

# The EPISCOPAL



## Wednesday Services

5:30 PM

...in addition, on the third Wednesday of each month, following the service dinner and fellowship at a local restaurant

**Services begin August 2.**

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**ST. PAUL'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
LYNCHBURG**

*A parish in the Diocese of  
Southwestern Virginia*

## St. Paul's Wednesday Evening Services

*“The Lord almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen”*

So begins the Evening Prayer and Communion service each Wednesday afternoon, 5:30 PM, at St. Paul's. I like to come early enough to sit in the quiet, take in the breathtaking stained glass windows while the sun streams through, and meditate. Music from the harp adds to the beauty of the moment. I can feel the pressures of the outside fall away as the candles are lit, the scriptures are read, and we pray together. Communion has always meant a lot to me, and I appreciate the opportunity to be restored once again. The service ends with these words: “The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, bless us and keep us. May the divine help remain with us and our absent brethren always.” Each Wednesday I leave with a sense of peace and joy. It is the best 25 minutes in the week.

*Joyce Bailey*



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Lee Herbert  
*Vergger*

Dear People of St. Paul's

A lot has been happening at St. Paul's since our last edition of *The Epistle*.

We had a SPIRIT-FILLED Lent. Our Wednesday Lenten programs began with a worship service, followed by a short class/conversation about liturgy and worship at St. Paul's, and a wonderful meal provided by various groups and guilds of St. Paul's.

Holy Week was filled with a sense of awe and guided by the Holy Spirit as we walked with Jesus through the Passion of Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday to finally arrive at the empty tomb at the Easter Vigil and the glorious Easter Sunday services.



We are so very grateful to all who served and participated in all ways visible and invisible—and there were many. We decided to highlight worship and liturgy in this edition of *The Epistle*. Everything we do liturgically, from making the sign of the cross, to reverencing the altar, to what color we are wearing on what day, has meaning behind it stemming from the beginning of the Christian Church. We hope this emphasis will begin to help explain why we do what we do during the liturgy, and to make it all the more meaningful.

Speaking of liturgy, based on the terrific response we had to the Lenten Wednesday evening worship service, we have decided to continue that service throughout the year. Worship with us on Wednesdays at 5:30 PM with Evening Prayer and Holy Communion. Then, after the service on the third Wednesday of each month, come with us for dinner and fellowship at a local restaurant. Because of clergy and staff vacation schedules, the Services will begin again on Wednesday, August 2.

Gratefully Yours in Christ,

*Diane*

## Financial Highlights

### as of April 2017

Through April 30th pledged receipts total \$123,368 (95% YTD budget) compared to \$109,119 for the same period last year.

Other financial highlights for this period include:

- Total receipts are 93% of budget, \$15,600 ahead of last year
- \$22,901 in mission pledges, slightly ahead of last year
- \$25,000 in bequests received & transferred to the endowment
- \$27,692 in maintenance expense, primarily ongoing roof repairs
- \$253,183 cash balance at 4/30/17, \$32,163 non-directed
- \$2,540,467 endowment balance up 6.3% YTD

Of note:

- Planning is ongoing for parish house HVAC replacement.
- Unbudgeted repairs were made to the elevator.

Please keep up your pledges through the summer

Our online giving portal on our Website makes this convenient when you are out-of-town.

## Stewardship

When I was first asked to serve on the Stewardship Commission, I must admit that I had only recently pledged at St. Paul's for the first time. Growing up, my parents often passed my brothers and me a dollar to put in the collection plate to teach us the significance of giving to the Church. However, they never did explain the importance of a Pledge; not just for the Church and all that it does for the community, but what it does for the individual who makes the gift. Pledging a commitment and then carrying through carries even more weight than the donation alone.

I would ask that everyone reading this please consider making a pledge this year to St. Paul's. If you have children, I would ask that you have them pledge as well. This would groom the next generation of support for organizations like St. Paul's, and also serve as a palpable tool to help teach them the importance of kindness and generosity. The amount is not nearly as important as the gesture of making a Pledge.

We have recently added an online pledge option under the "Stewardship and Planned Giving" page. Just click the "Electronic Giving" link in the first paragraph and you are able to set up a regular payment that is weekly, biweekly, monthly, or quarterly. This makes it easy to remain current with your pledge throughout the year. Even a few dollars a month can prove to make a difference for you, and for the Mission of St. Paul's. Please feel free to contact the Stewardship Committee with any questions you may have.

*James M. Peery III*

### Office Staff

Debbie Inge  
*Parish Administrator*  
dinge@stpaulslynchburg.org

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grhodes@stpaulslynchburg.org

Margaret Anne Eschenroeder  
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mae@stpaulslynchburg.org

Lin Vitale  
*Parish Nurse*

Judy Spencer  
*Parish Librarian*

Linda Woody  
*Head Custodian*

Tim Shepherd  
*Sexton*

### The 2017 Vestry

#### 2017

Steve Baldwin  
Caroline (Linie) Frankfort  
Barbara Harbison  
Tom Houck

#### 2018

**George Hurt**, *Senior Warden*  
**Dan Frazier**, *Junior Warden*  
Charlie McVeigh  
Megan Murphy

#### 2019

Jen Brestle  
Mitch Garbee  
Sue Ellen Inman  
Andrew Proctor

Connie Schieck, *Secretary*  
Steve Baldwin, *Treasurer*

# Inside the Sacristy

**sacristy** noun | sac • ris • ty |

a room in a church where sacred vessels and vestments are kept

## *Greetings from the Altar Guild*

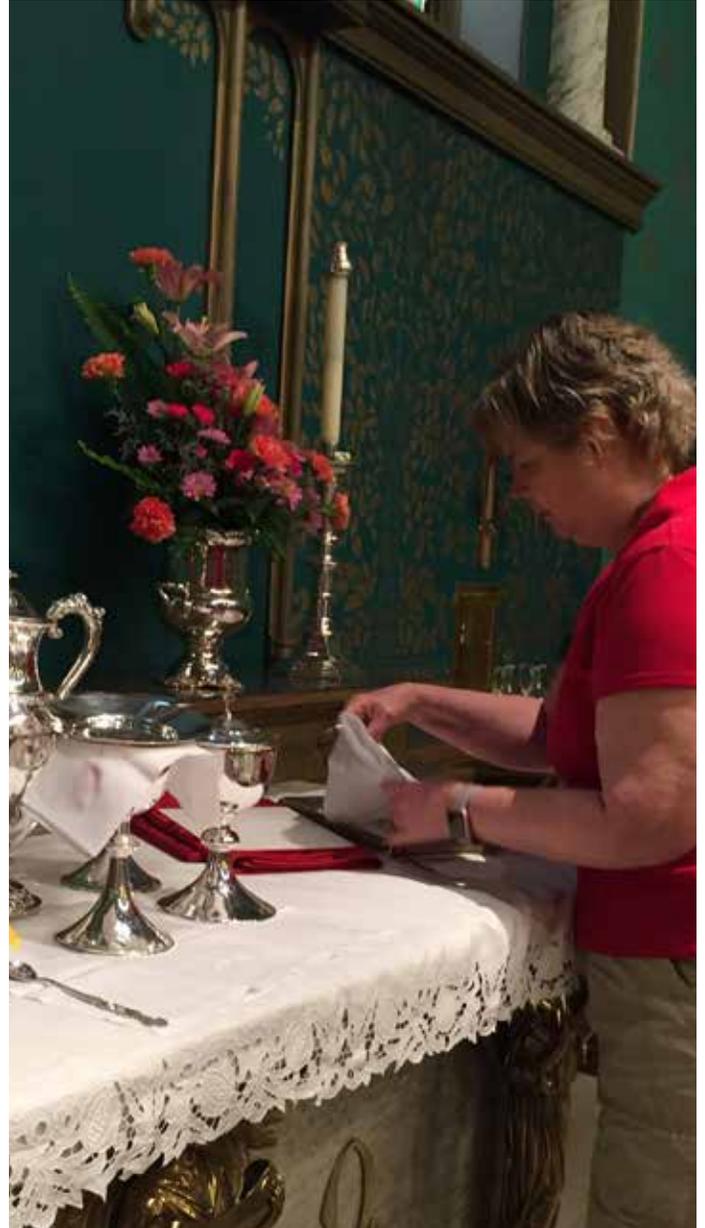
The Altar Guild is just one of the many ministries that St. Paul's offers to ensure that all things "Church" run smoothly. It is comprised of dedicated ladies and gentlemen who serve on their team twice a year. It is behind the scenes work that prepares our public face.

Here is a little rundown on how things work. The Guild takes care of things from the pulpit back to the altar. Each team has a Captain with four to five members that serve on a bi-yearly basis. This requires setting up on Saturday for both of the following Sunday services. The teams maintain the candles, polish silver as needed, set the altar with one of our beautiful linen altar cloths, and prepare the wine and wafers for the Eucharist. The flowers on the altar also need to be taken care of. Ideally we would have a list of those who would take the flowers to shut ins.

After services, cleanup of the altar is done, with everything put away neatly for the next Saturday set-up. There are very busy months such as December and the Easter season. Weddings and funerals also require special set-ups from the Guild.

St. Paul's is fortunate to have seasoned team members that have served for many years. We have several team members that are also on the linen committee and help with the covering of our kneelers after services.

*Sue Ellen Inman  
Altar Guild Director*



## WAYS TO VOLUNTEER

The Altar Guild would love to add new team members. Anyone interested in being on the Altar Guild and/or the Linen Committee, and anyone who could assist with the kneelers and flowers contact Sue Ellen at [seinman55@gmail.com](mailto:seinman55@gmail.com) (or see her in church).





## *Celebrating Faith through Flowers*

The St. Paul's Flower Guild offers an opportunity for parishioners of all ages to celebrate their faith through flowers. Using flowers as part of religious ceremonies dates to ancient times and crosses many cultural borders. Participants literally place their gifts on the altar and bring the beauty of God's creation into our lovely sanctuary to enliven and enhance the worship service.

The Flower Guild works under the direction of co-chairs, Anne McKenna and Rod Meek. The Guild provides seasonal arrangements for special "high Holy Days" and all other times except when flowers have been given by a family or individual. (See "How to Give Flowers" at right.) The Flower Gang, however, is not limited to expert flower designers, nor to those who have worshipped at St. Paul's since before they were born. All members—old, young, long-time members, new-comers, experienced arrangers, and complete novices—are welcomed and encouraged to participate. On-the-job training is gladly provided!

### HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Be a reliable, regular helper on those special occasions when there is plenty of work for everyone.
- Commit to helping the day before a special occasion. Help unpack and condition flowers, wire up containers, and haul buckets. None of this work requires flower arranging skills, but is very labor intensive and time consuming.
- Be a gatherer. Much of the plant material we use comes from the garden or roadside...sometimes even from our neighbor's garden. This is called gleaning, not stealing!
- Decide to take the "next step". Rod and I are willing to offer training sessions for anyone interested in learning more about the ins-and-outs of making an altar arrangement at St. Paul's.
- Know that learning by doing is the best way to become more proficient and that confidence will come through repetition and experience.
- Remember that simple arrangements of flowers or greens are not only acceptable, but are quite effective and desirable for the regular, weekly services.

*Anne McKenna, Co-Chair, Flower Guild Director  
384-5733; armck1@aol.com*

### HOW TO GIVE FLOWERS

Altar flowers may be given in memory of departed family members or friends or in thanksgiving for special events such as baptisms, confirmations, wedding anniversaries, or birthdays.

- Flowers are ordered by the Parish Office and are considered a tax deductible gift to the church.
- Memorials or remembrances are noted in the weekly service bulletin and mentioned in the Prayers of the People on that Sunday.
- The cost of the two vases of flowers is \$110.00. Several families may agree among themselves to share the cost to make it more affordable.

Parishioners wishing to give altar flowers on a specific Sunday may sign-up on the Altar Flower Calendar posted in the Narthex. After reserving a Sunday, names given to the Parish Office will be published in the Bulletin. Discussion of any particular requests regarding colors and choices of flowers are also made through the Parish Office.

### IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS

Contact the Parish Administrator, Debbie Inge: 845-7301  
dinge@stpaulsynchburg.org or  
Anne McKenna: 384-5733  
armck1@aol.com



*“To every thing there is a season”  
...and a color*



*Did you notice that during the season of Easter the clergy wore white stoles, and the altar, pulpit and lectern had white hangings? Did you wonder why we wear and dress in different colors during the year and for special services? If so, here are the liturgical colors corresponding to the liturgical seasons, and special events, throughout the year.*



**ADVENT**, the beginning of the liturgical year: **Blue**. This signifies the new day as represented by the light blue sky of morning. It also reminds us of the waters of baptism. The color blue also represents the Virgin Mary.

**CHRISTMAS**, the 12 days following Christmas Day. **White**. This represents the color of Jesus’ burial garments and the purity of heaven, and is also used for special events such as baptisms, marriages and funerals, along with other ‘feasts’ or **Festival Days**.



**EPIPHANY**, January 6th, marking the appearance of the Magi, which also represents the gift of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles. On this Sunday, as with Christmas, we wear **White** representing Jesus' burial garments and the purity of heaven. During the rest of the season of Epiphany, we wear **Green** representing the new shoots of spring, and growth in nature, reminding us of our hope and life.

**ASH WEDNESDAY**, which begins the season of Lent. **Purple**. Represents the pain and suffering Jesus will undergo, as well as the royal divinity of Christ.

**PALM SUNDAY**, the beginning of Holy Week. Either **White** (See Epiphany.) or **Red** is appropriate. **Red** represents the presence in the fire of the Holy Spirit, and in a lesser way preconfigures the blood of Christ and the martyrs.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**, the end of Lent and beginning of the Triduum, the three days leading to the beginning of Easter. **Red**. (See Palm Sunday.)

**EASTER SUNDAY** and the following 40 days are **White** (See Epiphany.)

**PENTECOST**, occurring the Sunday nearest the 50 days after Easter Sunday. **Red**. (See Palm Sunday.)

**ORDINARY SEASON**, is the time between Pentecost and the first day in Advent. This is **Green**, for the same reason described above in Epiphany. Ordinary does not mean 'General' or 'Common', but Ordered, one thing following another, as are the prescribed readings on Sunday, known as the Propers of the day, and during the week as read in the Daily Offices.

While these are the most generally followed practices of colors, seasons and special occasions, other Christian denominations may follow a different pattern. But, each color has meaning and calls our attention to something that makes us mindful of what God has done for us through His creation, His sacrifice, and the hope that is in us.

*Todd Vie*



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**SUMMER  
SUNDAY  
SCHEDULE**

8:00 AM  
Holy Eucharist

10:00 AM  
Holy Eucharist with Music

11:15 AM  
Refreshments & Fellowship

9:15 AM  
*Nursery opens  
for children ages 0 to 5*

**WEDNESDAY**  
5:30 PM  
*beginning August 2*  
Evening Prayer  
and Communion

Non-Profit Organization  
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Looking Ahead **September 10**

**SAVE THE DATE**

- ❖ *A Celebration of Time and Talent*
- ❖ *Church School Begins*
- ❖ *Fall Parish Picnic*

