

NEWS YOU CAN USE

A NEW TRADITION: NATIVITY NIGHT

Over the past several years, as our Sunday School roster has shrunk and interest in directing the annual Sunday School Christmas program wanes, enthusiasm for the program has lessened. As a result, the Board of Education and Pastor Aaron have been brainstorming how to breathe new life into sharing the story of Jesus' birth. It is with great excitement and intentionality that the Sunday School Board invite you to St. Paul Lutheran's first ever Family Nativity Night, which will replace our Christmas program this year.

Nativity Night, which will take place on Sunday, December 16th, will run from 5:00pm to 7:30pm and is open to the entire congregation. Over the course of this two and a half hours we will share a community meal, decorate Christmas cookies, retell the Christmas story, sing carols, play games, and make tree ornaments. The goal of this intergenerational event is to build relationship and teach the story of our salvation. Please RSVP before Friday, December 14th so we can plan enough supplies. Invite your neighbors, friends, and family to join us as we celebrate the reason for the season, Jesus Christ, the Babe of Bethlehem!

Christmas Worship



As you gather with those you love to celebrate the birth of our Savior, be sure to join us at St. Paul Lutheran for our Christmas season worship services:

- Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship at 6:30pm on Monday, December 24th.
- Christmas Morning Worship at 10:30am on Tuesday, December 25th.

PASTOR AARON'S CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Pastor Aaron will be gone the weekend of Sunday, December 23rd to attend a family wedding with Sarah in Des Moines. They will return the afternoon of December 23rd and plan to be around until Wednesday, December 26th when they will travel to Aaron's family for Christmas. Pastor Aaron will be back in the pulpit on Sunday, December 30th.

DECEMBER 2018 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:30am: Worship 10:30am: Sunday School	3	4	5 2:30pm: Confirmation 6-7:30pm: Midweek Advent Soup Supper & Worship 7:30pm: Church Council	6	7 6:30am: Men's Breakfast Bible Study	8
9 9:30am: Worship 10:30am: Sunday School 2:30pm: Jr. Lutherans	10	11 6:30pm: Young Adults Group Christmas Party	12 2:30pm: Confirmation 6-7:30pm: Midweek Advent Soup Supper & Worship 7:30pm: Budget Committee	13	14	15
16 9:30am: Worship 10:30am: Sunday School 5:00pm: Nativity Night	17	18	19 2:30pm: Confirmation 6-7:30pm: Midweek Advent Soup Supper & Worship 7:30pm: Benevolence Committee	20	21 6:30am: Men's Breakfast Bible Study	22
23 9:30am: Worship <i>(Doug DeGroot, preaching)</i>	24 6:30pm: Christmas Eve Worship	25 10:30am: Christmas Day Worship	26	27	28	29
30 9:30am: Worship	31					

December Birthdays:

1 st — Nichole Reinke	20 th — Sara Anderson	30 th — Kathi Sohl
4 th — Dallas Willemssen	20 th — Owen DeJong	31 st — Drew Mosier
6 th — Austin Mosier	20 th — David Tiedemann	
10 th — Lynn DeStigter	21 st — Calvin Tiedeman	
10 th — Dean Schmith	22 nd — Ken Sohl	
11 th — Shirley Techen	26 th — Arnold Tiedemann	
17 th — Darwyn Dickmann	29 th — Dale Fick	
17 th — Marlene Techen	29 th — Reagan Tiedeman	

December Anniversaries:

23rd — Robert and Erica McAlpine
30th — David and Marcella Suter

THE ST. PAUL LUTHERAN MESSENGER

DECEMBER
2018

Connection Point

Things happening this month

Wednesday, December 5

Church Council Meeting

The St. Paul Lutheran Church leadership will gather following Midweek Advent Worship.

Sunday, December 9

Jr. Lutherans

The St. Paul Jr. Lutherans will meet at the church at 2:30pm for Christmas cookie decorating and a few games. We will break into groups and deliver the cookies to our homebound and shut-in congregation members to share the Christmas spirit! Pick-up time at the Church will be at 5:00pm.

Tuesday, December 11

Young Adults Group Christmas Party

The St. Paul Lutheran Young Adults Group will meet on December 11 at 6:30pm at the Doon Steakhouse for our annual Christmas party. Invite a friend and introduce them to the group!

New Members

The St. Paul Lutheran Church council is pleased to welcome the following individuals as new members of our congregation:

- Jim and Jennifer Collins
- Kerry Pena and her son, Noah

Please be sure to welcome them into our faith family the next time you see them around church.

Women's News

There will be no Helping Hands, Women of the Word, or Quilting group meetings this month. All of these groups will resume meeting in the month of January.

Worship Notes

Holy Communion

The Sacrament of the Altar will be celebrated this month on Sunday, December 16th.

December Worship Assistants

Deacon: Ken Nielsen

Head Usher: Delwyn Egdorf

Usher: Keith Anderson, Lonnie Egdorf, Jerris Rensink, and Eric Van Beek

Women's Duties: Dana Fick and Erica Tiedeman

Midweek Advent Soup & Worship

In preparation of Christ's arrival at Christmas, we will gather again this Advent season for a midweek soup supper and worship service on Wednesdays December 5th, 12th, and 19th. Soup, furnished by the women of St. Paul Lutheran, will be served by the youth beginning each night at 6:00pm. A freewill donation will be taken for their mission trip next summer. A brief worship service will follow at 7:00. Pastor Aaron will be preaching a sermon series entitled "The 3 P's of Christmas." Invite a friend or neighbor and join us!