (Cousin of Dean and Marcia Redman), Debra Jetton (Sister of Bill Wilson), Penny Wagner (Niece of Marcia Wilson), Cole Cashwell (Grandson of Pat Cashwell), Scott Duncan (Stepfather of Bill Elkin), Dave and Missy Pepper (Brother and Family of Joan Pepper), Chuck Johnson and Family (Husband and Family of Leslie Johnson), Vernice Knudsen (Mother of Ken Knudsen), Olga Niktin (By Patrick Chappel), Joan Mayfield (Aunt of Pat Casper), Wini Robison (Aunt of Megan Cunningham), Sarah Jolly (sister of Marlene Coulter), Emily Baumann (niece of Dean and Marcia Redman), family and friends of Otti Freundt, Robin Brooks (Niece of Marlene Coulter), Pastor Fred and Gail Eichner (friends of the Foremans).