

DECEMBER 2024

St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church

Inside this issue:

Birthdays and
Anniversaries 2

Announcements 3

Events 4



The Epistle to the Elizabethans

A WORD FROM FR. NORM.....



The song of the season goes...

"You better watch out, you better not pout, you better not cry, I am telling you why...the holiday season is coming to town (sic.)" The season that brings with it worry and stress. We have a tendency to drink more than normal and eat far more calories than our body needs.

We often talk of the abuse of the season and yet I believe we are the ones who abuse the season. We are in control of our own life and what we do with it, for the most part.

Why do we over indulge when taking things in moderation would be so much more healthful?

I know we often wait until January 1st to make our "New Year Resolutions" but maybe starting the beginning of December would be a better time.

We vow to diet, to exercise more, to be frugal in our expenses so we can pay back those bills we have acquired and yet, if we start early, we could keep our bills in moderation, keep healthy bodies by regular exercise and controlling how much we consume and watch our calories while still enjoying the festivities of the season.

Santa Claus is seen as a "jolly old elf" but, unless you want the job, maybe we can be lean elves instead.

When I served in the military as an Active Duty Chaplain, I found my busiest time of the year would be the holiday season of Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Hanukkah.

Inevitably, I would find myself in the emergency room with people who have had too much to eat and now suffer from abdominal problems. I would be by the side of those whose heart has finally given over to stress and worry because people have either spent too much or filled their waking time by trying to do too much. I often asked the question "was it worth it?"

This season we should offer the stress of life to the one who gives us life. God wants to be with us, especially as we celebrate the Hanukkah and Christmas season.

It is about light coming into the world, not heaviness and darkness. Let God have control of all that you do this season and He promises that only good will come to all. We offer Him our Thanksgiving but let us not forget to ask Him to help us to control our spending, our indulging in rich foods and ask Him to give us strength to exercise and meet each day with a positive outlook. We will be in a much better place to face the holidays with family and friends and to share the true joy of the season with everyone we meet.

I pray God may shine in your homes as the specialness of the holiday gets closer. May you enjoy visions of sugarplums dancing in your heads instead of the stress of bills unpaid and indigestion that lingers.

Fr. Norman +

December Birthdays		December Anniversaries	
Chris Kirkcaldy	1	Jesus Rivera & John Cusac	3
Rey Bhola	2	Scott & Rebecca Anders	6
Cynthia Wallace	3	Rey & Shirley Bhola	18
Susan Millard	10	Ken & Marg Marble	27
Fr. Norman Desrosiers	11	Pete & Carol Pasquarosa	27
Joyce Thomas	12		
John Flockhart	13		
John Plate	14		
Ray Rapach	15		
Nonie Maurice	16		
Bob McNutt	18		
Nancy Shedler	19		
Ed Pelchy	20		
Christy Berg	21		
Nita Mora	24		
Steve Johnson	25		
Carol Weis	27		
Charley Belle Grimison	31		

2024 CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE



Sunday, December 1	First Sunday of Advent	8:00am & 10:00am
Wednesday, December 4	Prayer & Healing Service	11:00am
Sunday, December 8	Second Sunday of Advent	8:00am & 10:00am
Wednesday, December 11	Christmas Carol Sing Along <i>Refreshments will be available after the event in the Russell Bldg</i>	6:30pm ~ Sanctuary
Sunday, December 15	Third Sunday of Advent	8:00am & 10:00am
Sunday, December 22	Fourth Sunday of Advent	8:00am & 10:00am
Tuesday, December 24	Christmas Eve Service	7:00pm ~ Rite II
Wednesday, December 25	Christmas Day	No Service

Church Offices will be closed on
 Wednesday, December 25th and Thursday, December 26th

DECEMBER 2024

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS STOCKING

It's time to turn in your 2024 Christmas Stocking full of coins or write a check payable to St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church ECW. Please don't forget to pick up your "2025" Christmas Stocking in January!



CHRISTMAS CAROL SING ALONG

Wednesday, December 11th 6:30pm in the Sanctuary

Come join Bill Ingui, Collette Lavoie-Loo & Gary Gustin for our Christmas Carol Sing Along

Refreshments will be available after the event in the Russell Bldg

All are welcome to attend. Hope you can join us!



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Would you like a dedication for Christmas Flowers? Please submit a Christmas Flower envelope by Sunday, December 15th. Please place your Christmas Flower envelope in the collection basket or you may drop it off at the church office.





A note from our Jr. Warden...

Playground

A few months ago I was approached by two parishioners who wanted to upgrade the playground and were interested in contributing some of the materials. We made a plan to replace the Swing Set, add a Tetherball set, then it was suggested to add a Sail Shade. We found contributions needed for the project, and the blessing of the VESTRY and Volunteers to do the work. I am happy to say the Swing Set and Tetherball are complete. The Sail Shade is in the process of being installed. I would like to thank Fr. Norman, Barry Brown, John Grimison, John Vazquez, Guy McKenzie, Ken Dean, John Flockhart and Rey Bhola for making this project possible.

Guy McKenzie, Jr. Warden

Resources for Mission, Ministry and Outreach

St. Elizabeth's Endowment Fund is alive and well! It has grown the last two years. This year we had available income of \$6,500. The Vestry at their November meeting declared these monies would be available for Outreach Ministries & Scholarships in 2025. We encourage donations to the fund of any amount. Be sure to write "**Endowment Fund**" on your check. Currently these funds are held as a General Endowment that provides resources beyond what is possible through our general operating funds. Income is declared each year and their use is guided by the Endowment Fund policies and guidelines. St. Elizabeth's is committed to carrying out the teachings of Jesus within its church and the greater community providing resources for current and future mission, ministry and outreach. For more information speak with your Clergy or anyone on the Finance Committee.

The Finance Committee

Have you Noticed a Difference in the Parish Hall?

Our renovation project is finally complete. We began discussion and planning last May with the goal of making it more welcoming and functional. The walls were painted with a neutral and soothing color. Windows were updated for light control and sound mitigation by adding a cellular blind on the large front window and complimentary blackout curtains on the side windows. We replaced the carpet and added new floor molding in the alcove. A decorative sound panels were placed along the wall. Thank you to Dawn Curtis, Alice Stone, Deacon Carolyn, Rebecca Anders, Diane Crockett, Chrissie Grimison & Shirley McMillan for their time, treasure and talent in researching and planning. Thank you to the crew for their hands-on work in completing the project Scott Anders, Joe Stone, Bill Ingui, John Grimison, Guy McKenzie, Alan Baisley, Barry Brown, Ken Dean, Bill Curtis and Alice Stone.



