

The Epistle

November 2010

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
201 E. Church St.; Marshalltown, Iowa 50158
Church phone: 753-6317
Office e-mail: stpauls50158@msn.com

My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Advent meditation booklets for this year are entitled, "We Shall all be Changed", and were written by The Rev. Jason Leo, rector of Calvary Church in Cincinnati, Ohio. His meditations are drawn from his experiences on twelve mission teams to the Gulf Coast after Hurricane Katrina. An unusual, but fruitful, focus for Advent.

And, we also have copies of an Advent Calendar poster for you and your grandchildren this year. I found that it included the familiar prayer by Richard of Chichester, a mid-13th century Bishop, who was homeless at one time within his own diocese. Thought we could adopt this as our parish Advent prayer for this year, and commit at least the last portion of this prayer (in bolded print) to memory.

Thanks be to you, our Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits which you have given us,
for all the pains and insults which you have borne for us.

**Most merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother,
may we know you more clearly,
love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly,
day by day.
Amen.**

What is within ourselves that might be blocking the coming of Christ this year? Are there old grievances, new or old losses to grieve, or wounds that block us receiving Christ at Christmas? Please do be in contact if I can help you in working through troubling spiritual issues. Keeping Advent is a rather counter-cultural activity, but I would encourage us to make some new choices about how to "Keep Advent" before you feel lost in the whirlwind of December activities.

With prayers for abundant Advent blessings,

Mary Jane+

P.S. Looking forward. Put December 5 on your calendar to stay for coffee after the Eucharist. The St. Paul's Players will have a Christmas story to present.

CHURCH NEWS

ST. MARGARET'S MISSION

Will meet Thursday, December 2, at 6:00 p.m. in the Conference Room, hosted by Pudd Handorf & Betty Bradner.

Church Women United

Will hold their forum meeting Friday, December 3.

Location: The Binford House, 110 N. 2nd Ave.,

Hostesses: Mary Quam and Marilyn McKibben.

Program: Guest, Trudy Wilson: Focus on History of Binford House.

ST. PAUL'S VESTRY

Will meet Tuesday, December 7, at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room.

Hanging of the Greens will follow the service on Sunday, December 19th

Christmas Eve Service is at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, December 24th.

Carol Sing at 6:50 p.m.

On November 12th, St. Paul's Guild members had our "Love Plate" project for the shut-ins. Some donated, some prepared the plates, some delivered and others did ALL of the above.

Thanks to everyone who took part: Dorothy Apgar, Barbara Baltisberger, Kay Beach, Pam Campbell, Sandy Crowley, Audrey Hafar, Colleen Harmon, Freida McInroy, Nan Ryden and Sally Klinkefus. The Guild board members met on November 15th, to plan the 2011 calendar. Our next meeting will be in April.

The "**Daily Advent Reading**" books for 2010 are on the table in the back of the church. Please help yourself to one for the Advent season.



COFFEE SCHEDULE

Dec 5	Fred & Ce Hubbard
Dec 12	Bill & Barbara Baltisberger
Dec 19	Betty Bradner
Dec 26	Mike Heaverlo

Reminder: If you have bills for 2010, for which you want to be reimbursed for please turn them into the church office by, December 21.

Also if you have year-end contributions to St. Paul's (or to other organizations to which you are contribution through St. Paul's, e.g. Food Box, House of Compassion, etc.) please bring or mail those gifts to the office by December 21.

If necessary to DATE your check for December 31, that's fine, we just need to have the checks by the 21st so that we can work with the numbers and have everything ready by the end of the year. If you have date-specific requests for any donations, it's even more important to get your checks in EARLY, this will enable us to have everything done by December 31st.

Thanks You!!

We have receive an address for Nathan Eason, this is Nathan's third deployment. He has served our country in Iran & Afghanistan. He has now returned to Afghanistan. You may remember him from when he lived in Marshalltown, and attended church and church school at St. Paul's! Perhaps, some would like to send him a Christmas card... Nathan Eason
C/1-168 IN
AFCOP Rahman Kheyl
APO AE 09364

Thank You!

Thank You to Barbara Baltisberger Bill, Dale, and Sheryl Readout for preparing the Harvest Alter!



HOUSE OF COMPASSION

St. Paul's will serve the evening meal at the House of Compassion, Tuesday December 14. If you would like to assist, please sign up on the green clipboard at the back of the church!

The Central Chapter offering of Lessons and Carols will be on December 12 at St. Paul's Church in Grinnell. Soup supper at 5:30, 6:30 for the combined choir, and 7:30 service. Dr. Ben Carlisle, a visiting professor of music at Grinnell College will be our conductor. Please let Pastor Mary Jane know if you would like to order music to participate in the choir, or car pool to attend.

EMERGENCY FOOD BOX

Please bring non-perishable food items to place in the grocery cart at the back of the church, or a check may be sent at any time.

St. Paul's next opportunity to help restock the Emergency Food Box will be Sunday, December 12. We are supported solely by the contributions of generous people like yourselves.

The Emergency Food Box's success or failure is determined by your help. Since we are seeing an increase in the number of families needing help throughout all of Marshall County, your offerings of food (please note the dates on the canned items) and/or **cash donations** are needed for just this purpose.

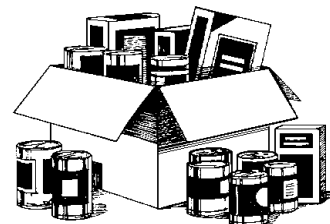
Currently, the items that we are in need of the most are **macaroni and cheese, noodles, peas, pork and beans, stewed tomatoes and pork and beans. These food items are not currently available from the Food Bank in Des Moines in the quantities that we need.**

If you would prefer to give monetary donation, you may send a check or cash at any time. Make checks payable to: **Emergency Food Box. Money may also be placed in your offering plate or mail to:**






**EFB, P.O. Box 391,
Marshalltown, IA 50158.**

These funds are used to buy needed items locally and to pay handling charges for items we are able to get from the Food Bank of Iowa.

Again, thank you for your past contributions and please consider the increasing need for food and/or contributions. Whatever you can do is greatly appreciated.



December 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>Winter</p>			1	2 6:00pm St. Margaret's Mission Christmas Party @ The Binford House	3 9:15 a.m. CWU-Binford House	4
5 9:30 AM Worship	6 6:45pm Tiger Cub Scouts	7 7:00pm Vestry	8	9	10	11
12 9:30 AM Worship Happy Birthday! Orlin Klinkefus	13	14 SOUP KITCHEN Happy Birthday! Matt Colbert	15 Guild board members meet to plan 2011 calendar Happy Birthday! P.J. Colbert	16	17	18 Happy Birthday! David Bursley
19 9:30 AM Worship  Hanging of the Greens	20 6:45pm Tiger Cub Scouts	21	22	23	24 Carol Sing 6:50 Christmas Eve Service 7:00  Christmas Eve SERVICE	25  Merry Christmas
26 9:30 AM Worship Happy Anniversary! Everett & Mary Jane Halsted	27	28 Happy Anniversary! Tom & P.J. Colbert	29 Happy Birthday! Dorothy Apgar	30 Happy Anniversary! Dr. & Mrs. Dan McInory	31	

Lay Participants for 2010

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

All lay participants are to meet in the choir room for prayer 5 minutes before service time.

Date	Time	Lay Readers/Lectors	Acolytes	Ushers
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Each person is responsible for finding a replacement when needed and reporting the change to the church office.

Date: December 5 **9:30 AM**
Rector: The Rev. Mary Jane Oakland
Organist: Audrey Hafar
Lessons and Prayers: Kay Beach
Chalice and Acolyte: Sheryl Readout
Ushers: Bill & Barbara Baltisberger
Altar Guild: Sheryl Readout
Lock-up: David Bursley
LEV: Barbara Baltisberger & Mary Lou Tappe
Coffee: Fred & Ce Hubbard

Date: December 24 **7:00 PM**
Rector: The Rev. Mary Jane Oakland
Organist: Audrey Hafar
Lessons and Prayers: Mary Jane Halsted
Chalice and Acolyte:
Ushers:
Altar Guild: Sheryl Readout
Lock-up:

**Please let the office know if you are able to help
with one of these duties!**

Date: December 12 **9:30 AM**
Rector: The Rev. Mary Jane Oakland
Organist: Audrey Hafar
Lessons and Prayers: David Bursley
Chalice and Acolyte: Kay Beach
Ushers: Tom & P.J. Colbert
Altar Guild: Nan Ryden
Lock-up: David Bursley
LEV: Sandy Crowley
Coffee: Bill & Barbara Baltisberger



December

Date: December 19 **9:30 AM**
Rector: The Rev. Mary Jane Oakland
Organist: Audrey Hafar
Lessons and Prayers: Mary Jane Halsted
Chalice and Acolyte: Ce Hubbard
Ushers: Nancy Stone & Mary Lou Tappe
Altar Guild: Ce Hubbard & Sheryl Readout
Lock-up: David Bursley
LEV: Freida McNory & Mary Lou Tappe
Coffee: Betty Bradner

Date: December 26 **9:30 AM**
Rector: The Rev. Mary Jane Oakland
Organist: Audrey Hafar
Lessons and Prayers: David Bursley
Chalice and Acolyte: David Oakland
Ushers: Don & Sandy Crowley
Altar Guild: Marge Cook
Lock-up: David Bursley
LEV: Colleen Harmon
Coffee: Mike Heaverlo