

**Calendar of Events** 

**Donate Now** 

10am Worship There will be NO 8am Zoom on Christmas Eve

Sunday, December 24 + Fourth Sunday of Advent

<u>Christmas Eve + Sunday, December 24</u> 4pm Christmas Carols and kid-friendly worship with a Pageant 7:30pm Christmas Worship with Carols, Choir

and Candlelight

<u>Christmas Day + Monday, December 25</u> 10am Christmas Worship with Carols



## News You Can Use Every Other Week

Click here to sign up for Bread+Belonging food Tuesdays at 6pm

Click Here for all of Advent to Christmas to Epiphany 2023

### For your calendar....

- Advent Wreath Lighting by <u>Zoom</u>- Saturdays in Advent from December 2 through December 23 from 7-7:05pm\*
- Last Advent Retreat on Saturday, December 9, 1-3pm (St. John's, Boulder)\*
- Feed My Starving Children Mobilepack Event, December 8 & 9 at Atonement Lutheran\*
- BRING Gifts for our Seminarians by Sunday, December 10\*
- Christmas Candlelight Festival with Tara Performing Arts Academy, December 15, 16, 17\*
- Friday-Tuesday December 15-19, Exam Week Meals for B+B at 6pm
- Tuesday, December 19, 3:30pm, Homeless Memorial 2023 @ Boulder Bandshell (1212 Canyon Blvd.) remembering those who died while unhoused this year.
- Saturday, December 23, 10am-11:30am *help needed to decorate the Church for Christmas--donuts provided!*

- Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24 services at 4pm and 7:30pm
- Christmas Day, Monday, December 25 service at 10am
- BRING new and full size personal care items by Epiphany, Saturday, January 6\*
- Saturday, January 6 6pm Epiphany Service of Light \*denotes more information below

See online calendar for weekly events, Choir, Bible Studies, and more.

#### Gifts for our Seminarians taking the General Ordination Exam (GOE)

We are assembling care packages for our 3 seminarians (Durango Jenkins, Charles Martin and Amanda Barker), collecting cards, letters, goodies and gift cards **until Sunday**, **December 10**. St. Aidan's is sponsoring this effort not only because we love them, but because they are facing their GOE examinations as part of their journey toward ordination. These are like bar exams, but for priests, and consist of 6 essays in 3 days.

Keeping in mind that care packages are mailed must fit into one box, here are some ideas:

- · personal cards and letters of encouragement
- a few tea bags, or packets of hot chocolate, or small snacks
- gift cards, such as Starbucks (you can purchase them yourself, or give cash or check to Mary or Scott Martin--see below)
- small inspirational books
- chocolates or other treats
- a sweet little candle
- checks written to individual seminarians are appropriate (they are not tax-deductible)

Venmo @Mary-Martin-175 (it has a photo of Scott, Charles and Mary Martin). With your donation, please let me know what you prefer I purchase with it. If there are enough funds, we'll also purchase a gift to be used at a restaurant in Denver after ordination (March 9 2024). Thank you for your generosity and support of our Seminarians! <u>Email me</u> with **questions! Thanks, Mary Martin!** 

#### Click Here to Make Your 2024 Annual Giving Pledge Online Now

#### Growing Our Generosity 2024

Please click on the image to the right to read and understand our invitation to Grow in Generosity as the Vestry is making plans for our next year's budget. We hope every household at St. Aidan's is a giving and sharing household, and all pledge commitments, small and large, help. Please make your commitment soon.

#### Thank you!

#### **GENEROSITY + GROWTH**

The cost of doing church grows. So does our generosity. Find out where you are in this set of questions. Begin.

- If you don't give, **GIVE**. Start giving. Put something in the offering, mail a check, text a donation. We hope every household is a giving household, every time we gather.
- If you do give, PLEDGE/MAKE A COMMITMENT. Make a promise to yourself that you're part of the church, and that you'll show up, give regularly, and serve in ministry this year. Promise to give a specific amount and work to keep that promise. The Vestry makes a better budget (and can plan to pay staff and support ministries) when we know how much we will receive, more or less. A promise can be changed, increased or decreased, if your life circumstances change. Start now in 2024.
- If you have promised and made a commitment or pledge in the past, INCREASE IT. Strive to give a little more each year, and to give proportionally (a percentage of your income). The average charitable giving in the US is between 2% and 3% of annual income. Are you there?
- If you do give proportionally, GROW in generosity every year, by increasing the percentage. Is this
  the year to make a legacy gift, to give from your estate after you are gone? How can you share
  generosity with those who come after your? Do you demonstrate life-long generosity by remembering
  that all we have comes from God, and we take nothing with us--leave something for the church.

#### Information and Goals for 2024

- We need at least **\$250,000** committed for 2024.
- In 2023, 73 households pledged a total of \$225,000.
  There are 115 households that call St. Aidan's home
- We would like every household to make a pledge or estimate of giving. What is God calling you to give out of your abundance?
- Pledged income from members is the most significant income for St. Aidan's. It is supplemented, significantly, by income from our Parking Lot. Even with this, we budget deficit budgets most years in order to maintain our building and keep the staffing and ministries we have. M. Mary Kate
- Rejouis is our only full-time staff member.
  We use Realm, a secure, online giving and membership platform. Please email realm@saintaidans.org for your Realm Login information and for help setting up your account. It's easy and safe.



 You may pre-pay your yearly commitment (some do this to maximize the tax benefit in a calendar year, for example). Please contact us if you plan to do this by calling 303-443-2503 or emailing realm@saintaidans.org

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Now

#### 2023 Donation Reminder and Information

If you have any questions about your 2023 giving or need an end of year pledge update, please email **Realm Coordinator Kelly Champion**. Remember that for any donation to be counted for 2023, it needs to be received in the church office by 12/29/2023 or postmarked by 12/31/2023. Online donations depend on the timing of the banks, so are advised to be made by 12/26/2023.

# FOUR AND A HALF MINUTES OF ADVENT Saturdays 7pm by Zoom December 2, 9, 16 & 23

Remembering a sustaining practice from COVID, come together by Zoom, as you are, in your jammies or dressed for a night out, for a few minutes of Advent every Saturday at 7pm (MT).

### www.tinyurl.com/aidanzoom

The powers in the heavens will be shaken (Mark 13:25)



Last Advent Retreat, Saturday, December 9 1-3pm--Exploring the Grace of God through Paint--please register!

Saturday, December 9, 1-3pm St. John's Episcopal Church (1419 Pine St, Boulder, CO 80302)

Led by Angela Hummel Register here -----> or at tinyurl.com/BoCoAdvent



#### NEW Writings from St. Aidan's Writing Group

From time to time, the St. Aidan's Writing Group shares some of the essays and other things that writers are working on and sharing through monthly meetings. Here are some new ones after a break! Enjoy! If you are curious about joining the Writers Group, email Paul Voakes.

Rovena by Ellen Weekley When the Old Folks Gather at Church by Kay Cook Getting New Material by Marty Coffin Evans An Honest Look in the Mirror by Beverly Coolidge Shaw Prudence by Paul Voakes

# **ADVENT DONATION DRIVE**

#### **NEW AND FULL SIZE ITEMS PLEASE!**

Soap/body wash Shampoo Conditioner Shaving cream **Disposable razors for men and women Body/face lotion** St. Aidan's Menstrual care products Toothpaste/toothbrushes Mouthwash Combs/brushes

**CU Basic Needs Center** 

To make a monetary donation, we support emergency housing assistance to students and especially students with dependents. Checks may be made to St. Aidan's with "CU Emergency Student Housing" in the memo line, or www.tinyurl.com/GoGrowGive and

choose Deacon's Discretionary Fund.

#### St. Aidan's Book Group on Wednesdays

This group meets by Zoom Video on Wednesdays from 10 to 11:30 am. All are

#### Monday Night Prayer at 7pm by Zoom

The Healing Team invites you to a guiet time of praying silently and voicing the welcome, friends and neighbors too! The reading schedule is on the church <u>calendar</u>.

We are currently reading Thackeray's novel "Vanity Fair".

If you are interested and are not currently receiving book group emails, please email <u>Jim Paine</u> to receive the weekly Zoom meeting ID and password, and other information about the schedule and readings (and for any questions).

requested prayers of our community. The prayer room is also open for individual, confidential prayer.

http://www.tinyurl.com/aidanmeet1



**COME TOGETHER TO SERVE** Feed My Starving Children Mobilepack event

# Together for 100,000+ meals

## Saturday-Sunday December 8-9

Atonement Lutheran Church 685 Inca Parkway, Boulder, CO 80303

I-3 hour shifts availablekids 5 and up welcomeregistration required

more at www.saintaidans.org/advent

Tara Performing Arts High School Presents the 30th Annual



During the 3rd week of December, we welcome Tara Performing Arts Academy for a week in residence at St. Aidan's to prepare their 30th Annual Christmas Candlelight Festival. The **six performances will be Friday to Sunday December 15-17 at 5pm and 8pm**.Tickets (\$25-30) are available <u>here</u>. We have a small number of tickets available to give away-<u>-email</u> to request

#### Visioning, Partnerships, and Faithfully Moving Forward



St. Aidan's Episcopal Church | Strategic Real Estate Planning Congregation Meeting | October 8, 2023



#### Leadership Attending Conference

November 15-16, Paul Voakes, Pam Greene, and Bal Patterson attended the <u>Gift of Place Conference</u>, an offering of Trinity, Wall

Street (online). After applying for entry, St. Aidan's was accepted for this opportunity to share practices with other congregations in transition and visioning processes. This conference and our ongoing work with Trestle Strategy Group are helping us identify next steps and paths forward.

#### Commended to our Prayers

For our CU Campus, and especially the Bread+Belonging community and the LCM Board during this time of transition.

Pray for an end to war throughout the world, for a ceasefire in the Middle East, and for all who have died, been injured, and lost homes and livelihood because of war.

For those in need of bodily healing: Roy Faverty, Kay Gibson, Troyanne Thigpen, Bob Moore, Dowell Williams, Ruth, Lou Patterson, Mike Metzdorff, Greg Smith, Pat Galvin, David Huff, Kelly Boyer and family, Nancy Costello, Kevin Costello, Sally Chesnick Ingraham, Mary and Dave Kraus, Emily, and Dave.

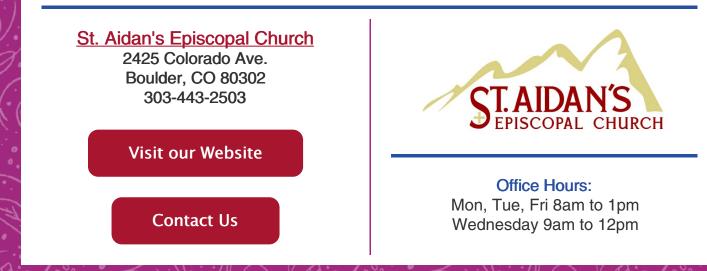
For those seeking God's guidance and strength all who seek employment, Patrick Costello and family, Diane Hayes, Luke, Barb Williams, Travis, Jonathan Nelson, Heidi, Derek and Lauren Huff, Tyler, Jack, Jennie, Christianne, the Ingraham family.

For those in need of prayers for our mission abroad: Richard and Catherine Ranger, former parishioners of St. Aidan's, are missionaries with SAMS, (Society of Anglican Missionaries and Senders) and serve Uganda Christian University (UCU).

For those who serve in the US Military, especially: Parker Rost (Marine Corps), Commander Michael Stengel, for soldiers deploying and their chaplains and families.

For those who have died: Patricia Huggins Moore, Brenda Kroge.

For those celebrating birthdays: William Perry, Jr. (12/6), Grace Alfred and Deanne Stokes (12/8), Neil Borman and Carol Rasmussen (12/13), Nicholas Pogranichniy (12/15), Linnea Wolniewicz and Alex Brown (12/17)



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