

News from the Pews

The Episcopal Community of Southeast South Dakota

Christ Episcopal Church
Yankton
605-665-2456

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Vermillion
605-624-3379

March 1, 2024

Palm Sunday: Christ Church is inviting our St. Paul's family to join them for a **Joint Palm Sunday service** followed by a pancake and sausage breakfast on **March 24th at 9AM**. No one needs to bring anything. A free will offering will be receive to defray the cost of the breakfast. St. Paul's will not have a service on this day, so mark your calendars now so you don't miss this opportunity to build community.

Community Holy Week/Easter Schedule:

Mar. 24	Palm Sunday Joint Service, Christ Church, Yankton	9AM
Mar. 27	Tenebrae: the Service of Shadows, St. Paul's, Vermillion	6PM
Mar. 28	Maundy Thursday, Christ Church, Yankton	6PM
Mar. 29	Good Friday, Christ Church, Yankton	12 Noon
Mar. 29	Good Friday, St. Paul's, Vermillion	6PM
Mar. 30	The Great Vigil of Easter, St. Paul's, Vermillion	6PM
Mar. 31	Easter Day, Christ Church, Yankton	9AM

Yankton Contact Center Needs:



Annual Meeting New Vestry and Bishop's Committee Members:

Welcome to our new Vestry and Bishop's Committee wardens and members! We are thankful for your service!

St. Paul's

Carol Geu, Sr. Warden
Steve Yarbrough, Jr. Warden
Tom Geu

Christ Church

Shann Doerr, Senior Warden
Janelle Tacke, Jr. Warden
Jane Kopecky
Fred Lorenzen

Christ Church Annual Meeting Highlights:

Christ Church adopted a budget with an anticipated shortfall of \$90,000 which will be drawn from our reserves. Canon Lauren Stanley guided our efforts to consider how to generate revenue and suggested that we liquidate the vacant lot and Pastoral Center and Carriage House. The congregation unanimously directed the Vestry to sell the vacant west lot to create revenue to continue our ministry. Steve Adamson and Dawne Unruh left the Vestry this year and we are thankful for their faithful service. Jane Kopecky and Fred Lorenzen were elected to serve in their place and we are so appreciated that they both stepped forward to serve. The Rev. Dr. Melancthon Hoyt Service Award were presented by Fr. Mike to Fred and LaVonne Lorenzen and Jimmy Crowe in appreciation for their evangelism and promotion of Christ Church within the community. The congregation enjoyed a plentiful and delicious potluck during the meeting. Following the congregational meeting, the Vestry elected Shann as Senior Warden and Janelle as Jr. Warden.

St. Paul's Annual Meeting Highlights: The Annual Meeting began with a delightful potluck. St. Paul's had a significant discussion concerning the budget and finances of the church with the potential to exhaust the operating fund during 2024. Canon Lauren Stanley suggested drawing a 5% from the endowment funds rather than the standard 4% to help cover the projected \$8,000 shortfall. This year Jon Robertson, Tim Shumaker, and Judith Sebesta left the Bishop's Committee this year with many thanks and gratitude. Carol and Tom Geu and Steve Yarbrough volunteered to serve the new term. Carol was elected Senior Warden and Steve was elected Jr. Warden. Judith was appointed Clerk (non-vestry position) by the Bishop's Committee. Following the congregational meeting, the Bishop's Committee voted to end our relationship with Lori Rolfes as bookkeeper due to the expense to the church. Canon Lauren suggested appointing Dick Unruh of Yankton as treasurer and centralizing all of the accounting to the Pastoral Center in Yankton and sharing resources. The Bishop's Committee unanimously approved this plan.

The Guild of St. Anne: meets this Sunday, March 3rd, after coffee hour in the Parish Hall. All women and teenagers from both communities are welcome to participate. As a reminder, St. Anne's Guild is the new women's group replacing ECW. Join us as we build community and start planning for a great 2024 year!

UTO Grant: Canon Lauren has applied for a UTO grant on our behalf to help our covenant churches become safe, welcoming spaces for indigenous students at our local universities. St. Paul's will take the initial lead and involved USD students. More details will be forthcoming. The grant approval period is May of 2024.

Easter Flowers Offerings: Once again it's time to ask for your contributions for Easter flowers at both church locations. There is a specific envelope for March 17th for those who utilize the boxed envelope sets. Otherwise, please place your contributions in an envelope marked for "Easter flowers" and place it in the offering plate with your regular contributions, or mail it to the Pastoral Center in Yankton. Please help us make our worship spaces beautiful as we celebrate Easter. Contributions can be given in memory or in thanksgiving, or to the glory of God, and just indicate the names or reason on your envelope so we can include it in the Easter bulletins. Please contact Karen Michels at Christ Church, and Judith Sebesta at St. Paul's if you have any questions. Easter lilies will likely average around \$8-10 this year. Thanks for your help in adorning our worship spaces for this great feast!



Combined Vestry Retreat: As our vestries change leadership this year, Fr. Mike is arranging a short evening retreat with Bishop Jonathan to help us live into the roles of the vestry/Bishop's Committee on Thursday, April 18th from 5pm -9pm with dinner provided. We have not yet determined the location, but it will not be at either church in order for us to get away and relax in different surroundings. The Benedictine Peace Center is not available on this date so we are discovering alternate possibilities. All vestry/BC members are asked to book this date and time on your calendar now as it is critical that all members be in attendance. Thanks for your faithfulness and service!

2024 Directory: this year's community directory will be produced shortly and we need your help in providing updates. If your address, phone number, or email address, please contact Cathy at the Pastoral Center as soon as possible. If we do not have your changes by March 18th, whatever information provided previously will be utilized. Also, if your birthdates and anniversaries are not listed, please provide those so we can include them in the directory.



March 2024 Community Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1 Jimmy Crowe (BD)**
- 5 Chris "Lucky" Adam (BD)**
- 7 Lynn and Susan (W)**
- 8 Cathy D (BD)**
- 9 Matt Michels (BD)**
- 10 Shann Doerr (BD)**
- 11 Mary B (BD)**
- 16 Susan M. (BD)**
- 23 Stephen Yarbrough (BD)**
- 28 Cassie Plautz (BD)**
Lynn M. (BD))