

St. Paul Lutheran Church  
4941 W. Center St.  
Millington, MI 48746  
www.stpaul-millington.org  
989-871-4581  
E-mail: church.office@spmill.org

# St. Paul Monthly Messenger

December 2013

Rev. James Bruner  
Rev. Kirk Abatelli

## *A Message from Pastor Bruner*

*The December Messenger is  
sponsored in celebration of the  
1st wedding anniversary of  
Dwight & Lorie Keinath.*

In the month of December, we traditionally celebrate the first coming of Jesus, and during Advent we also prepare our hearts for His second or final coming. In December, we are reminded that the end of the year and the end of time is approaching.

Jesus warned that during the last days... "Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold" (Mt. 24:12). As Christmas approaches we do hear some reports of people doing kind acts, but more and more people are commenting how society is far different and more dangerous from years gone by. Despite sin's continual presence throughout history, the effect of sin in our world seems more visible today. The end times are tough and I am being honest that our beloved church is experiencing the distress Jesus forewarned. Some of us are struggling to love one another even though we are brothers and sisters in our Heavenly Father's family.

Jesus also said we will hear of natural catastrophes and conflicts between nations, as well as repeated attacks on the Church from the outside. "If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened" (Mt. 24:22).

The devil, the world and our own flesh have been working at dividing the fellowship of believers every day for a long time. Truthfully, we are not immune, and we also experience disagreements between members within the Church. We cannot control nature, nations or outside attacks, but we can seek God's Word and the Holy Spirit's help concerning our relationships with one another.

How can Christians approach these last days? We can listen to the good news of "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom His favor rests" (Luke 2:14). Jesus came into this world at CHRISTmas to bring peace that the world cannot give. "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid" (John 14:27).

God is clear that He wants us to live in peace because of the peace He brings to our life through Christ.

Ephesians 4:2-3 states, "Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace." Every day we face opportunities to live out this passage. I am sure all of us have a relationship that is in need of some rebuilding. It is my prayer that we will keep this in mind, especially at the next regular voters' meeting. There have been many untrue rumors that have caused much hurt within the congregation. I invite you to attend the next voters' assembly and learn how numerous meetings have taken place to clarify facts and to work at rebuilding relationships.

Why do I write this? Because the End Times are tough and the devil is working furiously to counteract what is being done through St. Paul Lutheran in the name of Jesus. The devil is mad that we have been emphasizing and encouraging every person to be in the Word of God, that this powerful Word about Jesus our Savior has motivated hearts to express gratitude with joyful volunteerism and gifts to the ministry. Additionally, the devil continues to deceive members with the lie that "You won't miss much when you skip worship." That is so wrong. Every time we miss a worship service, we deprive ourselves of God's wonderful grace spoken to us in the Absolution, as well as given to us through Christ's body and blood in the Sacrament of the Altar. We miss out on being reminded that as baptized Christians we received a wonderful gift. God claimed us as His children and forgave our sins. We miss out on being united as God's family. God grant us His Spirit to continue to be what He desires. Come Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace. Fill our hearts with Your love.

Peace and love to you through Jesus the Christ,

Rev. James R. Bruner  
1 John 4:10-11

# Spiritual News

## Adult Bible Studies

### 9:45AM Sunday Morning

**Lutheran Spirituality – "Vocation"** – Led by Pastor Bruner in the Library.

**Church Year Bible Studies** – Led by David Kaiser Saturday nights at 6:30PM in the library and Sunday mornings at 10AM in the computer lab.

**Adult Instruction Class – The Real Truth** – Led by Pastor Abatelli in the Projects Room.

### Wednesday Morning Bible Study

**Daily Lectionary Bible Study** - Led by Pastor Bruner on Wednesday mornings in the Council Room. We use the daily lectionary schedule for the focus of our discussion and study.

### Men's Breakfast Bible Study

**HEY YOU GUYS!!!** All the men of St. Paul (bring your friends too!) are invited to study God's Word on Sat., Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30AM with your fellow brothers in Christ. Due to the book fair, this month we will meet in the computer lab. We are focusing on Heroes of the Faith. We have a casual, laid back atmosphere as we explore God's Word and enjoy doughnuts, milk, and coffee. **For class preparation of Melchizedek**, please read Genesis 14 and Hebrews 7 & 8. By the power of the Holy Spirit working through God's Word, we will grow to recognize Melchizedek's background. We will learn how God used Melchizedek to proclaim His love for all people and will understand the contrast between Melchizedek's priesthood and the Levitical priesthood. Finally, we will gladly proclaim the message of salvation foretold through Melchizedek and fulfilled through Jesus Christ.

## Church Service Survey

At this time there will be no changes to our service times. Comments: \*Combine Sunday into 1 service and add a Monday or any other day. \*Leave all as is and add Monday at 7:30PM. \*Any Day at 6PM.

	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs
7:30PM	54	3	6		5	
7PM	9	1	5		4	2
6:30PM	1				2	1
6PM		1	3	1		
5PM	1		2			
3 or 4	1					
10AM		1				

## *December Scripture Readings*

### *December 1st*

*Isaiah 2:1-5*

*Romans 13:8-14*

*Matthew 24:36-44*

### *December 8th*

*Isaiah 11:1-10*

*Romans 15:4-13*

*Matthew 3:1-12*

### *December 15th*

*Isaiah 35:1-10*

*James 5:7-11*

*Matthew 11:2-15*

### *December 22nd*

*Isaiah 7:10-17*

*Romans 1:1-7*

*Matthew 1:18-25*

### *December 29th*

*Isaiah 63:7-14*

*Galatians 4:4-7*

*Matthew 2:13-23*

## Musical Opportunities

### **Handbells**

Mondays at 7PM

### **Church Band**

Mondays at 5PM

### **Worship Team**

Wednesdays at 6PM

### **Choir**

Wednesdays at 6:53PM

### **Praise Team**

Thursdays at 6:15PM



## 2014 Flower Chart

Please check the **new Flower Chart**, hanging in the church hallway between the mailboxes, for available dates. When signing up for altar flowers, please add your name, phone number and if you would like center or side vases. Thank you.

## Lutheran Witness

It's **Lutheran Witness** time! If you would like to order a subscription at the discounted rate of \$10.50, please call the church office by Fri., Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>. Lutheran Witness is the official periodical of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

# Calendar of Events

## Free Indeed

**Free Indeed** at St. Paul every Monday from 7-9PM. Free Indeed is designed to help those struggling with life's hurts, habits and hang-ups by showing them the loving power of Jesus Christ through a recovery process. This program is similar to Celebrate Recovery. We will have devotions, praise and fellowship time, and men and women groups of confidential sharing to support one another in our times of difficulty. Open to everyone, and FREE child care provided. If questions, call Jan McKee [989-475-2091](tel:989-475-2091) or Kenny McKee 810-577-2325.

## Public School Confirmation Classes

Mondays at 7PM in the Library

## Zumba

Tuesdays at 6:15PM in the Pariah Hall.  
\$2.00 per class.

## AA Meetings

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings every Tuesday from 7:30 -8:30PM in the Council Room. For more information contact Gary 989-710-6637.

## Quilting

Tuesdays from 12-3PM in the Parish Hall

Please continue to donate new or used items such as: sheets, light weight blankets, jeans, material, thread, etc. Please consider coming in and helping. No experience is necessary!! We cut squares, put together World Relief quilts, and tie off quilts on the rack. We also have squares to be sewn and material to be cut at home. If questions, please call Lori Osborn 989-205-9873.

## Storyhour

Thursdays or Fridays from 9-11AM in the Youth Room. Each week the children enjoy Bible stories, activities and a snack. To join, come to the youth room on Thurs. or Fri. morning, or call Lori Osborn 989-205-9873.

## Breakfast Club

**Breakfast Club** - All students are welcome to enjoy breakfast and a devotion every Friday at 7AM in the Home Ec. Room at the Millington High School. **St. Paul is hosting breakfast on December 6<sup>th</sup>.** Donations help make this ministry possible. Items needed: eggs, shredded cheese, ground sausage, tortilla shells, chocolate milk, orange juice, or monetary gifts. Please call the church office or Laura Gleim if you can donate items, or help in any way.

Messenger/Calendar Deadline  
Friday, December 13th

## Scrapbooking

Sat., Dec. 14th from 9AM-7PM in the Parish Hall.

Pre register \$5.00 per person or \$10.00 at the door. Great Food! Great Fun! Make New Friends!....and Prizes too! Bring your own scrapbook supplies, a dish to pass and beverages if you want other than coffee or H2O. Representatives from Stampin' Up, Creative Memories, and Scrapbooker's Hideaway will be set up with supplies, lessons, "how-to's", ideas and items to purchase.

**R.S.V.P.** in the school office or with Susan Jensen 871-4866 or at [jenco33@yahoo.com](mailto:jenco33@yahoo.com).

**SCRAPBOOKING MAKES MEMORIES THAT LAST A LIFETIME....JESUS MAKES MEMORIES THAT LAST FOREVER!**

## The Color of Rain Event

Mark your calendars - St. Paul will be hosting a free **"The Color of Rain"** event Sun., January 19th.

When two childhood friends die of cancer six weeks apart, the shared experience of loss brings their grieving spouses together. Told from alternating points of view, this remarkable real-life Brady Bunch story is about what it means to endure the unthinkable—and still open our hearts to what's next.

Invite your family and friends to hear Michael & Gina Spehn's inspirational story. Books will be available.

Refreshments will be served. **If you would like to make cookies, bars, or some other great goodie,** please call the church office.

## December Meetings

### **Board of Education**

Tues., Dec. 3rd at 6PM

### **Social Concerns**

Tues., Dec. 3rd at 6:30PM

### **Council**

Wed., Dec. 4th at 7:30PM

### **Stephen Ministry**

Mon., Dec. 9th & 23rd at 7PM

### **Trustees**

Sun., Dec. 15th at 7PM

THE *Wonder* OF  
CHRISTMAS

# Lutherans for Life / Lutheran Hour

## LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

Is Abortion Allowed In Cases Of Rape?

By Jean Garton Date: February 8, 2008

The Child of Rape: Place two newborn babies side by side on a table. Call together medical specialists, scientific professionals, social engineers, and leading theologians. Have technicians measure the size of the babies, examine their bodies, observe their behavior, draw blood, and perform reaction tests of all sorts. Then let the experts tell us which baby is the product of rape. They can't! The child of rape, as every child, is a work of art created by God. Isaiah 64:8 speaks of God as the potter who fashions clay into something beautiful. In Psalm 139 the comparison is even more exact that it is God himself who weaves our bodies together in our mother's womb.

The Godless Act of Rape: Rape, long considered a sexual act, is now recognized as an act of violence, control, and rage. Those emotions are all exhibited in the rape of Tamar by her half-brother, Amnon, and the ravished Tamar rightly calls the rape a "godless act" (2 Samuel 13:12). The outrage of society today against such a "godless act" is to demand vengeance. Someone ought to pay! Ironically, it is often the innocent child who, through abortion, receives a sentence of death. Abortion may serve the emotional needs of a society repelled by rape, but it doesn't serve the needs of the two human beings most effected—the mother and her unborn child.

Abortion vs. Love: Abortion, as a supposed "solution," is usually offered out of pity for the violated victim. Pity, of course, is a good thing in that it is the feeling through which a person shares in the suffering and wounded condition of another. Yet, love is greater than pity! Pity sees the raped woman in her desolation and shame. Love sees her desolation and shame but also sees the woman in relation to the God who redeemed her through the sacrifice of His Son, Jesus. Love sees the value God places on unborn life and knows that He has a plan for both mother and child. In 2 Kings 14:6 we are reminded of the Lord's command, "Parents must never be put to death for the crimes of their children, and children must never be put to death for the crimes of their parents." To impose capital punishment, in the form of abortion, on the innocent child is to do what God expressly forbids. It is to repeat the "godlessness" inherent in rape. Unlike the rape in which the woman is an innocent victim, in abortion she becomes an accomplice in an act that destroys an innocent, defenseless child. The fact that the mother was in no way responsible for the act that led to the child's conception does not remove the child's right to life. The truly compassionate, loving solution is one that is both non-violent and life-giving. Positive, sensitive, and caring counseling that encourages the nurture and protection of the other innocent victim of rape or incest—the unborn child—can be part of the healing process.

(Next month – Is abortion allowed in case of Incest?)

Closure of Flint abortion business is answer to prayers: Prayers have been answered with the closure of the Feminine Health Care Clinic in Flint. This closure continues the remarkable trend of abortion clinic closures in Michigan during the last 2 years. Since November of 2011, there have been 10 Michigan abortion clinics which have closed their doors. There are now 28 freestanding abortion clinics in Michigan. Since 1987, the number of abortion businesses in Michigan has dropped from 72 to 28, and the number of abortions performed in Michigan has dropped 52.7 percent. Please continue to pray that God's love would be real for those facing untimely pregnancies and that all mothers would choose life for their babies.

*Abortion is forever – get the facts first.*



### **Lutheran Ministries** **"Worship for Shut-Ins"**

December 1st

"Turn on the Light" - Isaiah 2:1-5

December 8th

"Repent!" - Matthew 3:1-12

December 15th

"Growing Patience" - James 5:8

December 22nd

"Christmas Peace" - Matthew 1:18-25

December 29th

"Paul's Christmas Story" - Galatians 4:4-7

### **Broadcast Guide**

Sundays at 7:30AM WMPC 1230 AM

Sundays at 8:30AM WSAM 1400 AM

Sundays at 10AM KAWZ 89.3 FM

Sundays at 12PM WRDT 560 AM

For a complete listing, go to [lhm.org](http://lhm.org), click on "Our Ministries" and click on "Lutheran Hour."

If anyone would like to support "The Lutheran Hour" mission outreach program, please mail your payments to: Saginaw Valley Lutheran Hour, PO Box 133, Frankenmuth, MI 48734.



# December Birthdays in our St. Paul Family



Deborah ILL	12/1	Joshua Petzold	12/9	Aaron O'Connor	12/15	Billie Loper	12/24
Cole Ratza	12/1	Michelle Sayles	12/9	Harvey Schiefer	12/15	Arnold Petzold	12/24
Izora Sergeant	12/1	Lillian Sergeant	12/9	Cheryl Anderson	12/16	Gary Wagner	12/24
Judith Snover	12/1	Michael Tebedo	12/9	Elaine Bickel	12/16	Kalie Weakley	12/24
Andrew Weber	12/1	Andria Weakley	12/9	William Kirby	12/16	Jena Petzold	12/25
Taylor Wirsing	12/1	Marilyn Daenzer	12/10	Denise Miller	12/16	Linda Schmidt	12/25
Logan Myers	12/2	Elizabeth Goodhue	12/10	Andrew Rosebush	12/16	Stephen Erickson	12/26
Delores Reinert	12/2	Michael Lynn	12/10	Susan Washburn	12/16	Gerald Higgins	12/26
Tyler Rude	12/2	Margaret Miller	12/10	James Weber	12/16	Larry Jensen	12/26
Zachary Simon	12/2	Chy Rueckert	12/10	Monica Lusk	12/17	Connor Mason	12/26
Jodi Torrey	12/2	Scott Soderlund	12/10	Nancy Meier	12/17	Kassandra Mills	12/26
Jeremy Corrigan	12/3	Geraldine Blue	12/11	Jo Anne Noyce	12/17	Anna Reinig	12/26
Tonya Daenzer	12/3	Dana Earl	12/11	Sarah Pobocik	12/17	Tamera Dreher	12/27
Dawn Knoll	12/3	Lorine Edler	12/11	Craig Reinert	12/17	Ryan Lichnovsky	12/27
Ashley Koch	12/3	Judith Grulke	12/11	Angelique Babcock	12/18	Marie Ross	12/27
Melissa Sandusky	12/3	Jeffrey Johnston	12/11	Carol Burchett	12/18	Robert Fall	12/28
Sarah Waterman	12/3	Janette Keinath	12/11	Shelby Howay	12/18	Lynnette Keinath	12/28
Debra Hazel	12/4	Karl Ramsey	12/11	Annette Marks	12/18	Niola Leach	12/28
Lori Kowitz	12/4	Terry Reinbold	12/11	Susan Morrow	12/18	Arlyn Marks	12/28
Holly Leach	12/4	Timothy Rueger	12/11	Karri Smith	12/18	William White	12/28
Daniel Petzold	12/4	Kimberly Sergeant	12/11	Bradlee Snyder	12/18	Mathew Ayotte	12/29
Stephen Roggentine	12/4	Irene Smith	12/11	Brody Willson	12/18	Floyd Harsen	12/29
Brad Sayles	12/4	Sandra St. Onge	12/11	Ricks Anderson	12/19	Cameron Henderson	12/29
Michael Titsworth	12/4	Jason Stewart	12/11	Nicholas Borcharding	12/19	James Rude	12/29
Eric Galant	12/5	Bo Schember	12/12	Sandra Brow	12/19	Marvin Schiefer	12/29
Daniel Karcher	12/5	Michelle Stewart	12/12	Dane Coleman	12/19	Alexis Sutton	12/29
Amy Opperman	12/5	Linda Windt	12/12	Karrie Colman	12/19	Erwin Weber	12/29
Theda Sebert	12/5	Logan Wirsing	12/12	Paul Rogers	12/19	Lideth Brueggemann	12/30
William Woodward	12/5	Deborah Bierlein	12/13	Sandy Shamel	12/19	Ira Ewald	12/30
Scott Jensen	12/6	Frances Carnet	12/13	Marie Trinklein	12/19	Shannon Keinath	12/30
Kari Johnston	12/6	Christopher Jensen	12/13	Chase Guelette	12/20	Amanda Marks	12/30
Diane Leach	12/6	Sayer Puzjak	12/13	Steven Holmes Sr.	12/20	Jami Petzold	12/30
Nathaniel Wood	12/6	Gerry Smith	12/13	Alexis Hudie	12/20	Kristina Soteropoulos	12/30
Linda Conrad	12/7	Ashtyn Stewart	12/13	Holli Johnson	12/20	Jeff Staple	12/30
Richard Daniel	12/7	Amy Casto	12/14	Chester Petzold	12/20	Donna Torrey	12/30
Connie Keinath	12/7	Tyler Lichnovsky	12/14	Seth Sundberg	12/20	Danny Brandle	12/31
Angelica Powell	12/7	Michael Lyons	12/14	Norma Taylor	12/20	Brody Germain	12/31
Rylyn Roth	12/7	Alison Reinig	12/14	Michael Coggins	12/21	Dean Mason	12/31
Elizabeth Selich	12/7	Dennis Schmidt	12/14	Richard Coon	12/21	John Osborn	12/31
Candice Tatro	12/7	Donna J. Weber	12/14	Julie Rude	12/21	Kenneth Soderlund	12/31
Molly Wolfington	12/7	John Allard	12/15	Trenton Weber	12/21	Teresa Walter	12/31
Lisa Balcer	12/8	Robert Baker	12/15	Jacquelyn Petzold	12/22		
Carol Weber	12/8	Karen Bruner	12/15	Sarah Brown	12/23		
Mary White	12/8	Melissa Hager	12/15	Larry Kammer	12/23		
Grace Adamic	12/9	Cherri Herrick	12/15	Marlene Keipinger	12/23		
Matthew Allen	12/9	Dylan Horning	12/15	Alexander Kern	12/23		
Kaitlyn Burton	12/9	Jonah Horning	12/15	Rhonda Nielson	12/23		
Danielle DeOrnellas	12/9	Nicolas Horning	12/15	Sheila Peche	12/23		
David Janowski	12/9	Rosalyn Jakubik	12/15	Christine Jaruzel	12/24		
Joshua Keinath	12/9	Doris Meier	12/15	Judith Lichnovsky	12/24		



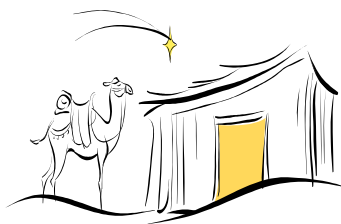
***God's Richest Blessings  
on Your Birthday!***

St. Paul Lutheran Church & School  
4941 W. Center St.  
Millington, MI 48746

Return Address Requested

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Millington, MI  
Permit No. 6

# December 2013



## *Upcoming Special Services*

### *Advent Services:*

*Wed., Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> - 4PM & 7PM*

*Wed., Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> - 4PM & 7PM*

*Wed., Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> - 4PM & 7PM*

*Soup Suppers each Wednesday during Advent from 5-6:30PM*

*Free will donation*

### *Christmas Choir Concert:*

*Sunday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> - 4PM*

### *Children's Christmas Services:*

*Sunday, Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> - 6PM*

*Tuesday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> - 6PM*

### *Christmas Eve Service:*

*Candlelight - 9PM*

*Christmas Day Service: 10AM +Communion*

*New Year's Eve Service: 5PM +Communion*





## Serve & Volunteer / Memorials / Misc.

### Opportunities to Serve and Volunteer

#### Coats and Clothing Needed

We are in need of **new or gently used men's coats and shoes and children's clothing.** We also need diapers. Items may be brought to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade classroom or placed in the barrels found throughout the school. These items will be donated to the Saginaw Rescue Mission. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Christ. Please contact Paul Schoenknecht if questions. Matt. 25:36



#### Giving Tree Update

**Giving Tree:** Please remember all LCFS gifts are due Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> - they should NOT be wrapped but have the star firmly attached. All other gifts will be due Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>, please DO wrap these gifts and attach the star. Monetary donations, household items, gas or grocery gift cards can be brought in any time. Please prayerfully consider helping if you can. Thank you!

#### Scrip

**Don't forget Scrip for Shopping and Christmas Gifts.** We have many cards on hand in the school office or they are available through shopwithscrip.com. Something new this year - Fifty percent of the scrip discount can be returned to school families as a credit on their next year's school expenses. The other fifty percent goes to St. Paul to pay for the expenses of the program and to the St. Paul School General Fund. To designate where you want your credit to go, please fill out a form from the school office.

#### Washington D.C. Trip



If you've ever thought about going to **Washington D.C.**, now is the perfect time. We will be taking two busses for next year's 8<sup>th</sup> grade class trip and we have plenty of seats available that need to be filled. The dates are September 22-26, 2014. Price to be determined once we know how many are going. If interested or have questions, please call the school office.

#### Candy Bags

Donations are needed for the **candy bags** that are distributed following the Children's Christmas Services. If you would like to donate candy (for 300 bags) or money to help defray the costs, please bring your donation to the school office or place in an envelope in the offering plate by Sun., Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>.



### DECEMBER 2013 MEMORIALS AND SPECIAL GIFTS

IN MEMORY OF Mary Griffith General Fund	\$10.00
IN MEMORY OF Shirley Bernthal General Fund	\$20.00
IN MEMORY OF Herb & Tillie Ill Church Sign on Center Street	\$15,000.00
IN MEMORY OF Carol Bannerman General Fund	\$30.00

#### Area News

**Benefit Spaghetti Dinner for the Cram Family** Sun., Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> from 12:30-6PM at the Millington United Methodist Church. Freewill donation.

**German Heritage Christmas Song Fest** service on Sun., Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> at 3pm at St. Lorenz Lutheran Church. All are welcome to attend.

**Valley Lutheran Open House/Information Night** for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents & students Tues., Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7PM. Learn about academics, extra-curriculars, scholarships and other programs & activities. If questions, call Tom at 989-753-1313.

**Christmas Concert** Thurs., Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30PM at Christ Lutheran, Birch Run. Presenting the Philharmonic Orchestra from Saginaw Heritage High School.

**Boar's Head Festival** at Bethlehem Lutheran Church Thurs., Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30PM, Sat., Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30PM, Sun., Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> at 4 & 7:30PM.

**17<sup>th</sup> Annual Living Nativity "A Journey to Bethlehem"** Fri., Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> 7-9PM; Sat., Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> 6-8PM; Sun., Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> 6-8PM at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Frankentrost. Experience the real Christmas story amid the sights and sounds of Bethlehem long ago. Dress for the weather for this 30 minute outdoor walk. Refreshments follow.

**Women of Faith Christmas Simulcast** Fri., Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> at 8PM at the Frankenmuth Bible Church. For tickets call Darla 989-529-2456 or Kathie 989-652-2855.

**Breakfast with Santa** Sat., Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> from 8:30-11AM at the Millington Community Center. Adults: \$5, 5-12: \$3, Under 5: Free.

**A Festival of Candles & Carols** hosted by Millington Ministerial Alliance Sun., Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> at 6PM at the Millington Church of God. Enjoy special music and refreshments.

**Living Nativity** Sat. & Sun., Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-8PM at Trinity-St. James, Munger.

**Autism Support Group** Thurs., Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8PM at the Millington United Methodist Church. Call Kara at 989-615-6218 if questions or if you need childcare.

**All You Can Eat Cod** Fri., Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> 11AM-2PM & 4-7PM at St. Martin, Birch Run.

**Hope for the Hurting at Christmas** Sun., Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> at 4PM at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. A simple worship service designed for those with difficulty embracing the excitement and joy of the season.

# Soup Supper Form



## Soup Suppers

**Soup Suppers will be here soon and your St. Paul Youth need your help!** Donations are needed for our Advent Soup Suppers. Your donations greatly offset our expenses and increase the total profit to financially support the youth for various events throughout the year. For example: The National & District Youth Gatherings. Without your help, these suppers would not be possible. Thank you in advance for your donations!

_____ Dinner Rolls	_____ Loaves of Bread
_____ Nacho Cheese Doritos	_____ Cheese Slices
_____ Chicken & Beef Broth	_____ Butter
_____ Polish Sausage	_____ 10 lb. Can Chili Beans
_____ 1 Gallon Sauerkraut	_____ Bacon Bits
_____ Desserts	_____ 10 lbs. Hamburger
_____ Croutons	_____ Tomato Juice
_____ Shredded Cheese	_____ Egg Noodles
_____ Monetary donations	_____ Macaroni Noodles
_____ Italian, Ranch & French Dressing	



I would be able to donate these items for the following Wednesdays:

Dec. 4 <sup>th</sup>	_____
Dec. 11 <sup>th</sup>	_____
Dec. 18 <sup>th</sup>	_____

Please return form to the church or school office.  
**Thank you** very much for your support!

**For questions, call Laura Gleim 871-4581 ext 3.**

## Staff Christmas Gift

An envelope marked "**Staff Christmas Gift**" can be found in your church offering envelope box or you may use any envelope and mark it "Staff Christmas." If you would like to show your appreciation for our staff, please place your **cash** donation in the offering plate or drop it off at one of the offices by Wed., Dec. 18th. Please remember, this is not a tax deductible gift and will not be recorded on your giving statement.

## Messenger Sponsors

**Messenger Sponsors** are needed for 2014. The cost is \$120.00 per month or \$60.00 to co-sponsor. Please call the church office if interested.



# Rejoice

## Church Offering Envelopes

2014 Offering Envelopes are in the narthex. Please do not use them until January 1st. If you can't find your envelopes, please call the church office.

## Church Nursery

Feel free to bring your children to the **nursery** during services, as well as between, so you may attend Bible Study. We are still accepting volunteers to help. If questions or to volunteer, please call Aurelia at 989-882-7355.

## Hospitalizations

If you or a loved one are in the hospital and would like to receive a visit and/or be placed on the prayer list, please notify the church office as soon as you can. The hospitals do not always notify us due to HIPA/privacy laws.



# December Schedule

## Acolytes

1	8:30AM		Sydney & Dustin Bishop
1	11AM		Kelsey Gronowski & Ray Peche
4	4PM	Advent	Jakob & Lukas Selich
7	7:30PM		Ericka White & Brian
8	8:30AM		Tyler Bentley
8	11AM		Garrison & Malachi Hecht
1	4PM	Concert	Corey Daenzer & Tim
11	4PM	Advent	Shane & Owen Reinig
14	7:30PM		Alyssa Okorowski & Dustin Sebert
15	8:30AM		Maylynne Wager & Ted
15	11AM		ReAnna Hecht & Gary
18	4PM	Advent	Eddie Meeks & Eddie
21	7:30PM		Mason Lugg
22	8:30AM		Justin & Joshua Allen
22	11AM		Lillie Flach
22	6PM	Children's	Seth Mittler & Jason Ketels
24	6PM	Children's	Corey Daenzer & Tim
24	9PM	Candle	ReAnna Hecht & Gary
25	10AM	Christmas	
28	7:30PM		Ericka White & Brian
29	8:30AM		Katherine Weber & Duane
29	11AM		Seth Mittler & Jason Ketels
31	5PM	NY Eve	Mason Lugg

## Greeters

First Sunday	8:30AM	Shirley Petzold, Ken & Kathy Ill
	11:00AM	Les & Diane Maxson, Ron & Olga Nims
Second Sunday	8:30AM	
	11:00AM	LuAnn Licavoli, Wayne & Luanne Jaruzel
Third Sunday	8:30AM	Natalie Smith
	11:00AM	Rosie Horning, Dale & Pam Hanlin
Fourth Sunday	8:30AM	Jim Bickel
	11:00AM	Anna Tuttle
Fifth Sunday	8:30AM	Donna Torrey
	11:00AM	Steve & Nila Schmandt
Second Saturday	7:30PM	Bill Bleuer & Betty Bleuer
Third Saturday	7:30PM	Laura Sherman
Greeter Subs – Denise Miller (871-2675), Sherry Sebert (871-3084)		

## Ushers

<b>8:30AM</b>	Dwight Keinath - Captain Michael Albert Ken Auernhammer Corey Harry Mitchel Ill Russell Ill	Ryan Ill Luke Platt Dennis Rodammer Eugene Weiss Bud Zeck Mike Ziegler
<b>11AM</b>	Richard Harpst - Captain Jay Rodammer - Assistant Heath Keinath John Petzold	Hans Schmandt Michael Sherman Rick Sherman Randy Wolverton
<b>7:30PM</b>	Larry Beagle - Captain Ed Keinath	Jim Jaruzel Jan Snyder



<b>Church Sextons</b>	Mathew & Angela Ayotte Ron & Ruth Mieske Ed & Marcia Keinath	Ted & Katrina Wager Rod & Nancy Wilson	<b>Altar Guild</b>	7:30PM - Lillian Sergent 8:30AM - Shirley Petzold 11AM - Jan McKee
-----------------------	--	---	--------------------	--



# Youth News

## 412 Youth Ministry December Events

*"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity." 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 4:12*

### High School Ministry

**Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> 6:30-8:30pm**

Youth Night

#### **Topic: Faith Under Fire**

*The world is a difficult place to live and the pressure is ever mounting on the lives of people to conform to the patterns of this world. God is asking for something different from His children, which isn't always easy because of the backlash that Christians receive from others when they stand up for their faith.*

**Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> 6:30-8:30pm**

Youth Night

#### **Movie Clip: The Quick and the Dead**

*We must be willing to stand up for our beliefs and principles even if we have to pay a price for them.*

**Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup> 6:30-8:30pm**

Youth Night

#### **Topic: Confessions of the Walking Dead**

*The Walking Dead is an accurate picture of the internal state of humanity without Jesus Christ. As Christians we must take every opportunity we have to share the wonderful and loving Gospel of our Lord to the world.*

### **Don't Forget!**

**Advent Soup Suppers start Wednesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**We begin prep work at 2:45PM and finish cleaning by 7PM.**

**All High School youth are invited to come and help serve those in our community a great home cooked meal.**

**You can earn money towards future youth events.**



# Youth News

## 412 Youth Jr. High Ministry December Events

*"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity." 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 4:12*

### Junior High Ministry

**Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> 4-6pm**

Youth Night

**Movie Clip: The Karate Kid (1984)**

*We should obey God even when we don't understand Him because He has always been trustworthy and faithful...and He always will be.*

**Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> 4-6pm**

Youth Night

**Artist: Ylvis**

**Song: What does the Fox say?**

*The Fox video reminds us of Song of Solomon 2:15, where God reminds us that the "little foxes" in our lives can destroy our relationship with Jesus and damage our witness for Him.*

**Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup> 4-6pm**

Youth Night

**Topic: Noah – God's Crazy Request**

*We learn that God is ultimately in control of everything on this earth. The story of Noah may be a serious story; however, we see God's grace and mercy throughout Noah's life. As we look at our own lives, we can be thankful that we have a grace-filled God, who loves His people.*

**Don't Forget!**

**Advent Soup Suppers start Wednesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**We begin prep work at 2:45PM and finish cleaning by 7PM.**

**All Jr. High (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade) youth are invited to come and help serve those in our community a great home cooked meal.**

**You can earn money towards future youth events.**

# St. Paul Lutheran School

## December 2013

*"I have no greater joy than to hear that My children are walking in the truth." III John 1 : 4*



Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ Was Born

As we begin December, let us prepare our hearts and homes for the coming of our Lord; not only His first coming as a baby long ago but also for His second coming when He shall reign forever!

### Important December Dates

Dec. 4	Advent Services 4:00 & 7:00 p.m.	
Dec. 4-8	Scholastic 2 for 1 Book Fair	
Dec. 6	Wear your school theme shirt	
Dec. 8	St. Paul Christmas Concert	4:00 p.m.
Dec. 11	Advent Services 4:00 & 7:00 p.m.	
Dec. 18	Advent Services 4:00 & 7:00 p.m.	
Dec. 20	Chapel service, last day of class before Christmas Break	
Dec. 21- Jan. 5	Christmas Vacation	
Dec. 22	Children's Christmas Service	6:00 p.m.
Dec. 24	Children's Christmas Service	6:00 p.m.



Practices for the Children's Christmas programs start on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>. Practice times and dates are available in the school office. If you are able to stay with students not practicing please contact your child's teacher or school office as soon as possible.

As the giving season approaches, we are looking forward to giving monetary gifts to the faculty, janitors and cooks. Please consider helping us by placing your donation in an envelope and placing it in the offering plate or giving it to the office.

Christmas candy bags will once again be given out to the children after the Children's Christmas Services. If you would like to donate candy (for 300 bags) or money to help defray the costs, please take your donation to the school office no later than Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>. Thanks for your help!

If there is a school delay or cancellation, you will see notifications on any of the major television or radio stations and through the School Reach phone system.

### School Musical Opportunities

Dec. 1	Free Spirt Choir	both services
Dec. 8	Church Christmas Concert: all school choirs, Junior Bells, Band,	4:00 p.m.
Dec. 11	Cherub Choir	4:00 p.m.
Dec. 18	Cantate Choir	4:00 p.m.
Dec. 22	Junior Handbells	11:00 a.m.

**Spartan Sports** Our basketball season for boys and girls on the B-teams finishes up this month. The girls start the play followed by the boys. Come and support the children as they use their God-given talents.



#### December

#### Girl's & Boy's B-team Basketball

































Dec. 3	home with St. Paul, Flint	4:30 p.m.
Dec. 6	at St. Paul, Lapeer	6:00 p.m.
Dec. 10	at Christ the King, Sebawaing	4:30 p.m.
Dec. 13	home with St. Michaels, Richville	6:00 p.m.
Dec. 16	home with Immanuel, Frankentrost	4:30 p.m.
Dec. 17	home with St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth	4:30 p.m.



*Blessings to you and your family from the St. Paul Lutheran Church and School faculty and staff!*

# December 2013

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
<b>1</b>  <b>8:30AM Worship+C</b> <i>Church Choir/Free Spirit</i> 9:45AM **See Notes**  <b>11AM Worship</b> <i>Church Choir/Free Spirit</i> 4-6 Jr. Youth 6:30-8:30PM HS Youth	<b>2</b> 7PM Public School Confirmation Handbells Free Indeed	<b>3</b> 12-3 Quilting 6PM Board of Ed 6:15PM Zumba 6:30PM Social Concerns 7:30PM AA	<b>4</b> <i>Book Fair</i> 9AM Bible Study  <b>4PM Worship</b> 5-6:30PM Soup Supper 6PM Worship Team 6:53PM Choir  <b>7PM Worship</b> 8PM Council	<b>5</b> 9-11AM Storyhour    6:15PM Praise Team	<b>6</b> 7AM St. Paul hosts Breakfast Club at MHS  9-11AM Storyhour	<b>7</b> 7:30AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study   <b>7:30PM Worship +C</b>
<b>8</b> <i>Book Fair after Services &amp; Concert</i>  <b>8:30AM Worship</b> <i>Harp/Flute Duet</i> 9:45AM **See Notes**  <b>11AM Worship+C</b> <i>Harp/Flute Duet</i> 4PM Christmas Concert	<b>9</b> 7PM Public School Confirmation Handbells Free Indeed Stephen Ministry	<b>10</b> 12-3 Quilting 6:15PM Zumba 7:30PM AA	<b>11</b> 9AM Bible Study  <b>4PM Worship</b> <i>Cherub Choir</i> 5-6:30PM Soup Supper 6PM Worship Team 6:53PM Choir  <b>7PM Worship</b>	<b>12</b> 9-11AM Storyhour    6:15PM Praise Team	<b>13</b> 9-11AM Storyhour  <i><b>Messenger Deadline</b></i>	<b>14</b> 9AM-7PM Scrapbooking   <b>7:30PM Worship</b>
<b>15</b>  <b>8:30AM Worship+C</b> <i>Instrumental Ensemble</i> 9:45AM **See Notes**  <b>11AM Worship Contemporary</b> <i>Instrumental Ensemble</i> 1:30PM Voters' Meeting 4-6 Jr. Youth 6:30-8:30PM HS Youth 7PM Trustees	<b>16</b> 7PM Public School Confirmation Handbells Free Indeed	<b>17</b> 12-3 Quilting 6:15PM Zumba 7:30PM AA Heroes	<b>18</b> 9AM Bible Study  <b>4PM Worship</b> <i>Cantate Choir</i> 5-6:30PM Soup Supper 6PM Worship Team 6:53PM Choir  <b>7PM Worship</b> 7:30PM Elders	<b>19</b> 9-11AM Storyhour    6:15PM Praise Team	<b>20</b> 9-11AM Storyhour	<b>21</b>   <b>7:30PM Worship +C</b>
<b>22</b>  <b>8:30AM Worship</b> <i>Church Choir</i> 9:45AM **See Notes**  <b>11AM Worship+C Contemporary</b> <i>Jr. Bells</i> <b>6PM Children's Service</b>	<b>23</b> 7PM Handbells Free Indeed Stephen Ministry	<b>24</b> <i>Christmas Eve</i> <b>6PM Children's Service</b> <b>9PM Candlelight Service</b>	<b>25</b> <i>Christmas Day</i>  <b>10AM Christmas Service +C</b>	<b>26</b>    6:15PM Praise Team	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> <i>Youth Service</i>   <b>7:30PM Worship</b>
<b>29</b> <i>Youth Service</i>  <b>8:30AM Worship</b> 9:45AM **See Notes**  <b>11AM Worship</b> 4-6 Jr. Youth 6:30-8:30PM HS Youth	<b>30</b> 7PM Handbells Free Indeed	<b>31</b> <i>New Year's Eve</i>  <b>5PM Worship +C</b>	**Notes** Bible Study Sunday School Adult Instruction Class			

# DECEMBER 2013 – DAILY LECTIONARY

LSB P. 299-304; with Psalm selections from: A Year With the Church Fathers

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <b>1<sup>st</sup> S. in Advent</b> Is. 7:10 -- 8:8 1 Peter 3:1-22 Ps. 34:11-18; 50	2 Is. 8:9 -- 9:7 1 Pt. 4:1-19 Ps. 119:105-112; 82	3 Is. 9:8 -- 10:11 1 Pt. 5:1-14 Ps. 55	4 <b>9AM Bible Study</b> Is. 10:12-27a, 33-34 2 Pt. 1:1-21 Ps. 145:1-9; 62	5 Is. 11:1 -- 12:6 2 Pt. 2:1-22 Ps. 49	6 Is. 14:1-23 2 Pt. 3:1-18 Ps. 56	7 Is. 24:1-13 1 John 1:1 -- 2:14 Ps. 25:1-7; 73
8 <b>2<sup>nd</sup> S. in Advent</b> Is. 24:14 -- 25:12 1 John 2:15-29 Ps. 11; 142	9 Is. 26:1-19 1 John 3:1-24 Ps. 17:6-15; 148	10 Is. 26:20 -- 27:13 1 John 4:1-21 Ps. 86:1-7; 130	11 <b>9AM Bible Study</b> Is. 28:14-29 1 John 5:1-21 Ps. 5:1-8; 142	12 Is. 29:1-14 Jude 1-25 Ps. 106	13 Is. 29:15 -- 30:14 Rev. 1:1-20 Ps. 89:20-29; 143	14 Is. 30:15-26 Rev. 2:1-29 Ps. 27:1, 4-5, 11-14; 24
15 <b>3<sup>rd</sup> S. in Advent</b> Is. 30:27 -- 31:9 Rev. 3:1-22 Ps. 146:1-7; 80	16 Is. 32:1-20 Rev. 4:1-1 Ps. 149; 61	17 Is. 33:1-24 Rev. 5:1-14 Ps. 40:1-5, 16-17; Ps. 20	18 <b>9AM Bible Study</b> Is. 34:1-2, 8 -- 35:10 Rev. 6:1-17 Ps. 119:81-88; 145	19 Is. 40:1-17 Rev. 7:1-17 Ps. 103:11-18; 19	20 Is. 40:18 -- 41:10 Rev. 8:1-13 Ps. 119:25-32; 141	21 Is. 42:1-25 Rev. 9:1-12 Ps. 102
22 <b>4<sup>th</sup> S. in Advent</b> Is. 43:1-24 Rev. 9:13 -- 10:11 Ps. 115:1-8, 11; 125	23 Is. 43:25 -- 44:20 Rev. 11:1-19 Ps. 39:4-8; 144	24 <b>Christmas Season</b> Christmas Eve Is. 44:21 -- 45:13, 20-25 Rev. 12:1-17 Ps. 98:1-6, 9; Ps. 2	25 <b>Christmas Day</b> Is. 49:1-18 Matt. 1:1-17 Ps. 96:1-5, 11-13; 150	26 Is. 49:22-26; 50:4 --- 51:8, 12-16 Matt. 1:18-25 Ps. 34:4-10, 19; 60	27 Is. 51:17 -- 52:12 Matt. 2:1-12 Ps. 72:1, 4, 10-15, 18-19 Ps. 92	28 Is. 52:13 -- 54:10 Matt. 2:13-23 Ps. 9:11-14; 31
29 <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday a. Christmas</b> Is. 55:1-13 Luke 1:1-25 Ps. 78:1-7; 93	30 Is. 58:1 -- 59:3, 14 - 21 Luke 1:26-38 Ps. 89:1-4, 14-18 Ps. 132	31 Is. 60:1-22 Luke 1:39-56 Ps. 111:1-6, 10; 8	<p><u>What Luther Says</u> 465 -- (TLH 85:13 <i>From Heaven Above to Earth I Come</i>) This most famous of Luther's Christmas hymns seems to have appeared in 1534 when Hans was 7 and Magdalene was 1 ½ years old.</p> <p>Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child, Make Thee a bed, soft, undefiled, Within my heart, that it may be A quiet chamber kept for thee.</p>			

**What Luther Says:** (462 **Christ's First Advent Necessarily Lowly, His Second Not** ) If this birth had been announces to the nobility of this world and the shepherds had compared themselves with these men of influence and their wisdom and wealth, it would have been frightening to them. For men fear power and stand in awe of wisdom. If Christ had come with trumpets and had had a cradle of gold, His birth would have been a splendid affair. But it would not be comforting to me. He was rather to lie in the lap of a poor maiden and be considered of little consequence in the eyes of the world. Now I can come to Him. So He now reveals Himself to the miserable in order **not** to create the impression that He is coming with great power, pomp, wisdom and aristocratic behavior. But upon His return on that Day, when He will come against the high and mighty, it will be different. Now He comes to the poor, who need a Savior; **but then** He will come as a Judge against those who are persecuting Him here.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> What Luther Says, A Practical In-Home Anthology for the Active Christian, Plass.