

# THE EPISTLE

ST. PAUL CHURCH IN WAXAHACHIE

Founded 1876

WAXAHACHIE, TEXAS

November-December, 2010

*Beginning in Advent*

## New Year's Resolutions for Worship

We pray that all of you in the St. Paul Church family are excited for the beginning of Advent, as it is the start of the liturgical New Year. We have much to celebrate as we look back at the past year and how much we have done as a Church Family. We have been faithful in our mission to Love God, Love and Care for Others, and to Grow God's Kingdom. Thank You, Well done and Praise God!

As is the custom at the beginning of the new year, it is time to make some new year's resolutions. The vestry, staff and leadership of the church have been dedicated to praying for God's direction and seeking ways for us to Grow in our Knowledge and Love of God. We believe that God has led us to make a few changes that we will implement at the start of Advent.

This year at St. Paul Waxahachie we will enhance our worship in a few ways that we believe will assist us in our faithful pursuit to be a growing, faithful, worshipping community. We believe these enhancements are centered on the strength of our identity as Episcopalians and Anglicans, and our desire to be the People of God.

We will center our emphasis on our Prayer Book and on the Bible. Emphasis on the Book of Common Prayer is intended to help us get even more familiar with and grow in our use of the amazing resource by which God has blessed us in the Episcopal Church. We will increase our use of the Prayer Book in our services by directly reading more from it and encouraging the personal use of the liturgical resources in our daily lives. There are so many blessings that we may gain in our spiritual growth by using these resources.

The other exciting change is the direct use of the Bible in our worship services. Bibles will be in our pews so that we may read the Scriptures of the day from the Bible itself. This will give our worshipping community the blessing of reading the assigned portion of God's Word in context of the whole Word instead of in bits that are separated on an inserted sheet of paper. We pray that this will increase our familiarity with God's Word in whole and encourage our continued reliance on God's Word in leading our daily lives. A generous donation was given to cover the cost of

these Bibles. Thank You. We pray that you will be open to these enhancements and that together we will grow in all that God has for us as a worshipping Church Family.

In other areas of the Church and all our areas of ministry, we look forward to following God in all that He calls us to do. We thank YOU for your continued support and love for this Church and all that each of you do to Faithfully Follow God.

May God bless us during this coming Church year!

Fr. Terry+

*Friday, Dec 3*

### Concert Here!

Out of the blue we were blessed with an opportunity to host a performance of Big Wide Grin. On their website ([bigwidegrin.com](http://bigwidegrin.com)) they say, "We're thrilled to be able play this concert in the beautiful acoustics of St. Paul Church. This show will be a mix of new and old BWG live favorites and songs from our Holiday CD."

The trio of Elaine Dempsey, Lawrence Lambert & Karl Werne bring together diverse backgrounds of experience, music and theater to form a rich, soulful blend of character and deep harmony. They are constantly on the move and have shared the stage, collectively, with such artists as Janis Ian, Harriett Schock, Lowen & Navarro, Richie Havens, Bruce Hornsby and toured with legendary blues man Keb' Mo'.

"Take three supremely talented performers, throw in a generous portion of intelligent and heartfelt songwriting, add a dash of wit and charm, then sit yourself down to a spellbinding evening of top-notch entertainment with Big Wide Grin ... guaranteed to put one on every face."

Tickets are \$15/ \$10 for students. The concert will begin at 7:30 on Friday, December 3. If you want to hear a sample of their music, visit their website, [bigwidegrin.com](http://bigwidegrin.com). Please come, and bring a friend! ✚



As we move to using the ESV Bible in our worship, we thought you'd enjoy learning more about it. Taken from information provided on [esv.org](http://esv.org), the website of the translation process.

**ESV Translation Philosophy** The ESV is an "essentially literal" translation that seeks as far as possible to capture the precise wording of the original text and the personal style of each Bible writer. Its emphasis is on "word-for-word" correspondence, and takes into account differences of grammar, syntax, and idiom between current literary English and the original languages. It seeks to be transparent to the original text, letting the reader see as directly as possible the structure and meaning of the original. Each word and phrase in the ESV has been carefully weighed against the original Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek, to ensure the fullest accuracy and clarity and to avoid under-translating or overlooking any nuance of the original text. The words and phrases themselves grow out of the Tyndale-King James legacy.

**The Legacy of the King James Version** The King James Version (KJV) is the Bible used by the English-speaking world for almost four centuries. The translators of the KJV understood the value of the English translation work before their time, and they wisely referred to the earliest English Bible translations, dating back to William Tyndale's 1526 New Testament, in addition to the manuscripts in their original languages.

**The ESV and the KJV: A Comparison** The ESV Translation Team endeavored to carry on the KJV's historic translation legacy. Modern readers find the KJV's archaic words and sentence structures difficult to understand. During the twentieth century, it became clear that Bible readers needed a translation they could easily understand, and a variety of translations were produced. The ESV is a highly accurate translation that retains the literary impact of the KJV but still speaks powerfully for today. Visit [www.esv.org](http://www.esv.org), for more on translation philosophy, history and names of translators. ✠

# Preparing for Vestry Elections

*Serving on the Vestry of our church is a true blessing that carries with it a commitment of time and responsibility unlike any other ministry in our church. Vestry members should be spiritual leaders committed to building up the Body of Christ so that it can be an effective instrument of mission and ministry in the world.*

The Vestry sets the bar for where we discern God is leading our congregation, and monitors progress we make towards our goal. The work can be simultaneously invigorating and exhausting, exciting and frustrating, challenging and rewarding, but always a blessing of service.

The Vestry oversees the fiscal affairs of the parish, and usually meets monthly. The Vicar presides at meetings but may delegate that responsibility to the senior warden. Vestry members are directly responsible for the work and ministry of the church as liaison to the various committees of the church.

To be elected, one must: 1) be a confirmed communicant in good standing at least eighteen (18) years of age who has been a financial contributor of record for one year before the election takes place. (A financial contributor, as defined in the By-laws of St. Paul Church, is someone who has recorded and fulfilled a financial pledge to the Church during the year in which the candidate is nominated.); and, 2) have also recorded a pledge for the year in which the election is being held. Someone elected to the vestry should also have regularly attended church services in the year preceding election. A vestry member should lead the way in participation in the

worship life and financial support of the parish, and be visible and active in all church events.

## Goals and Expectations for Vestry Members

Belief of Jesus Christ as Son of God, Lord and Savior; a spirit of servanthood, seeking only God's will for the Mission; commitment to support the leadership of the Vicar as he seeks God's will for the Mission; regular attendance at all Vestry meetings; commitment to work with the Vicar and Vestry with love, charity, respect, self-discipline and honesty; willingness to respectfully and directly engage Vestry members with disagreements on issues of policy, but publicly support decisions once made; commitment to respect and maintain the confidentiality of sensitive matters; sacrificial giving to God's work through the mission of St. Paul Church; reegular attendance at worship with family; support of and attendance at functions of the Mission; working to maintain or develop faith through regular prayer and study of Scripture; being a missionary of the Gospel by inviting others to worship; and, seeking opportunities to demonstrate faith by word and deed.

*Adopted by the Vestry of St. Paul, 2008*

On January 23, at our Annual Meeting, we will elect three vestry members for three-year terms. The Senior Warden is appointed by the Vicar and the Junior Warden is elected from the vestry in its first meeting of the year. According to the Bylaws of St. Paul, the vestry also selects three of its members to serve as delegates to diocese convention(s).

If you believe you feel called to serve on the Vestry, please call (972-938-2126). ✠














## Adult Class Series

# The Coming Messiah: Prophecy of Christ

This Advent Adult Education will focus on the prophecies that were written about the coming of the Messiah and found throughout the Old Testament. We will explore the major prophecies of who the Messiah would be and connect them to the arrival of Jesus Christ.

We believe you will be blessed by digging deeply into this topic and we pray that you will join us as we gather each Sunday morning between services, from 9:30 to 10:15. ✠

# November-December 2010

SUNDAY	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SATURDAY
<b>21</b> <b>Youth Sunday</b> <b>10:30 Service</b>	<b>22</b> 7 p.m. BSA meets	<b>23</b>  6:45 p.m. Women's Bible Study	<b>24</b> NO SERVICE Office Closed for Thanksgiving	<b>25</b>  <b>Thanksgiving</b> Dinner Gather at Noon Dinner at 1 PM	<b>26</b> Office Closed for Thanksgiving	<b>27</b> 9:30 a.m. DOK meets <b>4</b>  Happy Hour Begins 5:30 PM Dinner 6:30 PM <b>Annual Christmas Dinner Party</b> Live Music - Dancing Festive/Semi-Formal Dress Adults (18 & over) Only - BYOB Appetizers & Main Course Provided Bring a side dish or dessert
<b>28</b>  Advent Begins RSVP for Christmas Party!	<b>29</b> 7 p.m. BSA meets	<b>30</b> 7:00 Choir Practice	<b>DEC 1</b> 7 p.m. Healing Holy Eucharist 7:45 Choir Practice	<b>2</b> 7:30 p.m. <b>3</b> <b>Big Wide Grin CONCERT</b>		
 <b>CHRISTMAS BAZAAR</b> 3-5 PM	<b>5</b> St. Paul Volunteers at <b>Bethlehem Revisited</b>	<b>6</b> 7 p.m. BSA meets	<b>7</b> 7 p.m. Healing Holy Eucharist 7:45 Choir Practice	<b>8</b> 7 p.m. Healing Holy Eucharist 7:45 Choir Practice	<b>9</b> 7 p.m. Vestry	<b>10</b> 8 AM <b>11</b> <b>MEN'S BREAKFAST</b> 
<b>12</b> Reisner home on Candlelight Tour	<b>13</b> 7 p.m. BSA meets	<b>14</b>  6:45 p.m. Women's Bible Study	<b>15</b> 7 p.m. Healing Holy Eucharist 7:45 Choir Practice	<b>16</b> 7 p.m. Vestry	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Reisner home on Candlelight Tour
 <b>Greening of the Church</b> Volunteers welcome! after late service	<b>20</b> 7 p.m. BSA meets	<b>21</b> 7 p.m. Healing Holy Eucharist 7:45 Choir Practice	<b>22</b> 7 p.m. Healing Holy Eucharist 7:45 Choir Practice	<b>23</b> <b>24</b> <b>Rejoice!</b> <i>Let Earth Receive her King!</i> 5 PM FAMILY SERVICE 10 PM CONCERT 11 PM MIDNIGHT MASS	<b>24</b> <b>25</b> <b>Merry mas!</b> 	<b>18</b> <b>25</b> <b>Merry mas!</b>
<b>26</b> Office Closed this week for Christmas	<b>27</b> 7 p.m. BSA meets	<b>28</b>  6:45 p.m. Women's Bible Study	<b>29</b> NO SERVICE	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> <b>JAN 1</b>  <i>Ring in the New Year!</i>	<b>18</b> <b>25</b> <b>Merry mas!</b>
<b>COMING IN JANUARY</b>						<b>8</b> 8 AM <b>8</b> <b>MEN'S BREAKFAST</b> 
 Saturday, January 15 <b>EW</b> Brunch for all women of the church						<b>6</b> <b>7</b> <b>Epiphany</b>
Sunday, January 23 <b>CONFIRMATION</b> with Bishop Stanton Annual Meeting & Pot Luck Luncheon						

## November Birthdays

- 1 Elizabeth Hamaker
- 2 Jan Cunningham
- 4 Carol Bryant
- 5 Matt Perkins
- Sharon Smith
- 7 Gloria Brown
- 14 J. J. Perkins
- Roger Saenz
- 16 Anne Tuley
- 18 Bonny Middlebrooks
- 19 Bill Gavitt
- 20 Eric Stewart

## November Anniversaries

- 21 Woody & Tom Perry

## December Birthdays

- 3 Robert Wellborn
- Emma Wooley
- 4 Samantha Wooley
- 6 B.J. Hopgood
- Michelle Hurn
- 9 Judy Geeslin
- 10 Daniel Hamaker
- 12 Marjorie Andrea
- 16 Kathy Harris
- 17 Kate Roberson
- Katy Rose Ryan
- 20 Ray Brown
- 21 Kathy Magers
- 22 John Hamaker
- Rebecca Wellborn
- 23 Carol Raynor
- Garrett Ryan
- Will Stewart
- 26 Tom McAfee
- 27 Hank Perkins
- 28 Rita LeNoir
- 31 Ronnie Morris

## December Anniversaries

- 16 Amy & Chuck Aris
- 20 JoAnn & Doug Allen
- 27 Michelle & Doug Hurn
- 29 Denise & Roscoe Osteen
- 31 Jennifer & Stephen Sloan

## January Anniversaries

- 7 Linda & Tim Beyer
- 9 Mattie & Phil Wood
- 26 Susan & Chris Rominger

## January Birthdays

- 1 Jon Moreau
- Josey Moreau
- 3 Sandy Smart
- 8 Michael Bell
- 11 Pete Raynor
- 12 JoAnn Allen
- Emma Davis
- 20 Martha Vansyckle
- 22 Kate Aris
- 28 Donna Palmer
- 30 Mary Frank

## Organizations & Committees

What They Do & Who to Call

### ORGANIZATIONS

**Men's Breakfast** ..... Ron Tarrant 972-937-1589  
Breakfast for all men, 2nd Saturday, 8 AM

**Daughters of the King (DOK)**  
..... Carol Bryant, 972-938-8629  
Women of Prayer, Meetings 1st Sat, 9:30 AM

**ECW** ..... Billinelle Currie, 972-938-3163

### VESTRY & Committees

Sr. Warden (2012) ..... Dick Jones, 972-923-1412

Jr. Warden (2011) ... John Hamaker, 972-723-8042

Class of 2011 ..... Gloria Brown, 972-937-7710

Class of 2011 ..... Carol Bryant, 972-938-8629

Class of 2012 ..... Julia Johnson, 972-617-2934

Class of 2012 .. Daryl Anne Tillery, 972-937-7023

Class of 2013 ..... Pete Raynor, 972-268-5564

Class of 2013 ..... Sharon Smith, 972-937-3811

Class of 2013 .. Stephanie Walters, 214-663-4518

Clerk of Vestry ..... Denise Osteen, 214-587-7869

Treasurer ..... Rebecca Wellborn, 972-723-2921

Choir Director ..... Gloria Self, 972-937-4373

SPY ..... Brittany & Victor Songer, 469-358-9254

Worship & Music . Chuck Fitzhugh, 214-668-0572

Layreaders ..... Larry Zuber, 972-775-4915

Acolytes ..... Matt Perkins, 972-937-8077

Altar Guild ..... Anne Tuley, 972-938-8024

## Readying Reisners for Candlelight Tour



Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help at the Reiserhome during the Annual Christmas Candlelight Tour of Homes on Dec 11 & 12,

**If you have volunteered to host**, sign-up sheets are at the church so you can pick a time slot convenient to you. And, you may **bring your donated creche** to the Reiser home over the Thanksgiving weekend. (Remember the church will be closed for Thanksgiving.) Your items will be returned beginning December 13.

Please e-mail Glenna (reisners@sbcglobal.net) if you can help! ✠



## Seeing Everyday Mission in Action!

We've been joyfully busy with our mission "To Love and Care for Others". We provided more than 400 Mac 'n' Cheese meals to Waxahachie Care, "treated" almost 2000 kids in our community, and raised money for more. Thank you to everyone who worked, collected, gave or otherwise participated. Blessings!! ✠

## THE EPISTLE

The Monthly Newsletter of

# ST. PAUL CHURCH

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THE REV. TERRY REISNER  
VICAR



"Our Mission is to Love God, to  
Love and Care for Others, and to  
Grow the Church"



*Traditional, Biblical Worship  
in a prayerful, loving  
Christian Community.*