

ANNOUNCEMENTS *for the good of the church*

February 9th, 2025

Altar Flowers are Presented to the Glory of God

Altar Flowers are presented to the Glory of God and in memory Ann Dominick, mother of Ted & Delphia Kachur, mother of Diana; from Ted & Diana Dominick.

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.

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

February 16th- Active hope and agents of change led by Megan Cunningham/member of the Caring for Creation team

February 23rd- Faith Sexism, & Justice: All Are Called to Lives of Justice and Abundance - led by Nicoline Strom-Jensen

Growing Through Grief: Tuesdays 4PM - 6PM

February 11 "Self-Compassion during Times of Grief," with Katherine Henderson

February 18 "Anxiety and Fear," with Dan Romm

February 25 "Grief Humor: The Healing Power of Laughter," with Eloise Jordan

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, February 8 – Occoneechee Speedway, 320 Elizabeth Brady Rd, Hillsborough

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

Saturday, March 8 – Brumley Nature Preserve, North section, 3620 Old NC 10, Durham

Saturday, March 22 – Duke Forest (Al Buehler trail system), 3301 Cameron Blvd, 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.

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.

What Do You Think Our Saint Paul Looked Like?

"We sit in a church each Sunday named after a saint named Paul, but do we know him? His appearance? Was he really bald like many of us? Why does he carry a sword in so many of the portraits we've seen? Is that really him?"

You are invited to the Young in Spirit group gathering on February 12, @11:30 in Whitesell Hall when our very own Bee Ellertson will present artists' visions of Saint Paul that may just answer some of these questions!

Bee is an internationally known expert on Books As Symbols in Renaissance, BASIRA

<https://basiraproject.org/>, which is a free and open-access resource available to anyone with an internet connection and web browser.

Working with other scholars, Bee has developed this database of art over the past ten years and has presented her work throughout the US and Europe.

We here at St. Paul's are honored that she is one of our own and privileged to have her present to us.

Bring a sandwich, soup and a special dessert will be provided, and let's learn more about our Saint Paul".

Marilyn Bell-Hawley

Pastor's Bible Study!

Starting this week, Pastor Scott will be back at the helm of Thursday morning bible study! He will be starting back with the Gospel of John. 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!

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.

Wednesday, February 19th, Pasta Supper to Help the Preschool

Come and enjoy a Wednesday meal and fellowship while helping the St. Paul's Preschool raise funds for the playground at a Pasta Supper on Wednesday, February 19th, at 6:00 pm. The meal will include pasta, meatballs, several sauces, sides, salad and a variety of desserts. All donations will help the Preschool.

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 Haverty's parking lot, Renaissance Pkwy, Durham on Saturday, February 15, 11-1 for drop offs.

St. Paul's Readers Meet on Thursday, February 20 at 3 pm.

Please join us in the conference room on Thursday, February 20, at 3 pm as our book club delves into our latest selection of *West with Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge, 2021. Ellen Lavery will lead our discussion.

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 is too late.

If you are interested in reading ahead, our books for the following two months are *Don't Let Go* by Harlan Coben, 2017 (March 20) and *Time Heals No Wounds: A Baltic Sea Crime Novel* by Hendrik Falkenberg, 2013 (April 10).

I hope that you will consider checking out our group. We are friendly, laidback readers who enjoy sharing our love of books. We welcome both men and women—come even if you have not read the book, as there is always something interesting to talk about. For questions or more information, please contact Katherine Trexler at katherine.m.trexler@gmail.com.

Please join us to celebrate Black History Month

In honor of Black History Month, the Social Ministry Committee will be screening two films, and you're invited! We'll wrap up the month on March 7, with a Friday evening movie viewing (scheduled in March due to other events at our church). Come join us at 7:00 for popcorn and other treats while we screen "An Unlikely Friendship" a documentary about the improbable collaboration of two Durham leaders in the summer of 1971. As Durham schools were required to desegregate, Atwater, an outspoken civil rights activist, and Ellis, a local Ku Klux Klan leader, were appointed to lead the planning summit. They emerged from months of tense debates as allies and friends. If time and energy permit, there may be a discussion session after the film. Child care will be available, so come join us!

CROP Hunger Walk:

We are less than 2 months away from this year's CROP Hunger Walk, where we will gather together with others in our community to fight hunger both here and around the world. This year the Durham CROP Hunger Walk will take place on Sunday March 23rd, 2025 starting at the Duke University Chapel. St. Paul's has always been a strong supporter of the CROP Hunger Walk, and our goal this year is to raise \$3,500. If you would like to sign-up to walk, donate to our team, or both please either go to our team page <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/crophungerwalks/team/st-pauls-lutheran-church-of-durham> or talk to our team captains Megan Cunningham or Tracey Dissel at our table in the atrium between services, where information is also available.

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."

Fundraising Dinner at Church:

Tuesday March 4th, 2025 is Shrove Tuesday and that is the night of the pancake dinner. Youth and/or parents will need to arrive at church at 5pm to start cooking and setting up for the Shrove Tuesday Pancake dinner just like we did last year. The youth will also help clean-up. This is going to be an advertised fundraiser and will go towards all youth activities so it is requested that all active youth please help. This was a huge success and the congregation looks forward to seeing and getting to know the youth. **If your youth does not already have one of the colorful youth group shirts, please reach out to Megan (at any time) to get a shirt for you.** *This is going to be an annual event so please be on the lookout around this time each year.*

Spring Lock-in:

Friday March 7th, 2025 at 6pm - Saturday March 8th, 2025 at 9:30am

We will be having a spring lock-in, we will meet at church at 6pm before going to Frankie's Raleigh. We will get dinner at Frankie's in Raleigh before playing a round or two of putt putt (or laser tag depending on the weather). Before being locked into the church for the night. Dinner, snacks, and breakfast will be provided.

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/RFMU34AJIYWU?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

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

Our Afghan family support team would like to express our joy and gratitude for all of the generosity from our congregation. Our Afghan families now need of **sizes 3, 4, & 5 diapers and wipes**. We are also 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).

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#/#/](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)

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.

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)

Judy Schlegel, 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), Eileen Kunca (friend of the Dominicks), Codell Jones (mother of Tracy Dissell).