



The Messenger

Third Sunday in Advent ~ December 15, 2024

St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School

1126 S. Barr Street, Fort Wayne, IN 260-423-2496

www.stpaulsfw.org

Bible Study Opportunities

Singing Through Advent

Please join us on Wednesday December 18 for our Midweek Advent Services at 12:00 noon or 6:30 p.m. This week we will discover how God continues to be with us as we look at the hymn: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (LSB 357)* and how it relates to Isaiah 7. Make sure to stay for Communion immediately following the service.

Sunday Morning Bible Study—10:45 a.m.

No Bible Study this week due to our regularly scheduled Voters Assembly. Meet in the sanctuary immediately following the Divine Service.

Next week, join us for Bible Study, cake, and refreshments as we celebrate the birth of our Savior with our Sunday School.

Sunday School—Sundays at 10:45 a.m.

Children will meet at the back of church and teachers will take them to their classes from there. Parents, pick up your children at the front door of school at 11:30 a.m. **Next Sunday, December 22, is our Birthday Party for Jesus!** All Sunday School students are invited to come to the school gymnasium after the Divine Service for cake, crafts, and games. Come help us celebrate the birth of our Savior!

Calling All Ladies—Monday at 6:30 p.m.

This Monday evening, December 16, our regularly scheduled Women's Bible Study (held at Pastor and Kristin Hoem's house) will have a Christmas party! All ladies are invited, even if you haven't attended Bible Study before. Bring an appetizer or snack to share and if you would like to participate, please bring a wrapped ornament for an ornament exchange.

Wednesday Afternoon Bible Study—2:00 p.m.

Class resumes January 8.

Thursday Morning Men's Bible Study—7:00 a.m.

Class resumes January 9.

Thursday Morning Bible Study—9:00 a.m.

Dr. Geoffrey Robinson teaches on Psalms at the District Office (1145 Barr Street).

Worship Schedule:

Sunday, December 15, 9:30 a.m. ~ *Third Sunday in Advent*

Wednesday, December 18, 8:45 a.m. ~ *Morning Prayer*

Noon ~ *Responsive Prayer*

6:30 p.m. ~ *Divine Service*

Our Giving For December 8

Budget Envelopes	\$14,698.57
CLHS	\$36.57
Missions/Lutheran Heritage	\$71.30
Plate Offerings	\$138.02
Seasonal Envelopes	\$393.00
Poinsettia Donation	\$50.00
School Income	\$1,430.00
Total Income	\$16,817.46
PEF/Student Assistance	\$100.00
Gathering In Christ	\$19,685.23
Total of All Donations	\$36,602.69

Attendance Last Week

Sunday, December 8 ~ 9:30 a.m.	265
Wednesday, December 11 ~ Noon	26
Wednesday, December 11 ~ 6:30 p.m.	69

Serving This Week and Next

Sunday, December 15 ~

Altar Guild: *Kathy Morse and Gloria Nash*

Elder: *Jon Keck*

Ushers: *Dan Wietfeldt, Dave Vandre, Josh Vandre, Joshuwa Richman, Karl Davis, Kevan Davis, Barry Mezger, Mark Vandre*

Sunday, December 22 ~

Altar Guild: *Kathy Morse and Gloria Nash*

Elder: *Trent Towne*

Ushers: *Dave Geller, Matt Geller, David Kruse, Dan Kramer, Dean Trainer, Russ Harges, Jack Hall, Sam Lind*

Altar/Chancel Flowers

The Altar flowers have been given to the glory of God by Tim Robison, in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Fred W. Gallmeier and Mr. & Mrs. Fred B. Gallmeier.

The Chancel flowers have been given to the glory of God by Judi Parrot, in memory of Keith Parrot.

Announcements For Consideration Are Due By Wednesday at Noon

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Quarterly Voters Assembly December 15

Meet in the sanctuary after the Divine Service for our regularly scheduled quarterly voters meeting.

Christmas at the Embassy December 15

Concordia Lutheran High School's Christmas at the Embassy begins at 4:00 p.m. Gather together with your families, friends and congregation and come celebrate Christmas at the Embassy with Concordia Lutheran High School's Music Department! You'll be treated to an evening of Christmas music by our high school's bands, choirs, and orchestra. What better way to get into the Christmas spirit? This year's theme is *'The Christ Child: Our Confidence and Joy Shall Be'*. Tickets are available at the STAR Bank Box Office at the Embassy or at Ticketmaster.com.

YAMS (Young Adults Married & Single)

Young adults of St. Paul's, come and join us for a Christmas get-together this Tuesday, December 17 at 6:00 p.m. No need to RSVP, just come and meet fellow members your age! Please email Andrea Machemer at amachemer@stpaulsfw.org for the address and any other details.

Poinsettia Donations Needed

Poinsettia plants will once again add to the beauty of the altar area for Christmas services. Please consider a donation to the church, marked for Poinsettias to help cover the cost of these flowers.

Deck The Halls

Decorating the church for Christmas has been a fun tradition for many in our congregation over the years. We will finish decorating on Friday, December 20 beginning at 1:00 p.m. Please consider helping us decorate! Meet at the main sanctuary doors.

Save the Date for St. Paul's Dinner Auction

Saturday, February 8, 2025 at 5 p.m. Tickets will be available to purchase after the holidays. We hope that you will join us for "The Golden Ticket" event to support St. Paul's Lutheran School! If you—or your business—have a donation for our auction, please talk to Kristen Whirrett (kwhirrett@stpaulsfw.org) or Megan Koenemann (mkoenemann@stpaulsfw.org). Stay tuned for more details to come about this special night!

Monday Morning Prayer Group

Join us Monday mornings (following the school calendar for closures) to pray for our church and school. Meet outside the school office by 8:30 a.m. and we will pray together for about 20 minutes. Contact Jill Clem if you have any questions, veit-clem@hotmail.com or call 260-403-0273.

Thank You from Shepherd's Hand

Shepherd's Hand Community Outreach Center would like to express their appreciation for the generous donations given by St. Paul's members. A total of 65 families were served at the Thanksgiving meal, 39 dined-in and 122 carried out. They had 72 blessing bags full of food that they were able to pass out to families. Thank you for teaming up to support the women, children and families who use the center as a resource.

Teacher Openings for 2025-2026

St. Paul's Lutheran School is now accepting teacher candidates for the 2025-2026 school year. We are looking for 4th grade and 6th grade homeroom and English/Literature teachers. Interested candidates may contact Principal Andy Whirrett at 260-424-0049 or awhirrett@stpaulsfw.org.

Order Altar/Chancel Flowers

The order book, located on the glass case in the narthex, has the following date available to reserve flowers: New Year's Eve, December 31. The sign up sheets for 2025 are now available. Reserve a specific date in honor or in memory of a special person or event. Payment of \$40.00 is due when you reserve a date. Please make your check out to St. Paul's Altar Guild and include the date that you reserved on your check. You may put your payment in the offering plate or mail it to the church at 1126 S. Barr St. **Please mark your envelope specifically for Altar Guild Flowers.** Please pick up your flowers after the service or they will be delivered to our shut-ins. Thank you!

No More State Income Tax!!

That's right. Looking for ways to stretch your giving ability? Then turn your state income tax into a donation for St. Paul's. No matter how big or how small your state income tax may be, it can all be eliminated with donations to the Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization (LSGO) designated for St. Paul's Lutheran School. Want to give to CLHS as well? LSGO donations may also be designated for CLHS. With the end of the year approaching, now is a good time to reduce or eliminate your state income tax for 2024. See the "LSGO Giving" attachment for details. Contact information is provided if you have any questions. Thank you!

December 15–Advent 3

Gospel-motivated voices For Life bring reasonableness to the cultural conversation about life issues (Phil. 4:5). It means a message of joy and hope instead of just another angry and fearful demeanor. The sanctity of life proclaims good news to neighbors made poor (Luke 7:22) by pressures toward abortion and physician-assisted suicide. God remains mighty to save (Zephaniah 3:17), even in surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis.

December 2024

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<p>1</p> <p>9:30am - Divine Service 10:45am - SCRIP Sales 10:45am - Bible Study & Sunday School</p>	<p>2</p> <p>4pm - Handbell Practice 6:30pm - Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8:45am - Chapel Noon - Advent Service 2pm - Bible Study 6:30pm - Advent Service 7:30pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7am - Men's Bible Study - District Office 9am - Bible Study— District Office</p>	<p>6</p> <p>1pm - Christmas Decorating in the Sanctuary</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:30am - Divine Service 10:45am - SCRIP Sales 10:45am - Bible Study & Sunday School 10:45am-12:30pm - Ladies Aid Cookie Walk, School Gym</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:30pm - Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>8:45am - Chapel Noon - Advent Service 6:30pm - Advent Service 7:30pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9am - Bible Study— District Office 5:30pm - Elders Mtg 7pm - Church Council</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:30am - Divine Service 10:45am - SCRIP Sales 10:45am - Voters Meeting</p>	<p>16</p> <p>4pm - Handbell Practice 6:30pm - Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>17</p> <p>6:00pm - YAMS Ugly Sweater Christmas Party</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8:45am - Chapel Noon - Advent Service 6:30pm - Advent Service 7:30pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9am - Bible Study— District Office 6pm - BOEE Meeting</p>	<p>20</p> <p>1pm - Christmas Decorating in the Sanctuary</p>	<p>21</p> <p><u>St. Thomas, Apostle</u></p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:30am - Divine Service 10:45am - SCRIP Sales 10:45am - Birthday Party for Jesus - All ages welcome in the school gymnasium!</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Christmas Break</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Christmas Break CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 6pm - Children's Christmas Service 11pm - Lessons & Carols</p>	<p>25</p> <p><u>Christmas</u> Christmas Break CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 10:00am - Christmas Day Divine Service</p>	<p>26</p> <p><u>St. Stephan, Martyr</u> Christmas Break CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>27</p> <p><u>St. John, Apostle & Evangelist</u> Christmas Break CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>28</p> <p><u>The Holy Innocents, Martyrs</u></p>
<p>29</p> <p>No Bible Study or Sunday School</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Christmas Break</p>	<p>31</p> <p><u>Eve of the Circumcision & Name of Jesus</u> Christmas Break CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 6:30pm - New year's Eve Divine Service</p>	<p>1</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Christmas Break</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Christmas Break</p>	<p>4</p>

PRAY

without ceasing

1 THESSALONIANS 5:17

St. Paul's Students and Their Families:

† *Isaiah, Jauniece, Freedom, Regan, Silas*

Gathering In Christ:

† *God's continued blessing of our "Gathering In Christ" building project.*

Thanksgiving:

† *For the birth of Micah Crews Vandre, son of Mark and Brianna Vandre.*

Ongoing Chronic Concerns:

† *John Furniss & Susan Balsamo-Furniss*

† *Harris Beck*

† *Roger Couch*

† *Bob Demaree*

† *Nick Demaree*

† *Joanne Engstrom*

† *Carolyn Falkenstern*

† *Dennis Harmeyer*

† *Terry Harmeyer*

† *Mary Hathaway*

† *Judy Helmchen*

† *Lonni Helmchen*

† *Jerry Huitt*

† *John Huitt*

† *Roy Huitt*

† *Ruth Huitt*

† *Juanita Jefferson*

† *Karen Johnson*

† *Pam Johnson*

† *Kelly Kochensparger*

† *Jodi Kreiger*

† *Gail Ludvigson*

† *Sandy Macon*

† *John Mader*

† *James Maier*

† *Leah Maier*

† *Eleanor Marine*

† *Joan Messmann*

† *Mary Mundt*

† *Sara Nordling*

† *Juan Perez*

† *...and those who care for them.*

† *Ron Rastl*

† *Andrew Scholes*

† *Wanda Schweyer*

† *Fred & Norma Scott*

† *Amanda Seeger*

† *Sam Suarez*

† *Denise Trentadue*

† *Mark von der Lage*

Comfort, Health, and Recovery:

† *Joan Badders*

† *Nathan Davis*

† *Phoebe Fett*

† *Jim Frey (friend of Gloria Nash)*

† *Chris Gill (James Goodwin's sister)*

† *Gloria Hamer*

† *Dennis and Jane Jordan*

† *Lorene Langsdale*

† *Diane Lewis*

† *Peter Meyer (son of Lois Meyer)*

† *Jim Nash*

† *Brenda Nelson (friend of Davis Dean)*

† *Mike Snider (son-in-law of Marilyn Schultz)*

Our Homebound Members:

† *Neva Aldridge*

† *Myra Carrier*

† *Mary Ann Cordes*

† *Jane Doehrmann*

† *Rodney Hall*

† *Jan Leffel*

† *Lois Meyer*

† *Ernestine Morrison*

† *Larry Murphy*

† *Esther Pinnow*

† *Leona Puff*

† *Carolyn Reincke*

† *Susan Schamberg*

† *Walter Schroeder*

† *Rev. Ralph Seilaff*

† *Dorothy Taylor*

† *Mary Weick*

† *Sharon Williams*

Serving in the Armed Forces

† *KiVuan Edwards*

† *Cierra Germann*

† *Rev. Brian Hamer*

† *Zachary Harmeyer*

† *Jasmine Jackson*

† *Austin Kerr*

† *Courtney Linnemeier*

† *Sharia Macon*

† *Jamara Moore-Chambers*

† *Rev. Joshua Schiff*

† *Brandon Screeton*

† *John Sheaffer Jr.*

† *Ryan Sheaffer*

† *Brandon Skalicky*

* Pray for these saints throughout the week.

Please submit prayer requests by calling the church office at 260.423.2496 ext. 310