



2nd Sunday of Advent
December 9, 2018

Pastor

Rev. Dennis Matyas, M.Div., S.T.M.
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Director of Family Life Ministry

Mr. David Schultz

Principal

Mr. Jack Lustila

2nd Sunday of Advent

December 9, 2018

St. Paul Lutheran Church & School
6100 Westside Saginaw Road
Bay City, MI 48706
Sunday Worship: 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Bible Classes & Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

Website: www.stpaulbaycity.org
Church Phone: 989.686.7140
School Phone: 989.684.4450
Fax: 989.684.0882
Email: office@stpaulbaycity.org

WELCOME IN THE NAME OF JESUS TO ALL WHO WORSHIP WITH US HERE AT ST. PAUL LUTHERAN THIS MORNING!

Visitors and guests, please sign the friendship pad (which is at the end of the row), and include your address and phone number.

Please take note of the communion information and guidelines on the inside upper panel of the friendship pad. If you are unable to come to the front for communion and desire to be communed, please sit on the end of the pew and notify the elder. Those receiving the individual cups are asked to please hold onto their cup until the elder passes by with the common cup so none will be missed.

Care cards, located in the pew rack ahead of you, can be used for prayer requests. Please hand the card to an usher or place it into the basket when the offering is received.

<u>LITURGY</u>	8:00 a.m. - Divine Service 2 with Communion	10:30 a.m. - Divine Service 2
<u>HYMNS</u>	8:00 a.m. - 349, 344, 338, 384, 376, 331, 357, 362	349, 344, 338, 362
<u>READERS</u>	8:00 a.m. - Jack Lustila	10:30 a.m. - Jeremy Warren
<u>ACOLYTES</u>	8:00 a.m. - Lexi Hutchinson	10:30 a.m. - Caroline Douponce
<u>GREETERS</u>	8:00 a.m. - Dale & Lynn Jezowski, Art & Jamie Zeilinger	10:30 a.m. - Ron & Ardie Reuther, Bill & Bonnie List
<u>USHERS</u>	8:00 a.m. - Group 2 – Randy Appold, Weston Appold, Greg Behmlander, Matt Appold, Daryl Appold, Rylan Appold	10:30 a.m. - Group 5 – Bob Campbell, Terry Burkhard, Richard Doan

PRAYER AND SUPPLICATION WITH THANKSGIVING

SICK/INJURED

Leeta Theiss (successful knee surgery)
Janet Hoerauf (heart stent)

HOMEBOUND

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

SPECIAL

Jeff Schlicker (Loretta's son; cancer)
Mike Ruegsegger (Denise's father-in-law)

THIS WEEK'S MEMBERS

Eleonore Begick	Andrea, Gavin, & Hailey Nagy
Terry, Pamela, & Liane Burkhard	Gillian Sawicki
Tracy & Richard Hoffman, Sidney Spencer, & Roman Gibson	Allen, Teresa, April, Dylan, Ryan, & Patrick Switala
James LaPlant	Daniel Zeilinger

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL

SUNDAY

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
3:00 p.m. VLHS Christmas Concert

MONDAY

12/10

6:30 p.m. Board of Business Management

TUESDAY

12/11

6:00 p.m. Bell Choir
7:00 p.m. Church Choir

WEDNESDAY

12/12

Newsletter Articles Due

6:30 p.m. Advent Worship

THURSDAY

12/13

6:30 p.m. Church Council

FRIDAY

12/14

6:30 p.m. Parsonage Open House

NEXT SUNDAY

12/16

8:00 a.m. Worship
9:15 a.m. Bible Classes & Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship with Communion
1:00 p.m. Voters Meeting

NOTES AND NEWS

ATTENDANCE Last Sunday – 394 (214, 180)_Advent Midweek Services – 193 (143, 50)

DAILY BIBLE READINGS Dec. 9 – Rev. 6 Dec. 10 – Rev. 7
Dec. 11 – Ps. 143-145 Dec. 12 – Proverbs 29 Dec. 13 – Rev. 8
Dec. 14 – Rev. 9 Dec. 15 – Rev. 10

FRESH WREATHS FOR SALE! Spruce up your holiday decor for a great cause. \$20. Proceeds to benefit the St. Paul Ministry Center. Wreaths will be available for purchase at today's potluck or contact Ray Garcia at 989-662-6050.

POTLUCK TODAY Join us today at noon in the gym for our December Fellowship Potluck!

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.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU FROM LADIES AID How blessed we are to have so many people willing to help us with our Ladies Aid Bake Sale! Thank you to all who participated in the frying, baking, bringing baked goods in, helping with frosting, setting up in the gym, and everything else, too. We are truly thankful for all the help you gave us.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR JESUS – DECEMBER 16, 9:15

a.m. During Sunday School on December 16, we will host the annual Birthday Party for Jesus. Children, Preschool through 8th Grade, can join us for activities, crafts, snacks and prizes, celebrating Jesus' birthday. Please note that Sunday School will not meet on Sunday, December 23 and Sunday, December 30. Child Care will be provided on those dates in the Preschool room, for those who would like to attend adult Bible classes on December 23 and 30.

WILD GAME DINNER & SILENT AUCTION

*Mark your Calendar, Save the Date,
Find your Recipe, Even Donate!*

The annual Youth Wild Game Potluck and Silent Auction will be on Sunday, January 27, from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. The Silent Auction will end at 1:30 and Door Prizes drawn after that. So save some of your harvest, find your favorite recipe, and come enjoy tasty food and fellowship. To donate items for auction or Door Prizes, contact David Schultz.

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!

SUNDAY SCHOOL RECOGNIZES PERFECT ATTENDANCE FOR NOVEMBER

Congratulations to the following students who had perfect Sunday School attendance for the month of November: Brandon Begick, Charles Begick, Jozelynn Begick, Maggie Behmlander, Max Behmlander, Mason Daniel, Caroline Douponce, Elise Helmreich, Noah Helmreich, Isaac Hendrick, Ava Garrett, Rylie Garrett, Brynlee Kolberg, Landon LaForest, Natalie List, Abigail Matyas, Ethan Matyas, Isaac Matyas, Olivia Matyas, Owen Wiess, Dolan Wills, Chase Wyman, Deanna Zeilinger, Maura Zeilinger

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 Our Lord Speaks to us (Part 3)

Now we reach the high point in our service. So far we have opened our lips in prayer and praise to God. Now we fall silent, for our Lord Himself will now speak to us. He will reveal Himself and His will in a special way: in the reading and preaching of His Word. God has made Himself known to us in the Bible. This is how He speaks to us. This is the source of all that we believe and teach. Without the Word of God our worship as well as our faith, would wither and die.

THE EPISTLE: A selection usually from one of the New Testament letters. Here we receive instruction in living the Christian life.

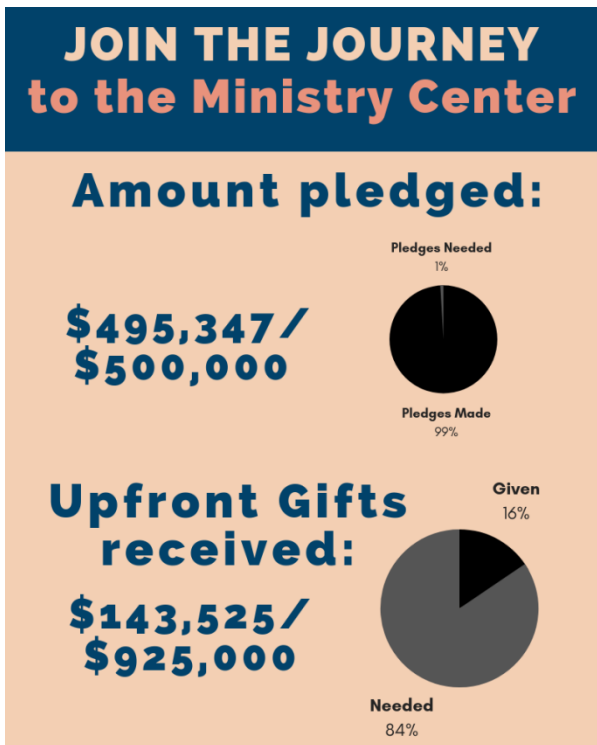
THE GOSPEL: The Gospel reading centers about the life and words of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is often the key to the theme for the day, the main event or lesson which we are commemorating.

HYMN: We sing another hymn to prepare our hearts for the seed of the Word which will now be sown in the sermon.

THE SERMON: God speaks to us through His called servant. The Pastor's sermon is not just a number of offhand remarks, but a prayerfully prepared proclamation of God's message of repentance, salvation, and growth in faith. Upon entering the pulpit the Pastor greets us with the Salutation which the Apostle Paul used so often in his letters. At the conclusion of the sermon the Pastor speaks the Votum. With these words from Philippians 4:7 he invokes the blessings of God's peace upon all who have here received God's Word.

STEWARDSHIP - A way of life

TEACHER NEEDED Immanuel Lutheran School in Saginaw (Frankentrost), Michigan, is accepting resumes for a full time 1st and 2nd grade classroom teacher. Applicants must be caring Christian role models, Highly Qualified with a current Michigan teaching license, and possess all skills required to teach in core content in a self-contained classroom. Resumes can be dropped off or mailed to Attn. Kyle Smith Immanuel Lutheran School 8220 East Holland Rd. Saginaw MI 48601 or submitted to Kyle Smith via email at ksmith@frankentrost.org by December 14, 2018.



2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Malachi 3:1–7b (ESV)

¹ “Behold, I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap. ³ He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

⁵ “Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

⁶ “For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. ⁷ From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them.”

EPISTLE READING

Philippians 1:2–11 (ESV)

² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ³ I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴ always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷ It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸ For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹ And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰ so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 3:1–14 (ESV)

¹ In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, ² during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴ As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

⁵Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall become straight,
and the rough places shall become level ways,

⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

⁷He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ⁹Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?” ¹¹And he answered them, “Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.” ¹²Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” ¹³And he said to them, “Collect no more than you are authorized to do.” ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages.”