

On the Mark

November 22, 2009
The Last Sunday after Pentecost;
Christ the King

Get Set....GO!

Sunday, November 22, 2009

- 8:30 Cell
- 8:45 1st Service
- 10:00 Fellowship
- 10:30 2nd Service & Sunday School
- 12:15 Prophetic Teams
- 12:15 Lay Eucharistic Minister Training

Monday, November 23, 2009

- 6:15 Alpha

Tuesday, November 24, 2009

- 9:30 Art Group
- 10:00 Holy Eucharist & Healing Service *nave*
- 12:00 Agape Lunch
- 1:00 Cell
- 6:00 Band Rehearsal
- 7:00 H & I SAVR *chapel*

Wednesday, November 25

Thursday, November 26, 2009

Thanksgiving Day

Church Offices Closed

- 10:00 Thanksgiving Service at St. Luke's Church, Darien

Friday, November 27, 2009

- 7:30 NCS Cell Group
- 10:00 SP Art Cell
- 7:00 Christian 12 Step

Saturday, November 28, 2009

- 7:30 Men's Community Bible Study Group

Sunday, November 29, 2009

First Sunday of Advent

- 8:30 Cell
- 8:45 1st Service
- 10:00 Fellowship
- 10:30 2nd Service & Sunday School
- 12:15 Prophetic Teams

NEXT WEEK'S LESSONS

The Last Sunday after Pentecost (Christ the King)

- Daniel 7:9-14 (p. 864)
- Revelation 1:1-8 (p. 1191)
- John 18:33-37 (p. 1050)

NEXT WEEK'S LESSONS

The First Sunday of Advent

- Zechariah 14:4-9 (p. 926)
- I Thessalonians 3:9-13 (p. 1147)
- Luke 21:25-31 (p. 1021)

The flowers decorating the altar today are given to the Glory of God in celebration of the birthday of **Deacon Roberta Schneider** with love by Christa Bray and family.

Happy Birthday,

Reverend Roberta!

Evangelism Now

The church that is not evangelizing is fossilizing. To evangelize means to share the good news. While sharing the good news might include showing people that we care for them – in fact that is the best beginning – sharing the good news also means that we care so much for them that we tell them about Jesus. It is as though we have found the source of water in the desert and it would be criminal NOT to tell others. Have you ever thought about your faith that way? People are lost without Jesus; they really need Him.

In addition a church whose members do not share their faith is a church that is dying and is under the judgment of God. God expects us to tell others. How else will they know about His wonderful Son?

In December, we are being given the opportunity to share our faith in a number of ways. On Saturday, December 12, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Dan Mohler (www.neckministries.com) will be teaching us new ways to share the timeless gospel of Jesus with others. And we will go out on mission and then return to tell of what God has done.

On Sunday, December 13, after the 10:30 service we will go caroling in Darien to stores and restaurants and on street corners. Each year, this is gladly received by our community.

Another way you might consider sharing your faith is by inviting a friend, acquaintance or family member to church. Did you know that the time most people begin going to church, or return to church, is the holiday season. The people around you need God!

And the church needs to evangelize or it will die and fossilize!

Yours in Christ,

Christopher

The Rev. Christopher P. Leighton
Rector

Newcomers and guests at St. Paul's are invited to come to the Prayer Room after the service for a personal word of encouragement from the Lord our God. Our prophetic prayer team is ready to listen to God and ask Him to speak to you.

Lay Eucharistic Ministry (LEM) Training

"Lay Eucharistic Ministry" (LEM) Training is being offered today, Sunday, November 22, following the second service. Deacon Novella Lawrence will pass along her considerable training and experience in taking communion, prayers and the fellowship of the church to the sick and homebound, the hospitalized.

If you have had this training before, it's worth a review. If this is new to you, please come to the Fellowship Room across from the kitchen. This is likely to be a two-hour session, so we hope you brought a bag lunch or are prepared to fast a bit longer.

Thanksgiving

Each year at Thanksgiving St. Paul's gets together with St. Luke's our "mother church" to celebrate, alternating locations and preachers. This year our joint Thanksgiving Day service will be held at St. Luke's Episcopal Church on the Post Road in Darien at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, November 26. We are told that Fr. Christopher has invited a very special guest preacher: William Bradford, Governor of Plymouth Colony! Come and join us!

St. Paul's Darien Financial Summary	11/15/09	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget	Better(Worse) Than Budget
Tithes & Offerings	\$6,798	\$516,770	\$632,500	(\$115,730)
Disbursements	\$26,867	\$609,044	\$632,500	\$23,456
Weekly Goal		\$13,750	Deficit	(\$92,274)

Christmas Eve Pageant/Liturgy

It's time to plan for Christmas Eve!

At the **5:30 p.m.** family service, we will again do a pageant/Liturgy as we did last year. **YOU ARE NEEDED!** There are spots for adults and children of all ages! We will need readers, angels, shepherds, sheep – and helpers behind the scenes. There are no speaking parts other than the readings. There will be ONE rehearsal from 9:30 to noon on Saturday, December 19. Please contact Debbie de la Rivera if you or your child(ren) are interested in participating.



The Giving Tree

will be up and decorated next week. It's time to think about who – and how – you can help this Christmas!

*What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can, I give Him: give my heart.*

Christina Rossetti

Doves

This year marks the 41st Anniversary of the Person-to-Person Dove Program. Dove boxes provide holiday food to families in need but they also give individuals and families the opportunity to share their blessings with their neighbors at Christmas. The doves will be on the Giving Tree in the narthex beginning next Sunday.

Provisions for PIVOT

Each year at about this time, we like to help re-stock the pantry at Pivot Ministries. While today is the last day to drop off for non-perishable items in the narthex, we will continue to accept gift cards from the local grocery chains (Stop n Shop, Shoprite, Shaw's, etc.) and will pass them on. Think of all the things that a house full of men who with God's help are turning their lives could use on a day-to-day basis!

Bridgeport Rescue Mission Reports Turkey Shortage!

Over 800 families have signed up to receive a Thanksgiving Pantry Box from the Bridgeport Rescue Mission. That's over 100 boxes a day from November 18 through 25. Could you donate a **FROZEN** 12-15 pound turkey? Can't get to Bridgeport? You can donate on-line by visiting their website at www.BridgeportRescueMission.org.

Community Dinner, December 17. For some time now, St. Luke's Church has held a community dinner each Thursday evening (Drew and Kathleen Gilliam can tell you about it – they regularly attend). On December 17 St. Paul's will house the dinner! While St. Luke's will plan the menu and do the shopping and most of the cooking, we want to help them...in setting up, in cooking and serving, and in welcoming all who come to share the meal! If you want to help call the office 203 655-8773 and let us know.

Christmas Dinner Donations And VOLUNTEERS

Preparations are underway for our sixth annual Christmas Day Dinner – and we need your help! We're planning to feed about 150 people - Pivot, homeless shelter and St. Paul's folks (you're invited!), and anyone else at loose ends on Christmas Day - and the entire meal is funded through food and cash donations. Please see the sign-up sheets in the narthex for specific ways to contribute or to volunteer.

And a "heads-up" as Advent arrives...

On the Second Sunday of Advent, December 6, there are two very special events:

At both our morning services – 8:45 and 10:30 – the Pivot men will worship with us and will offer us a gift of song!

And at 5:00 p.m., the Darien Clergy Association and the Center for Hope invites everyone to Tilley Pond for the lighting of luminaria and a carol sing.

Finally,

What are You Doing New Year's Eve?

If you want to be spending it at St. Paul's as we have the last two years, we need someone to step forward and organize it!



471 Mansfield Avenue
Darien, CT 06820
(203) 655-8773
fax: (203) 655-7831
www.stpaulsdarien.org
e-mail: info@stpaulsdarien.org

Staff

The Rev. Christopher P. Leighton, Rector
The Rev. Daniel C. Morgan, Asst. Rector
Debbie de la Rivera, Children's Ministries Coord.
Pat Poremba, Bookkeeper
Phyllis Schlemmer, Parish Secretary
Andy Thomas, Sexton
Noel Thomas, Assistant Sexton

Assisting Clergy

The Rev. Gail Paige Bowman
The Rev. M. Blake Greenlee
The Rev. Novella Lawrence
The Rev. Roberta Schneider

Vestry

Sr. Warden Dominic Napolitano
Jr Warden Joann Cerretani (Christian Form.)
Treasurer Roger Knudsen
Clerk Adelaide Waring (Hospitality)

Class of 2010:

Linda Deane (MiC)
Jeff Newton (Mercy)
Marie Pronesti (Healing & Intercession)

Class of 2011:

Pamela Corker (Hospitality)
Bill Steinfeldt (Buildings & Grounds)
Kim Stumpf (Christian Formation)

Class of 2012:

John Donovan (Buildings & Grounds)
Bill Jolly (Evangelism)
Julia Nichols (Communications)

**To Know Christ and
To make Him Known**