

# ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Maryville, TN

## THE GOOD NEWS DECEMBER 2018



December 24, 2018

THIS  
CHRISTMAS,  
*there is a place  
for you here*

Candlelight Service/Communion  
7:00pm & 11:00pm



### Worship Times

Sunday Morning  
8:00 am & 10:30 am

Sunday School  
9:15am

### Contact Us

Pastor: *The Rev. Rick Ohsiek*

Phone: 865-982-4285

Fax: 865-977-8070

Email: [splchurch@bellsouth.net](mailto:splchurch@bellsouth.net)

Web: [www.stpaulmaryville.org](http://www.stpaulmaryville.org)

Church Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs 8:30am-5:00pm



## PASTOR AND CHURCH COUNCIL

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### A Message from Pastor Rick: Happy New Year!!

As you might or might not remember, Advent marks the beginning of a new church year.

For many Christians unfamiliar with the liturgical year, there may be some confusion surrounding the meaning of the Advent season. Some people may know that the Advent season focuses on expectation and think that it serves as an anticipation of Christ's birth in the season leading up to Christmas. This is part of the story, but there's more to Advent.



The word "Advent" is derived from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "coming," which is a translation of the Greek word *parousia*. Scholars believe that during the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> centuries in Spain and Gaul, Advent was a season of preparation for the baptism of new Christians at the January feast of Epiphany, the celebration of God's incarnation represented by;

- \* the visit of the Magi to the baby Jesus (Matthew 2:1),
- \* his baptism in the Jordan River by John the Baptist (John 1:29),
- \* and his first miracle at Cana (John 2:1).

During this season of preparation, Christians would spend 40 days in penance, prayer, and fasting to prepare for this celebration; originally, there was little connection between Advent and Christmas.

By the 6<sup>th</sup> century, however, Roman Christians had tied Advent to the coming of Christ.

But the "coming" they had in mind was not Christ's first coming in the manger in Bethlehem, but his second coming in the clouds as the judge of the world. It was not until the Middle Ages that the Advent season was explicitly linked to Christ's first coming at Christmas.

Today, the season of Advent lasts for four Sundays leading up to Christmas. At that time, the new Christian year begins with the twelve-day celebration of Christmas, which lasts from Christmas Eve until Epiphany on January 6. (Advent begins on Sunday that falls between November 27<sup>th</sup> and December 3<sup>rd</sup> each year.) Advent 2018 begins on Sunday, December 2 and ends on Monday, December 24.

Advent symbolizes the present situation of the church in these "last days" (Acts 2:17, Hebrews 1:2), as God's people wait for the return of Christ in glory. The church is in a similar situation to Israel at the end of the Old Testament: in exile, waiting and hoping in prayerful expectation for the coming of the Messiah. Israel looked back to God's past gracious actions on their behalf in leading them out of Egypt in the Exodus, and on this basis, they called for God once again to act for them. In the same way, the church, during Advent, looks back upon Christ's coming in celebration while at the same time looking forward in eager anticipation to the coming of Christ's kingdom when he returns for his people.

Sometimes we don't know the reasons behind the seasons we celebrate.

I hope this has given you a little bit of knowledge to help you appreciate and celebrate this season.

Peace,

*Pastor Rick*

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### ADVENT SOUP SUPPERS

**Wednesday, December 5th, 12th, & 19th ~ 6:00pm**



**Soup  
Supper**

Everyone is invited to attend and enjoy a simple meal During Advent. Hearty Soups and Bakery style breads will be provided by the Fellowship Team. Members are asked to help only with clean-up\*, as indicated in the chart below. Rotation of responsibilities is alphabetically by last name.

**12/06 M-Z      12/13 A-L      12/20 A-Z**

\*Clean-up entails: placing remaining soup in freezable containers, washing; soup kettles, utensils and storing items for future use, cleaning tables, and taking out the trash.

## PASTOR AND CHURCH COUNCIL

### WELCOME TO OUR NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS

Brooke Nowak, David Silseth, & Heather Wright. They will begin their service to the church January 1st and will be invited to attend the December Council Meeting where they will elect officers and appoint a Council member to take Susan Ward's last year, as she was elected to the Treasurer position.



### Church Council

Thank you to Kara Birdwell, JB Johnson, and Shari Martin for their past three years of work on the Council.

#### 2018 Council

Kara Birdwell - President  
[karabirdwell@hotmail.com](mailto:karabirdwell@hotmail.com)  
 Rick Anger – Vice President  
[angerrick@gmail.com](mailto:angerrick@gmail.com)  
 Shari Martin – Council Secretary  
[sgmartin1114@yahoo.com](mailto:sgmartin1114@yahoo.com)  
 Ed Martin – Treasurer  
 - [edmartin.splt@outlook.com](mailto:edmartin.splt@outlook.com)  
 Warren Bielenberg - [web9272@msn.com](mailto:web9272@msn.com)  
 Beth Drane - [Tenneliz2000@yahoo.com](mailto:Tenneliz2000@yahoo.com)  
 JB Johnson - [jbarcus@att.net](mailto:jbarcus@att.net)  
 Merl Krull - [merlinkrull@gmail.com](mailto:merlinkrull@gmail.com)  
 Herb Perry - [hpcp2@tds.net](mailto:hpcp2@tds.net)  
 Susan Ward - [smw030364@aol.com](mailto:smw030364@aol.com)

#### 2019 Council

Rick Anger - [angerrick@gmail.com](mailto:angerrick@gmail.com)  
 Warren Bielenberg - [web9272@msn.com](mailto:web9272@msn.com)  
 Beth Drane - [Tenneliz2000@yahoo.com](mailto:Tenneliz2000@yahoo.com)  
 Merl Krull - [merlinkrull@gmail.com](mailto:merlinkrull@gmail.com)  
 Brooke Nowak  
 - [ballerinab183@hotmail.com](mailto:ballerinab183@hotmail.com)  
 Herb Perry - [hpcp2@tds.net](mailto:hpcp2@tds.net)  
 David Silseth - [drsilset@gmail.com](mailto:drsilset@gmail.com)  
 Heather Wright  
 - [heatherlewright@gmail.com](mailto:heatherlewright@gmail.com)  
 Susan Ward - Treasurer [smw030364@aol.com](mailto:smw030364@aol.com)

# ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## VISION CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

The first year of our 3 year capital campaign is coming to an end. If you would like to contribute before the end of the year you still have time. As this special fund raising appeal moves to it's second year it becomes a debt reduction campaign, with 10% of your gifts going to help support Family Promise in 2019. Below is a report of what your support and Endowment Fund match have done so far.

**Funding for upgrades to our church kitchen totaling----- \$12,850.**

**Stephen ministry funding -----\$2,496.**

**National Youth Gathering -----\$12,587.**

**Building Debt reduction (est.) ----- \$39,000.**

**2018 Passion support gift (est.) Community Food Connection -----\$2,570.**

Pledges already made for 2019 and 2020 when paid will reduce our building mortgage by an additional \$63,000. That would leave a \$125,000 loan balance by the end of 2020. But that is not the end of the story. All additional pledges and gifts made to this special campaign in 2019 and 2020 will reduce our loan further. If you have not and wish to support this program, fill out a pledge card or make a gift by marking your check Capital Campaign. We have come a long way since building our church building in 2002 and having a building loan of over one million dollars. This has been possible by everyone working together in support of St. Paul church ministry.

The capital campaign team thanks each of you for all you do in supporting all areas of our church. Tom Sims, Herb Perry, Tami Wyatt, David Silseth, John Walker, Kara Birdwell, John Beck

# DISCIPLESHIP

Volunteer Needed - Coordinator



## ADVENT OFFERING AND GIVING OPPORTUNITY

This year our Advent offering will go to ELCA Good Gifts  
And, we are collecting non-perishable food items for the Food Connection.  
We are asking you to take a bag home and fill it with non-perishable food items and return it on Christmas Eve (or before) and place it under the tree in the Welcome Center. The filled bags will be given to the Food Connection. Bags are located on the Usher Table.

### Advent Reflections/Fill The Bag

Suggested idea for using your Advent Calendar

- 1) **Light the candle to begin your reflection**
- 2) **Check-in with each other** (give everyone a minute or so to share about their day)
- 3) **Use the Advent calendar to mark the days until Christmas.** *Each day will have a Bible verse, hymn, or tell about ELCA Good Gifts. What does this verse/hymn mean to you?*
- 4) **Add at least one food item to your bag each day.**

*Bring the full bag back on Christmas Eve, or before and place under the Christmas Tree in the Welcome Center. Bags will be given to the Community Food Connection*

*Suggested non-perishable food items:*

Week 1: Peanut Butter, Tuna, Canned Chicken, Pasta & Pasta Sauce

Week 2: Oat Meal, Cereal, Grits, Corn, Green Beans

Week 3: Apple Sauce, Canned Peaches, pears, pineapple...

Week 4: Mac-N-Cheese Mix, Pasta, Noodles

*You may use any combination, the hope is to have at least 24 items in the bag*

- 5) **Prayer** *You may use this one or one of your own.*

Dear God, we give you thanks for all that we have. Guide us to share with others, so that all people may be fed. In Jesus name, Amen

- 6) **Blessing** Make the sign of the cross on the forehead of the person to your right saying, Jesus Loves You



**Community**  
**Food Connection**  
of Blount County, Inc.



### Creative Advent ~ A time to slow down

Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> ~ 10:00am and 7:00pm

Join us for a time of thoughtfulness and meditative coloring, stitching, doodling, or just relaxing. We will begin with an Advent devotion to guide our thoughts.

You are welcome to bring a stitching project, drawing book, or just yourself. The hope is to give ourselves permission to relax in God's creative spirit during this busy holiday season. Contact Sue Tyler for more information.

## WORSHIP

Merl Krull - Coordinator



### Mid-Week Advent Service ~ 6:30pm

Wednesday, Dec. 5th, 12th, & 19th

#### Holden Evening Prayer

With an emphasis on World Hunger.

Join us after supper for a time of reflection as we prepare our hearts for the Gift of the Christ child.



## O Christmas Tree

Sunday, December 23rd ~ 10:30am *ONE SERVICE ONLY*

Join us for a special Worship Service led by our Sunday School Children.

## PARISH LIFE

Carla McMillion- Coordinator

### LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION

**Thursday, December 6th ~ 6:00pm**

All men, and young men of the church, are invited for dinner and fellowship.

#### Special Holiday Prime Rib Dinner

If you've ever thought about coming to a men's group activity, or if you've been a part of our men's group activity, or even if you're just a guy who likes a good prime rib dinner... Then this invitation is for you!

Chef Rene will be on duty. Sign up on the sheet next to the kitchen and bring your neighbor or friend. I look forward to seeing you on the 6th.

Tom Sims President Men in Mission [tom0884@att.net](mailto:tom0884@att.net)



#### OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH

**Thursday, December 6th ~ 11:30am**

Ladies of St. Paul: Mark your calendar for December 6, when we'll have lunch at the Bistro at Asbury at 11:30 for our Christmas gathering. The Thursday Out-to-Lunch Bunch will meet early this month for this special holiday occasion. Please contact Sue Stauffer (984-4575) or Julie (983-0788) not later than Dec. 1 about your plans to attend the Bistro festivities, as reservations are requested.

We look forward to seeing you."



**Dinner & Christmas Concert**

**Tuesday, Dec. 4th**

Meet at O'Charley's at 4:30 for dinner and then on to Maryville College for "A Celtic Christmas". If you are joining us for dinner and purchased concert tickets from Tim and Leslie, you will receive your ticket at O'Charley's. If you are attending the concert only, meet Leslie in the lobby of the Clayton Center at 6:30pm. Contact the Walkers at 929-3821 or 977-1183 if you have questions



### WELCA CHRISTMAS BRUNCH

**Saturday, December 1st ~ 11:00am**

All ladies of the church are invited to attend. Please bring a brunch dish to share.

ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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

Duties	December 2	December 9	December 16	December 23	December 30	Christmas Eve				
	8 a.m.	8 a.m.	8 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	10:30	7 p.m.	11 p.m.		
Assistant Minister	Toni McSorley	Carolyn Speck	Marsha Wynn	Joel Searfoss	Jean Beck	Marsha Bryant	Merl Krull	Jean Beck	Carolyn Speck	
Communion Assistants	Jackie Kreider Joel Searfoss	Elaine Fisher	Warren Bielenberg Steve Zrioka	Beth Drane	Betty Ludwig Loda Wylie	Marsha Bryant	Carol Perry	Beth Drane	Sheri Martin	
Lector	Tami Wyatt	Elizabeth Anger	Warren Bielenberg	Carol Perry	Marianne Searfoss	Beth Drane	Betty Ludwig	Betty Ludwig	Shari Martin	
Ushers	Ed Kreider Mo Brueckner	Herb Perry Denny Mansmith Rene Zimmer	Will and Betty Ludwig	Tom Sims James McMillion Robert Bryant	Bertha Franks Dot Dishman	Tom Sims Denny Mansmith Roy Johnson	John Beck Bob Ullom Linda Ullom	Tom Sims James McMillion Rene Zimmer	John Beck Robert Bryant Rene Zimmer	<b>Ushers Needed!</b>
Altar Guild	Suzanne Bielenberg	Carolyn Speck	Bertha Franks	Karin Bell	Suzanne Bielenberg	Marsha Wynn	Alyssa Rundle	Linda Zrioka <i>setup for 7pm</i> Betty Ludwig <i>setup for 11pm</i>	Carolyn Speck	
Acolyte/Crucifer		Drew Ohstiek		Hannah Rundle		Alyssa Rundle	Nathan Rundle	Darian Lindquist	Hannah Rundle	Noah Ohstiek
Torch Bearers								Beth Drane Jan Hanes	Sheri Martin Carolyn Speck	
Nursery		Jody Ohstiek Noah Ohstiek		Kara Birdwell Alyssa Rundle						
Greeters	Mo Brueckner	Thelma Fastner	Warren and Suzanne Bielenberg	Patricia Harmon	Will and Betty Ludwig	Rick and Elizabeth Anger	Barbara Chumley	Tim and Leslie Walker	Denny and Alice Mansmith	Dorothy Dishman
Sound Room	Joel Searfoss	Bob Block	Steve Zrioka	Noah Ohstiek	Will Ludwig	Ben Ward	Tom Sims	Bob Block	Greg Caldwell	Drew Ohstiek
Tellers		Warren Bielenberg Joel Searfoss		Carolyn Speck John Beck	Tom Sims David Lanzer	Jan Hanes Will Ludwig	Dee Dee Walker Kris Zimmer			

# FELLOWSHIP

Leigh Caldwell - Coordinator

## 10:30 Service Fellowship Teams

**December 2** Barb & Bob Miller, Tim & Leslie Walker

**December 9** Darla & Brian Kaufman, Marsha Wynn

**December 16** Jacqueline and Dana Conzemius,  
David & Charlene Dubs

**December 23** Lorraine Geary, Sue Stauffer, Dorine Keeble, Patty Harmon

**December 30** JB & Sylvia Johnson, Bob & Linda Ullom



*Each team is responsible for providing cookies or donuts, setting up and cleaning up the Fellowship time after the 10:30 service. Contact Jacqueline Conzemius for more information.*

## December 2018 Birthdays & Anniversaries



December 3	Lexi Dubs	December 10	Zach Gordon
December 4	Madelyn Carpenter	December 12	John Beck
December 5	Dan Wynn	December 12	Joel Searfoss
December 6	Judy Krull	December 13	Ann Jordan
December 6	Jenna Burts	December 14	Delores Block
December 8	James McMillion	December 15	Elaine Fisher
December 9	Andrea Joyal	December 15	Meaghan Liner
		December 16	Olivia DaCruz
		December 18	Larry Galyon
		December 22	Jeremy Snoderly
		December 25	Rachel Patterson
		December 26	Ethel Duff
		December 27	Tina Cusano
		December 27	Kathy Kaun
		December 30	Erika Hanes

### ANNIVERSARIES

December 1	Ken & Neenah Dressler	December 28	Rick & Elizabeth Anger
December 2	Roland & Bertha Franks	December 29	Dan & Marsha Wynn
December 7	Steve & Linda Zrioka	December 30	Curly & Sarah Wainwright
December 16	Gloria & Carl Leonard		
December 16	Jeremy & Courtney Snoderly		
December 20	Claude & Tena Abbott		
December 23	Heinz & Shirley Lips		
December 23	Robert & Marsha Bryant		
December 26	James & Norma Watson		
December 28	Mark & Elaine Fisher		



# ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH



429 Sandy Springs Road  
Maryville, TN 37803

*Growing in the Spirit,  
Making Christ Known.*

## **Dates of Interest**

*Check Calendar for times and places*

**OFFICE CLOSED ~ December 25th-January 1st**

### **Council:**

Monday, December 17th ~ Council Meeting

### **Discipleship:**

Sunday, December 2nd, 9th, & 16th ~ Youth Group Meeting

Wednesday, December, 5th, 12th, & 19th ~ Creative Advent

### **Fellowship:**

Wednesday, December 5th, 12th, & 19th ~ Advent Soup Suppers

### **Worship:**

Sunday, December 23rd ~ **ONE MORNING SERVICE ONLY**

Sunday Evening, December 24th ~ Candlelight Service with Communion

Sunday, December 30th ~ Lessons and Carols ~ **ONE MORNING SERVICE ONLY**

## **PECANS, CHOCOLATE, AND COFFEE OH MY!**

St Paul Youth's yummy fundraiser.  
Check out the display  
in the Welcome Center.

