

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

2101 WILDWOOD AVENUE, COLUMBUS, GA 31906



## *Second Sunday of Advent*

### Mark Your Calendars for These Special Opportunities!

On Sunday, December 7 at 6:00 p.m., St. Paul's Chancel Choir will perform Handel's *Messiah* in our sanctuary. This year is a very special event, as *Messiah* only occurs at St. Paul every other year. More importantly, it is Wayne Martz's last major choral direction before he retires at the end of 2025!

On Sunday, December 14, we will host a Retirement Luncheon celebrating Wayne Martz and his 21 years of faithful service to St. Paul's Music Ministry. Join us in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the 11:00 a.m. Traditional Service as we share a meal, offer our thanks, and bless Wayne in this new chapter. Your presence will be a meaningful way to say, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

On Saturday, December 20 at 5:00 p.m., Stellarum will present a concert, *O Magnum Mysterium*, in our sanctuary. This eight-voice, classically trained a cappella ensemble has traveled and sung throughout Great Britain, sharing beauty and excellence in sacred music. This concert is truly something you don't want to miss—invite a friend and come ready to be inspired.

Looking ahead to the new year, from January 18 through February 15, we will offer *Strengthening Our House* (Relationship Seminars) each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. These sessions will focus on strengthening marital relationships. Come grow in grace, communication, and understanding as we learn together what it means to love one another well.

We hope you'll join us for these meaningful moments of celebration, worship, and growth as we continue to follow Christ together as the family of St. Paul.



**Traditional Worship**  
**8:30 A.M.**

**Illges Chapel (M250)**

**Rev. John Fugh, Jr.**

***What God Brings: The God Who Won't Let Go***

**Hosea 11:1-11**

**Contemporary Worship**  
**9:00 A.M.**

**Fellowship Hall (M220)**

**Rev. Dr. Shane Green**

***The Promise Still Stands***  
***(A Weary World Rejoices)***

**Luke 1:5-25**

**Traditional Worship**  
**11:00 A.M.**

**Sanctuary (M260)**

**Rev. Dr. Shane Green**

***The Promise Still Stands***  
***(A Weary World Rejoices)***

**Luke 1:5-25**

**Broadcast Live at 11:00**  
**at [stpaulcolumbus.live](http://stpaulcolumbus.live)**

**Blue is used on the second Sunday of Advent, when we light the Candle of Love. It reflects God's deep, steadfast love. The blue around us invites us to rest in God's faithfulness and remember that Christ's coming is motivated by perfect, unwavering love.**

## EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

This week, for **Wednesday Night Supper**, we will start our meal with Baja Chicken Soup, then Chicken and Beef Fajitas, Refried Beans, Yellow Rice, the Salad Bar, and Desserts. For kids, we'll have Cheese Quesadillas and Fries. RSVP [stpaulcolumbus.com/supper](http://stpaulcolumbus.com/supper).

Today, the Chancel Choir will present **Handel's Messiah** at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. This is Wayne Martz's last major directorial event at St. Paul before he retires at the end of December. Come and enjoy this beautiful work of art. Available for livestream at [stpaulcolumbus.live](http://stpaulcolumbus.live).

**Wayne Martz's Retirement Lunch** will be after the 11:00 a.m. service next Sunday, December 14, in the Fellowship Hall. Please mark the date on your calendar. Wayne retires at the end of 2025 and we would love to have you help celebrate his 21 years at St. Paul!

**"Share the Joy!"** We're creating Christmas Eve goodie bags for our firefighters and need candy canes, snack cakes, crackers, nuts, granola bars, and gum. Please bring donations to the church office by December 19. To help deliver bags on Christmas Eve, contact Grace.

All are invited to a **special Christmas celebration by our Children's Choirs**. On Wednesday, December 17 at 6:30 p.m., the choirs will present "A Christmas Yarn." This will be held in the old Contemporary Worship Center. We hope to see you there!

The **Altar Guild** helps to enhance the beauty of our worship services during Advent. Look for information in your bulletin insert so that you can support our year-round work. If you are interested in helping decorate this season, please call Liz Lampton: 646-236-1442.

St. Paul members and friends, you are invited to **travel with St. Paul to Italy** June 2–11! We'll explore our rich Christian history by visiting Florence, Rome, Pompeii, and more beautiful cities. It's a deal for \$5390 per person. RSVP with the church office at 706-327-7419.

Parents of Confirmands, our **Confirmation Class** will travel to Epworth By the Sea on St. Simons Island from January 30 to February 1. The group will leave St. Paul on Friday at 12:30 p.m. and spend the weekend "living out" their faith by learning Wesley's Rules for Living.

## PASTORS & PROGRAM STAFF

**Rev. Dr. Shane Green**  
Senior Minister

**Rev. John Fugh, Jr.**  
Associate Minister

**Philip Badcock**  
Church Administrator

**Grace Bailey**  
Director of Christian Education

**Lauren Coleman**  
Administrative Assistant

**Dr. Bruce Getz**  
Broadcast Operations Manager

**Donna Hightower**  
Director of Children's Ministry

**Roy Hightower**  
Assistant to Director of Children's Ministry

**Theresa Holzknecht**  
Communications Director

**Catherine Hutchings**  
Receptionist

**Shannon Land**  
Executive Assistant

**Wayne Martz**  
Director of Music Ministry

**Laura Marvets**  
Director of Youth Ministry

**Cindy Shavers**  
Financial Records & Administration



## CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

There is no practice tonight due to the wonderful presentation of "Messiah" by the Chancel Choir at 6:00 p.m. We hope your family will join us this evening! Our Children's Christmas Musical will be on Wednesday, December 17 at 6:30 p.m. in the old CWC.

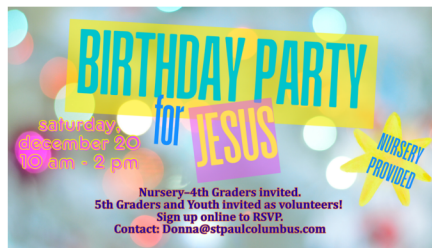


## KIDMIN MOMENTS

Matthew and Luke are the only Gospels that describe Jesus' birth, and while both include an angelic announcement, Matthew focuses on Joseph while Luke centers on Mary. In Matthew, the angel appears to Joseph in a dream—one of three such dream-visions that guide him to protect Mary and the infant Jesus, including fleeing to Egypt and returning after Herod's death. Although Scripture tells us little about Joseph, it portrays him as a righteous man whose compassion leads him to reject the harsh penalty the law prescribed for Mary and instead follow God's guidance. His obedience and trust reveal much about his character as Jesus' earthly father.



Summary: Joseph's actions throughout the birth narrative show him to be a compassionate, faithful man who willingly follows God's direction.



Our **Birthday Party for Jesus** will be on December 20, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Join us for this day of celebration! Youth, you are being asked to serve and volunteer. Please go to our events page to sign up.

## SPY MINISTRY

Can you believe it's December?! Join us for our first SNY of December with a combined Night of Worship this Sunday from 5:30-7:30 p.m.!

Save the date for our SPY Christmas Party on Sunday, Dec 21st from 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. in the Youth Building. We can't wait to celebrate the season together!



Sunday, December 7  
8:00 AM Red Cross Blood Drive (Youth Building)  
8:30 AM Traditional Worship (M250)  
9:00 AM Contemporary Worship (M220)  
10:00 AM Bridges SS Class (M235)  
10:00 AM Disciple 1 Bible Study (Library)  
10:00 AM Foundry Class (Y101)  
10:00 AM High School Youth SS Class (Y104)  
10:00 AM Middle School Youth SS Class (Y106)  
10:00 AM New Life SS Class (Y102)  
10:00 AM Seekers Class (M234)  
10:00 AM Wesley/Miller-Wilson Class (M232)  
10:00 AM Wildwood Class (M150)  
11:00 AM Traditional Worship (M260)  
12:00 PM Messengers of Love Poinsettia Gifting Begins  
2:00 PM Spring Harbor Worship (Off Campus)  
5:30 SPY Worship (All Youth) Y210  
6:00 PM Handel's Messiah (M260)  
6:00 PM SNY Snack Supper (M220)

Monday, December 8  
1:30 PM Staff Meeting (M203)

Tuesday, December 9  
9:30 AM Yoga Redeemed (M235)  
10:00 AM TMBS (M232)  
11:00 AM Grace Bible Study (M235)  
4:00 PM Spring Harbor Bible Study (Off Campus)

Wednesday, December 10  
5:00 PM Handbell Practice (M270)  
6:00 PM Family Night Supper (M220)  
7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (M260)

Thursday, December 11  
6:30 AM Men's Bible Study (M232)  
9:30 AM Preschool Moms Bible Study (M234)  
12:00 PM Property and Grounds Committee Meeting (Off Campus)

Saturday, December 13  
10:00 AM Anne Elizabeth Shepherd Home Christmas Party (Youth Building)

A — Anticipation  
D — Desire for God  
V — Vigilance  
E — Expectation  
N — Nearness of Christ  
T — Trust





Today's Sunday School Lesson for Preschool and Elementary Children  
**Joseph's Story (Matthew 1:18-24)**  
Anchor Point – We celebrate the birth of Jesus.  
Say the Bible verse together:  
“A child is born to us.” (Isaiah 9:6)

Questions for family discussion:

- How do you think Joseph felt when Mary told him she was going to have a baby?
- How do you think Joseph felt when the angel appeared to him?
- How do you think Joseph felt about Jesus?

Prayer:

Dear God, help us to believe and trust you just like Joseph did. Amen.

### SERVING THIS WEEK

- (8:30) Acolytes: Ann Coleman and Camille Pease
- (11:00) Acolytes: Elizabeth Chester and Mae Murphy
- Cross Bearer: Beau Calhoun
- Acolyte Helper: Tabettha Getz

### ALTAR GUILD

- Sanctuary: Eliza Brewer and Meredith Waddell
- Chapel: Donna Hand and Sally Tebeau
- Delivery: Lynn Pugh and Beth Thomas

### USHERS

- (8:30) Ken Crumpler, Stan Copelan
- (11:00) Joe Bridges (lead), Brent Parker, Vaughn Bray, Mason Lampton

## The Season of Advent

The flowers on the Sanctuary Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Courtney Lane Farmer** by her family.

Please keep our **Music Ministry Search Committee** in your prayers as they discern the next leader to guide and inspire our worship through music. Pray for wisdom, unity, and clarity as they continue to interview candidates and listen for the Spirit's direction. May God prepare both our church and the person(s) God is calling to this vital ministry of praise.

Thank you to all who brought desserts or volunteered for the Safehouse Ministries Thanksgiving Luncheon. There were 78 people seated for the luncheon and all felt blessed by this meal and the hands that prepared it.

There will be another Safehouse Luncheon on December 16 at 11:30 am at 7200 Manor Road. Again, we will need at least 10 volunteers to bring desserts or serve the Christmas meal. Please contact Dr. Joe Morrow at 706-332-9314 to help.



Boxing Food Donations at The Fort Church - 2025



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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 7, 2025  
11:00 a.m. Traditional Service

## *Second Sunday of Advent*

The Chiming of the Hour

The Welcome & Announcements .....Rev. John Fugh, Jr.

The Choral Call to Worship.....*Prepare the Way of the Lord*

The Cross and Flame Come to the Altar

The Prelude.....*Polish Carol*, by A. Jordan

The Hymn of Celebration.....*O Come, All Ye Faithful* (#234)

The Affirmation of Faith .....*The Apostles' Creed* (#881)

The Gloria Patri

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it  
was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen. Amen.*

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath.....Sally and Dick Norman Family

**Advent Reader:** *Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has  
been heard...and many will rejoice at his birth. Luke 1:13-14.*

**Advent Reader:** *Today we light the Candle of Love.*

**Congregation:** *God's silence is not absence; His promise still  
stands.*

**Advent Reader:** *In Christ, every soul discovers its worth.*

**Congregation:** *We light this candle to remember that God  
remembers us. "Til He appeared and the soul felt its worth."*

**Chancel Choir Response:** *Fall on your knees, O hear the angel  
voices...*

*O night divine, O night when Christ was born!*

The Pastoral Prayer with the Lord's Prayer.....Rev. Fugh

**The Leader:** *Let Us Worship God with His Tithes and Our Offerings.*

**The Offertory Prayer**.....Rev. Fugh

**The Offertory/Anthem**.....*Who Would Send a Baby?*, by M.K. Beal

**The Doxology**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below: praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**The Scripture Lesson**.....Luke 1:5-25

**Leader:** *The Word of God for the People of God.*

**Congregational Response:** *Thanks be to God.*

**The Passing of the Peace**

**Leader:** *The Peace of Christ be with you.*

**Congregational Response:** *And also with you.*

**The Welcome and Registration of Attendance**

**The Children’s Moment**.....Mrs. Donna Hightower

*(After the Children’s Moment, ages K4-2nd graders are dismissed to go to Children’s Church; children 3 and younger are taken to the nursery by parents, Room M235)*

**The Sermon**.....*The Promise Still Stands*, Rev. Dr. Shane Green

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion**.....(#12)

**The Hymn of Consecration**.....*Emmanuel* (#204)

**The Cross and Flame Go Before Us into the World**

**The Choral Benediction and Amen**.....*Threefold Amen*

**The Postlude**.....*Wie schon leuchtet der Morgenstern*, by V. Klauss

**The Church Returns to His World to Serve Him**