

Vol. 34
Issue 12

December 2014

The Philippian

Dear Friends,

The clarion call of John the Baptist is “Prepare ye the way of the Lord!” Echoing the Prophet Isaiah, John is announcing to the world that the Christ, the promised Savior, is coming. In fact, for John, the Lord is here and the people need to clear the path for Him. The way to prepare, according to John, is to repent and be baptized.

We are now in the season of Advent, and this is the time of year we are reminded through scripture and our worship that we need to prepare for the coming of the Lord. The four weeks of Advent are offered to us as a season of preparation for the next time Jesus appears. The violet vestments and there being no flowers on the altar are to remind us of our need for prayer and repentance so that we can be prepared when we meet the Lord.

One way we can prepare to meet Jesus is to prepare for the celebration of His birth. It is easy to be distracted from the true meaning of Christmas by all of the busyness this time of year brings, but we must

The Philippian
St. Philip's Episcopal Church
3643 Aurora Drive
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not let anything keep us from knowing how holy a thing is coming at Christmas. We should all enjoy the warmth of the season which we find in parties and in decorating and in wrapping presents. However, we also should be in church standing while rejoicing and on our knees in prayer while we anticipate the miracle and mystery of the Incarnation of God.

I pray we all have an holy Advent, and when it comes, a truly Merry Christmas!

In Christ,

Fr. Steve +

Special Christmas Services



Christmas Eve
Wednesday, Dec. 24th, 4:30PM
Rite II Family Service with Christmas Pageant

Christmas Eve
Wednesday, December 24th, 10:00PM
Solemn Christ's Mass (Incense will be used)

Christmas Morning
Thursday, December 25th, 10:00AM
Rite II

The Vestry and Vestry Notes

The Rev. Stephen Craft, Susette Bradley, Ken Bradley, Mark Bullard, Norma Gatlin, Geneva Landry, Gordon Stackel, Susan Smith and Kayce Stackel.

1. The Jr. Warden gave a detailed report on the status of the exterior lighting. It was approved that he install new fixtures on the ministries center and at the front door of the office building. Also, other fixtures will be repaired, and Entergy will be contacted about lights on the south side of the church.
2. The Jr. Warden is researching and pricing camera systems for our property. Fencing in the property is also being considered. Both of these things have been suggested by both the police and our insurance company.
3. The stewardship program was discussed as well as our need to increase pledging.
4. Next year at our crawfish boil, we will have our 60th anniversary as a congregation. Bishop Brown has agreed to attend, and we will have confirmations. The date is May 24th.
5. First Communion classes will be held soon. This is for ages 6-8.

Office Hours:

Secretary: 9AM - Noon, Mon.-Fri.
Bookstore Hours: 9:00AM - Noon, Sunday
Office & Bookstore: 394-2408; Fax: 394-2450
Email: stphilipsno@msn.com
Website: stphilipsno.org

November Church Closing

7th	Susan Smith Mark Bullard	21st	Kayce Stackel Susette Bradley
14th	Norma Gatlin Susan Smith	28th	Ken Bradley Gordon Stackel

October Financial Statement

Income:	\$ 7,114.00
Expenses:	-\$20,117.00
YTD Projected Net Income:	-\$19,528.00
YTD Actual:	-\$24,326.00

Regular Worship Schedule

Weekend Services

Sunday:

8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10:30 AM	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
11:40 AM	Coffee and Fellowship

Saturday:

5:00 PM	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
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Weekday Services

Monday:

8:30 AM	Morning Prayer
2:00 PM	The Landing

Tuesday:

8:30 AM	Morning Prayer
6:30 PM	Adult Bible Study

Wednesday:

9:00AM Holy Eucharist followed by Bible Study

Thursday:

8:30 AM Morning Prayer

FROM THE PARISH REGISTER:

Rite of Christian Burial:

Cynthia Arnold Lauden 11/6

Patty Greenfield 11/8

Transfers in:

Alma Evans-Herron



Greening of the Church

Join us for the greening of the church!
After the 10:30 AM service on Sunday, December 21st, plan to stay a few moments and help prepare the church for Christmas!

The 2nd Annual Caroling and Pub Crawl

to Benefit United Churches of Algiers will be on December 12th. Meet at the Dry Dock from 5:30-6:30 to register for this fun event! Then get a map and song-book and follow along! The donation is \$5.00 per person.



First Fridays

December First Friday is this week at the home of Grace Benson, 5821 Durbridge Drive at 6:30 PM. Join us to start off the holiday season! There will be no First Friday in January. However, if you would like to host a First Friday in 2015, call the church office and book at your convenience! The Parish Hall is available for use as a First Friday hosting location.



Sanctuary Farm and Wellness News...

I hope you have enjoyed the Wellness Program in 2014. If you didn't know, the **Sanctuary Farms Web Site** is now live and available for your use. We went live approximately 3 hours before the last Wellness Program. Nothing like the last minute! Check it out at sanctuaryfarmspc.org. Look around and let me know what you think. Give me your ideas of what you would like to see! There is plenty of archive information that still needs to be uploaded to the site. I, with the help of some very appreciated volunteers, will be busy inputting the information for your reading pleasure over the holiday break.

There is a lot of new interest in our Sanctuary Farms Project and I hope and pray for continued growth in 2015. We are also in the process of renovating the office back in the Ministries Center. Early next year, you will be able to come visit and get a free blood pressure screening! Plus, we have lots more ideas for the new year!

It takes souls to keep this dream alive, so if you're a fan of what we are doing, share with a friend and get them involved too!

The Wellness Program takes a break in December for the holidays. We hope you will join us in 2015. Mark your calendars. Our next **Wellness Program** will be **Wednesday, January 21st, 6:30 pm** in the **Parish Hall**. This program is free and open to the public although we do take donations to cover the cost of food and research materials. Childcare is provided. Come and bring a friend!

December Readings

- 7th **Second Sunday of Advent**
Isaiah 40:1-11
Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
2 Peter 3:8-15a
Mark 1:1-8
- 14th **Third Sunday of Advent**
Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
Psalm 126
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28
- 21st **Fourth Sunday of Advent**
Samuel 7:1-11, 16
Canticle 3 (8:00AM)
Canticle 15 (10:30AM)
Romans 16:25-27
Luke 1:26-38
- 24th **The Nativity of Our Lord, 4:30PM & 10:00PM**
Isaiah 9:2-7
Psalm 96
Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-20
- 25th **The Nativity of our Lord**
Isaiah 62:6-12
Psalm 97
Titus 3:4-7
Luke 2:1-20
- 28th **First Sunday after Christmas Day**
Isaiah 61:10:62:3
Psalm 147
Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7
John 1:1-18



Altar Guild for December

- 7th Betty Gaudet, Mary Olsen, Don Schwarzenbach, Frances Webb
- 14th Joy Kaler, Connie Brechtel, Anne Cain
- 21st Mary Ann Bass, Grace Benson, Anne Lewis, Betty Gaudet, Mary Olsen, Don Schwarzenbach, Frances Webb (Teams I and III Greening of the Church)
- 24th Pat Blackman, Martine Lowe, Joy Miller
(4:30PM Service)
- 24th Volunteers (10:00PM Service)
- 25th Volunteers (Christmas Day Service, 10:00AM)
- 28th Pat Blackman, Martin Lowe, Joy Miller

Also, the **Prep and Prepare Program** will be **Tuesday, January 20th, 9am to Noon** in the **Parish Hall**. Bring your chopping knife and board and come give us a hand as we get ready for Wednesday night! Lots of love, Mimi

To Serve your Church is to Serve God
Volunteers are needed in all areas of church service!

Ushers, Hospitality, Altar Guild, Choir, Lems, Lectors, Acolytes, Gen. Maintenance, etc.

Prayerfully consider what else you can do to serve God! God blesses those who serve Him.

These groups are all very important and all are in need of new members. To sign up, contact the office or Melissa Z. at 504-952-8180.

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 * **December Altar Flowers** *
 * December 7th, 14th, 21st : No Flowers during Advent *
 * December 24th—Epiphany, January 6th: Poinsettia *
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December Church Opening

Joy Kaler, Grace Benson

December Hospitality Guild

St. Mary Team:

Team Captain : Pat Blackman

Joy Kaler, Frances Webb, Sylvia Schwarzenbach,
Betty Gaudet, Jean Heintz



Are you on "Facebook"?

You can help your church grow in two easy steps! Search St. Philip's New Orleans and become a friend! Then invite your friends to become friends too!

Serving Our Worship in December

8:00AM Eucharist

Lectors:

- 7th Frances Webb
- 14th Allen Hero
- 21st Mark Bullard
- 24th Alicia Schwarzenbach (Christmas Eve, 4:30PM)
- 24th Sherri Hammatt (Christmas Eve, 10:00PM)
- 25th Jamie Camardelle (Christmas Morning, 10:00AM)
- 28th Mark Bullard

Lay Eucharistic Ministers:

- 7th Frances Webb
 - 14th Allen Hero
 - 21st Mark Bullard
 - 24th Pat Blackman (Christmas Eve, 4:30PM)
 - 24th Mark Bullard (Christmas Eve, 10:00PM)
 - 25th Brett Heintz (Christmas Morning, 10:00AM)
 - 28th Norma Gatlin
- Thurifer for Christmas Eve 10:00PM, Rob Zrabkowski

December Ushers

- 7th Melissa Zrabkowski, Brett Heintz
- 14th Jim Lyon, Jim Olsen
- 21st Casey Bass, Mary Ann Bass
- 24th Pamala Judd, Morris Judd (Christmas Eve, 4:30PM)
- 24th Melissa Zrabkowski (Christmas Eve, 10:00PM)
- 25th Volunteer
- 28th Jim Lyon, Jim Olsen

Serving Our Worship in December

10:30 AM Eucharist

Lectors

- 7th Bonnie Warren
- 14th Martin Lowe
- 21st Jamie Camardelle
- 24th Alicia Schwarzenbach (Christmas Eve, 4:30PM)
- 24th Sherri Hammatt (Christmas Eve, 10:00PM)
- 25th Jamie Camardelle (Christmas Morning, 10:00AM)
- 28th Martin Lowe

Lay Eucharistic Ministers

- 7th Don Schwarzenbach
 - 14th Brett Heintz
 - 21st Sherri Hammatt
 - 24th Pat Blackman (Christmas Eve, 4:30PM)
 - 24th Mark Bullard (Christmas Eve, 10:00PM)
 - 25th Brett Heintz (Christmas Morning, 10:00AM)
 - 28th Jean Heintz
- Thurifer for Christmas Eve 10:00PM, Rob Zrabkowski

December Acolytes

- 7th Sophia Lucurto
- 14th Douglas Stinson
- 21st Jamie Camardelle
- 24th Douglas Stinson (Christmas Eve, 4:30PM)
- 24th Volunteer (Christmas Eve, 10:00PM)
- 25th Volunteer (Christmas Morning, 10:00AM)
- 28th Tyler Hargrave