

Rev. Neil Wehmas, Pastor
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December 13 & 14, 2025

Third Sunday in Advent

WELCOME TO ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH. We wish you God's richest blessings during your time with us. **Green prayer cards are available on the Welcome Center or in the pews if you have prayer requests. Please give to an usher to give to pastor.**

OUR VISION STATEMENT *Our vision is to be a people transformed by the Gospel to live out and pass on the legacy of faith in Jesus Christ in our homes, community and world. We will empower and equip people to mentor following generations so that the legacy of faith continues.*

OUR MISSION STATEMENT *Our mission is to grow in our faith in Jesus Christ in order to share that faith with others.*

“THE WHOLE STORY” reading the Bible in a year for 2025 – get your monthly calendar for daily readings, **DECEMBER Reading Calendar available on the Welcome Center.** Also if you are wanting or needing previous months reading Calendar they are on the Welcome Center in the RED FOLDER. Its hard to believe we are coming to the end of Reading the Bible in a Year.

About our Communion Practice

To our visitors and guests: In accordance with the apostolic command and in unity with the unbroken practice of the Church, St. Paul Lutheran practices Closed Communion. If you are not a member of a congregation in fellowship with the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod we kindly ask you to refrain from communing. We do so not to offend you, but because the Scriptures clearly teach that those communing together be unified in their confession of the Faith. In this Sacrament we are not only joined to Christ our Head who is present in His body and blood but are also knit together with one another as His Body, in which there should be no division of belief. Should you have questions or concerns about this Biblical and historic doctrine, please speak with our pastor. If this is your first time communing at St. Paul Lutheran Church, please speak with our pastor before the service. If certain factors prohibit you from partaking in regular wine, a non-alcoholic option is available in the center circle of each tray. **If not communing but desiring to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest when Pastor approaches.**

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, called home, Melvin Nielsen, his funeral service will be Monday. We keep his family in our prayers.

GOLDEN ANGEL TREE TAGS & GIFTS please return to the church by Wednesday, December 17, if you need more time, please contact the church office and let us know. Please include your TAG with the gift If you have any questions please let the church office know.

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS, there are two ADVENT DEVOTIONALS available on the table by the front doors. Both would be great to have, beginning the First Sunday in Advent, Nov. 30 – Saturday after the Epiphany, January 10, 2026

SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP 5:00PM

ACOLYTE: usher

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 9:00AM

ACOLYTE: Jayden / Avery S.

CALENDAR EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK

Saturday 12/13/2025	Reading for today: Matthew 15-16 WORSHIP SERVICE w/Communion	5:00PM
Sunday 12/14/2025	Reading for today: Matthew 17-18 WORSHIP SERVICE – Live Streamed	9:00AM
Third Sunday in Advent	w/CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM Fellowship NO Sunday School, Middle School, High School Bible Class Visitation for Melvin Nielsen	10:15AM 10:15-11:15AM 3:00-5:00PM
Monday	Reading for today: Matthew 19-20 Funeral Services for Melvin Nielsen Bells	11:00AM 6:30PM
Tuesday	Reading for today: Matthew 21-22 LWML Bible Study Leaders	1:00PM
Wednesday	Reading for today: Matthew 23-24 Bible Study at Jimmy’s Bible Study Cross Explorations grades 3-5th grades 6th -8th ADVENT MEAL -Taverns ADVENT WORSHIP (Hymn Sing at 6:15PM)	7:00AM 9:30AM 4:00-5:00PM 4:00-5:15PM 5:00-6:15PM 6:30PM
Thursday	Reading for today: Matthew 25-26	
Friday	Reading for today: Matthew 27-28	
Saturday 12/20/2025	Reading for today: Luke 1:1-23 WORSHIP SERVICE w/Communion	5:00PM
Sunday 12/21/2025	Reading for today: Revelation 3:14-22 WORSHIP SERVICE - Live Streamed	9:00AM
Fourth Sunday in Advent	Fellowship Sunday School, Middle School, High School Bible Class	10:15AM 10:15-11:15AM 10:15-11:15AM

Offering this week: \$	Attendance: Saturday Evening: --	Sunday Morning: 111
	Advent Worship: 80	

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM will be during the Worship Service on **Sunday, December 14th**.

CHRISTMAS ARCH BOOKS are available for the children and if you would like for your grandchildren, they are on the table by the front door please

UPCOMING ITEMS

COOKIE CHEER PLATES will be put together on Monday at 9:00AM in the Conference Room if you would like to help, if you are donating cookies, please have to the church before 9:00AM on Monday.

ADVENT MEAL, Wednesday, December 17, Steenbock & friends will be serving taverns, from 5:00-6:15PM. Free will donation

USHER NEEDED FOR WORSHIP SERVICES, ADVENT, CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES, CHRISTMAS DAY & NEW YEAR'S EVE, there is a sign up genius available on our Facebook page, a QR Code on the slide posted in the Narthex OR there are sign up sheets available on the Welcome Center. Please prayerfully consider helping.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SCHEDULES

ADVENT MEAL December 17 – Steenbock & friends, Maid Rite/Tavern/Sloppy Joes

ADVENT SERVICES AT 6:30PM with Hymn Sing at 6:15PM

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES at 2:00PM and 6:00PM
CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE at 10:00AM

NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE at 6:00PM

SUNDAY SCHOOL will be on Sunday, December 21 and NO Sunday School on Sunday, December 28 and Sunday, January 4

WEDNESDAY, CROSS EXPLORATIONS will meet on Wed. Dec. 17 and NO classes for grades 3rd -8th on Wednesday, December 24 and December 31. Classes will resume on January 7

COMMUNITY BASKET DONATIONS FOR DECEMBER: Breakfast items: Pancake mix, syrup, cereal, cereal bars, peanut butter, jelly, etc. and any other related items. Place your donation in the shopping cart in the Narthex or hallway. **Any items are appreciated as well, as they can always use donations.** The Community Basket is open on Thursdays (except 3rd Thursday), from 2:30-5:30PM ****They can always use canned vegetables, canned fruits & canned soups. Also note: they can use outdated items that are within a year of expiration. Mobile Food Pantry will be at the Holstein United Methodist Church on Thursday, December 18 from 4:30-5:30PM.** Its helpful to bring a laundry basket or container for your food items.

COMPUTER HELPERS: We are looking for those who would be interested in learning to operate the system, to run the service on the screens OR to run the camera / video during the service. Please let Dennis Clausen, David Petersen, Brad Zobel, the church office know, or you can indicate on the friendship register pad as well.

We would like to encourage the youth to get involved, please prayerfully consider



**St. Paul Lutheran Church
December 13 & 14, 2025**

In Our Thoughts Prayers

Cameron Sharkey- hospital Sioux Falls

Lainey Hemer, daughter of Adam & Emily (Glawe) Hemer,
granddaughter of Jennifer & Mike Glawe, now home,
please keep her in your prayers

Prayers for Declan Conover, for tests results to be able to
participate in a new study coming up in the next few
months

Amy Schulte - good results from Dec. oncology appt,
please continue to keep Amy in your prayers and prayers
of thanksgiving for good results
(daughter of Barb & Ray Kacmarynski)

Family & friends of Melvin Nielsen, who passed away this
past weekend, his visitation will be here at St. Paul on
Sunday, Dec. 14 from 3:00-5:00PM, with funeral services
here on Monday, Dec. 15 at 11:00AM.

Family & friends of Walter Woebke
Family & friends of Elvin Flores

All those who are in need of extra prayers at this time

Please continue to pray for healing for those listed below:

Kara Krager, Erin Nielsen Shirley Havener Makayla Bell
Jolene Ladwig Brad Christiansen Austin Mollhoff Jeff Pierce
Rose Schuldt Jim Wilcox Seth Hamann Mark Queen Dan Grell
Kenton Petersen Erin DeBoer Diane Olsen Sue Bubb Mike Bubb
Greg Lewiston Ashley Collins Tiffany Lindberg Mary Riggs
Rhett Leonard Jerry Irwin

Prayers for those who are currently deployed:

Benton Phillips, son of Pat & Kriss Phillips
Jerico Trucke, grandson of Marilyn Skaren
Scottie Neubauer
Jay Schoen nephew of Nancy & Kendall Schoen
Dathan Loger
Jagger Loger
Danny Vogel - son of Pastor Dan & Paula Vogel

December Birthdays this week:

December 7 Susan Miller
December 8 Taylor DeVine
December 9 Norman Carstensen
December 10 Barb Knudsen
December 11 Autumn Schreiber
December 14 Sawyer Larsen
December 15 Brian Christiansen
December 16 Kady Conolly Taylor Miller
December 17 Carly (Brosius) Taggart
December 18 Gloria Feddersen
December 19 Jeff Gilbert Evan Williams

December Anniversaries this week:

December 7 Jason & Maggie Buns
December 10 Kevin & Valerie Krager
December 18 Gary & Dawn Chase
David & Michelle Johannsen
December 19 Kent & Karlie Krager

NEW MEMBER CLASS, if you are interested in becoming a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church. Pastor Wehmas will be having a class soon, please fill out a sheet on the Welcome Center with your name and contact information or indicate on the Friendship Register pad

WEDNESDAY CROSS EXPLORATIONS REMINDER as we are into the winter weather now, we remind parents that when school gets dismissed early due to weather, or there is no school it automatically cancels Wednesday, Cross Explorations. We try our best as well to put the word out via our Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/StPaulIdaGrove>

We also encourage parents to fill out an information sheet and put in the white box, so we have cell phones for weather related cancellations or emergencies. Information sheets and white box on table in the hallway by church office

BOARD OF EDUCATION is looking for and please prayerfully consider being co- teacher / leader OR Substitute for the middle school 6th -8th for Sunday School 10:15-11:15AM. If you're not sure but would like more info please ask? Its a lot like the high school youth group setting. Please let Tracy Johnson or Megan Wellendorf know if you are interested in helping or if you have questions.

Worship Service for Sunday, December 14, 2025

Invocation p. 184
Confession and Absolution

Hymn O Come, All Ye Faithful LSB 379 v. 1, ref, 2-4
Reading Luke 2:1-5
Solo
Reading Luke 2:6-7

Reading Luke 2:8-11
Apostles' Creed p. 191
Hymn Silent Night LSB 363 (cong. Sings verse 3)
Reading Luke 2:12-14
Song Rise and Shine
Reading Luke 2:15-16
Song O Come, Little Children (cong. sing v. 3-6)
Reading Luke 2:17-20
Hymn Go Tell It on the Mountain LSB 388
Offering (during Song)
Song What Child Is This LSB 370

Brief Homily
Reading Matthew 11:2-15
Apostles' Creed
Prayer of the Day
Prayer
Lord's Prayer
Benediction
Announcements
Song Joy Has Dawned



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN A LADIES BIBLE STUDY?

We are looking to start a ladies Bible Study starting on January 13 at 6:30PM and will meet twice a month, so we will meet also on Tuesday, January 27 at 6:30PM.

There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex, please sign up if you are interested, include: your phone number.

If you would like to have a group during the day let us know if you would like to do that and if you want us to advertise the day and time you would like to meet.

Our first Bible Study is the book, enough for now by Sharla Fritz, description below:

The concept of 'having enough' is one that is not often experienced. If I only had more money ... more success ... more time ... then I would be fulfilled. Yet, even when more is attained, it rarely satisfies. It is not 'enough.'

An eight-lesson women's Bible Study, Enough for Now explores the idea of 'enough' through the study of Scripture - specifically the parable of the rich fool, personal stories, and practical exercises. Over the course of the eight lessons, women will discover how to escape the insatiable quest for more by finding their 'enough' in God.

LWML MITES, make sure to drop off your change / mite box contents in the **BIG MITE BOX** on the **LWML** on the narrow table in the **HALLWAY BY CHURCH OFFICE**. We encourage adults and kids, to have a Mite Box to collect change and bring in and dump in the large Mite Box. Extra Kids Mite Boxes along with the regular Mite Boxes (anyone can collect their change and put in the large Mite box any time during the month. We typically highlight the Mite Box on the 2nd Sunday of the Month.

BOARD OF HUMAN CARE is looking for volunteers to help with visiting shut in's, those in the nursing home, assisted living or other individuals.. If you are interested please let Synda Jepsen or Nancy Schoen know, there is a sign up sheet available on the narrow table in the narthex, please put your name and phone number down and they will contact you.

As we enter **Advent and Christmas Stewardship** it's an excellent time to reflect on the principles of biblical stewardship with a focus on using our gifts and abilities to the glory of God. Stewardship is not just about managing our resources wisely, but also about recognizing that everything we have is a gift from God. By embracing these principles, we can honor God with our wealth, talents, and time, and make a positive impact in our communities.

“The light of Christ shines through our giving.” This season, let your generosity be a beacon of hope in a world longing for light.” “Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” — Matthew 5:16

Our Mission Central Missionary that St. Paul supports is Shara Osiro, she is a Missionary to Eastern & Southern [AfricaShara.Osiro@lcms.org](mailto:Shara.Osiro@lcms.org) We encourage for people to email her about her serving the Lord in these various ways. Shara's birthday is Feb. 4, her husband Michael's birthday is March 28 and their anniversary is Feb. 11



Join the Praise Band!



High school students and adults — do you sing or play an instrument? **Come be part of our Praise Band!** Interested? Contact Tammy Hoffman 515-290-5167 or see us after the service. Let's worship together through music!

ADULT SERMON NOTES if you would like to take your own “sermon notes” during a worship service they are located on the black table by the confirmands sermon notes.

Updating our Records

We are in great need of updating our data base (records), we have recently had some issues with missing information. We need EVERYONE even if you have filled out one in the past or think we have your information. We also know a lot of people have switched to cell phone only and its not just about calling for volunteer reasons. But we also need contact information for when there are emergencies at certain times of health issues and its hard for Pastor to be able to contact if we don't have a phone number at all.

There is a box by the Welcome Center to drop these off or at the church office

Name_____

Mailing address_____

Home Phone_____

Cell Phone_____

Family contact / emergency contact w/ phone number:_____

Email address_____

_____ check if you want us to email newsletter

Birthdate_____

Anniversary date_____

_____ check if you don't want birthday/anniversary published

NEW MEMBER CLASS

If you are interested in a new member class

Please let us know

Give us you're a couple of options of day and time that works for you below

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Leave in white box on Welcome Center or email us at stpaulidagrove@gmail.com