



ST. PAUL EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

1377 Lester Road, Valley City, Ohio 44280

330-483-4119, www.spvc.org

December 2015

We are Waiting . . .

Waiting may be one of the hardest things to do. When we are eager for something to arrive, time seems to slow down and the waiting is excruciating. Pizzas have to be delivered in “30 minutes, or less.” Paint and glue are “quick drying.” Most technology is designed to speed things up and do things faster. Even the sixty seconds we spend waiting for the microwave to heat a cup of water for tea seems like an eternity.

Advent is a season of waiting. Children (of all ages) wait expectantly for Christmas Day to arrive with the joy of receiving gifts. We have waited all year for another round of celebrating the traditions and familiar sights, sounds, smells, and flavors of the season. One special way to mark time through Advent leading up to Christmas is with an **Advent Calendar**. Beginning on December 1, all the way through December 25, a traditional Advent Calendar will have a door or box to be opened each day. Behind it will be a picture and explanation, a scripture passage, and/or a special treat. Do you have a special Advent Calendar or tradition for counting the Advent days of waiting?

The people of God we hear about in the Old Testament were waiting for something they personally did not see fulfilled. God promised to Adam and Eve that He would send someone, born of a woman, to crush the head of Satan, the serpent. He reinforced this promise by sealing a covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Their descendants continued to wait on the Lord for His anointed one (Messiah). They waited in faith, though they did not see it's fulfillment with their own eyes. Faith believed the prophecy.

The New Testament ushers in the time of fulfillment, when God sends His son, Jesus, to be born of Mary to save us from our sins. This fulfillment came after centuries and millennia of waiting for God. When the time finally arrived, it was difficult for many to believe that it was really true. Even when they saw with their own eyes the signs and wonders that confirmed Jesus' authority, many

refused to believe. But, by faith, many did believe in the fulfillment of God's promises in Jesus. Faith believed the fulfillment.

Today we have both God's fulfillment and promises. The fulfillment of our salvation in Jesus' death and resurrection are our present reality. The promise we are waiting for today is that Jesus will come again and establish the New Heaven and the New Earth that will be our eternal home with Him. We have the prophecy, the fulfillment, and the promise of God in His Word that strengthens our faith to wait on the Lord for another day. We are waiting on the Lord even as we are rejoicing that He sent Jesus to be born in Bethlehem to set us free from our sins in His death and resurrection. Faith believes the promise.

This Advent and Christmas season join your brothers and sisters in Christ as we celebrate the theme of "We are Waiting." We wait, knowing that God will fulfill His promises as He has in the past. Take a look at the flier on the next page. The picture is a close-up of an Advent Calendar, marking the days of waiting. You'll find the schedule for lots of special events and the Christmas Eve/Day worship schedule. Mark your calendar and invite a friend, family-member, co-worker, or neighbor to come and worship with us as we wait together for the wonderful gifts of fulfillment that are ours because of God's great love. As we wait together, the time passes more quickly as we encourage each other, praying for our needs, and singing together the praises of God who remains faithful.

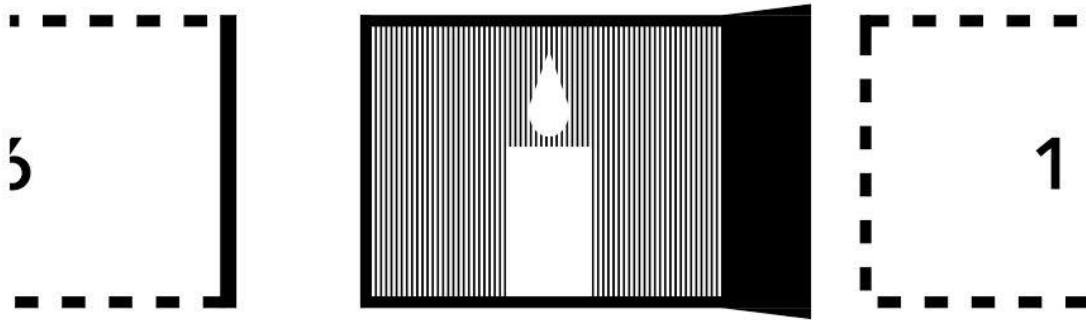
In Christ,

Pastor Zielinski

PS Do you have a special or unique Advent calendar? If so, we'd like to have a display of Advent Calendars as part of our Christmas decorations this year. May we borrow it for this season so others can admire the different styles and special ways Advent Calendars have marked the days leading up to Christmas? If you'd like to use yours this season, could we at least borrow it for Christmas Eve?

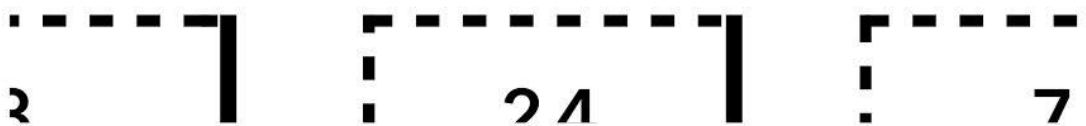
Please bring them by the church office when you have the opportunity. We'll assemble the display as they arrive. Please be sure to clearly mark your name on it so we can get it back to you after Christmas.

Christmas at St. Paul



WE ARE WAITING

Prophecy ~ Fulfillment ~ Promise



Advent

Wednesdays

December 2, 9, & 16

11:30am - Midweek Service

12:00pm - Lunch / Bible Study

6:00pm - Supper

7:00pm - Midweek Service

Christmas

December 24

4:00pm - Lessons & Carols

with "Kids Only"

(favorite carols @ 3:30pm)

7:00pm - Lessons & Carols

(favorite carols @ 6:30pm)

December 25

10:00am - Divine Service

Special Events:

Christmas Tea with Christopher Milo

Tuesday, December 1, 7:00pm

Valley City Christmas Sing-a-Long at St. Paul

Saturday, December 12, 6:00pm

Sunday School Christmas Program

Sunday, December 20, 10:30am

HOME BOUND / HOSPITAL STAY

If you or one of your family members find yourself home bound or in the hospital and would like to request a visit from Pastor Zielinski, please be sure to contact the Church office at 330-483-3883 or send an email to stpaulvalleycitysecretary@gmail.com to let us know. The hospitals do NOT call the Pastor even if you tell them to. The Pastor would rather have two or more calls from family members than not hearing about a hospital stay at all.



In the event that we may have to cancel our Worship Service or an event due to inclement weather, we will post the cancellation on WKYC (Ch. 3) and WEWS (Ch. 5). You may also call 330-483-3883 and listen to the voicemail for the cancellation. We will also add the cancellation notice to our new website.



FINANCIAL SECRETARY

2016 offering envelopes will be in your mailboxes December 6th. Remember, *please*, do not use them before the first Sunday in January. Your annual statement will be in your mailbox, or email, shortly after the 1st of the year. That will give you a chance to look it over while 2015 is still fresh in our minds and we can make any corrections necessary. That covers Tax Season.

Have a Wonder Filled Christmas Season and a Healthy, Happy New Year.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all those who helped with our first Pumpkin Roll fundraiser. Your time and effort proved for a successful event. Thank you all for your support in this event.

Once again St. Paul has opened their hearts to Gabriella Bogardy and her family by donating over \$900.00. Gabriella is a member of Royal Redeemer and her children are classmates to some of our own congregation children. Our monetary donation will be very helpful to this family. Thank you for your generosity.

LWML

Our big event for the season is the **Christmas Tea on Dec. 1 at 7:00 pm.** Hopefully everyone knows Christopher Milo will be the entertainer this year. The entire group of LWML women have been busy planning this evening and hope all will enjoy this special evening. This event is a family evening and everyone is invited.

LWML remained supportive of William Greske, our Bethesda resident in Watertown, WI. We sent him birthday and Christmas gifts. We received a letter of appreciation and William is looking forward to some ice cream!

Thank you to everyone who continues to faithfully support the food pantry. We are now passing out a church bulletin and a mustard seed devotional to people outside the church who use the pantry. LWML put together special Thanksgiving baskets for four families and will also distribute Christmas baskets.

2016 Officers to be installed in January are:

President: Sandy Turner

Secretary: "Charlie" Djordjevic

Treasurer: Ethel Schiemann

Corresponding Secretary: Marilynn Rauhaus

Chaplain: Jean Wadle

Appointments:

Food Pantry: Diane Johnson

Eyeglass Ministry: Pam Rasschaert

Prison Ministry: Judy Scaife

Bulletin boards: Margit Gery

Box top Ministry: Jean Wadle

Thank you to Wendy Patrick who ran the food pantry this past year. Also special thanks to Hildy Benns and Norma Rankin, two of our senior members, who help at every opportunity! And thank you to all who help with the many LWML projects and missions.

Lorain – Medina Zone LWML

We met November 14th and have our agenda for 2016 planned. Some things being considered, making squares (actually rectangles) to form a blankets for the needy in Medina; toys for Hope in the City and a fall retreat in October.

2016 theme is "Plant your roots in Christ" Colossians 2:6 & 7. There will not be a January meeting but we will begin with the LWML Prayer Service, February 20, at 10:00am at Trinity Lutheran, Grafton. First ingathering will be 9" X 5" rectangles either crotched or knitted in acrylic yarn of any color. These will be brought to the Prayer Service. There will be more details in the newsletter and at the LWML station.

Two delegates may be sent to the Ohio District Convention June 24 to 26 in Cincinnati. Please prayerfully consider attending and represent St Paul. Ethel Schiemann

QUILTING

There are several quilts in progress. Jeanette Rafter brought in many quilt tops, donated by one of her friends. Now we have many tops that need to be finished. There are several quilts of various sizes being worked on. Quilters will not meet in December, but will resume on January 20. Quilting meets the third Wednesday of the month around 1:15. Several quilters are in Pastor's Bible Class meeting before quilting, so sometimes a few of us are a little later. Those quilters who are early may start on the quilt of their choice! Bring your scissors and be ready for some wonderful fellowship.

TRUSTEES

Over the coming winter months, please remember to turn down the thermostats after weekly meetings or activities as well as making sure all the lights are turned off.

As we move into winter and snow falls, the Trustees respectfully request all able and younger members of the congregation choose parking spaces further away from entry to the church and allow the parking spaces closest to the entry to be used by more senior members. Thank you

Please exercise care and caution when coming or going on the parking lots. We will continue to plow and salt whenever needed, but the week night activities may not always get priority service.

The Trustees have ordered our first batch of LED can lighting fixtures to replace the old ballast and light bulbs in the entry foyer and narthex. As discussed in previous newsletters, this should not only reduce the need and trouble of replacing both bulbs and ballast, but also save money in the long run by using energy saving LED's.

Although our copier/printer is only 3 years old, the usage has increased and a recent breakdown has demonstrated that we need an upgrade. The IT Committee and Trustees have agreed for a new document management solution. We have entered into a lease agreement for a new machine. Please use this new machine for only church business.

YOUTH GROUP

The **Youth Group** members and their **Parents** will have a planning meeting for their 2016 activities and events on January 10th after the late service. All students from grades 7th through High School are invited. We will also vote for new officers and will have more information regarding The Higher Things Conference. Mark your calendars and plan on attending this important meeting.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Christmas practice will be on December 6th and 13th after the second service. Lunch will be provided for the Children prior to practice. If you are willing to provide cookies or vegetables for either Sunday, please see Anita Praisler for details. The Children's Program will be on Sunday December 20th at the 10:30 service.

EVANGELISM

The Wiggle Bags will now have Christmas books, Christmas paper, and Christmas & Holiday stickers for the children to use during the worship services. This will continue through the month of January. Kids ---Be sure to check out the many different Holiday books in the bags!

Packets of Christmas cards are available again at the Welcome Center this year. They are free! The 12-card packets are mixed - both religious and secular are in each bag. These cards are from various charities, members, and estate donations. Please take and share these card packets with family, friends, a neighbor, or someone less fortunate than you. Do help yourself!

When you are writing out your Christmas cards this year, please remember to include the homebound members on your list. They will enjoy hearing from their friends at St. Paul.

OUR VERY SPECIAL MEMBERS

Emil Balliet – 7639 Grafton Rd., Valley City, Ohio 44280.

330-483-3528

Jenny Gallen – 862 Nottingham Court Medina, OH 44256.

330-722-4349

Wilma Hoermann - 1047 Northford Ct., Medina, OH 44256.

330-722-4284

Bessie Keller – Plum Creek, 891 Marks Rd., Room A11, Brunswick, OH 44212.

330-483-3260

Linda Petchler–The Avenue, 699 E. Smith Road, Room 107, Medina, Ohio 44256.

(no number listed)

Lillian Schiemann – Kemper House, 10890 Prospect Rd., Strongsville, OH 44149.

440-846-1100

John Silk – 6660 West Law Rd., P. O. Box 411, Valley City, Ohio 44280.

330-483-3535

Elsie Ruhrkraut – 74 Leisure Ln., Medina, OH 44256, Camelot Place.

(330) 409-4189 (Camelot) 330-461-0882 (Elsie's)

Marion Nikel - 4683 Ruby Lane, Brunswick, Ohio 44212, 330-220-6514

Bill Schultz - 6988 Spieth Road, Medina, Ohio 44256, 330-723-3972

Maryann Chavayda - 1200 Clay Ct., Brunswick, Ohio, 330-273-4753

OUR BETHESDA LUTHERAN HOME RESIDENT

William Graske - 141 Michelle Dr., Johnson Creek, WI 53038

SEMINARY STUDENT

Jeff Burgess 1014 Kuhs Place, St. Louis, MO 63117

VALLEY CITY CHRISTMAS SING-A-LONG

You are invited to the Valley City Christmas Sing-A-Long to be held on Saturday, **December 12th at 6pm here at St. Paul**. Each year the churches in Valley City join together to brighten the Christmas season with song. Each choir will sing a selection or two and then there will be community singing. The sing-a-long is sponsored by the Valley City Chamber of Commerce. If you would like to help with the refreshments following the Sing-a-long it would be appreciated. Sign-up sheet is at the Welcome Center.



GERMAN DINNER

Mark your calendars, the German Dinner will be held on **January 30, 2016**. Watch the bulletin for more information.

How many shopping days until Christmas?

Looking for beautifully designed gifts that inspire faith and point to Jesus, the reason for the season?

Check out: www.AdCrucem.com

Gifted Artists ✝ Christ at the Center ✝ the Perfect Gift



AMAZON SMILE FOUNDATION

Shop on Amazon.com? Do a search for “**AMAZON SMILE**”, set it up, and help support the work of St. Paul. Amazon Smile is a program where Amazon donates 0.5% of your purchase price of eligible products to St. Paul Lutheran Church. After you are set up, simply go to AmazonSmile website (<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/34-1428142>) **Supporting St. Paul Lutheran Church** should appear at the top left corner, then shop and place your order as usual. It doesn't cost you a thing! Feel free to call Cindy at 330-483-3883 for help.

December 2015

Church Events

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | Christmas Tea 7:00pm | 11:30a Advent Service 12:00p Bible Class 6p Dinner 7p Advent Service 6p Dinner Committee meet | 7pm Choir practice | Giles/Read Rehearsal | Giles/Read Wedding |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 8 & 10:30 am Worship Serv. 9:15 SS & Bible Class Children's practice 11:30am | 6:00p Confirmation 7:30p Handbells | Elder Meeting 7:00 pm | 11:30a Advent Service 12:00p Bible Class 6p Dinner 7p Advent Service | 7pm Choir practice | | 6p Valley City Christmas Sing-a-long |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 8 & 10:30 am Worship Serv. 9:15 SS & Bible Class Children's practice 11:30am | 6:00p Confirmation 7:30p Handbells | Executive Board Meeting 7:00pm | 11:30a Advent Service 12:00p Bible Class 6p Dinner 7p Advent Service | 7pm Choir practice | | 10:30 Food Pantry |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 8 & 10:30 am Worship Serv. 9:15 SS (no Bible Class) Children's Program (10:30) | No Confirmation 7:30p Handbells | | No Bible Class | 4p Christmas Eve Early 7p Christmas Eve | 10am Christmas Day Service | |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |
| 8 & 10:30 am Worship Serv. 9:15 Bible Class No Sunday School | No Confirmation 7:30p Handbells | | 11:30a Bible Class | No Choir practice | | |

December 2015

Birthday/Anniversary

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|---------------------------------|--|--|--|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | Randy Silk | | | Jim & Joyce Willson # 39 Morgan Hama David Holland Sarah Myers Chris Strekely | Jacob Adams "Charlie" Djordjevic |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| Tom & Terri Giese # 35 Bryan Klooz | | Julia Scheiman Gregory Tyrpak Yuliza Zielinski | Robyn Heffinger Arnold Knake | Matthan Hibler | Ralph & Debbie Scheiman # 22 | Gavin Beck |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| Pam Witt | Jerry & Marilyn Skidmore # 21 Todd Myers | Jackson Raycher | Katie Carlson | David & Cynthia Holland # 13 Bob Schiemann | Robert & Faye Denman # 50 Teresa Harrell | Cassie Dearth |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| Michele Gatt Tammy Rhodes | Todd Gery | Karen Myers | Angela Bailey | Jill Bores | David Knopf Dorothea Miller | |
| 27 Bill & Debbie Frickey # 35 Marci Sherepita | 28 Brad & Susan Adams # 24 | 29 Tom Giese Jim Willson Jennifer Schnurr | 30 | 31 Mark & Martha Konzelman #22 | | |

JANUARY 2016

Church Events

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|----------------------------------|---|-----------------------|--------|------------------------------------|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| | | | | | | |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 8 & 10:30 am Worship Serv. 9:15 Bible Class (No Sunday School) | 6:00p Confirmation 7:30p Handbells | LWML Meeting 7p | 11:30a Bible Study | 7pm Choir practice | | |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 8 & 10:30 am Worship Serv. 9:15 SS & Bible Class Youth Members & Parent meeting 11:30am | 6:00p Confirmation 7:30p Handbells | Elder Meeting 7p | 11:30a Bible Study | 7pm Choir practice | | Food Pantry 10:30am |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 8 & 10:30 am Worship Serv. 9:15 SS & Bible Class Golf Committee meeting 11:30a | 6:00p Confirmation 7:30p Handbells | Executive Board Meeting 7p | 11:30a Bible Study 1:15p Quilters Meet | 7pm Choir practice | | |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 8 & 10:30 am Worship Serv. 9:15 SS & Bible Class | 6:00p Confirmation 7:30p Handbells | | 11:30a Bible Study | 7pm Choir practice | | German Dinner 4:30p |
| 31 | | | | | | |
| 8 & 10:30 am Worship Serv. 9:15 SS & Bible Class | | | | | | |

JANUARY 2016

Birthday/Anniversary

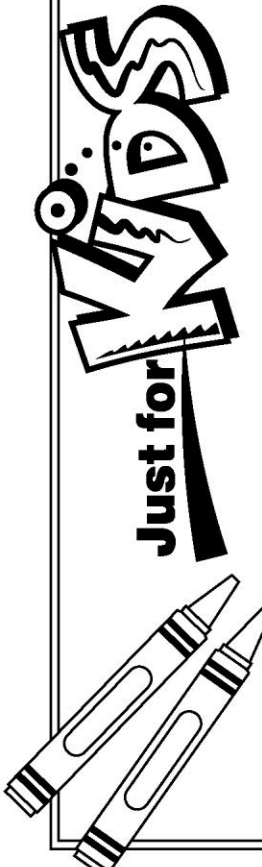
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|----------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--------------|--|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| | | | | | | Steve & Colleen Kato # 23 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| David Gigliotti Katie Willkom | Debbie Gotsch Heather Zimmerman | Kylee Eager Rob Zacharias | Brian & Teresa Harrell # 22 | Mark Andrukut Cindy Balliet Terry Palmer Lynne Perlik | John Johnson | Alexandra Provenzano Isabel Spry Alice Tyrpak |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| Kari Bosela | Larry & Arlene Klooz # 47 Alaina Goodhart Harrison Hibler Carl Strekely | Tim & Jean Wadle # 43 | Magdalena Dill | Elaine Reisner | Richard Gatt | |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| Ariana Whitmer | Jacob Gatt | | Liam Bores | Magdalyn Hibler Grace Tighe | | Kristine Kenniston Jan Shook Yesenia Zielinski |
| 24 DJ Gilles | 25 Lauren Raycher | 26 Kristen Nagy Cherece Rasschaert | 27 Kayla Whitmer | 28 Jarod Baab Bill Frickey Rachel LaChance | 29 | 30 James & Michelle Murawski # 13 Dennis Murawski Diane Raita |
| 31 | | | | | | |

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

1377 Lester Road
Valley City, OH 44280

Address Service Requested

December Newsletter 2015



The Birth of Jesus Foretold

The prophet Isaiah foretold the birth of Jesus Christ. Isaiah knew that Jesus would be called a peacemaker, but that He would also be called by other names.

Use the code to find out what Isaiah said Jesus would be called.

CODE:

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

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| — | Z | — | M | — | W | — | S | — | V | — | D | — | R | — | O | — | Y | — | V | — | — | — | — | — | — | | |
| — | X | — | Z | — | O | — | V | — | W | — | D | — | L | — | M | — | W | — | V | — | I | — | U | — | F | O | |
| — | X | — | L | — | F | — | M | — | H | — | V | — | O | — | L | — | I | — | N | — | R | — | T | — | S | G | B |
| — | T | — | L | — | W | — | , | — | V | — | E | — | V | — | I | — | O | — | Z | — | H | — | G | — | R | M | T |
| — | U | — | Z | — | G | — | S | — | V | — | I | — | , | — | K | — | I | — | R | — | M | — | X | — | V | — | |
| — | . | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| — | L | — | U | — | K | — | V | — | Z | — | X | — | V | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |

Isaiah 9:6, NIV

Answer: And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.