

# St. Paul's News

475 State Street Albany, New York 12203  
518.463.0571

## Vicar's Update

By this point you are likely stuffed from all the Thanksgiving Turkey, and if they are not up already, you are making plans to hang the Christmas decorations. "It's the most wonderful time of the year"! A great season of feasting, and celebrating the lights outside at the darkest time of the year. This year, on December 21<sup>st</sup>, we will experience the winter solstice, which will end the longest night and begin slowly adding more daylight on our long march to the summer sun. It is fitting that we celebrate the birth of Jesus around the darkest time each year. Jesus, true God and true man, comes to bring light to a world in desperate need of his salvation. As we walk through the long Advent nights, let us keep our eyes focused on the light which is to come in Jesus. As you walk through the various challenges that each day presents to you, I want to encourage you to look to Jesus for strength. He is our light and our salvation.

This year we are bringing back mid-week Advent services. These will be done in unity with our sister congregation, St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. We will also provide a light supper and fellowship time prior to the service. As you are able, please come and worship with us as we prepare to invite the true light of the world into our life and heart.

Your Brother in Christ  
Vicar Jim Dorner

### **Advent Worship Schedule**

Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> – at St. Matthew's  
5:30-6:30PM Soup Supper  
6:30PM Advent Worship

Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup> – St. Paul's  
5:30-6:30PM Soup Supper  
6:30PM Advent Worship

Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> – St. Matthew's  
5:30-6:30PM Soup Supper  
6:30PM Advent Worship

Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> -St. Paul's  
5:30PM Christmas Eve Worship

Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup> – St. Paul's  
9:30AM Christmas Day Worship

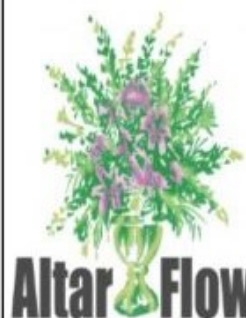
## TREE TRIMMING AND DECORATING THE SANCTUARY

Sunday, December 15th right after worship, we will all stay in the sanctuary and put up the Christmas Decorations and decorate the tree. Coffee Hour will be held up in the church so we can snack as we work! Please plan to stay for a short while after worship and make our worship space festive for



The new altar flower chart for 2020 has been posted in the Narthex. Please take a moment

and sign up for the Sunday(s) that you would like to place flowers on the altar and the dedication for the bulletin. Thanks for your help!! Cost of the flowers is



**Altar Flowers** \$30



**SignUpGenius**

Please check Sign-Up Genius for December. There are several openings that need to be filled.

You can bring something for our Coffee Hour, or help to clean up a small area.

**Please see article on Page 5**



### **ALBANY MARITIME MINISTRY**

The Albany Maritime Ministry will hold its annual **OPEN HOUSE** at the Port of Albany on Sunday, December 8, from 1-3 PM. Come and see the Center which helps so many seafarers who come into Albany.

The Ministry needs warm coats, hats, socks, and mittens for the men when they come into our cold climate.

Bring a slightly used coat, sweat-shirts (small or medium) or some hats, gloves, etc. and visit the Center on December 8th.

## CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE

—DECEMBER 24th—

5:00 PM—FAMILY CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP

--DECEMBER 25 --

9:30 AM CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP

—SUNDAY-DECEMBER 29 —

9:30 AM LESSONS AND CAROLS

You are invited to an 8 week course where we will dive into the foundation elements of Christianity. If you are new to the faith, new to the Lutheran Church, or a seasoned member at St. Paul's, these classes will be informative and fun. Nothing is needed except a Bible (which we can provide). Please speak to Vicar Jim if you are interested. The group will decide together where we will meet.

Vicar Jim Dorner

Stpaulslc.pastor@gmail.com

96310 707-2365 text or call

The dates/times are:

Tuesdays, 6:00—7:00 PM

Location to be determined based on who signs up

December 3, 10, 17

January 7, 14, 21, 28

February 4

Sunday February 9—New Member Welcome in Worship

## Shelter Dinners

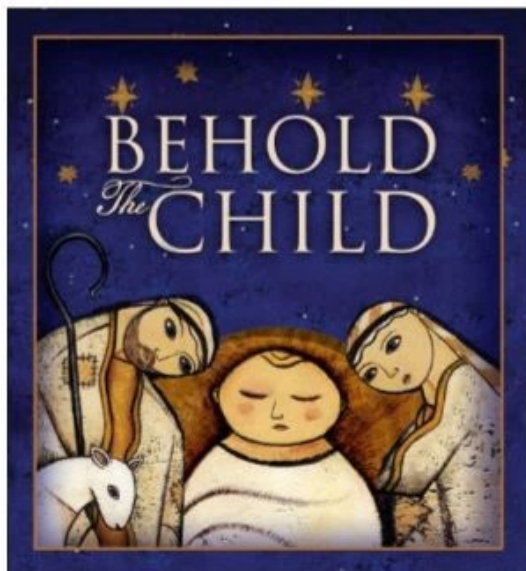


### Shelter Dinners:

The shelter is open with warm beds and meals for those who otherwise would be on the streets this winter. St. Paul's will provide dinner on **Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**. Can you help with this meal or a future meal? It's not hard, a typical dinner is for about 20 people and should consist of an entrée, a starch (potato, rice, pasta) a vegetable or salad and a dessert.

Meals should be completely cooked and in disposable pans. Dishes can even be prepared ahead of time and brought to St. Paul's.

Look for the sign-up sheet in rear of the sanctuary. If you have any questions see Sheryl Baum.



# ADVENT WORSHIP

We invite you to join us for mid-week Advent Worship services this December, as we prepare to receive Christ at Christmas.

This year we will be worshipping with our brothers and sisters at St. Matthew Lutheran Church. There will be a soup supper each Wednesday from 5:30-6:30PM, with a short service of hymns and prayers, beginning at 6:30PM. Come whenever you can, as we join our voices and hearts to welcome The Child into our lives.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church  
75 Whitehall Rd.  
Albany, NY 12209  
(limited parking in rear of building, street parking available)

Wed. December 4th - St. Matthew's Lutheran Church  
Wed. December 11th - St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
Wed. December 18th - St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

## St. Paul's Cleaning Ministry

Did you know we have a duster that can reach to the top of our stain glass windows & ceiling cornices in the sanctuary? A big thank you goes out to Craig Jones, Braxton & Tina Harris, Vicar Dorner and Sheryl Baum who took some time from their busy schedules to help dust & clean in the sanctuary, narthex and church entrances in November. Since December is a busy month for so many of us, the scheduled December cleaning (12/21) will be suspended and we will next meet the third Saturday in January 2020.

Please put it on your calendar and well see you in the new year!



## SUPPLIES NEEDED

CARDS are up on the bulletin board in the back of church. Each card lists a supply needed. Please take a card with you and get that item when you are out shopping during the week. This helps to keep our cleaning budget low! Thanks for your help!

## Coffee Hour Hosts Needed

After several years of faithful service, Tina Harris (Braxton & Chamberlain too) is stepping down as the Coffee Hour coordinator. We have truly been blessed by her gift of lunch and it's wonderful presentation. She will continue to lead in this capacity through the end of 2019. Beginning in January, 2020 we will need to find another solution. We are currently looking for a coordinator to help arrange volunteers each week to provide something small. For example, my family could provide bread, or juice each week. We would simply add that to our weekly shopping list. I want to encourage you to pray about this. Perhaps this is your gift of service to God and our St. Paul's community. The meals we share together each Sunday are central to our faith and our unity. Please speak to Vicar Jim if you are curious about what this might look like.

In the event that we do not find a coordinator, we will simply ask families, individuals, or groups of people to sign up and provide the coffee hour each week. As history has proven, this will likely lead to some weeks without any food after worship.



# COFFEE HOUR



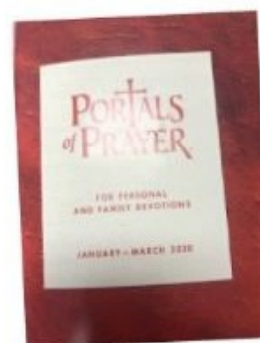


### CANCELLATIONS AND CLOSINGS

If the weather is bad, check with TV and radio stations for cancellations and closures at St. Paul's. There will be notification on Capital News 9, channels 6,10,13, WXXA, and radio stations FLY92, WGY,WRVE,B-95.5



5. KENNEDY GRACE FOLEY  
CASSIDY OLIVIA FOLEY  
7. ALAN DAVID ALEXANDER  
10. OLGA MARTINEZ  
11. CHELSEA DORNER  
12. BRITT FOLEY  
RAHEELA WASEEM  
18. VICAR JIM DORNER  
20. ELI BAUM  
26. ANNE VAN ACKER  
27. TORRE ROSENZWEIG  
28. NOOR JAVED  
28. DAVID ALEXANDER  
30. RAIGEN LYNCH



POR- TALS  
OF PRAYER FOR JANUARY—  
MARCH ARE AVAILABLE IN  
THE BACK OF THE CHURCH  
OR CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE

DATE	FLOWERS	SERVICE STEWARD	Communion Assistant	ALTAR COMMITTEE
12/1	The Kingstons in celebration of Kennedy and Cassidy's birthday	Mark Simmons	Diane Kiingston	Frances and Andrew VanAcker
12/8	In celebration of Davy (Alan's) birthday given by Alex and Bailey Alexander	Sheryl Baum	Lori Seim	Linda and Danielle Calamaras
12/15	<b>OPEN</b>	Sheryl Baum	Lori Seim	Linda and Danielle Calamaras
12/22	In memory of Margaret Shuhart given by the Seims.	Jonathon Estifanos	Linda Calamaras	Tom and Anne Ragoni
12/29	<b>OPEN</b>	Jonathon Estifanos	Linda Calamaras	

### ELDERS FOR DECEMBER

Dec 1— Alan Alexander  
Dec 8— James Roberts  
Dec. 15— Chris Anderson  
Dec. 22— Alan Alexander  
Dec 24— Alan Alexander  
Dec. 25— Chris Anderson  
Dec. 29— James ROberts