

# THE GOOD NEWS

## St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Winter 2019 Issue

1407 W. Church Rd.  
Beecher, IL 60401  
708-946-2050

Pastor Cory Estby

Worship Services on  
Sundays at 8:30 am

Sunday School on  
Sundays at 10:00 am

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### Message from Pastor...

The Church Year has come to an end, and we are set to begin another year of rejoicing in God's gifts. Isn't it fascinating how the church year "follows" the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed concerning the life and work of our Lord Jesus Christ! Check it out...

**I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord;  
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary; (Advent and Christmas)  
Suffered under Pontius Pilate, (Lent)  
Was crucified, dead and buried; (Holy Week)  
He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; (Easter)  
He ascended into heaven (Ascension)  
And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; (Pentecost and weeks following)  
From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. (Last Sunday of Church Year)**

We are not to speculate about the time of the Lord's return. "But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but the Father only" (Matthew 24:36). His return could be any moment as we live in the hope of His return soon! So why even bring it up?

Jesus teaches with two purposes in mind: encouragement and comfort to His Church. Encouragement. Let's be ready, living our lives in love and service. "*And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together; as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near*" (Hebrews 10:24-25). Comfort. Jesus gives us a wonderful promise: "*Let not your heart be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in Me...I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also*" (John 14:1-3). "He shall come again to judge the quick and the dead." As we think on these words concluding the Church Year, may the Lord encourage us to be ready for His return and comfort us with the promise that He is already preparing a place for us, that we might be with Him forever!

So a new Church Year begins with Advent. "Advent" means coming...the coming of the Lord Jesus. The Book of Revelation describes Jesus as the One "who is, and who was and who is to come" (1:8). This three-fold coming is what we celebrate in the season of Advent. We rejoice that our Lord Jesus is the One who comes, for His coming always brings to His people gifts beyond our imagination. In His first Advent, He came for the cross, to die in our place and win for us forgiveness and salvation. As He continues to come to us, He brings to us the gifts He won on the cross—distributing these gifts through His means of grace. And Jesus will come again to bring all of His saints into the blessedness He has prepared for them.

May the Lord Jesus who has come for us continue to keep us in the true faith until He comes at last to bring us to our heavenly home.

In Christ,  
Pastor Cory Estby

## Ladies Aid Happenings...

Ladies Aid meets regularly September through May on the second Saturday of the month. We gather at noon and since we are all such good cooks, we take turns hosting lunch.



**December 14 is our Annual Christmas Party.** This year we are having an outing. We plan to see a movie (TBD) and enjoy either lunch or dinner together at the Olive Garden. All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend and join the fun.



On November 16 the Ladies Aid packed care packages for the active military personnel are on our prayer list. We packed eight boxes with items ranging from snacks and stationary to toiletries and games.



Each box also included a Santa hat to add some holiday cheer to their day. Most items were purchased with a Thrivent Action Card. Also, in the box was a military prayer book purchased from Concordia Publishing with Marlene Lynch memorial funds. We received generous donations to assist in the shipping costs. Thanks to all who helped and supported this event.



## Greeter and Usher Schedule

### December 1

Ushers: Leonard Kregel & Steve Lange  
Greeters: Mark Wille Family

### December 8

Ushers: Gary Lange & Fred Belz  
Greeters: Tom & Barb Waiter

### December 15

Ushers: Stan Weishaar & Greg Ohlendorf  
Greeters: Fred and Fern Hoffmeyer

### December 22, 24 & 25

Ushers: Stan Heimerl & Joe Burgess  
Greeters: Stan & Cherie Heimerl

### December 29

Ushers: Steve Stein & Fred Hoffmeyer  
Greeters: Terry & Carolyn Ryan

### January 5

Ushers: Terry Ryan & William Karczewski  
Greeters: Doug & Debbie Hackl

### January 12

Ushers: Doug Hackl & Jason Hackl  
Greeters: Michele Hackl &  
Kelsey Outerbridge

### January 19

Ushers: Jim Meyer & Kenneth Meyer  
Greeters: Tim & Mary Hannig

### January 26

Ushers: Leroy Plagge & Tom Wiater  
Greeters: Gary Lange & Steve Lange

### February 2

Ushers: Steve Weishaar & Garry Hunte  
Greeters: Fred & Fern Hoffmeyer

### February 9

Ushers: Leonard Kregel & Steve Lange  
Greeters: Greg & Melissa Ohlendorf

### February 16

Ushers: Gary Lange & Fred Belz  
Greeters: Bill & Joan Karczewski, Abby

### February 23

Ushers: Stan Weishaar & Greg Ohlendorf  
Greeters: Dan & Karen Braun

Acolytes Parker Woodruff & Kaylee Guynn

## Birthdays

Dec. 2 – Garry Hunte  
Dec. 3 – Dane Squier  
Alyssa Burgess  
Dec. 5 – Kimberly Mashek  
Michael Bleyle  
Dec. 6 – Joan Karczewski  
Dec. 7 – Corey Hannig  
Cara Holzaepfel  
Dec 10 –Kristina Woodruff  
Barbara Wiater  
Dec 14 –Kelsey Outerbridge  
Dec 17 -Frank Holzaepfel  
Dec 19-Abigail Karxzewski  
Dec 21-Melissa Berger  
Jan. 2 – Maryanne Colbert  
Jan. 4 – Thomas Waiter  
Jan. 6 – William Berger  
Jan. 7 – Amanda Runchey  
Jan 10 –Karen Braun  
Jan 16 -Donald Fette  
Jan 18 -Kaitlyn Braun  
Mary Schwer  
Jan 23 -Donna Fox  
Jan 25 -Marge Kregel  
Jan 27 -Kayla Mashek  
Jan 28-Randall Stolzenbach  
Jan 30-Adam Woodruff  
Ava Runchey  
Feb. 2 –MaKayla Hackl  
Feb. 6 –Linda Fette  
Feb 10 –Allison Mashek  
Feb 13 –Marshall Paul  
Jeff Stadt  
Feb 14 –Normal Kregel  
Feb 21 –Mary Hannig  
Feb 24 –Greg Ohlendorf  
Feb 25-William Karczewski  
Rachel Parnau  
Feb 27 -Wade Holzaepfel

## Anniversaries

December 8  
Leonard & Marge Kregel  
February 26  
Terry & Carolyn Ryan

## Congratulations

Christopher & Kelsey  
Outerbridge who were  
married on Oct. 12, 2019

## Our Heroes....

On Sunday, November 10 the Ladies Aid recognized the members of our congregation who served in the military? Each veteran received a boutonniere. After the service we shared breakfast treats in their honor. Pictured are: Fred Hoffmeyer, Leonard Kregel, Leroy Plagge, Terry Ryan and Ray Moeller. Also, thanks to Alex Burgess and Steve Stein for their service. We proud of each of you!



## Up Coming Events...

- **Dec. 2** the Sunday School starts Christmas Practice 10:00 – 11:15 a.m.
- **December 4, 11 & 18** at 7:00 pm are the Mid Week Advent Services at Zion, Grant Park. Prior to the services they serve a meal from 5:45 to 6:30 pm.
- **Dec. 4, 11 & 18** Zion, Beecher will hold Advent services at 2:00 pm
- **December 7** from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm we are serving lunch and hosting a bake sale as part of the Washington Township Vendor Fair
- **December 8** is the last day to order Christmas Jams and salsas
- **December 9** at 6:30 pm Call committee meeting in the vestry office
- **December 15** at 10:00 a.m. Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal
- **December 22** Sunday School Christmas Party from 9:45 a.m. to Noon
- **December 24** is our Christmas Eve Service at 7:00 p.m.
- **December 25** is Christmas Day Service with Holy Communion at 8:30 a.m.
- Ladies Aid annual Christmas party is on December 14 – Dinner and a Movie Outing
- January 11 at Noon Ladies Aid meets
- January 26 is the Quarterly Voters Meeting
- February 8 at Noon Ladies Aid meets

Do you make New Year's Resolutions? Wonder what God thinks about them? Here's some God may like....

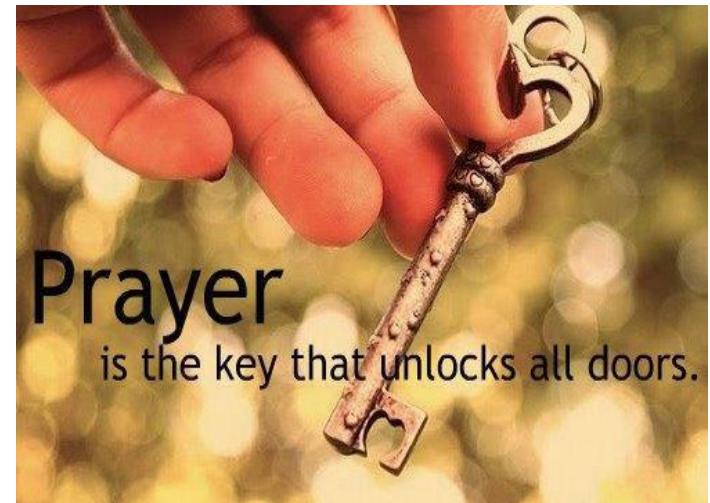
- Attend weekly worship regularly
- Participate in Church activities
- Volunteer at Church sponsored events
- Spend time each day in prayer with the Lord
- Help spread the Word of God
- Bring children to the Lord's house
- Be a mentor
- Regularly perform random acts of kindness
- Make donations to charitable causes
- Be KIND to ALL people

*"And as for you, brothers and sisters, never tire of doing what is good"* **2 Thessalonians 3:13**

Happy  
New  
Year!

## Call Committee Update...

The call committee received an initial list. They met four times and reviewed the list. After prayerful consideration of the initial list, they felt they had not identified the appropriate candidate that would meet the needs of our congregation. The committee has requested another list of candidates to review. They expect to receive another list within the next week and will continue the selection process. Please keep the committee in your prayers while they strive to identify the best possible match for our congregation.



*"Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it"* **Mark 11:24**

## Outreach Efforts...



"St. Paul's is participating in the Washington Township Christmas Bazaar on December 7th from 11am to 5pm. This is our third year with this event serving lunch and selling baked goods. It is a great and successful event, so be sure to mark your calendars. We need donations of baked goods. If you can help for this event, if you are able to do so, please contact Jessica Woodruff."

The Evangelism committee would appreciate any ideas or suggestions on outreach projects. Please talk to Donna Fox, Valerie Lynch or Paula Weishaar.

## Fundraiser...

Jams and Butters can be ordered prior to December 6. Order forms are in the back of Church or contact Jessica Woodruff. Make sure you try the Christmas Jam, YUMMY! Proceeds will support the landscaping project.

## Special Thanks...

We are blessed to have so many that put forth extra efforts to care for our Church. Glory be to God and thanks to:

- Trustees for all they do to keep our Church safe, in good repair and beautiful
- Jessica Woodruff for all the outreach efforts with the Farmers Market, Trunk or Treat and Craft Fairs
- Tammy Braun for the phone messages, bulletins and outreach efforts
- Marge Kregel for taking over ordering flowers making our worship services beautiful
- Steve & Paula Weishaar and Stan Weishaar for landscaping and decorating our Church
- Cherie Heimerl from the Ladies Aid for teaching us how to make beautiful cards for our military personnel and donating the supplies
- Thanks to all those who've signed up and provided breakfast treats

**Special Note from Jessica:** I would like to give a HUGE thank you to the following people for being at the Farmers Markets and helping. Steve & Paula Weishaar, Don & Linda Fette, Joan Karczewski, Kristina Woodruff, and Parker Woodruff. Your work does not go unnoticed or unappreciated. Thanks to Valerie Lynch, Marge Kregel, Melissa Ohlendorf, Cherie Ebling (also a vendor), Dana Woodruff, Stanley Weishaar, and Mary Hannig as well for they, too, have helped at a few markets. Thank you to those that donated items to sell at the market. Stan & Cherie have come through with some gorgeous produce, Linda & Don with lilies, aloe, and other plants and bulbs, Steve & Paula with baked goods and pop/water each market, Bill & Joan's 'girls' for producing eggs to sell at the market, and Valerie for creating the flyers and pamphlets about our Church and Sunday School to distribute, as this market is a church mission to reach the unchurched. The market would not be the same without your participation and help. Furthermore, our church would not be the same without each of you.

Thank you to everyone that helped with the Trunk or Treat on October 26th. We appreciate everyone for helping with set up, serving, parking, donating baked goods, and clean up. You each are a testimony of dedication to our church. We all braved the nasty rain and cold but still had quite a few families attend.

A big shout out to everyone that helped with the Christmas Market on November 9th. We had members that helped serve lunch, made baked goods for the bake sale and helped with set up and clean up. You are all appreciated! It was a great turnout! THANKS, Jessica



*“And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” Colossians 3:17*

**Submit your thanks for future issues to Valerie Lynch at [valerielynch1103@yahoo.com](mailto:valerielynch1103@yahoo.com)**

**If you would prefer to receive your newsletter via email, please send your information to Valerie Lynch at the email address listed above.**



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