



1st Sunday after Christmas
December 30, 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

PRAYER AND SUPPLICATION WITH THANKSGIVING

SICK/INJURED

Ardie Reuther

HOMEBOUND

Dorine Auernhammer

Erv Hoerauf

Margaret Meyer

Dolores Appold

Jon Ittner

Julie Roark

Gwen Bakus

Lorna Ittner

Rose Anne Schmidt

Armond Beiser

Mike & Karen Kusch

Al Vogtmann

Dorothy David

Irma McKenzie

Tim Wegener

SPECIAL

Jeff Schlicker (Loretta's son; cancer)

Mike Ruegsegger (Denise's father-in-law)

THIS WEEK'S MEMBERS

Leeta Theiss

Jeremy, Liz, Ava, & Allyson Begick

Richard Zeilinger

Catherine Hutter

Kris Christian & Hannah Van Horn

Blaine Lederer

Jan Kinney

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL

SUNDAY

12/30

8:00 a.m. Worship

9:15 a.m. Bible Class

10:30 a.m. Worship

1:00 p.m. Funeral for Herb Schmidt

MONDAY

12/31

6:30 p.m. New Year's Eve Worship with
Communion

THURSDAY

1/3

School Resumes

NEXT SUNDAY

1/6

8:00 a.m. Worship

9:15 a.m. Bible Class & Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Celebration & Praise with Communion

12:00 p.m. Potluck

NOTES AND NEWS

ATTENDANCE Last Sunday – 231 (196, 135), Christmas Eve – 567 (345, 147, 75), Christmas Day – 98

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Dec. 30 – Rev. 22

Dec. 31 – Ps. 148-150

Jan. 1 – Ps. 1-2

Jan. 2 – Luke 1

Jan. 3 – Luke 2

Jan. 4 – Luke 3

Jan. 5 – Luke 4

THE MATYAS FAMILY THANKS YOU Thank you for the many Christmas blessings you have given us this year. Love, the Matyas family

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY Please note that Sunday School will not meet on Sunday, December 30. Child Care will be provided in the Preschool room for those who would like to attend adult Bible class today.

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

New Year's Eve Service:

Monday, December 31

New Year's Eve Worship with Communion at 6:30 p.m.

*December 24-January 2: No School - Christmas Break
There is no church service on New Year's Day.*

POTLUCK NEXT SUNDAY The First Sunday Fellowship Potluck will be next Sunday, January 6 at noon in the gym. Join us!

VISUAL FAITH FOURTH THURSDAY Join Visual Faith Coach Katie Helmreich for a monthly opportunity to use Visual Faith practices together with fellow believers. No experience is needed, simply bring a willing heart and a love of creativity. We will read, reflect, and respond to God's Word in a meaningful and creative way. Visual Faith Fourth Thursday will meet on the fourth Thursday of the month beginning January 2019, from 6:30-8:30 pm, in the multipurpose room of the school. Call or text Katie with questions at 989.225.3532.

VALLEY LUTHERAN THANKS YOU! Thank you to all churches and people associated in any way with our Fruit Sale Fundraiser. Our appreciation to all buyers, sellers, distributors and helpers for your cooperation & support. Money raised will help support music, drama, athletics and many other activities at Valley Lutheran High School. Through your support and the student body, we are fortunate and thankful to meet our goal! Total boxes sold for 2018 were 385 = 11,550 pounds. Wow!

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.

STEWARDSHIP Well, Christmas is over and the New Year will soon be here and gone, and so it is with all of the events and celebrations that we have in this life. Nothing lasts! But God be thanked that every day is

Jesus day, and if we celebrate and honor Jesus every day then we will always have reason to be happy and to have hope: and we will have Jesus day to celebrate and enjoy forevermore, because Jesus does last. "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today, and forever." (Hebrew 13:8) Don't put Christ--mas away until December 25, 2019, keep Him alive every day.
STEWARDSHIP - A way of life

AREA EVENTS

Chicken Barbeque Dinner at Valley Lutheran High School You are invited to a little taste of summer on Sunday, January 13, 2019, at Valley Lutheran High School, 3560 McCarty Rd, Saginaw. The St. John Amelith Men's Athletic Club is once again barbecuing chicken at Valley Lutheran. Dinner begins at 11:00 am and will be served until 1:30 pm and includes real mashed potatoes, corn, a roll, homemade coleslaw, and pie. Price is \$11 for a half chicken meal or \$9 for a quarter chicken meal. Please consider joining us or order for take-out. Proceeds will benefit the athletic, drama and music departments at Valley Lutheran. Thank you for your support!

1ST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 13:1–3a, 11–15 (ESV)

¹ The LORD said to Moses, ² “Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine.”

³ Then Moses said to the people, “Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of slavery, for by a strong hand the LORD brought you out from this place. . . .

¹¹ “When the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as he swore to you and your fathers, and shall give it to you, ¹² you shall set apart to the LORD all that first opens the womb. All the firstborn of your animals that are males shall be the LORD’s. ¹³ Every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. Every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. ¹⁴ And when in time to come your son asks you, ‘What does this mean?’ you shall say to him, ‘By a strong hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery. ¹⁵ For when Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the LORD killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of animals. Therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all the males that first open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.’”

EPISTLE READING

Colossians 3:12–17 (ESV)

¹² Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³ bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:22–40 (ESV)

²² When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) ²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” ²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶ And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. ²⁷ And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for

him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸ he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

²⁹ "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word;

³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation

³¹ that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel."

³³ And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴ And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵ (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

³⁶ And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷ and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸ And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹ And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.