

The Chimes

November 8, 2011

Saint Paul's Worship Schedule

Sunday

9:00 am: Holy Communion

*First Sunday of month: Family Worship
(service designed with children in mind);*

Remaining Sundays: service concurrent with Sunday School

10:30 am: Holy Communion

Traditional liturgy

*Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
415 E. Athens Ave., Ardmore, PA 19003
The Rev. Dr. Harry W. McDowell II, Pastor
610-642-3211 610-658-3262 (fax)
www.stpaulsardmore.org*

The Reason for the Season

At its last meeting, the Worship and Music Committee noted that while our Christmas decorations are breathtakingly beautiful, probably the most important part of any Christian church's Christmas display is missing: a nativity scene. So the committee decided to remedy the situation in a big way.

We are asking all members who have nativity scenes to donate them to St. Paul's for a week so they can be on display in the Fellowship Hall and/or the narthex. The display will first appear on Sunday, December 11, after church to be part of the Lessons and Carols service at 4 PM that day, and it will remain in place until after worship on Sunday, December 18, at which time the owners can pick up their nativity sets. The sets will be stored during the week and volunteers will be on duty on the two Sundays of the display to ensure the safety of all objects. We are encouraging all members who have nativity scenes to bring them to St. Paul's to enhance our worship experience leading up to Christmas. Please contact Barb Keyser (484-716-9080; bkkeyser@comcast.net) if you plan to bring a set or to volunteer as a "security guard."

Another part of the plan, which was suggested and will be facilitated by Kevin Maurer and Jim Schneider, is to purchase a set large enough to be seen from any point in the sanctuary. This set will be mounted on the wall near the pulpit and will contain figures of Jesus, Mary, Joseph, an angel and the crèche. Donations from the congregation for the purchase of this nativity set, which will be used every year during the Advent and Christmas seasons, will be most appreciated.

It is our hope that these innovations will add meaning to your Christmas worship experiences.

Barbara Keyser
Chair, Worship and Music Committee

Chimes publication
information

The Chimes, the newsletter of Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, is published for the inspiration, education and entertainment of its members and friends. Comments and suggestions are welcome. Just mail, e-mail or deliver them to the church office.

The next issue of *The Chimes* will be published on **Tuesday, December 6**. Your articles are due in the office no later than noon on **Tuesday, November 29**. Thank you!

Pastor's Letter



***Rejoice always, pray without ceasing,
give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18***

Dear Friends:

I don't know about you, but I find those words hard to follow! Rejoice *always*? Pray *without ceasing*? Give thanks *in all circumstances*? Those are tough orders. Of course, some days it's easy to follow those words. There are times and days when things go really well—just the way I want them to. Or days when I know I'm going to see some or all of my grandchildren . . . those are times of great rejoicing and thanks-giving in my heart.

But sometimes it's hard to be thankful, like when someone is sick, or something bad happens to one you love. I guess in those circumstances that "give thanks" part comes from knowing that whatever we endure—whatever sufferings, trial, or storm—God is there walking with us. When we are in pain, our God is there sharing the pain with us. When we are caught in a tempest, God is enduring the raging storm right along side of us.

November is the month when we focus on Thanksgiving and thanks-giving for the many blessings we have received. This year, once again, we will join with our friends from St. Mary's Episcopal Church for a Thanksgiving Eve Liturgy of Holy Communion. Please join us on Wednesday Evening, November 23, at 7:00. *Please note: This year the service will be at St. Mary's Church.* The Reverend Thomas Wand, interim rector of St. Mary's, will be the celebrant, I will be preaching, and the combined choirs will lead the singing.

During this month, I invite you to contemplate with me Paul's words to the Thessalonians. Make special time to "give thanks in all circumstances."

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Skip McDowell".

Pastor Skip McDowell

Death

Raymond (Ray) Williams died on October 18, 2011. We pray for Ray's family and thank God for his life and the promise of the Resurrection.

Wedding

Congratulations to **Amanda (Elliott) Vickrey and Andrew Vickrey**, who were married on October 29.

Baptisms

Tobias Benedict Vincent Lau, son of Danielle and Eric Lau, was baptized on October 9, 2011.

Luke Francis Reimer, son of Jennifer and Donald Reimer, was baptized on October 16, 2011.

Eryn Leigh Cronin, daughter of Rebecca and Brian Cronin, was baptized on October 23, 2011.

Logan Michael Taranto, son of Audrey and Damian Taranto, was baptized on October 23, 2011.

Jayleb Michael D'Antonio, son of Merissa and Damien D'Antonio, was baptized on October 30, 2011.

Transfer

The McCabe family—Dan, Lisa, Grace, Connor and Nolan—has transferred to Calvary Lutheran Church in West Chester, Penna.

Prayers

Please pray for our men and women in the armed services, especially Michael Burns (son of Linda & Bob Burns) and Brandon Mader (grandson of Wendy Black).

Prayers are also requested for: the Albahadily family; Charline Allen (friend of Linda Stanton); Bill Buchanan; Charlotte Conybear; Patrick Corpus (friend of Millie Parker); Mary Ellen Devereaux (niece of Boofie Younkin); Alan Diehl (friend of Debbie Moran); Bill Gagliardi (friend of the Moran family); Nan Gustafson (sister of Barbara Keyser); Pat Kresge (friend of Ginger Klepfer); Carol Keiser (friend of Dottie Buchanan); Mark Kelly (brother-in-law of Carrie Kelly); Chris Marshall (friend of Erin Denman); Shirley McCall; John Messer (friend of Claudia Muller); David Miller; Bernie O'Donnell (friend of Millie Parker); Walter Proschinger (brother of Christa Scheidly); Cullen Richards (father of Jim Schneider); Meghan Sheehan (friend of Beth McElvenney); Jennifer St. John (cousin of Stephanie O'Mara); and Marilyn (friend of Mary Lynn Kennedy).

Thanksgiving Eve Eucharist at *St. Mary's*

This year, the Thanksgiving Eve service of Holy Communion with St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Ardmore, will be held at St. Mary's instead of St. Paul's.

The service is scheduled to begin at **7:00 pm on Wednesday, November 23**, and will feature music performed by the choirs of both churches. St. Paul's Pastor Skip McDowell will preach and Pastor Thomas Wand, of St. Mary's, will preside.

Alternative Gift Market Coming!

Mark your calendars! This year's Alternative Gift Market will be held on **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11 FROM 10:00 AM UNTIL NOON**. Plan to include this unique market as a Christmas shopping destination. In addition to purchasing fair trade coffee, tea and chocolate, you will be able to make donations, and/or to honor family, friends, teachers, co-workers with a gift in their name, to one of the following organizations/missions:

- Mediator Lutheran Church (St. Paul's sister church in North Philadelphia)
- Heifer Project International
- The Albahadilys (St. Paul's refugee family)
- Our missionary in Tanzania, Barbara Robertson
- Aquarius School Feeding Program

New Orleans Fundraiser

The teens preparing for the 2012 ELCA youth gathering in New Orleans will be raffling an **i-Pad** at \$5 per ticket or five tickets for \$20. The drawing will be held during coffee hour on December 18th. You can purchase your tickets for a chance to win during any upcoming coffee hour. Good luck and thank you for your support!

Women's Retreat – Save the date!

The next women's retreat will be held **Friday evening and Saturday, February 10-11, 2012**, at the Franciscan Spiritual Center in Aston, Pa. The Rev. Dr. Jennifer Phelps Ollikainen will lead the group in discussing "A Worshipful Life." Watch for more information in future issues of *The Chimes*. Questions? – Contact Diane Pringle: dianep@design.upenn.edu.

St. Paul's Financial Picture

Time period: *Jan. 1, 2011 – Sept. 30, 2011*

Receipts ¹	+ \$ 331,752
Disbursements ¹	<u>– \$ 449,372</u>
Subtotal:	– \$ 117,620
Transfer from Endowment Fund ²	<u>+ \$ 102,433</u>
Total Deficit:	– \$ 15,187

¹ Does not include Memorials & Gifts, Cemetery or Suspense Funds

² Approved at Congregational Meeting, Feb. 6, 2011

Waneta Peart, Financial Secretary

Farm House for Rent

Do you know of anyone who would be interested in renting our large farm house across the street from the church? Are they reliable and do you think they would make good tenants for the church? If you know of someone, please contact church secretary, Millie Parker (610-642-3211). The house will be available this fall. Monthly rental is \$1,400 plus utilities.

The house has three bedrooms and a renovated bathroom. The kitchen has room for a small dining table; there are two other large downstairs rooms. Washer and dryer on premise. Parking off street.

Lessons and Carols

*Coming to St. Paul's
on December 11*



Don't forget to save the date: Sunday, December 11 at 4:00, when the choirs of St. Paul's (Adult, Youth, Children and Handbells) will present our third annual *Lessons and Carols*.

Modeled after the traditional Lessons and Carols from King's College, Cambridge, England, it is a beloved service in which the entire story of salvation is told through the lessons and carols of the season. Additionally, it gives us a chance to sing some Christmas Carols before Christmas Eve.

The service will be followed by a cookie reception, and we hear there will be an additional visual presentation this year of crèches that are not to be missed.

***Come and join us,
and get a bit of extra Christmas spirit!***

Organ Fund Update

I'm very pleased to announce that as of October 17, there is a total of \$74,718.75 in the organ repair fund. I want to thank the many individuals who have contributed so generously to this effort. Since we are only a little more Than \$10,000 away from the project's total cost, I would like to encourage everyone, especially those who haven't yet given, to help keep the amount growing.

Thank you and God bless you.

Barbara Keyser
Chair, Worship and Music Committee

Save the date!

WOMEN'S DINNER

Tuesday, December 6 at 6:00 pm

Enjoy the warm and cozy atmosphere of McShea's Neighborhood Tavern
242 Haverford Avenue, Narberth

Select whatever appeals to you from the menu
(e.g., salads, quesadillas, sandwiches, or an entrée)

There is something to please everyone!

Please RSVP to the church office at 610-642-3211.

Share the Light



For 44 years, congregations of the Southeastern Pennsylvania (SEPA) Synod have revealed the light of God's love shown to us in Christ by providing for people in need, locally and globally, with a variety of holiday gifts. Last year, 62 SEPA congregations donated more than \$100,000 in goods and funds through the Christmas Ingathering managed by Liberty Lutheran. You are invited to participate in this outpouring of God's love by participating in the 2011 Christmas Ingathering.

St. Paul's is sponsoring 100 foster children this year and we are counting on your generosity to purchase Christmas gifts for children in need in Southeastern Pennsylvania.

Helene Roth will be available on Sundays between services during the month of November to hand out gift request forms. After you have purchased your gift, wrap it, and attach the Gift Request Form securely to the gift, with the item that you have purchased indicated on the form. For small gifts, such as gift cards, please place the gift in a larger gift box or bag and attach the form securely.

THE GIFT CAN BE BROUGHT TO THE CHURCH OFFICE AT ANY TIME, BUT MUST BE RETURNED NO LATER THAN 10:30 AM SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4TH, FOR DELIVERY TO LUTHERAN CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICE.

If you have any questions, please contact Helene Roth at 610-649-5145 or by e-mail at helene.roth@verizon.net.

Thank you again for taking part in the Christmas Ingathering at St. Paul's.

Blessings

We have been especially blessed this year with the largest Children's Choir since my arrival at St. Paul's. Our choirs usually have about 12 singers— this year we have 17!

THERE ARE NO FEWER THAN 10 NEW SINGERS THIS YEAR:

Wesley Bozman

Will Bozman

Zoe Bozman

Melanie DeWarf

Aiden Gale

Analiiese Gale

Morgan Gale

Abby Krissinger

Elizabeth Krissinger

Sarah Krissinger.

OUR RETURNING "VETERANS" ARE:

Helena Koerner

Abby Lynch

Anna Manning

Ava Sack

Michael Sack

Lexie Schommer

Frances Wilson.



I am excited about learning together with this wonderful group, seeing where we can go with such a big choir. Nonetheless, since this group is about five singers larger than any children's choir of the past, we have a few challenges to meet. The most notable of these is a shortage of robes — we will need to purchase at least five more in order to put the entire choir in robes. Needless to say, we had not budgeted for this expense. Additionally, I will have to purchase extra copies of some anthems we are singing.

So I am appealing to anyone who would like to dedicate a robe, or a portion thereof, in honor or memory of someone. A full robe costs \$100, but any gift would be appreciated. You may make your gifts to the Music Fund.

Soli Deo Gloria

Andy Heller, Music Director

Christmas Caroling to the Homebound

Sunday, December 18, at 2:00 pm

Join us as we sing to many of our homebound members. All are welcome! No choir membership is required.

We will meet at the church at 2:00 pm, split into groups, and carpool and caravan to the different residences.

RSVP to the church office by Wednesday, December 14, to allow for route planning.

Can you help lead a group instrumentally (guitar or other)? Let Joy Baxter know as soon as possible (610-789-2408).



Homebound Ministry

Are you interested in people? Do you enjoy conversation? Are you a caring person?

If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, you might be a great fit for our Homebound Ministry program. When a member of our St. Paul’s family becomes housebound, a friendly visit is a tremendous gift. Social Ministry prepares seasonal gifts for delivery four times a year, and we hope to find volunteers to deliver them in person.

As the holidays creep closer, and we count our blessings, please prayerfully consider whether you might be willing to commit to brightening someone’s day with these deliveries and occasional contacts.

For more information, please contact Lisa Lexa (610) 527-9315 or ERL22@cornell.edu.



CROP Hunger Walk 2011: Update

Saint Paul's members **Linda Stanton, daughter Kelsey Stanton, and Mary Lynn Kennedy**, along with a group of their friends, walked in the 33rd annual Main Line CROP Hunger Walk on Sunday, October 16. **The Saint Paul's walkers raised a total of \$788**, which will be sent to Church World Services, the CROP Walk parent organization. Donations from many Saint Paul's members contributed to the success of this year's walk.

CROP Walk funds are used to help victims of natural disasters, war refugees, and others in need, in our own area and in locations throughout the world.



Saint Paul's members and friends: Linda Stanton, 2nd from left (in sunglasses); Kelsey Stanton and Mary Lynn Kennedy, 5th & 6th from right, respectively.

Member spotlight

(The research of University of Pennsylvania neuro-ophthalmologists Steven Galetta and **LAURA BALCER** was featured in an article—“Upside the Head”—in the October 2011 issue of *Philadelphia* magazine. The article was written by Stephen Fried.)

Sports-related head injuries are becoming an increasingly frequent topic in the news. St. Paul's member, Dr. Laura Balcer, had been working with colleague Dr. Steven Galetta for many years to identify and study tests that could be used to detect early symptoms of brain injury, but it is relatively recently that they became involved in the research and debates about athletes who participate in sports such as football, boxing and mixed martial arts, where concussions are a common occurrence during practice sessions as well as during games/matches. As the debate over the health risks of these contact sports continues—among parents, coaches, educators, politicians and the medical community—the research of Dr. Balcer and Dr. Galetta is receiving close attention for the new information that it may contribute to the relatively young science of concussion research.



(Captain and Mrs. Noah—aka **CARTER MERBREIER and (the late) PAT MERBREIER**—were saluted in the article “Where Have You Gone, Sally Starr?”, which appeared in the October 2011 issue of *Philadelphia* magazine. The article was written by Michael Callahan.)

Author Michael Callahan paints an affectionate portrait of the early stars of local Philadelphia TV—individuals such as Carter and Pat Merbreier, who as Captain and Mrs. Noah, were not just actors on the small screen, but were part of the city's life, as well—regularly taking part in parades, ribbon-cuttings, and other community events. Callahan argues that performers like the Merbreiers became stars because of their unique styles and ability to connect with members of local communities, qualities he finds missing in the less colorful, less memorable TV personalities of Philly TV today. Callahan still remembers, and still becomes emotional over, the song that was always sung at the end of *Captain Noah and His Magical Ark*, which aired from 1967 to 1994: “Red and yellow and pink and green/Purple and orange and blue/I can sing a rainbow, sing a rainbow, sing a rainbow too” If you share in the nostalgia for the grand old days of Philly TV, you can catch re-runs of *Captain Noah and His Magical Ark* on Saturdays at 8:30 am on one of Channel 6's (WPVI) digital feeds.



Senior Friends Thanksgiving!

Tuesday, November 15,
at noon in Fellowship Hall

Trivia game after the meal

Cost: \$10 per person

**RSVP to Nan Dormans (610-645-0892)
or church office (610-642-3211) by Nov. 14.**



December Birthdays

- 1 Arundhati Jane Kennedy
- 2 Kristin Blackman, Jack Johnson, Rolando Luistro
- 4 Tracy Scota
- 5 Michael Brophy, Linda Martin, Diane Zimmer
- 6 Helen Somma
- 7 Phil Jacobsen
- 9 Taryn Riggs, Robert Williams
- 10 Miguel Garcia, Brianna Riggs, Heather Shaw
- 11 David Bevan, Spencer Groff
- 12 Renate Dietzschold, Cynthia McGeever
- 13 Larry Dieter, Ann Kilbride
- 15 Sophia Harkins
- 16 Frances Denson, Connie Langzettel, Pamela Marlin, Patricia McFillin, Stephanie O'Mara
- 17 Joy Baxter, Alexia Gibb, Rolando Luistro, Ryan Schuster
- 18 Helen Marlin
- 19 Stephen Carroll, Jonathan Memmel
- 20 Elizabeth McCoid
- 22 Piper Billingsley, Stuart Krissinger III, Cady Schimpff
- 24 Will Bozman, Angela Jones, Robert Perry
- 25 Michael Aleardi, Hazel Pelletreau
- 26 Liz Cassidy
- 27 Carol Henry, Barbara Keyser, Peter Lucas
- 28 Andrew Vickrey
- 29 Barbara Erickson, Charles Horn
- 30 Abigail Bullard, Jacqueline Chung, Daniel Erdos, James Perry

Council Corner

Kevin Maurer Treasurer

I was born and grew up in Massillon, Ohio, 430 miles due west of Ardmore on Route 30, “Lincoln Way,” the home of the first professional football team—the Massillon Tigers. I graduated from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, with a degree in Anthropology and Archaeology. I also attended the University of Bath in the United Kingdom.

For several years I was a field archaeologist working for the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Over the years, I have worked in sales and marketing for several commercial equipment manufacturers; at present, I am a Director with a software company headquartered in Philadelphia.

My hobbies include working on our house and cars, including our 1965 Lincoln Continental convertible. I am also the President of the Overbrook Farms Club, a member of the Crosstown Coalition, and a committee member making recommendations for the re-use of the lower Merion campus of the Barnes Foundation.

Jim Schneider and I moved here from Cheyenne, Wyoming in 1990. Jim found St. Paul’s about 15 years ago; I was a member of the United Methodist Church at that time. I started attending the Wednesday night services that Pastor Miller conducted and ultimately decided that this would be my church home, as well.

We have stayed at St. Paul’s because of the friends we have made and the spiritual fulfillment that we get being part of the congregation.



Mark your calendars!

Families with Young Children Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 3
9:30 – 11:30 am in Fellowship Hall

Pancake breakfast, your picture with Santa
and a holiday craft project!

Families please bring the following items:

A – H: orange juice
I – R: fruit
S – Z: muffins

Please register with the church office by Wednesday,
November 30 (610-642-3211 or millie@stpaulsardmore.org).

Family and friends are welcome!
Free will offering



DECEMBER CALENDAR

Thursday, December 1

9:00 – 11:15 am

1:00 – 2:15 pm

6:30 pm

7:30 pm

7:30 pm

Community Bible Study/throughout church
 Women's Christian Fellowship/Kugler Room
 Children's choir rehearsal
 Adult choir rehearsal
 Executive Committee meeting/Pastor's office

Friday, December 2

6:30 – 8:00 pm

Girl Scouts/Church basement

Saturday, December 3

8:30 am

Men's Bible Study/Kugler Room

9:30 – 11:30 am

Families w. Young Children Breakfast w. Santa /
 Fellowship Hall

Sunday, December 4

8:40 am

Matins choir warm-up

9:00 am

Holy Communion (*Family Worship—no Sunday School*)

10:30 am

Holy Communion

7:00 pm

Youth choir rehearsal

Monday, December 5

6:30 – 9:30 pm

Greater Philadelphia Paper Pholders/Fellowship Hall
 Stephen Ministry/Kugler Room

7:00 pm

Tuesday, December 6

TBA

December *Chimes* published

6:00 pm

Women's dinner/McShea's Tavern, Narberth

7:00 pm

AA/2nd floor Meeting Room

Thursday, December 8

9:00 – 11:15 am

Community Bible Study/throughout church

1:00 – 2:15 pm

Women's Christian Fellowship/Kugler Room

6:30 pm

Children's choir rehearsal

7:15 pm

Council meeting/2nd floor Meeting Room

7:30 pm

Adult choir rehearsal

Saturday, December 10

8:30 am

Men's Bible Study/Kugler Room

9:30 am

Decorate church for Christmas

Sunday, December 11—Alternative Gift Fair (*after both services*)

8:40 am

Matins choir warm-up

9:00 am

Sunday School

9:00 am

Holy Communion

10:30 am

Holy Communion

3:00 pm

Youth Choir warm-up

4:00 pm

Lessons and Carols service/St. Paul's Sanctuary

5:00 pm

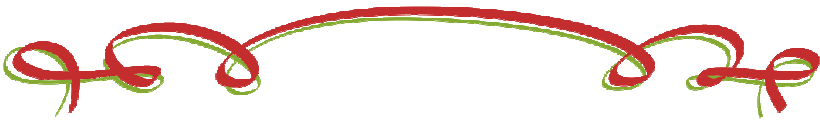
Lessons and Carols cookie reception / Fellowship
 Hall

Tuesday, December 13	
7:00 pm	AA/2 nd floor Meeting Room
Thursday, December 15	
9:00 – 11:15 am	Community Bible Study/throughout church
1:00 – 2:15 pm	Women’s Christian Fellowship/Kugler Room
6:30 pm	Children’s choir rehearsal
7:30 pm	Adult choir rehearsal
Saturday, December 17	
8:30 am	Men’s Bible Study/Kugler Room
Sunday, December 18	
8:30 am	Youth Choir warm-up
9:00 am	Sunday School Christmas Pageant
10:30 am	Holy Communion
TBA	Cooking for the hungry/St. Paul’s basement kitchen
Tuesday, December 20	
7:00 pm	AA/2 nd floor Meeting Room
Saturday, December 24—Christmas Eve	
5:00 pm	Holy Communion (Christmas Eve service)
7:00 pm	Holy Communion (Christmas Eve service)
11:00 pm	Holy Communion (Christmas Eve service)
Sunday, December 25—Christmas Day	
9:30 am	Holy Communion (<i>one service only</i>)
Monday, December 26—Office Closed	
Friday, December 30	
4:00 pm	Deadline for Annual Reports fr. committee chairs

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Gifts of Flowers for the Altar

Consider becoming a weekly or monthly sponsor of altar flowers for Sunday morning worship. The cost of the flowers is \$25 per week, \$100 or \$125 per month. A sign-up chart for sponsoring altar flowers is available in Fellowship Hall, or you may call Dottie Buchanan at 484-420-4969 to make your request. Once you have signed up, you will receive confirmation of your sponsorship and information about how to make your payment. The dedication(s) for your flowers will be published in the appropriate Sunday bulletin(s).



Christmas Decorations & Music

I/We would like to share in decorating Saint Paul's for Christmas by donating the following item(s):

In loving memory of _____

In honor of _____

Name(s) of donor(s): _____

_____ Poinsettias @ \$10.00 per plant	= \$ _____ enclosed
_____ Wreaths @ \$25.00 each	= \$ _____ enclosed
Contribution toward greens & trees	= \$ _____ enclosed
Total	= \$ _____ enclosed



I/We would like to sponsor a musician for the Christmas Eve services:

In loving memory of _____

In honor of _____

Name(s) of donor(s): _____

_____ Brass/string instrumentalist(s) @ \$250.00	= \$ _____ enclosed
Entire string quartet @ \$1000.00	= \$ _____ enclosed
Donation in any amount	= \$ _____ enclosed

Any funds received in excess of the actual cost of the string quartet will be used to support the music program at Saint Paul's. Names of all contributors will appear in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

The church office must receive your completed form and check payable to *St. Paul's Lutheran Church* **no later than Wednesday, December 14**, in order to include your information in the bulletin.

Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
415 East Athens Avenue
Ardmore, Pennsylvania 19003-3197

Change Service Requested
Time Dated Material