

ST. PAUL CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS---3 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

1. OUTDOOR DRIVE-UP CHRISTMAS CAROLING EVENT December 20th at 4:00p.m. in the St. Paul parking lot---bring a chair or listen in your car. Invite friends to join you!

There will be musical performances by special guests, Allison DeLoache, Andy Horne, Vanessa and Luke Wilkes, as well as time to sing a-long with your favorite Christmas carols. Hot chocolate and snacks will be available for your enjoyment. Because we are outside, there is less of a COVID-19 risk from airborne particles. However, please practice social distancing, and when you are less than 6' from someone, please wear your mask.

2. VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

After considering all the input received this week regarding our Christmas Eve service this year, we have decided to offer an online service that will be posted on our YouTube page "St. Paul UMC of Saluda, SC" on December 24th beginning at 4:00p.m. Once it is posted, it will be available for viewing at that time or later in the evening. Please schedule a time for your family to participate in this service through the singing of carols, the reading of a children's version of the Christmas story, and the lighting of personal candles during the singing of Silent Night. Song lyrics for the service will be sent out with the bulletin on December 23rd and individual candles will be available for you to pick up following the worship service on December 13th and 20th. Copies of the children's version of the Christmas story are also available for pick up on these dates or by calling the church office at 864-445-2232.

Though we will all miss the experience of gathering in the sanctuary and enjoying the beautiful decorations, the sharing of the Lord's Supper, and the sense of community we have when we gather together in that sacred space, offering a virtual service in this pandemic year provides an opportunity for safe participation by a much larger number of people. Please invite your extended family and friends to watch the service on Christmas Eve, wherever they may be geographically.

3. SEND US YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE/LIGHTED DECORATION PHOTOS FOR INCLUSION IN THE CHRISTMAS EVE VIRTUAL SERVICE

We want to see you and your Christmas decorations! Please take a photo of your Christmas tree, outdoor lights, mantle decorations---with or without family members---and email them to communications@stpaulsaluda.com by December 15th. We will include these photos in the virtual Christmas Eve service. We hope to have LOTS of photos to share, so please plan a few minutes to "snap and send" this weekend. Photos must be received by the end of the day on December 15th in order to be included in the service.