Welcome to Saint Paul’s! Whether you are visiting for the first time, or are a longtime member, we are blessed to have you join us this day. Here we believe this is God’s house, and you are welcome. This is home to all who enter. We strive to be a community as diverse and hospitable as we understand God’s kingdom, welcoming saints and sinners alike since 1900. We don’t all look or act alike; dress alike; and God knows we don’t all think alike. We don’t all read the Bible the same way. We bring different questions, and we carry different burdens. Yet, every time we gather, we gather, fellowship, and worship as one big family.

In this place, we do Sunday mornings in some pretty traditional ways. We study the teachings and the actions of Jesus. We sing many of the same hymns our grandparents sang and some that may be more modern as well. In our liturgy, our prayers, and our preaching, we wrestle with the challenges of the modern world we live in. I hope your heart will hear something personal and relevant this day—a word of comfort, a spur to action, and a call to a deeper relationship with God.

After the service, please introduce yourself to the pastor, and if you would, fill out a welcome card. Check out our Facebook page or website to learn more about us, and get involved in whatever way you choose. You may never know; you may have just found your church home. As we like to say to everyone who comes through the door, “Welcome Home.”

Peace,
Pastor Timothy Hogan-Palazzo

Gathering of the Community
Shelly Peterson
Pastor Timothy Hogan-Palazzo and Polly Barrall

Gathering Music
Welcome and News from Home
Time of Centering

*Invitation to All

Leader: Sing to the Lord a new song;
Family: sing to the Lord, all the earth!
Leader: Sing to the Lord and bless God’s name;
Family: tell the good news of salvation from day to day.
Leader: Declare God’s glory among the nations, God’s marvelous works among all the people.
Family: For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.
Leader:  Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice.  
Family:  Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world, and those who live in it.  
Leader:  Let the whole creation sing for joy at the presence of God, who is coming.

Christmas Hymn, no. 136  
Proclaiming the Word

God Moments  
Concerns of the Family  
A Time of Reflection

“Away in a Manger” / J. Murray  
“Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay close by me forever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care, and fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.”

Silent Reflection  
Prayers of the People  
Lord’s Prayer (unison): **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by they name.  Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven.  Give us this day our daily bread.  And forgive us our sins as we forgive those who have sinned against us.  And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.  Amen.  
** May use name/words most familiar to your understanding of God.

Time with Our Children  
Colleen Franciscus  
Lessons and Carols

Lesson I  
God’s promise, all the people of the world will be blessed.  
Genesis 22:15-18  
The angel of the Lord called to Abraham from heaven a second time and said, “I swear by myself, declares the Lord, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.”

Carol  
“Once in Royal David’s City”  

1 Once in royal David’s city  
stood a lowly-cattle shed,  
where a mother laid her baby  
in a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ, her little child.  
2 He came down to earth from heaven  
who is God and Lord of all,  
and his shelter was a stable,  
and his cradle was a stall:  
with the poor, and mean, and lowly,  
lived on earth our Savior holy.

Lesson II  
The people who walk in darkness will receive a great Light.  
Isaiah 9:2, 6-7  
The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.  For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders.  And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.  He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever.  The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.  And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.  He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever.  The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.
Carol

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Key of David, come
And open wide our heav’ny home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

Lesson III

The Messiah will come.

Isaiah 11:1-3a, 4a, 6-9

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord—and he will delight in awe of the Lord. With righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. The infant will play near the cobra’s den, and the young child will put its hand into the viper’s nest. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

Carol

“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”

It came upon a midnight clear
That glorious song of old
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold
Peace on the earth, good will to men
From heaven’s all gracious King
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing

Lesson IV

Angels appear to Mary

Luke 1:26-35, 38

In the sixth month of Elizabeth’s pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.” Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.” “How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?” The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most-High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. “I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her.

Carol

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

O little town of Bethlehem
How still we see thee lie
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight
For Christ is born of Mary
And gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love
O morning stars together
Proclaim the holy birth
And praises sing to God the King
And Peace to men on earth
Lesson V

Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem

Luke 2:1, 3-7

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. And everyone went to their own town to register. Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

Lesson VI

Angels Appear to the Shepherds

Luke 2:8-16

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.” When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.” So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

Lesson VII

Magi from the East come seeking the Messiah

Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi[d] from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written: ‘“But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.’” Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child.
As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.” After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

Carol

1 We three kings of Orient are;
bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain, 
following yonder star.

2 Glorious now behold him arise:  
King and God and sacrifice: 
Alleluia, Alleluia, 
Sounds through earth and skies.

Refrain:  
O star of wonder, star of light,  
star with royal beauty bright, 
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.

Lesson VIII

The Word becomes Flesh

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Carol

1 Silent night, holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin mother and child! 
Holy infant, so tender and mild, 
sleep in heavenly peace,  
sleep in heavenly peace.

2 Silent night, holy night! 
Shepherds quake at the sight: 
glories stream from heaven afar, 
heav’nly hosts sing, “Alleluia! 
Christ the Savior is born,  
Christ the Savior is born!”

3 Silent night, holy night! 
Son of God, love’s pure light, 
radiant, beams from thy holy face 
with the dawn of redeeming grace, 
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth!

Responding to the Word

“Emmanuel” / B. McGee

“Emmanuel, Emmanuel, His name is called Emmanuel; 
God with us, revealed in us; His name is called Emmanuel.”

Presentation of Our Gifts

Text GIFT & Amount to 570-355-5355 or 
You may place an offering in one of the plates at the entrance or exit of the Sanctuary.

“ I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day” / traditional

Sharon Styer
*Offertory Response

“What Can I Give Him?”

“What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wiseman I would do my part; Yet what can I give Him? Give Him my heart.

*Offertory Prayer

*Hymn of Christmas, no. 125

“Joy to the World!”

*Benediction

*Benedictory Response

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

“Go, tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain, That Jesus Christ is born.”

Postlude

“Good Christians All, Rejoice” / Traditional / Sharon Styer

*Please stand in body or spirit as you are able.

Flowers are presented today to the Glory of God in celebration of
Chip and Tim Hogan-Palazzo’s seventh wedding anniversary.

---

**In Our Daily Prayers**

Annette and Joey
Myrtle Archer and Family
Jim Baylor
Linda Beaver
Peggy & Dennis Birdsall
Family of Tom Derr
Gail Earnest
Ron Farrell & Family
Gladys Fawcett
Edith Getz
Greyson Greenawalt
The Hagen Family

Steve Harding
Mya, Ruth, and Al Henry
The Hess Family
Thereasa Hinderliter
Myrtle Hogan
Isabel Hummell
Kiana Kautz
Doneeta Leonard
Katy Mahon
Brian Mensch
Cindy Mohr
Raquel Prager

Jane Scurfield
Lucille Shuman
Jon Skarie
The Swanger Family
Everly Travis & her parents
Haley Wegrzynowicz
Michael Haven & Russ Wynn, Jr.
Donna & Russ Wynn, Sr.
Jim Young
Unspoken Requests

**News from Home**

**Children’s Choir** - Children’s choir rehearses each Sunday from 10 to 10:15 a.m. All children in kindergarten through middle school are welcome! If you have any questions, please see Sharon Styer. Rehearsals begin again on Sunday, January 9.

**Church Directory** – Saint Paul’s offers a secure online directory. If you do not have the capability to access an online directory or need assistance in setting yours up, please contact Donna in the church office.

**Year-End Giving** – Should you be planning a tax-deductible gift to Saint Paul’s, all tithes, gifts, and offerings must be received in the church office by Friday, December 31. Donations through online giving, Engage, may be made until midnight on Friday, December 31.

**Altar Flowers for 2022** – Reserve a Sunday in 2022 to provide altar flowers in memory, honor, or celebration of a loved one. Call the church office 570-568-1433 or use the online form on the church website. Make checks payable to SPUCC or pay online using our secure Engage online giving option using the “flowers” giving fund. **Please note that the cost of altar flowers in 2022 is $50.**
COVID-19 Protocol - We continue to suggest the following COVID 19 Pandemic precautions.

1. Please do not attend worship or any church events if you are feeling ill.
2. Advise Pastor Tim or contact the church office should you need anything.
3. While 90% or more of our adults in the congregation are vaccinated, we would ask that if you are not vaccinated, that you please mask. If you are vaccinated and would be more comfortable wearing a mask, you are encouraged to as well.
4. Sanitize often and please be respectful of one another’s personal space.

Thank you for your continued cooperation as we strive to balance the normality of church-based events and keeping everyone safe. Be good, be kind, and as always let’s be the church.

Saint Paul’s events and activities for your 2022 calendar and planning …

January through April 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 8</td>
<td>Taking down the greens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 9</td>
<td>Youth Planning - Pizza Party – Movie Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 23</td>
<td>All Church Annual Meeting &amp; Luncheon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 13</td>
<td>Souper Bowl All Church Luncheon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 27</td>
<td>2022 Spaghetti Dinner &amp; Talent Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2</td>
<td>7 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 20</td>
<td>An all-church Irish Luncheon</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 17</td>
<td>Sunrise Service at Central Oak Heights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 17</td>
<td>Easter Sunday Breakfast 9:15 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 24</td>
<td>30-Hour Famine Youth Event</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Early 2022 Christian Education Opportunities

- Sunday Morning Sunday School – 9:15 a.m. “Head Start” for all ages 16 to 116 (Parlor)
- Sunday Morning Child Care – 10:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. (Nursery)
- Sunday Morning Children’s Church – during a portion of worship
- Sunday Evening Family Nights – 5 p.m. Dinner, Classes, & Events
- Monday Morning Reflections – 10 a.m. Each Monday Morning (Parlor)
- Wednesday Evening Explorations – Every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. (Parlor)

Early 2022 Fellowship and Service Opportunities

- Bi-Weekly Fresh Express continues
- Soup for Shut-ins
- Brightening Winter Days
- Prayer Shawl Ministry – Learn, Brush up, or share your skills for our new Prayer Shawl Ministry
- Early Summer Mission Trip
- Habitat Saturday

Mission and Outreach

Fresh Express Food Distribution – We received the following from The Mobile Distribution Team, Pam, Kim, Jeremy, and the entire Food Bank team at the Central PA Food Bank – “We would like to thank you for your continued, unwavering support throughout the past year. Your partnership puts us on the right path to fighting hunger, improving lives, and strengthening communities. Because of you, thousands in our communities no longer have to make impossible choices between food or paying for other critical expenses, giving them hope for a new year. We would like to take a moment to express our sincerest thank you for your commitment and we send to you best wishes for a healthy, happy holiday season and a hope-filled new year.”

Pack the Pantry - We continue to see an increase in need with the number of families we are serving. As supplemental help begins to wane, supplies seem to go down, and costs for groceries and household items increase, your help is needed more than ever. Our emergency food pantry needs include canned vegetables, breakfast cereal, frozen proteins, boxed meal helper, or if you are able or inclined, gift cards to Giant, Weis, and Walmart. For a full list of needs, check out the holder by the red wagon, stop by the pantry, check in with Diane Bettleyon or Dane Santos, or call the church office. Together we are community, neighbor helping neighbor.
Stewardship

Giving of Time, Talents and Offerings: To all who offer their time, talents and gifts to create this community, our special thanks! It is good always and everywhere to give thanks to God.

Gifts & Offerings, Sunday, December 19, 2021:
Attendance In Person: 94 (8 Visitors)
Attendance on LIVE: 312
Virtual Reach:

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<table>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Plate Giving</td>
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Upcoming Worship:

January 2, 2022
Epiphany “Some Children See Him”
Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12
Worship Leader: Niki Weber
Lector: Rhonda Newton
Flower Sponsor: Available
Offering Counter: A. Henry; D. Spear

January 9, 2022
The Baptism of Christ “From the Barn to the River”
Isaiah 43:1-7; Luke 3:15-17,21-22
Worship Leader: Niki Weber
Lector: Chris Arnold
Flower Sponsor: Available
Offering Counter: C. Franciscus; D. Spear

Saint Paul’s Leadership Team

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pastor</td>
<td>Timothy Hogan-Palazzo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>Donna Spear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minister of Music/Organist</td>
<td>Russell Wynn, Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Minister of Music/Asst. Organist</td>
<td>Sharon Styer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Accompanists</td>
<td>Michael Haven / Shelley Peterson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursery Attendant/Children’s Church</td>
<td>Open / Colleen Franciscus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children &amp; Youth Leader</td>
<td>Colleen Franciscus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sexton</td>
<td>Steve Brown</td>
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<tr>
<td>Groundskeepers</td>
<td>Robert Greenly / Ethan Hamilton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tech Team</td>
<td>Chip Palazzo, Keegan Gill, Heath Hansum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Secretary</td>
<td>Dianne Covert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Amy Snider</td>
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Consistory

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sharon Klose (‘21)</td>
<td>– President/Deacon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jen Arnold (‘23)</td>
<td>– Deacon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merle Kay Englehart (‘21)</td>
<td>– Deacon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earl Fisher (‘21)</td>
<td>– Deacon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amy Mahon (‘24)</td>
<td>– Deacon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rhonda Newton (‘23)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amy Rearick (‘22)</td>
<td>– Deacon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brent Sample (‘21)</td>
<td>– Trustee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brad Gill (‘22)</td>
<td>– Vice President/Trustee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lisa Bernard (‘23)</td>
<td>– Trustee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drew Faust (‘22)</td>
<td>– Trustee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colleen Franciscus (‘22)</td>
<td>– Secretary/Deacon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dave Muffley (‘24)</td>
<td>– Trustee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sue Overdorf (‘22)</td>
<td>– Deacon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathy Rowe (‘24)</td>
<td>– Deacon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dane Santos (‘24)</td>
<td>– Deacon</td>
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CCLI 11376236 / CSPL126882