

Our Stewardship For: November 22, 23, 25 & 26, 2017

Church and Communion Attendance:		Sunday School:	
	Church	Comm.	Attendance:
Thanks Eve	182	142	Offerings: \$
Thanks Day	87	61	
Saturday	131	106	Total Missions: \$
8:00	160		<i>Operation Christmas Child</i>
10:30-	150	100	

Our Gifts to God:	NOV 5, 2017	\$22,299.55
	NOV 12, 2017	\$17,777.10
	NOV 19, 2017	\$24,708.70
	NOV 26, 2017	\$17,039.64
	NOV To Date Giving	\$81,824.99
	NOV Monthly Budget Needs	\$92,000.00

Please Note: ALL above figures include only Unified Giving, Loose Cash, General Fund Giving and Special Envelopes (i.e.-Lent; Thanksgiving, Christmas, etc.). The above figure includes donations given through the Simply Giving automatic, electronic fund transfer system. These figures do not include any tuition amounts or monies designated for special purposes (i.e.-missions, alms, school, school library, school music programs, hymnals, endowment fund; capital improvement, etc.)

Thank you for your loose coins! All loose coins given in the offering (pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, half-dollars and even dollar coins) are used for various mission projects. Thank you.

Opportunities for Special Gifts/Memorials—Thank you!

Jack & Sue Arnold gave a gift for the Parking Lot in memory of Barb Prehm; Andrew & Angie Ellefson gave a gift to Unified in memory of Woody Huenerberg;

In memory of Betty Wagner: *For the Parking Lot:* Dave & Gwen Brassington; the Dave Knuth Family; David & Janet Jass; Rich & Karen Zastoupil.

In memory of Carol Strunz (sister of Jack Arnold): *For the Parking Lot* from Jean Riepl; Karen & Rich Zastoupil; Ellen & Gregg Davis; Gwen & Dave Brassington; Sharon & Tom Roth; Dawn & Tim Roberts; Jan & Tony Clymer.



ST. Paul's
Lutheran Church, School & Day Care

OPPORTUNITIES

For the Week of December 3, 2017



For the Family of God at St Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, School and Day Care
210 South Ringold Street Janesville WI 53545-5199; (608) 754-4471
www.StPaulsJanesville.com

Daniel J. Decker, Senior Pastor	ddecker@StPaulsJanesville.com	322-5839 Cell 754-4471 ext. 300
Marin Cerchez, Vicar	mcerchez@StPaulsJanesville.com	754-4471 ext. 301
Rob Lunak, Principal	rlunak@StPaulsJanesville.com	754-4471 ext. 302
John Mueller DCE Youth	jmueller@StPaulsJanesville.com	754-4471 ext. 304
Kathy Pingel DCE Family	kpingel@StPaulsJanesville.com	754-4471 ext. 306
Dennis Wahrle, Parish Music	dwahrle@StPaulsJanesville.com	751-5309
Cindy Perkins, Business Manager	cperkins@StPaulsJanesville.com	754-4471 ext. 307

St. Paul's Church Council 2017-18

Bridget Lindau	608-290-1460
Brian Garcia	608-449-4711
Sarah Williams	608-295-2806
Jack Eden	608-751-5999
Jennifer O'Connell	608-359-3544
Nate Simmons	608-436-6720
Jeff Elser	608-752-5120
Tom Neumann	608-756-1978
Laura Manke	608-563-1142

Have you been to our website? www.StPaulsJanesville.com is the place to go for information on all of the activities of the congregation. You will find the weekly "Opportunities" and "Taking Faith Home" on the main page and a link to the "Principal's Pads" under the "School" tab.

Children's Activity Bags Available to borrow during the service: We have bags of items that you can use to keep your little one quiet during the worship service (a stuffed animal, coloring pages and crayons; a "seek and find" toy, etc.). They are located in the back of church on a stand. Please return all items to the bags when you are done and return the bags to the holders. It's important to return all items so that other parents can use them as well.

Our Church Calendar for the week of December 3, 2017

Sunday: Comm Wor.-8a; Sunday School/Bible Studies-9:15a; Joyful Noise-9:15a; Contemporary Wor.-10:30a; Afternoon Comm.-1:30p; Adult Confirmation-3p; Public School Confirmation-4:30p; Advent by Candlelight-4:30p; Youth/Bible Study-6p; Sr. High Youth/Bible Study-7:30p.

Tuesday: Parents in Prayer-8a; Bible Study-9:30a; Adult Fellowship-6p; Men's Basketball-8:30p.

Wednesday: Chapel-8:15a; Women's Bible Study-9a; Advent Worship-12:15p; Advent Family Night-5p, Advent Wor.-6:30p.

Thursday: Breakfast Bible Study-6:30a; Moms and Tots Playgroup-10a; Ladies' Aid/LWML Christmas Party at Citrus Café-12:30p; Women's Bible Study-6p; NO EVENING WORSHIP.

Saturday: Orphan Grain Train-8 to 11a; Contemporary Comm. Wor.-6p.

Next Sunday: Wor.-8a; Sunday School/Bible Studies-9:15a; Joyful Noise-9:15a; Contemporary Comm. Wor.-10:30a; Adult Confirm-3p; Public School Confirmation-4:30p; Youth/Bible Study-6p; Sr. High Youth Bible Study-7:30p.

Please join us today (Sunday) for a very special service: **Afternoon Communion** at 1:30 PM

Sympathy: Our prayers are with Jack Arnold at the recent loss of his sister, Carol Strunz. May our Loving Lord comfort all who mourn.

Altar Flowers: There is a sign up chart in the Narthex (back of church) to donate the altar flowers. When you sign up, an Altar Guild representative will call you to discuss which florist you will use and arrange to have a vase liner delivered. You make payment arrangements with the florist directly. Following the last worship service you have the option of taking the flowers home or donating them to a homebound member or nursing home. Sign up today!

Worship Folders: The folders today are given by Paul & Vicki Fetting in celebration of their 17th wedding anniversary on December 2. Happy Anniversary, Paul & Vicki! If you'd like to sponsor the worship folders, simply call Stacey in the Church Office (754-4471) to reserve your date. The cost is \$50.00. Available dates are: Dec. 24, 31; Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28. Thank you.

Birthday Greetings: On December 5, former member of St. Paul's Theodore Hasse celebrates his 100th birthday. Cards may be sent to 1401 El Norte Pkwy # 115, San Marcos CA 92069. Blessings on your birthday, Ted!

Hospitalized: Please notify us when in the hospital (and let us know at which hospital) so pastors and staff members can visit. At Mercy-Darrin Riley, Vicki Kuhl, Elise Schafer. Please remember them in your prayers along with Michelle Schroeder and Trish Plante who have been released.

The Latest Issue of St. Paul's "Principal's Pad" is available for pick-up in the Narthex (back of church).

Opportunities to Remember Others In Prayer

Pray for Us Missionary Calendar Available! You are invited to pick up the most recent prayer calendar, showing prayer requests submitted to LCMS World Mission by our co-workers in the Lord's Mission around the world. They are available in the back of church.

Aaron's Hands. Aaron's Hands is an informal prayer group that meets on the 4th Tuesday afternoon of the month, from 2 to 3 p.m. in the Conference Room of School. The group lifts up in prayer the specific requests of missionaries. Everyone is Welcome – just bring a prayerful heart.

Parents In Prayer meets Tuesdays from 8 to 9 a.m. in the conference room of school. This group is for moms, dads, grandparents, aunts, uncles and anyone who would like to pray for our school, teachers, students, and staff. We meet every Tuesday that school is in session. For more details, contact Lisa Stanton at 608-563-0203.

Opportunities to Be in God's Word: Weekly Bible Studies

SUNDAYS AT 9:15A *MARTIN LUTHER AND THE REFORMATION:*
FELLOWSHIP HALL *VICAR MARIN CERCHEZ*

SUNDAYS AT 9:30A *"LOVE RULES"*
SCHOOL ROOM 202 FOR MORE INFORMATION: KATHY PINGEL (754-4471 EXT. 306)

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY AT 9:30A
FELLOWSHIP HALL *THE GOSPEL OF LUKE* WITH PASTOR DAN DECKER

WEDNESDAYS AT 9A *WOMEN'S STUDY—HAVING A MARY HEART IN A MARTHA WORLD*
SCHOOL ROOM 202 FOR MORE INFORMATION: KATHY PINGEL (754-4471 EXT. 306)

THURSDAY BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY AT 6:30A
FELLOWSHIP HALL *"WALK AS JESUS WALKED"* WITH BARRY & RUTH WIER (608-752-9330)

THURSDAYS AT 6:30P *WOMEN'S STUDY—HAVING A MARY HEART IN A MARTHA WORLD*
SCHOOL ROOM 202 FOR MORE INFORMATION: KATHY PINGEL (754-4471 EXT. 306)

Mites Support Missions with Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML)! For the next two years (2016-2018), St. Paul's Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML) will be using their mites to support eleven mission grants. Our next project is *Free at Last Ministry to Women*. You can help by praying for this mission and setting aside your spare change to donate as mites. Bring your mites with you to church and place them in the large Mite Box that you'll find in the narthex (back of church).

Have You Taken Our Survey? We want to learn more about the strengths of our church and how we are fulfilling our mission and ministry. Your insights are crucial to this effort. We are asking all adults in our congregation to take a special survey online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/stpauljanesville>. The survey will be open until December 10, 2107 so please take the survey as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Decker at 754-4471 ext. 300 or ddecker@stpaulsjanesville.com.

The Associate Pastor Call Committee is now accepting nominations for the position of associate pastor. A nomination form and list of desired qualifications can be found in this issue of *Opportunities*. Besides the regular duties of preaching, teaching, counseling, and calling, the associate pastor will oversee three important areas of ministry: Missions (local, national, international), Assimilation of new members into active church membership, and Generosity or stewardship. Please keep this in mind when making a candidate nomination. Nominations can be submitted by filling out the nomination form and placing it in the offering plate by December 3.

HELP! We are in need of additional volunteers for snow plowing the parking lot this winter. If you have a plow and would be willing to be included in a rotation for snow plowing duties, please contact Cindy Perkins (cperkins@stpaulsjanesville.com or [608-754-4471 X307](tel:608-754-4471)).

Thank you for supporting the 7th Grade Washington, DC Trip! Your participation in our Boston Store Community Days and PaintNite promotions have helped to make this special trip affordable. You have an opportunity to continue supporting the 7th Grade trip by dining at Janesville's Buffalo Wild Wings from now until December 31. When dining simply **inform your server you are there supporting St. Paul's Team D.** Buffalo Wild Wings will donate 10% of your dinner total to the trip. If you are interested in other ways to support our class trip, please contact Mr. Kroll (754-4471 ext. 207) or email jkroll@stpaulsjanesville.com.

St. Paul's Supports – What is it? It's a TEAM of St. Paul's Members supporting other members (specifically students who have graduated from St. Paul's and are now in High School.) It requires very little commitment. To make a difference in a young person's life, please contact Scott Gestrich ([608-580-2059](tel:608-580-2059)) or John Mueller ([909-936-3955](tel:909-936-3955)) or simply sign up at bit.ly/stpaulssupports

Share Your Holiday with Others: St. Paul's Congregation delivers Christmas Cheer Baskets to members who need a little extra help to make ends meet. You can help by contributing dish washing liquid, laundry detergent, bath soap, facial tissue, paper towels, toilet paper, canned soups (mushroom, tomato, chicken, etc.), canned cranberry sauce, canned tuna, peanut butter and jams/jellies; or any non-perishable food item. Please bring your gifts to Fellowship Hall by Wednesday, December 20. There will be a table set up for your donations. Thank you! *Could you or someone you know use a Christmas Cheer Basket?* Please contact David Jass at 608-755-0564. All calls remain confidential.

The Church Council meets on the second Monday of each month. The next meeting is December 11, at 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of School. All members of the congregation are welcome to attend Church Council meetings. Minutes of the approved Church Council meetings are also available for review from the Church Office or a copy will be mailed to you upon request.

2017-18 Council Members are: Bridget Lindau, 608-290-1460; Brian Garcia, 608-449-4711; Sarah Williams, 608-295-2806; Jack Eden, 608-751-5999; Jennifer O'Connell, 608-359-3544; Nate Simmons, 608-436-6720; Jeff Elser, 608-752-5120; Tom Neumann, 608-756-1978, Laura Manke, 608-563-1142.

Celebrate Christmas with the Adult Fellowship Club! All adult members of the congregation are invited to join us for a meal on Tuesday, December 5 at 6p in Fellowship Hall (the church basement). Please bring a dish to share. Then stay for an evening filled with Christmas music provided by Mr. Dennis Wahrle. It's a great way to celebrate Christmas!

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. **RSVP by Mon., Dec. 4 by emailing:** kpingel@stpaulsjanesville.com.

Let's Give Pastor Paul & Chris Garchow a Special Christmas Gift! *Pastor Paul Garchow served St. Paul's congregation for 32 years, retiring in 2011. He continues his battle with pancreatic cancer.* Let's show our support by giving a special gift this Christmas. We will collect a special door offering following the Christmas worship services, or place your gift in an envelope marked "Pastor Paul" and place in the offering plate, or turn in to the church office. Donations will be accepted through December 31. Make checks payable to St. Paul's, and we'll write one big check from the congregation. Thank you!

If you would like to send them a Christmas Card, their address is: 1525 Wildrose St, Belvidere IL 61008.

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.

Caring Cards Ministry: Do you enjoy stamping/making cards? We'd love to have you join us as we begin a Caring Card Ministry. Join us on Monday, December 11 at 6p in Room 202 of St. Paul's School, where we'll make Christmas cards to send to members of our congregation and cards to send to veterans in VA Hospitals.

Ladies' Aid Holiday Bake Sale is Coming! *We need bakers!* Would you be willing to whip up an extra batch or two of your holiday specialties and donate them to our bake sale? We would appreciate any homemade items: cookies, candies, sweet breads, pies, cakes, cupcakes, etc. Donations can be brought to Fellowship Hall (the church basement) on Saturday, December 9 after 4p. Thank you!

We also need shoppers! 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.

Ladies' Aid Collecting Items for Rock Haven's Canteen. The canteen provides residents of Rock Haven the opportunity to "purchase" items for themselves and for their family/friends. We're looking for new or gently used items. Rock Haven has very few restrictions and many interests that include: those free calendars, wrapping paper and cards you receive in the mail or free samples of shampoo, conditioner, and lotions; movies on VHS and DVD; Music CDs and cassettes; Books; stuffed animals are popular to give to grandkids and toys for all ages; knick-knacks; clothes—all sizes for men and women, fuzzy socks and slippers; jewelry and nail polish (this is VERY popular); craft supplies; purses, coin purses, make-up bags, hair scrunchies, makeup. The list is endless. There will be a box in Fellowship Hall for your donations. Thank you!

Check out the beautiful Quilts in the LWML Quilt Auction! Stay warm this winter with the annual Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML) Quilt Auction! The auction is open until December 3 at noon. The quilts in the auction are on display in Fellowship Hall (the church basement) during this time. Bid sheets are posted by each quilt. Please take a look at the artistic talents of the generous ladies of our congregation, who have donated their time, efforts and materials to this auction. Their beautiful quilts include some that are professionally finished.

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University is coming to St. Paul's! Ben Wright will lead the 9-week money management education series, which will be held Monday evenings from 6-8p in Kathy Pingel's Room 202 starting January 22nd. To register and order your materials, contact Ben at [\(608\) 698-1336](tel:6086981336), email Ben at benjamin.scott.wright@gmail.com, or use this link: <https://fpu.com/1053541>. Class materials cost \$129 per household, but a generous St. Paul's couple (who wish to remain anonymous) will reimburse that dollar amount to St. Paul's members who attend 8 of the 9 sessions. Please consider this opportunity and sign up today!

YOUTH GROUP OPPORTUNITIES & CALENDAR

Our Youth Group is Open to ALL students in 6th to 12th grades. Friends are welcome, too!

Sun., December 3 from 6 to 7:30p: Youth/Bible Study in Youth Room.

What can we learn from popular animated Disney movies that will help us grow in our life of faith? Join us this weekend as we take a closer look at *The Lion King*.

Senior High Youth Group: All youth in grades 9 to 12, are invited to stay a little later (from 7:30 to 8:15p) in the gym.

Sun., December 10 from 6 to 7:30p: Youth/Bible Study in Youth Room.

What can we learn from popular animated Disney movies that will help us grow in our life of faith? Join us this weekend as we take a closer look at *Monsters, Inc.*

Senior High Youth Group: All youth in grades 9 to 12, are invited to stay a little later (from 7:30 to 8:15p) in the gym.

SUNDAYS AT 9:15A to 10:15A—SUNDAY SCHOOL. Our Sunday School classes are open to all children ages two years through 8th grade. (Two and three year old students must have a parent with them). We meet in room 202 for opening and then head down to our classrooms to meet our teachers.

SUNDAYS AT 9:15A: Jr. High Grapple for 7th & 8th Grade Students! Come grapple with the real questions you're asking – join us for Grapple each Sunday from 9:15a-10:15a. It's NOT Sunday school – it's so much more. You don't want to miss the fun! Contact Josh Blake (608-368-8052) for more info.

Moms & Tots Playgroup is held every Thursday from 10-11a in the Family Ministry Room # 202 in the school. There is a story and play time for toddlers and devotions for moms. Join us to connect, support, and socialize. Contact Kathy Pingel for more info at kpingel@stpaulsjanesville.com or 754-4471 ext.306.

St. Paul's Alumni Association: We're looking for current information on all former students who have ever attended St. Paul's School. (Current address, current phone number, current email address, maiden name-if you've been married, and year your class graduated.) Forms are available from the back of church or send an email to churchoffice@stpaulsjanesville.com. Thank you!

Holiday Worship Opportunities:

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

Volunteer Opportunities: We are looking for additional volunteers, junior high age on up, to run the screen at the contemporary services. No experience needed. Training is provided. Good opportunity for school parents to log volunteer hours. A weekly commitment is not required. Even one service per month would be helpful! Please contact Cindy Perkins at 608-295-0868 for more information or to volunteer.

Calling All Thrivent Members! If you're a Thrivent Financial member, you can lead a *Thrivent Action Team*, to bring people together for a one-time project to help others in the community. Thrivent will provide \$250 per project in seed money. We are currently looking for Thrivent members willing to partner with our mission teams to sponsor upcoming projects. If you would be willing to help, please contact Stacey in the Church Office (608-754-4471 ext. 350 or smarenda@StPaulsJanesville.com). Thank you.

ECHO News:

www.echojanesville.org

- *ECHO Needs:* Pork N Beans; Peanut Butter & Jelly; Soups and Crackers; Mac N Cheese; Spaghetti noodles and sauce; Spaghetti O's; canned meats; deodorant; toothbrushes and toothpaste; dry laundry soap; toilet paper; diapers (sizes 4 to 6) and shampoo. Any non-perishable item is appreciated. Bring your gifts with you to worship and place them in the barrels marked "ECHO" that you find in the back of church (the Narthex) or in Fellowship Hall (the church basement).

Opportunities to Support St. Paul's Church & School:

By Enrolling in *Simply Giving!* Through *Simply Giving* your gifts are made through a pre-authorized withdrawal from your bank account. You determine the amount and frequency of your automatic gift. Because your gift is given consistently, you won't need to play "catch-up" at year-end or worry about forgotten checkbooks or missed Sunday offerings. Contact the church office for an enrollment form.

By Purchasing and Using SCRIP for all of your shopping needs! SCRIP certificates and cards give 3 times . . . full value to you (or the recipient of your choice) PLUS a rebate of 2%-25% of that amount to our school! And we'll give back part of the rebate to you to reduce your tuition, to help St. Paul's Budget or to add to St. Paul's School Scholarship Fund! The choice is yours! You can purchase SCRIP following the weekend worship services or from the school office during regular business hours.

By Saving "Boxtop for Education" Labels. Next time you buy groceries, pick up some cash for our school! Just clip "Box Tops" coupons from hundreds of participating General Mills products and bring them to St. Paul's (the school entryways or the container in Fellowship Hall). We get 10¢ for each one we send to General Mills at the end of the school year.

By Saving Grocery Store Receipts. St. Paul's School receives a 1% rebate on all purchases. Both Sentry locations (West Court Street and East Milwaukee Street) participate in this program. If you shop at Sentry, simply ask for a sticker on your receipt and then turn your receipts into the box in the School entryways or in Fellowship Hall (the church basement).

