

**December 2023**

**St. Paul's Community Church**

**Website: [stpaulsfamily.org](http://stpaulsfamily.org)**

# St. Paul's Newsletter

## THE PASTOR'S PAGE

### I'm Impressed

There are many reasons churches fall apart. I suspect first and foremost has to do with the pastor: when a pastor leaves; when the pastor falls out of grace with many of the congregational members; when the pastor is no longer able to do his job and other reasons as well.

Besides the pastor, there are politics, doctrinal differences, the color of carpet, and the list goes on and on. Most of the time these minor difficulties could be worked out through understanding, love, and God's grace, but because we are selfish, we want everything our way and refuse to give in.

When I was diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer, I'm sure many things went through your mind, as they did for me - "what do we do now"; "how

do we go on"; "who is going to preach"; "what will services look like"; "will people quit coming?"

Preaching this Sunday answered all these questions and more. In the past 21

years I have found St. Paul's to be a sincere, loving, and caring congregation and now, faced with these challenging times you continue to trust in the Lord

and to do His good will.

Through the fears of not knowing what to do, the church is the church and St Paul's continues to rejoice in God's grace.

I am proud of all of you for stepping up and taking the reins. By God's healing power, I will be back, maybe not as strong as I was, but ready to do His will. Until then, "stand firm and in the power of His might".

*Pastor Kim*



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## December Red Hats

### A Christmas Movie and Lunch at Red Lobster!

**Date:** Thursday, December 14

**Movie:** "The Journey to Bethlehem" at Belmar  
(running time 1hr 38min)

**Lunch:** Red Lobster!

**Time:** TBD the week prior

**RSVPs due Sunday, December 10**

*"A young woman carrying an unimaginable responsibility. A young man torn between love and honor. A jealous king who will stop at nothing to keep his crown. This live-action Christmas musical celebration for the entire family, weaves classic Christmas melodies into new pop songs in a music-infused retelling of the timeless story of Mary and Joseph and the birth of Jesus. A unique new entry into the collection of holiday classic movies, this epic Christmas musical is unlike any before it."*



## Christian Women of Faith



**Monday Evening, December 4 at 6:00pm**

Our Women of Faith group has a special Christmas Celebration this month! This is a potluck dinner at Bette and Katie's place.

Please bring a wrapped, unlabeled gift for the gift exchange (\$15 limit) and an **unwrapped toy** for the Toys for Tots bin!

RSVP to Katie or Bette by Sunday, December 1st.

## Time to Decorate!

It is time to add some Christmas cheer to the church!

Our Christmas decorating party will be on Saturday, December 2 at 9:00 am. If you haven't joined us before, this morning is a lot of fun and so very rewarding as we spread the Christmas Cheer throughout the church! Many hands make light work and we are always done in a few hours. Join us this year!



## Texas Roadhouse Dine-In

Ordered cards should be available soon. We have a second Dine-in opportunity that will be scheduled in January. This will be an excellent time to use your cards and benefit the church twice as much! January dates will be posted as soon as they are scheduled!

## Noon Year's Eve Fellowship!



New Year's Eve is on a Sunday this year, so our traditional "Noon Year's Eve" party will be during our regular Fellowship time! We may skip the games, but let's make it a potluck, and we will add sparkling cider and a ball drop celebration at noon!

## Potluck Precautions

As many of you know, we had a bit of a food poisoning problem at the Chili Cook-Off. If you are preparing food for church fellowship or this potluck, please be diligent in following good food-handling procedures, ensuring hot foods stay hot and cold foods stay cold, that meats are defrosted in the refrigerator not on a counter top, and everything is prepared with food safety in mind! Potlucks are fun and sharing food is a huge part of our fellowship! Remember the saying, "When in doubt, throw it out!" Let's keep it safe so we can continue sharing food fellowship!

December 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 9:00 am Christmas Decorating at the Church!
3 Team 1 10:00am Worship Service Fellowship after Worship	4 6:00pm Christian Women of Faith Christmas Potluck at Bette and Katie's place!	5	6	7	8	9
10 Team 2 10:00am Worship Service Fellowship after Worship	11 6:30pm Choir and Praise Practice	12	13 6:30pm Church Council	14 Time TBD Red Hat Christmas Movie and Lunch!	15	16
17 Team 3 10:00am Worship Service Fellowship after Worship	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 Team 4 10:00am Worship Service Fellowship after Worship Newsletter Items Due	25 A Holy and Blessed Christmas	26	27	28	29	30
31 Team 5 10:00am Worship Service Noon Year's Eve Potluck Fellowship after Worship with Celebration Ball Drop	Happy New Year					

## December Attendance

### Worship Service

October 29:	31
November 5:	28
November 12:	47
November 19:	55

### Special Events

October 28 Soup & Chili Cook-Off:	57
October 16: Olive Garden Adventure!	30

## December Church Council (Clark)

This time of year just fills my heart with thanksgiving for the blessings the good Lord gives us. This is my favorite time of year along with Christmas.

It seems like we all are more cheerful and express that by more smiles and longer hugs! Seeing our minister once again leading his flock is such a wonderful blessing. God bless you, Pastor Kim.

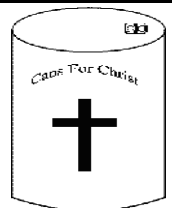
I want to take the time to give my thanks to the wonderful volunteers who stepped up with the church services. Honestly, it was an honor and an education of what it takes to run the service.

Maintenance on the parsonage is moving along and the new shower is now working. A big shout out to Mike Greene for his work on the parsonage and for following up with the contractor to make sure things have been done properly. Thanks Mike! It's been a quiet month and the church is in good shape. In closing, may God continue to bless us all.

In Christ, Clark

## Cans for Christ (Shauna)

Starting Balance 11/1/2023	\$	0.30
Income	\$	0.00
Outgoing	\$	<u>-0.00</u>
Ending Balance 11/26/2023	\$	0.30



## SERMONS AND SCRIPTURE



**December 3**

**"Blind Faith"**

Psalm 80:1-3  
1 Corinthians 1:3-9  
\*Mark 10:45-52

**December 10**

**"The Voice"**

Psalm 85:8-13  
2 Peter 3:8-15  
\*Mark 1:1-8

**December 17**

**"Who Are You?"**

Psalm 126:1-6  
1Thessalonians 5:16-24  
\*John 1:19-28

**December 24**

**"It's Christmas"**

Psalm 96:10-13  
Titus 2:11-14  
\*Luke 2:1-20

**December 31**

**"Simeon and Anna"**

Psalm 148:1-5  
Galatians 4:4-7  
\*Luke 2:22-40

*\*Message Scripture*



## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

3 Greg B

18 Keith A

1 Gary and Pennyrae J

5 Lois F

23 Shirley S

10 Michelle J

23 Peggy T



St. Paul's WiFi Password: community

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## MISSION MOMENT (PASTOR KIM)

### **Soldier's Angels**

Last year we filled Christmas Stockings for our deployed military soldiers. This year we did not coordinate that effort early enough to participate. However, Pastor Kim and I were reminded that Soldier's Angels does so much more than just Christmas Stockings! While he was in the hospital, a representative from Soldier's Angels came to his room with a gift bag full of treats, puzzle books, and a really nice Soldier's Angels hat! Domestic soldiers, deployed soldiers, veterans and families of all of these are supported by Soldier's Angels! Their motto is, "May no soldier go unloved, May no soldier walk alone, May no soldier be forgotten, Until they all come home."

This month we will collect donations to support their efforts to support our soldiers and veterans!

