St Paul Lutheran Church

Maryville, TN

THE GOOD NEWS

January 2016 Edition

Worship Times

Sunday Morning
8:00 am & 10:30 am

Sunday School
9:15am

Contact Us

Pastor: *The Rev. Rick Ohsiek*

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Church Office Hours:
Monday-Friday 9:00am-3:00pm

PASTOR AND CHURCH COUNCIL

A Message from Pastor Rick:

I took the boys to the newest "Star Wars" movie last night. It's kind of fun that they wanted to see it since I grew up watching this series. We weren't going to be crazy and try to see it the first night it was showing. Across the country, thousands of fans camped out at theaters to be able to see the first screening. Since 1977, people have come out in droves to watch characters like Darth Vader and Luke Skywalker in these stories of the light side vs. the dark side of the force. The special effects are pretty cool too, but I think that people are drawn to the whole good/evil story. The evil/dark side is characterized by aggression, fear, and anger.

The good/light side focuses on defending the right and bringing peace. This whole light vs. darkness theme is part of what we experience in the Advent/Christmas/Epiphany seasons. During Advent, we have be waiting for the light of Christ to come into our world to bring us peace and salvation. Christmas is when we celebrate the one is the light shining in the darkness, full of grace and truth. Epiphany draws to stories of that light becoming even brighter as Christ is being made known in the early stages of his ministry.

While we celebrate the light that has come into the world, we also need to realize that there is still plenty of darkness around us. Greed, fear, anger, racism, and violence still cast their dark shadows on a world that needs to be glowing with God's light. What are we to do?

In the "Star Wars" saga, the light was carried by the Jedi, a select few who were the protectors of peace and all that was good. Our calling is not for a select few. We are all called to carry the light of Christ into the world. Not only were we marked with the cross of Christ on our forehead at baptism, but we were encouraged to "let our light shine before others so that they may see our good works and bring glory to our Father in heaven."

We shine with the light of Christ every time we work to bring healing to the world, whether it is done through word or actions. We scatter the darkness of evil whenever we break the patterns of injustice and hate that so easily present themselves in our world. We are called not just to receive the light of Christ, but to be the light of Christ in a dark world.

Peace,
Pastor Rick

The St. Paul Church Council meets monthly on the 3rd Monday at 7:30pm.

Jan Hanes - President
jehanes@bellsouth.net

Rick Anger – Vice President
angerrick@gmail.com

Shari Martin – Council Secretary
sgmartin1114@yahoo.com

Ed Martin – Treasurer - ermartin81@yahoo.com

Kara Birdwell - karabirdwell@hotmail.com

Mike Culross - maculross@msn.com

JB Johnson - jbarcus@charter.net

Greg Caldwell - GregC@whs-psi.com

Beth Drane - Tenneliz2000@yahoo.com

Marianne Searfoss - msearfos@gmail.com

PASTOR AND CHURCH COUNCIL

A Message From the Council President

Dear Friends of St. Paul

If I am correct I have told you that my December 2015 Article was my last article but surprise it was not. I will not make any promises on future articles; however, I am fairly confident your new President will do a fine job in 2016. The Lord continues to watch over and guide your Council and I am very confident that our newly elected Council will seek the Lord's guidance. With that being said I am please to announce that Jan Hanes was elected your new President, Rick Anger was demoted to Vice President and we are pleased to have Shari Martin as our secretary. Please make them all welcome and pray for there success in the coming year. With God's help and your help we will make this Council one that listens to its congregation.

I am also pleased to announce that the following Council members will act as Liaisons to our Ministry Teams: Worship, Beth Drane/Supporting, Greg Caldwell/Serving, Marianne Searfoss/Parish Life, JB Johnson/Discipleship, Kara Birdwell and Fellowship, Rick Anger. We are constantly looking for volunteers for our Ministry Teams so please feel free to contact any Council Liaison if you have any interest in serving.

Some upcoming important dates are as follows:

- Installation of Council Officers January 10, 2016
- Congregational Meeting January 24, 2016

In closing I want to thank Loda Wylie, Shirley Lips and Carolyn Speck for there dedication to the Council of St. Paul. These 3 ladies gave there time and there talent and it is difficult for me to explain just how much they have meant to me but especially St. Paul. I also want to thank Loda Wylie for the outstanding job she has done as our Treasurer for the last 5 years. Her professionalism and dedication to this position is something we should all be grateful for.

Again, I thank you and look forward to being a part of your 2016 Council.
Yours in Christ
Rick Anger

Notice of Congregational Meeting
Sunday, January 24, 2016
11:30am

We will begin with a Pot-Luck Lunch - Please bring a dish to share.

MINISTRY TEAM MEETING NIGHT

Monday, January 18th ~ 6:00pm

Are you interested in helping with Ministry at St. Paul? Each Ministry Team meets to make plans for weekly ministry programs and up-coming events. Join us - a light supper is served. Contact a Coordinator for more information.

MINISTRY TEAM COORDINATORS

Discipleship- Winnie Johnson winann35@gmail.com
Fellowship - Leigh Caldwell DorianC@whs-pi.com
Parish Life- Carla McMillion carlaleem@outlook.com
Serving - Charlie Malin cmalin916@charter.net
Supporting- Tom Sims tom0884@att.net
Worship- Jean Beck jjbeckx2@gmail.com or
Merl Krull merlinkrull@charter.net

Library Corner:

For those of you who are married or considering marriage, there are a number of books in the library that contain food for thought. For example, consider this paragraph from Mike Mason's *The Mystery of Marriage*. "The vow of love to one special person is intended to fill us up to the brim with love, to train us in the very depths of love and so to free us to have much more love for others than ever before." Wow. The author talks about the love and the hardships encountered in marriage. One shelf of the library has a number of books you might find interesting, with such titles as *Love for a Lifetime*, *Love Life for Every Married Couple*, *Harmony in Marriage*, and others. Check one out and discuss it with your partner.

CHURCHWIDE

It is nearly Christmas. The evidence is all around – Christmas carols, decorations and preparations in our homes, in our churches and in the mall. That is not a bad thing. But we are also still in Advent. I want us to consider the deep and holy longing that is a part of this season. It is significant that the words of the prophets and the yearning of Israel in exile are so prominent in the lessons appointed for this season. The people longed for the Lord to come, to act, to redeem them, to take them home. They lived in Babylon, but their hearts were not there.

I think Advent is that way for us. As Lutherans, we do not withdraw from the world but engage it believing that it is a gift. But we also know that it is not quite right, that there is brokenness and pain – the pain we experience, the pain others cause, the pain we cause others.

In some ways Advent creates a certain restlessness. It may be one of the few seasons of the year when we become more aware of our longing for wholeness and more alert to the signs that something is approaching. This Advent longing is an awareness that apart from God we are not whole. We find ourselves in the unsettled and restless time between the ending of the old year and the beginning of the new. A thin place where heaven and earth seem to touch, where we draw near to God realizing, as St. Augustine wrote, "You have formed us for Yourself, and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in You."

We can't get there by ourselves, and here is the promise and hope of Christmas – the one for whom we long is not content to draw us but fulfills this promise by coming to us as Emmanuel, God with us. In the incarnate Christ, God comes to us, finds us and gives our restless hearts rest.

Merry Christmas, dear church.

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

PARISH LIFE

Carla McMillion- Coordinator

Quilt Fest

Come join us for a day of fun quilting

Where:
St. Paul Lutheran Church ~ Fellowship Hall

When:
Saturday, January 23, 2016
9:00am-3:00pm *(set up @ 8:00AM)*

What:
Sewing charity lap quilts - Kits are already cut

Bring:
Your sewing machine and other sewing/ quilting supplies

Provided:
Coffee, light lunch, irons, ironing boards, large mats

Questions: Kris Zimmer - (865)681-7795
Shirley Lips (865)856-6608 c-(865)292-5262

Women of St. Paul

Two Bible Study Opportunities
Evening-Tuesday, Jan 12th ~ 7:00pm
Morning-Thursday, Jan 21st~10:00am

Join us on Saturday, Jan 16 ~ 10:00am
to sew items for Days for Girls and Little Dresses for Africa. We can use machine sewers and sergers and have tasks for those who don't sew. If you are unable to join us, take a kit from the WELCA recycling shelf and sew at home. All supplies and instructions are in the kit.
Lunch will be served. The Days for Girls packets include small hotel size bars of soap and girl's size panties 10-14. These can also be placed in the WELCA recycling station.

January Planning Meeting

Tuesday, January 19th ~ Noon

LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION

Thursday, January 7th ~ 7:00pm

FELLOWSHIP

Leigh Caldwell - Coordinator

10:30 Service Fellowship Teams

Jan 3 Darla & Brian Kaufman, Marsha Wynn
Jan 10 Lorraine Geary, Sue Stauffer, Dorine Keeble, Patty Harmon
Jan 17 Brenda & Perry McClellan, Bob & Linda Ullom
Jan 24 Annual Meeting Potluck
Jan 31 Merl & Judy Krull, Elizabeth & Rick Anger

Each team is responsible for providing cookies or donuts, setting up and cleaning up the Fellowship time after the 10:30 service.

Annual Meeting Potluck

January, 24th
11:30am

Meat will be provided, please bring a dish to share.

DISCIPLESHIP

Winnie Johnson - Coordinator

Wednesday Night Faith -N- Family

January

6th, 13th, 20th & 27th

Family Meal - 5:30pm
Activities - 6:15pm

Let us do the cooking, so you can sit down with your family and enjoy a meal together after a busy day of work and school.

January 6th ~ Epiphany Service 6:15pm

Holden Evening Prayer

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:16

Emily Johnson will share about her experience in Gambella, Ethiopia, during the service.

Shining our light in the world

January 13th, 20th, & 27th

Discover how shining our lights for Christ makes a difference in the world, through a variety of Activities and Bible Study

January 2016 Birthdays & Anniversaries

January 6	Claude Abbott
	Cole Wyatt
January 7	Bob Miller
January 9	Charlene McClaran
January 11	Mark Fisher
	Art Hafner III
	Tom Sims
	Jonathan Joyal
January 15	Heinz Lips
	Karl Weber
January 17	Bill Wear
	Kevin Rokavec
January 18	Marsha Bryant
January 20	Jerry Sorensen
	Hannah Bryant
January 21	Carolyn Speck
	Michael Kaufman
January 22	Mary Boring
	Emily Kaufman
January 23	Bob Ullom
January 24	Anna Clark
January 26	Andrea Saal
	Liz Runkle
January 27	Clayton Narveson
	Kyle Tyler
January 29	Carole Long
	Rick Ward
	Kaila Ogle
	Oliver Gordon
January 31	Jean Beck

ANNIVERSARIES

January 4	Jim & Shelly Foster
January 11	Frank & Julie Rutherford
January 28	Mary & Charles Schopmann
January 30	Rick & Jody Ohsiek

ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Note: If you are unable to serve when scheduled, please find a replacement for that Sunday.

Duties	January 3		January 10		January 17		January 24		January 31	
	8 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	8 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	8 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	8 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	8 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
Assistant Minister	Carolyn Speck	Jean Beck	Joel Sear-foss	Elaine Fisher	Charlie Ma-lin	Charlie Malin	Mike Culross	Marsha Bry-ant	Warren Bielenberg	Art Hafner
Communion Assistants	Warren Bielenberg Betty Ludwig	Beth Drane	Marianne Searfoss Carolyn Speck	Mark Fisher	Jackie Krei-der Joel Sear-foss	Elaine Fisher	Laura Mallette Steve Zrioka	Art Hafner	Jackie Kreider Betty Ludwig	JB Johnson
Lector	Winnie Johnson	Lyla Lindquist	Tami Wyatt	Art Hafner	Marianne Searfoss	Ann Hall	Will Ludwig	Kris Zimmer	Joel Searfoss	John Walker
Ushers		Perry McClellan Bob Ullom Linda Ullom		James Hall Roy Johnson James McMillion		John Beck Robert Bryant Al Hutchison		Tom Sims Bob Ullom Linda Ullom		James Hall Herb Perry René Zimmer
Altar Guild	Suzanne Bielenberg	Karin Bell	Bertha Franks	Kris Zimmer	Betty Ludwig Sandi Weber	Janice Hoover	Jackie Kreider	Marsha Wynn	Linda Zrioka	Karin Bell
Acolyte/ Crucifer		Hannah Rundle		Alyssa Rundle		Drew Ohsiek		Noah Ohsiek		Hannah Rundle
Torch Bearers			Carolyn Speck Steve Zrioka	Beth Drane Shari Martin						
Nursery		Jacqueline Conzemius Karin Bell		Carol Perry Jody Ohsiek		Eric Walker Jessica Lindquist		Chris Mallette Laura Mallette		Dorine Keeble Anne Sims
Greeters	Mo Brueckner	Ann Jordan Paula Kenworthy	Jacqueline Conzemius	Juanita Morrow	Warren and Suzanne Bielenberg	Lorraine Geary Suzette Stauffer	Heinz and Shirley Lips	James and Ann Hall	Steve and Linda Zri-oka	Dorine Keeble
Sound Room	Greg Caldwell	Bob Block	Will Ludwig	Perry McClellan	Steve Zrioka	Tom Sims	Joel Searfoss	Bob Block	Greg Caldwell	Kevin Rokavec
Tellers		Carolyn Speck John Beck		Dee Dee Walker Kris Zimmer		John Walker Roy Johnson		Tom Sims Will Ludwig		Warren Bielenberg Joel Searfoss

St Paul Lutheran Church

429 Sandy Springs Road
Maryville, TN 37803

Sharing Christ's Love
With the World

Dates of Interest

Check Calendar for times and places

Council:

Saturday, January 16th ~ Council Retreat
Monday, January 19th ~ Ministry Team Night
Sunday, January 24th ~ Congregational Meeting

Discipleship:

Sunday, January 10th ~ Sunday School resumes
Wednesday's ~ Faith-N-Family Activities
Friday-Sunday, January 29-31 ~ Faith Alive Confirmation Retreat

Fellowship:

Wednesday's ~ Faith-N-Family Meal
Sunday, January 24th ~ Annual Meeting Pot-luck

Parish Life:

Tuesday, January 12th ~ WELCA Bible Study - Evening
Tuesday, January 19th ~ SPAM

Worship:

Sunday, December 27th ~ Lessons & Carols ~ ONE SERVICE ONLY 10:30am
Wednesday, January 6th ~ Epiphany Service