



The Tentmaker

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Daphne, Alabama

December 4, 2019

Message from Thack

Everyone knows what it is to wait expectantly for something to happen. Whether waiting for the final grades to be posted, the report of job promotions, pregnancy test results, or for that special homecoming for an estranged relative, we all know that feeling of anticipation. In some cases, it can seem like an eternity as we anxiously count the days until the expected event is realized. Yet, for me, it is that period of waiting, that breath-holding time of expectation, that makes the event truly special.

In my sermon last Sunday, I mentioned that the season of Advent is a season of *anticipation*. It is that season in the Christian calendar when we prepare to celebrate Christ's first coming. In fact, the word "advent" comes from the Latin *adventus*, which means "coming" or "arrival." Throughout the Advent season we are to expectantly await the coming of Christ. We should know that it is also the time when we focus our attention on Christ's *second coming* at the end of the age. Hence, the season of Advent, perhaps more than any other liturgical season, reminds Christians that they are living in an in-between-time, the time between Jesus' first coming and Jesus' final return. That's why Advent celebrates the tension between the now and the not yet.

In addition to being a season of anticipation Advent is a season for *longing*. In this sense, we are longing for the coming of Jesus into our personal lives, our community, our nation, and into the world. It is not as though Jesus isn't among us now, because he is. The question is whether we can truly feel his presence.

Have you been so distracted lately that you cannot feel the hand of the Lord in your life? If you have, Advent is the time to redirect your attention. It is the time to pay attention to the signs of Christ in your midst.

Jesus understood that many of us suffer from a form of spiritual Attention Deficit Disorder when it comes to keeping our eyes on him. He so appreciated this weakness that he was constantly calling his followers and detractors to pay attention. Though he may never have actually said "Pay attention," he did say "Look!" quite a bit. "Look at the birds of the air . . ." (Matt: 6:26); "Look at the fig tree and all the trees. . . ." (Luke 21:29). When Jesus said "look," he was saying "Pay attention!" He is telling us the same thing today, to focus our time and energy on the essential things of life. These essential things include the love that God has for us, the love we should have for each other, our prayer and worship life, the wonders of creation, and attending to the needs of those around us. He knew we would feel his presence by paying attention to these essential things.

This Advent look for the presence of the Lord in your life. Look for him in the Bible, in your personal and corporate worship, in your relationships, in your workplace, and in the beauty of creation. If distracted, try to get refocused as quickly as possible. Simply say, "Come, Lord Jesus," and then look. May your longing for Christ be satisfied when you look again and experience his presence.

Peace, Thack

Congratulations Thrift Shop!

The Thrift Shop Holiday Shoppe was another huge success! It raised almost \$52,000 from the sale of its “gently used” merchandise. I am grateful for the hard work of Jane Shoultz, Edith Henry, Judi Gulledge, Holiday Shoppe Committee, Thrift Shop Board, Kathy Mallory and the countless volunteers from the Thrift Shop and the congregation. The money raised will be poured back into the community to support the other ministries and agencies that serve the needs of the people in Baldwin County. Well done, good and faithful servants! Peace, Thack

Whats Happening in Chris Ed? ...a lot this month!



Christmas Pageant Practices, Pageant Info and Schedule

Pageant Practice



Pageant Practice

Our practices will be held on **Sunday evenings from 5-6:30** for WNL (Wednesday Night Live) and the Youth Groups, with possible additional practices as needed. See the schedule below for more information.

While we will be practicing weekly, this pageant is also a “just show up” performance for our little ones - (ages 0-up)! They will be able to choose between animals, shepherds, and angels when they arrive for the service, and we will take care of the rest!

Volunteers will also be needed to get children to and from McCann Hall. We do ask that you come to the last pageant practice if possible to learn what to do. We will open this practice to everyone!

St. Paul's Christmas Pageant Practice Schedule

December 8- 5:00-6:30pm- (grades 3+ only)

December 15- 5:00-6:30pm- (grades 3+ only)

December 22- 5:00-6:30pm- (all ages welcome! Dress rehearsal)

WE will add additional practices if needed!

Christmas Eve- Pageant Night

Children participating in the Christmas Eve pageant will need to meet in McCann Hall at 5:30 pm. Parents will help dress their child and then go to the church to take a seat. We will have activities for the little ones while they wait. If you would like to help in McCann with the kids please let me know! You will not get to see the whole pageant but you will still be able to see your child's part!

Christmas Eve Nursery

We desperately need help in the Nursery on Christmas Eve for the 6:00 service. The time will be from 5:15-8:00 (estimated). If you would like to serve in the nursery, please let us know!

With so much going on, there are a lot of questions! If you have any please let me know. I am ready to celebrate and serve with you this advent season!

Elizabeth Faust, Chris Ed.

Ea.fst@hotmail.com, 626-2421



Upcoming Youth Events:

- **December 8th:** Help set up Festival of the Nativities (following the 10:30 service) & Christmas Eve Pageant Practice (5-6:30, dinner provided)
- **December 15th:** Christmas Eve Pageant Practice (**4:00-5:00**) & Youth Group Christmas Party with Dirty Santa – gifts under \$10!!! (5:15pm)
- **December 22nd:** Final Pageant Practice (5:00-6:30)
- **December 24th:** Christmas Eve Pageant
- **December 29th:** TBD099731.

get “on the ball” ... **UPWARD SPORTS** ... coming to **LIFE** center in January!!

St. Paul’s LIFE center will once again host UPWARD basketball beginning January 4, 2020 each Saturday morning from 9 - noon. The concession area (a hit with ALL players and visitors!) will be run by St. Paul’s – any Church groups wanting to help with concessions are welcome to sign up and then receive the proceeds from that day for your group (ie Preschool, Youth, etc). Any donations (monetary or snacks) will be appreciated to help defer expenses of concession purchases! Contact David Kielek (303-562-5577) or Linda McNamara (251-610-4959) with questions or to sign up!! Thanks so much for “being on the ball” in 2020!!

St. Paul's folks are the best!

We have closed the doors on the 2019 Annual Holiday Shoppe, but our gratitude to all the awesome volunteers is still pouring out! A group of dedicated folks work literally 10 months of the year pricing and packing treasures; then in November, the week before the Holiday Shoppe opens, many more come out to help unpack and decorate the Life Center; still others prepare food to feed the crew for setup week. Then the Gala emerges in all its wondrous glory with over 100 folks who prepare unbelievable food and work the hectic event! To top it off, many others of you buy tickets and attend the Gala and the sale days after, purchasing those treasures we have so lovingly prepared. If it weren't for all of you, Holiday Shoppe would not be a success and this was our best year ever! Thank you, thank you, thank you!

From all the Board of St. Paul's Thrift Shop, we wish you a very Blessed Christmas!

Prayer Requests

Immediate Prayer Requests:

Arnold Bush, Ben Clark, Donna Dowd, Julie Ford, Roy Hall, Jay Hellegers, Jossie Hurst, Geoff Jones, Stan Keel, Lance Monley, Doug Montgomery, Airrior Norwood, Judy Ollinger, Rochelle Robinson, Lillian Trimble, Dick Wellington, Laurel Wilson

Ongoing Prayer Requests:

Marie Baggett, Dave Baldock, Chris Blackwell, Christopher Bridges, Pat Brislin, Marsha Butler, Pat Cannon, Jim Council, Margie Cowart, Margaret Cummins, Suzanne Damour, Suzanne Galloney, Dee Grantham, Carol Hafner, Wanda Hall, Trevor Hawkes, Susan Hill, Theresa Johnson, David and Betty Lee, Andy Lipps, Patrick Lynch, Dick McBride, Bob McKnight, Ross Moore, Lou Morgan, Elsie Mosher, Sara Patton, Al Rawls, Loren Rudolf, Mary Rudolf, Zera Roussel, Stephanie Sanchez, Bennie Savage, Pat Schlimmer, Cathy Slagle, Matt Snow, Phyllis Springen, Albert Thompson, Julia Warren

Almighty God, who hast promised to hear the petitions of those who ask in thy Son's Name: We beseech thee mercifully to incline thine ear to us who have now made our prayers and supplications unto thee; and grant that those things which we have faithfully asked according to thy will, may effectually be obtained, to the relief of our necessity, and to the setting forth of thy glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Book of Common Prayer, page 834

For the Departed:

Father of all, we pray to you for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Book of Common Prayer, page 498

For Those Serving in the Military:

Ryan Bowman, Matthew Cheatham, Chase Clark, Jackson Deaton, Michael Duchesne, Christopher Dukarm, Chris Evans, Diana Evans, Landis Fouts, Deron Frailie, Steven Grey, Matthew Harris, Rusty Henry, Karen Hubley, Daniel James, Matt Jones, Daniel Lambert, Chris Lessard, David McMillan, Patrick Mong, Bryan Quinn, Neil Quinn, Justin Ramsey, Neil Sevelius, Derek Siegel, Andy Tuttle, James Wallin, Brad Yonkers

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Book of Common Prayer, page 823

For those with Birthdays:

December 1-31

(01) Janice Miles, (02) Sharon Hoiles, Patrick Marron, (03) Adams Jackson, (04) Kathy Mallory, Audrey Lathan, (05) Ralph Peterson, Donelle McBride, Helen Wilson, (06) Rebecca Hicks, (07) Fletcher Comer, Martha Skinner, (08) Boyd Miller, (09) Peggy Miller, (10) Bradley Lathan, (11) Mary Ann Peters, Leigh Ann Overstreet, (12) Kay Williams, (13) Zack Martin, Corky McMillan, Brenda Kirby, Ben Stephens, Jim Stephens, Will Stephens, (14) Phyllis Love, Rebecca Grizzle, Clayton Eppes, (15) Joanne Gibson, Louis Soisson, Wendell Erdman, (16) Pokey Miller, James Pollock, Davie Kielek, (17) Margaret Wilson, (18) Hannah Currie, (19) Julie Dean, (20) Blakeley Davenport, Mila Esham, (22) Annette Hall, Audrey Faust, (25) Doug Kaye, Stewart Hampton, (26) Dorothy Walton, (27) Alan Hendrickson, Lisa Phillips, Scott Brown, Jennifer Sanford, Whitney Briones, (28) Cliff Stickney, Joseph Alves, (30) Amy Taylor, John Abbott, Jack Rigdon, (31) Fred Stickney, Cleveland Mosher, Carter Morgan

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Book of Common Prayer, page 830

ST. PAUL'S SERVICES:**Saturday**

Community Praise & Worship
with Holy Eucharist
(Life Center)
5:00 p.m.

Sunday Worship

Holy Eucharist, Rite I
8:00 am

Holy Eucharist, Rite II
10:30 am

Wednesday Worship

Holy Eucharist, Rite I
7:00 am

Holy Eucharist, Rite II
with Healing Service
Wednesday
12:00 pm (Noon)

BIBLE STUDIES**Sunday**

Christian Education
Adults (Malone Hall)
9:15 am

Children's Suday School
Pre-K - 4th Grade
in McCann Hall
9:15 to 10:00 a.m.

Children's Chapel

8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
in Children's Chapel

Tuesday

Men's Bible Study
(Malone Hall)
6:00 am

Wednesday

Morning Bible Study
(Library)
10:30 am

Great Wednesday

(Malone Hall)
6:00 pm
Supper and Study

**VESTRY AND
OFFICERS****Term Ending****December 31, 2019**

Sue Cody
Alice Frederick
Michael Koepp, Jr. Warden
Tom Walker

December 31, 2020

Bill Harrison, Sr. Warden
Liston Jones
Boyd Miller
Donna Nolte

December 31, 2021

Donna Brown
Kathy Mallory
Ken McNamara
Michael Quinn

December 31, 2022

Joe Cook
Henry Esham
Jim Green
Tim Michael
~
Martha Lathan,
Clerk of the Vestry

Janet Norman
Treasurer

Church Website

www.stpaulseasternshore.com

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Phone

251-626-2421

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251-626-2456



YOGA

Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m. in the Life Center NURSERY, Caitlyn Calloway will offer **YOGA** classes to all age groups. Wear your most comfortable clothes and bring a yoga mat.

The classes will last about 55 minutes. This will allow plenty of time for you to enjoy Great Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. which will be right across the parking lot in Malone Hall. Great Wednesday is a perfect time to meet fellow parishioners and enjoy a nice supper and study.

There's no cost for the yoga classes, but you may want to leave Caitlyn a small donation.

Staff Christmas

If you would like to participate in a joint Christmas gift for our wonderful Rector and Staff, please indicate on your check FOR STAFF GIFT and turn it into the office, put it in the offering plate or give to Bill Harrison, Senior Warden. Thank you very much.

Pledge Cards

Have your returned your Pledge Card?

Received as of December 3, 2019:

107 Operating Pledges

54 Building Fund Pledges

If you have not turned in your **2020 Pledge Card**, please call the office and we will be happy to send you one. They are also available on our website at www.stpaulseasternshore.com. Pledges do not automatically renew each year, so we need a new Pledge Card for 2020.

December's Schedule



December 2019 Service Schedule:

Saturday Worship

5:00 p.m. in the Life Center Gym

Sunday Worship

Holy Eucharist—8:00 am and 10:30 a.m.

Christian Education—9:15 a.m.

Wednesday Worship

Holy Eucharist—7:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist with Healing Service—Noon

Bible Studies

Tuesdays—Men's Bible Study (Malone Hall)—6:00 a.m.

Wednesdays—Morning Bible Study (Library)—10:30 a.m.

Great Wednesday—Supper and Study (Malone Hall)—6:00 p.m.

Advent and Christmas Service Schedule:

Second Sunday of Advent—Sunday, December 8—8 and 10:30 a.m.

Come and Behold Him Nativity Display, December 13, 14 & 15

Third Sunday of Advent—Sunday, December 15—8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

Fourth Sunday of Advent—Sunday, December 22—8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

Christmas Eve Service with Children's Pageant—Tuesday, December 24:

Prelude music begins at 5:30 p.m./Service begins at 6:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Midnight Service—Tuesday, December 24:

Prelude Music begins at 10:30 p.m./Service begins at 11:00 p.m.

Christmas Day Service—Wednesday, December 25—10:00 a.m..

Christmas Pageant Practice Schedule

November 24 – 5:00-6:30pm – (grades 3+ only)

December 1- no practice

December 8- 5:00-6:30pm- (grades 3+ only)

December 15- 5:00-6:30pm- (grades 3+ only)

December 22- 5:00-6:30pm- (ages 0 and up) - ALL AGES are welcome! Dress rehearsal)

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
28788 North Main Street
Daphne, Alabama 36526

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36526

Return Service Requested

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28788 North Main Street
Daphne, Alabama 36526

The Rev. Thack H. Dyson, *Rector*
Elizabeth Faust, *Christian Education & Preschool Administrator*
David Kielek, *Life Center Sexton*
John Matson, *Choirmaster*
Terri McMillan, *Administrative Assistant*
Joan McKnight, *Staff Assistant*

Office Hours 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. (Monday-Thursday)
8:00 a.m. — Noon (Friday)

Church Telephone: 251-626-2421 Fax: 251-626-2456
E-mail: officestpaulsdaphne@gmail.com
Thrift Shop Telephone: 251-626-6102

***We worship together as we seek God, serve God,
and share God with love and acceptance for all.***