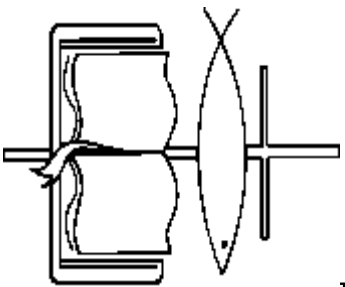


The St. Paul Lutheran News

St. Paul Lutheran Church is called to be an Inviting, Christ Centered Spiritually Growing and Community Serving Church where we are led by love to implement Jesus' teachings.



DECEMBER 2024

December Worship Schedule

Sun., Dec 1	8:30 a.m.
Sun., Dec 8	8:30 a.m.
Sun., Dec 15	8:30 a.m.
Sun., Dec 22	8:30 a.m.
Tues., Dec 24	4:00 p.m.
Sun., Dec 29	8:30 a.m.



Staff
Interim Pastor
Rev. Michael Rahlf
Secretary
Kellie Carrier-Richards
Custodian
Edgar Jurado
Music/Choir Director
David Frank

Church in America (ELCA)

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran

www.stpaulbeloit.org

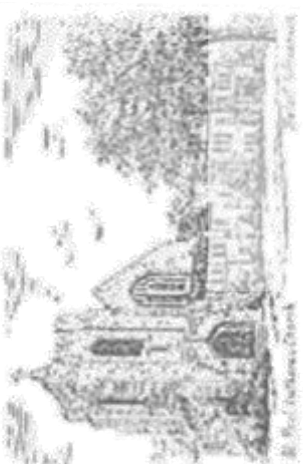
facebook.com/stpaullutheranchurchbeloit

(809) 365-7064

4pm

Church Office Hours
Tuesdays & Fridays: 8am-11am
Tuesdays: 11am-3pm and



St. Paul Lutheran Church
617 St. Lawrence Avenue
Beloit, WI 53511



DECEMBER 2024 ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

In-Person & Online Worship

Livestreaming worship with St. Paul available on Facebook & YouTube

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>1 8:30 a.m. Worship - In Person & Online Coffee Hour Immediately following 11:00 a.m. Worship at San José</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 6:00 p.m.- Worship and Music Meeting</p>	<p>4 Noon- Soup Lunch</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8 8:30 a.m. Worship - In Person & Online Coffee Hour Immediately following 11:00 a.m. Worship at San José</p>	<p>9 1:00 p.m- Ruth Circle</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 NOON-SOUP LUNCH LYDIA'S CLOSET</p>	<p>12 Noon-OWLS</p>	<p>13 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15 8:30 a.m. Worship - In Person & Online Coffee Hour immediately following 11:00 a.m. Worship at San José</p>	<p>16 6:30 p.m- Women's Bible Study (Michael Chapel)</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 Noon- Soup Lunch CHRISTMAS DINNER/GIFT SHOP</p>	<p>19 8:00 a.m.-Men's Breakfast (Beloit Family Restaurant)</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22 8:30a.m. Worship -In Person & Online Coffee Hour immediately following 11:00 a.m. Worship at San José</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 4:00p.m. Christmas Eve Service CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>25 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</p> 	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 8:30a.m. Worship -In Person & Online Coffee Hour immediately following 11:00 a.m. Worship at San José</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>Jan 1 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</p>			

St. Paul Lutheran Church December Celebrations!

BIRTHDAYS

Dave Knutson 12/1
Martha Stolze 12/1
Patricia Edge 12/11
John Petersons 12/11
JESUS 12/25

ANNIVERSARIES

None

HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

Celebrate
With Us



OWLS



Meeting will be held
Thursday, December 12 at
Noon with a potluck.

Happy
Birthday
Jesus



Pastor Mike will be on leave from the office from
December 26-January 1.
He will be back in his office on Tuesday, January 7th.

The church office will also be closed on Christmas Eve
and Christmas Day as well as New Year's Eve and New
Year's Day.

God's Blessings to everyone and we wish
You a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Grace and peace to you from our Lord and Savior
Jesus Christ.

Beyond all the lights and the noisiness of the season.
Beyond the shopping, and decorating, and cooking.
Beyond all the hectic travel plans, the family gatherings
and the sales. Beyond all the Christmas specials, concerts,
and of course, the arrival of snow. Sometimes something gets lost in the
midst of it all.

We can get so caught up in the “doing” Christmas, that we forget the
entire reason any of it exists. So, I thought I’d take this moment to
remind you. Here is one of the passages from the Gospel of Luke
beginning at chapter 1, verse 30.

The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid Mary, for you have found favor
with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son,
and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the
Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to Him the throne of
His ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever,
and His kingdom will have no end.”

Beyond all the hustle and bustle, in a quiet tiny town known as
Bethlehem, a child will be born. Just as children are born every day.
But this one is different. He is our Savior. The Prince of peace, the
bringer of forgiveness, Emmanuel. Which means God with us.

That is what we are so diligently working towards. The celebration of
the arrival of the Lord. Come to set us free from sin. Come to invite us to
the Kingdom that will have no end. This is the single most important and
world changing event ever!

We are waiting for the birth of the Christ child. And without this
moment, none of the other stuff matters, or would even exist. This year,
put away the anxiety, let go of the financial burden of the season,
give up the constant barrage of commercial marketing.

Continued next page....



Christmas Poinsettias

We will again order Poinsettias
for the Sanctuary at Christmastime.

Each plant is \$15.00 — please get your orders in
to us as soon as possible!

You may also bring your own Poinsettia plant
at any time.

Name: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

With Thankfulness for: _____

Please Return Form and Payment to the Church Office by Dec. 15th

2025 Giving Envelopes

New envelopes for 2025 will be available on December 1 in the
Narthex. Numbers will be the same as in 2024. If you did not use
envelopes this year but wish to use them next year let Kellie know.
If you are unable to find your envelopes, again let Kellie know.
Members not using envelopes are all assigned a recording number.

We thank you for your support of St. Paul's many programs.

Continued...Pastor Mike...

And take some time resting at the feet of the baby. Born quite unremarkably, (outside of the virgin birth), into poverty, oppression, and occupation. Born, to walk in your shoes, feel what you feel, and experience what you experience. With every high and low.

Born, to give you hope and to fulfill God's promise. Take a moment to join the shepherds, and the wisemen that day. Gathered to worship Him in a manger. Because that is what it is all about.

And His Kingdom will have no end. The Kingdom, you have been invited to share. Have a wonderful December, and of course, Merry Christmas.

And may God be with you, until we meet again.

Pastor Mike

St Paul Lutheran Foundation Committee in accordance with the Foundation by-laws is accepting requests for grants in the amount of \$500.00-\$1,000.00 for the purpose of using toward community outreach, ministry partners and/or toward one general budget item.

All members of the congregation are welcome to apply for a grant. A written proposal explaining what the funds will be used for and accounted for is due November 30, 2024. The Foundation committee will notify grantees on December 15, 2024. Grant awards will be disbursed January 2, 2025. Grantees have 1 year to use the funds as proposed. Accounting of funds must be reported.

The by-laws of the Foundation state that 10% of assets at the beginning of the current year (2024) plus earnings from the past year (2023) may be distributed by the Foundation Committee each year.

If there are any questions, please contact committee members:

Jan Knutson, Denise Organ, Jane Carr, Karen Moe or Marilyn Harris.

St. Paul Lutheran Church Foundation

26 years ago, 5 members from St. Paul Church signed the Articles of Incorporation to create The St. Paul Lutheran Church Foundation. Ivan Eckholm, Alan Katterhenry, Jean Zanton, Dan Bertelsen, and Howard Rasmussen had an idea to focus on legacy giving and grow a foundation for St. Paul.

We now have a long-term, stable endowment fund that provides distributions to grow St. Paul ministry today and well into the future. This year St. Paul Foundation contributed to the elevator fund, CARITAS, the pastoral care fund, and the 150th celebration.

With generous giving to the Foundation, we can continue to provide for God's work in the years to come.

Did you know individuals aged 72 (or 70 ½ prior to January 2020) may donate to charity annually through their traditional Individual Retirement Accounts? The donation must be made directly from the IRA plan administrator to the qualified charity, such as St. Paul Lutheran Church Foundation! These distributions can count toward your "required minimum distribution" (RMD), which would normally be taxable when distributed to you.

We invite you to partner with us by supporting and funding new initiatives in our church by making an investment in St. Paul Foundation.

St Paul Lutheran Church 150 Years Yesterday – Today – Tomorrow



DESIGNATED MISSION OUTREACH

DECEMBER MISSION PARTNER
TBD



MINISTERS OF WORSHIP - DECEMBER

Date	Time	Council	Assisting Minister	Reader	Communion Assistant	Tech / Livestream	PowerPoint
1	8:30 a.m..	Martha Stolze	Jane Carr	Martha Stolze	Carol Josh	Hughes-Murry Team	Chuck Hughes
<i>COFFEE HOUR SPONSORED BY FAMILY PROMISE; WELCOMING COMMITTEE : KAREN MOE/CAROL JOSH</i>							
8	8:30 a.m.	Ken Harris	Jean Neitzel	Greg Stolze	Glenda Liptow	Murry Hughes-Murry	Ken Harris
<i>COFFEE HOUR SPONSOR BY: SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE: WELCOMING COMMITTEE: CHET ORGAN/SHARYN PANN</i>							
15	8:30 a.m.	Melanie Schneider	Marilyn Harris	Melanie Schneider	Karen Moe	Hughes-Murry Team	Jan Knutson
<i>COFFEE HOUR SPONSORED BY RUTH CIRCLE; WELCOMING COMMITTEE: KATHY POHL & DONNA BLUM</i>							
22	8:30 a.m.	Jane Carr	Sharyn Pann	Carole Spreitzer	Jackie Ueland	Hughes-Murry Team	Chuck Hughes
<i>COFFEE HOUR SPONSORED BY SOUP LUNCH; WELCOMING COMMITTEE: ROGER NEITZEL/CAROLE SPREITZER</i>							
29	8:30 a.m.	Tori Carr	Marilyn Harris	Martha Stolze	Sharyn Pann	Hughes-Murry	Ken Harris
24	4:00 p.m.	Jean Neitzel	Jane Carr	Carol Josh	Jean Neitzel	Hughes-Murry Team	Ken Harris
CHRISTMAS EVE WELCOMING COMMITTEE: DAVE KNUTSON							



DECEMBER SOUP LUNCH MENU

- Dec. 4- Beef Barley Soup
- Dec. 11- Scalloped Potatoes with Ham
- Dec. 18- Christmas Dinner with Gift Shop
- Dec. 25 and Jan. 1- NO SOUP LUNCH

SOUP LUNCH/CHRISTMAS GIFT SHOP

Will be held Wednesday, December 18th.
To make any donations, please contact Judelle or Ray Murphy.

BOYS SCOUTS FUNDRAISER

The troop is having a SCOOPIE NIGHT at Culver's on Milton Ave., Tuesday, December 17th from 4-8 p.m. During that time, 10% of sales will go to the troop and will help these kids getting to summer camp. Please support our Boy Scouts.



Just a note to remind everyone that the deadline to submit items for the January newsletter is Friday, December 13th, Thank you and God's Blessings.



LYDIA'S CLOSET...

The weather is cooling and we are in need of men's flannel shirts, long sleeved t-shirts, and (as usual) men's jeans. We do not need men's dress pants or shirts. Thank you for your donations.

God Bless and Merry Christmas.



PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Terry (Billie Kenitzer's brother); **Amy B.** (Shirley Hallmark's niece); **Charles H.** (Shirley Hallmark's friend); **Anne S.;** **Donna G.;** **Michelle C.;** **Carole S.;** **Marge K.;** **Marilyn F.;** **Patricia E.;** **Colin C.;** **Mark S.;** **Amber V.** (Judelle & Ray Murphy's daughter); **Linda M.;** **Kristina** (Pat Baker's granddaughter); **Ray O.** (Chet Organ's brother); **Will S.;** **Kathy P.;** **Juelane** (Mark Mueller's sister); **Kyle & Kim R.** (Marge Kline's grandson & his wife); **Sue** (Charlie Hallmark's Mother); **Bonnie P.;** **Chuck F.;** **Axel A.;** **Carol M.;** **Ciara L.** (Glenda & Russ Liptow's granddaughter);

all those who have been affected by COVID-19 and other illnesses;
all those affected by the violence in our nation and around the world.
all those who seek shelter; and friends and family in the military.

Please let us know if you have any additions to or removals from the prayer list.



SOUP LUNCH

Soup Lunch attendance for the month of NOVEMBER was 194.

Please mark any financial donations for "Soup Lunch."
We are also in need of gas station and food gift cards (Subway, McDonald's, etc.).

You can **help support our Soup Lunch ministry** by mailing your donations to:

St. Paul Lutheran Church,
617 St. Lawrence Ave., Beloit, WI 53511
or by going to: <https://tithe.ly/give?c=531526>



CHURCH SERVICE

ALTAR
BALCONY
BELIEF
BELL
BENCH
BIBLE
BOOKS
BULLETIN
CANDLES
CHOIR
COMMUNITY
DOORS
FAITH
FLOWERS
FOYER
GOSPEL
LISTEN
ORGAN
PEACE
PEW
PIANO
PRAYER
SERMON
SING
SOLACE
STATUES
WORSHIP

WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

G E C A E P Y E C A L O S K O
C A N D L E S N W O R S H I P
L Z N A G R O F I N O M R E S
N R I O H C L D E T Q R P P C
H B A L C O N Y O B E R H O P
T C Z L W Z P K E O A L M C E
I F Y E E N R L S Y R M L E W
A I R B C P L E E T U S C U D
F S I R E U S R Y N A E D C B
L I S T E N U O I O L T Q Y J
O N A I P P C T G B F B U P Z
A L T A R M Y H I S I N G E S
S K O O B Y E B E L I E F U S

The words appear UP, DOWN, BACKWARDS, and DIAGONALLY.
Find and circle each word.



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St. Paul Lutheran Church Council Members

President	Jean Neitzel	608-362-8324
Vice-President	Chet Organ	608-751-8020
Secretary	Jane Carr	608-436-0868
Treasurer	Ken Harris	608-365-6871
Worship	Melanie Schneider	608-436-6336
FAITH Formation	Tori Carr	608-436-9397
	Martha Stolze	

St. Paul Giving Tree

This year for Christmas, St. Paul is helping to support the CARITAS Family Christmas. CARITAS is able to provide gifts for kids 12 and under. St. Paul has volunteered to buy gift cards for the older brothers and sisters.

Starting Sunday, Dec. 1st Take a tag off the Giving Tree by the elevator and buy a **\$10 gift card** from either **McDonalds** or **Game Stop**. There will be a collection box under the tree. Return them by Sunday, December 15th.

If you prefer...you can make a cash donation to Jan Knutson, Kathy Pohl or Donna Blum and we will do the shopping for you.

Let's help families in need have a Merry Christmas!

