



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

January 2026

SUNDAY SERVICES

SUNDAY - 10:00 A.M.

JANUARY 4
MORNING PRAYER
Lay Reader - TBD

JANUARY 11
MORNING PRAYER
Lay Reader - Ruana Gladfelter

JANUARY 18
HOLY EUCHARIST
The Rev. Mark Maguire
Lay Reader - Don Kiefer

JANUARY 28
MORNING PRAYER
Lay Reader - Kate French

Currently, we have only one priest for January. We are working on another Sunday. The schedule is subject to change! Updates will come to your email.

A Message from the Bishop's Warden

Dear friends in Christ,



Happy New Year! 2026!! A new secular year is upon us...even though we have already been through the first season of the church year. I hope you all enjoyed the Advent book focusing on generosity. I particularly loved how it talked about small acts of kindness that we can all do each day as being acts of generosity in sharing God's love with others. There are other good parts in that book that I need to explore still. If you are like me and haven't gotten to them yet, please do. I want to share a reading from Forward Day by Day that was actually from last December. (The 2025 booklets are MIA.) I was struck about how this could be written this year. In fact, I think it applies **more** to right now than last December. And it made me think of how we can find ways to share God's generosity into this world by things we take on. I feel we are doing that with the Christmas Outreach to the recycling center workers. Maybe we can find ways individually and as a group to keep spreading God's love, remembering that we are all God's children.

Listen. Can you hear it? Do you feel it? Do you perceive it? The world is shifting, moving, and changing, right beneath our feet. God's dream is breaking, birthing, beginning anew right before our eyes. Look around you, look within you, the old way, the old you, the old things that have been divided and destroyed are falling away.

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CHURCH INFORMATION

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 453 Clinton, MO 64735

GPS Address: 1837 E Hwy 7 Clinton, MO 64735

Bishop; The Rt. Rev. Amy Dafleur Meaux, Diocese of West Missouri

diowestmo.org

Bishop's Warden: Kate French, kfrench357@gmail.com

St. Paul's Email: st.pauls.clinton@gmail.com

In this era of oppression and animosity, God dreams. God dreams of a time when all God's beloved children are seen, heard, and loved equally. God dreams of a time when divisions of race, class, and culture fall away, and all of God's children are simply beloved children of God. God invites us into that dream and to imagine a different world.

We are called for this time to be co-dreamers with God, to follow Jesus in building a more just society. Advent is about joining God in dreaming. We must ask ourselves: Are we willing to stand up for God's dream? Are we willing to be prophets and preachers for God's dream? Are we willing to come out and step out for God's dream?

Dream and then dare to do.

It made me think of these lines from John Lennon's *Imagine*. It brings God's dream for our world to my mind.

Imagine all the people
Livin' life in peace

You may say I'm a dreamer
But I'm not the only one
I hope someday you'll join us
And the world will be as one

Imagine no possessions
I wonder if you can
No need for greed or hunger
A brotherhood of man

Imagine all the people
Sharing all the world

You may say I'm a dreamer
But I'm not the only one
I hope someday you'll join us
And the world will live as one

CHURCH NEWS:

Bishop's Committee: We had a meeting and potluck on December 7th. We discussed many items and we will begin to move on some of them in the next year.

Lessons and Carols: We had a wonderful Sunday on the 21st with Lessons and Carols. We were as busy as bees after church. One group set up the altar for Christmas, another decorated the windows and altar area, and another filled our bags for our Christmas Outreach to the workers at the Recycling Center. We were moved to SUCH generosity. Not only did we fill goodies bags to go with the \$20.00 gift cards, but we have so much extra hot chocolate and Christmas candy that they will be able to enjoy them long after their party is done. Thank you, everyone, for all you shared! What great support for our outreach!

Christmas Outreach:

Our visit to the Recycling Center was fun! We visited with the workers, one of whom told me in great detail about the paper sorting and how they made 1,000 pound bales. The workers all enjoyed the gifts and posing for the picture. We left the extra candy in a box for them to enjoy at a later date. We will give them publicity by running another article in the paper.



Christmas Eve service: December 24th at 5:00 PM. The Rev. Stephan Beatty from Independence will be joining us. We are so grateful to him for making the trip to us for Christmas so we could have communion!

Reading Buddies:

Sandy, Sam, and Kate are ready to begin listening to students read. If anyone else is available or interested, ask Kate about the process. You can register directly through the state and no one will have access to your private information, or you can register through the school and they pay the fee.

Church Pews: As you can see we need to recover a couple of the church pew seats. A designer at Nell Hill's has a sample of the fabric and has a vendor sourcing something as close as we can get. Ruana and Mark are confident that we can do the work ourselves as the seats unscrew from the frame. Fingers crossed!



Prayer List: (Please let Kate know if any names can be removed from this list. Thank you!)

Healing: Fr. Mike, Augustus Hockaday, Kitty, Tina, Don, Kathy, Steve Sheline, Kirsten, Tom, Rauna, Sam, Elsie, Wes Skaggs, Dinah

Cancer: Christy, Pat, Micheal, Cindy McAvoy, Rev. Jenny Ketner, Debbie M., Suzanne, Ruana, Diane, Sylvia, Don, Sam, Connie, Joe Trogden

For Comfort, Strength, and Peace: Gail Cloutte, Pat Decker, Doug Johnson, Christy and Diane, Becky and John, Kathy and Mike, Zaha, Steve Sheline, Marie Hopkins, Linda C., Laurisa, Rick, Christopher, Craig (father) and Cam (son) Dobereiner, the Rose family, Connie

The Departed: Kerry Dobereiner, Therese Hopkins, Sharon Rose, Darrell Goth (Rauna's uncle)

Others: The divisions in our nation, peace in the world, those devasted by natural disasters, those facing job loss and personal challenges

Thanksgiving: Family and friends, God's many blessings, and His constant presence in our daily lives, conclusion of formal treatments for Ruana and Sam and their journeys back to health.

BIRTHDAYS
7-Sandy Meier

ANNIVERSARIES

