

Sunday, December 23	
8:00 am	Traditional Service-Church Bldg.
9:00 am	Ushers Meeting— Skardon Connect Rm
9:00 am	Sunday Scriptures Class—AH
10:15 am	Contemporary Worship—Doar Hall
12:00pm	AA—AH
6:00 pm	NA—AH
Monday, December 24	
8:00 am	Centering Prayer
10:00 am	AA —SK 11
10:30 am	Women’s Bible Study—Library
10:30 am	Pastoral Care—SK 5
6:00 pm	Life Group—CY RM 219
6:30 pm	Venture Crew—CY
6:30 pm	Life Group—SK 5
7:00 pm	AA—AH
Tuesday, December 25 Christmas Day	
10:00 am	AA—SK 11

Wednesday, December 26	
10:00 am	AA—SK 11
10:00 am	Women’s Bible Study—SK 7
12:00 pm	Men’s Lunch Bible Study—AT
5:30 pm	Cursillo Reunion Group—SK 5
7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal—CB
7:00 pm	AA—AH
Thursday, December 27	
10:00 am	AA—SK 11
11:00 am	Healing Service—CB
11:15	Ronna’s—Total Body Class – SK Hall
11:30 am	Al-Anon—SK 11
7:00 pm	DivorceCare—SK Library
Friday, December 28	
8:00 am	Men’s Bible Study
10:00 am	AA—SK 11
7:00 pm	AA—AH
Saturday, December 29	
7:00 pm	AA—AH

Monthly Financial Recap	ANNUAL Budget	YTD Actual	Projected Year End	Proj. Y/E %	Proj. Y/E Deficit
Donations 2018	\$1,128,232	\$933,904	\$1,020,098	92%	(\$112,202)
		92%			
Expenses 2018	\$1,132,300	\$989,380	\$1,132,300		

Clergy:

The Rt. Rev. Mark J. Lawrence, <i>Bishop of South Carolina, XIV</i>	
The Rev. Tripp Jeffords, <i>Rector</i>	frtripp@stpaulssummerville.org
The Rev. B. Tyler Prescott, <i>Associate Rector</i>	tylerp@stpaulssummerville.org
The Rev. John Scott, <i>Assistant, Rector</i>	johns@stpaulssummerville.org
The Rev. Korey Kincaid, <i>Youth Minister</i>	koreyk@stpaulssummerville.org

Staff:

Sue Beson, <i>Parish Administrator</i>	sueb@stpaulssummerville.org
Cathy McGrew, <i>Community Impact Coordinator</i>	cathym@stpaulssummerville.org
Bonnie James, <i>Worship Arts Director</i>	bonniej@stpaulssummerville.org
Jamie Hawkins, <i>Director of Traditional Music</i>	jamieh@stpaulssummerville.org
John Chaconas, <i>Director of Communications</i>	comms@stpaulssummerville.org
Shannon Reed, <i>Director of Children’s Ministry</i>	shannonr@stpaulssummerville.org
Heather Jackson, <i>Connections Coordinator</i>	heatherj@stpaulssummerville.org
Betty Black, <i>Bookkeeper</i>	bettyb@stpaulssummerville.org

To reserve a cover or if you have a submission for the Sunday News please contact comms@StPaulsSummerville.org the Tuesday prior to the next edition.

Biblically minded—Christ centered—Holy Spirit driven



December 23, 2018

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Hebrews 10:1-10; Canticle 15 “The Song of Mary” and Luke 1:39-56

Dec 30th First Sunday of Christmas [Isaiah 61:10-11](#), [62:1-5](#); [Psalm 147 13-21](#); [John 1:1-18](#)

The Chaos of Christmas - By: The Rev. B. Tyler Prescott

As our Christmas Eve services approach, I’ve begun to wonder, “Could it be that the controlled chaos of our pageant is more analogous to that very first Christmas night than the stately and peaceful services which typically accompany the remembrance of our Savior’s birth?” If you’ve not been to one of these pageant services, simply try to imagine the scene - a packed service with 450 people, 150 of whom are children of all ages; parents waiting send their children to take their place among the nativity at just the right time; families on their toes trying to catch a glimpse of the completed manger scene. Throw in a children’s sermon, communion, and “Silent Night” (complete with lit candles for all!), packing them all into an hour’s time, and you have a Christmas celebration that is both chaotic and beautiful in its own, unique way.

To be sure, the late-night, candlelit services are a sublime and God-honoring way to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Nevertheless, it is the pageant that most closely evokes the chaos that surely would have accompanied the night of Jesus’ birth. Indeed, the simple fact that a baby was born precludes this evening from being an altogether silent night, not to mention the setting, the shepherds arriving, the angel’s singing...! Couple this with the political upheaval and intrigue of King Herod and we realize that Jesus was born not into a night of peace and prosperity, but one of unrest and disarray - chaos if you will.

However, it is precisely because Jesus was born into the chaos that we can say Christmas is good news. Let’s be honest, our lives are chaos. Even as we tend to our Advent reflections and disciplines, we are besought by caroling, parades, and parties; even as we seek out time with family and friends, we are burdened by the fragmenting of relationships and the stark finality of death. Our lives and our world are engulfed in turmoil; some of it is glorious like the shepherds and Angels, and some of it is oppressive like Herod and Caesar. But it is into this world of both glorious and oppressive turmoil that our Prince of Peace does come and make his home. Indeed, that is the great promise of Christmas, that God himself has come to dwell among us that our chaotic selves may receive “grace upon grace” (John 1:14-16). Perhaps this is why the church has appropriated the peace and grace so clearly seen in her glorious Christmas Eve services - an earthly glimpse of the peace that is to come. And yet, it is also a refreshing thing to welcome Christ into the chaos, in many ways training us to do the same in our everyday, chaotic lives. So this Christmas, let us, indeed, hope with expectantly for the Prince of Peace, while at the same time welcoming his redemption among the chaos.



St. Paul’s Summerville
316 W. Carolina Avenue, Summerville, SC 29483
Church Office: 843.873.1991

Guests



WELCOME, We’re glad you’re here!

Date: _____

☐ 8:00 am CB ☐ 10:15 am CB ☐ 10:15 am DH

☐ 1st Time Guest ☐ New to Area

☐ Looking for a church home

☐ Regular Attending Non-Member

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP

HOME PHONE

CELL PHONE

EMAIL ADDRESS

☐ I would like to receive emails from St. Paul's

AGE

☐ 13-19 ☐ 20's ☐ 30's ☐ 40's ☐ 50's ☐ 60's ☐ 70's+

CHILDREN IN ATTENDANCE

NAME

DOB

NAME

DOB

NAME

DOB

I would like more information about:

☐ A new life in Christ

☐ Membership at St. Paul’s

☐ LifeGroups

☐ ALPHA

☐ Other _____

PRAYER REQUESTS & COMMENTS

If you would like your request concerning health, death, or other concerns to be added to our public prayer, please indicate by marking the box. All others will be put on the confidential prayer list for 3 weeks.

Place form in the offering plate or take to our Welcome Table to receive more information and a gift.

MEMBERS

Date:

☐ 8:00 am CB ☐ 10:15 am CB ☐ 10:15 am DH

NAME

SPOUSE

CHILDREN IN ATTENDANCE

NAME

NAME

NAME

CHANGES ONLY

ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP

HOME PHONE

CELL PHONE

EMAIL ADDRESS

☐ I would like to receive emails from St. Paul's.

PRAYER REQUESTS & COMMENTS

If you would like your request concerning health, death, or other concerns to be added to our public prayer, please indicate by marking the box. All others will be put on the confidential prayer list for 3 weeks.

Please place completed form in the offering plate or take to our Welcome Table. Anonymous comments will be discarded.

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

843.873.1991

For more information, visit our website at www.StPaulsSummerville.org

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR THIS MORNING

Welcome to St. Paul’s

We hope to create an atmosphere in which everyone feels welcomed with open arms. All guests are invited to visit our Welcome Table after the service today to receive a gift and information about St. Paul’s.

To parents of young children - Relax! God put the wiggles and sweet little noises in children; don’t feel like you have to suppress them in God’s house.

- ✝ Consider sitting toward the front where children can more easily engage.
- ✝ Quietly explain the parts of the service and actions of the priests, musicians, acolytes, and leaders. When in Children’s Church your children learn about bowing when the cross passes and why as Anglicans we do this, who the acolytes are, the colors of the stoles to match the liturgical calendar, prayers, etc. Now is a great time to show them what we are going over in children’s church.
- ✝ Sing the songs and pray. Children learn behavior by mimicking you.
- ✝ If you have to leave the worship with your child , please feel free to do so, but please do come back.

Nursery and Children’s Church

Childcare is available for ages birth through 3 years of age. You will find a greeter there to assist you with check-in. We ask that you please check your child in at one of our check in kiosk located in Doar Hall and in the CY building. There you will receive a matching security tag that will need to be shown when you pick up your child.

Children’s Church is provided for children ages 3-7. Please follow the check-in instructions above. The children will be dismissed for chapel during the 10:15 service. There your child will enjoy a time of chapel, bible lesson that follows the lectionary, learning our Anglican traditions, as well as crafts and games.

Child Check-In—(Birth to Seven Years,) for both the Church Building and Doar Hall) Check -in at the C/Y building or Doar Hall. A volunteer will walk them over to the C/Y Building and a volunteer will bring them back to pick up.

Child Pick-up—Please come to the back door of St. Paul's Central and **present your matching security tag to pick up your child.**

Communion—Anyone baptized in the Christian faith is welcome to receive communion.

Giving—Cash and checks may be placed in the offering plates. We have electronic kiosks in Doar Hall for debit and credit cards. St. Paul’s does not want anyone to incur debt in order to give to the Lord. We offer the kiosks as a convenience.

Giving Envelopes—You may pick up a pack in the church office, in the back of Doar Hall, or the Church Building.

St. Paul’s Summerville—Is the oldest established parish in the historic district of Summerville. In 1828, when Summerville was a mere village, the first church building was built. In 1855, it was replaced by the historic church building that stands today. In the early history of the town of Summerville, St. Paul’s was a focal point for that community as it was located on what was the original town square.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers—The altar flowers are given in celebration of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs Robert Bentley Cheatham.

Ushers Needed—For the 8:00 am Service in the Church building. Are you being called to serve in this ministry? Please contact Bill Toombs @ 843-875-5227.

Church office closed Dec 24th -28th—Office is open on Dec 31 for any end of year of gifts.

Doar Hall Communion—Communion wafers will be dispensed at the side aisle communion stations. Leavened bread is available at the altar. Feel free to choose either element/station.

Stephen Ministry—We are looking for people that love to help others. This is a “one on one” ministry. Classes start in January. Contact Heather Kilpatrick; hmkilp1@gmail.com or Chris Armstrong; c117armstrong@gmail.com.

228th Diocesan Convention - Nominations Sought —Each year at this time, the Clergy and other leaders of the Diocese are invited to provide suggestions to the Nominating Committee for those positions to be filled at the upcoming Diocesan Convention. God may be calling to you to serve or to nominate a parishioner from St. Paul's Summerville to serve the Diocese. See our **eNews—This Week at St. Paul’s** and contact Fr. Tripp for more details.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Stewardship Pledge Cards— There is a link you may use to our “[2019 PLEDGE FUND FORM](#)” on our Home Page and on the “ONLINE GIVING” Page . You may also place your completed green pledge card in the collection plate today or send it to the church office.

Christmas Eve Services— Dec 24. Doar Hall—5 pm and Children’s pageant at 7 pm. Church Building at 8 pm with organ (no choir). 10:30 pm Pre-service music starts followed by the traditional candlelight service at 11 pm.

Christmas Day Service—Dec. 25 at 10 am—The Church Building.

Mark Your Calendars for Membership Classes this Spring!
Connect 101- January 13 11:45am in the Atrium of Doar Hall.—Would you like to know more about St. Paul’s? Join us for Connect 101, our new member introductory class. Childcare and brunch are provided. Join us for a delicious brunch and learn more about St. Paul’s. Register by Jan. 10 HeatherJ@StPaulsSummerville.org or 843-873-1991x38.

Basic Christianity (4 wks) Feb. 3-24, 9am Connect Room — A great book study on the basics of the Gospel message.

Joys of Anglicanism (4 wks) Mar. 3-24 9am, Connect Room— for new folks and anyone who wants a refresher on why we do what we do!

Connect 102 Mar. 31 & Apr. 7, 9am Connect Room—Discovering Your Shape for Ministry (2 wks) — A spiritual gifts workshop .

Prayer Training—We offer varying levels of prayer training and offer a practicum where we learn best practices for praying for each other in real–life prayer situations. Mrs. Heather Jackson HeatherJ@StPaulsSummerville.org