



# The St. Paul's Beacon

St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
16457 Old Frederick Road,  
Mt. Airy, MD. 21771 (410-489-4411)

January 2016

## Rector's Reflections

### Let Our Light Shine

January and February are the months when the church celebrates outreach and mission. The worship season in those months is Epiphany. During Epiphany we rejoice in Christ as the Light of the world. As a community of faith we are called to "let our light shine." Outreach and mission is one of the ways we let our light shine. Mission is giving witness to others of Christ that they may know God's love and hope. Outreach is giving of ourselves in service to others.

Outreach and mission are done in a variety of ways here. Our thrift shop is one example. The shop is a help to the community by providing clothing, household goods and seasonal items at a very low cost. Monies from the thrift shop enable us to donate to a variety of charities. Our outreach include food and funds to Mt. Airy Net; sponsoring Shakirah Nabibisi, a young lady who lives in Uganda; toys and clothing to the Christmas Angel Tree and more. (A full listing of the organizations can be found in the annual report).

All Episcopal Churches are involved in outreach and mission. In 2015 The Episcopal Relief and Development Fund celebrated 75 years of shining the light. In the early days this mission was called the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief. One of the earliest programs of The Episcopal Church was to provide assistance to refugees fleeing Europe during World War II. The organization's initial expansion towards sustainable development starting in 1973, eventually led to a shift in focus, beginning multi-year integrated development programs in 2003. (You can read the history and learn more at [Episcopalrelief.org](http://Episcopalrelief.org).)

Let us give thanks and celebrate our Outreach and Mission ministries!

Grace and Peace  
Susan S Keller+

### A prayer for Outreach:

Almighty God, whose blessed Son came not to be ministered unto but to minister: Bless, we ask you, all who, following in his steps, give themselves to the service of others; that with wisdom, patience, and courage, they may minister in his name to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy; for the love of him who laid down his life for us, the same, your Son our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

### Mark Your Calendars

**Sundays** Spiritual Formation beginning Jan 10 9:30 a.m. "Journey w/ Luke"

**Wednesday, Jan. 13, 10 a.m.** Pastoral Care Meeting

**Thursday, ~ Jan. 6 & 20 5 p.m.** Stephen Ministry Meeting

**Fridays 7:00-7:45 p.m.** Prayers in Evening. All Welcome!

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**Sunday, Feb. 7. ONE service at 9:00 a.m.** followed by Annual Meeting.

**Tuesday, Feb. 9, 5:00 – 7:00p.m.** Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

**Wednesday, Feb. 10 Ash Wednesday ~ Noon & 7:00**

**Saturday ~ Feb 20, 2016 6:30 p.m.** St. Paul's Paint Out. Snow date Feb. 27



## The Episcopal Diocese of Maryland

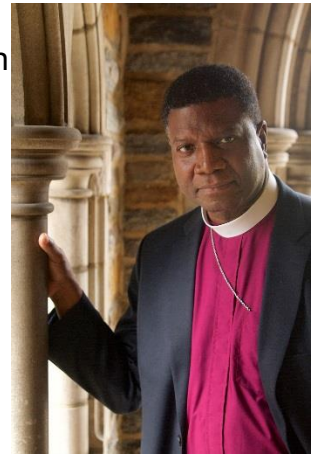
**From the Bishop's Office**

**December 16, 2015**

My dear fellow Episcopalians,

We are blessed by God to be moving through these holy seasons. Advent is our time to prepare for the ultimate mystery of the Incarnation. How is God-becoming-human going to change our lives this year?

Christmas Day begins a 12 day season of giving. We give in gratitude for many things. It's also a time for us to ponder God's gifts to us and how we might return thanks. That season ends with Epiphany, traditionally the revealing of Jesus to the Gentiles represented by the magi. After their encounter and a vision in a dream, they return home by another road. That's the feast where we really should ask, "how are we going to change the direction of our lives?" It's too easy for us to sweeten this story. The crèche. The sweet carols. The beautiful cards and wrapping paper. These are all distractions from the real story.



Jesus was born into a world of uncertainty, oppression, injustice; an occupied land in an empire known for its ruthlessness. Let's not forget the flight of the Holy Family into Egypt and the murder of the innocent children in Bethlehem. This was the time God chose to enter the world. It also was in that time that the world changed. A new way living and interacting with others began. It began a time of living by the law of love; of working for peace and justice, and loving one another as Jesus loved us. We began this year in grief and heartache. We have had to respond to events we never expected. This season we need to pray for all those who will be without a loved one for the first time or who lost someone in their life around this time of year. I ask your prayers especially for the family of Tom Palermo.

I also ask your prayers for all those in 12 step recovery and that includes Heather Cook as well as her family. These holidays are particularly difficult for recovering alcoholics and addicts. We are blessed to know that God loved the world so much that the time chosen for the miracle of the incarnation was an uncertain and dark one. Many are saying we live in dark and uncertain times; that fear is motivating us more and more. I take great comfort knowing that God is with us. As we sing the hymn, "O Come, O Come Emmanuel," let's remember that Emmanuel means, "God with us." I find great hope in that. And that is my wish for all of you.

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gene Robinson", with a small cross symbol to the left.

## Life Together

### St. Paul's Paint Out!

Bring friends and family and join us for a night of fun while benefiting St. Paul's. Create a beautiful picture uniquely your own to take home and cherish. Sip a hot chocolate, tea or glass of wine while you paint. No experience needed. All supplies provided. Date: **February 20, 2016** Time: **6:30-9:30 p.m.** at St. Paul's. Snow date: February 27<sup>th</sup>. **\$35** per person. Registration forms will be in the parish hall and at [www.stpaulsmtairy.org](http://www.stpaulsmtairy.org) on January 5th. Sign up by February 14, 2016. Hope to see you there!

### Mission and Outreach Update



Thank you very much for your Angel Tree donations! We supplied gifts for 29 children and 1 disabled adult for Christmas. We truly appreciate your generosity. A big thanks to Paul and Lee Hajek who helped deliver the gifts to the Westminster office of the Salvation Army.



### Don't forget January is **SOUP-ER-BOWL** month.

Please bring in donations of soups for Mount Airy Net.

## Celebrating 20 Years: The MPS Polar Bear Plunge

Since 1986, Jeff Spaulding has been a Maryland Special Olympics volunteer. With each year, this organization and its participants have grown near and dear to his heart. What started



out as duty and a little exercise blossomed into a caring relationship – true outreach.

Jeff took his first dip into the chilly (Ha) January waters of the Chesapeake Bay in 1996, the year of the first Polar Bear Plunge fundraiser for Maryland Special Olympics. He has never missed an opportunity to turn blue (pun intended) for this cause. This year, of course is no exception. 2016 celebrates the 20<sup>th</sup> year of the Plunge event. As usual the Plunge will take place at Sandy Point Park on January 30, 2016. Again St. Paul's will join with Jeff in this endeavor, by contributing a monetary donation to this life enhancing charity supporting persons with Differing Abilities. For your convenience, on the hospitality table in the parish hall, there is a can with a polar bear, waiting for your donation. Let's give Maryland Special Olympics a generous donation from our St. Paul's family.

### Heifer International

Is one of St. Paul's outreach projects. The cow in the thrift shop seems to eat better than the pig in the parish hall.

To refresh our memories: Heifer International is a humanitarian organization dedicated to ending hunger, poverty and to caring for the earth. More detailed information can be found on the table in the parish hall. Let's reacquaint ourselves to Heifer's ministry and "feed my sheep" by putting coins or dollars in the pig or cow.

Of course, you can always put a check (memo: Heifer International) in the alms basin.

**Stephen Ministry** marked forty years of “equipping the saints for ministry,” through its organization of spiritual caregivers beginning in 2015. The purpose: providing care especially after a life altering event in a confidential one-on-one relationship. Our St. Paul’s ministry saints are, Lee Hajek, Celeste Humphreys, Irene Hillen and Al Yeater.

On November 3, 1975, Stephen Ministry was incorporated as a non-profit religious and educational organization. In 2014 St. Paul’s became a Stephen Ministry congregation, one of the more than 12,000 churches enrolled in this ministry.

Our goal as Stephen Minister caregivers is to help a care receiver journey from spiritual brokenness to spiritual wholeness, with God leading the way. All caregivers receive extensive training and have to be certified by Stephen Ministry before they can do this pastoral ministry.

Stephen Ministry is a pastoral care call. Perhaps you are called to this caregiver role. Pray for discernment. Talk to the Stephen Ministers here at St. Paul’s.

It seems very fitting that we renew and claim our commitment to our Stephen Ministry program as we begin a new liturgical year with “The Gospel of Luke” as our principle reading, since it is believed that Luke was a person who was a healer and his writing points to, “taking care of . . .”

For more information or to request a Stephen Minister, please contact Lee Hajek, 410-409-1227.

## **Upcoming Events**

**Sundays** ~ beginning Jan 10, 9:30 a.m.  
Spiritual Formation

**Wednesday** ~ Jan. 13, 10 a.m.  
Pastoral Care Meeting

**Sunday** ~ Jan. 31, **ONE** service at 9:00 a.m.  
followed by Annual Meeting

**Thursday**, ~ Jan. 6 & 20 5 p.m.  
Stephen Ministry Meetings

**Every Friday** ~ 7:00 p.m. Evening Prayer  
All welcome!

**St. Paul’s Annual Meeting** ~ Sunday, February 7. We will have ONE service at 9:00 followed by our Annual Meeting. Committee Chairs please have your reports into the office **NO LATER** than January 17, 2016.

**St. Paul’s Nominating Committee** is accepting volunteers who want to serve on the Vestry. Hurry, our annual meeting, February 7, is just around the corner. If you would like to serve, contact Carrie Brown, Barbara Campion, Charles Samuel or call the church office, 410-489-4411.

**Spiritual Formation** ~ Will resume **Sunday January 10 at 9:30AM**. The principle gospel liturgical readings for Church year C are from “The Gospel According to Luke.” Let’s explore who Luke might have been; what he emphasized in his writings; and how he pictured Jesus. Come to class and join in **A JOURNEY WITH LUKE** and participate in fifty days of scripture readings, meditations, and prayers written by leaders from around the world. This study is part of a series of fifty-day Bible studies and is an extension of the Bible Challenge, a global initiative to encourage daily engagement with the Word of God. How exciting that we can be a part of the journey. The cost of the book is \$15.00. You may order your copy by leaving cash or check (memo: Spiritual Formation) in the alms basin or the church office by January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Thank you.

Please join us.

All are welcome each Sunday morning!



## Thank you!!!

**Holiday Bazaar** ~ we are pleased to announce that the total from our Holiday Bazaar and the Bazaar of the Churches is \$6,025.00. That is a wonderful amount. **Many thanks to** Lee and Paul Hajek, Jeff Spaulding and Al Yeater for their help in transporting boxes of bazaar items and shelves to and from the Lisbon Fire Hall for our participation at the Bazaar of the Churches. Many thanks for your truck and car – all was greatly appreciated. Again, many thanks to all who gave of their time, talent, help, commitment and dedication to these two events. Bless all of you! Linda Barnes, Linda Sharp, Dana Fritzges

**Cookie Exchange** – Many thanks to Suzanne Bourg and Polly Moore for hosting St. Paul's Cookie Exchange on Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. The pot luck dinner was delicious, the cookies scrumptious and the fellowship wonderful with much fun and many laughs. St. Paul's is blessed to have great bakers. We filled 13 tins to give to the sick, the home-bound and various parishioners. We always look forward to this annual event.

**Church Offering Envelopes** – if you would like a box of offering envelopes for 2016 and did not have them for 2015, please let our treasurer, Linda Sharp, know. Remember that there is an "initial" offering envelope in your box. The donation from this envelope helps to underwrite the cost of the envelopes. Each box costs \$4. Please include this amount (or a little more) in this envelope.

### Please be considerate.

Wash and put away your cups/ dishes after Coffee Hour.

**Our sincere congratulations and best wishes** go to Tiffany Spaulding and Neil Wrona on their engagement. A September wedding is planned. Tiffany is the daughter of Holly and Jeff Spaulding.



**First 2016 St. Paul's Event ~ Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper** (all you can eat) on Tuesday, Feb. 9 - 5:00-7:00 p.m. Menu: Pancakes: plain, chocolate chip, pecan; sausage, applesauce, dessert, orange juice, milk, coffee and tea. Free Will Offering. Sign-up sheets for needed food items and help will be on the parish hall table on Sunday, January 10. Take a look at the sheets and sign up where you can help. Please tell your neighbors, friends, and relatives about our supper – bring them with you when you come to eat your pancakes on "Fat Tuesday". Take out available.

**The Hospitality Committee** is always looking for Hospitality Hour hostesses to make coffee, have hot water for tea, juice and goodies (what we have to eat is up to the Sunday Hostess), following the 8:00 and the 10:30 service. If you would like to help with this ministry which is a big part of fellowship, please see or call Linda Barnes 443-604-3402. Your team would be on the schedule about every 10 weeks. Many laughs good times and lively conversation happens over a cup of coffee/tea and something good to eat.



**Meals:** Here at St. Paul's, we have pastoral care ministries that involve spiritual food: Lay Eucharistic Ministers; Stephen Ministry; Helping Hands Team; Shawl Ministry. We are in the process of adding another pastoral ministry – one of preparing and taking meals to anyone sick, recovering from a hospital stay, or other circumstance that calls for physical nourishment.

If you would like to be a part of this pastoral ministry team, please contact Linda Barnes, 443-604-3402, or Dorothy Kitt, 410-292-9020.

## Happy Birthday To:

Irene Hillen Jan. 01  
Carly Cassera Jan. 04  
Rev. Susan Keller Jan. 10  
Herb Grabau Jan. 10  
Lee Hajek Jan. 16  
Kathleen Van Osterom Jan. 16  
Kojo Brown Jan. 17  
Polly Moore Jan. 18  
Carolyn Prentice Jan. 24



## Happy Anniversary To:

Charles & Michele Samuel  
Jan. 29

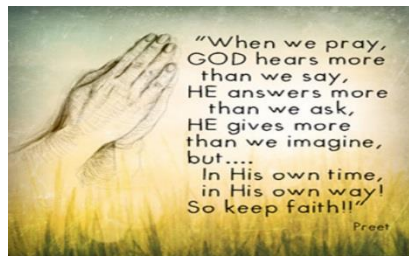
## Prayer List

Paul Bourg  
Trudi Lawson  
Dave Lawson  
Dallas Reeve  
Michael Toole  
Keith Prentice  
Phyllis Heffner  
Doris Sharp  
Bill Winebrunner  
Joannie Lee  
Kurt VonHurst  
Allene VonHurst  
Al Parker  
Craig Johnson  
Joanne Johnson  
Jeffrey Johnson  
Lora Hollands  
Pam Sherfey  
Debbie Gardner  
Ann Boyles  
Sandra & Stanley Napier  
Irene Hordubay  
Cheryl Kibler  
Beth Husted  
Lynn Carr  
Allison Poleger  
Sam Lucas



John Lucas  
Mary Wales-North  
The Horrigan Family  
Teresa  
Carey, Kathleen McIntosh  
Patsy Mavity  
Donna Shurney  
Kaye Rineer  
Belinda Blizzard  
Janice Esler  
Matt Willingham  
Susie Gibson  
Mildred Stinebaugh  
Eric McIntosh  
Andrew Oberle  
Joey  
Herb & Mary Jo Grabau  
John Tuel  
Delphine Koval  
John Belous  
Bill Aaron  
Albert Hutchison  
Richard Heffner  
Katherine Gilbeertz  
Ryan Merton  
Betty & John Fritzges  
Le Anne Stallings  
Kathleen Rumble  
Nancy McIntosh  
Ginny Triplett  
Josh Barnes  
Marie Cagle  
Helen Fenton  
Jim Harry  
Dottie Streaker  
Brian Thompson  
Archbishop Francisco Moreno  
Bishop Michael Curry  
James Anthony

Please help us keep our  
prayer list current.



## PASTORAL CONCERNS

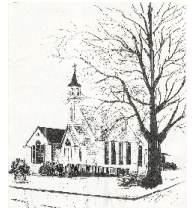
Pastoral issues and concerns are important to us. Please contact the Rev. Susan S. Keller, at 301-785-1687 or [revssk@yahoo.com](mailto:revssk@yahoo.com). You may also call the church, 410-489-4411, Monday through Friday, 9:00-12:00.

Parish Email:  
[stpaulschurch-mtairy@verizon.net](mailto:stpaulschurch-mtairy@verizon.net)

Web Address:  
[www.stpaulsmtairy.org](http://www.stpaulsmtairy.org)

**Newsletter** deadline for the February 2016 newsletter is **January 20, 2015.**

**St. Paul's**  
**"A shining**  
**light in the**  
**community."**



## VISION STATEMENT

**Our Vision is:** A community of faith ministering to those in need of justice, reconciliation, hospitality, sanctuary, and growth in their spiritual journey.

## MISSION STATEMENT

**Our mission is:** To carry the good news of Jesus Christ into the community by word and deed and to help all people experience God's presence in their daily lives

# January 2016 ~ Church Calendar

| Sunday                                                                   | Monday                                       | Tuesday                           | Wednesday                                 | Thursday                                                         | Friday                                                     | Saturday                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
|                                                                          |                                              |                                   |                                           |                                                                  | <b>1</b><br>11:30-3:00<br>Thrift Shop Open                 | <b>2</b><br>11:30-3:00<br>Thrift Shop Open  |
|                                                                          |                                              |                                   |                                           |                                                                  | 7:00 p.m. Evening Prayer                                   |                                             |
| <b>3</b> 8:00 a.m. Rite I<br>10:30 a.m. Rite II                          | <b>4</b>                                     | <b>5</b>                          | <b>6</b>                                  | <b>7</b><br>11:30-3:00 Thrift Shop Open                          | <b>8</b><br>11:30-3:00<br>Thrift Shop Open                 | <b>9</b><br>11:30-3:00<br>Thrift Shop Open  |
| <i>Hospitality Hour following</i>                                        |                                              |                                   | <i>The Epiphany<br/>Theophany</i>         | <u>5:00 pm</u> Stephen Ministers Meeting                         | 7:00 p.m. Evening Prayer<br><i>Harriet Bedell</i>          | <i>Julia Chester Emery</i>                  |
| <b>10</b> 8:00 a.m. Rite I<br>9:30 Spiritual Form.<br>10:30 a.m. Rite II | <b>11</b>                                    | <b>12</b>                         | <b>13</b><br><u>10:00am</u> Pastoral Care | <b>14</b><br>11:30-3:00<br>Thrift Shop Open                      | <b>15</b><br>11:30-3:00<br>Thrift Shop Open                | <b>16</b><br>11:30-3:00<br>Thrift Shop Open |
| <i>Hospitality Hour following</i>                                        |                                              | <i>Aelred of Rievaulx</i>         | <i>Hilary of Poitiers</i>                 | <u>5:00 pm</u> Stephen Minister Mt.<br><u>6:30 pm</u> Vestry Mt. | 7:00 p.m. Evening Prayer<br><i>Martin Luther King, Jr.</i> |                                             |
| <b>17</b> 8:00 a.m. Rite I<br>9:30 Spiritual Form<br>10:30 a.m. Rite II  | <b>18</b> Week of Prayer for Christian Unity | <b>19</b>                         | <b>20</b>                                 | <b>21</b><br>11:30-3:00<br>Thrift Shop Open                      | <b>22</b><br>11:30-3:00<br>Thrift Shop Open                | <b>23</b><br>11:30-3:00<br>Thrift Shop Open |
| <i>Hospitality Hour following</i>                                        | <i>The Confession of St. Peter</i>           | <i>Wulfstan of Worcester</i>      | <i>Fabian of Rome</i>                     | <i>Agnes of Rome</i>                                             | 7:00 p.m. Evening Prayer                                   | <i>Phillips Brooks</i>                      |
| <b>24</b> 8:00 a.m. Rite I<br>9:30 Spiritual Form<br>10:30 a.m. Rite II  | <b>25</b>                                    | <b>26</b>                         | <b>27</b>                                 | <b>28</b><br>11:30-3:00<br>Thrift Shop Open                      | <b>29</b><br>11:30-3:00<br>Thrift Shop Open                | <b>30</b>                                   |
|                                                                          | <i>The Conversion of St. Paul</i>            | <i>Timothy, Titus &amp; Silas</i> |                                           | <i>Thomas Aquinas</i>                                            | 7:00 p.m. Evening Prayer                                   |                                             |
| <b>31</b> 8:00 a.m. Rite I<br>9:30 Spiritual Form<br>10:30 a.m. Rite II  |                                              |                                   |                                           |                                                                  |                                                            |                                             |

## January 2016 ~ Service Calendar

If you are not able to work, please find your replacement

|                                  | January 3,<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after<br>Christmas<br>White |                   | January 10,<br>1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after<br>Epiphany<br>White |                                 | January 17,<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after<br>Epiphany<br>Green |                    | January 24,<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday after<br>Epiphany<br>Green |                 | January 31,<br>4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after<br>Epiphany<br>Green |                  |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
|                                  | <u>8:00 AM</u>                                                   | <u>10:30 A.M.</u> | <u>8:00 AM</u>                                                   | <u>10:30 AM</u>                 | <u>8:00 AM</u>                                                   | <u>10:30AM</u>     | <u>8:00 AM</u>                                                   | <u>10:30 AM</u> | <u>8:00 AM</u>                                                   | <u>10:30 AM</u>  |
| <b>Greeter/<br/>Usher</b>        | Greg &<br>Norma<br>Prentice                                      | Dana<br>Fritzges, |                                                                  | Linda<br>Barnes,<br>Linda Sharp | Al Yeater,<br>Michele<br>Samuel                                  | Dana<br>Fritzges   | Greg &<br>Norma<br>Prentice                                      | Linda<br>Barnes | Al Yeater                                                        | Linda<br>Sharp   |
| <b>Chalicer</b>                  | Ron<br>Alexander                                                 | Linda<br>Barnes   | Leo<br>Campion                                                   | Pete<br>McIntosh                | Ron<br>Alexander                                                 | Linda<br>Barnes    | Leo<br>Campion                                                   | Carrie<br>Brown | Jeff<br>Spaulding                                                | Pete<br>McIntosh |
| <b>Acolyte(s)</b>                | Ron<br>Alexander                                                 | Linda<br>Barnes   | Leo<br>Campion                                                   | Pete<br>McIntosh                | Ron<br>Alexander                                                 | Linda<br>Barnes    | Leo<br>Campion                                                   | Carrie<br>Brown | Jeff<br>Spaulding                                                | Pete<br>McIntosh |
| <b>Lector</b>                    | Kathleen<br>Alexander                                            | Pete<br>McIntosh  | Al Yeater                                                        | Helen Tuel                      | Charles<br>Samuel                                                | Phyllis<br>Heffner | Irene Hillen                                                     | Dorothy<br>Kitt | Irene Hillen                                                     | Helen Tuel       |
| <b>Psalm</b>                     | Ron<br>Alexander                                                 | Nancy<br>McIntosh | Al Yeater                                                        | John Tuel                       | Charles<br>Samuel                                                | Bill Toole         | Barb<br>Campion                                                  | Dorothy<br>Kitt | Irene Hillen                                                     | John Tuel        |
| <b>Prayers of<br/>the People</b> | Carolyn<br>Prentice                                              | Pete<br>McIntosh  | Al Yeater                                                        | Nancy<br>McIntosh               | Charles<br>Samuel                                                | Bill Toole         | Barb<br>Campion                                                  | Carrie<br>Brown | Irene Hillen                                                     | John Tuel        |
| <b>Altar Guild</b>               | Dana Fritzges,<br>Kathy Audia                                    |                   | Joanne Honsberger,<br>Barb Campion                               |                                 | Suzanne Bourg,<br>Linda Barnes                                   |                    | Etta Lee Spaulding,<br>Linda Sharp, Pat Marquis                  |                 | Dana Fritzges,<br>Kathy Audia                                    |                  |
| <b>Coffee Hour</b>               | Linda Barnes, Pat<br>Marquis, Wendy Gahm                         |                   | Ginny Chandler,<br>Helen Tuel                                    |                                 | Michele Samuel,<br>Suzanne Bourg                                 |                    | Dana Fritzges,<br>Irene Hillen                                   |                 | Barb Campion,<br>Doris Wilcher                                   |                  |
| <b>Counters</b>                  | Linda Sharp,<br>Linda Barnes                                     |                   | Celeste Humphreys,<br>John Tuel                                  |                                 | Lynda Sheckels,<br>Etta Lee Spaulding                            |                    | Irene & Jim Hillen                                               |                 | Lynda Sheckels, Dana<br>Fritzges                                 |                  |

**January 3<sup>rd</sup> ~ Altar Guild – will take down Christmas decorations after the 10:30 service**