

## ANNOUNCEMENTS *for the good of the church*

January 12th, 2025

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### **Altar Flowers are Presented to the Glory of God**

*Altar Flowers are presented to the Glory of God from Hitch Havill & Rachel Harter.*

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 day(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.

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**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](mailto:mcunni16@gmail.com).

January 12th, 2025- Video and Discussion around Creation Care led by Tina Bessias

January 19th, 2025- Video and Discussion around Creation Care led by Tina Bessias

January 26th, 2025- Finding our place in creation led by Megan Cunningham or a team member of the caring for creation team

### **Growing Through Grief - Tuesdays 4PM - 6PM**

January 14th: Kathy Pittman, Facilitator, topic to be announced

January 21st: Artie Hendricks, Chaplain at Duke Hospital, topic to be announced

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

### **Chili & Cornbread Cook-Off Wednesday, January 15**

Don't miss St Paul's annual Chili and Cornbread Cook-Off on Wednesday, January 15, at 6:00pm. If inspired, please bring a crockpot of chili or a pan of cornbread. Or just show up to taste the marvelous selections! We will then be voting on our favorite chili and favorite cornbread. Awards will be presented. Add-ons, salad and dessert will be provided. If you are bringing an entry, please have your masterpieces at church 10 minutes early. If you have any questions please contact Martha Dahl, phone: 847-612-6687, email: [mjdahlhouse@gmail.com](mailto:mjdahlhouse@gmail.com)

St. Paul's will be hosting a **One Day Retreat for the NC Synodical Women's Organization** on February 22 from nine to three. All women are invited. The theme is Women of the Word. There will be study, craft and games. The cost is \$12.00. Registration closes on January 10. If you wish to come contact Judy Schlegel at [plumheadschlegel@gmail.com](mailto:plumheadschlegel@gmail.com).

**St. Paul's Readers:** We welcome all readers to join us at our next book club meeting on Thursday, January 16, 2024, at 3 pm. Vicar Ashley Bowman will lead our discussion of *Hidden Mercy: AIDS, Catholics, and the Untold Stories of Compassion in the Face of Fear* by Michael J. O'Loughlin, 2021. Description: The 1980s and 1990s, the height of the AIDS crisis in the United States, was decades ago now, and many of the stories from this time remain hidden. This is one journalist's--gay and Catholic himself--compelling picture of those quiet heroes who responded to human suffering when so much of society--and so much of the church--told them to look away. These pure acts of compassion and mercy offer us hope and inspiration as we continue to confront existential questions about what it means to be Americans, Christians, and human beings responding to those most in need.

We are an informal group who loves to discuss books and their effect upon us. For questions, please contact Katherine Trexler ([katherine.m.trexler@gmail.com](mailto:katherine.m.trexler@gmail.com)).

### **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](http://durhambeekeepers.org). And talk to Tina Bessias, Theresa Oertel, or Bill Gresham anytime about the hives at St. Paul's!

**Please consider contributing to our morning devotions.** Send devotions to [assistant@stpaulsdurham.org](mailto:assistant@stpaulsdurham.org)

**The Working Adult Group** will be teeing off in January by playing a round or 2 of miniature golf at Par'Tee Shack in Raleigh on Friday January 17th, 2025 at 7pm. If you would like to come please RSVP to Megan Cunningham at mcunni16@gmail.com by January 10th, 2025. Cost is \$16 per person for unlimited rounds. And of course all are welcome and encouraged. See you at the course.

### **ELCA event for Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

The social ministry committee would like to invite you to participate in the ELCA's National Day of Racial Healing on Tuesday, January 21 (the day after MLK Day). The event will include live Zoom events throughout the day, from 11AM to 3PM. The content will include a variety of workshops and opportunities for reflection. The topics of the workshops include educational opportunities on the lived experiences of people with various racial and ethnic identities; how people are working to address racism in their communities and beyond; and how we as Lutheran Christians can be actively antiracist. The panelists include ELCA churchwide staff, bishops, authors, artists, pastors, theologians, and others actively involved in doing the work of racial justice.

You can find more information about the event here:

<https://www.elca.org/our-work/publicly-engaged-church/racial-justice-ministries/national-day-of-racial-healing>

**The next Youth Group event** will be on Sunday January 26th, 2025 after 11am service. We will be going to Bowlero- Durham for lunch and a few hours of bowling. We will be getting back to the church around 3pm. The church will be paying for everything so youth will not need to bring any money.

The teenagers have been informed either via the group chat or in person at church this morning.

If your youth(s) would like to attend please let Joan or myself know via email or have your teen respond in the group chat. We hope all youth are able to join us as this was a ton of fun last year. [youth@stpaulsdurham.org](mailto:youth@stpaulsdurham.org)

Thank you, Joan and Megan

### **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 – Occoneechee 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.

### **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](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!

## 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](mailto:assistant@stpaulsdurham.org))

## UMD (Urban Ministries of Durham) Volunteer Update, Amanda Anderson

Moving forward, we're back to the original time frame, 11:30-1:30 pm. We'll help with meal prep before serving lunch just as we did previously, **only four volunteers are needed.** To accommodate our monthly Habitat for Humanity volunteer shift, the UMD shift will be the fourth Saturday of the month.

**Volunteers MUST sign up online to participate.** You can Sign up here: [https://bit.ly/UMD\\_Signup](https://bit.ly/UMD_Signup)

As always, please reach out to me with questions about the logistics of volunteering, [andersona1129@gmail.com](mailto:andersona1129@gmail.com).

## 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](mailto:mcunni16@gmail.com). The schedule is going to be released in the coming weeks so please be on the lookout.

**Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Durham, NC** is seeking an experienced Ministry Assistant to coordinate the administrative functions of the pastor's office. The person in this role will work with church staff, leaders and members to achieve the church's mission objectives. The person will be extending the ministry of Grace Lutheran Church to our members and the surrounding community. In addition, this role will help coordinate and design church communications including social media, church website, newsletters and texts.

The successful candidate will be self-motivated with a professional demeanor and presence, positive attitude, strong work ethic, the ability to maintain a high level of confidentiality, and excellent communication and interpersonal skills. He/she must possess strong organizational skills, proficiency with Google Workspace, Microsoft Office Suite and desktop publishing. Web page skills and social media knowledge is a plus. This person must be able to multitask, be flexible and relate well to other church staff, congregants, and visitors. This is a part time hourly position of approximately 27 hours per week.

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter outlining their interest in the position and the gifts and skills they possess along with a resume and salary requirements. No phone calls. Applications will be accepted by e-mail only and will be reviewed as received. Please send cover letter and resume to: [hr@gracelutheranchurch.net](mailto:hr@gracelutheranchurch.net).

**Our Afghan family support team** would like to give express our joy and gratitude for all of the generosity of our community. A sewing machine has been provided for these hard working women! Our Afghan families do still need of **size 1 and 2 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](mailto:sallyshart1@gmail.com) (or by phone, see church directory).

## 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](mailto: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.

## 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.

## Dropped Stich:

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

## **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>

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## **PRAYER LIST**

### **Prayers of the Church (Members)**

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)**

Ben Wright (Bill Elkin's father), the family of Pat Casper, whose aunt Ruth passed away; 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).