

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2016**

**UM CHILDREN'S HOME CHRISTMAS PROJECT** This year St Paul is once again helping a family that receives services from the United Methodist Children's Home in Decatur have a special Christmas. The mission of the Children's Home is to provide residential and support services for intact and foster families who are in need. Each of the past five years St Paul has provided more than \$1000 in Christmas gifts and gift cards for the Home's clients. This year we have been asked to help a single mother with five children. The family previously lived in one of the cottages on campus, but recently moved to their own place. In addition to raising five children by herself, the mother is also dealing with some health issues. We expect to get a wish list from her early next week. We will be collecting gifts and gift cards through Sunday December 18. You can contribute in three ways--you can buy gifts from the wish list, you can buy gift cards in any amount and the cards will be used to complete the wish list, and/or you can send in a check made payable to St Paul with a notation that it is for the Children's Home Christmas Project. Bill McKinnon has volunteered to coordinate this project again this year so if you have any questions please contact Bill (billindecatur@gmail.com).

**CHILDREN'S PLAY/CLASSROOM CLEANUP/POTLUCK SUPPER** St. Paul Children's Ministry is holding a Wednesday night supper and classroom cleanup in conjunction with the children's Christmas play rehearsal on Wednesday, November 30 from 6 to 7:30 pm. If your child is participating in the Christmas play, please plan to come for the potluck supper and stick around to help. Use this link to signup: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090b48aba922a64-wednesday>.

**CANDLELIGHTERS STILL NEEDED** to light the Advent wreath December 24<sup>th</sup> at 11 pm. All other slots are filled. Thanks to all who have volunteered to serve in our Advent worship. If you or your family or your ministry group would like to participate on Christmas Eve at 11 pm, please let the office know.

**WORK DAY/DECORATING DAY** Saturday, December 3 from 9am to noon please come help prepare St. Paul for the Christmas Season. We will be cleaning, decorating, and preparing for the Tour of Homes, Advent, and Christmas. All ages and skill sets are welcome. Contact Jeremy Varner [jeremyv@gmail.com](mailto:jeremyv@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

**THE 36<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CANDLELIGHT TOUR OF HOMES** is December 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, and volunteers are needed to house-sit, to help set up the Artists' Market, and for a variety of other tasks. As a thank you, volunteers get a FREE Candlelight Tour ticket (a \$20 value), and parent volunteers can reserve a coveted slot for your child to see Santa at the Winter Wonderland on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> (priceless). Volunteer signup is open NOW at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0e44a5ac2da5fd0-2016>. Santa slots are limited and fill up fast, so don't wait to volunteer if you want to snag a spot for your child! Thank you, St. Paul, for helping make this the best tour ever!

**ST. JOHN THE WONDERWORKER ORTHODOX CHURCH** is in need of:

- new and used blankets, shoes, socks, and jackets to distribute to area homeless people as the weather becomes colder. Please remember them as you sort through your winter items in the coming weeks. Please bring your donations to the church office.
- turkeys, hams (may be left in one of the refrigerators in the kitchen but must be clearly marked) and new toys for their Christmas basket program.
- cash donations (always) for the Christmas program and ongoing Loaves and Fishes ministry which feeds the homeless.

**ACOLYTE TRAINING** The end of the year is approaching, and it will be time to redo Sunday volunteer schedules. If you or any of your family members are interested in serving as Acolytes during Morning Worship on Sundays, training could be provided before the end of 2016. Please let the office know if you are interested.

**HELP ST. PAUL YOUTH SEND HEALTH KITS TO UMCOR!** The youth group received an overwhelming number of supplies for kits. Thank you for your generosity. Cash donations to pay for toothpaste (which UMCOR purchases in bulk) and shipping costs from UMCOR to recipients are still needed. Any excess received over that needed will be donated to the UMCOR fund for Louisiana Flood Relief.

**LOVING CHILDCARE IS BACK!** Volunteers are needed beginning immediately to help with Loving Child-care on Sunday mornings during 11 am Morning Worship. One volunteer each week will assist new Sunday Shepherd Martika Harris with this children's church program, which will last from after the Children's Sermon through the end of worship. This program is for children ages 3 through 2nd grade. All volunteers are gratefully welcome. Parents of children in this age range who intend to take advantage of the program are expected to volunteer. Please let the office know if you are able to help. A schedule for volunteers will be circulated weekly with the other Sunday volunteer assignments.

**FALL PROMOTION AT THE GEORGIA AQUARIUM** Through December 31, 2016, all Georgia Aquarium tickets are priced at **\$24.95** plus tax on this link [www.GeorgiaAquarium.org/churches](http://www.GeorgiaAquarium.org/churches). This is a really good deal for all ages. Regular adult admission is \$39.95. Admission includes Dolphin Celebration, Sea Lion Show, 4D Theater and all exhibits. For groups of twenty five or more at this price, a complimentary ticket will be provided.

#### **CORNERSTONE CAMPAIGN UPDATE**

Pledges: 33	Total Pledged: \$202,368
Donors 40	Total Received: \$ 60,515
	Total Spent: \$ 17,035