

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
314 FOURTH AVE NE  
WASECA, MN 56093

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56093

(Address Service Requested)

## *Jesus Loves*

# *December 2023*

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*<sup>8</sup> Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. <sup>10</sup> Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. <sup>11</sup> For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup> And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: <sup>14</sup> "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!" **Luke 2:8-14***

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### **ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH - (MISSOURI SYNOD)**

314 - 4<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Waseca, MN 56093  
Church Office Hours (Mon-Fri): 9am-1pm

Phone: (507) 835-2647  
Email: [stpaulwa@hickorytech.net](mailto:stpaulwa@hickorytech.net)

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Mission Statement

*"Empowered by God's Word, we joyfully share the Love of Jesus with all people."*

Vision Statement

*"We will be a vibrant, welcoming church serving the needs of our members, community, and missions by partnering with other churches and organizations while preaching and teaching the inspired Word of God and our Savior Jesus Christ."*


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#### **SUNDAY MORNINGS (SEPTEMBER THRU MAY):**

- ✚ **Divine Service w/Holy Communion:** 9:00 a.m. (also Facebook Live; and Radio 1170 AM/106.3 FM)
- ✚ Sunday School begins at 10:15am
- ✚ **Adult Bible Study** at 10:30 a.m.

**Pastor: Rev. Michael Grannis**  
**952-686-3046**  
**[revgrannis@gmail.com](mailto:revgrannis@gmail.com)**

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[www.stpaulwaseca.org](http://www.stpaulwaseca.org)



## Holy Communion: Shadows and Presence

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ, God with us,

Last month I said I would be writing a series of articles on Holy Communion. So as promised, here is my second article in the series. In Hebrews chapters 7-10 we are given a very detailed teaching regarding the fact that the Old Testament rituals and holy items were but a shadow of the true and heavenly holy things. We learn from Hebrews that the seemingly endless, perpetual sacrifices of the Old Testament all pointed to Jesus, the once-for-all sacrifice (the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world). The old covenant was a shadow of the better covenant that came through Christ (and is still coming to us today).

According to Christ's words, in Holy Communion we are receiving the once-for-all sacrifice of His body and blood for our forgiveness. *He* is the substance of that which was foreshadowed. If the shadow items and rituals were to be regarded as holy, and misuse of them brought about condemnation and even death, how much more should we be careful to regard the holy elements that bring us not the shadow, but the very *substance* of Christ?

We believe, teach and confess that in this simple, but holy meal (consisting of bread and wine), we are receiving exactly what Christ says: "Take eat; this is My body...Drink of it, all of you, for this is My blood of the covenant which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." After reminding the Corinthian church of Christ's words above, the Apostle Paul says the following regarding the Sacrament:

Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged [by God]. But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world. (1Co 11:27-32)

Christ's own words should be enough to give us the unwavering confession that in the bread and the wine we are actually also receiving His body, and His blood, which He sacrificed on the Cross once for all for the forgiveness of our sins. In remembering what He has done for us, and by trusting in His worthy sacrifice, we also receive the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation (the fruits of His sacrifice). Jesus instituted The Sacrament (meaning His "holy oath") for our blessing and good. By receiving Communion often, we are centered in the core belief of our faith; that Christ sacrificed Himself for the forgiveness of our sins, and offers that

forgiveness to each one of us through faith in Him.

But if Christ's own words aren't enough to convince us of the fact that the physical elements of bread and wine house the presence of His body given and blood shed for us, then St. Paul's words above to the Corinthians should convince us of the fact that this is not simply a symbolic gesture or memorial meal. Those who ate and drank without discerning the body of Christ in the meal were eating and drinking judgement upon themselves. They were getting ill and some were even dying as a result of their casual regard for this holy meal.

In Communion, it is not the faith of the individual that makes it the body and blood of Christ. It is the Word of Christ Himself that accomplishes this mystery, and which compels and invites us to believe and receive what He offers to us in the meal. It is not the quality of the bread and wine that makes it special, it is the fact that it has been consecrated – set apart – using Christ's own words to deliver to each faith-filled participant His very body and blood *for our forgiveness*.

Those who do not discern the body of Christ in the meal also truly receive the body and blood of Christ in the bread and wine. But as St. Paul said, it is to their judgement. Luther confirms the presence of Christ in the physical elements of the sacrament in this way: "No matter whether you are unworthy or worthy, you here have Christ's body and blood by virtue of these words (i.e. Christ's words) which are coupled with the bread and wine."

In this meal, the consecration of the elements using the words of institution means something. It means that this is no longer simply bread and wine. Yes, it has been made holy (set apart) in that moment of consecration connecting all the way back to Christ's institution of the Sacrament. But even more than being just another holy thing – more than simply being a shadow of Christ's holiness – the very substance of Christ and His holiness is present in the bread and wine according to His own words.

Therefore, in the Sacrament we can truly say we are in the presence of Immanuel (God with us). What was once common bread and wine, by the power of the Divine Word, is now also a physical manifestation of Christ Himself. That is why it delivers the forgiveness of sins to those who believe...and that is why it delivers God's judgment to those who do not believe. But regardless of one's faith, Christ's Word and presence is true. We don't participate in a shadow but the substance of Christ, and the truth of His forgiveness. Amen.

Living Forever, Now,

*Pastor Michael J. Grannis*

## Mark your Calendars for these upcoming event



Youth Mission Trip Team **Hot Beef Commercial Drive Thru fundraiser** Will be December 8<sup>th</sup> from 5pm to 7pm. You don't want to miss this!!! \$8.00 per meal \$2.00 for a slice of pie.



**Community-wide Christmas Dinner:** Christ Community Church will be serving the community-wide Christmas Watch the bulletin board or call the church office for more information.



**Christmas Bazaar:** Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM Hot Beef Sandwiches, Sloppy Joes, Homemade Pies, Coffee, Crafts, Baked Goods, Christmas Cookies, White Elephants, Candy Shop. Stop by and see us!! It's always a good time!



*Live Nativity drive thru*  
December 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 5pm to 7:30pm  
If interested in participating this year contact Dale Rudolph



*Advent* Advent begins December 3<sup>rd</sup> thru December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Advent meals will be served from 4:30pm to 5:45pm with Advent Service following at 6pm.

Wednesday Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>: Meal served by Mission Trip Team

Wednesday Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>: Meal served by Cotta Guild

Wednesday Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>: Meal served by Board of Education



**2023 Board Nominations & Budget Meeting:** will be held on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. in the parish hall.



Sunday School Christmas Program will be **Saturday December 16<sup>th</sup> at 4pm** and then **students will sing at Live Nativity at 5:15pm.**



*Worship Services for Christmas Eve will be December 24<sup>th</sup> 9am and 6pm. Christmas Day, Dec 25<sup>th</sup> at 9am. New Years Eve Service December 31<sup>st</sup> at 9am.*



## Bible Reading Schedule

As we begin another Christian Church Year, and as we approach the end of another calendar year, we come to the conclusion of our yearly Bible reading schedule and conclude with the reading of the book of Revelation. There we see portrayed the birth of Christ and His conflict with Satan. (Revelation 12). We also read of Christ's Incarnation in John 1. Paul also writes about the "great...mystery" of the incarnation of Jesus Christ (I Timothy 3:16) and that in the Christ Child "dwells the fullness of the Godhead bodily." (Colossians 2:9) Again we see how the truths of Christmas fill the whole Bible from Genesis to Revelation. The Old Testament prophesied about the Messiah Who would come. The New Testament records the fact that the Messiah came "in the fullness of time" to save us from our sins that we might be God's adopted sons and daughters in faith. (Galatians 4:4-5) May the righteousness of the Holy Christ Child fill your Christmas and the New Year with endless Joy!

1. Romans 5,6,7,8
2. Romans 9,10,11,12
3. Romans 13,14,15,16
4. Ephesians 1,2,3,4
5. Ephesians 5,6; Psalm 119:1-80
6. Philippians 1,2,3,4
7. Colossians 1,2,3,4
8. I Timothy 1,2,3,4
9. I Timothy 5,6; Titus 1,2,3
10. II Timothy 1,2,3,4
11. Philemon; Hebrews 1,2,3,4
12. Hebrews 5,6,7,8
13. Hebrews 9,10,11
14. Hebrews 12,13; Jude
15. James 1,2,3,4,5
16. I Peter 1,2,3,4,5
17. II Peter 1,2,3; John 1
18. John 2,3,4
19. John 5,6
20. John 7,8
21. John 9,10,11
22. John 12,13,14
23. John 15,16,17,18
24. John 19,20,21
25. I John 1,2,3,4,5
26. Psalm 117; 119:81-176; II John; III John
27. Revelation 1,2,3,4
28. Revelation 5,6,7,8,9
29. Revelation 10,11,12,13,14
30. Revelation 15,16,17,18
31. Revelation 19,20,21,22



**ACOLYTE SCHEDULE**

Please arrange a replacement if you can not acolyte at the service assigned to you. Please notify the church office at 507-835-2647 when you have changed with another acolyte. Please arrive to the church 20 minutes before the service begins, as the candles are to be lit 10 minutes before the service.

**December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023: (Sunday) Peyton Ross**

**December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023: (Wednesday 6pm) Kameron Kunkel**

**December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023: (Sunday) Joel Hammer**

**December 13<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday 6pm): Ton Bethke & Kina Grannis greeter**

**December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023: (Sunday) Wyatt Arndt**

**December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022( Wednesday 6pm) Owen arndt**

**December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 (Sunday) 9am: Mason Precher**

**6pm: Nalyce Quillen**

**December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023 (Monday) 9am: Alex Bethke & Makayla Clark greeter**

**December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 (Sunday) 9am: Kyler Welander**

**#29ERS**

**December 6<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am potluck hosted by Judie Waters.**



**Birthdays  
This Month**

*(Please note: If your name is not listed; we do not have your birthdate in our church records. Please contact the church office and we will update our records. Thank you!)*

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birthday</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Birthday</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Birthday</u>
Donna Vitha	Dec. 2	Xavier Frias	Dec. 16	Carson Cromer	Dec. 29
Zoey Frias	Dec. 3	Becky Joecks	Dec. 16	Paige Swenson	Dec. 29
Donna Hildebrandt	Dec. 7	Matt Berg	Dec. 17	Mireyah Torres	Dec. 29
DeeAnn Kamara	Dec. 7	Kelli Lenz	Dec. 17	Hannah Sletten	Dec. 30
Dennis Bickell	Dec. 8	Evangeline Mueller	Dec. 17	Onyx Torres	Dec. 31
Susan Swenson	Dec. 8	Kenneth Peterson	Dec. 19		
Carol Arnold	Dec. 9	Willie Schroeder	Dec. 19		
Laurie Flom	Dec. 9	Gary Paulson	Dec. 21		
Carol Sletten	Dec. 9	Lincoln Larson	Dec. 22		
Lorene Worke	Dec. 9	Aaron Lenz	Dec. 23		
Bob LaCroix	Dec. 13	Mark Pehrson	Dec. 24		
Brian Brase	Dec. 14	Payton Gehloff	Dec. 27		
Dayton Draheim	Dec. 14	Griffin Arndt	Dec. 28		
Jean Kuschel	Dec. 15	Dustin Baumgard	Dec. 29		
		Helen Boese	Dec. 29		

# SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS:

## **Sunday School News**

All children and youth Preschool age 3 through Grade 8 are invited to join us Sunday mornings 10:15 – 11:15. We begin in the upstairs Parish Hall with snacks and go down to the Old Parish Hall for opening with music. We then go to our individual classrooms for class time. Students are released to their parents at 11:15am.

## **Children's Christmas Worship**

This year our Children's Christmas Worship service will be Saturday December 16<sup>th</sup> at 4pm followed by cookies and cider in the Parish Hall. Then at 5:15pm we will be Caroling at the Live Nativity for 15 minutes as we sing the happy news of Jesus birth. Please make sure to have warm clothes along for your student to change into before we go outside to sing.

## **Packed! 234 Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes**

Sunday School students, youth group, mission group and adults packed 234 shoeboxes this year. Thank you to everyone who donated items, helped pack, and gave toward the shipping cost (\$10 per box; \$2340 total). And many gave after we discovered we were short on shipping money, due to the large number of boxes packed. God is faithful and works mightily!

Some labels were again purchased through the Operation Christmas Child website, so we can track the shoeboxes. We will be excited to share their destination.

Community-wide collections at St. Paul Lutheran Church came to 730 Shoeboxes from neighboring churches and community members. Thank you to Aimee Hill and all the volunteers who greeted individuals as community members brought their shoeboxes to St. Paul Church.

After being collected and packed in cartons, the shoeboxes were taken by trailer to Mankato. Thank you to those who loaded the trailer and drove to Mankato! From Mankato, many more cartons went to a warehouse in Minneapolis for final customs check before shipping out from MSP airport.

Pray for the workers delivering the boxes and for the children receiving the shoeboxes around the world. Upon receiving a shoebox, each child is invited to attend Bible study in their community. We pray the Holy Spirit uses these gifts in amazing ways to share the salvation found only in Jesus!

## COTTA GUILD NEWS:



Lutheran  
Women  
*in Mission*

### December Cotta Guild Meeting:

Pastor had devotions on Hymn #676, "Behold A Host Arrayed in White". We read thru all three verses and discussed what the hymn meant.

Secretary and treasurer reports read and approved.

Kristy Grannis was our only November birthday.

Judie thanked all who baked and worked for our social hours, worked and baked for Connections and baked cookies for shut-ins along with packing and delivering.

Rhonda will put out our LWML Mite Box on December 10<sup>th</sup>. We voted to round up to \$100 contributions to Boys and Girls Ranch on our honey sales.

On November 29<sup>th</sup>, a Wednesday night, we will meet at Colony Court at 6:15pm along with Choir members.

Judie had bazaar worksheets at the meeting. We still need quit a few workers and other items covered. The bazaar will now start at 10am and run until 1pm.

We need eleven pies from each circle, half fruit and half cream pies. Pies need to be at church Saturday December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 8am. Rhonda will do a raspberry dessert. We are still looking for and need one more dessert.

Cotta Guild is serving the Advent meal on Wednesday December 13<sup>th</sup>. We voted on Hot Beef Sandwiches, salad and bars.

For serving coffee hour on November 12<sup>th</sup>, we will serve cakes. Barb, Judie, Linda and Cindy will do coffee cake. Kathy will do the gluten free coffee cake. She will also do every gluten free item when we serve.

We will pick a date to choose 2024 items for our books in December.

Our next meeting will be December 14<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. We will meet at Real life first to sing Christmas songs then our meeting at church.

We will meet at church Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup> to decorate cut out cookies at 9am. Someone has volunteered to bake us 25 dozen. Then on Friday

December 1<sup>st</sup> we will tray up those cookies for the bazaar. We are still looking for bakers to make 10 dozen cookies for the mixed cookie trays.

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, 50 dozen rosettes will be made for the bazaar. Judie and Linda will work on these. Someone is making mocha bars.

We adjourned the meeting. Shut in cookies were trayed and delivered the same day.

Kathy Flogstad Public Relations



Our Cotta Guild supports missions near and far through the collection of our Mites for Missions donations. These mission projects are voted on at our Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) national and district conventions by the delegates. Thank you for your support of our Mites for Missions on the second Sunday of each month. Your donations may be placed in the mite boxes located at the church entrances.

A gap in spiritual care on the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch's Bismarck campus has been a chapel facility specifically designed to be a healing space for traumatized boys and girls. A construction date of spring 2024 has been set to build a chapel to serve as a healing space to help them know and experience the mercy of Christ and His healing power. This grant will help meet the construction costs of the Chapel on the Bismarck campus and provide healing for at-risk children.

### A Special Chapel — Offering Hope and Healing for At-Risk Children

The Christ-centered, healing ministry of Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch creates an eternal, life-giving impact in the lives of children ages 10 to 18, who have faced heartbreaking abuse, neglect, and trauma. Established in 1952, the Ranch touches the lives of more than 2,000 children and families each year, from all corners of the United States. The childhood trauma these children faced leaves them with debilitating emptiness and loneliness. Most children who come to the Ranch have little or no faith background and the Ranch is often the first place they learn about Jesus. The discovery of our Savior's mercy is often the most vital part of a child's healing.

The Ranch's Bismarck, North Dakota, campus was built in 2003. Since then, programming for the campus' children has evolved to be a psychiatric residential treatment facility. The children who now come into care at this campus are survivors of significant trauma. The campus currently includes a gym to care for physical needs, a school to supply educational needs, and therapy rooms to care for psychiatric and sensory needs. To fill a gap in spiritual care, a specialized chapel facility has been designed to be a space where these at-risk children can find hope in the unfailing promises of God. The new chapel will provide a healing space to minister to each child's spiritual needs, where they can find the hope and healing that comes only from Christ.

The Ranch's Board of Directors has worked with architects who specialize in design for traumatized children, as well as liturgical experts, specializing in facilities that embody the Gospel. The resulting chapel will be a 3,175 square foot addition to the campus' main building, providing a space for the spiritual needs of Ranch children and staff. This mission grant of \$100,000 will help with building costs of the new chapel, where the hearts of these precious children can know and experience the mercy of Christ and His healing power.

But Jesus called them to him, saying, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God" (Luke 18:16). The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; (Psalm 28:7a).



The Neighborhood Service Center, which includes the Food Shelf, is feeding more families than ever from the food shelf. On average about 20 families a day are coming in for food. The most needed items are cereal, ramen noodles and comfort foods like soups and pasta plus sauce. The Board of Stewardship has placed collection boxes by the church entries for your donation to those individuals needing our support. If you prefer to make a cash donation, please make checks payable to Neighborhood Service Center and mark your church envelope appropriately or drop off your cash donation at the church office. A receipt will be sent to you at the end of the year by the Neighborhood Service Center.



Are you in need of transportation to appointments or to the store? Are you able to drive someone to an appointment or to the store?? If you fit into either of these categories, please call the church office so, we can help you coordinate the rides that you may need.



A reminder to contact the Church Office when you are hospitalized, so that a pastoral visit can be arranged. Thank you.



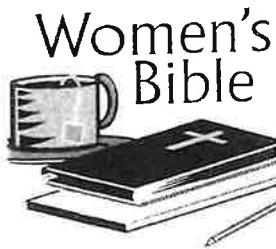
There will be **NO QUILTING** on December 26<sup>th</sup> and January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024. We will resume on January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024.



There will be no Prayer Team on December 25<sup>th</sup> or January 1<sup>st</sup>.



Know someone who is in need of a “hug from above”? The Quilters are starting “**The Quilters Rocking Chair Project**”. These quilts are located at the back of church and are available for anyone who may need one, no questions asked. Please check it out and if you have any questions please talk to Donna Hildebrandt.



Our Women’s Bible Study would like to wish everyone a joyous Holiday Season as we prepare to Celebrate Jesus’ birth. **We will not meet in December**, as there are Advent services to attend and Christmas concerts to enjoy. **In January**, we plan to meet as usual on the first and third Wednesdays from 9:30 – 10:45 am ...January 3<sup>rd</sup> and January 17<sup>th</sup>. We hope to see you then. If you have any questions, contact Cindy Wood at 835-5817.



**Christmas Poinsettias:** If you would like to place a poinsettia on the altar in memory of a loved one, they will be sold on Sunday December 3<sup>rd</sup>, December 10<sup>th</sup>, and December 17<sup>th</sup> at the back of the church with Kathy Flogstad. The price is \$15.00 for each plant and check should be made payable to Julie Poehler.



**FAMOUS WORDS FROM OUR CHURCH PRESIDENT:**

“Remember when getting a foot of snow was a dream come true.....”

# Hot Beef Commercial & Pie Drive thru YOUTH MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER

**When:** Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Where:** St Paul Lutheran Church  
314 4<sup>th</sup> Ave NE  
Waseca, Minnesota

**Menu:** Hot Beef Commercials \$8.00  
Slice of Pie \$2.00





# **Christmas Bazaar**

**Saturday, December 2, 2023**

**10:00 AM – 1:00 PM**

**Hot Beef Sandwiches**

**Sloppy Joes**

**Homemade Pies**

**Coffee**

**Crafts, Baked Goods, Christmas Cookies,  
White Elephants, Candy Shop**

**St. Paul Lutheran Church**

**314 – 4<sup>th</sup> Ave NE**

**Waseca, MN 56093**

**- Handicap accessible -**

2023  
4<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Live Drive Through  
Nativity

December 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>

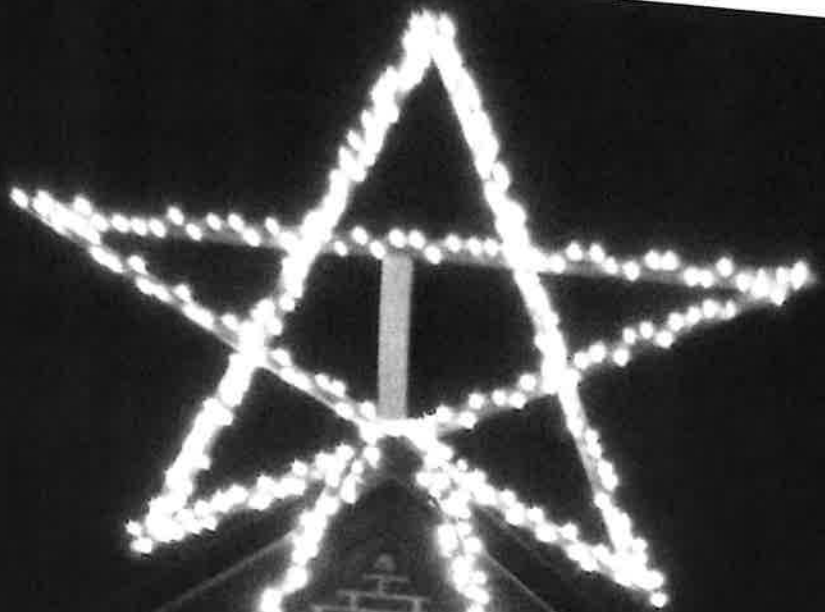
5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Starting 314 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave NE  
Waseca, MN

Hosted by:  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
of Waseca, MN

Sunday School  
Children's Program  
4:00 pm Saturday

Canned Goods and cash donations will be accepted to  
help the Waseca County Food Shelf and expenses



Season's

Greetings



## 2023 WINTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Thanksgiving: Thursday November 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 9am (no H/C)

Advent: Wednesday December 6<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm

Wednesday December 13<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm

Wednesday December 20<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm

**\*\* Meals each week from 4:30pm – 5:45pm \*\***

Children's Christmas Program: Saturday December 16<sup>th</sup> @4pm

Followed by Singing at the Live Nativity at 5:15pm

Christmas Eve: Sunday December 24<sup>th</sup> @ 9am and 6pm (H/C @ 9am only)

Christmas Day: Monday December 25<sup>th</sup> @ 9am with Holy Communion

New Year's Eve: Sunday December 31<sup>st</sup> @ 9am with Holy Communion



# St. Paul Lutheran Church – Waseca

## December 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3. 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am <b>Sunday School</b> 10:30 am Adult Bible Study	4. 10:00 am Prayer Team	5. 1:00 pm Quilters 6:00 pm Elders 6pm Stewardship	6. <b>NO Women's Bible Study</b> 3:30 pm 6,7,8 Catechism <b>ADVENT Supper &amp; Service</b> 7:00 pm Trustee/Evangelism 7:00 pm Senior Choir and Contemporary Ensemble	7. 6:00 am Bible Breakfast @ Jonnie Beans	8. <b>Hot Beef Commercial Drive</b> Thru 5p-7p	9. <b>BAZAAR</b> 10:00 – 1pm
10. 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am <b>Voter's Mtg</b>	11. 10:00 am Prayer Team	12. 1:00 pm Quilters	13. 3:30 pm 6,7,8 Catechism <b>ADVENT SUPPER &amp; SERVICE</b> 7:00 pm Senior Choir and Contemporary Ensemble	14. 6:30 am Bible Breakfast @ Jonnie Beans 1:00 pm Cotta Guild	15. <b>Drive Thru Nativity</b> 5p-7:30p	16. <b>Sunday School Program 4p</b> <b>Drive Thru Nativity</b> 5p-7:30p <b>** SS Caroling at 5:15pm *</b>
17. 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Adult Bible Study	18. 10:00 am Prayer Team <b>Newsletter Articles Due</b>	19. 1:00 pm Quilters	20. <b>NO Women's Bible Study</b> 3:30 pm 6,7,8 Catechism <b>ADVENT SUPPER &amp; SERVICE</b> 7:00 pm Senior Choir and Contemporary Ensemble	21. 6:30 am Bible Breakfast @ Jonnie Beans	22.	23.
24. 9:00 am Worship-HC 10:30 am <b>Adult Bible</b> 6pm Candle light service <b>NO SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>	25. <b>9am Church Service</b> <b>NO Prayer Team</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	26. <b>NO Quilters</b>	27. <b>NO</b> 6,7,8 Catechism <b>NO</b> Youth Group <b>NO</b> Senior Choir or Contemporary Ensemble	28. 6:30 am Bible Breakfast @ Jonnie Beans	29.	30.
31.						

 @stpaulwaseca



*“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.” ~ John 15:1-5*

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior,

On behalf of my family and myself, I would like to express our sincere thanks to God for the many blessings He has lavished upon us through the people of St. Paul. We have been showered with countless blessings – prayers, food, help cleaning our new home, unpacking our moving containers, help orienting ourselves in the community, furniture, etc. It truly has been a warm welcome back to Minnesota.

As we close out the Church year and the cold of winter settles upon us, I would encourage you all to let the Light of Christ continue to warm your hearts and be reflected in your lives by devoting yourself to daily time in the Word of God and prayer. The Advent daily devotion booklets we have made available are a wonderful way to continue to cultivate a life rooted in God’s Word. Time spent thinking about God’s Word and praying to Him in response to that Word forms us evermore into people with thankful, trusting, and giving hearts, who bear fruit in Christ.

It is the greatest blessing to know the love of God for us in Christ Jesus our Savior, and to be able to share that love with those God has placed in our lives. When we are devoted to being in the Word of God and in prayer, this blessing multiplies in our lives and bears fruit for salvation in the lives of those around us.

I am thankful to God that He has called me here as your Pastor, and that He has made our family part of the Church family here at St. Paul. I pray that we would each multiply the blessings of God, one unto another.

Living Forever, Now,



Pastor Michael J. Grannis

