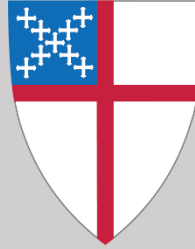


ST. PAUL'S
Episcopal
CHURCH



209 N. 7th Street ~ P.O. Box 233
Corner of 7th & Seneca ~ Leavenworth, Kansas
Office: (913)-682-1033
office@stpaulslvn.org ~ www.stpaulslvn.org



**The Herald
January Edition**

Generous Community • Enduring Worship • Gracious Welcome

SUNDAY WORSHIP AT ST. PAUL'S – 9:30 A.M.

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP ONLINE

For streaming: Go to our Facebook page – *St. Paul's Episcopal Church Leavenworth, KS*
Service streams at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings
Go to our website for a link to Facebook or a rebroadcast of previous services



THE HERALD

St. Paul's Monthly Newsletter

**The Reverend Jerome
Hinson**

Priest-in-Charge

[PriestJere@gmail.com](mailto: PriestJere@gmail.com)

The Rev. Allen Ohlstein

Deacon

[aohlstein@me.com](mailto: aohlstein@me.com)

**The Rev. Ryan Bloyd-
Wiseman**

Curate

[ryan@stmaa.com](mailto: ryan@stmaa.com)

Dr. Mark Stotler

Organist/Choir Director

[organistmarkstotler@gmail.com](mailto: organistmarkstotler@gmail.com)

Mary Kamm

Parish Administrator

[office@stpaulslvn.org](mailto: office@stpaulslvn.org)

Jeff Leser

Treasurer

[treasurer@stpaulslvn.org](mailto: treasurer@stpaulslvn.org)

Jennifer Turner

Sunday School Contact

[jenn@innovabeautybar.com](mailto: jenn@innovabeautybar.com)

Diocesan Web Site:

www.episcopal-ks.org

Office Hours:

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday-
Thursday

2024 VESTRY

TERM EXPIRES

Finance and Admin

Brian Hodges

2025, Warden

Beth Fitz Gibbon

2026, Clerk

Weldon Elrod

2026

Parish Life

Joe Porter

2027, Warden

Gwyneth Hawk

2026

Kathy Meyer

2025

Outreach

Carol Hunt

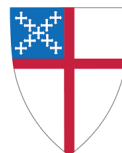
2027

Jane Belanus

2025

Tristan Simpson

2025





January Calendar



Wednesday, January 1

- * 9:30 a.m. Worship
- * New Year's Day – Office Closed

Thursday, January 2

- * Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.

Friday, January 3

- * PEO Bridge 1-3 p.m.

Saturday, January 4

- * Friends In Service To St. Paul's (FIST) 8:30 a.m.

Sunday, January 5

- * 9:30 a.m. Worship – Mother Mary presiding

Tuesday, January 7

- * Minster 6:00 p.m. @ Atchison

Wednesday, January 8

- * Pastoral Care Committee (PCC) 10:00 a.m.

Thursday, January 9

- * Happy Bookers 6:30 p.m.

- * Parish Life Committee 10:00 a.m.

- * Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 11

- * Rev. Ryan's Ordination 10:00 a.m. Grace Cathedral Topeka

- * Community Meal 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 12

- * 9:30 a.m. Worship

- * Confirmation Class 4:00 p.m.

- * High School/ Young Adults Gathering 5:00 p.m.

Monday, January 13

- * Grandparents@Prayer 5:30 -6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 15

- * Men's Group @ the Depot 9:00 a.m.

- * Sassy Seniors 1:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 16

- * Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.

Friday, January 17

- * PEO Bridge 1-3 p.m.

Saturday, January 18

- * Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:00 a.m.

- * De-greening of the Church 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, January 19

- * 9:30 a.m. Worship - Bishop visitation

- * Vestry Meeting 11:00 a.m.

- * High School/ Young Adult Gathering 5:00 p.m.

Monday, January 20

- * Martin Luther King's Day – Office Closed

Thursday, January 23

- * Herald Articles Due

- * Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 26

- * 9:30 a.m. Worship

- * 11:00 a.m. All Parish Meeting

- * High School/ Young Adult Gathering 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 29

- * Organ Restoration Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, January 30

- * Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.

- * Herald Published

Friday, January 31

- * PEO Bridge 1-3 p.m.

From the Priest in Charge

Fr. Jere Hinson

To God's holy people in Northeast Kansas, Northwest Missouri, and elsewhere, the faithful in Christ Jesus: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ! What an awesome 2024 we have completed and how full of hope we are for an even better 2025!

Epiphany is the season of the church year when we remember the gifts of the Magi (Matthew 2:1-12) and also celebrate sudden and unexpected insight. Spiritual insight seems often clouded in mystery and is only gradually understood. Enlightenment and spiritual consciousness sometimes develop in uneven ways in our lives. We may desire to know it all at once, yet God seems to work on a different timetable and gifts may be only partially understood at the time of their arrival. Nevertheless, we are called to be both faithful and grateful.

A huge Thank You to Jennifer Turner and our Sunday School teachers for leading our children to put on a Christmas Pageant for the first time in recent memory!! We had 142 souls gathered on Christmas Eve to experience the drama and pageantry of the Word becoming flesh and dwelling among us! Another thank you to Mark and the choir for their exquisite musical offerings during December. What marvelous Christmas presents are the talents of our people!

The season of Epiphany will continue our experience of gifts! On 5 January, while I am away in North Carolina to celebrate Christmas with our children, Mother Mary will join us! Please give her a warm St. Paul's welcome as she shares her gifts of preaching and celebrating. On Saturday, 11 January I hope you can join us in Topeka at Grace Cathedral for the ordination to the priesthood of Rev Ryan. The service starts at 10am. I have to be there early as I am one of her presenters. Look out for car-pool announcements for anyone who wants to ride-share.

On 19 January we will welcome our Bishop to Leavenworth as she makes her visitation with us. Please pray for those who are preparing to make 'mature, public, affirmations of their faith.

- To be confirmed: Isobel Haberland, Eleanor Haberland, Lilla Bouchette, Anna "Bash" Bousefield, Christian Skaggs, and Yuriah Cummins
- To be received: Adam Turner and Javier Alfonso
- Making a re-affirmation of faith: Nancy Mitchell Martin

On 26 January we will celebrate our patronal feast (25 January is the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul) with the holding of our annual parish meeting! We will eat well, receive the budget presentation, elect some new vestry members, new foundation members, and celebrate all we accomplished in 2024 as we look forward to new adventures in 2025!! I expect we will be hearing from our Organ Restoration Committee as their work begins to take shape.

As always, I am so very grateful for the opportunity to be your priest as we explore the undiscovered country God is leading us into this year!!! May our common life of enduring worship, generous community and gracious welcome enrich the lives of all those who dare to be part of the Episcopal branch of the Jesus movement as well as those who are not YET part!

Faithfully,
Jere+

1st Wednesday

First Wednesday welcomed Canon Lisa Senuta to a combined group of St. Paul's people and First Presbyterians. Canon Lisa gave a presentation on the depths of lament to allow us to make the journey from melancholy to hope in the season of Advent. Below you can read about our joint Blue Christmas worship with our friends at First Presbyterian.



Blue Christmas

Grief is a universal human experience. None of us get through life without losing someone or something we love. For some, it is the loss of ability due to illness or age that we never imagined having to live without. For others, the loss of a parent, spouse, or friend shapes how we engage with the rest of the world. Grief is an emotion that demands space. It requires us to sit in difficult, uncomfortable feelings and face the reality that life is not what it once was or what we want it to be.



However, we all know that society demands joy, especially this time of year. We are told to go through each day as if nothing has changed, so we partnered with First Presbyterian to face the reality that grief and faith coexist. Pastor Tim put together a beautiful liturgy that led us through the grief we all carry at all different points in our lives and led us back to hope—hope for the future in which all tears are wiped from

our eyes and our faith is made complete in the God who holds us as we grieve. When the grief comes, whether today or tomorrow or any day after that, I hope this quote from Hildegard of Bingen comes to mind: “God hugs you. You are encircled by the arms of the mystery of God.”
By Rev. Ryan Bloyd-Wiseman.





SUMMER YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY INTERNSHIP

This is a paid opportunity for Episcopal college students and young adults, who are interested in youth and young adult ministry.

You will:

1. Grow in Relationship with God
2. Train in Ministry and Life Skills
3. Develop other young leaders
4. Do Ministry



**Apply by
February 28, 2025**

<https://edokformation.wordpress.com/summer-internship/>

From the Senior Warden:

This month we finalized the 2025 Church budget which we will present during the January 2025 Annual Meeting. Spoiler Alert - the budget fully funds all requests and obligations (to include the diocesan apportionment) and has a small surplus left over as a contingency fund! All repairs to the Parish House and Church have been completed to include an unexpected repair of two of the four furnaces in the Church enabling them to be repaired in time for Advent and Christmas services. The Vestry and I wish you and your families a joyous holiday season and as always, if you have questions, concerns, or ideas to make things better, please reach out to myself or the other Vestry members. Thanks - Brian Hodges, brianahodges46@gmail.com, (913) 775-0125.



January Birthdays

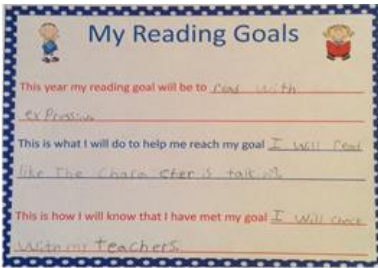
January 2 – Cassie Blakley
January 8 – Eric Snodgrass
January 11 – Abby Hoffman
January 15 – Gregg Scircle
January 21 – Frank Masterson
January 25 – Doug Bell
 Christian Skaggs
January 29 – Beth Pracht
 Pam Simpson

January Anniversaries

January 15 – Frank & Lisa Masterson
January 16 – Eric & Ann Snodgrass



Happy Bookers:



Make reading goals part of your New Year's resolution!

Ladies, Join us at Happy Bookers Book Club to help meet this goal! You don't even have to read the book. Spend an evening out with us as we socialize and maybe discuss the book we might or



might not have read. We meet at the church parish hall, the second Wednesday of every month 6:30-8:00p.m.

Below is a list of what we will start reading in 2025:

Jan 8: [The Midnight Library](#) by Matt Haig

Feb 12: [The Colony Club](#) by Shelley Noble

Mar 12: [The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo](#) by Taylor Jenkins Reid

Apr 9: [The Grey Wolf](#) by Louise Penney

May 14: [The Secret Life of Sunflowers](#) by Marta Molnar

Please join us. Bring a friend. If you have questions, contact Pam Simpson.



Friends In Support of St. Paul's

The FIST group meets the first Saturday of the month. We start with a potluck breakfast at 8:30. Work begins about 9:15-9:30.

During the winter we will be working on the basement rooms in the parish hall. We need to tear out old baseboard heaters, patch the holes and install new baseboards. We also need to repair/replace old ceiling tiles. Many hands make the work go faster. Bring gloves and any tools you think would be useful.

Greening of the Church took place on November 30th. Thanks to all who helped! The church and hall look magical. We will be de-greening on January 18th at 9:30 a.m.





Retired priest and parishioner, Ray Hartjen, celebrated Eucharist with Fr. Jere and Deacon Allen on December 8th.



Over 400 served!
Thank you to all the
volunteers!



Community Meal





Heavenly Voices!

Thank you to all who have practiced hard to make our church services so beautiful!

Advent Bags

Due to the generosity of our parishioners we gifted eight parish members, who are homebound or experiencing health issues, Advent Bags. These bags contained little tidbits for them to open each day of Advent. Once again you are living the church motto of Generous Community, Enduring Worship and Gracious Welcome.



Army - Navy Game

Fr. Hinson, CAPT, USN(Ret), enjoyed the spirited rivalry of the Army Navy game in the company of parishioners. As the ranking Naval Officer he was paired with a young JROTC member to do the official cutting of the cake.

Many thanks to the various folks who invited him to three different venues to watch the game! It

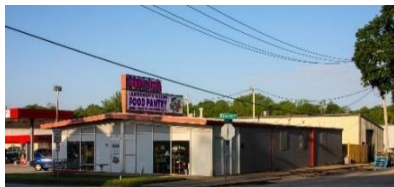
should be noted that as the game proceeded he became insufferable!!!



OUTREACH

Our November Outreach project supported the Leavenworth Council on Aging. St Paul's raised \$401.00 to support of Meals on Wheel.

In December our generous people provided Christmas gifts to children in foster care. Allison Burton, the volunteer recruiter for CASA, Court Appointed Special Advocate, provided wish lists for twenty foster children in the Leavenworth and Atchinson area. So, we provided gifts to twenty children, and several families. We especially appreciate work done by Jennifer Turner and Carol Hunt who provided the angel tree and delivered our gifts to the CASA office.



December's outreach supported the Leavenworth Mission Community Store and Food Pantry.

At the the December meeting the Vestry approved outreach projects for 2025. They are as follows:

January, Attainable Housing

February, Community Meal

March, Leavenworth Interfaith Community of Hope

April, The Leavenworth Council on Aging, Meals on Wheels

May, Community Meal

June, Leavenworth Interfaith Community of Hope

July, Leavenworth Mission Community Store and Food Pantry

August, Harvesters Food Pantry

September, Community Meal

October, Leavenworth Animal Welfare Society and the Humane Society

November, The Leavenworth Council on Aging, Meals on Wheels

December, Leavenworth Mission Community Store and Food Pantry

In addition to the listed monthly projects, Outreach will continue its support to community events such as Trunk or Treat in October and the CASA Angel Tree in December.

Speak up if you know of a special need that we might not be aware of.

If you feel called to be a part of the Outreach team, please join us. There are times when a few extra hands would be nice. By Jane Belanus

Rev. Ryan will be ordained on Saturday, January 11th at Grace Episcopal Cathedral in Topeka, 701 SW 8th Ave. in Topeka. It will take place at 10:00 a.m.. Join us if you are able!

Grandparents at Prayer (G@P)

Come join us on Monday, January 13 from 5:30 – 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall. We are studying “Grandparenting with a Purpose”, by Lillian Penner. We will discuss the topic “Ask God for the Little Things” at this gathering. Please plan to join us the second Monday of each month as we strive to learn more about how to practice intentional grandparenting with focused prayer that God will be ever present in the lives of our grandchildren. We have seen prayers for our grandchildren answered since we have been meeting and would love to be your prayer warriors should you like to share prayer requests for your children and grandchildren with us. Please contact Amy Masters, (913) 240-3823 or Anthea Brosnan, (913) 680-4481 if you have any prayer requests or questions.

House Blessings

The season of Epiphany is traditionally a time of house blessings. Last year Fr. Jere had the opportunity to bless a half a dozen homes. It's a simple service.



Blessed Chalk is used to inscribe 20 + C + M + B + 25 over the threshold to the entry of the home. 2025 represents the new year. CMB stands either for Caspar, Melchior, and Balthezar, names associated with the Magi in Matthew's Gospel, or for the Latin blessing Christus mansionem benedicat, which translates to “May Christ bless this house.” Please contact Fr. Jere by email, text, or via the church office to schedule the blessing of your home! Should you wish to 'do it yourself' he would be happy to provide you with blessed chalk as well.



Phishing Scams

Please know that neither Fr. Jere nor any member of the Vestry will ever, ever email or text asking for gift cards or the like! When in doubt please call us before giving out any personal information etc.

Christmas Eve



Digital Resources:

Website: www.stpaulslvn.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stpaulslvn>

Blog: <https://kansascountryparson.blogspot.com/>

Instagram: www.instagram.com/stpaulslvn

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@St.PaulsEpiscopalChurchLeavenw>



Sassy Seniors

The December 18th meeting of the Sassy Seniors was a cookie exchange. They meet the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 1:00 p.m.. All are Welcome!



Prayer List:



Norman Arnold, Richard Fiske, Betty & Phil Clark, Mark Felton, Laura Tolliver, Barbara & Tom Kessler, Mary Wilkerson, Mary Gregerson, Barry Rimmey, James Henry, Marge Scheele, Phyliss Downing, Randy Kamm, Charles Gravdahl, Erika Johnson, Natalie Davy, Kari Fernengel, Rosemary Litewski, Mary Masterson Stitt, Haroldine Nisbet,

Wendy Fredland, Dick and Midge Bigler, Mary Madison, Don Andersen, Bernice Biehn, Deacon Allen Ohlstein, MaryKaye Morgan, Carrie Hazen, Bradley Pearson, Tom Darnley, Beverly Rogness, Ralph Bodenner, Bill and Boni Lages, Martha Bochette, Erik, Donna, and Ty Benson, Sally Marshall, Robbie Jenkins, Susan Jennaway, Byron LeClerc, Don Breckon, Jerry Blair, Pam Dickerson, Sylvia Stevens, Barbara Regnier, Barbara Gregory, Robert & Harriet McCallum, Theodore & Donna Mahoney, Mario & Milagros Alfonso, Evie Stiglmire, and Jeanette Allison. **For all in the military at home and abroad.**

FOR ONLINE GIVING, PLEASE USE THE QR CODE WHICH WILL TAKE YOU TO OUR VANCO SITE.



Thank you for your generous sharing of your treasure in the service of our Lord Jesus Christ!

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

P.O. Box 233

209 N. 7th Street

Leavenworth, KS 66048



THE *Episcopal* CHURCH 



January 2025

**Livestream or playback services
at St Pauls Episcopal
Leavenworth Facebook**