

**St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Red Lion**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**  
**December 13, 2020 - Pastor Tim Funk**

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Life at St. Paul's (Children to Sunday school room)

Opening Scripture: Psalm 24

Hymn # 211 (vv. 1 & 4) O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Lighting of the Advent Candle of Joy

Hymn # 246 (vv. 1 & 4) "Joy to the World."

Prayers of the People of God & The Lord's Prayer ("debts")

Scripture Lesson: Luke 20:9-19

Sermon: "Stories That Standout: The Parable of the Vineyard Owner & the Tenants"

Hymn # # 190 (vv. 1, 3, 4 & 5) "Who Is He in Yonder Stall"

Benediction

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**Worship through the End of the Year:** There will be one, streamlined worship service at 10:00 AM in the sanctuary through the rest of the year. This is to minimize contact and the spread of COVID-19. There is no "Passing of the Peace," Children's Sermon" or "Offering," though plates are located at various locations for those who wish to give. Children will be dismissed to the Sunday school room right after the announcements. Please wear masks and distance 6 feet from others. Families may sit together.

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**Today's altar flowers**

are presented to the glory of God and in honor of Joyce & Lee Seitz's 68th wedding anniversary today, December 13<sup>th</sup>, and Joyce Seitz's 85<sup>th</sup> birthday on December 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Children's Worship Activities:** We now offer Children's Activities during the 10 AM worship service in the Sunday school room. Andrea Rider is the leader. Children will be dismissed to their activities just after the announcements. **Note: there will be no children's worship activities December 20 or 27.**

**Community Meal:** Monday, December 14, 5 PM. It is served Grab & Go Style only. If you plan to attend, please pull into the side parking lot and you will be directed from there down around the back of the church to the Preschool entrance where your order for the number of dinners you would like will be taken. Your dinners will then be handed to you through your car window. Please remain in your car at all times. **Please note: due to COVID and the inclement winter weather the Community Meals for January and February have been canceled.** We will attempt to restart this ministry in March.

**Bible Study and Midweek Service** are on break until late winter or early spring. Watch the bulletin for the start-up dates.

**Next Sunday:** Sounds of Christmas, featuring St. Paul's Sunday School Orchestra, the Joyful Vibrations Hand Bell Choir and the Worship Team. It all starts at 10 AM in the sanctuary.

**Christmas Eve & Candlelight:** Thursday, December 24. Due to COVID there is only one service at 8:00 PM in the sanctuary. Please wear masks and social distance in our large sanctuary.

**Maintenance Projects:** We have quite a list of work that needs done to our building to keep it from deteriorating. The list appears in a letter sent out in October to each member. The total cost for these projects is well over \$150,000.00. So far, we have received \$35,535.00! Thank you. Work on the roof continues (delayed some by weather). After that the organ will be fixed. Then we will decide how to proceed with the stained glass window repair. The upgrades for our church computers that were approved have been received and are being put into use. With the Lord's help and your generosity we will complete these projects and keep our facilities presentable to all who worship with us and, most importantly, to God.

**Zoom** – I would like to offer my time to meet with individuals to demonstrate how to participate in Zoom meetings. Several people were unable to attend this past Sunday morning's session but still want to learn how to use Zoom. If you would like a one on one

session, contact me and we will make arrangements to meet at St. Paul's.

Andrea 717-449-9942 or [andreastpaulsumc@gmail.com](mailto:andreastpaulsumc@gmail.com)

**Kids Helping Kids Project:** While working on the curriculum that comes with the Operation Christmas Child program, the children of the Children's Worship time came up with an idea. They would like to provide the needy children of the Red Lion community with a holiday surprise. They have set a goal of 15 bags of goodies for 15 needy children. The plan is for the bags to be full of items for boys and girls. Unlike Operation Christmas Child, bags will not be specified for boys or girls. Our bags will be full of items that we can give to either boys or girls. We just want to be able to pass the bags out and not be concerned if we have a boy or girl bag.

Here is a list of items for the bags generated by the kids (ALL ITEMS NEED TO BE TURNED IN BY TODAY).

- Coloring Books, Puzzle Books, Tablets, Construction Paper, Stickers
- Crayons, Colored Pencils, Side-walk Chalk, Erasers
- Yo- Yo, Slinky, Bubbles, Small Games - for example Uno cards
- Individually wrapped snacks
- Hats, Gloves, Socks - neutral colors
- Stuffed Animals, Balls, Squishy Toys
- Hand Sanitizer, Tissues, Soap, Toothpaste and Toothbrush
- Each bag will include a Bible – I will order the Bibles so they are all the same. If you cannot purchase any of the items listed, please consider donating monetarily to defray the costs of the Bibles.

Any questions, feel free to contact me at [arider168@comcast.net](mailto:arider168@comcast.net) or 717-449-9942. THANK YOU! Andrea

**Scripture readers needed.** We are looking for volunteers to read the Scripture on Sunday mornings. If you are interested, please sign up on the sheet in the back of the sanctuary. It covers the period January-April, 2021. You will be notified by phone the week prior to the Sunday selected of the verses you will be reading so you have time to review them. Thank you for helping with this important job.

**Tree of Lights** program is still available for this Christmas season to honor or memorialize an important person in your life. Forms for submitting your tribute are on St. Paul's website, or on the

tables at the rear of the sanctuary. Those received by December 18<sup>th</sup> latest will be printed in the Christmas Eve program.

St. Paul's United Methodist Church  
45 First Avenue, PO BOX 250  
Red Lion, PA 17356  
December 13, 2020  
10:00 AM

Third Sunday of Advent



Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 AM - 1:30 PM  
Phone: 717-244-2355 Fax: 717-417-2830

Pastor Tim's email – [tfunk@susumc.org](mailto:tfunk@susumc.org)  
Office email – [kayl@saintpauls-um.com](mailto:kayl@saintpauls-um.com)  
Website – [www.saintpauls-um.com](http://www.saintpauls-um.com)

## Additional Announcements

### Mark these dates on your calendar:

***Who likes to solve escape rooms???***

***Who wants to give a try???***

If you answered yes to either of those questions, **plan to join us for The Nativity Escape Room! On Sunday, December 20, 2020 at 11 AM in the Adult Sunday School Room.** Either individuals, teams and/or families may participate in The Nativity Escape Room activity. I will give more detailed directions on December 20<sup>th</sup> but I don't want to give away any hints/clues. However, I will try to answer any questions you may have about this activity. We will make accommodations for people to join us over Zoom so everyone can enjoy this fun activity. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. **Please notify me if you plan to participate in person or via Zoom so I can plan for social distancing and materials.**

Thank you!

Andrea 717-449-9942 or [arider168@comcast.net](mailto:arider168@comcast.net)

**Recycling reminder:** There is a box on the table at the rear of the sanctuary for empty printer ink cartridges that you may have. We turn these into various office supply stores for credit which in turn is put towards purchasing office supplies used at St. Paul's. Won't you consider helping out our operating budget, as well as our planet by donating yours? Thank you.

**The Upper Room**– the January/February 2021 issue is now out at the rear of the sanctuary and on the stand at the center tower entrance for your convenience.

**2021 Offering Envelopes** are now available on the table at the

## This Week's Activities at St. Paul's

Today: Worship Cancelled-check our website for more info.  
Kids Helping Kids assembly 10:00 AM (adult SS)

Monday, Dec. 14th: Preschool 9:00 AM  
Community Meal 5:00 PM (grab & go only)  
Handbell Practice 7:00 PM (adult SS)

Tuesday, Dec. 15th: Cub Scouts 6:30 PM (downstairs)  
No Bible Study

Wednesday, Dec. 16th: Preschool 9:00 AM  
Praise Team 6:00 PM (sanctuary)  
Boy Scouts 6:30 PM (downstairs)  
No Mid-Week service

Thursday, Dec. 17th: R. L. Ministerium 9:00 AM (adult SS)

Friday, Dec. 18th: Preschool 9:00 AM

Saturday, Dec. 19th: Women In the Word Bible study 9:00 AM  
(adult SS)  
Kenpo Karate group 4 PM (FH & kitchen)

## Gift Cards Anyone?

Current Order Forms are at the rear of the sanctuary. Completed orders can either be left in the church office, placed in the offering plate or given directly to Wanda Strickler. Card orders normally will be available for pick-up in the church office after Wednesday of the following week unless otherwise noted. All of these can be used like any other gift card and a percentage of the purchase of the card comes back to St. Paul's! **They make excellent Christmas gifts for family and friends. Won't you consider buying some this Christmas to support St. Paul's?** Thank you.