

Saint Paul's Messenger

December 2022

*As faithful stewards of God's Grace,
our mission in Christ is to foster
community through spiritual growth, witness, and service in the Episcopal tradition*

726 Sixth Street, Brookings SD
www.Stpaulsbrookings.com.
<https://www.facebook.com/Stpaulsbrookings/>
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Established 1893

Messenger Editor, Chuck Berry

December Event Calendar

Advent: Nov 17-Dec 24, A season for preparation for the Nativity of Christ, beginning of the liturgical year, color = blue

Wednesdays Midweek Service

Dec 4 Sunday service

Dec 7 Pageant rehearsal, Soup Supper

Dec 11 Sunday Service; Pledge due

Dec 14 Pageant rehearsal, pizza party

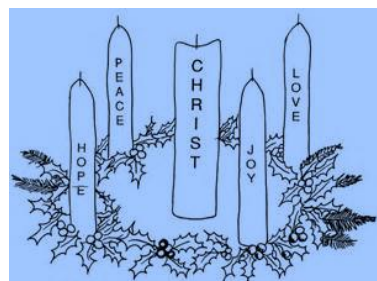
Dec 15 Book Study Group

Dec 18 Sunday Service

Dec 19 Cookie Exchange (Hublou house) & Vestry Meeting

Dec 24 Christmas Carol Sing & Service

Dec 25 Christmas Morning Service



The four Advent candles:
Hope, Peace, Love, Joy.
The center candle is
white for purity,
regeneration, godliness,
light and victory.

Rector's Message

This past Sunday we began a new church year. The Revised Common Lectionary covers a three-year cycle – years A, B, and C. This year we once again begin with A.



I love the season of Advent, but I find myself wondering how it manages to come around so fast. Advent helps to remind us there is far more than the commercialism of Christmas, for we are encouraged to look back upon Christ's birth and to look forward to Christ's Second Coming when all things shall be made new. I hope you have found a means of observing Advent, e.g., Advent devotionals, the use of an Advent calendar, etc. I encourage you to make this a joyous Christmas.

One of the things I miss about Christmas, now that my grandchildren are nearly grown, is seeing the excitement of Christmas through the

eyes of a child. Yet many children live in impoverished circumstances where the presents are few. I celebrate the fact that the proceeds from our Hobo Day Coffee Tent (approximately \$150) were donated to the Christmas, Cops and Kids program; the vestry approved an additional \$150 from the outreach fund for this purpose. We also donated \$350 to Project Joy and \$600 to St. James Enemy Swim for the purchase of gifts. Know that your contributions will bring joy to many children this Christmas.



It is also time for our annual Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) drive!

There is a catalog in the fellowship hall entitled "Gifts for Life." I encourage you to peruse this catalog and see if you may wish to make a gift which will enhance the lives of impoverished people in other countries. If you do so, it would be good to make the gift through St. Paul's. Gifts to ERD are matched dollar for dollar. Here is hoping for another successful drive! Chuck and Mary Lou Berry and Connie Nelson are coordinating this year's drive.

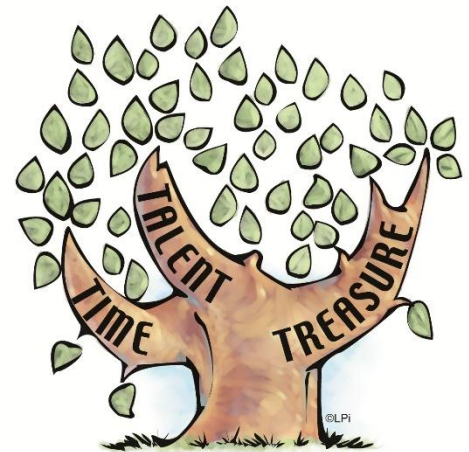
I am always pleased to see our members recognized in the community. Teadon Seaboy received an outstanding citizenship award through her school! Thanks for your good influence on other students! Also, on December 1, at the Mayor's Awards Banquet, Samantha Turnquist received the Mayor's Generational Leadership Award. This award is given to someone under age 35 who has positively influenced people's perceptions of Brookings, helped to attract and retain young talent to the city, encouraged other young people to get involved in community endeavors, or engaged in community service in the areas of education, sports, the environment, arts, or charitable giving. As many



Samantha Turnquist, going to United Way

of you know, Samantha was the director of the Salvation Army office, and has recently accepted a position with the United Way where she will be working to meet community needs. Congratulations, Samantha!

By now, you should have received an email about the annual stewardship drive. Please respond as soon as possible so we can take the



projected income figures into consideration when compiling the budget.

May you and yours have a wonderful Christmas.

Fr. Larry



2022 Vestry: Fr Larry, Shannon, Marsha (Clerk), Lynette, Mary Lou (Sr Warden), Not shown: (Bob Treasurer, Lee Jr Warden)

St. Paul's Vestry Minutes: Nov 17

Approval of Minutes: Approved

Rector's Report (Fr. Larry Ort): Fr. Larry reported that there are 4 youth and 4 adults in the confirmation classes. There are 7 adults in the *Purity of Heart* study group, which has weekly reading assignments and questions. The discretionary fund opening balance was \$829.11.

Expenses included \$22.61 to Schoon's for gas and \$100 to CLIM (Liberia School), leaving a balance of \$706.96.

Senior Warden's Report (Mary Lou Berry): Mary Lou wondered if the Church School teachers were receiving the NAIR emails and will make sure to forward those on to them. The Church School teachers will get together in the New Year and draw up a plan to purchase any needed supplies.



Junior Warden's Report (Lee Kratochvil): Lee was absent, but Fr. Larry reported that they had intended to change out the shed doors, but have decided to defer all outside projects to next spring because of the cold. The new dishwasher has been installed by Mark, Lee, and Larry.

Treasurer's Report (Bob Klein): Bob presented the current financial report and discussed the impact of the downturn in investments.



Old Business:

- Fr. Larry will meet with Jay Vanduch regarding the live streaming equipment.
- Janet G. moved (2nd Shannon) to ask Bob Klein and Ginger Thomson to implement an online giving program (i.e. DonorBox). Motion carried.
- Lynnette T. said that the LEM and Lay Reader schedule was in place, but wondered if we wanted to do ushers and nursery.

- Fr. Larry would like to offer LEM and acolyte classes after the first of the year.

New Business:

- The Vestry made a preliminary list of outreach donations, but will wait until the next meeting to finalize it.
- Fr. Larry read through the stewardship letter draft.
- He attended an ACES (Adverse Childhood Experiences) meeting and would like to pull a group together through the Ministerial Association to consider the long-term consequences of adverse childhood experiences.
- He has talked with Chad Adamson (middle school counselor) about identifying two or three most desired (from the standpoint of school counselors) community trauma response resources which are currently lacking and work toward establishing those in Brookings.
- Fr. Larry then left the meeting so that Senior Warden Mary Lou could go through his request for reappointment form, which the Vestry approved, and the Senior Warden signed.

Next Meeting: December 19th at 5:30.

Respectfully submitted by Marsha Klein, Clerk of the Vestry



December-January Anniversaries

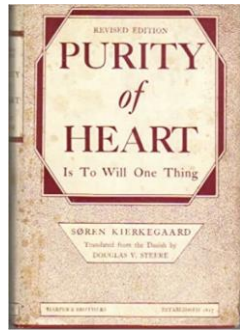
Mark and Patty Kratochvil, Charlie and Kay Clever,

December Birthdays

Amanda Norgaard, Olivia Lacher Starace, George Hoffman, Mavis Gehant, Jeff Jorenby, Jay Vanduch, Sarah Woodard, Shannon Malmberg, Connie Nelson, Tonia Bogue

Book Study Group

A study group which will read and discuss Soren Kierkegaard's *Purity of Heart Is to Will One Thing* will meet at 6:00 on the first and third Thursdays of the month beginning November 3rd. Fr Larry writes: "Please let me know if you would like to participate and order your book. This book profoundly influenced my own spiritual life. I have previously led two other study groups on this book and have heard similar comments from members of both groups. If you are seeking a deeper relationship with God, I highly recommend it."



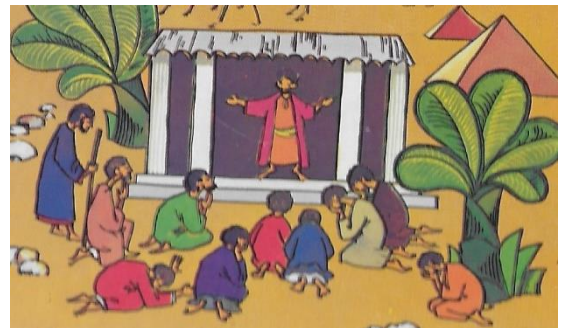
New Visual Arts Ministry Show featuring vintage (1960s) Sunday School Posters of Bible Stories.



The publisher, Morehouse-Barlow Co., was called the "unofficial publisher for the Episcopal Church." The Company began publishing church school curricula in Milwaukee in 1884 as the Young Churchman Company.

Each illustration represents a Bible story, told in a sequence of interconnected images that flow through geography and time in the Holy Land. From afar, the viewer sees a great splash of vivid colors.

Up-close inspection reveals a convoluted story-telling image. Each illustration is a collage of vignettes telling a Bible story. The image is filled with caricatures of people, animals, towns and landscape features of the Holy Land. In each "story board" the viewer might recognize one scene and from that base, recall other parts of the story. For example, find the whale and you might recall the rest of the story of Jonah.



Vignette from an art piece displayed in the 11th Visual Arts Ministry Show in Thorburn Hall. Joseph's Brothers come to Egypt asking for food.

Church Schedule (by Lynette Taylor)



Lay readers, LEMs, and ushers are scheduled in advance for Sunday services. We have a rotating schedule. If, for example, you are a lay reader, you might sign up to read the third Sunday of every even month. If you are a LEM, you might sign up for the first Sunday of every month. If you want to help, but don't feel you can make a regular commitment, you might

consider being a substitute, or you might commit to serving on the occasional fifth Sunday. Fr. Larry is willing to offer training to anyone who wants to serve. We also want to offer nursery services and schedule ushers. See Lynette Taylor for more information; the Calendar is on the wall on Charlie's Porch.

New Visual Arts Ministry Show: Bible Stories (by Chuck Berry)

The theme of the 11th St Paul's Visual Arts Show is Bible Stories as depicted in vintage Sunday School posters. This series of colorful illustrations was used by St Paul's Sunday School classes a half-century ago.

A printed Guide gives the Biblical reference and a brief overview of each story. It is up to the viewer to match the text with the images. The only clue provided is that the small frames hold images that tell Old Testament stories, whereas the large frames hold images that tell New Testament stories.

Out of the Anglican Church (by Chuck Berry)

In the last Messenger, I wrote that Henry VIII did not invent the Episcopal Church. What he did was formally separate the Church of England from the Catholic Church and the Pope's rule (after he was excommunicated). He became Supreme Head of the Church of England.

After answering the question about Henry, I wondered "So, where did the label "Episcopal" come in? I was surprised to find that the story was in the new USA, and centered on where I grew up - the Delmarva Peninsula, the land between the Chesapeake Bay and the Atlantic Ocean. ("Del-mar-va" Delaware, Maryland, Virginia).

I knew about the general history of the area, but not its significance in Episcopalian history. I learned that my home church, Asbury Methodist Church in Salisbury Maryland, was once called the Methodist Episcopal Church. Here's a long story – short.....

Religion in Colonial America had strong regional differences. New England's religious character was shaped by the Puritans, whereas Southern colonies were shaped by the Church of England or Anglican. The "middle colonies" (Pa, Del, NJ, NY) had a mix of religions.

On the Delmarva, a strong Anglican influence came from Jamestown and Williamsburg Virginia settlements. Delaware was a mix of religions - Mennonites, Baptists, Jews, Lutherans, Quakers, and Anglicans. Maryland was founded as a refuge for Catholics escaping the intolerant English monarchy.

The Anglican Church of England gave rise to the Methodist and the Episcopal churches in America. Many of the key historical events took place in big cities like Philadelphia and Baltimore, but history was also made in rural churches in Delmarva. Historians say that "The first formal European religious services on Delmarva were conducted by an Anglican priest on Kent Island in 1631 -- but that humble event could only hint at the future pivotal role the Peninsula would play in the shaping of religion in America."

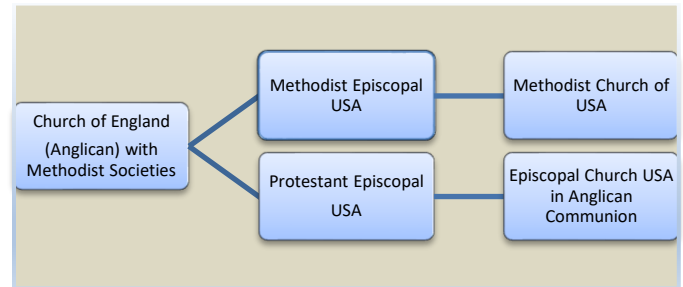


Figure 1. Diagram showing the split of Methodists and Episcopalians in the USA from the Church of England or Anglican Church. Both the Methodists and the Episcopalians became mainline protestant denominations; the Episcopalians were/are a member of the worldwide Anglican Communion.

Now, let's follow the early history of the Anglican Church. If you grow up in Chesapeake Bay Country, your parents and school teachers see that you visit Jamestown, Williamsburg, and Washington D.C – OFTEN! Mom and Dad took us to Jamestown, where archeological digs had exposed the foundations of the first buildings. As I recall, seeing the foundation of the first Anglican church in America (1619) was less interesting to me than the nearby cannons.

The Declaration of Independence deprived Anglican churches of their tax support, and required clergy to take an oath of loyalty to the US. Soon only six priests of the Church of England remaining in Maryland. The remaining Maryland clergy met at a small church in Chestertown MD to decide what to do.

The first time the term "Episcopal" (means "of a Bishop") was proposed for the Anglican Church in America was at that gathering. They

proposed a new name for the Church of England in the USA – the Protestant Episcopal Church.

During a visit back East, Mary Lou and I found the historic Emanuel Episcopal Church. It was at this site that the few remaining Anglican clergy in the area had gathered in 1780 and suggested renaming the Anglican church in America. A plaque on the wall stated:

“In this church was held the first convention which proposed and adopted the name Protestant Episcopal Church, November 9, 1780.”



Reverend Dr. Darcy Williams, Emanuel Episcopal in Chestertown. She has an MA in Theology (Va. Theological Seminary) and MS and PhD degrees in zoology (Rutgers Univ.) We talked Episcopalian history and Chesapeake Bay ecology.

Back to the history lesson... there were no Anglican Bishops in America because English canon law prevented the consecration of any clergyman who would not take the oath of allegiance to Henry. Samuel Seabury was consecrated and ordained in the Scottish Episcopal Church, and became the first bishop of the U.S. Protestant Episcopal Church.

He was followed by others, including James Madison, 4th U. S. President, and Bishop of Virginia. Soon, this “episcopate” in the U.S. church could declare its independence from Great Britain. An assembly of the new independent church met in Philadelphia (1789) to unify all Episcopalians in the US.

The term Protestant Episcopal Church, was adopted by all Anglican churches in the colonies. The name change was a reaction to the anti-English mood of the colonies, otherwise the core beliefs and liturgical practices were similar. An American version of the Book of Common Prayer was produced. The major change was removal of a prayer for the King. The Protestant Episcopal Church in America became a branch of the Anglican Communion.

What about the Methodist Anglicans? John Wesley, the Methodist in England, sent Francis Asbury and seven other preachers to America to minister to the growing Methodist societies in the Anglican Church. Only Asbury stayed in America after the Revolutionary War.

Asbury Methodist (Salisbury, MD) in the 1950s but a few decades earlier, it was called Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church. There is a stained-glass window dedicated to the railroad that transported the granite building stones for free.



Thomas Coke, a Methodist in England, traveled to the new country to find Asbury. They met at Barratt’s Chapel in Delaware, now called the Cradle of Methodism.

As Methodists began to meet more and more in their own meeting houses and less and less in the parish churches of the Protestant Episcopal churches, an unofficial split occurred. There is no formal moment when Methodism split from, or was expelled by, the Anglican Church.

Christmas Jumble Sale: Great Success



Above: Marsha and Shannon arrange donated Christmas decorations. St Paul's youth sponsored the sale. When asked "Where are the youth"? Shannon replied "In school."

Below: Youth Group gathers to present a check for \$1,013.25 to Feeding Brookings.



Wow! The Sunday School classes and teachers really pulled off a great project. They simply asked people to donate Christmas decorations that were not needed. Apparently there is a lot of Christmas stuff that is "excess to needs" because tote after tote, all loaded with Christmas items, appeared in Thorburn Hall during the weeks before the sale. Also donated were large and small trees, garlands, wreaths, fabrics, and (I'm not making this up) 2 mink coats.

Volunteers gathered for several days before the sale to set up trees, package, price, and

display items. Several trees were festooned with ornaments (25 cents each). Radio KBRK advertised the event, which was held on Saturday, November 19 from 9 -1.

Afterward, the youth and teachers met with a representative from Feeding Brookings to learn about the program and to proudly turn over the proceeds of the sale. Again – what a commitment by the kids and teachers and other volunteers. One customer, upon hearing that the proceeds were going to charity exclaimed "I thought they'd buy Sunday school supplies; the givingness of this church is amazing."



Fr Larry helped set up the ornament sale tree and swept up afterwards; the following week he bought a new vacuum for the church.



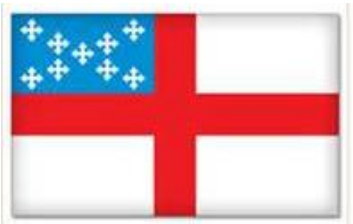
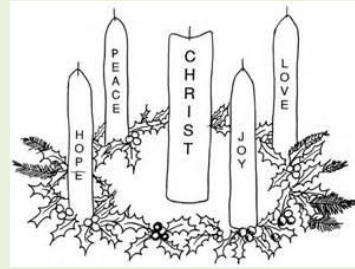
Please return your pledge no later than Sunday, December 11th so we can begin the budgeting process in a timely and informed manner. You may mail or email your pledge to Robert Klein, 929 Yosemite Lane, Brookings, SD 57006 or rpklein7537@gmail.com, or drop it in the offering plate, or hand it to the treasurer (Bob Klein).

The Messenger

Newsletter of
St Paul's Episcopal Church
Church
Established 1893, Parish since 1952

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