



Monthly Messenger

St. Paul Lutheran Church & School

December 2019

"We are God's servants, saved by grace, through faith, commissioned to share the Word of Christ to all."

St. Paul Lutheran Church & School

4941 W. Center St.
Millington, MI 48746

989-871-4581

www.stpaul-millington.org

Email:
church.office@spmill.org

Rev. James Bruner
Administrative Pastor

Rev. Tim Martinal
Associate Pastor

Worship Services

Sunday 8:30 & 11A.M.
Saturday 7 P.M.

Bible Study

Sunday 9:45 A.M.

+++++

In this Issue:

Spiritual News
Calendar of Events
Lectionary
Memorials
School News
Area News
Schedules
Birthdays
Monthly Calendar



A Message from Pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

You and I are GIFTED.

What does that mean? We are unique in our individual abilities, however we are collectively gifted by our God with love and forgiveness through our Savior Jesus, whose birth we will celebrate this month.

Personally speaking, I think our culture has lost the purpose behind each act of giving a gift. There are times we may feel obligated: for a co-worker, for a classmate or teacher, or for the host of an event. We may feel pressure to give to family, certain friends and even acquaintances. All of this misses how the real purpose of giving a gift is to express love for the recipient. The sincerest gift is the result of love.

From a Christian perspective, I would say the origin to give gifts is God. As a result of love, He promised a Savior and then gave us the gift. We are familiar with the words, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given" (Isa. 9:6a). The name of the gift is Jesus (1 John 4:10; Matt. 1:21). God loved us so much that He gave His one and only Son to save us, not to condemn us (John 3:16-17). God has GIFTED us with the best gift, eternal life by grace through Jesus Christ.

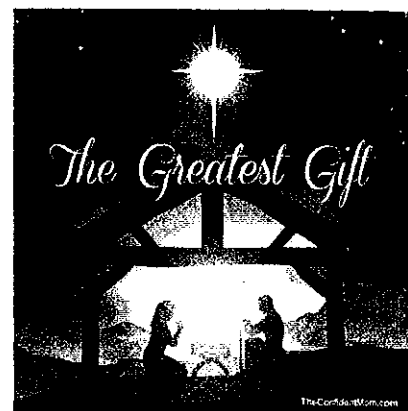
What will motivate us to give a gift? We have received this GIFT of love, and this GIFT is meant to be shared. The greatest gift we can give is the gift of the Gospel. Look into how our church is sharing this gift through its multiple ministries all year long. It is the season for giving gifts, but this Christmas consider how your unique gifts

can be part of the church's ministry throughout the year. What gift can you give now at the end of 2019 and in the future to show love for God and others? What material blessings, unique talents and time has God given you? As you consider God's GIFT this Christmas, I pray that you will share your GIFTEDness of love with others in the name of our Savior Jesus.

Remember, you matter to God and you matter to me,

Rev. James R. Bruner

This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so love us, we also ought to love one another. 1 John 4:10-11



The December Messenger is sponsored in honor of our 25th Wedding Anniversary on Dec. 31st. We are thankful for the many blessings we have received.

-Susan & Wilbert III

Spiritual News

Worship Times

Saturdays at 7PM - Sundays at 8:30 & 11AM

Join us between services in the Gathering Room for Coffee Hour before Bible Study begins.

Sunday School between services.

Other Bible Study Opportunities

Men's Bible Study - Sat., Dec. 7th at 8AM in the Library.

Couples Night Bible Study! Led by Pastor Tim and Patti Dec. 15th from 6:30-8:30PM in the Gathering Place. All couples are invited to join us for a special Christmas Devotion and fellowship time. We will be looking at the relationship of Mary and Joseph, playing games, enjoying fellowship and Christmas treats. Please bring a Christmas treat to share and one couples white elephant gift per couple.

Women of the Bible - Dec. 19th from 7-9PM in the Parish Hall. All women are invited to join us for a special Christmas devotion and fellowship time. We will look at Mary, the mother of Jesus, play games, enjoy fellowship and Christmas appetizers. Please bring a Christmas appetizer to share and a white elephant gift (the funnier the better).



Lutheran Ministries "Worship for Shut-Ins"

Dec. 1st - "Your King's Coming!" - Zechariah 9:9b

Dec. 8th - "Band of Brothers" - Romans 15:4-13

Dec. 15th - "A Blooming Desert" - Isaiah 35:1-10

Dec. 22nd - "The Bare Truth" - Isaiah 52:7-10

Dec. 29th - "Nothing Stops God" -
Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Music at St. Paul

Handbells

Mondays at 7PM in the Church

New ringers are needed-no experience necessary. You don't even need to be able to read music! If questions, contact Julie Keinath at 989-882-5531.

Church Choir

Wednesdays at 6:53PM in the Band Room

Praise Team

Thursdays at 6:15PM in the Church

Brass

As needed for special services.

A timpani player is needed.

Please call the church office if interested.



Upcoming Special Services

Christmas Choir Concert:

Sunday, Dec. 8th - 4PM

Songs of Praise Dinner following the concert.

Advent Services

****Note the new times****

Wed., Dec. 4th - 1:30 & 6:30PM

Wed., Dec. 11th - 1:30 & 6:30PM

Dinner - 5-6:30PM

Hosted by March for Life Group

Children's Christmas Services:

Wed., Dec. 18th - 1PM

Dinner - 4:30-5:30PM

Hosted by Social Concerns

Wed., Dec. 18th - 6PM

Mon., Dec. 24th - 6PM

Christmas Eve Services:

Candlelight - 9PM

Christmas Day Service: 10AM +Communion

Scripture Readings

Dec. 1st

Isaiah 2:1-5

Rom. 13:8-14

Matt. 21:1-11 or 24:36-44

Dec. 8th

Isaiah 11:1-10

Rom. 15:4-13

Matt. 3:1-12

Dec. 15th

Isaiah 35:1-10

James 5:7-11

Matt. 11:2-15

Dec. 22nd

Isaiah 7:10-17

Rom. 1:1-7

Matt. 1:18-25

Dec. 29th

Isaiah 63:7-14

Gal. 4:4-7

Matt. 2:13-23

Happenings at St. Paul

Tuesdays at St. Paul

Jubilee Handbells - Tuesdays at 7AM in the church.

Storyhour Tuesday mornings from 9-11AM in the nursery. All preschool children are invited to join us for Bible stories, games, activities, crafts, and snacks. Call Lori if questions 989-205-9873.

Quilting Tuesdays from 1-3PM in the Parish Hall. No experience necessary. Anyone can tie a knot, cut a square, and visit!

Painting - 6-8PM in the Projects Room

AA - 7:30PM in the Council Room

Prayer Meeting

Thursday, Dec. 12th at 6:30PM in the Chapel
Please come and pray for our church family, neighbors and friends, our Community, State and Country. We gather together on the second Thursday of each month to bring our needs and pray together. We will have a short message on the topic of "prayer" each meeting and then spend time praying for one another and the needs that are brought to us. We will also share some written prayers and learn how to pray more effectively. Come join us! All are welcome!

PTL Movie Night

Featuring - "The Grinch"

Fri., Dec. 13th at 6PM in the Parish Hall

Scrapbooking

Sat., Dec. 14th from 9AM-7PM in the Parish Hall. Pre-register \$6.00 per person or \$10.00 at the door. Bring your scrapbooking or craft supplies and projects or just come and enjoy the fellowship! Stay for an hour, or the whole day. Please bring a dish to pass and your beverage. **R.S.V.P.** in the school office 871-4581 or school.office@spsmill.org.

Voters' Assembly Meeting

Sun., Dec. 15th at 1:30PM in the Church

Everyone is encouraged to attend and be a voice at St. Paul. Only voting members may vote, but all you need to do is attend a meeting to become a member, then you may vote at the next meeting.

Christmas Eve Eve Open House

Mon., Dec. 23rd from 5-10PM

Pastor, Patti, and Sue would be honored to share their home for a fun Southern Christmas open house. Come enjoy some southern favorites, play games, relax and enjoy the celebration of our Savior. Stop in for ten minutes or stay for the whole evening, whatever works in your schedule. Look forward to seeing you there.

Youth Events

All Youth (Grades 3-12)

Gift Wrapping

Sun., Dec. 15th at 4PM

Come and help the Social Concerns Board wrap the gifts for the Giving Tree.

All Youth (Grades 3-12)

Christmas at Crossroads

Fri., Dec. 20th - Leave St. Paul at 4:30PM

All Youth

Christmas Party

Sun., Dec. 22nd from 12:30-2:30PM

Pizza, Snacks, Games!

Bring a canned or non-perishable food item for a local food pantry and a gift of candy/food (under \$5).

Spark

Nerf Wars

Sun., Jan 12th from 12:30-2:30PM

Impact & Ignite (Grades 6-12)

Movie Night

Fri., Jan. 17th from 6:30-9PM

Mark Your Calendar

High School Youth Gathering on Mackinaw Island

June 28th through July 1st

We will be hosting a dinner in January to help fund this. If you plan on attending, fill out a form from the youth board in the church hallway with a \$25 deposit by January 24, 2020. If you have any questions, please call the church office 871-4581 #3.

Meetings

Social Concerns

Tues., Dec. 3rd at 5:30PM in the Council Room

Youth Team

Tues., Dec. 3rd at 6PM in the Youth Room

Stewardship

Tues., Dec. 3rd at 6:30PM in the Gathering Room

Council

Wed., Dec. 4th at 7:15PM in the Library

****Note the time change****

Stephen Ministry

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

Board of Education

Tues., Dec. 10th at 6PM

Prayer Committee

Thurs., Dec. 12th at 6:30PM in the Chapel

Voters' Meeting

Sun., Dec. 15th at 1:30PM in the Church

Elders

Wed., Dec. 18th at 7:30PM in the Library



St. Paul Lutheran School

December 2019

St. Paul Lutheran School is committed to engaging students with a comprehensive education grounded in God's Word to prepare them for a life in Christ.

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	Scholastic 2 for 1 Book Fair during the school day	
Dec. 6	Spirit Day	
Dec. 8	St. Paul Christmas Concert	4:00 p.m.
	Scholastic 2 for 1 Book Fair; Songs of Praise dinner following the concert	
Dec. 11	Advent Services	1:30 & 6:30 p.m.
Dec. 13	½ day of classes, dismissal at 11:15 a.m.; P.T.L. Family Movie Night	6:00 p.m.
Dec. 18	Special Children's Christmas Service Presentation at 1:00 p.m.;	
	Children's Christmas Service	6:00 p.m.
Dec. 20	Last day of classes	
Dec. 21- Jan. 5	Christmas Vacation	
Dec. 24	Children's Christmas Service	6:00 p.m.



Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ Was Born

Our school's offering and mission focus this year is to find ways to put "Feet to our Faith" following what we are told in Matthew 25:35-40; helping as many people in as many ways as possible. For December, we will be working on Project: Stranger. For this Project, we will be doing special projects within the classrooms that will help others going through the foster system and/or dealing with family separations/difficulties of some kind. Our offerings will go toward the cost of materials needed to make this possible. You are ALL ALWAYS welcome to join us for our Wednesday Chapel services at 8:00 a.m. For Advent and Lent we will worship at 1:30 p.m.

Practices for the Children's Christmas programs start on Dec. 2nd. 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 janitors and cooks. Please consider helping us by placing your donation in an envelope marked **Cooks & Janitors Christmas** then giving it to the school office by Dec. 13th.

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

School Musical Opportunities

Dec. 4	Free Spirit Choir	1:30 p.m.
Dec. 8	Church Christmas Concert: all school choirs, Junior Bells, Band,	4:00 p.m.
Dec. 11	Cantate Choir	1:30 p.m.
Dec. 15	Cherub Choir	8:30 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	with St. Paul, Flint (BOYS only)	4:45 p.m.
Dec. 6	with St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth	6:00 p.m.
Dec. 10	at Christ the King, Sebawaing	4:30 p.m.
Dec. 13	at St. Paul, Flint (BOYS only)	5:00 p.m.
Dec. 17	with Trinity/Trost	4:30 p.m.
Dec. 20	at St. Michael, Richville	6:00 p.m.

*Blessings to you and your family from the St. Paul Lutheran Church and School faculty and staff!
Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. I Corinthians*

Bookkeeper's Corner / Memorials / Financial Info / Misc.

The Bookkeeper's Corner

By Diane Mills, Director of Finance

To no one's surprise, this article is all about the budget for 2020. This is your first glimpse at the numbers the voter's will be presented at the assembly on Sunday, December 15th at 1:30 p.m. (note the date change!) You will be asked to vote in a deficit budget, or motion for the Boards to go back to the drawing board.

As of this writing (November 20th), our general fund is showing a deficit of (\$39,528.62) for the month of November. I anticipate we will not only end 2019 with a deficit, but our over-all-time numbers will drop from a surplus to a deficit. We are spending more money than we are taking in. It's that simple.

Here's how the budget stands today:

FY 20 Proposed	Income	Expense
Education	346,608	13,000
Elders	2,250	16,450
Evangelism	0	0
Fellowship	0	0
Finance	650,426	5,525
Salary & Personnel	8,000	937,504
Social Concern	0	0
Stewardship	0	1,350
Trustees	3,200	83,396
TOTAL	1,010,484	1,057,225
DIFFERENCE		-46,741

The Council will be proposing a \$46,741 deficit for calendar year 2020. Note no money is allocated for Evangelism, Fellowship, or Social Concerns. These Boards should be funded by our congregation, but the money is not there.

Reasons for the deficit are too numerous for this article; please come to the Voter's Assembly on December 15th to hear the discussion. Please -- bring actionable solutions.

Annual Reports

All boards, committees, groups, etc. - please submit your annual report by Mon., Jan. 6th. Email to church.office@spmill.org or bring to the church office. Examples can be found in previous reports. If questions, call the church office 871-4581.

MEMORIALS AND SPECIAL GIFTS

In Memory of Marjorie Keinath

General Fund	\$230.00
Memorials Undesignated	\$180.00
Building Fund	\$355.00
School Fund	\$110.00

CEF Building Fund Summary

Mortgage Balance as of 10/31/19: \$480,165.55
 Debt free date if nothing changes: October 2022
 Oct 2019 Mortgage Payment: \$14,135.00
 * Principal \$13,194.31 * Interest \$940.69
 Amount received to pay mortgage: \$15,724.12
 Amount Added to contingency fund: \$ 1,589.12
 Balance LEFT in contingency fund: \$ 6,061.78

Oct 2019 Income & Expense Summary

Oct General Fund Income: \$ 72,905.67
 Oct General Fund Expenses: \$(87,634.25)
 Oct Deficit: \$(14,728.58)
 Year to date: Deficit: \$(38,381.35)
 Overall: Surplus: \$ 15,082.65
 General Fund Checking Balance: \$ 15,082.65

RESTRICTED Cash Accounts Summary**

School Designated Accounts balance: \$112,536.53
 Church Designated Accounts balance: \$ 53,533.80
 All Memorials balance: \$ 21,605.06
 ** This money is NOT available to spend on utilities, wages, benefits, taxes, supplies, etc. - it is RESTRICTED

Messenger Sponsors

Messenger sponsors needed for 2020. The cost is \$75.00. Call the church office to sign up.

Altar Flowers

The **2020 Flower Chart** is hanging in the hallway between the church mailboxes. When signing up for flowers, please add your name, phone number, and if center or side vases. You are responsible for calling the florist of your choice and for calling the church office for your bulletin article. Thank you!

Poinsettias

Poinsettias for the Altar - Sign up on the glass case in the narthex by Sun., Dec. 15th. Plants are \$15.00 each and can be picked up after the service on Christmas. Please make checks payable to Pam Hanlin.

Offering Envelopes

The **2020 Church Offering Envelopes** are on the tables in the narthex. Please take your box and any others you may be able to deliver. Thank you!



joyful AND triumphant



Opportunities / Thrivent Info

Opportunities to Serve, Volunteer, or Donate

Project: Stranger

Our school's offering and mission focus this year is to find ways to put "Feet to our Faith" following what we are told in Matthew 25:35-40; helping as many people in as many ways as possible. For November, we will be working on **Project: Stranger**. We will be doing special projects within the classrooms that will help others going through the foster system and/or dealing with family separations/difficulties of some kind. Our offerings will go toward the cost of materials needed to make this possible. You are ALL ALWAYS welcome to join us for our Wednesday Chapel services at 8AM.

Rescue Mission

Help is needed for our next **Rescue Mission** date on Dec. 14th at 10AM. Every second Saturday of the month we prepare and serve meals at the City Rescue Mission of Saginaw from 10AM-2PM. Please contact Paul Schoenknecht 871-2280 if you are willing to help. To help prepare sack lunches, please come to the St. Paul kitchen on Fri., Dec. 13th at 1:30PM. There is also a sign-up sheet on the glass case in the narthex. Please help if you are able.

Advent Dinner

Dec. 4th is still available for any group or individual to serve a **dinner** before the Advent service. The menu choice is yours and this can be used as a fundraiser. Dinner would begin at 5PM with worship at 6:30PM.

Health Kits

Needed for **Health Kits**: 9 shampoos, 5 wash cloths, 14 combs, 10 toothpastes, 7 deodorants. Place items in the wooden cabinet in the narthex.

Student Aid

From time to time, situations arise in our lives causing a financial crisis. Loss of job, divorce/marital separation, and medical situations are a few of those times when we may not know how we are going to pay the bills. Some of our school families are dealing with these and similar situations and are in need of Christian compassion, assistances and encouragement. St. Paul **Student Aid Fund** has been set up to help families meet their financial obligation for tuition/fees. Donations to this fund are greatly appreciated and needed. If God has gifted you to be a blessing to these families, contributions may be brought to the church or school office. Much thanks!

Staff Christmas Gift

Our St. Paul staff goes above and beyond daily for the work of the kingdom here at St. Paul and beyond. Please show your appreciation by giving to the **Staff Christmas Gift**. Cash donations (please, no checks) can be placed in the provided envelopes or another envelope marked "Staff Christmas Gift" and put in the offering plate or brought to the church office before Fri., Dec. 13th. Please remember, this is not a tax deductible gift and will not be recorded on your giving statement. Thank you in advance for your gift.

Giving Tree Update

Brothers and Sisters in Christ;

In preparation of the Christmas season and gathering information for the **Giving Tree**, we came across a change. Every year we receive several families from both Wellspring and our local community whom we have a list of items to purchase. **We will still continue to purchase items for the families in our community**, but Wellspring has asked for an alternative. Due to families in and out of their shelter and the change in needs, they are asking for gift card donations this year. This was disappointing when I first learned of this because I know the joy the congregation feels picking out the items purchased. Upon further investigation, it was explained that the workers would take the parents and children to purchase their gifts for each other. The workers will also help families pay for things like utility bills, bus passes and phone bills. Again, I realize this change is disappointing, but a lot of us may not know what it's like to be a mom who just left an abusive relationship and knows she can't provide for her family. Please pray about this and open your hearts to the change. More information to follow. Sincerely, Melissa Wagner - Social Concerns Chairman

What is Thrivent Choice?

The Thrivent Choice program is a charitable grant program that encourages Thrivent members recommend where Thrivent distributes a portion of its charitable funding. Choice Dollars® and Thrivent Choice Voting® Events result in the distribution of several million dollars of grant funds to causes that you care about most. If you qualify, **your Choice Dollars can be directed every quarter, or once a year**. If you haven't directed your dollars for 2019, please call Thrivent or go online to www.thrivent.com.

Thrivent Action Teams / FREE Money!

Did you know that if you're a Thrivent member, you can apply for a **\$250 gift card** to help with a service activity or fundraiser? Think of all the possibilities where this could be beneficial.

How it Works - Think about a need in our church or community and how you could help. Apply to lead your volunteer team in a one-time fundraiser, service activity or educational event that can be completed within 90 days. Once your project is approved, you'll receive a Thrivent Action Kit with T-shirts and a \$250 Gift Card you can use as seed money to get your project off the ground and make a bigger impact. Details and guidelines can be found online.

How often am I eligible? Benefit members are eligible to lead two Thrivent Action Teams per calendar year, and associate members one per year.

Go to Thrivent.com, click on "Making a Difference", then "Thrivent Action Teams". You will need a User ID and Password to apply. If questions, call the church office and we can help get you started.

Acolytes, Screen Techs, Greeters, Ushers, Sextons

December					
Acolytes	30/1	7/8	14/15	21/22	28/29
7PM		Kailee Fackler	Carly Trinklein	Kailee Fackler	Carly Trinklein
8:30AM	Hoads	Ryan Keinath	Hoads	Ryan Keinath	Hoads
11AM	Sawyer Keinath	Luke Petzold	Peyton Schmandt	Tyler Rude	Rodammers
Screen Tech					
7PM	Weston Reinig		Mason Lugg	Kailee Fackler	Mason Lugg
8:30AM	Ryan Keinath	Singers			
11AM	Carly Trinklein	Hunter Ayotte	Julie Keinath	Hannah Woolwine	Hunter Ayotte
Greeters	1st Sunday	2nd Sunday	3rd Sunday	4th Sunday	
7PM	Wilbert & Sue Ill	Shelli Lugg	Mason Lugg	Ed Sergeant	
8:30AM	Shirley Ann Petzold	Gale Brown Ken & Kathy Ill	Katrina Wager Rosie Horning	Dorothy Schreiber Eileen Ziegler	
11AM	Les & Diane Maxson Ron & Olga Nims	Wayne & Luanne Jaruzel	Dale & Pam Hanlin	Keith & Heidi Woolwine	

Ushers

8:30AM Service

Captain – Dwight Keinath
 Assistant – Michael Albert
 Ken Auernhammer
 Colin Meacham
 Daniel Meacham
 Lester Miller
 Jeremy Petzold
 Luke Platt
 Matt Singer
 Eugene Weiss
 Bud Zeck
 Mike Ziegler

Ushers

11AM Service

Captain – Richard Harpst
 Assistant – Mark Rude
 Mike Hoard
 Heath Keinath
 John Petzold
 Michael Rader
 Jay Rodammer
 Hans Schmandt

Ushers

7PM Service

Captain – Jim Jaruzel
 Sheila Haynes

Church Sextons

Matt & Angie Ayotte
 Armand & Faye Carmona
 Ed & Marcia Keinath
 Ted & Katrina Wager
 Rod & Nancy Wilson


Communion Set-Up

7PM - Lillian Sergeant
 8:30AM - Joyce Wager
 11AM - Jan McKee



*One of the greatest gifts you
 can give is your time.*

December 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:30a Worship + C - Handbells 9:45a Bible Study/Sunday School 11a Worship - Handbells 6p Candles & Carols (Church of God)	2 7p Handbells	3 7a Jubilee (Jr Bells) 9a Storyhour 1p Quilting 5:30p Social Concerns 6p Painting 6p Youth Team Meeting 6:30p Stewardship 7p Open Gym 7:30p AA	4 <div>BOGO Book Fair - Library</div> 1:30p Advent I Worship Free Spirit 6:30p Advent I Worship 7:15p Council	5 3p Girl Scouts 6:15p Praise Team 6:53p Church Choir 7p Public School Confirmation	6	7 8a Men's Bible Study 9a Church Choir practice 7p Worship + C
8 <div>BOGO Book Fair - Library</div> 8:30a Worship 9:45a Bible Study/Sunday School 11a Worship + C 4p Christmas Concert 5p Songs of Praise Dinner	9 7p Stephen Ministry	10 7a Jubilee (Jr Bells) 9a Storyhour 1p Quilting 6p Painting 6p Board of Education 7p Open Gym 7:30p AA	11 1:30a Advent II Worship Cantata Choir 5p Advent II March for Life Dinner 6p Church Choir 6:30p Advent II Worship	12 6:15p Praise Team 6:30p Prayer Committee 7p Public School Confirmation	13 1:30p City Rescue Preparation 6p PTL Movie Night	14 9a Scrapbooking 10a City Rescue Mission 7p Worship
15 <div>Parish Hall Rental</div> 8:30a Worship + C - Cherub 9:45a Bible Study/Sunday School 11a Worship (Contemporary) 1:30p Voter's Assembly 4p Giving Tree Gift Wrapping 6:30p Couples Bible Study	16 7p Handbells	17 7a Jubilee (Jr Bells) 9a Storyhour 1p Quilting 6p Painting 7p Open Gym 7:30p AA	18 1p Children's Service 4:30p Advent III Dinner 6p Children's Service 7:30p Elders	19 3p Girl Scouts 6:15p Praise Team 7p Women's Bible Study	20 4:30p Youth - Crossroads Village	21 <div>Parish Hall Rental</div> 5p Christmas Caroling 7p Worship + C
22 8:30a Worship - Church choir 9:45a Bible Study / Sunday School 11a Worship + C (Contemporary) 12:30p Youth Christmas Party 2p Christmas Caroling	23 5p Open House - Pastor and Patti Martinal 7p Stephen Ministry	24 Christmas Eve 6p Children's Service 9p Candlelight Worship 7:30p AA	25 Christmas 10a Worship Service + C Church Choir / Brass 	26 6:15p Praise Team	27	28 <div>Parish Hall Rental</div> 7p Worship
29 8:30a Worship 9:45a Bible Study/Sunday School 11a Worship (Contemporary)	30	31 7:30p AA				

Convention Report / IRA Info / LEAP News

Report of the 67th Regular Convention of The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (Continued)

Prepared for the Frankenmuth Circuit of The Michigan District
By Pastoral Delegate Dan Burhop and Lay Delegate Steve Kern

"Joy: Fully Lutheran: Rejoice, Pray, Give Thanks"

Floor Comm. #10 – Ecclesiastical Supervision and Dispute Resolution

Res. 10-03A To Give Thanks to All who Worked to Complete the Process Outlined by 2016 Resolution 12-14, "Regarding the Right of an Accuser to Appeal When a District President or President Fails to Act or Declines to Suspend". Apparently there is a history behind this regarding Ecclesiastical Supervision related to the role of the Synodical President. The COP, although voting in the majority on the issue behind this resolution, is divided. Constitutionally, the Synodical President is given ecclesiastical authority over all of Synod. It was moved to postpone this resolution until the COP comes to better agreement. Adopted 60.9% in favor.

Floor Committee #11 – Church and Culture

Res. 11-01 To commend the paper, "The Child as a Gift of God" to members of Synod and congregations, to fill the position of LCMS Director of Life and Health Ministry, to have CTCR updated its 1981 report on Human Sexuality and review various document on beginning of life issues, to request LCMS Life and Health Ministries collaborate with supportive groups to sponsor conferences on beginning-of-life issues and encourage our seminaries and colleges, districts, circuits, congregations and schools to give increased attention to these, and request the ONM to identify resources for these issues. Adopted 97.7% in favor.

Res. 11-02A That the LCMS reaffirm its commitment to the biblical definition of marriage between one man and one woman, that same-sex "marriage" cannot be recognized as marriage according to God's institution, that Synod teach and confess that what God has joined, let not man separate, that sexual relations outside of marriage is unscriptural, that congregations hold firm to a faithful confession of marriage despite outside influences, that the church remain a friend to all sinners and that people would be called to repentance and be absolved. Adopted 96.4% in favor.

Res. 11-03 We affirm and faithfully confess the biblical truth that God created humanity as male and female. We regard all those who experience sexual orientation and gender identity issues as our neighbors, beloved of God and condemn acts of abuse against them. We will minister compassionately to families, friends, and all impacted by those who struggle with same-sex attraction and utilize all reports related to these issues from the CTCR. The ONM, CPH, Seminaries, and CUS should provide resources to enable the church to confess the truth and minister to those with these struggles. Adopted by unanimous voice vote.

Res. 11-04A We publicly condemn the sin of racism in all its manifestations and we encourage all congregations of the Synod to work toward racial reconciliation and equality within the Church and society-at-large. We as followers of Christ regard no one according to the flesh. Adopted by unanimous voice vote.

Res. 11-05A That we be encouraged to see the immigrant and the stranger as our neighbor and to share the Gospel and make disciples of all people. As members we give bold witness in keeping with Scripture and our confessions against inhumane treatment and attitudes of immigrants and minorities and war refugees. We are encouraged to not let political divisions become church divisions. Adopted 89.4% in favor.

Res. 11-06A To voice the LCMS opposition to physician-assisted suicide and legislative efforts to legalize it. Adopted unanimously by voice vote.

Res. 11-07A To remember the persecuted church and utilize the CTCR bible study, "Why are you persecuting me? A Christian response to hostility and persecution." To pray for and financially support through the OIM missionaries and Christians who are being persecuted.

IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution

If you are age 70½ or older, IRS rules require you to take required minimum distributions (RMDs) each year from your individual retirement accounts (IRAs). If this applies to you, you may be interested in a way to lower the income and taxes from your RMDs. An IRA qualified charitable distribution (QCD) is a way you can help continue our work and benefit this year.

BENEFITS OF AN IRA QCD

- Avoid taxes on transfer of up to \$100,000 from your IRA to St. Paul.
- Satisfy your required minimum distribution (RMD) for 2019.
- Reduce your taxable income.
- Make a gift that is not subject to the deduction limits on charitable gifts.
- Help further the work and mission of St. Paul.

HOW AN IRA QCD GIFT WORKS

- Contact your IRA plan administrator to make a gift from your IRA to St. Paul.
- Your IRA funds will be directly transferred to St. Paul to help continue our important work.
- Please note that IRA QCD gifts do not qualify for a charitable deduction.
- Please contact your tax professional or financial advisor for more information.

LEAP News Nugget New LEAP School Admissions Coordinator

Planning for the "job creation" and the hiring of a part-time Admissions Coordinator to serve some of the schools of LEAP (initially, five such schools) has been in the works for quite a few months now. There are and will be more pieces of the story to be told, and very possibly more schools involved. However, for now, through this News Nugget, we are pleased to introduce to you the "brand new" LEAP Admissions Coordinator, Mrs. Carol Sweebe. Carol is a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Midland, and she has two children who are graduates of that school. She has been a very active member and leader within her church and school. She is the Founder and Executive Director of "Ministries of Hope," a not-for-profit organization which helps couples and individuals live as children of God. Mrs. Sweebe is pleased to report that "I am very excited to be working with Lutheran schools in the Great Lakes Bay Region, as I believe they provide a much-needed opportunity for parents who choose to give their children an education that is academically sound and Biblically based. Our children were blessed to experience that gift and are strong in their faith and in life as a result of it."

More news concerning the School Admissions Coordinator and her work will be following in days to come. Stay tuned. And please continue to pray God's blessings upon the children and families and ministries of our Lutheran schools!

Daily Lectionary / Area News

Area News

The Community Nativity will be set up on Fri., Nov. 29th at 9AM. If you would like to help, please show up at the Millington Rotary Park near the Historical Museum.

Candles & Carols Sun., Dec. 1st at 6PM at the Church of God. If anyone would like to share a musical talent, please call the church office. Cookie are also needed. Bring to the Church of God that evening.

Christmas in the Village Mon., Dec. 2nd. Reindeer at the library from 3-6PM, Christmas parade at 6PM. If you would like to share the real meaning of Christmas by singing with a community choir on a float in the parade, please call the church office.

Breakfast with Santa Sat., Dec. 7th from 8:30-11AM at the Millington Community Center. Children can make a craft & decorate a cookie. Adults: \$5, Ages 4-8: \$3, 3 & Under: Free. Cookie Walk \$3 per pound.

German Christmas Song Fest Sun., Dec. 1st at 3PM at St. Lorenz Church. Harp music begins at 2:30PM. Favorite German hymns & scriptures of Advent & Christmas.

Boar's Head Christmas Festival Thurs., Dec. 5th at 7:30PM, Sat., Dec. 7th at 7:30PM, Sun., Dec. 8th at 4PM at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Saginaw. Pre-service music 30 minutes before. The birth of Jesus if presented in a 1300 A.D. medieval setting. Free.

"Living Nativity – A Journey to Bethlehem", Fri., Dec. 6th 7-9PM; Sat., Dec. 7th 6-8PM; and Sun., Dec. 8th 6-8PM at Immanuel, Frankentrost. Experience the sights and sounds of Bethlehem on that blessed night when Jesus Christ was born. Free 30-minute outdoor walk-dress for the weather. Fellowship and refreshments follow in the school.

Mark Your Calendar – The Wonder of Love Ultimate Date Night with Jay & Laura Laffoon Fri., April 24th from 7-9:30PM at the Millington Church of God. Have you ever tried to describe marriage to a single person? You can't. It's a mystery and it's called the Wonder of Love. The Ultimate Date Night is a 90-minute comedic look at this thing called Love. Using their unique blend of music, comedy and Biblical truth, the Laffoons reveal 6 different ways to grow love in your marriage! Couples will walk away with a renewed love for their spouse and practical tools to continue building the love in their relationship. Tickets can be purchased at itickets.com-\$30 per couple if purchased before

December Daily Lectionary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Is. 7:10-8:8 1 Pt. 3:1-22	2 Is. 8:9-9:7 1 Pt. 4:1-19	3 Is. 9:8-10:11 1 Pt. 5:1-14	4 Is. 10:12-27, 33-34 2 Pt. 1:1-21	5 Is. 11:1-12:6 2 Pt. 2:1-22	6 Is. 14:1-12 2 Pt. 3:1-18	7 Is. 24:1-13 1 John 1:1-2:14
8 Is. 24:14-25:12 1 John 2:15-29	9 Is. 26:1-19 1 John 3:1-24	10 Is. 26:20-27:13 1 John 4:1-21	11 Is. 28:14-29 1 John 5:1-21	12 Is. 29:1-14 Jude 1-25	13 Is. 29:15-30:14 Rev. 1:1-20	14 Is. 30:15-26 Rev. 2:1-29
15 Is. 30:27-31:9 Rev. 3:1-22	16 Is. 32:1-20 Rev. 4:1-11	17 Is. 33:1-24 Rev. 5:1-14	18 Is. 34:1-2, 8-35:10 Rev. 6:1-17	19 Is. 40:1-17 Rev. 7:1-17	20 Is. 40:18-41:10 Rev. 8:1-13	21 Is. 42:1-25 Rev. 9:1-12
22 Is. 43:1-24 Rev. 9:13-10:11	23 Is. 43:25-44:20 Rev. 11:1-19	24 Is. 44:20-45:13 Rev. 12:1-17	25 Is. 49:1-18 Matt. 1:1-17	26 Is. 49:22-26, 50:4-51:8, 51:12-16 Matt. 1:18-25	27 Is. 51:17-52:12 Matt. 2:1-12	28 Is. 52:13-54:10 Matt. 2:13-23
29 Is. 55:1-13 Luke 1:1-25	30 Is. 58:1-59:3, 14-21 Luke 1:26-38	31 Is. 60:1-22 Luke 1:39-56				

December Birthdays

Deborah ILL	12/01	Jeffrey Johnston	12/11	Dane Coleman	12/19	Danny Brandle	12/31
Kamden Keinath	12/01	Janette Keinath	12/11	Karrie Colman	12/19	Dean Mason	12/31
Riley Pattinson	12/01	Karl Ramsey	12/11	Taren Ewing	12/19	John Osborn, Jr	12/31
Judith Snover	12/01	Terry Reinbold	12/11	Paul Rogers	12/19	Teresa Waller	12/31
Andrew Weber	12/01	Timothy Rueger	12/11	Sandy Shamel	12/19		
Taylor Wirsing	12/01	Kimberly Sergent	12/11	Marie Trinklein	12/19		
Logan Myers	12/02	Irene Smith	12/11	Chase Guelette	12/20		
Delores Reinert	12/02	Sandra St. Onge	12/11	Steven, Sr. Holmes, Sr.	12/20		
Tyler Rude	12/02	Jason Stewart	12/11	Holli Johnson	12/20		
Jodi Torrey	12/02	Cameron Loomis	12/12	Allen Marks	12/20		
Jeremy Corrigan	12/03	Michelle Stewart	12/12	Chester Petzold	12/20		
Tonya Daenzer	12/03	Linda Windt	12/12	Seth Sundberg	12/20		
Brooklyn Ewing	12/03	Logan Wirsing	12/12	Norma Taylor	12/20		
Dawn Knoll	12/03	Deborah Bierlein	12/13	Richard Coon	12/21		
Kara Polk	12/03	Fran Carnet	12/13	Julie Rude	12/21		
Melissa Sandusky	12/03	Christopher Jensen	12/13	Nicholas Schultz	12/21		
Sarah Waterman	12/03	Sayer Puzjak	12/13	Trenton Weber	12/21		
Lori Kowitz	12/04	Gerry Smith II	12/13	Jackie Petzold	12/22		
Holly Leach	12/04	Ashtyn Stewart	12/13	Connor Simon	12/22		
Daniel Petzold	12/04	Lisa Bach	12/14	Sarah Campbell	12/23		
Stephen Roggentine	12/04	Amy Casto	12/14	Larry Kammer	12/23		
Brad Sayles	12/04	Tyler Lichnovsky	12/14	Marlene Keipinger	12/23		
Eric Galant	12/05	Michael Lyons	12/14	Alex Kern	12/23		
Daniel Karcher	12/05	Alison Reinig	12/14	Rhonda Nielson	12/23		
William Woodward	12/05	Dennis Schmidt	12/14	Sheila Peche	12/23		
Scott Jensen	12/06	Donna Weber	12/14	Christine Jaruzel	12/24		
Kari Johnston	12/06	Ireva Wolvertson	12/14	Judith Lichnovsky	12/24		
Nathaniel Wood	12/06	John Allard	12/15	Billie Loper	12/24		
Clark Cassidy	12/07	Robert Baker	12/15	Finntee Lowrey	12/24		
Mae Cassidy	12/07	Karen Bruner	12/15	Arnie Petzold	12/24		
Linda Conrad	12/07	Melissa Hager	12/15	Gary Wagner	12/24		
Connie Keinath	12/07	Cherri Herrick	12/15	Linda Schmidt	12/25		
Faydra Myers	12/07	Eden Johnson	12/15	Stephen Erickson	12/26		
Rylyn Roth	12/07	Lincoln Keinath	12/15	Gerald Higgins	12/26		
Elizabeth Selich	12/07	Doris Meier	12/15	Lucas Hoard	12/26		
Candice Tatro	12/07	Aaron O'Connor	12/15	Larry Jensen	12/26		
Molly Wolfington	12/07	Cheryl Anderson	12/16	Connor Mason	12/26		
Carol Weber	12/08	Reagan Hoard	12/16	Kassandra Mills	12/26		
Mary White	12/08	Denise Miller	12/16	Anna Reinig	12/26		
Grace Adamic	12/09	Andy Rosebush	12/16	Tamera Dreher	12/27		
Matthew Allen	12/09	Susan Washburn	12/16	Melody Payea	12/27		
Kaitlyn Burton	12/09	Monica Lusk	12/17	Marie Ross	12/27		
Danielle DeOrnellas	12/09	Nancy Meier	12/17	Robert Fall	12/28		
David Janowski	12/09	Jo Anne Noyce	12/17	Aiden Koch	12/28		
Joshua Keinath	12/09	Sarah Pobocik	12/17	Niola Leach	12/28		
Lillian Sergent	12/09	Craig Reinert	12/17	Arlyn Marks	12/28		
Michael Tebedo	12/09	Carter Stevens	12/17	Matt Ayotte	12/29		
Andria Weakley	12/09	Carol Burchett	12/18	Floyd, III Harsen	12/29		
Marilyn Daenzer	12/10	Shelby Jesberg	12/18	Cameron Henderson	12/29		
Elizabeth Goodhue	12/10	Susan Morrow	12/18	James Rude	12/29		
Violet Myers	12/10	Adam Polk	12/18	Alexis Sutton	12/29		
Chy Rueckert	12/10	Karri Smith	12/18	Ira Ewald	12/30		
Scott Soderlund	12/10	Brody Willson	12/18	Shannon Keinath	12/30		
Geri Blue	12/11	Ricks Anderson	12/19	Amanda Marks	12/30		
Dana Earl	12/11	Aidan Bach	12/19	Jami Petzold	12/30		
Lorine Edler	12/11	Nicholas Borcharding	12/19	Jeff Staple	12/30		
Judy Grulke	12/11	Sandra Brow	12/19	Donna Torrey	12/30		





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



December

Monthly Messenger

St. Paul Lutheran Church & School
December 2019

