

THE Chapel Bell

DECEMBER 4, 2018 VOL. 35 NO. 40

LADUE CHAPEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) · ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI



DINNER,
FELLOWSHIP,
MUSIC, AND
WORSHIP
WOW!

Drop in on Wednesdays for dinner
between 5:30 and 6:15 p.m.
in Fellowship Hall.

December 12, 2018

Chicken and wild rice,
vegetable, salad, dessert

Catered by Carolyn's

Cost

Adults \$10

Students (age 10–17) \$5
Children (under 9) are free

RSVP to 314-993-4771 ext 0.

Worship to follow at 6:15 p.m.

Family Worship will be led by the
Rev. Mel Smith in Fellowship Hall.

Bring a friend!

**Winter Weather
Advisories**

If we are forced to close the church building due to inclement weather, there will be an announcement on our voicemail at 314-993-4771, and on www.laduechapel.org, www.kmov.com, www.ksdk.com, and www.Fox2now.com.

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who participated in Watcher's Eve. It was a lovely evening.

Ornaments Available

Ornaments of the Sanctuary stained glass window (favors from the 75th Anniversary) are available for sale in the church office. The price is \$15.

The Christmas trees and decorations were up in retail stores before *Thanksgiving*. At *Costco*, they were up before *Halloween*. I also noticed that the homes in our subdivision were draped in seasonal lights while the leaves hadn't even changed colors. Holiday parties of various organizations began spreading good cheer in early November. And all the above before we were even getting close to *Advent*.



Where did the time go, I wondered? How come we are already planning for *Christmas* when we just celebrated *New Year's*? At least, that's what it feels like to me. So much happened this last year—in my personal life and in yours, in our life as a congregation, and in the life of our nation. Regardless what our experiences might have been, our time seems to be measured in retail increments. Now it's time to display the spring collection, now it's time to decorate the stores for the holidays, now it's time to close the books for the year. This way of telling time does not resonate with me because that's not how I experience life.

The Christian community has resisted the pull of this particular way of telling time for millennia. The reason we as Christians "measure" time differently has to do with our expectations. Our fundamental question is not "what" we expect but "whom." That's an unsettling question because we can more or less control the "what" but are at the mercy of the "whom." We can perhaps forecast business cycles, but we cannot predict when "Christ will return in his glory with his angels" (Matthew 25:31).

The early Christian community did not have the same problem with time that we do. They expected Christ's promised return after his resurrection any minute. Literally. However, as Christ's return was delayed and their expectations thwarted, they had to adjust. And we are still adjusting. One of the ways in which we do that at Ladue Chapel is through participating in our *Watcher's Eve* event, which was last Sunday. It helps us remember how we tell time differently as the Christian community because it focuses us on the one for whom we are waiting still with eager expectation.

And so we wait once again for God's great promise in Christ that "the wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them" (Isaiah 11:6).

Advent blessings,

Come Make a Difference!

"Ladue Chapel is a congregation of God's people, welcoming all, illuminating faith, serving God and neighbor, and making a difference on behalf of Christ."

Turkey/Ham Drive Bring your 10 lb turkey or ham to the church freezer for our annual Holiday Drive for our food pantries. We will be accepting these items until December 23 ... Gobble gobble.

Christmas Gift Trees Look for gift suggestions on trees in the Gathering Space to make some needy child or adult's holiday a bit brighter.

Clean Up Buckets in January Ladue Chapel will pack buckets with clean up supplies for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to distribute after natural disasters (floods, hurricanes, tornadoes).

2018 Contribution and Stock Gift Deadline

For questions about any of the following, please call Suzanne Williams at 314-993-4771 ext 3100. According to IRS guidelines, all donations must have a transaction date on or before 12/31/2018 in order to be eligible for a tax deduction. If the donation is by check, the check must be dated on or before 12/31/2018. If mailed, the envelope must be postmarked on or before 12/31/2018. If dropped off at the office, it must be in the possession of the Business Office on or before Friday, 12/28/2018, in order to ensure the deposit is completed by 12/31/2018. If you make a donation online through the website or by sending an ACH transfer through your bank, the funds must be in the Ladue Chapel bank account on or before 12/28/2018.

If you complete your donation through a stock transfer, the stock must be received, and made available for sale, by the Ladue Chapel Ameritrade account on or before Thursday, 12/27/2018, due to the markets being closed on Saturday. Please make sure to notify the business office (Suzanne Williams 314-993-4771 ext 3100 or Tom Sargent 314-993-4771 ext 3104) of any pending stock transactions so we can verify it and send you a confirmation letter for your taxes.

Since the holidays are such a busy time, and particularly because many businesses are closed December 31, 2018, it is highly recommended to complete all transactions prior to Christmas.

Cares & Concerns

Recently Hospitalized or Recovering at Home: We are not aware of anyone currently in the hospital.

If you are aware of a member in the hospital or anticipating a hospitalization, please call the church office at 993-4771 ext 0 or speak to one of the pastors. We are available to offer a ministry of care, compassion, and prayer in times of need.

Joys & Celebrations

Congratulations to Mark and Peggy Hermes (and big sister Emma) on the birth of their daughter, Wyatt Rose Hermes, on November 27. Proud grandparents are Russ and Ann Hermes.

Congratulations to Sharon Thaman, who was recently honored as the volunteer of the year by Voyce, an organization that honors caregivers, staff, and volunteers who provide services to seniors. Sharon was given the award for her volunteering at Cape Albeon, where she formed a chime choir with senior residents and has directed it for nearly 18 years.

CALENDAR

An extended calendar is available at www.laduechapel.org

Thursday, December 6

6:30 pm Chapel Ringers Fireside
7:30 pm Chancel Choir Choir Rm

Friday, December 7

7:00 am Food Bank Service Bldg

Saturday, December 8

9:00 am New Officer Training Fireside
10:00 am Pageant Rehearsal FH

Sunday, December 9

8:15 am Infant Care Nursery
8:30 am Worship Sanctuary
10:00 am Christmas Pageant FH
11:00 am Worship Sanctuary
5:30 pm Youth Groups FH

Monday, December 10

7:00 am Food Bank Service Bldg
1:30 pm Kindermusik Choir Room
4:00 pm Route 345 Edu Wing
4:15 pm Chorister Choir Choir Rm
5:00 pm Carol Choir Choir Rm
5:45 pm GenRev Ringers Choir Rm

Tuesday, December 11

9:30 am Mailing Angels Gulick
9:30 am Program Staff Mtg Staff CR
10:30 am WA Bandages FH-N
12:00 pm WA Brown Bag Lunch FH
1:00 pm Women's Study Grp Library
6:00 pm Stephen Ministry Offsite
Christmas Party

Wednesday, December 12

8:00 am Men's Bible Study Leutwiler
9:30 am DISCIPLE: Genesis Leutwiler
11:30 am Legacy Lunch Offsite
5:30 pm WOW Dinner FH-N
6:15 pm WOW Family Worship FH

Thursday, December 13

7:30 pm Chancel Choir Choir Rm

Fast Forward

Save the date for Handel's *Messiah* (part one) with the Chancel Choir and Orchestra at the 8:30 and 11:00 worship services on Sunday, December 16

Bridge Bread for Christmas
Bridge Bread baked goods (bread, cinnamon rolls, bagels, brownies, and sweet rolls) will be for sale in the Gathering Place after worship on **Sunday, December 16**. Everything freezes well, so stock up for Christmas! Bridge Bread is like a doorway to a more substantial future for those experiencing homelessness by giving individuals a job and a purpose.



Mission in Action Commemorative Book

Each year during the season of Advent we tell and retell the story of God through stories in Holy Scripture because they remind us of who God is, how God invites us into relationship, and how God sends us out to welcome others into God's kingdom. This Advent, we are also telling our own stories of faith. In honor and commemoration of our 75th Anniversary, members of Ladue Chapel along with staff have written and drawn their own stories of faith, which have been put together into a commemorative book, *Mission in Action*. The books are available in the Welcome Center. You're invited to pick one up.

I would like to thank each and every one who took the time and effort to reflect and write their story of faith. Your stories will truly bless those who will read and reflect on them as well as encourage others in their journey of faith as a result. Thanks to the staff for their support and efforts in making this unique project possible. This includes Mark Thomas, Tom Sargent, Emily Holman, and Hilary Hitchcock for their time in the editing and formatting of this book. Special thanks to Mel Smith, to whom I owe the greatest appreciation and honor, for spending numerous hours organizing and preparing this project for the final editing and printing—one who I could not have done without to help make this project possible in a timely matter if at all! - Larry Daniels



Men's Retreat

The retreat is **January 11-12, 2019**, at Marianist Retreat Center. The Rev. Dr. Mark Thomas will speak after dinner on Friday and the Rev. Dr. David Greenhaw, President of Eden Seminary and Professor of Preaching & Worship, will join us on Saturday after breakfast. Email Steve Peacock at stevie65@icloud.com or phone 314-540-2667 for more information. To register call the church office at 314-993-4771 ext 0 or register on the Ladue Chapel website.



Women's Retreat

The women's retreat will be at Mercy Retreat Center, **January 25 and 26, 2019**. Dr. Sonia Waters from Princeton Seminary will come to share "Reflections" on women at wells. Call the office or visit the church website for more information and to register. We are looking forward to another amazing year of fellowship.

Become a Stephen Minister at Ladue Chapel

"People need a good listening to!" Listening is an art, and learning to listen carefully is part of the 50 hours of initial training for Stephen Ministers preparing to hear the struggles of hurting people. Ladue Chapel training for the new class of Stephen Ministers begins February 23 and ends June 1, 2019. It's a time to become empowered, equipped to serve others. An opportunity to learn and grow.

Believing that God will care and guide the Care Receiver, a Stephen Minister does not solve problems for that person. It is God who guides, God who heals. This is confidential ministry between the Stephen Minister, the Care Receiver, and our listening Lord. A Stephen Minister typically has one Care Receiver at a time and meets once a week with that person to listen, pray and offer spiritual support. At Ladue Chapel, a Stephen Minister may alternatively call on people in hospitals and nursing homes, shouldering burdens, sharing joys.

To learn more, contact Rev. Anastassia Sharpe at 314-993-4771 ext. 3123; or Stephen Leaders Carolyn Birge at 314-997-2529; Jo Dyroff at 314-852-3958; Jan Miller at 314-945-0204; John Hensley at 314-346-2010; Ann Crowley at 314-503-6344; or Vivian Swain at 314-576-5427. Visit our website: www.laduechapel.org/care/stephen-ministry/ Applications are available in the church office and are due January 8, 2019.



Christmas Flower & Musicians Fund

To make a donation, please complete this form and return it with your donation to the church office by **December 10** or look for the sign-up table in the **Gathering Place on Sundays**. Checks should be made payable to *Ladue Chapel*, with *Flower & Musicians Fund* in the memo line. You may also donate with a credit card online if you go to www.laduechapel.org/give and click Contribute.

Name _____

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Total Donation: \$ _____

for Poinsettias \$ _____

Wreaths \$ _____



LCNS 2019–20 Enrollment

Ladue Chapel Nursery School is accepting applications for the 2019–2020 school year. A printable application card is available on our website: laduechapelnurseryschool.com. Acceptance letters will be mailed out in January. School tours are available by appointment—please call Karen Valvero at 314-993-3993.



Children’s Christmas Pageant

Come experience the Nativity Story with your church family! Children ages 3 years through 5th grade dress up and tell the story of Jesus’ birth, and we all join in the singing of Christmas carols. The pageant is **Sunday, December 9 at 10:00–10:45 a.m.** in Fellowship Hall. Email Robin Crawford at rcrawford@laduechapel.org with questions. *Come adore on bended knee Christ the Lord the newborn King!*

**Sunday, December 9
Worship Services at
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
in the Sanctuary**

Scriptures

Mal. 3:1–4; Luke 1:68–79; Phil. 1:3–11; Luke 3:1–6

Music Ministry

At both services, Chapel Ringers will play “Advent Tidings” and “I Saw Three Ships.”

At 11:00, Chancel Choir will sing “People, Look East,” and guest soloist Johanna Nordhorn will sing “But Who May Abide” from Handel’s *Messiah*.



9450 Clayton Road
St. Louis, MO 63124-1568

**CHRISTMAS
PAGEANT THIS
SUNDAY!**

Music News

Organ Tour

Recently I was interviewed about our Schoenstein pipe organ by Brent Johnson of the Organ Media Foundation. You can watch the interview on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/Dbfx8j2cum4>. The video includes demonstrations of the sounds of the organ, “behind the scenes” tours of the organ chambers, and even a peek at the basement blower room.

Carolbeth True Christmas CDs

Jazz pianist Carolbeth True, one of our most popular Ladue Chapel musicians, has recently released a new CD of Christmas carols with her trio. It is a wonderful CD of traditional carols, and I have a few available for sale at \$12. Please see me if interested

—David Erwin

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Newsletter of

Ladue Chapel Presbyterian Church (USA)

www.laduechapel.org

314-993-4771

Rev. Dr. Mark P. Thomas, Pastor
Rev. Dr. Dieter U. Heinzl, Associate Pastor
Rev. Anastassia C. Sharpe, Associate Pastor
Rev. Melanie A. Smith, Associate Pastor

Submit articles to the communications assistant communications@laduechapel.org by Wednesday preceding publication date.

THE CHAPEL BELL (USPS: 779-870) is published weekly, September through May, except the weeks of Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year; and twice monthly in June, July and August by Ladue Chapel Presbyterian Church. Periodical postage paid at St. Louis, MO. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Chapel Bell*, 9450 Clayton Road, St. Louis, Missouri 63124-1568.