



St. Paul Lutheran

No Judgement. Just Grace.

December 2020 NEWSLETTER

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

What is your favorite memory of Christmas? Is it waking up on Christmas morning to open presents? Is it seeing friends and family for the holidays? Or is it something else entirely? As we rapidly approach Christmas, there are many things we are all looking forward to. Even though it's been said a million times, it's worth repeating. We know that this year will not be the same as years past. Christmas this year will look drastically different. A lack of family. A lack of joy and laughter. A lack of those Christmas memories that you will have for years to come.

But that does not mean that Christmas is ruined. Far from it! This is a special time of year. A time worth remembering, regardless how it looks on the outside. This Advent season, we look to prepare ourselves for Christmas, for the coming babe in Bethlehem. During our Advent midweek services, we will be digging deeper into what this season of Advent is all about. For when we understand Advent, Christmas becomes even more special.

How? Well, Advent is meant to remind us about everything important. It is meant to focus us on the one thing needful this Christmas. Yes, the normal Christmas dinners with family are nice, so are the presents and the break from school and work. But we often lose track of ourselves during the holidays because of all the chaos and commotion. Rather, let us remember the reason why we do these things, the reason why we gather to celebrate Christmas.

Christmas is about Christ! If it's been said before, it's worth saying a million times more. CHRISTmas is about CHRIST! The joy of this season is that God desires to dwell with us. He wants to be with you. God doesn't want to remain separated forever. So, God sends his Son. The Son of God takes on human flesh. He enters into our world, into our story. He becomes one of us, true man! For this is the joy of the season, God and man are united once again!

Indeed, this Christmas will be different, but it doesn't remove our joy. It doesn't remove Christ. While we cope with the changes of this year, may we continue to share this joy with everyone, even in whole new ways. Call your loved ones, reach out to those who are isolated, share this joy with all you see. For the joy of Christ living in you is what makes this season special. By sharing this joy, may you become a joy to all you see! Thus, let us rejoice in this holy child who brings peace on earth. Amen.

Pastor Sorenson

Search for St. Paul Madison on Facebook for weekly Wednesday devotions from Pastor Sorenson. You do NOT have to belong to Facebook to check out our page.



Happy December Birthdays!!

Bruce Cragin (12/1), Inge Carlson (12/2), Joyce Jensen (12/12), Dave Travis (12/17), Roosevelt Dahn (12/ 19), Doreen Spiers (12/21).



DATES TO REMEMBER

Voters Meeting -
Sunday, December 6
after service.

Tellers Meeting -
Sunday, December 13
after service.



Does your keychain look like this? Do you sound like Santa when you walk? Perhaps you have extra keys for St. Paul's! Please check your keys and turn in any unused keys to the office. Thank you!



If you are planning to attend a Christmas Eve or Christmas Day service, you must register in advance. Services will be held on:

- Christmas Eve, December 24th at 4:00 p.m.
- Christmas Eve, December 24th at 7:00 p.m.
- Christmas Day, December 25th at 9:00 a.m.

To register, please visit our website, www.stpaulmadison.org and click on <https://stpaulmadison.org/Holiday-Services...>

If you don't have access to the internet you may call St. Paul's to register. Please leave a voicemail message at 608-244-8077.



Please send any items and prayer concerns you'd like mentioned in our monthly newsletter to the office at

office@stpaulmadison.org, or please call the office at 608-244-8077. If no one is able to take your call, please leave a detailed message and a number where you can be reached in your message.

ALL NEWSLETTER ITEMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE LAST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH.

Thank you for your help!

St. Paul office phone - 608-244-8077
 Office@stpaulmadison.org
 Pastor Sorenson - cell phone -
 317-690-5204
 pastorsorenson@stpaulmadison.org

SERVING IN DECEMBER

Altar Guild - Chris Krueger and Linda Williamson

Tellers - 12/6, 13, 20 - Chris Krueger and Kay Daubenspeck
 12/24, 25, 27 - John and Linda Williamson

December 6 - Ushers - Rick Van Dusen, Ray Hellmer, Maria Huckleberry

Acolyte - Moses Dahn

December 13 - Ushers - Jamie Meise, Jerry Meise, Rick Ger-mann

Acolyte - Tahji Jackson

December 20 - Ushers - Randy Buss, Dave Evert, Tom Niemczyk

Acolyte - Moses Dahn

December 24 - 4pm - Rick Van Dusen. 7pm - Ray Hellmer

December 25 - Rick Van Dusen

December 27 - Ushers - Rick Van Dusen, Ray Hellmer, Maria Huckleberry

Acolyte - Tahji Jackson

Advent Midweek



Join us for our Advent midweek services as we dive into the season of Advent.

- Dec. 2 Advent as Preparation**
- Dec. 9 Advent as Perseverance**
- Dec. 16 Advent as Promise**



+++ Ray's Corner +++
 Notes from our Treasurer



GENERAL FUND INCOME	
October 2020 Actual Income	\$12,528.99
October 2020 Actual Expenses	16,691.63
	-4,162.64
DEBT	
Unpaid Balance on Mortgage	\$231,279.35