

Cross Connections



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

January 2023

Sunday, January 1 – New Year's Day

- ◆ 10:00 am Service of Lessons and Carols with Holy Communion

Sunday, January 8 – Celebrating the Day of Epiphany

- ◆ 8:30 am and 11:00 am Worship Services
- ◆ 9:45-10:45 am Sunday School

VESPERS SERVICE

On **Thursday, Jan 26 at 5:30 pm**, we will be having a vespers service. This service of chants, organ music, prayers and readings, will be modeled on the vespers given in Franz Eler's *Cantica Sacra*, a missal published in Hamburg, Germany, in 1588, which was widely used over the following century and a half. Chants and chorales will also be taken from the *Cantica Sacra*. The service will last approx. 45 minutes.

Young In Spirit

Wednesday, January 11 at 11:30 am in Trinity Hall

Vicar Amanda will share her "God Story" and her journey to today. Bring your own lunch, cookies for dessert will be provided. All adults who are looking for fellowship, activity and a fun daytime activity are invited to come join in.

Books for Book Harvest

The Preschool, together with the Slane Family, is collecting new or gently used children's books for Book Harvest, a local organization that supports literacy in Durham. Books should be children's books (ages 0-18) and cannot include textbooks or religious books. Books can be deposited into the marked box at the main entrance to the church between January 1 and Sunday January 15th.

Get Ready to Cook!

Plan to participate in the Chili & Cornbread Cook-Off!!!

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2023

sign up on poster on bulletin board – have food here by **5:30 pm**, supper begins at **6:00 pm**

Chili can be brought in crock-pots, cornbread any way. No need to bring serving utensils. You will be labeling your chili and/or cornbread as to main ingredients or style. Condiments (sour cream, cheese, crackers, etc.) provided as well as salad, desserts, and beverages for the full meal.

Many Thanks!!!

We want to thank everyone who participated in the Congregational Giving Tree this year. As a congregation we were able to provide gifts for 8 students from Burton Elementary school and a total of \$1,250.00 in Gift Cards for the Parktown Food Hub Christmas Giveaway. Your generosity will be appreciated by many this Christmas Season.

Submitted by Ellen Lavery and Tim Hoke



Annual Reports

It is time again for our annual reports to be submitted to Susan Esposito by January 16, 2023. They should come from each committee and active group at St. Paul's. Content should include membership and what has been accomplished in 2022. They can be left in Susan's mailbox or emailed to admin@stpaulsdurham.org. You are welcome to refer to the 2022 calendar on Susan's door to refresh your memory of activities.

We wish you all a Blessed Christmas and New Year. The church office will be closed December 23 through January 2, 2023.

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

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Nurturing Committee

re-freshed, renewed, re-energized

Seems our life at home and at St. Paul's has been pre-covid, covid isolation, and post-covid. BUT many things were still happening with the Nurturing committee: food ministry, transportation, new members, connections via phone calls, and sending cards. But now it is time to get it all back together!

Please help us re-fresh, renew and re-energize the Nurturing Ministry of St. Paul's. Everyone interested in becoming a part is invited to join as we meet on Friday, Jan 20 at 10 am in Trinity Hall. In the past we had card ministry, transportation, visitation, food, new member, telecare (calling), and we are hoping that those ministries can continue in some form, but there is ALWAYS new ways to reach out to our St. Paul's congregation. Please join us and become a part of Nurturing each other in our St. Paul's family.

WANTED

Each morning as part of my devotions, I read the one from a St. Paul's writer. Unfortunately, too many times there is none. What happened to the writers of devotions? If you have written a devotion(s) in the past, I invite you to do it again. If you have never written a devotion, now is the time to start. It is not hard; one paragraph is enough. If you do not know what to write about, think about a favorite Bible verse or hymn. Think about a time you experienced the presence of God, a time you were angry at God, a time you questioned God. Each of these can be the basis for a devotion. Once a month is enough, more is better. I look forward to seeing devotions from more writers.

Judy Schlegel

Growing Thru Grief

Growing thru Grief offers help and support to people grieving the loss of a loved one. We are a coalition of religious and civic organizations which have been serving people since 2013. We offer education and small group support each week. Here is the upcoming schedule:

- Jan 3 Holiday Updates and Resolutions, with Cora Harrison
 - Jan 10 Beyond Getting Over It: On the Myth of 'Grief Recovery,' with Aaron Klink
 - Jan 17 How Will I Know I'm Feeling Better? With Pastor Scott Anderson
 - Jan 24 Grief Shared is Grief Diminished, with Artie Hendricks
 - Jan 31 Frogs in Cream, with Nell Noonan
- We meet at St. Paul's each Tuesday. First time attendees must show proof of covid vaccination and booster(s). Masks are optional. We ask people to come at 4; the program begins at 4:30, and all will end by 6. Please contact admin@growingthrugrief.org if you have questions.

St. Paul's Readers Resumes January 19

St. Paul's Readers invite all readers to join us in 2023. We hope that you will consider participating in one or all of our meetings held in Trinity Hall at 3 pm on the third Thursday of most months. On Thursday, Jan 19 at 3 pm, Katherine Trexler leads our discussion of *The Plot* by Jean Korelitz.

Here is more information about our suspenseful book: Jacob Finch Bonner is a has-been. His first novel was well-received, but that was years ago. He knows that he hasn't come up with anything good since then. He now teaches a writing course that lets anyone in. When one of his students boasts to having a plot that will blow the literary world away, Jacob is naturally skeptical. But when he hears the plot, even he cannot deny its power. So what happens next?

Please consider checking out our book club. We are low-key and welcome all men and women. We would love for you to come to a meeting and see how we operate, even if you have not read the book. Please contact Katherine Trexler

(katherine.m.trexler@gmail.com) with any questions. We are excited about starting on our 2023 reading list!

Our February pick is *Going to School in Black and White: A Dual Memoir of Desegregation* by Cindy Waszak Geary and LaHoma Smith Romocki.