



Parish *Life*

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January 2016

Advent at St. Paul's



Epiphany and Chalking the Door

*by the Rev. D. Dixon Kinser
Rector*

In the Jewish Bible, the Hebrew people are encouraged to teach their children the ways of God by, “talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.” (Deut 11:19).

I love this description of spiritual formation because it reminds me that Christian living is an “all the time” kind of practice. Spiritual development does not just happen in religious places like church buildings, but rather along the road while we are walking, sitting at home and even going to bed at night. These are not special times, but instead, the most ordinary. And that’s the point. The people of God are in the business of making sacramental connections (the outward signs of our culture that point to inward and invisible kingdom realities) in the most common of places, times and activities and one of the tools we have to assist us in this good work are the festivals of the church.

January 6 is a festival commemorating the visitation of Jesus by the Magi called Epiphany. The event is worth celebrating for a number of reasons, not the least of which is the way it is a picture of all the nations of the world’s being drawn to Jesus (that’s good news for all us non-Jews).

January is usually considered a “down month” in the empire’s Christmas season.

The shopping and gift giving are over as life finally returns to “normal,” but this is not the case for the Church. For the Church the party continues with the feast of Epiphany.

During Epiphany the people of God both tell the story of the Magi’s worshipping the Christ child and pray that our homes would be beacons of Gospel light much like the star that brought them. In Epiphany, Christians are encouraged to connect their ordinary home life to the Gospel of God and there is even a liturgy called Chalking the Door to help us do it.

Developed in the middle ages, this liturgy draws on the portion of the Deuteronomy text where God says to, “Write (His laws) on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.” (Dt 18:20) by literally directing worshippers to



write on their doorposts with chalk! It is a celebration to be undertaken with family and friends and is a tangible way of saying “yes” to God’s invitation to us all to be redemption in our neighborhoods.

There are some apocryphal references to the 9th century names given to the Magi kings. (Remember, there were probably more than three of them. It was only the gifts that came in threes!) This still

makes a great ritual and one that my family will practice again this Epiphany. I’ve included the text of it on the next page so you can use it in your home, apartment or community center this year.

May God meet you this Advent, bless you this Christmas and anoint you to shine Gospel light this Epiphany,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'D. Kinser'.

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols



This year’s Festival, presented on December 20, featured the premiere of “A Sound of Singing Fills the Air” by composer Malcolm Archer, commissioned by parishioners Ken and Ann Zuhr in Ann’s honor.

A Liturgy for Chalking the Door

On the Epiphany of Our Lord, January 6, family and friends ("Community") gather at the main entrances to homes or apartments, nursing home quarters, extended care facilities, hospital rooms, etc., and ask God's blessing on their dwellings and on all who live or visit there. Leadership may be shared with a change of voice at each Leader's part.

Leader: Peace be to this house and to all who enter here.

Leader: A reading from Proverbs: "By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures."

Leader: Let us pray: Gracious God, as a shining star once guided the magi to the birthplace of the infant Jesus, so enable those who dwell here to be your light in the world; through Jesus Christ we pray.

Community: Amen.

Using chalk, people are invited to inscribe the lintel of the home (the horizontal frame above the door) with the inscription shown below. The letters C M B come from the traditional (9th century) names for the "three kings," Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar. Some also suggest "Christus Mansionem Benedicat" which means, "May Christ bless this dwelling!" The numbers are the calendar year, split in two. Each person is afforded a turn to make one or more of the marks:

20 + C + M + B + 15

Leader: A reading from Isaiah: "The effect of righteousness is peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever. My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and quiet places."

People may join hands or extend their hands outward and upward (orans) for the prayers.

Leader: Let us pray: Sovereign God, we pray that you will bless this home and all who live here with your gracious presence, that your love may be our inspiration, your wisdom our guide, your truth our light, and your peace our benediction; through Jesus Christ we pray.

Community: Amen.

Leader: Lord, remember your children and teach us to pray:

Community: Our Father...

People may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of their baptism.

Leader: May the Lord watch over our going out and our coming in, from this time forth and forevermore.

Community: Amen.

*Authors: Paul F. Bosch [pbosch@golden.net] and André Laverne [editor@worship.ca]
Copyright: © 1996, 2002 Paul Bosch & André Laverne. This liturgy may be freely reproduced for non-commercial purposes with credit to the authors and mention of the Lift Up Your Hearts web site <http://www.worship.ca/> as the source. This brief liturgy appeared in similar form in Section 4 of the ELCIC's Gathered for Worship © 1995.*

Loving Hands Ministry



The Loving Hands Ministry knits and crochets baby caps, prayer shawls and scarves.

All who enjoy knitting, crocheting, tatting and other hand-crafting—and anyone of any age who would like to learn—are welcome to join St. Paul's Loving Hands Ministry.

The group shares fellowship and refreshments while making simple baby caps for Guild of the Christ Child care packages for new parents in our parish as well as prayer shawls and scarves for pastoral ministries of the church. The group also creates hand-made caps for infants at Brenner Children's Hospital.

Loving Hands meets from 10:30 a.m. to noon in the parlor on the second Thursday of each month from September through May. The next meeting will be January 14. Those who are unable to join the group are welcome to knit at home.

For information about the Loving Hands Ministry, contact Henriette Holoman at 760-9800.

Parishioners of All Ages Gather to Stop Hunger Now



Senior Adults to Offer Brunswick Stew

Brunswick Stew Order Form

Name: _____

Phone and/or email: _____

_____ quarts @\$12 each. Check enclosed for \$_____

*Please make your check payable to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, with "Senior Stew" noted in the memo line. Mail your check with this form to Senior Adults Minister Anne Rahn, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 520 Summit Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101. **Orders must be received by Tuesday, February 2.***

St. Paul's Senior Adults will be cooking up a big batch of Brunswick stew just in time for Super Bowl Sunday. Proceeds of the sale go to support one or more charities selected by the Senior Adults Committee.

The stew will be ready for pick-up outside the kitchen after the Annual Meeting on February 7 or by special

arrangement with Senior Adults Minister Anne Rahn. The stew, which must be ordered and paid for in advance, is \$12 per quart. To order, use the form on this page. Additional order forms are available at the back of the nave, outside the chapel and at the reception desk. Orders must be received by Tuesday, February 2.

2016 Friends of Music Series to Open with Two Concerts in January

Friends of Music at



Ensemble Vermillian



Heartland Baroque

Ensemble Vermillian, a baroque chamber group, will perform music from the generation before Bach at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 5, in the nave. The core members of Ensemble Vermillian, sisters Frances Blaker (recorders) and Barbara Blaker Krumdieck (baroque cello) with David Wilson (baroque violin) and William Simms (theorbo and baroque guitar), will be joined by soprano Margaret Carpenter Haigh and organist Nicolas Haigh. The program will feature chamber music by Buxtehude, Schmelzer, Biber and Mayr. Admission is free. An offering will be collected. The concert is sponsored by Friends of Music at St. Paul's.

On Friday, January 29 at 7:00 p.m., Friends of Music at St. Paul's will present early music ensemble Heartland Baroque. Their program, "At the Monarch's Pleasure," will honor 17th century music and musicians from the House of Habsburg. Venetian composers at the Hapsburg court, including Antonio Bertali, Giovanni Battista Buonamente, Massimiliano Neri and Giovanni Valenti will be featured, as well as works from their colleagues Johann Joseph Fux and Johann Heinrich Schmelzer. Ensemble members include Martie Perry and David Wilson (baroque violins), Keith Collins (dulcian), Barbara Krumdieck (baroque cello) and Billy Simms (theorbo and baroque guitar). A \$15 donation is suggested.

Men's Monday Dinner

St. Paul's Men's Ministry invites the men of the parish to gather in the Colhoun Room on Monday, January 11, from 5:30 to 6:00 for socializing and hors d'oeuvre and from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. for dinner and a program by Dr. Shaw Yount. The cost is \$10, payable at the door. No reservation is required, but those who plan to attend are asked to email Tom McDowell at tmcdowell@stpauls-ws.org. Bring a friend. Walk-ins are welcome.

Senior Luncheon



On Wednesday, January 20, in Colhoun A, St. Paul's Senior Adults will welcome Keith Stirewalt, Chaplain for Clinical Engagement, Advance Care Planning Coordinator, and Independent Living Donor Advocate at Wake Forest Baptist Health. His topic will be "Conversations of Love and Justice." Fellowship begins at 11:15 a.m. Lunch (\$6) begins at 11:30 a.m. and the program begins at noon. No reservation is necessary.

Fighting Hunger, Feeding Hope



by Clyde Fitzgerald
Executive Director
Second Harvest Food Bank of
Northwest North Carolina

Many of us enjoyed gathering with friends and loved ones during the holiday season. It's likely that more than a few of us over-indulged with all the great food that is so much a part of the season's tradition. Let's be thankful for the food we have, knowing that so many around us struggle each day to put food on the table.

The economy is improving but things certainly haven't gotten better for everyone. Tens of thousands of our neighbors right here in Forsyth County are still living a largely invisible struggle to afford enough food for themselves and their families. They face choices no one should have to face, and they do so with a strength, resilience and dignity that most people will never know.

One in six people living in Forsyth County needs food assistance every week. More than one in four of the children in our county suffers from hunger on a daily basis. These facts are shocking, and they're unacceptable!

People who suffer from hunger certainly have a physical need for food and, unfortunately, hunger never takes a holiday. However, during this special season, people who lack food also suffer an emotional "hit" because this is a time that is especially associated with enjoying food with family and friends. Many of our hungry neighbors aren't able to enjoy that special time at the dinner table because there's no food to put on that table. Second Harvest Food Bank is working hard to change that picture for as many people and families as possible, and we've been blessed with your support in many ways in doing so.

Each January, St. Paul's Social Action Committee leads a month-long food drive to benefit Second Harvest Food Bank and those we serve. I invite you to participate compassionately and generously with your donations of food and funds to help us provide food and hope to the many who, unfortunately, have far too little of both. Please place your food donations in the large bins located inside the Goodheart Entrance or bring your donations to services on Sunday, January 31. A shopping list of the most-needed items is provided on this page, in literature racks around the church and in January issues of *ParishLight*.

Last year's parish food and funds drive generated the equivalent of 15,323 meals! Let's set a new record this year! Your donations of food and funds will make a life-changing

Shopping List

3 cans of low- or no-sodium vegetables
3 cans of fruit packed in water or its own juice
2 cans of tomatoes
2 boxes of mac and cheese
1 pound of brown rice
1 can of tuna fish
1 can of chicken
1 can of beef stew
1 can of chili
1 pound of dried beans
1 box of powdered milk
1 jar of peanut butter
1 can or plastic bottle of pasta sauce
1 pound of pasta
1 box of oatmeal
1 box of cereal
1 box of raisins
Healthy snacks
Toiletries

difference to those in need. Please join us to "fill the truck" on Sunday, January 31.

Winter-Spring Sunday Schedule Starts January 10

- 7:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite One, spoken service in the nave
- 8:00 a.m. Breakfast by the Men's Ministry
- 9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite Two, in the nave
Music by Novices, Choristers and Chorale
- 10:15 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Christian Formation for all ages
- 11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite Two, in the nave
Music by the Adult Choir
- 5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist in the chapel

Senior Warden's Report



by Morris Friedman
Senior Warden

If you have been following the weekly annual giving updates in our emailed newsletter, *ParishLight*, you know just before Christmas our *One Body, Many Blessed* campaign had received pledges totaling \$1,745,027—enough to bring us 83 percent of the way to our financial goal of \$2,100,000.

Personally, and on behalf of the Vestry, I want to thank every one of the 465 parish households these pledges represent. Knowing we can count on your ongoing support throughout the coming year allows us to plan for the future and to set our operating budget with confidence. I also want to express our gratitude to Erin and Scott Adams for their leadership of the campaign. They have done a wonderful job of inspiring not only financial commitments, but commitments of volunteer hours in the coming year.

The *One Body, Many Blessed* campaign has another goal, and that is for at least 600 of our approximately 1,000 parish

households to participate. As of this writing, those 465 pledges bring us 77.5 percent of the way there.

If yours is one of the approximately 500 active member households that have not yet made a pledge to our 2016 campaign, I urge you to consider doing so now. Of course, I hope you will pledge as generously as you are able, but a pledge of *any* amount will help us advance toward our participation goal.

Why is your participation in the campaign—*regardless of the amount of your pledge*—so vitally important? Your pledge to the campaign tangibly expresses your love for St. Paul's in a way words and good wishes alone cannot. Your pledge serves as your explicit "vote of confidence" for the mission and ministries of our church and clearly demonstrates your support for the clergy, staff, Vestry and volunteers who carry them out in their work for St. Paul's. Your pledge shows them you appreciate their efforts. Your financial support *at any level* symbolizes your commitment to St. Paul's and transforms you from a bystander into an active, contributing participant in the life of our parish. A pledge of any amount will make a difference in the life and work of our church throughout the coming year and beyond.

Also, the very act of giving can help to enrich our own lives and raise our spiritual connectedness to a new level. As Jesus said in the Sermon

Transitions

Births

Graylyn Frances Dyer

December 9, 2015

Daughter of Rachel and
Chris Dyer, granddaughter of
Tim and Becky Davis

Reagan Frances Franke

December 13, 2015

Granddaughter of
Steve and Cindy Lou Franke

New Members

Barry and Sarah Creed and son Oliver

Allen and Mary Shafer and daughter Emma

Alex Stearns

Beth and Jim Poydock and daughters Anna and Abby

Ms. Perry Van Dyke

Bo Kenan

Deaths

Edwin Eugene "Ted" Dillon

December 5, 2015

Husband of Joycelyn Dillon,
father of Thomas, Sarah
Frances, Charles and Virginia
Dillon, brother of Amy Hough,
brother-in-law of Michael
Hough, brother of Joe Dillon

Elizabeth Gordy "Betty" Brandt

December 11, 2015

Wife of Bob Brandt, mother of
Cathy Ralston, mother-in-law
of Er Ralston, grandmother of
Brad and Holly Ralston

Vertie Stroup

December 17, 2015

Richard Joseph Sterenczak, Sr.

December 18, 2015

Father of RJ Sterenczak,
father-in-law of Chastity
Sterenczak, grandfather of
Claire and Lauren Sterenczak

Martha Holton Cross

December 18, 2015

Mother of Jay Hedgpeth,
mother-in-law of
Susan Hedgpeth

Marie Dorothy Hatteberg

December 21, 2015

Mother of Randy Hatteberg,
mother-in-law of
Marty Hatteberg

Richard Caviness Respass

December 27, 2015

Father of Amy Schell,
St. Paul's staff member

on the Mount, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

It's easy to make a pledge to the 2016 campaign. Simply contact our Director of Stewardship and Outreach, Sally Dudley, by calling 723-4391, ext. 1502, or by emailing

her at sdudley@stpauls-ws.org. You may also pledge using an online form. Visit www.stpauls-ws.org and click the campaign logo or the "Fill out an online pledge card" link near the center of the page.

Thank you so very much for all you do for St. Paul's.

Faith & Justice Series



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The Faith & Justice Committee Lunch and Speaker Series, *In My Backyard: Faith and Current Events*, continues on Thursday, January 28, from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. in the Colhoun Room.

This month, the committee will present a video recording of a Trinity Institute presentation by attorney Bryan Stevenson, author of *Just Mercy*, Executive Director of the Equal Justice Initiative and professor of law at New York University School of Law. His program is titled, "Our Children, Our Prisons: Moving Young People from Incarceration to Education." In the United States each year, approximately 2,570 children as young as 13 are sentenced to life in prison without parole, and more than 2.7 million children have an incarcerated parent, including one in nine African-American children. Stevenson will focus on the impact of incarceration on young people whose parents or who themselves are incarcerated. Bring your own lunch. Beverages will be provided.

St. Paul's to be a Conference Partner Site

St. Paul's will serve as a remote partner site for Trinity Institute's 45th National Theological Conference. This year's theme is, "Listen for a Change: Sacred Conversations for Racial Justice." St. Paul's has partnered with Trinity Wall Street Episcopal Church in New York to present by video portions of this year's conference, which addresses a pressing issue of our time, structural racism.

Many of us avoid conversations about race because they are difficult, uncomfortable or may put us at risk of being perceived as prejudiced. The experiences of gathering at St. Paul's to share portions of the "Listen for a Change" conference will present

learning opportunities—chances to hear some of the nation's leading theologians and thinkers on race in America, followed by reflection in groups with people who might have differing perspectives. As a result of engaging in deep listening and truth-telling, participants can develop skills to create change. By having these conversations, we hope we can build willingness to address the racial tension of our time.

Trinity Institute's three-day conference, which will take place in New York in January, will be adapted by the Faith & Justice Committee as a more focused, condensed program to be presented at St. Paul's on Friday evening, February



26, and all day Saturday, February 27. Featured speakers will include New York Times columnist Nicholas Kristof, actor, playwright and professor Anna Deavere Smith, the Dean of Vanderbilt Divinity School Emilie Townes, NPR journalist Michele Norris and Presiding Bishop, the Most Rev. Michael B. Curry. This event is open to the public. Registration will be required and admission will be charged.