

# St. Paul's by-the-Sea

## *Weekly news & updates*

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November 20, 2020

### Last Sunday after Pentecost

#### ***Collect:***

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

#### ***Lectionary:***

**Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24**

**Psalms 100**

**Ephesians 1:15-23**

**Matthew 25:31-46**

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### Sunday, November 22, 2020

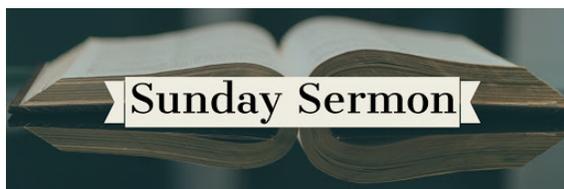
Officiant: Pastor Blake Wamester

Organist: Shirley Hailey

Lay Reader: Bob Rothermel

Altar Guild: Mary Wright

Counters: JeriLyn Andrews, Jody Farley



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### November 15th Service

**Click here** to watch the FB Live video of the service.



#### ***Prayer List:***

Gary & Beverly Cooper, Robbie Whittington Joyce, Sylvia Tyler, Cathy, Shelton Watson, David Rouch, Danny Haberman, Joan Leatherwood, Christopher, Rachel Lee, Cindy Dreslin, Kyle Harmon, Pat Stephens, Shirley Connor, Yvonne Field, Nancy Turnbull, Michele Werner, Joe Walcott, Jan West, Scott Burke, Jose Cabrera, Deborah Gooch, Jan Richardson, Joan Kamorowski, Melissa Martin, Ryan Fischer, Hannah Wolf, Julia Rayfield, Debbie Simpkins, Ember Poppiti, Max Long, Cary, Cathy & Mark Baxley, Katlyn, Mary Scott, Etta, Chris Lynch, Tom Stearns, David Warren, Aunua, Letty Trimper Hurst, Ann Smith, Ann Plowman, Margaret Hudson, Matt Leszcz & family, Kenneth Rudia, Catherin Hatfield, Rev. Penny Morrow, James Miller, John Anderson, Judy Hoffman, Andy Hales, Ken Toms, Brannon Thacker, Fr. Joe Rushton, Connie Mayers, Suzanne Zantzing, Cami Rogers

*We need your help to keep the list current. Please contact the church office with corrections, additions, and/or deletions. Thank you!*

#### ***Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:***

We give thanks for the witness of God's people at St. Andrew's, Princess Anne, and their Rector, the Rev. Rob

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## Covid Protocol Reminders

Everyone must enter through the orange doors on the north side of the FCCC building. Do not use the office door or the DeWees Hall doors.

Masks must be worn at all times.

Upon entering the building you will be asked for your signed covenant (**Covenant for Regathering**); you will sign the log book; and your temperature will be taken.

Only 3 people or a family will be allowed on the elevator at a time. You can also use the inside stairs.

After the service, you must exit the building using either the elevator or the steps just beyond the elevator that take you outside.

At no time, is mingling permitted inside the building.

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## Thanksgiving Food Collection

Please bring non-perishable food (canned & dry goods, beverages etc.) to church with you this Sunday, November 22. *No glass containers please.* Place your food donation in the basket as you enter through the orange doors. Donations can also be dropped off at the church office. All donations will be given to Shepherd's Crook. Please help us to fill the shelves at the Crook. Thank you!

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## Christmas Poinsettias

We are now accepting orders for poinsettias or greenery to be placed in the church during Christmas. The cost of the poinsettias is \$10 per plant, however, all donations are welcome. To ensure that your dedication appears

Laws, and his spouse, Fastau. On this Children's Home Foundation Sunday; we give thanks for the Ministry of the Children's Home Foundation, and their leadership in providing funds for those seeking higher education.

**Local Faith Community Prayer Cycle:** St. John's United Methodist Church, Berlin

### **Birthdays:**

11/24 Robbie Joyce

11/27 Melissa Bunting

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## Sanctuary Candle

The Sanctuary Candle is a wonderful way to commemorate birthdays, anniversaries, memorials and thanksgivings. It burns at the Main Altar to the Glory of God to signify the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in the form of reserve sacrament. The cost is \$15 for two weeks or \$30 for a month.

If you would like to sign up, simply contact the church office by phone 410-289-3453 or email [office@stpaulsbythesea.org](mailto:office@stpaulsbythesea.org). Be sure to let us know how you want your dedication worded in the bulletin.

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## This is CHF Sunday!!

Since 2011, CHF Sunday is the Sunday prior to Thanksgiving throughout the Diocese of Easton.

The Thanksgiving Appeal is the annual plea for contributions to the Children's Home Foundation of the Eastern Shore of Maryland (CHF) which is a ministry of the Diocese of Easton. Proceeds from the Appeal are used to provide upcoming high school graduates and non-traditional students with much needed funds to further pursue their education at career/technology schools. These students will graduate with marketable skills to make positive contributions to

in the Christmas bulletin, please submit your **order form** to the parish office by Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

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## Memorial Brick Sale

Memorial bricks are again being offered for sale, through the end of the year. Our brick 'garden' is located at the Baltimore Avenue entrance to the Fellowship Commons.

Bricks are available in two sizes: 8x8 (\$500 each) and 4 x 8 (\$250 each) Wording is of your choice, and graphics are available.

If you are interested in ordering a brick to honor or remember a beloved one, **[click here](#)** to download a brick form. You can also contact Debbie Shuster at 410-213-9658 or **[ocshu@comcast.net](mailto:ocshu@comcast.net)**, or the church office at 410-289-3453 or **[office@stpaulsbythesea.org](mailto:office@stpaulsbythesea.org)**, and we can forward the order form to you.

life on the Eastern Shore.

This past year, CHF awarded over \$250,000 to help those in need, providing scholarships to 102 students from the nine counties on the Shore. Twenty-Eight students were sent to summer camp and 18 students were sponsored for Drivers Education. There is also a modest emergency fund for families facing crisis. **YOUR GIFTS MAKE THIS POSSIBLE!**

Please give prayerful consideration to the needs of these students by supporting the CHF Annual Thanksgiving Appeal. Look for the 2020 appeal letter in the mail or participate by making a donation at our website:

**[www.childrenshomefoundation.org](http://www.childrenshomefoundation.org)** With your help, CHF can continue their efforts to contribute to education, our community, and our church in this worthwhile ministry.

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## Hope4Recovery

St. Paul's by the Sea, along with the other members of the Ocean Cluster (St. Paul's in Berlin, St. Paul's By-the-Sea and Church of the Holy Spirit in Ocean City) "adopted" the Hope4Recovery House several years ago and has been part of the preparation of dinners for these residents on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month. Because of Covid-19, we obviously have not been able to do more than deliver the dinners to the house but prior to Covid-19 we also shared the dinner with them and got to know them. This year the Ocean Cluster is having a paper drive to donate paper goods to the House for Christmas. We are asking that the congregation bring in paper goods such as toilet paper, napkins, paper plates, plastic utensils, etc. and these will be delivered to the House in December when we deliver our part of the dinner. Please bring your donations to church services on Sunday or drop them off to Don in the office before December 10<sup>th</sup>.

We could also use help from the congregation in preparation of our part of the meal each month. Please contact Patricia Mulcahy at **[pgilsgirl@msn.com](mailto:pgilsgirl@msn.com)** or call at 410-208-3864 if you are interested in joining in this monthly outreach program.

For those who don't know, Hope4Recovery Inc. is a non-profit organization created to provide a safe, sober and structured living environment for those in recovery from substance use disorder. Hope4Recovery opened the first (and only) recovery house in Worcester County in October 2018. The home has 11 residents and 1 live-in house manager that oversees the residents and enforces the rules.

Hope4Recovery Inc. has provided a safe home for 87 individuals in recovery since opening and is proud of the track record of their current and previous residents. The structure of the home allows residents to be productive members of society by requiring all who enter the home to attend addictions counseling and mental health counseling if indicated, attend four self help meetings a week, sign in and out of the house for accountability, secure employment and submit to random urinalysis weekly. In addition, Hope4Recovery holds an AA meeting within the home Wednesday evenings. Residents volunteer as a family when the need in the community arises and during the pandemic made Easter baskets for Berlin & Salisbury nursing homes and volunteered at food drives in Berlin & Snow Hill.



## 2021 Stewardship Campaign: Planting Seeds

As we are not all able to attend Sunday services, we will be reprinting the weekly stewardship testimonies so they can inspire us all. Last week, our Treasurer, Paul Rogers spoke to the congregation. This is what he had to say:

**The Pandemic:** The most recent daily Email I got from the CDC (Center for Disease Control and Prevention) reported the latest serious complications of the COVID-19 infection: poor nutrition, especially low Vitamin D levels is associated with grave complications with the virus infection. Daily, I get this somber information about patients with the infection, but I also see the devastating effects of the virus on others: family, friends, and community. I have reached the point, like many of you of emotional exhaustion: periods of sadness, decreased sleep, worries about money. etc. I have turned for help to Romans by Apostle Paul which we are reading in my bible study group.

**The Apostle Paul.** Why Apostle Paul? First, he was a healer, with nearly as many recorded healings as Jesus. Second, Paul also experienced a pandemic: he lived through a terrible pandemic, then called plague, of smallpox that killed nearly 1/3 of the population. He described his times as “whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth.” (Romans 6.22). Writers at that period in history described the bodies piling up in the streets and sick people being thrown out in the streets before dying. Paul’s prescription was Stewardship.

**Stewardship:** In biblical times, a steward was a person watching over the property of his master and making decisions for his master. Paul not only defined stewardship but he lived it. In Romans, again he defined stewardship as using special gifts each of us has received from God in the service of the Lord (Romans 12.6-11). He lived stewardship by traveling around the Roman empire spreading the gospel to the Gentiles. Paul described Christians as all being members of the body of Christ and with mutual caring between the members (Romans 12.,5) To deal with the plague he exhorted (biblical for urged) the Christians to use their time and talents to provide nursing care to their sick brothers and sisters. How did the early Christians respond? All around the

Roman empire the Christians provided simple nursing care to their brothers and sisters stricken with the smallpox and it resulted in a mortality rate 1/2 that mortality rate of the pagans. Some historians have suggested that the early Christian church grew at such a fast pace because the Pagans were dying off at a greater rate and the pagans also were impressed by the outpouring of agape or love expressed by the Christians. Paul also exhorted the richer Christian churches to send money to the poorer churches which helped develop solidarity in the new thriving churches.

**How can we be good stewards today at SPBTS?** We can all use our time and talents to support our ministries at SPBTS. For example, we supply much needed meals to the homeless (you will be hearing more details about the Shepherd's Crook from another speaker). According to reports, five of the homeless have died so far this year in Ocean City. Using our time and talents we can provide nutritional meals to the homeless, support their nutritional health and hopefully prevent some deaths.

**Sum:** The Apostle Paul created several of his great works, his Epistles, during plague. We can work together to also accomplish great works during this plague by using our time and money for our ministries. By providing nutritious meals for the homeless we may be able to save some lives, especially during the winter when Flu and COVID-19 infections peak.

If you have any questions regarding Stewardship please contact Cheryl Nottingham, Finance Committee Chair at 410-713-2222. Thank you for your support of our 2021 Stewardship Campaign.

[Click here to view the Parish Calendar](#)

