

Serving Christ During the Week

Today: 8am, Matins

9:15am FINAL Sunday School Christmas practice and Adult Bible Class

10:15am, Divine Service

1-4pm Youth Christmas Caroling (see notes)

Monday:

Tuesday: 6am Early Bird Bible Study

9am & 1pm Kinderchapel

6:30pm Pre-K Christmas Program and Christmas Music Program

Wednesday: 3:30pm Public School Catechism

6pm Adult Choir

7pm Advent Worship

Thursday: 6:30am Wyneken Teachers/Staff Christmas Breakfast

8:20am Wyneken Advent/Christmas Chapel

9:30-11am Circuit Pastors Bible Study

6:30pm Ladies Aid Christmas Dinner

Friday: [No School; Christmas Break]

Saturday:

Next Sunday: 9am, Divine Service (with Baptism)

6:45pm Children are in their Sunday School classrooms

7pm Children's Christmas Eve Program

NEWS AND NOTES December 17, 2017

⊕ During Communion distribution, the Communion hymn is sung. As long as people are still communing, the next consecutive hymns in the hymnal are sung. We do not stand for doxological hymn verses during Communion distribution.

⊕ Today's opening hymn (345) is the Hymn of the Week. Our Wyneken children worked on stanza 1 this past week.

⊕ Today is the last practice for our Sunday School Christmas Program, *Christ the Light*. Next Sunday evening the children should be in their Sunday School classrooms by 6:45pm. The program begins at 7pm. May God be glorified as the children uniquely retell the holy account of Christmas.

⊕ During the Advent season 8th graders will frequently be the ones lighting the Advent wreath, reciting a prophecy of Christ from the prophet Isaiah.

⊕ In Adult Bible Class we are studying the book of Hebrews. Join your brothers and sisters in our discussion of God's Word, and join them also in refreshments which volunteers frequently provide for Bible Class hour. There will be no Sunday School or

Adult Bible Class December 24, or December 31.

⊕ This Tuesday at 6:30pm our Wyneken Pre-K will present the Christmas program, *Angels, Angels*. Afterward there will be a brief Christmas Music Program. All are welcome.

⊕ This Wednesday will conclude our Advent series based on Isaiah's prophecy in Isaiah 9:6. We will consider the prophesied name of Christ, "Everlasting Father". How can Jesus be called our Father; isn't that the title of the heavenly Father? Come, learn how Christ is your Everlasting Father!

⊕ Wyneken parents who attend worship here with their Wyneken children are reminded to initial their column on the special books in the narthex. Recall that each Wyneken child(ren) and their families must attend at least 14 services at the church to retain their member tuition status.

⊕ Our Wyneken Christmas Chapel will not be held on the usual Wednesday morning, but will be on the last day of school before the Christmas break (Thursday, 8:20am). All are welcome to every chapel at our school.

⊕ We would like to invite all those who helped with noodle making, cookie decorating and the bazaar to join us for our Ladies Aid Christmas Party, Thursday December 21 at 6:30pm. The meal is \$9.00. Reservations are due December 20. Please call Jamie Miller (223-4797), Barb Bulmahn (223-0506) or Jan Blum (223-3532). Please bring a gift for your Secret Pal and also a gift for a man.

⊕ We would like to have a set person lined up to shovel the sidewalks when necessary on Sunday mornings. This individual would be paid for this work. If interested, contact one of our Trustees: Nolan Scheumann, Tom Reinhart, Brian Todd.

⊕ Though not noted at the recent Voters meeting, our next elders, council and voters meetings are planned for January 22 and 23.

⊕ Next Sunday, as agreed by the Voters, we will have only one morning service at 9am. This morning service is both the last Sunday in Advent and it is Christmas Eve! Additionally next Sunday will be the Children's Christmas Program at 7pm.

⊕ For the Children's Christmas program, participating children should be in their Sunday School classrooms by 6:45pm next Sunday.

⊕ The Orphan Grain Train needs our help. The catastrophic effects of Hurricane Harvey are enormous. Over 50 inches of rain fell in some areas of Texas and the devastation is incredible. Thrivent Financial has offered to match gifts up to \$3,000,000.00 to 8 organizations and the Orphan Grain Train is one. (On a first come

first served basis.) Qualifying gifts must be given through Thrivent.com. (Gifts sent directly to Orphan Grain Train will not be matched.) To take advantage of this opportunity follow these simple directions: Go to www.thrivent.com. On the home page click on "Help Now" on the left hand side. Click on "Continue" and then fill in the information to make your gift. (Note that credit card gifts will have a fee deducted from your gift so donations made directly from a checking or savings account will be most beneficial.) Each gift will be doubled until the entire \$3,000,000.00 has been met or December, 31, 2017, whichever is first. It is impossible to overemphasize the extent of this disaster. Orphan Grain Train will be involved in restoring this area for years to come. May our dear Lord Jesus bless your consideration of such a gift! *Rev. Ralph G. Schmidt CFRE, Director of Donor Advising*

⊕ The *Portals of Prayer* Devotionals for January-March will be handed out today. Make sure to pick one up and use them for family devotions in the coming new year.

⊕ Dear St. Paul Congregation: We are richly blessed to have an established endowment fund that has given us the opportunity to support our youth programs, mission trips and various capital projects in excess of \$170,000.00. Grant applications for St. Paul-Preble Endowment Fund 2018 grants are now being accepted through **January 7th**. The funds can be used for the following: 1. **Missions**: Local, regional and world projects; 2. **Youth**: Support for youth of all ages. 3. **Worship and Music**: Support for the worship activities of our congregation. 4. **Capital Projects**: Major renovations and building of new facilities. All members are encouraged to participate in this process. No fundraising is required! Please give extra thought and consideration to potential uses for these funds. Application forms and Bylaws can be found on the tables in the rear of the church. Completed forms or any questions should be addressed to Steve Kreigh, Scott Ainsworth, Sue Buuck, Barry Melcher, or Mike Werling.

⊕ OASIS YOUTH: HS Youth gatherings on the following Sunday evenings beginning at 6:30pm: **Jan. 7, 21, 28. Dec. 17** 1-4pm ALL Youth Shut-in Christmas Caroling. We will gather in the youth room at Bingen to prepare our baskets of cookies, fruit, etc. and then divide them into caroling groups. We will be Caroling for as many of the tri-congregation shut-ins as possible. All families are invited to bring two dozen homemade Christmas cookies/treats. This is a great opportunity to serve our loved ones and also earn volunteer service hours. **Adult drivers needed!** Please RSVP with Mr. Horning 260-301-1496; **Dec. 22** Middle School Youth Lock-IN; **January 27** 11am-2pm All Youth March for Life in Ft. Wayne. Extra copies of the OASIS calendar of events are in the Narthex.

⊕ Installation of new Church Officers (elected and appointed) will be December 31st at 9am. We will only have one worship service that Sunday morning as there will be the 7pm New Year's Eve Service on that date.

Saint Paul Lutheran Church Preble

Sermon: "John, Are You the Christ?" John 1:6-8, 19-28

- I. Are you the anointed Christ-Prophet?
 - A. John was a great prophet.
 - B. The Christ is the ultimate prophet.
- II. Are you the anointed Christ-Priest?
 - A. John was a priest!
 - B. The Christ is the ultimate priest.
- III. Are you the anointed Christ-King?
 - A. John was not a king.
 - B. The Christ is the King of kings.

P: Lord, in your mercy **C:** Hear our prayer:

The Communicants

Our Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

The Nation

Hospitalized: Ron Schueler at Lutheran Hospital

Our Sick & Shut-in:

Birthdays: Tina Hoffman, Connie Kreigh, Ken Selking, Andi Sloffer, Tom Reinhart, Melissa Reinking, Adam Hart

SERVICE OF LOVE IN CHRIST

Serving Christ and Being Served in Worship

8am Worship: 65 10:15am Worship: 149

Bible Class: 69 Midweek Advent Service: 60

Serving Christ in our Offerings

Need Weekly: \$7,181.70 Received Last Week: \$5,665.31

(+) or (-) Weekly: -\$1,516.39 (+) or (-) Year to Date: -\$65,010.39

⊕ If you did not get an advent devotional booklet "Love Came Down" make sure to pick one up in the narthex [this morning](#). You may also get these devotions free on the internet at <https://www.lhm.org/daily> devotions.

⊕ Check out the upcoming events offered by Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne. For additional information concerning all events, please go to www.ctsfw.edu or phone [260.452.2100](tel:260.452.2100). **Music Events** *All the following music events take place in Kramer Chapel and are open to the public.* **Sunday, January 14 4:00 p.m.** *Epiphany Evening Prayer* Seminary Kantorei **Wednesday, January 17 5:00 p.m.** *Symposia Choral Vespers* Seminary Schola Cantorum **Thursday, January 18 5:00 p.m.** *Symposia Vespers and Organ Recital* Rev. Timothy Frank.

⊕ "Prayer list" for members to use as they bring the needs of others before God's throne of grace: Carol Bieberich; Cathy Terhune has miraculously shown improvement; Bonnie Gallmeyer; Eileen Hintz is suffering from bone cancer; Marilyn Harvey; Rae Fuhrmann (long time Wyneken teacher); James Johnson (father of Bobbi Shane).

⊕ Lord Jesus specializes in bestowing dignity upon lives the world views as insignificant or inconvenient (Isaiah 61:1-2). Indeed, He has dealt with each of us according to this graciousness. Therefore we savor participating in it by speaking and showing it to both our neighbors and the culture (Isaiah 61:4). *Light of Life, anoint us with Your voice of grace to bring the poor good news. Amen.*

⊕ The lessons for next Sunday are II Samuel 7:1-11,16; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38.

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