

MISSION & OUTREACH

Will meet on Wednesday, **January 13** from **9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** - Little Dresses (No Potluck Lunch)

DO-DAY

Will meet on Wednesday, **January 27** from **9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** (No Potluck Lunch)

PRISCILLA CIRCLE

Will meet on Monday, **January 11** at **2:30 p.m.** in the fellowship hall.
Hostess/Bible Study: TBD.

BIBLE STUDY

Sack Lunch Bible Study will meet on Tuesdays, **January 5, 12, 19, 26** at **12:30 p.m.** in the fellowship hall.

Men's Early Risers will **NOT** meet in **January**.

Jr. High Youth Group

January 6, 13, 20, 27 ~ 5:00-6:00 p.m. ~ Jr. High Youth Group meets with YMT Chris Baugh

Sr. High Youth Group

January 6, 13, 20, 27 ~ 8:00-9:00 p.m. ~ Sr. High Youth Group meets with YMT Chris Baugh

9th/10th Grade Confirmation Class

January 6, 13, 20, 27 ~ 7:00-8:00 p.m. ~ 9th/10th Grade Confirmation Class meets with Pastor Dan Baker

2021 SCHEDULES - RADIO BROADCASTS, LIVE STREAM, FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

The 2021 sign-up charts for Radio Broadcasts, Live Stream, and Flowers on the Altar are located in the narthex, if you wish to sign up for a special date. You can also call the church office to sign up. Radio Broadcast is \$80 per Sunday. Live Stream is \$25 per Sunday.

Radio Broadcasts: January 3, 17, 31; February 7, 14, 28; March 7, 14, 21, 28; April 4, 11, 18, 25; May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; June 6, 20, 27; July 4, 11, 18, 25; August 1, 15, 29; September 5, 19; October 10, 17, 24, 31; November 7, 14, 21, 28; December 5, 12, 24 (4:30), 26.

Live Stream: January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; February 7, 14, 17 (4:30/7:00), 21, 24 (7:00), 28; March 3 (7:00), 7, 10 (7:00), 14, 17 (7:00), 21, 24 (7:00), 28; April 1 (4:30/7:00), 2 (7:00), 4 (7:00 AM/9:00 AM), 11, 18, 25; May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; June 6, 13, 20, 27; July 4, 11, 18, 25; August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; September 5, 12, 19, 26; October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; November 7, 14, 21, 28; December 5, 12, 19, 24 (4:30/7:00), 26, 31 (5:30).

Flowers on the Altar: January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; February 7, 14, 21, 28; March 7, 14, 21, 28; April 4, 11, 18, 25; May 2, 9, 16, 30; June 6, 13, 20, 27; July 11, 18, 25; August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; September 5, 19; October 3, 10, 17, 24; November 7, 14, 28; December 5, 12, 19, 26.

Coffee Fellowship: There will be NO Coffee Fellowship until further notice.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School will resume on Sundays, **January 17** and **31**.

Sunday School classes will be from **10:00-11:00 a.m.**

2021 Sunday School Schedule

*10:00-10:10-Opening/Offering (Fellowship Hall)

*10:10-10:25-Choir/Bells (Sanctuary/FH)

*10:25-10:50-Rotation Lesson/Workshop (FH)

*10:50-11:00-Closing (FH)

No Sunday School on January 24 because of the Annual Meeting.

JAM

JAM will resume on Wednesdays, **January 20** and **27** from **5:00-6:00 p.m.**

2021 JAM Schedule

*5:00-5:15-Opening/Snack (Fellowship Hall)

*5:15-5:50-Class/Lesson (Lounge/Front SS Classroom)

*5:50-6:00-Closing (FH)

There is no meal offered this year. A snack and drink will be provided.

A Letter from the Pastor...

“2020 - Good riddance! Welcome – 2021!”

That might be a popular response as we move into the new year. The year 2020 was challenging in so many ways. When I googled major events for the year, highlights included things like wildfires, the impeachment trial, COVID-19, George Floyd’s death, protests, the election, and even toilet paper shortages! We will all have stories to tell for generations to come about this past year.

We also felt the impact of the pandemic, locally, with the many cancellations and changes. It took a while for COVID cases to appear, but it has come, bringing hospitalizations and even death. All the more reason to turn to God as we look ahead.

Sadly, COVID has touched everyone in some way. As the body of Christ, the church, we’ve struggled to know how to care for people and do the ministry we feel God is calling us to do.

Normally, the things we do are very communal – Sunday worship, weddings, funerals, service groups, and so many other activities. It’s been painful, even heart breaking to say “no” when we want to do it so badly. Social distancing can start to feel like spiritual distance, too.

I’ve been encouraged to see how determined you all are. We’ve found new ways to be the body of Christ in this pandemic. We can still be present in many forms, letting people know God’s love. Keep up the good work!

When we look back at 2020, there were still some wonderful and exciting things that did happen. We saw a successful manned rocket launch by SpaceX, a first in many years on American soil. The successful development of vaccines for COVID, which would normally take years. We’ve seen people risking their lives to help and care for people who are sick, like our front-line workers.

As we look ahead to 2021, we have great hope for things to improve, especially with the vaccine coming. Let’s pray it works well and things can get back to normal!

But it won’t be exactly the same, will it? It will be different, there will be a new normal, with different challenges and opportunities. That’s life! But God hasn’t changed, He is still our Lord and Savior, who loves us and wants to bless us.

St. Paul writes in his first letter to the Corinthians,

“Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.”

(1 Corinthians 9:24-25 NIV)

No two races are exactly alike, and no two years are either. Like a runner preparing for a race, we are preparing for a new year at St. Paul Lutheran. I’m excited to think about all the things we will be able to do together! Aren’t you?

As a church, we can’t “wait for the pandemic to be over” to start planning and doing. We will need to be patient, thorough, and careful. But let’s dream! Let’s see where God will lead us in 2021!

So, I want to invite you to be thinking and praying about this, too. How will God lead us in 2021? Where will we go? What will we do? How will we do it? What excites you about St. Paul Lutheran?

The answers will probably be different for each of you, because God has many plans for us. That’s ok, because we’re part of the Body of Christ, individually members of it. Each with a calling, from God, to do His will. Let’s be open to the Lord’s leading, his calling. Welcome 2021!

Pastor Dan Baker

NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE

New Year's Eve Service will be held on Thursday, December 31, 2020, at 5:30 p.m. with Pastor Ken Snyder presiding.

NEW YEAR'S EVE OFFERING

New Year's Eve offering will go to the general fund.

FINANCIAL BOOKS

Financial books for the church year at St. Paul will close on Thursday, December 31, 2020. All contributions received after December 31 will be applied to your 2021 giving.

OFFICES CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY

The church offices at St. Paul will be CLOSED on Friday, January 1, 2021.

2021 OFFERING ENVELOPE BOXES

The 2021 offering envelope boxes have been placed in your church mailbox. If you did not receive an offering envelope box and wish to have one, please contact the church office at 324-3049.

DE-DECORATE CHURCH

WAM Committee will de-decorate on Saturday, January 2, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES RESUME

Jr. High youth group will resume on Wednesday, January 6, 2021, from 5:00-6:00 p.m. **Confirmation Class for 9th/10th graders** will resume on Wednesday, January 6, 2021, from 7:00-8:00 p.m. **Sr. High** youth group will resume on Wednesday, January 6, 2021, from 8:00-9:00 p.m. **Sunday School** will resume on Sunday, January 17, 2021, from 10:00-11:00 a.m. There will be no Sunday School on Sunday, January 24, 2021, because of the Annual Meeting. **JAM** will resume on Wednesday, January 20, 2021, from 5:00-6:00 p.m.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO ASSEMBLE ANNUAL REPORT

If anyone would like to assist with assembling the Annual Report on Friday, January 15, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall, please notify the church office. Thank you.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church **Annual Meeting** will be held on Sunday, January 24, 2021, at 10:15 a.m. in the sanctuary. There will be no child care during the meeting or a meal following the meeting. We'll be using the fellowship hall to help with social distancing. A quorum needs to be established, so please consider attending.

PASTORAL ACTS

Funeral: Arnold "Arnie" John Kroese
Death: Karen Kay Fiddelke

YEARLY FINANCIAL UPDATE



NOVEMBER

Total Income	\$ 32,026.47
Total Expense	\$ 24,612.15
Income Less Expense	\$ 7,414.32

Fiscal Year Income	\$214,196.59
Fiscal Year Expense	\$205,367.35
Fiscal Year Income Less Expense	\$ 8,829.24

CONSTRUCTION LOAN (Parsonage Remodel)

Loan Balance 12/3/2020	\$ 85,526.25
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PANCAKE SUPPER

Tentative Date - Annual Pancake and Sausage Supper at St. Paul is scheduled for Monday, February 1, 2021, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. with a free will offering. Proceeding with this event will depend on COVID-19 restrictions at that time. Please watch the Sunday bulletin for more information closer to February 1.

NOAH'S ARK APPRECIATION SUNDAY

Noah's Ark Annual Appreciation Sunday is February 7, 2021. The children that attend Noah's Ark will be singing during the worship service and their Annual Bake Sale will following the worship service. We want to say thank you to St. Paul for your continued support! Please join us on February 7!

CAMP REGISTRATION DEADLINE

St. Paul's 2021 OLBC Summer Camp registration deadline is Wednesday, February 17, 2021. Registration forms and parent consent forms need to be turned in to the church office, if you are requesting a St. Paul campership. Please DO NOT register online with the camp website. Registration forms and parent consent forms can be found in the narthex.



Facebook



Website

Website: www.stpaulsheldon.org E-mail: pleasant@nethtc.net Pastor: Rev. Daniel Baker ~ (507) 402-0226 Church Office: (712) 324-3049
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ST. PAUL ASH WEDNESDAY/LENTEN/HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

February 17	4:30 p.m./7:00 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Services/HC
February 24	7:00 p.m.	Lenten Service
March 3, 10, 17, 24	7:00 p.m.	Lenten Services
March 28	9:00 a.m.	Palm Sunday Service/HC
April 1	4:30 p.m./7:00 p.m.	Maundy Thursday Services/HC
April 2	7:00 p.m.	Good Friday Service
April 4	7:00 a.m.	Easter Sunrise Service/HC
April 4	9:00 a.m.	Easter Service/HC

SHELDON FOOD PANTRY

The Sheldon Food Pantry will be a drive-thru on Monday, January 4, 2021, from 4:30-6:00 p.m. in the parking lot at Living Water Community Church. Please stay in your vehicle. A box of free food will be placed in the trunk of your vehicle. Those in need of assistance can receive a box of free food for their family.

SHELDON AREA UNITY MEAL

The Sheldon Area Unity Meal will be held on Monday, January 18, 2021, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the parking lot at Living Water Community Church. People will be asked to drive-thru to pick up a free meal to take home and reheat. Please stay in your vehicle. Meals will be handed to you through your vehicle window or placed in the trunk of your vehicle.

CHRISTIAN UNITY SERVICE

Please join us on Sunday, February 7, 2021, for a celebration of Christian Unity at 2:00 p.m. at Parkview Assembly of God. All Sheldon and Archer area churches are invited. Rev. Daniel Baker of St. Paul Lutheran Church will be preaching.

ST. PAUL TO SERVE THE SHELDON AREA UNITY MEAL

Mark your calendar for Monday, March 15, 2021, as St. Paul will be serving the meal at the Sheldon Area Unity Meal! Watch for more information in next month's newsletter.

LOVE INC - LOVING HELP CLASSES

Are you looking for a supportive community to grow and learn new skills? Love INC will be starting a new session of Loving Help classes. Classes will be held Thursday evenings from 6:30-7:30 p.m. from January 7-March 18. Class offerings include: Faith and Finances is for anyone desiring to become more financially secure—for people who don't have a lot of extra room in their budget, those wanting to tackle debt, build a savings account, etc. Positive Parenting is for parents and caregivers of children of all ages—for those looking for guidance and suggestions, for those who feel alone in the parenting journey, people looking for additional tools for parenting, etc. Manning Up is a class for men only, discussing how to be a God man in today's world. Embracing Life helps a person evaluate their past, present, and dream and set goals for the their future. Bible Study is for anyone looking to deepen their understanding of the Bible. Call the Love INC office to register or for more information: 712-324-9707.

EPIC/PACT APPLICATION FORM

Any high school senior or college student planning on applying for EPIC/PACT funds for the 2021/2022 school year needs to complete and turn in this form to the church office by **Sunday, January 24, 2021.**

Name: _____
College: _____

For Office Use: Date Submitted: _____ Received By: _____ Awarded Scholarship: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Amount Awarded: _____

REV. DR. KENNETH H. ARNOLD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The “Rev. Dr. Kenneth H. Arnold Memorial Scholarship Fund” has been established by St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Sheldon, Iowa, in deep appreciation for the ministry of Pastor Arnold at St. Paul from 2000-2006, and in recognition of his faithful support of Lutheran colleges and seminaries.

The scholarship fund money will be invested and only the interest will be used to grant one scholarship per year to:

- A member of St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Sheldon, Iowa, who is attending full-time at:
- Lutheran College
 - Wittenberg Institute, Lutheran Graduate School of Theology, Everett, Washington
 - Trinity School for Ministry, Ambridge, Pennsylvania
 - Any Other NALC Related Seminaries

The Church Council will review applications, choose a recipient, and determine the amount of the scholarship to be presented each year. Scholarship recipients may reapply each year, but the scholarship will be awarded to an applicant who has not been a past recipient of this scholarship first.

Rev. Dr. Kenneth H. Arnold Memorial Scholarship Application Form

Name: _____
College: _____

For Office Use: Date Submitted: _____ Received By: _____ Awarded Scholarship: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Amount Awarded: _____

The Rev. Dr. Kenneth H. Arnold Memorial Scholarship Application Form Deadline: Sunday, January 3, 2021.

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS AND COLLEGE STUDENTS

The By-Laws of the Endowment Fund Committee state that the committee may appropriate money for “scholarships for members of St. Paul Lutheran Church attending Lutheran educational institutions, including seminaries, universities, colleges, high schools, elementary schools, and preschools or daycare...” To this end, the committee is entertaining requests from member-applicants who will be attending college or university affiliated with the Lutheran Church next fall. These funds could also be requested for a member-applicant attending Noah’s Ark Preschool. Qualified persons should also submit an application to the church office which includes the Lutheran school which they will attend this fall. Applications will be accepted until **Monday, January 4, 2021.** Scholarships cannot be used towards EPIC/PACT. Contact the church office for more information.

ENDOWMENT FUND REQUEST FORM

The Endowment Fund Committee is accepting requests for funds to be used for worldwide missions and for missions within the congregation and/or surrounding community. Forms will be made available in the newsletter and on the tables located by the east front door entrance and northwest parking lot entrance, or you may contact the church office. These funds are not to be used for any normally budgeted operating expenses of St. Paul. Requests should be addressed to the Endowment Fund Committee and sent or delivered to the church office by **Monday, January 4, 2021.**

Name of Individual, Group, or Organization for Which Funds Are Being Requested:

Amount Requested: \$ _____

Date Needed: _____

Proposed Use for Requested Funds:

Additional Information:

Contact Person:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Recipient's Address:

Date Submitted: _____