



1st Sunday of Advent
December 2, 2018

Pastor

Rev. Dennis Matyas, M.Div., S.T.M.
248.227.3489
dennis.matyas@stpaulbaycity.org

Director of Family Life Ministry

Mr. David Schultz

Principal

Mr. Jack Lustila

PRAYER AND SUPPLICATION WITH THANKSGIVING

HOMEBOUND

Erv Hoerauf	Julie Roark	
Dorine Auernhammer	Jon Ittner	Herb Schmidt
Dolores Appold	Lorna Ittner	Rose Anne Schmidt
Gwen Bakus	Mike & Karen Kusch	Al Vogtmann
Armond Beiser	Irma McKenzie	Tim Wegener
Dorothy David	Margaret Meyer	

BEREAVED

(family & friends of)

James Abraham (Rachel's dad)
Mary Kochalka (cancer)

THIS WEEK'S MEMBERS

Jonathan Mueller	
Doug, Julie, & Christopher Begick	Gary, Debra, & Paige Sawicki
Caila & Vanessa Burkhard & Londyn Burkhard-Hall	Jason, Christy, Cadence, & Hayden Swartz
Brian Fritz	Brandon, Megean, Jared, Deanna, & Maura Zeilinger
Krystal Hoernlein	

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL

<u>SUNDAY</u>	12/2	8:00 a.m. Worship
		9:15 a.m. Bible Classes & Sunday School
		10:30 a.m. Celebration & Praise with Communion
		7:00 p.m. Advent by Candlelight
<u>MONDAY</u>	12/3	5:30 p.m. Ladies Aid Christmas Party
<u>TUESDAY</u>	12/4	6:00 p.m. Bell Choir
		7:00 p.m. Church Choir
		7:00 p.m. Elders Meeting
<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	12/5	3:15 p.m. Advent Worship
		4:00 p.m. Advent Soup & Salad Supper
		6:30 p.m. Advent Worship
<u>FRIDAY</u>	12/7	10:00 a.m. Funeral for Mary Kochalka
		6:00 p.m. Board of Ed. Christmas Party
<u>NEXT SUNDAY</u>	12/9	8:00 a.m. Worship with Communion
		9:15 a.m. Bible Classes & Sunday School
		10:30 a.m. Worship
		12:00 p.m. Potluck

NOTES AND NEWS

ATTENDANCE Thanksgiving Eve & Day – 284 (178, 106) Last Sunday – 357 (205, 152)

<u>DAILY BIBLE READINGS</u>	Dec. 2 – Rev. 1	Dec. 3 – Rev. 2
Dec. 4 – Rev. 3	Dec. 5 – Ps. 139-140	Dec. 6 – Ps. 141-142
Dec. 7 – Rev. 4	Dec. 8 – Rev. 5	

DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS starting at 9 a.m. Saturday, December 8. Anyone wanting to help with the church interior Christmas décor (trees, wreaths, etc.) is welcome to join in.

POTLUCK NEXT SUNDAY Get out your favorite holiday recipes and make them for our December Fellowship Potluck! See you at noon on December 9.

PARSONAGE OPEN HOUSE The Matyas Family warmly invites the families of St. Paul Church and School to their Parsonage Open House on Friday, December 14, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. There will be food, drinks, music and laughter. We look forward to seeing you there.

WELLSPRING CARING TREE Please consider donating a gift by choosing a gift tag from the tree. All gifts must be returned by Dec. 9. Instructions will be on the table in the narthex next to the tree. Call Cheryl Leppek (460-8383) or Angie Buda (397-4198) if you have any questions.

ADVENT DEVOTIONS You are invited to pick up a blue Advent devotion booklet, entitled "The Coming King," in the back of church for your daily study of Scripture. Regular and large-print copies are available for you to begin reading today. Thank you to Lutheran Hour Ministries for making this resource available for us to share.

ADVENT SOUP AND SALAD SUPPER The St. Paul Men's Club will once again be hosting the 1st Wednesday in Advent dinner in the school auditorium from 4-6 p.m. to coincide with the Advent services on December 5. The menu will be vegetable beef soup, salad with fixins, sauerkraut with pork, hot dogs, Polish dogs, mashed potatoes with butter and gravy, kosher dills, coffee, milk, punch, water, and assorted desserts.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE CHRISTMAS PARTY will be held December 20, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. in our own St. Paul auditorium! Call or text Lu Britton (989)798-3156 or Loretta Schlicker (989)233-9564 of your attendance and number of guests by Sunday, December 9 (\$12 per person). Bring your \$10-15. Secret Pal gift, gifts for spouses and guests, table offering for missions and enjoy a delicious catered meal from the Char House.

We will be entertained by a few vocalists from VLHS, who will expect some audience participation! "Fa-la-la-la la, la-la, la, La!

THANK YOU FROM ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN Orphan Grain Train thanks you for your generosity. They joyfully received a large number of boxed quilts and other goods delivered by Roy & Donna Schmidt on behalf of St. Paul. These goods will be applied to the early work of Orphan Grain Train Michigan. Please hold Orphan Grain Train Michigan in your prayers. -- Pastor David Reed, Branch Manager

NEED GIFT CARDS FOR CHRISTMAS? With over 50 different cards to choose from, the scrip box is bound to have that perfect gift card for the people on your list. Please see the person selling at the back of church or stop in the office, or take an order form home. We do have a lot on hand. If not, it only takes a few business days to get them in. To ensure we have what you need, please place all orders by Dec. 17th. Any questions, please contact Megan Lowe 989-684-4450 or treasurer@stpaulbaycity.org. Thank you for supporting our school.

STEWARDSHIP Happy New Year!

"Sometimes it seems as though we spend our lives waiting. Daydreaming about an upcoming vacation, worrying over a medical test, preparing for the birth of a grandchild-our days are filled with anticipation and anxiety over what the future holds. As Christians, we too spend our lives waiting. But we are waiting for something much bigger than a trip, bigger even than retirement or a wedding: We are waiting for the return of Jesus in glory. Advent heightens this sense of waiting, because it marks not only our anticipation of Jesus' return, but also our remembrance of His arrival into our world - "The Word made Flesh". Let's prepare ourselves for Christmas by coming to "Advent" services on Wednesday the 5th, 12th, and 19th.
STEWARDSHIP - A way of life

LADIES AID CHRISTMAS PARTY St. Paul Ladies Aid will be having their annual Christmas party on Monday Dec. 3 at Pierce Bar and Grill on Pierce Road between Bay City and Saginaw. Social hour will begin at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 6 p.m. For more detailed information regarding this event, call one of the committee members: Lisa Stanley, Ashley Clauss, Debbie Neuman, or Kim Snover. Thanks, and we hope to see you there.

HELP NEEDED Hedy Gerold (686-4504) needs a housekeeper to assist her in her Condo in Creekwood Cir. Subdivision off Two Mile near church. It is a small condo with only one floor. She is a very nice and very neat, clean person. She only needs help one day a week. The current housekeeper that has been helping her is working and going back to college after the 1st of the year.

She also needs someone to driver her occasionally to the grocery, pharmacy, and doctor, usually all on the same day. The person from church that has been helping her since May is going to Florida after Christmas until April, and she will only have one relative that can only help occasionally. She only has one appointment scheduled in Feb. 2019. However, she will be having surgery between now and then and might need a ride to the hospital and back. It would be great if we could find 2 or 3 people that she could call for a ride when needed.

JOIN THE JOURNEY to the Ministry Center

Amount pledged:

**\$495,347 /
\$500,000**

Pledges Needed

1%



Pledges Made

99%

Upfront Gifts received:

**\$143,525 /
\$925,000**

Given

16%



Needed

84%



AREA EVENTS

Sun., December 2, Boars Head Festival – Bethlehem, Saginaw 4 p.m. (808 Weiss St.) This festival will move you and your family into the true Christmas spirit. There is no cost or tickets. We hope to see you there!

Sun., December 2, German Songfest – St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth 3 p.m. (1030 Tuscola Rd.) All are welcome to join in singing many favorite German carols and hearing German readings of Advent and Christmas. This year's event highlights the 200th anniversary of "Stille Nacht" by singing all six original German verses with guitar, as first sung in Oberndorf/Salzburg in 1818. The Male Chorus will perform, and a brass group will play pre-service carols. About 200 attendees are expected, and a free-will offering will be gathered. After the Songfest, visitors are invited to tour the church's historic sites, including the founders' bells from Nürnberg, the church museum of German immigrant and Native American artifacts, and the 1845 log cabin replica.

Fri., December 7, Sat., December 8, & Sun., December 9, Living Nativity Walk – Immanuel, Frankentrost (8220 Holland Rd. (M-46)) Friday, Dec. 7 from 7-9 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 8 and Sunday, Dec. 9 from 6-8 p.m. Travel to the ancient town of Bethlehem to pay your taxes and be counted in the Roman census. Hear the shepherds talk about the angels' proclamation. Listen to the prophet talk of signs and wonders. Enjoy the city alive with activity and no room at the inn. Avoid the anger of the Roman Soldiers and tax collectors. See the babe asleep in the manger. This is a free 30-minute walk and is mainly an outdoor event, so dress for the weather. A cement sidewalk is in place. After the walk-through, everyone is invited to enjoy light refreshments and fellowship.

Sat., December 8, Bake Sale – Pilgrim, Essexville 9 a.m.- Noon (1705 Nebobish Ave.) There will be lots of Christmas cookies, bread, pies and an assortment of candies. Stock up on you Holiday gifts. Contact person is Mary Setzer, 989-893-7224

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 33:14–16 (ESV)

¹⁴ “Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah.

¹⁵ In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: ‘The LORD is our righteousness.’”

EPISTLE READING

1 Thessalonians 3:9–13 (ESV)

⁹ What thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, ¹⁰ as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith?

¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, ¹² and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, ¹³ so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 19:28–40 (ESV)

²⁸ When [Jesus] had said these things, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹ When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰ saying, “Go into the village in front of you, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ you shall say this: ‘The Lord has need of it.’”

³² So those who were sent went away and found it just as he had told them. ³³ And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, “Why are you untying the colt?” ³⁴ And they said, “The Lord has need of it.”

³⁵ And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶ And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ As he was drawing near—already on the way down the Mount of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen,

³⁸ saying, “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” ³⁹ And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples.” ⁴⁰ He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.”