



ST. PAUL HIGHLIGHTS

December 2018

VOLUME 67 ISSUE 12



IMPORTANT DATES FOR THIS MONTH

DECEMBER 2ND-ONE SERVICE AT 10 AM FOLLOWED BY ADVENT WORKSHOP

DECEMBER 9TH-CHRISTMAS CANTATA-ONE SERVICE AT 10AM

DECEMBER 24TH-CHRISTMAS EVE-SERVICES AT 1, 7, 9, AND 11PM

OFFICE CLOSSES AT NOON

DECEMBER 25TH-CHRISTMAS DAY-OFFICE CLOSED

DATE	TIME	LECTORS	SERVERS	LITURGISTS	BREAD BAKERS	ALTAR GUILD	USHERS	GREETERS	MONEY COUNTERS
12/2	10:00 Traditional	Tom Herr	Adam & Jennifer Hinton	Lynnette Ozanich	Jennifer Hinton	Marilyn Niksa	Team 1 R Hamilton T Herr G Hofman T English F Putman T Brunett	Tracy Hamilton Laurie English	Denny & Rae Batig
12/9	10:00 Cantata	N/A	Alice Chadbourne	N/A	N/A	Beth Boerke Holly Hollingsworth	Team 3 D Henning D Moore T Salay M Eckert P Milloy W Crawford	Sandy Henning Amy Russo Joyce Moore	W. Hansen J. Bairoti
12/16	8:30 Traditional	Bette Idemoto	Charles Russo Gail Hansen	Meg Montag	Carol Kopkas		Team 5 W Hansen J Flick J Schlott J Cutnaw L Carmean	Rudy & Carol Spagnuolo	Paul & Pat Luster
	11:00 Celebration	Cheryl Harkema	Liz & Jeff Campbell	Jon Montag			Team 6 H Daniels G Hrivnak R Genter M Hollingsworth H Hollingsworth	Nancy Goette Pat Gugliotta	
12/23	8:30 Celebration	Sherrill Crawford	Anna Mae Migra Marilyn Niksa	Liz Wittman	Carol Kopkas		Team 7 R Winwood B Trausch J Holden R French B French J Sears	Anna Mae Migra Kara Krywyj	Adam & Jennifer Hinton

	11:00 Traditional	Amy Kurek	Linda Jungeberg Sharon Lappin	Dave Hall			Team 8 L Walker J Sears G Grizzell D Lesko S Harkema G Miller	Barb & Harold Daniels	
12/24	1:00 Christmas Eve		TBD		Betty Krueger		Team 4 B Wester A Krueger P Sultan P Sultan D Cain W Hansen	Diane Barrett Jane Krisher	TBD
	7:00 Christmas Eve		TBD				Team 2 J Montag T Riggle G Rohde J Lappin R Genther T Norris	Jan Sultan Sharon Genther	TBD
	9:00 Christmas Eve		TBD				Team 3 D Henning D Moore T Salay M Eckert P Milloy W Crawford	Sandy Henning Amy Russo Joyce Moore	TBD
	11:00 Christmas Eve		TBD				Team 6 H Daniels G Hrivnak R Genther M Hollingsworth H Hollingsworth	Nancy Goette Pat Gugliotta	TBD
12/30	10:00 Traditional		Linda King Beth Boerke	Mike King	Max & Taylor Krug		Team 5 W Hansen J Flick J Schlott J Cutnaw L Carmean	Rudy & Carol Spagnuolo	Paul & Pat Luster

If you will be attending one of the Christmas Eve services and are available to help serve communion or count money, please contact the office. Thank you!



Advent: Which Way Are You Going to Go?

When John the Baptist comes out to preach, you know that Christmas is almost upon us. Traditionally, the fiery preacher makes his appearance on Gaudete, the third Sunday in Advent. Matthew 11:2-11 is the traditional reading. The preaching of John and the preaching of Jesus is a study in contrasts.

On the one hand, you've got the fire and brimstone preaching of John the Baptist. For John, Advent was something like, "You rotten kids! Just wait until your father gets home. He's gonna give you a whippin'."

Then there is the preaching of Jesus. For Jesus, Advent was something like, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven," (Matthew 5:3) and, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28) and, "It is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish." (Matthew 18:14)

Our instinct, like John's, is that retribution is the answer to wrongdoing. But Jesus teaches that forgiveness is the answer. All that paying someone back evil for evil ever does is keep evil in circulation. But when you forgive and you rehabilitate, you restore a person to what they should be. You stamp out the evil, but you leave the person intact...you leave them better.

There is a scripture verse that says, "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.'" (Romans 1:19). A lot of people apply that verse this way: "Don't take revenge on anyone because God's going to do that for you." But if Jesus speaks for God, then that way of seeing things makes God into the kind of God who says, "Do what I say, not what I do."

Jesus says something different. He says, "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 5:44-45) In other words, don't take vengeance on anyone, because God never does, and you should be like God. Vengeance does indeed belong to God. But God never uses it. Never.

Jesus said, "Truly I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist." (Matthew 11:11) That wasn't a compliment. We know because He went on to say, "The one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

John's way seems right. John's way is the way of the world, and it is popular. The way of punishment, retribution, and revenge.

Jesus' way is better. His is the way of grace, mercy, forgiveness, rehabilitation, and restoration. His way is the way of peace on earth because of God's good will toward men.

Which way are you going to go?

- Dan

Thank You!

Dear Friends,

Words cannot begin to express my deep appreciation for retirement celebration we shared on October 7th. I couldn't have asked for a more perfect final service. The opportunity to reflect on 29 years of ministry, the privilege of offering each of you the bread of life, the wonder of baptizing our new grandchild, Saya. I know we were there for a while that Sunday 😊, but I cherished every moment. The wonderful dinner that followed was icing on the cake. It was humbling to see so many people take the time to share the occasion with our family. The kind words and generous gift you shared with us touched us deeply.

I am honored to be able to encourage Pastor Dan in his transition and thankful the two of us continue to seek appropriate ways for me to support his ministry with you.

My retirement has turned out to be short lived. The week after the party I went and met with Bishop Allende for an exit interview of sorts. I mentioned I would like to be put on the pulpit supply list and, somewhere down the line, be considered for an appropriate interim position. Well, a few days later, I received a call asking me to serve as part-time interim pastor of Jerusalem Lutheran Church in Seville, Ohio. They are conducting a pastoral search and just about ready to begin talking to candidates. Going off our experience at St. Paul's, I expect the process to take 6-9 months. I begin on December 1, 2018. I guess we never know what God has in store.
God bless and love,

Pastor Henderson

Dear St. Paul Family,

Thank you so very much for the cards which brightened quite a few darker days and more importantly for your prayers which I'm sure have aided in the recuperation from my recent illness. I would especially like to thank Aaron Ozanich for handling the web site in my absence. Also Aaron and anyone else who might have filled in for me on the audio board.

Sincerely,

Denny Batig

FINANCIALS

NOT AVAILABLE AT TIME OF PRINTING

REDEEMER CRISIS CENTER CHRISTMAS BAG PACKING

December 14th-6:30pm



CHRISTMAS BAG PACKING-Christmas dinner is packed for 500 families to share with their loved ones, Volunteers once again line up to take a bag through the line to be filled with potatoes, canned vegetables, cranberries, fresh carrots and other foods for Christmas dinner. Some volunteers wrap Christmas gifts for children. Every child in a client family will be assured of being able to open at least one gift on Christmas morning provided by generous supporters of the Center. A great way to celebrate the best gift of all.

***St. Paul volunteers will meet Friday,
December 14th to carpool to Redeemer
Crisis Center (5:30 p.m. at Panera
Bread-Middleburg)***

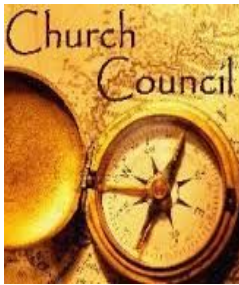
HELP WANTED! DECEMBER COMMUNITY MEAL

St. Paul is in charge of serving and providing desserts for the Community Meal on December 19th.

Please contact Lois Wolfe or Ginny Anderson if you can assist. All types of desserts are welcome. It's nice to have a variety. When you are baking for the holidays, plan to make a little extra to donate to the meal.

If you are able to help serve, please be at the church by 5pm and have desserts dropped off by 5pm as well.

COUNCIL CORNER



Members of St Paul

As we close out the year of 2018, we have seen changes at St Paul. I would like to thank everyone for their participation in this process at St Paul. We had a great turnout for our annual meeting on the 18th. Thank you everyone who participated in this meeting. I would like to thank the outgoing members of council for their service and look forward to working with the new members of council.

As was stated in the notice of annual meeting letter that was sent, we are thankful for the continued financial support as we move into 2019. Jim and his building committee will be continuing the 15 year building maintenance plan that has been in place for several years now. This work can only continue with ongoing financial support. Continued financial support will assist us in growing programs at St Paul as well.

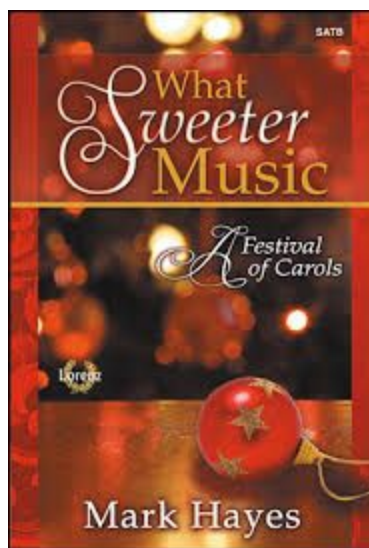
Church council hopes that everyone has a Merry Christmas and happy and prosperous New Year.

Sincerely

Jon Montag

Please contact any member of the church council with questions or concerns: Dean Firing, Jack Flick, Randy Genther, Pastor Skillman, Kara Krywyj, Katie Lappin, Jon Montag,, Aaron Ozanich, Eric Prestegaard.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA DECEMBER 9TH, 10:00 AM



PLEASE JOIN US AND BRING A FRIEND!



PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Pastor Skillman and the staff using the office complex have used the rearranged office and found a couple areas where improvement was desired. A revised arrangement for the office was created and has been accepted by all users as a major improvement. No additional walls will be constructed, so the open atmosphere will be maintained, and all furniture is used and reconfigured to add a workstation by the copier for assembly or volunteer use. The former Treasurer and Pastor's offices will be combined with a pass-through between the two created by removal of some bookshelves in the common wall. The revised plan will be presented to council at the next meeting for approval with the physical construction and rearrangement beginning after the first of the year. Watch for a diagram of the new layout to be posted by the office showing the changes that are coming. Prior to the final arrangement of the office, the new window was installed in the former Pastors' office, the defective heating control valve was replaced, and the bookcase was altered so that any future service on the valve can be done without ripping the bookcase apart again. The cracked pane in the new window of the Pastors' office has been replaced, but we will let the sun help heat the office complex during the winter and then add the reflective solar film to the windows next spring to reduce the workload for the air conditioner.

The replacement of the broken stained glass panes in the sanctuary was completed later the same day as the congregational meeting. Craftsman Joe Martinez spent a full week fighting the weather to accomplish the replacement of the seventeen broken and cracked panes. Unfortunately, in the process of the repairs, we exposed a serious structural issue that we must deal with. The sealant between the exterior clear panes and the wood frames the stained glass is mounted in has failed in many spots and allowed moisture to become trapped between the windows. The moisture has been sufficient in several areas to cause the wood frame to dry-rot. Property Committee is and will continue to investigate both long and short-term plans to stop further damage. Stopping further damage will likely become the next major item in the 15 year plan as the cost to actually replace the window framing in the Sanctuary would be astronomical.

Thanks to the Congregation for your continued faith in the Property Committee and the 15 Year Plan by approving the 2019 Budget. Please prayerfully consider your giving status so that the Church Council and Property Committee can confidently budget the continued replacement of items before they fail and require emergency measures.

-- Jim Jungeberg

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



DECEMBER OUTREACH-

Please join us with two special outreach projects. Please help to fill our grocery cart with food for the local Food Bank. The cart is outside of the Fellowship Hall. During the month of December, we are hoping that everyone will bring in canned fruits & vegetables that could be used for a Christmas dinner. Combining our efforts, we can really make a difference in the lives of people in need in our community. Our children can bring their donations to our Sunday School Closing.

Our Sharing Tree will also be out to be decorated with warm gloves, mittens, and scarves. They will be given to the children at the Guidestone. What a great time to share all of the blessings that we have with those in need this winter. Your help and generous support is so appreciated.

DECEMBER/JANUARY CALENDAR-

Please remember to check our monthly Children's Ministry Calendar for the important dates of the month. With the Christmas season upon us, our normal schedule has been revised. December 16th is our last day of Sunday School for 2018. Our first day back will be January 6th. We hope to see you in Sunday School at 9:45 on that day. It is never too late to join us. Children from 3 years old to High School are welcome. We will help you find your classrooms. Please call the church office if you have any questions. We would love to have you join us!

Susan Moore 440-243-1144 ext. 207; email: children@stpaulberea.org

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY CALENDAR

December 2nd *No Sunday School*
10:00 Worship Service
11:15 Advent Workshop & Birthday Celebration
(Fellowship Hall)

December 9th *No Sunday School*
No Children's Church
10:00 Christmas Cantata

December 16th 9:45-10:45 Sunday School
No Ukuleles

December 23rd *No Sunday School*
No Children's Church
See you in Worship at 8:30 or 11:00

December 24th See you in Worship at 1:00 / 7:00 / 9:00 / 11:00
7pm Children Will Play the Bells

December 30th See you in Worship at 10:00





DECEMBER

SUNDAY SCHOOL

No Sunday School December 2 & 9. Instead join us for service at 10am!
Advent Workshop will follow on the 2nd!

YOUTH JAM

December 2 & 16
6:30-8:30pm

THE YOUTH GROUP NEEDS YOUR HELP TO FUNDRAISE FOR THEIR SUMMER TRIP!

Join us at Five Guys!

We'll meet up like last time at 5:30 to eat together!

If you can't meet up, don't worry! Use this flyer at any of the three locations listed and the Youth will receive a portion of each sale!

Amanda PerryMiller 216-856-2718; e-mail: aperrymiller@stpaulbera.org



ST. PAUL
BEREA EST. 1866

Community Night

FIVE GUYS®

Monday, Dec. 10, 2018

5:00pm - 8:00pm

17695 Bagley Rd., Middleburg Heights

(440) 239-7880

8249 W. Ridgewood Rd., Parma

(440) 842-0095

15171 Pearl Rd., Strongsville

(440) 268-9968

Present this flier or simply mention that you
are there to support the
St. Paul Lutheran Youth Group Summer Work Camp.
Five Guys will donate up to
25% of your purchase to the
St. Paul Youth Group.

JANUARY 2019 LECTOR-SERVER CHART

06-Jan	LECTOR	Tom Herr	Linda Jungeberg
	SERVERS	Adam Hinton	Lois Wolfe
		Jennifer Hinton	Cathie Varnes
13-Jan	LECTOR	Judy Stintsman	Bill Goette
	SERVERS	Judy Stintsman	Alice Chadbourne
		Liz Wittman	Sharon Lappin
20-Jan	LECTOR	Bette Idemoto	Cheryl Harkema
	SERVERS	Charles Russo	Liz Campbell
		Gail Hansen	Jeff Campbell
27-Jan	LECTOR	Sherrill Crawford	Amy Kurek
	SERVERS	Barb Spatz	Linda Jungeberg
		Anna Mae Migra	Calyn Henderson

USHERS & GREETERS CALENDAR - Spring 2019

January 6th	8:30am Service		TEAM #1	Hamilton
	11:00am Service		TEAM #2	Montag
January 13th	8:30am Service		TEAM #3	Salay
	11:00am Service		TEAM #4	Wester
January 20th	8:30am Service		TEAM #5	Hansen
	11:00am Service		TEAM #6	Daniels
January 27th	8:30am Service		TEAM #7	Winwood
	11:00am Service		TEAM #8	Walker
February 3rd	8:30am Service		TEAM #1	Hamilton
	11:00am Service		TEAM #2	Montag
February 10th	8:30am Service		TEAM #3	Salay
	11:00am Service		TEAM #4	Wester
February 17th	8:30am Service		TEAM #5	Hansen
	11:00am Service		TEAM #6	Daniels
February 24th	8:30am Service		TEAM #7	Winwood
	11:00am Service		TEAM #8	Walker
March 3rd	8:30am Service		TEAM #1	Hamilton
	11:00am Service		TEAM #2	Montag
March 6th	7:00pm Service	Ash Wednesday	TEAM #1	Hamilton
March 10th	8:30am Service		TEAM #3	Salay
	11:00am Service		TEAM #4	Wester
March 13th	7:00pm Service	Lenten	TEAM #2	Montag
March 17th	8:30am Service		TEAM #5	Hansen
	11:00am Service		TEAM #6	Daniels
March 20th	7:00pm Service	Lenten	TEAM #3	Salay
March 24th	8:30am Service		TEAM #7	Winwood
	11:00am Service		TEAM #8	Walker
March 27th	7:00pm Service	Lenten	TEAM #4	Wester
March 31st	10:0am Service		TEAM #6	Daniels
April 3rd	7:00pm Service	Lenten	TEAM #5	Hansen
April 7th	8:30am Service		TEAM #1	Hamilton
	11:00am Service		TEAM #2	Montag
April 10th	7:00pm Service	Lenten	TEAM #7	Winwood
April 14th	8:30am Service	Palm Sunday	TEAM #3	Salay
	11:00am Service		TEAM #4	Wester
April 18th	7:00pm Service	Maundy Thursday	TEAM #8	Walker
April 19th	7:00pm Service	Good Friday	TEAM #1	Hamilton
April 21st	8:30am Service	Easter Sunday	TEAM #5	Hansen
	11:00am Service		TEAM #6	Daniels
April 28th	8:30am Service		TEAM #7	Winwood
	11:00am Service		TEAM #8	Walker

2019 Communion Bread Bakers

Name	Phone No.	Dates	
2019		2019	
Natalie Kurek	376 8563	Jan 13	Jan 20
Barb Mihalek	826 4219	Jan 27	Feb 3
Laura Nennstiel	216 267 4427	Feb 10	Feb 17
Maria Phillips	330 764 3016	Feb 24	Mar 3
Vicki Raber	236 5273	*Mar 6	Ash Wednesday
Lois Antl	243 2108	Mar 10	Mar 17
Jan Bairoti	234 1535	Mar 24	Mar 31
Beth Boerke	330 220 5531	Apr 7	
Kelly & Melissa Brandt	216 676 4537	*Apr 14	Palm Sunday
Sherrill Crawford	238 4220	Apr 18	Maundy Thurs
Nancy Dinardis	216 676 4661	*Apr 21	Easter
Loni Flagner	234 5078	Apr 28	May 5
Joan Green	216 676 4992	May 12	May 20
Sue Grunau	243-6814	May 27	June 2
Marie Herr	243 3732	June 9	June 16
Jennifer Hinton	234 9912	June 23	June 30
Carol Kopkas	243 5127	July 7	July 14
Betty Krueger	234 8823	July 21	July 28
Max & Taylor Krug	234 6057	Aug 4	Aug 11
Natalie Kurek	376-8563	Aug 18	Aug 25
Barb Mihalek	826 4219	Sep 1	Sep 8
Laura Nennstiel	216 267 4427	Sep 15	Sep 22
Maria Phillips	330 764 3016	Sep 29	Oct 6
Vicki Raber	236 5273	Oct 13	Oct 20
Lois Antl	243 2108	Oct 27	Nov 3
Jan Bairoti	234 1535	Nov 10	Nov 17
Beth Boerke	330 220 5531	Nov 24	Dec 1
Kelly & Melissa Brandt	216 676 4992	Dec 8	Dec 15
Sherrill Crawford	238 4220	Dec 22	
Nancy Dinardis	216 676 4661	*Dec 24	Christmas Eve
		2020	
Loni Flagner	234 5078	Dec 29	Jan 5

Note: If you cannot bake on the date assigned, please call someone from the list above and trade dates. Please notify the church office of any changes made, as we will be sending out reminder postcards. Church office: 440-243-1144 *Please note: Christmas Eve and Easter require double recipe. (RECIPE ON REVERSE SIDE)

2019 Communion Bread Bakers

Communion Bread Recipe

Melt:

2 tablespoons margarine

Stir in:

½ cup warm water

Add:

½ cup warm honey

Combine:

1½ cup white flour

¾ cup whole wheat flour

1 teaspoon salt

¾ teaspoon baking soda

Stir (or knead) margarine, water and honey mixture into the dry ingredients.

DO NOT OVERKNEAD.

Spray cookie sheet with Pam.

Divide dough into 5 parts. Spread into approx. 5-inch rounds on the cookie sheet, mark top with a cross. (Each round will be approximately 3/16 inch thick.

Bake at 350 degrees for 10-15 minutes maximum.

DO NOT OVERBAKE.

WHEN COMPLETELY COOLED, wrap.

Take bread to the church on Sunday morning by 8 a.m.

Leave bread in the Altar Guild room.

Four to five rounds will serve 160 communicants.

If you have question regarding the making of the bread, please contact the church office at 440 243 1144

SHEEP AND GOATS FOCUS



CHILDREN'S ORGAN TRANSPLANT ASSOC. COTA FOR TEAM CORMACK



Autosomal recessive polycystic kidney **disease (ARPKD)** is a rare inherited childhood condition, where the development of the kidneys and liver is abnormal. Over time, either one of these organs may fail. Both Jaina and Chesley Cormack have this disease and are expected to need both liver and kidney transplants. You can help them raise funds for their transplant fund through COTA.org. You can use your Sheep and Goats donation in your special envelopes or donate directly via the website.

<https://cota.org/campaigns/cotaforteamcormack/contributions/>

Did You Know?

- The Children's Organ Transplant Association does not charge for its services. 100% of funds raised in honor of patients are available for transplant-related expenses.
- COTA funds are available for a patient's lifetime for almost any transplant-related expense.

WHEELS FOR THE WORLD

MIDDLE EAST



This young lady was brought to us by her sister. Disabled by cerebral palsy at birth she was displaying spastic movements, (especially when she got excited!) and difficult to fit. However, she was in a really, really beat up wheelchair with a rope slung from side to side to hold her feet. But such a happy person! During the fitting of the chair, I was able to glean from her sister that she liked to color! So off I went to look for a donated coloring book and crayons. Then I asked her

sister where she colors at home - at a table? No, in her bed! Not an optimal place for someone who needed so much seated support. So I asked her to wait a little longer while Charlie made a tray table for her. When that was completed I thought this lady would jump off the chair! She was very excited to have a table surface. Such a simple thing and it brought so much joy to her. Her sister even lifted her veil so I could see her smiling and laughing! Wow! That is a truly unusual gesture. I felt so honored.

So Charlie was 'my' mechanic. But he also is a musician and brought his banjo with him. When he was not busy doing mechanic things with me (which was 3 days while I was sick), he used his banjo to minister, calm and entertain the families waiting to receive a wheelchair. Often a child would be screaming and he would walk over strumming "Jesus loves me" and the child settled down and relaxed. Charlie would let them strum the banjo too. He was a hit for both young and old! What a blessing he was!



Thanks to all of you who supported this effort through prayer and monetary resources. It was an inspiring experience as always.

MONTHLY COLLECTION FOR CHURCH STREET MINISTRIES

Hats, Mittens & Scarves

**In addition all canned, boxed, shelf
stable food is welcome every month**



COMMISSION ON AGING FOR SENIOR CITIZENS



**Tuesday December 11th at noon
the Senior Luncheon will
be held at St. Paul Lutheran Church
Cost \$5.00**

**Contact the
"Active Senior Network"
for reservations
at 440 891-3316**

MEMORIALS

Melva Petia
Eleanor Schreiber

Duane Boyer
The Boyer Family

OFFICIAL ACTS

Funerals

11/21 Marjorie Wallo

11/29 Irene Pickersgill

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
276 EAST BAGLEY ROAD
BEREA, OHIO 44017
440-243-1144
www.stpaulbera.org

FIRST CLASS
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDER FORM



I wish to order a poinsettia plant(s) for the Christmas season. The money or **check** (made out to **St. Paul Altar Guild**) is enclosed. Deadline for ordering is December 9th.

PLEASE PLACE ENVELOPE IN THE BOX ACROSS FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE.

Name as you wish it to appear in the bulletin

_____ Phone _____

PLANTS - \$9.75 each

I WISH THE BULLETIN TO READ:

_____ Red Blooms

_____ To the Glory of God

_____ White Blooms

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

_____ I will pick up plant(s)

_____ Altar Guild is to give plant(s) to homebound person

Plants may be picked up after the 11:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve, or during the week from 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. daily when the church is open.

Any questions, contact the church office (440-243-1144) or call Barb Daniels or Beth Boerke.