

ST. PAUL VISITOR DECEMBER 2024

JOIN US EACH SUNDAY
AT 10:00AM FOR
IN PERSON WORSHIP
OR ON FACEBOOK

721 12TH AVENUE
HUNTINGTON, WV 25701
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ORG



The Mission Of St. Paul
Evangelical Lutheran
Church Is To Celebrate
And Proclaim To All The
Saving Grace Of Jesus
Christ In Word And
Deed.

ALL ARE
WELCOME
HERE 



Make Room in Your Heart

Children's program

December 15, 2024

10:00am



Advent Mid-Week

New Creation

Wednesday evenings

6:00pm Meal in undercroft

7:00pm Worship in sanctuary

December 4 Pastor Kevin Mackey

Meal: Soup and Sandwiches

December 11 Pastor Warren LaHammer

Meal: Tacos

December 18 Pastor Darick Biondi

Meal: Spaghetti

Pastor's Reflections

As we begin a new church year on December 1st, my mind starts to wander to all the ministry we do as the calendar year closes out. Much of which is in greater detail throughout the rest of this newsletter.

Christmas basket ingathering and distribution on December 22

The Christian Education Committee and Sunday school children along with Henning, our Music Director are preparing for their program on December 15.

The Fellowship Committee has set out an online portal for people to sign up for the midweek meals on December 4, 11 and 18. Thanks in advance to everyone who is providing these meals.

The Lutheran pastors of the I64 corridor will be leading our midweek services. This Advent St Paul will see myself, Pastor Warren LaHammer and Pastor Darick Biondi. We will be using a new liturgy called Joyous Light.

Then of course there is the special music being planned for our Christmas Eve service. Thanks to Henning for getting this all arranged even amidst his busy schedule at Marshall.

Decorating of the church on December 14, Saturday. COME AND HELP US!

That is a lot! So thankful for our work together here at St Paul. Without all of you the ministry and mission we do in Christ's name would not be able to be accomplished. As we begin this new church year my mind also goes to the services on Sunday morning. This year the primary gospel for the lectionary is from the Gospel of Luke. Luke's text is a bit of a travelogue. Jesus is moving around much in the narrative. Luke also has some of the most cherished stories in the New Testament: The "Good" Samaritan and the "Parable of the two sons and the father" being two that many of us may recall.

I wonder if Luke does this to remind his readers, then and now that the Gospel is always moving. The Gospel is a verb – an action word. The actions we do in Christ's name move the Gospel out into the places and people who need to hear it. Those on the fringes of our culture. Our work as God's people here in the place is so important. Again, I thank you for your contributions to this work we do.

I pray this Advent that God in Jesus will bless you with hope. I pray that God in Jesus becoming flesh among us will remind you how much God loves you.

Blessings and Peace,
Pastor KLM <><



Thank you to our quilters of St. Paul for once again making quilts to include in our Christmas baskets this year. They will also give quilts away to others in need. They work hard throughout the year to make these quilts. Our quilters include Creigh Pemberton, Norma Gensler, Mary Lou Fricke, Jan Kirby, Edie Beals, and Alex Mackey. Be sure to thank them for their hard work this year.

Dear St. Paul Congregation,

November is at the end of the church year and also near the end of the fall semester at Marshall - one of the busiest months. As during the past few years, I am in Medellin, Colombia to perform at teach at a piano festival in the end of November, this year during the Thanksgiving break. Thank you to Keith Wellman for filling in for me on November 24. I am skipping the last day of the festival and will be back at the organ bench on Advent 1!

Starting Advent 1, we will change the setting of the liturgy from IV to V. The liturgy for Advent midweek services is new. The choir has been practicing it, and I will play excerpts from it on the piano in the beginning of communion during Advent so you will become familiar with the melodies.

We have started rehearsing the music for the children's nativity play on Advent 3 (thanks to Jill May). It will include two contemporary songs: "Make Room" by Casting Crowns and "It's Yours" by Matt Maher, alongside some old favorites.

The organ will eventually need cleaning and some repair work (it's a complex instrument, and this kind of maintenance is normal). We have one quote so far, and I am in the process of getting an additional estimate from a second company.

The music for Christmas Eve is also in the works: as always you will hear around 30 minutes of mixed special music before Worship.

In the little series about playing the organ, I'd like to introduce you to another advanced technique of hymn playing. It is called "reharmonization". This means that instead of the standard harmonies accompanying a melody, you will hear a different chord or chord succession. Often, this is done for special effect. One of the most famous examples is the chord underneath "Word of the Father" in the last verse of Oh Come, All Ye Faithful. British musician David Willcocks wrote a mid-20th century arrangement of this Christmas carol, and his reharmonization of the abovementioned text give the "Word" of the Father special gravitas. When church musicians talk about "The chord", that's what they mean. Listen for it, when we sing the last verse of Oh Come, All Ye Faithful on Christmas Eve!

Happy Thanksgiving!
Henning

CHRISTMAS EVE *Candlelight Service*

6:30pm Special Music

7:00pm Worship



Dear St. Paul Congregation,

The youth at St. Paul have been busy in the past month. We have made cards and candy bags for our Veterans to celebrate Veterans Day. We had a beautiful service honoring our Veterans in our congregation. Our amazing quilters shared their time and talents and presented each Veteran with a beautiful handmade quilt. These quilts were simply beautiful and created with love. Each Veteran shined bright with their special quilt wrapped around them. As they use their quilts, I hope they remember they are honored, treasured and loved for their time and service to our country .

The youth have been meeting every Wednesday and Sunday to prepare for our upcoming Christmas program- "Make Room In Your Heart". We will share the story of Jesus' birth through scripture and song. The youth are always excited to share their time and talents as well. We will have a performance from the bell choir, a solo, a duet, a trumpet accompaniment, and youth choir singing and signing. May the story be presented authentically with our own style. The Christmas Program will be on Sunday, December 15, 2024 at 10am worship service. The service will be followed by brunch. All are invited to share in the fun and fellowship after the service. We hope the Christmas story " Make Room In Your Heart" inspires everyone to share in the love that our Lord and Savior has brought us and taught us. May we come together to share in His love and light and take it out in the world to others who may not know. Let us all shine our lights bright this Christmas and help someone in need, share a meal, or share the Good News.

Our last meeting, we enjoyed fun and fellowship and discussing what we are thankful for. We had a wonderful breakfast for dinner and made turkeys out of oreos with Creigh Pemberton. The youth enjoy their time together in sharing their highs and lows, eating dinner together, cleaning up and venturing to try new things. We made special creatures out of pine cones and acorns one night. All their creations were unique, beautiful and special in every way, just like each of them. I treasure these children as they strive to learn more and to grow in Christ as a church family mentally, emotionally, and physically. As we prepare to tell the story of Christ's birth, we are reminded of what we are really here to do- to make room in our hearts for Jesus, to praise God first thing in the morning and the last thing before we fall asleep at night. We are here to help, love and serve and share the unconditional love of God with all we meet . This December, help us to make room in our hearts everyday and share the love and light that we may be the change in the world!

May we walk this out with bravery, authentically, freely and disruptively, like disciples of God. Let us be still and know God.

Your Loving sister in Christ,
Jill





The next Book Club meeting will be January 15 at 10:00am in the parlor. We will be discussing "All the Colors of the Dark" by Chris Whitaker. Please join us!

ST. PAUL CHRISTMAS CARD MAILBOX IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS!



Our mailbox, built by Bob Winterhoff, is back in the narthex and waiting for your cards. If you would like to give a Christmas Card to someone in the congregation please place your card(s) in the box. Be sure and check each week to see if there are cards waiting for you to pick up!!



Happy Anniversary!

27 Neil and Ruthann Arneson
30 Carl and Creigh Pemberton
31 James and Jill May



December Birthdays

2 Meredith Brumfield
3 Brice Dowis
5 Natalee Utley
8 Susie Wagner
9 Barbara Garnett
27 Brier Wagner; Aryah Freels

WORSHIP HELPERS FOR DECEMBER

December 1

Reader: Barbara Garnett
Assisting Minister: Linda Schneider
Communion Deacon: Creigh Pemberton
Acolyte: Willow May
Ushers: Emma and Ethan Arneson
Bread Provider: Conzetts
Children's Sermon: Pastor Mackey

December 22

Reader: Norma Gensler
Assisting Minister: Norma Gensler
Communion Deacon: Cheryl Conzett
Acolyte: Jackson Wellman
Ushers: Julie Huron
Bread Provider: Conzetts
Children's Sermon: Pastor Mackey

December 8

Reader: Mary Lou Fricke
Assisting Minister: Bernadette Wellman
Communion Deacon: Keith Wellman
Acolyte: Kennady Kist
Ushers: KV Chin and Steve Golder
Bread Provider: Conzetts
Children's Sermon: Pastor Mackey

December 24

Reader: Annette DuVall
Assisting Minister: Keith Wellman
Communion Deacon: Steve Golder
Acolyte: Daniel Kist
Ushers:
Bread Provider: Conzetts
Children's Sermon: Pastor Mackey

December 15

Assisting Minister: Steve Golder
Communion Deacon: Jenny Murray
Acolyte: Daniel Kist
Ushers: Mary Lou Pratt
Bread Provider: Conzetts
Children's Sermon: Pastor Mackey

December 29

Reader: Barbara Garnett
Assisting Minister: Linda Schneider
Acolyte: Jaylyn Garnett
Ushers: Julie Huron

ALTAR GUILD

Tim and Cheryl Conzett



Sanctuary Lamp:
Leng Chin
Chapel Lamps:
Linda Hay



JOY OF HEAVEN, HERE ON EARTH

Advent Devotional 2024

There are free Advent devotionals available in the narthex.

Both regular print and large print are available.

These devotionals are provided by Luther Seminary.

If there are none in the narthex please see Kathy Mackey and she can get one for you.



Please continue to bring in your used ink cartridges. We receive \$2.00 for each cartridge at Office Depot. You can leave them in the church office or give to Kathy.

CHRISTMAS BASKETS

Please bring the following items on the dates listed to help fill our Christmas Baskets that will be given to families in need this Christmas. Items can be left in the narthex.

Nov. 3 Box of instant mashed potatoes

Nov. 10 Canned Vegetables

Nov. 17 Canned chili or soup

Nov. 24 Box of Spaghetti and canned sauce

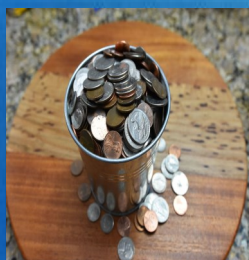
Dec. 1 Canned Fruit

Dec. 8 Box of Cereal

We need volunteers to shop for perishables. If you can help please sign up in the narthex and pick up a list of items to purchase.



We will be decorating the church on December 14 beginning at 9:00am. Please come and help if you can...many hands make light work!



We have met our goal! We have collected \$1057, but we are not done yet. We will have one more collection for World Hunger on Christmas Eve. Keep saving those coins!

WE PRAY FOR:



*LaDonna, Helen,
Deanna, Laura, Sue,
Meredith, Francesca,
Lauren, Carissa, James,
Curt, David, Cindy,
Gloria, Gary, David, Judi,
and Mary*

- *If you would like to add someone to the prayer list please call the church office.*
-



Give something
unexpected
this Christmas.

ELCA GOOD GIFTS

Our ELCA Good Gifts tree will soon be up in the narthex!

By choosing a tag from the tree and donating the specified amount to ELCA Good Gifts you are helping those in need throughout the world. Gifts can be made in honor or in memory of loved ones.

It's simple:

1. Choose a tag from the tree.
2. Place a check with specified amount in the offering plate (or turn in to the office)
3. Give the tag to someone as a gift given in their honor.

The church office will send the money in to ELCA gifts for you.



DAILY DEVOTIONAL IN YOUR INBOX

The readings listed below are emailed to the congregation Monday-Friday along with a suggestion for contemplating the scripture. If you are not currently receiving the daily devotional and would like to please contact the church office.



The annual congregational meeting will be held on Sunday December 8 after worship. We will be voting on new Council members, passing the Mission Finance Plan (budget) and discussing other business.

Cridlin Food and Clothing Pantry

For the month of December we will be collecting cans of vegetable soup for Cridlin. Please leave your donations in containers in the narthex.



December 2-6: Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79; Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6


December 9-13: Zephaniah 3:14-20; Isaiah 12:2-6; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18

December 16-20: Micah 5:2-5a; Luke 1:46b-55; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-55

December 23-27: 2 Samuel 2:18-20, 26; Psalm 148; Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52



December 2024

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---------------------|--|--|---------------|-----|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Advent 1 10:00 Worship 11:15am Sunday School and Bell Choir practice No Adult forum | 1:00pm Woman's Club | | 5:30pm Children practice for program 6:00pm Meal 7:00pm Worship | | | |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| Advent 2 10:00 Worship 11:15 Annual Meeting 11:15am Sunday School and Bell Choir practice No Adult forum | | | 5:30pm Children practice for program 6:00pm Meal 7:00pm Worship | | | 9:00 Decorating Church 12:00pm Program practice |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| Advent 3 10:00 Children's program No Adult Forum | | | 6:00pm Meal 7:00pm Worship | | | |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| Advent 4 10:00am Worship Christmas Basket Pickup No Adult Forum | | 6:30pm Special Music 7:00pm Christmas Eve Worship | OFFICE CLOSED | OFFICE CLOSED | | |
| 29 | 30 | 31 |  | | | |
| 10:00am Worship with Lessons and Carols No Adult Forum | | | | | | |



Dan Beals



Rick Probst



Bill Korstanje



Bill Jennings

Quilts of Valor were sewn and presented to veterans of the congregation.



John Scott



Dale Kelz



Susan Kelz



Custer Maynor



Bob Tucker



CONTACT US:

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secretary@stpaulhuntington.org
 304-525-9630

ST. PAUL MINISTRIES



Quilting



School Backpack Program



Christmas Baskets



Cool to be a Christian Club



Camp Luther



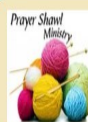
Lutheran Youth Organization



Worship in the Park



Trunk or Treat



Prayer Shawl Ministry



Blessing of the Animals



Christmas in August



Vacation Bible School

CONNECT WITH US



FACEBOOK

St. Paul Lutheran Church
 and
 St. Paul Lutheran
 Congregation Group



WEBSITE

www.stpaulhuntington.org



YOUTUBE

St. Paul Lutheran Church
 Huntington WV

