



No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome at St. Paul's Church!

A Message from Pastor Paul Forrey

Advent begins this year on Sunday, November 28. Advent is one of our most cherished, sacred seasons of the church year! This season challenges us to balance multiple emotional urges, of course, and this process can be tough.

On one hand, Advent means Christmas is coming soon! Our sanctuary is decked with wonderful Christmas decorations, we're making our holiday family plans, and we schedule cherished holiday activities at church. Our homes will be decorated too, and every store is already in full Christmas mode.

On the other hand, Advent calls us to wait patiently, to become mindfully aware of the darkness into which God's Light arrives. The traditional Advent scripture readings—from apocalyptic statements by Jesus to John's rantings about repentance and preparation to the crowds beside the Jordan River.

It's important to give ourselves the spiritual space to wrestle with this emotional balancing act during Advent. We are excited about what's coming, yes, but at the same time we must contemplate patience and the awareness that holiday cheer is not on the minds of so many people in our country and around the world who are suffering. As we remember and celebrate God's Light and Love coming into the world, we must also take up God's calling in our lives to *become* light and love in the lives of suffering people.

Some important dates to keep in mind:

- November 28 & December 5: Pick up White Gift ornaments to purchase gifts for children from the twelve families our congregation will assist this year
- December 12: Annual Congregation Meeting (immediately following the service)
- December 12: Queen City Bronze bell choir holiday concert
- December 19: St. Paul's Church Choir Christmas Cantata during the 10:00am service
- December 19: Sorting White Gift items after church in preparation for distribution
- December 22: 9:00am final sorting of White Gift items
- December 22: 4:00–6:00pm distribution of White Gift items to families
- December 24: 5:00pm Candlelight Christmas Eve service

As we look forward to a new year of worship and ministry together, we are reminded of the uncertainty that hovered over our lives this time last year. We began 2021 in the midst of our second Covid-related shutdown. We didn't know what to expect in the coming time beyond continuing uncertainty!

As we begin 2022 together, let us remember that—together—we faced that uncertainty and came through it with God's support and love. Let us begin a new year together armed with faith in God's presence and guidance, trusting that we can face whatever circumstances will confront us!

Patricia and I wish all of you a blessed Christmas, and a new year of faithfulness and fruitfulness

Faith Formation Team (formally CE) News

Thanks to all who joined us for our fall book club and movie night!

We can't wait to do it again in the spring!

If you haven't seen the Children's Chats on Facebook or on St. Paul's website (under videos), we'd love for you to tune in! If you have an idea for a Chat (or want us to give you materials), we'd love to hear from you! Our kids love seeing fresh faces and getting to know more members of the congregation. Let Amity or Evelyn know or contact amity.kukla@yahoo.com

We are excited to start using SHINE curriculum where we will: Love Jesus, Grow in Faith, and Change the World. Sunday school is at 10am every Sunday in Fellowship Hall where we can spread out at the tables in family groups. We show love for neighbor by wearing masks around children.

Children will soon receive a Christian Advent Calendar to share with their families. Each window reveals a part of the Christmas story. Let's all journey to Bethlehem together - with our families at home and our church families!

A MESSAGE FROM THE FAITH IN ACTION TEAM

It's hard to believe but Christmas is right around the corner. As we have done for many years, our congregation is helping make the holiday season a little brighter for some local families in need. This year we are helping 12 families with gifts and food. The needs of the families are provided to us by the Family Resource Coordinator at Crossroads Elementary and Cline Elementary. The students at these two elementary schools also collect canned food prior to the holidays. This food is added to the food and household supplies that we give each family.

Here is the timeline for this project:

Sundays, 11/21, 11/28, 12/5—Gift symbols will be available before and after church.

Sunday, 12/19—Please have your gifts to the church by this date.

Wednesday, 12/22 at 9 AM--Gift and food organized for pickup. Families will pick up gifts and food at the church from **4-6 PM**.

Our congregation has always been very generous in supporting this project. If you cannot go shopping but would like to participate, you can make a monetary donation. Our elves will do the shopping for you! You can send a donation to the church office or put it in the offering plate. **Remember to mark it as a White Gift Donation.** You can also make a donation using Breeze. If you use Breeze, remember to scroll down to the Missions—White Gift option.

As we look forward to 2022, the Faith in Action Team is excited to not only continue some of St. Paul's beloved traditions, we are also looking forward to learning about and becoming involved in new ways to impact our community for Christ.

CHRISTMAS HAPPENINGS

Celebrate the Christmas season with the St. Paul's congregation. Advent begins on November 28th. We will celebrate Advent by lighting a candle in our Advent wreath each week. Each week we will focus on a theme of hope, peace, joy, or love.

We are also going to have two very special music events. On **Sunday, December 12th at 4 o'clock**, the **Queen City Bronze** will perform a concert in our sanctuary. We will take up a free will offering to help support their program.

Our choir will present their Christmas cantata "Were You There on that Christmas Night" during our regular service on **Sunday, December 19th**. Our Bell Choir will be playing the prelude and postlude that day.

On **Christmas Eve** we will have a candlelight service at 5 PM. At our regular service on **Sunday, December 26th**, we will celebrate the season by singing many of our favorite Christmas hymns. Hope you can join us!

2021 POINSETTIAS ORDER FORM

\$10 Per Plant



Name: _____

Number of Poinsettias: _____

Amount: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

If you have questions, please see Karey Thomas or call her at 859-496-2771.

**The deadline to order is
Sunday December 12**



7th Annual International NATIVITY DISPLAY

Nativity sets from around the world will be on display at Bishop Brossart High School in Alexandria, KY. The display will feature nativity sets made by artist and craftsmen from 78 different countries.

Over 160 nativities will be on display.

The display is handicapped accessible.

The display is FREE and open to the public on the following days:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Sun., December 5 | 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. |
| Sun., December 12 | 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. |
| Sat., December 18 | 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. |
| Sun., December 19 | 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. |
| Fri., December 24 | 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon |
| Sun., December 26 | 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. |

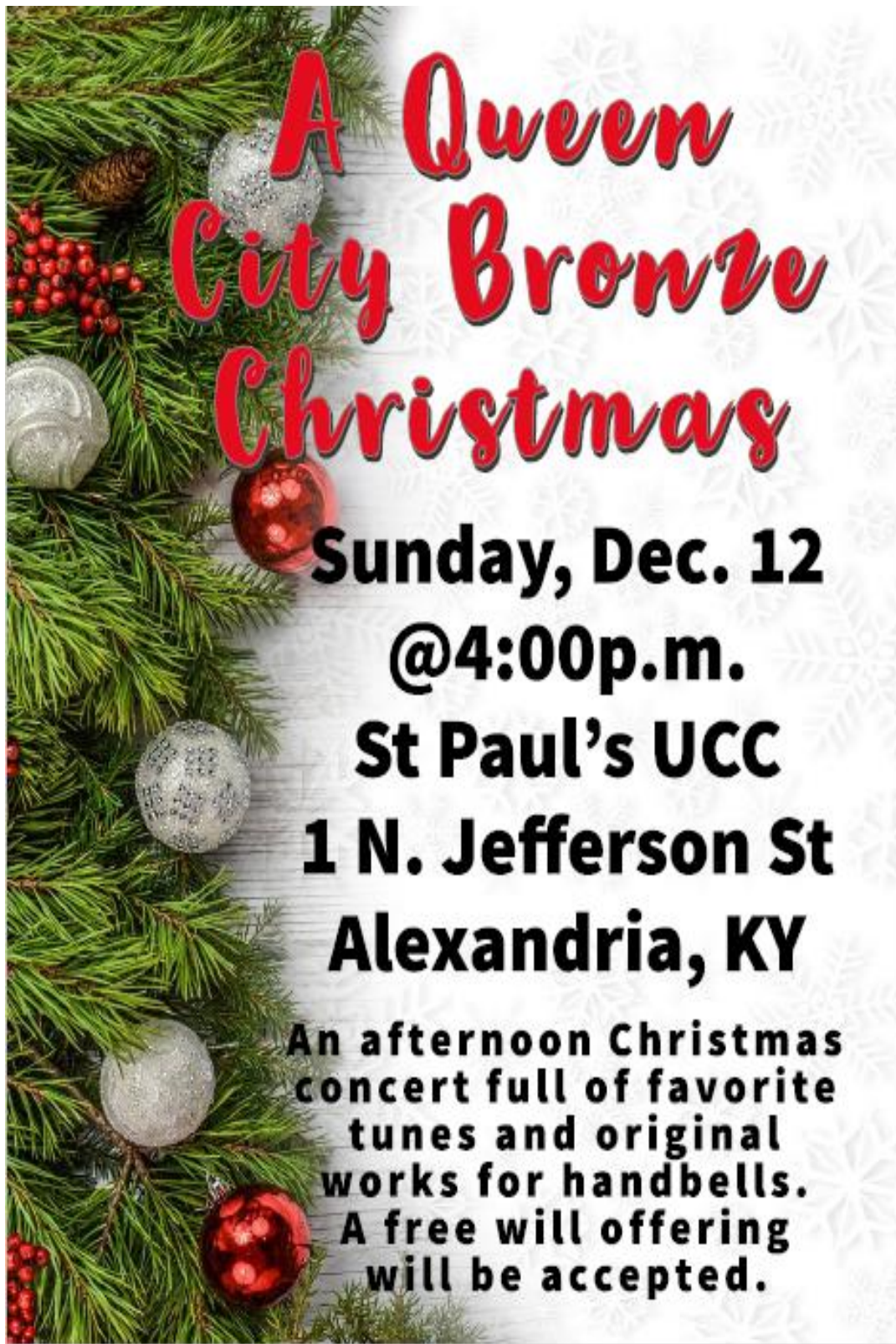
Enter at the main entrance.

***Bishop Brossart High School
4 Grove Street***

**NEW
NATIVITIES
AND NEW
DISPLAYS
EVERY YEAR.**

**OVER 160
NATIVITY
SETS ON
DISPLAY
FROM 78
DIFFERENT
COUNTRIES**





**A Queen
City Bronze
Christmas**

**Sunday, Dec. 12
@4:00p.m.
St Paul's UCC
1 N. Jefferson St
Alexandria, KY**

**An afternoon Christmas
concert full of favorite
tunes and original
works for handbells.
A free will offering
will be accepted.**

December Birthdays & Anniversaries

Dec. 1 Cameron McDonald
 1 Jessica McDonald
 1 Kayla McDonald
 5 Shawn Hayslette
 8 Judy Barton
 8 Gary Sperry
 8 Tom Wheeler
 9 Craig McAlpin
 9 Amanda Pohlman
 9 Sandy Smith
 17 Fay Racke
 21 Wanda Hornsby
 23 Samuel Edington
 24 Benjamin Dietz
 29 Jackie Poynter

Dec. 7 Fred & Lilla Losey
 53 years
 8 Paul Forrey & Patricia Ross
 9 years
 19 Roger & Kathy VonStrohe
 52 years

January Birthdays & Anniversaries

Jan. 1 Mike VanNevel
 5 Margie Stormer
 6 Kevin Chalk
 6 Julie Enyart
 6 Ginny Lickert Combs
 15 Jackie Baker
 19 Paul Forrey
 19 Roger Windgassen
 22 Roland Wright
 23 Jim Thomas
 25 Ava Christine Winstel
 29 Zachary Dietz
 29 Delbert Perry
 31 Lance Munninghoff

Jan. 14 Ken & Fay Racke
 35 years
 22 Michael & Amanda Pohlman
 12 years

Serving in December

Liturgist

Ushers

Dec. 5 Patricia Ross

Dec. 12 Debbie Fowee

Dec. 19 Amity Kukla

Dec. 24 Evelyn Dietz

Dec. 26 Claudia Chalk

Coffee

Dec. 5 Shawn & Beekee Hayslette

Dec. 12 Debbie Yeager

Dec. 19 Patricia Ross & Paul Forrey

Dec. 26 Debbie Yeager

Communion Set-up

Dec. 5 Debbie Yeager and Sue Hatfield

Dec. 24 Barb Fausz and Helen McAlpin

Dec. 5 Margaret Perry, Gary Sperry,
Wanda Hornsby and Jim Miller

Dec. 12 Pat Schuchter and Shawn Hayslette

Dec. 19 Sarah Lester and Debbie Fowee

Dec. 24 Sue Hatfield, Everett Harrison,
Debbie Fowee and Pat Schuchter

Dec. 26 Wanda Hornsby and Jim Miller

Teachers

Dec. 5 Debbie Fowee and Barb & Helen

Dec. 12 Claudia Chalk and Amity Kukla

Dec. 19 Sarah Lester and Debbie Fowee

Dec. 26 Paula Pompilio and Evelyn Dietz

Serving in January

Liturgist

Jan. 2 Patricia Ross
Jan. 9 Kathy VonStrohe
Jan. 16 Sarah Lester
Jan. 23 Roger VonStrohe
Jan. 30 Debbie Fowee

Ushers

Jan. 2 Margaret Perry, Gary Sperry,
Wanda Hornsby and Jim Miller
Jan. 9 Sarah Lester and Debbie Fowee
Jan. 16 Pat Schuchter and Shawn Hayslette
Jan. 23 Sue Hatfield and Everett Harrison
Jan. 30 Wanda Hornsby and Jim Miller

Coffee

Jan. 2 Shawn & Beekee Hayslette
Jan. 9 Patricia Ross & Paul Forrey
Jan. 16 Debbie Yeager
Jan. 23 Shawn & Beekee Hayslette
Jan. 30 Patricia Ross & Paul Forrey

Teachers

Jan. 2 Amity Kukla & B. Fausz & H. McAlpin
Jan. 9 Beekee & Shawn Hayslette
Jan. 16 Evelyn Dietz and Shae Weinel
Jan. 23 Debbie Fowee and Debbie Yeager
Jan. 30 Claudia Chalk and Mary Weinel

Communion Set-up

Jan. 2 Sally McNichols and Mindy Connell

PRESENT: President- Charlene Rogers, Vice President-Claudia Chalk, Financial Secretary-Jeff Enyart, Recording Secretary & Worship Team-Debbie Yeager, Treasurer-Sandy Smith, C.E. (Faith Formation) -Amity Kukla, Mission (Faith in Action)-Sarah Lester, Trustees-Roger VonStrohe, Stewardship (Development)-Cammy Burling, Tech Support-Craig McAlpin, Pastor Paul Forrey.

Charlene opened the meeting with a prayer, read the Council Covenant, and called the meeting to order.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) SECRETARY'S REPORT— Debbie thanked Claudia for taking the September minutes and posting them. Cammy made a motion to accept the September Council meeting minutes as posted to OneDrive. Sandy seconded and the motion carried.
- 2) TREASURER'S REPORT— Temporary account=\$19,110.15; Checking account=\$32,212.67. The checking amount includes \$25,000 transferred from the Investment Account. Claudia moved to accept the report and pay the bills. Jeff seconded and the motion carried. Sandy was instructed to contact Fred if she sees that money needs to be transferred from the investment fund.
- 3) PRESIDENT'S REPORT-Charlene reported:
 - Committee budgets need to be finalized by the November Council meeting.
 - Teams should send a list of members for 2022 by November meeting.
 - Yearly committee reports are due by the November meeting.
 - The nominating committee is still looking for a vice-president and recording secretary.
 - Congregational meeting will be Dec. 12.
- 4) FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT-Jeff reported:
 - Total giving for the first 2 weeks of October 2021 was \$5,257.14.
 - Operating budget for September 2021 was \$11,185.
 - Year to date giving for 2021 was \$118,160. Projected amount for the year is approximately \$160,000.
 - The process for the 2020 audit, which will be done in November, was explained.
 - A working session for the draft of the 2022 budget was held. The budget will be finalized at the November Council meeting.
- 5) DEVELOPMENT TEAM-Cammy asked Council to provide questions to be presented to congregation members at the Your Church, Our Future event. We decided on a few questions for the Development Team to work with,
- 6) FAITH FORMATION- Amity reported:
 - TRUNK OR TREAT event will be held on Saturday, October 30 at 6 PM A children's Halloween movie will be shown at 6:30 PM.
 - There is a need for Children's Chats on Nov. 14 and Nov. 28.
- 7) TECH REPORT-Craig reported that the anti-virus program was changed from McAfee to Norton with a savings of about \$50.
- 8) PASTOR'S REPORT-- Paul thanked the teams for their work in preparing their budgets and their renewed sense of mission and purpose.
- 9) TRUSTEES-Roger reported:
 - HVAC system has been replaced in the Parish House.
 - The proposal for cleaning the carpet and pews will be discussed at the November Trustees meeting. This project should be completed during the winter months due to lower humidity.
- 10) MISSION (Faith in Action)—Sarah reported that we are currently collecting for the workers at the race track.
- 11) WORSHIP/MINISTRY—Debbie reported:
 - Five members who have passed away since All Saints Sunday in 2020 will be honored on Nov. 7. Their families are being invited.
 - Queen City Bronze will perform a concert in the sanctuary on Sunday, December 12 at 4 PM.
 - Christmas Eve Service will be held at 5 PM.
 - Paul and Patricia will be on vacation on Nov. 21 and Rev. Howard Storm will be here to share his mission experience in Belize. They will also be on vacation on Dec. 26. We will have a caroling service that day.
- 12) VICE-PRESIDENT---Claudia reported:
 - The investment committee would like council to approve the resolution at the November council meeting and we will submit to the congregation for approval at the congregational meeting in December.
 - Ben Losey submitted his resignation September 29, 2021 effective October 31.

- Jeanne Greiser interviewed 2 cleaning services. Both representatives toured the church and offices and gave us a bid. If there was a need for a deep clean or a clean up after a party - both companies could accommodate. Both companies are women owned and bonded and insured. We also have one company in mind for grass cutting. Darlene requested her last week of vacation for the week of October 18. Jeanne has volunteers to cover the office.
- Paul requested vacation November 14-November 21. Paul has a guest preacher lined up for November 21. He also will be away December 25-January 1 and will be in church January 2. The Worship Team will handle unlocking and locking up the Sundays he is gone.
- The Staff/Parish Team has completed employee evaluations for Darlene, Melinda and Paul. They are going to try to do an exit interview with Ben.
- Thanks to Jeanne Grieser for all the work she has done in the past month interviewing cleaning companies and setting up the yearly employee evaluations.

OTHER BUSINESS: Charlene encouraged Council members to look at the 2022 budget proposals carefully before November's meeting.

Our next meeting will be held on Nov. 9, 2021 at 7:00. Roger motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jeff seconded and the motion carried. Council prayed the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Yeager, Recording Secretary



St. Paul's Church
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
Where God is still speaking