

News N' Notes



ST. Paul's
Lutheran Church, School & Daycare

CHRIST IS BORN!

And Because He is, You Are Cordially Invited To

Fill Your Pew at

St. Paul's Christmas Services!

Christmas Eve: 4, 6:30, and 9 p.m.

Christmas Day: 9 a.m.

A recent report indicates that the number of Americans who *identify* themselves as Christians has dropped from 75% to 65% in the last ten years. How many of us have family members who are a part of those statistics? How many of our loved ones who were baptized and taught here at St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School that Jesus loves them have now dropped out of our worship life? Have our loved ones ever received a specific invitation to come back to St. Paul's?

Please consider being a part of a homecoming effort here at St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church and School called **FILL YOUR PEW**. Picture the pew that you normally sit in (you all know you have one). Picture your loved one, good friend, or close neighbor being given a personal invitation by you to **FILL YOUR PEW** on Christmas! Isn't that a beautiful picture?!

We hope to see you there!

God Bless You!

Pastor Daniel Decker

P.S.—Once again, a free-will offering will be taken after the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services for Pastor Paul Garchow.

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Welcome to Advent

Would you like to take a spiritual journey with me through the church season of Advent? You would? Good, come on along with me as together we watch John the Baptist, probably standing ankle or at best knee-deep in the muddy water of the Jordan River and calling people of his day and us today to REPENT! Come along with me as we take a look at Jesus' genealogy and discover there are quite a few bad boys and girls in Jesus' family tree. Let's together watch as Joseph struggles with whether he should believe Mary's incredible story of how she became pregnant or not. Let's ponder with Mary over Who this baby she holds in her arms really is – He is our Savior come down from Heaven to live, suffer, die, and rise again to give us all eternal life!

Advent is a time in the life of the Christian Church when we Christians reflect and anticipate. We reflect on our sins that moved a loving Savior to leave Heaven for us and on a Savior Who still sends Heaven's gifts of love and forgiveness to us through His Word and the Sacraments. We also anticipate that our Savior is coming one day to take us to that Heaven He left us for so long ago.

PLEASE NOTE: This year during Advent we will be moving our Thursday night services to Wednesday night and be holding Advent services at 12:15 and 6:30 p.m. The Advent services schedule will be as follows:

- December 6: 12:15 or 6:30 p.m. – First Advent Service
- December 13: 12:15 or 6:30 p.m. – Second Advent Service
- December 20: 12:15 or 6:30 p.m. – Third Advent Service
- Christmas Eve: 4 p.m. – Family Candlelight Service (communion)
- 6:30 p.m. – Contemporary Candlelight Service (communion)
- 9 p.m. – Traditional Candlelight Service (communion)
- Christmas Day: 9 a.m. – Traditional Service (communion)
- New Year's Eve: 8 and 10:30 a.m.
- New Year's Day: 9 a.m.





Holiday Cheer Baskets

Give Cheer This Christmas

St. Paul's Congregation delivers Christmas baskets to members who need a little extra help over the holiday. We are now asking for your contributions to our Holiday Cheer Baskets.

Items needed include dish washing liquid; laundry detergent; bath soap; facial tissue; paper towels; toilet paper; canned mushroom soup, canned tomato soup, canned cranberry sauce, canned tuna, peanut butter / jelly.

If you can help, please bring your items to Fellowship Hall by Friday, December 22. There will be a table set up for your contributions. Thank you.

If you have any questions, or know of a family who would be blessed with a Cheer Basket, please contact David Jass at 755-0564.

Ladies' Aid Bake Sale

Stop by Fellowship Hall (the church basement) following worship services the weekend of Dec.9 & 10 and pick up some delicious baked goods for your holiday entertaining!

We'll have pies, cakes, breads, breakfast and holiday foods available for purchase. All proceeds go toward purchasing needed items for the church and school. Thank you for your continued support.

And to all the bakers out there! Your donations would be appreciated! Please bring your baked goods to Fellowship Hall on Saturday, December 9 after 4p.

Adult
Fellowship
Club
Celebrates the
Christmas
Season

Tuesday,
December 5,
2017 at 6p

Fellowship Hall
(the church
basement)

All adult members of the congregation are invited to join us for a meal beginning at 6p. Please bring a dish to share.

We will finish the evening with music provided by Mr. Dennis Wahrle. (We may even have the opportunity to sing our favorite Christmas carols!)

Please join us!

Advent Family Nights

All families are invited to learn more about Advent and how to keep Christ in Christmas.

On Wednesday, December 6, in Fellowship Hall (the church basement) beginning at 5p we'll have hot dogs and chicken nuggets for dinner. Then we'll make-and-take family Advent conversation starters, "Advent-urous Tags", followed by worshipping together at the 6:30p Advent Worship service.

On Wednesday, December 13, we'll meet at 5p for a pizza dinner followed by an outdoor tree lighting and singing Christmas carols. Then we head inside for the 6:30p Advent worship service.

PLEASE RSVP to kpingel@stpaulsjanesville.com by Monday, December 4, so we have enough food and supplies.

Thank you!



School Christmas Program

St. Paul's school Christmas Program is set for Sunday, December 17th, at 4p in the school gym. The students have been working hard to prepare to share the Christmas story.

This is a wonderful way to invite family and friends to hear the wonderful news of our Savior's birth. We hope you will make plans to attend with your loved ones.



Caring Card Ministry

Do you enjoy stamping/making cards? Are you interested in sending encouragement to those who need a boost?

We'd love to have you join us as we begin a Caring Card Ministry. Our first project will be to make Christmas cards to give to those in our congregation who may need prayers and words of encouragement. Plus we will be making cards to send to veterans in VA Hospitals.

We look forward to having you join us on Monday, December 11 at 6p in Room 202 of St. Paul's School.

Caring Card



*⁴⁰And the King will answer them,
‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’
—Matthew 25:40—*

Women's Journey to the Manger Bible Journaling or Verse Mapping

Wednesdays at 9a from Nov. 29 thru Dec. 20 or Thursdays at 6p from Nov. 30 to Dec. 21 in Room 202 of St. Paul's School.

Join us as we journal our way through the Christmas story. We'll teach you how to Bible Journal or how to do Bible Verse mapping.

Bring a Journaling Bible (purchased at amazon.com, cph.org, or local bookstores); colored pencils, water colors, or gel pens; graphing paper to try Bible Verse Mapping; washi tape, stickers, gesso (if using watercolors).

For more info about ordering, supplies, etc. please contact Kathy Pingel at kpingel@stpaulsjanesville.com



St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran
Church, School
And Day Care

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

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Regular Worship Schedule:

Thursdays at 6:30p
Saturdays at 6p
Sundays at 8a & 10:30a

Official Acts

Baptism:

10-29-2017 Lochlan Isaiah Sullivan
Parents: Michael & Heather Sullivan
Sponsors: Matthew & Julie Skalecki

Deaths:

10-20-2017 Barbara Ann Prehm
11-16-2017 Betty Lou Wagner

Altar Guild Says “Merry Christmas” to All!

During the Christmas Season, our Altar Guild plans special decorations to celebrate the birth of Our Savior, so donations of altar flowers are not used. The Altar Guild would like to thank everyone who donated the flowers during the month of November, and we remind you to watch the bulletin board in the narthex (back of church) for the 2018 flower chart, where you will be able to reserve the weekend you wish to donate the altar flowers.

There will be no meeting in December. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending the first meeting of the New Year on Wednesday, January 31, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the School Library.

**FOR TO US
A SON IS GIVEN**





*Special
Worship
Schedule*

Saturday	December 2	6p
Sunday	December 3	8a and 10:30a
Wednesday Advent	December 6	12:15p and 6:30p
NO WORSHIP, Thursday, December 7		
Saturday	December 9	6p
Sunday	December 10	8a and 10:30a
Wednesday Advent	December 13	12:15p and 6:30p
NO WORSHIP, Thursday, December 14		
Saturday	December 16	6p
Sunday	December 17	8a and 10:30a
Children's Christmas Program	December 17	4p in St. Paul's Gym
Wednesday Advent	December 20	12:15p and 6:30p
NO WORSHIP, Thursday, December 21		
NO WORSHIP, Saturday, December 23		
Christmas Eve	December 24 at 4p	Comm. Wor--Candlelighting
	December 24 at 6:30p	Contemp. CommWorship with Candlelighting
	December 24 at 9p	Trad. Comm Worship with Candlelighting
Christmas Day	December 25	9a Comm Wor
NO WORSHIP, Thursday, December 29		
Saturday	December 30	6p
New Year's Eve	December 31	8a and 10:30a
NO New Year's Evening Worship		
New Year's Day	January 1, 2018	9a with Holy Communion