

St. Paul's Epistle

Monthly Newsletter

www.stpaulsosseo.org

January 2023

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. 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 10:23-25).

Greetings to you, in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,

January is here! Christmas is over! Or is it? We are, in fact, still in the season of Christmas; for the Twelve Days of Christmas always fall on December 25th—January 5th. On January 6th we will be starting another season in the church year: The Season of Epiphany. This season begins with the visit of the Magi and is concluded with the Transfiguration of Our Lord (Feb. 19th).

This January 6th, the first Friday in January, we will be beginning the Epiphany Season by coming to our Lord in worship at 7:00p. I would like to encourage all of you to be at that service, as we will begin this blessed season by receiving the body and blood of Christ.

January is also a time, for many in our country, to make resolutions. Many of the top resolutions that are made include: exercising more, losing weight, getting more organized, and numerous others, I would like to have us all think about something else: Worship.

The writer to the Hebrews exhorts his hearers to not be *...neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some* (Hebrews 10:25). This exhortation is about more than just carelessness; it is the beginning of apostasy. Apostasy is the abandonment or renunciation of a religious belief.

For the past 2 years our world, nation, and congregation has been affected by Covid. Places were shut down. Meetings and classes were being conducted online. People were avoiding other people out of fear of a disease. Even our congregation was affected by all of this. We went from having two services on Sundays to having only one (first online and then in-person). Because of lower numbers we have been staying at only having one service.

Recently I have been hearing, “When are we going to be having the two services again?” That’s a great question. And the answer to it is the reason for this article.

The writer to the Hebrews exhorted his hearers; now it is my time to exhort our congregational members: Covid has been rough on our congregation, our synod, and the Church at large. Numerous people have gotten in the habit of not attending worship services at all. Yes, we and many other congregations, offer our worship service online, but that’s just not the same as people being gathered together to hear God’s Word and receive His gifts.

So, I exhort you: Make in-person worship a priority for you and your family this New Year. Let us fill, not only Saint Paul’s, but every congregation to the brim in 2023. Let this be a time for us all to be in the Word and to receive the gifts of God.

Many make resolutions at the beginning of a New Year. Let this be our resolution! And may we all keep it.

I look forward to seeing you all in worship.

In Christ,

Pastor Burns

Romans 1:16

Remember in your prayers:

Members who are sick and in need of healing and comfort Virginia Hoppenrath, Clarice O'Gary, Bruce Hecksel, Chad Hanson, Dan Wolinski (friend of Jason Voss), Pauline Williamson (friend of Shirley Scheuble), Jim Feuerstein (brother of Judy Opsal), Ada Fields (sister-in-law of Shirley Scheuble), Lawrence & Joanne Mendez (parents of Sherry Glauvitz) and Melissa Lee. Our Lord Jesus, who reached out to heal and comfort the sick and dying, continues to reach out with His healing Word through us. Cards, phone calls and prayers are always appreciated. If you know of someone who is sick or hospitalized, please inform Pastor Burns.

Our Homebound Members are Alice Leitzke, Gladys Goerke, Irma Schmid, Clarice O'Gary, Jean Henderson, Rose Ebert, Melissa Lee, and Bertha Hannu (mother of Barb Gamache).

Our Troops who are serving abroad and here in the United States. For their safety and for those they are fighting for and against.

For the families of those who have lost their lives or were injured in the fight for freedom.

For persecuted Christians everywhere.

For those serving in the mission field

Lutheran Bible Translators, Johanna Heidorn and Rev. Dr. Daniel Jastram.

For peace and reconciliation world wide.

For our nation, President Biden and the leadership of the United States.

For our state, Governor Walz and the leadership of the state of Minnesota.

Newsletter Mailing Team please come to help on Thursday January 26th at 9:15a. Anyone who can help fold, stick labels on and sort is welcome. Coffee and treats provided.

Church Undecorating will be Sunday January 8 at 9:45.



Those Serving January 2023

Elders

Jan. 1 10:00a	Rick Scheevel
Jan. 6 7:00p	Rick Scheevel
Jan. 8:30a	Rick Scheevel

Ushers

Jan. 1 10:00a	Matt Deardoff
Jan. 6 7:00p	TBD
Jan. 8:30a	Jeff & Julie Norman

Acolytes

Jan. 1 10:00a	Ian Deardoff
Jan. 6 7:00p	TBD
Jan. 8 8:30a	Brenna Jones
Jan. 15 8:30a	Hunter Zinter
Jan. 22 8:30a	Tyler Hanson
Jan. 29 8:30a	Logan Jones

Media

Jan.	David Gamache
	David Glauvitz
	Jacob Andersen
	Sherry Glauvitz
	Ethan Burns



Church Council and Congregational meeting minutes are available in print or **digital copies** can be sent. Just call the office for a copy.

Staff: Pastor: Daniel Burns XXX.XXX.XXXX
Email: XXXXX@stpaulsosseo.org

Administrative Assistant: Sherry Glauvitz
Email: office@stpaulsosseo.org

St. Paul's Website: www.stpaulsosseo.org



A huge, heartfelt thank you to the best volunteer team on the planet, the Alumni Sunday School parents who put on the dinner after the Children's Christmas program.

Special thanks to:

Tim and Kristin Gamrath for making and donating the world famous pulled pork.

Julie and Jeff Norman for donating the hamburger for the sloppy joes.

Our wonderful setter uppers and servers, Gamraths, Normans, Paulette and Amanda Harff, Carly and Jerron McDonald, Cade Gamrath, and Marlin Olson and a big thanks to Thrivent for sponsoring our event!

Thank you also to the people of St. Paul's for the great turn out! It was a wonderful time of fellowship to celebrate the Sunday School kids and Jesus' birthday!

2 and 1 Club

2 and 1 Club is back in January with our traditional White Elephant Party! We will be meeting at Dehn's Country Manor (11281 Fernbrook Ln N, Maple Grove) at 6p on Sunday, January 22nd. We'll have dinner first, and then we'll open White Elephant gifts. Each person should bring a gift- something you no longer need, or want. (Remember, one's trash is another one's TREASURE!) Everyone age 21 and over is welcome to join in. Please RSVP by calling or texting Esther Burns at xxx.xxx.xxxx. We look forward to a fun time!



1/01	Gerald Kiffmeyer	1/22	Bob Ehret
1/01	Verdell Schleif	1/22	Holly Lahd
1/02	Allen Haslach	1/23	Moriah Pitts
1/05	Heidi Ebert	1/23	Abigail Long
1/05	Erik Glauvitz	1/25	Kyle Glauvitz
1/05	Lucia Higgins	1/25	Zachary Kolden
1/09	Zoey Roberts	1/25	Forrest Zoll
1/10	Jean Jones	1/27	Henrietta Walter
1/11	Vicky Ehret	1/27	Randi Zinter
1/11	Jenny Hines	1/28	Dylan Braiedy
1/11	Katie McCullough	1/28	Amber Bretto
1/15	Daniel Burns	1/28	Jonathan Tuttle
1/16	Allison Kolden	1/28	Randy Weese
1/18	Leslie Gravatt	1/29	Bob Trafton
1/18	Sophia Schmidt	1/30	Courtney Perpich
1/18	Paulette Vollrath	1/30	Ashley Groenke
1/19	Za'Marr Nelson	1/31	Chris Higgins
1/19	Kathy Thoemke	1/31	Rebecca Iten
1/20	Meghan Reichstadt	1/31	Bradley Schue

Let the office know if we have missed your birthday or Anniversary.



Attention all members!!

Please pickup your 2023 church envelopes that are in your church mailboxes.

Mite Box Sunday: January 2, 2023



Mite donations can be mailed to Sandy Slack, 11430 98th Ave N, Maple Grove, MN 55369. Checks should be written out to "St. Paul's LWML." Those attending church services in person may place their Mite Box Mission donations in the large Mite Box in the narthex.

During December, the members of St. Paul's donated \$124.33 for Mite Box Mission Grants!

Sharing Christ's gifts with those in need

Mission Grant #4: LCMS Missionary Support, Mission Central

Below is printed part of an email sent from Rev. David Baker, his wife Rachel, and four children, missionaries to Mongolia. **This letter was written also to you, the members of St. Paul's,** thanking you for your Mite Box donations that has blessed this ministry in Mongolia.

"To the Minnesota South District LWML,

Greetings in the name of Jesus our Savior!

Thank you for your recent generous gift of \$2500 for the work among the Kazakhs of Mongolia. It is only with the support of all our faithful brothers and sisters like you that we are able to keep serving year after year. For the last eight years we have been living in the capital city of Mongolia, serving among the Kazakh diaspora across the country. The church has continued to grow, with Bible Study Groups and home churches in five different provinces of Mongolia. In most areas where we bring the Gospel there is no other church actively taking the Good News to the Muslims.

Thank you again for your partnership in the Gospel!

In Jesus' hands,

Pastor David and the Baker Family"

Recently a listing of what St. Paul's LWML has done in the last biennium, July 2021 to June 2023 needed to be submitted to our LWML Zone President who will in turn send it on to our district LWML. All women of our congregation are considered members of LWML.

Below are a few of the activities completed by the members of St. Paul's.

Attended both the LWML District Retreat and Convention, hosted a zone rally and also a zone prayer service. Served 8 funeral lunches, made and sent Valentines to the Dwelling Place, and donated 1 case of New Testaments as Gifts of Love for the LWML District Convention. On-going collection of eyeglasses, assembled and delivered 51 completed newborn and hospice kits to Global Health Ministries. Gathered school supplies for Dr. Lo's ministry with the Hmong, here in Minnesota as well as Thailand, Laos, and Cambodia.

Cash donations were sent to the following:

Lutheran Bible Translators for the Derricks ministry

Missionary Johanna Heidorn,

Rev. Micheal Waiswa towards a roof for his church in Uganda

Adopted a student at both Concordia Seminary, St. Louis and Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne with gifts of \$500 each

Trinity First Lutheran School in Minneapolis

LCMS Joint Seminary Fund

And, the list continues...

**Please join us at our next Business Meeting on Wednesday, January 12, at 1:30 pm
in the Party Room at Mary Patrice Apartments, 100 3rd St. NW, Osseo, MN**



HOSPICE KITS

Please follow these directions carefully

One Hospice Kit contains these items:

- 1 regular-size bath towel (approx. 52" long), new or gently used
- 1 washcloth, new or gently used (not microfiber)
- 1 bath-size bar unscented soap
Such as Dove Unscented for Sensitive Skin, in original packaging
- 1 toothbrush
In original, individual packaging
- 1 pick-style comb
- 1 nail clipper
Larger size preferred
- 6 Band-Aids, rubber-banded together
- 1 jar or tube of pure petroleum jelly, such as Vaseline
Approx. 4 ounces, lid taped
- 1 pair heavy-duty household gloves
Kitchen type, size medium

1. Lay items on the towel and fold towel to enclose everything inside.
2. Tie your bundle securely with twine, ribbon, even a rolled bandage.
3. Please mark the box or bag of completed kits "Hospice Kits."

*GHM is no longer shipping kits in plastic bags, so instead we invite you to send a **pillowcase** for your completed kit. The pillowcase helps protect the kit during shipping, keeping the contents together and clean, and becomes an extra gift! Pillowcases can be sent separate from kits.*



GLOBAL HEALTH MINISTRIES
7831 HICKORY STREET NE
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55432



NEWBORN KITS

Please follow these directions carefully

One Newborn Kit contains these new or gently used items:

- 1 regular-size bath towel (approx. 52" long)
- 1 washcloth (not microfiber)
- 1 bath-size bar white Ivory soap
In original packaging
- 1 newborn cotton t-shirt or "onesie"
Size 0-3, or newborn
- 1 newborn stocking hat
Small size, a newborn's head is about 14" circumference
- 1 baby receiving blanket (approx. 30" x 30")
Cotton or light flannel, knit or crocheted
- 2 cloth diapers
- 2 diaper pins

1. Lay items on the towel and fold towel to enclose everything inside
2. Tie your bundle securely with twine, ribbon, even a rolled bandage.
3. Please mark the box or bag of completed kits "Newborn Kits."

*GHM is no longer shipping kits in plastic bags, so instead we invite you to send a **pillowcase** for your completed kit. The pillowcase helps protect the kit during shipping, keeping the contents together and clean, and becomes an extra gift! Pillowcases can be sent separate from kits.*



GLOBAL HEALTH MINISTRIES
7831 HICKORY STREET NE
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55432

HOSPICE/NEWBORN KITS FOR JANUARY

Thank you for your support in preparing the kits for Global Health Ministries. Our goal is to assemble the kits in February. We have filled out toothbrushes and bandaids. We can use any of the other items from the list. However, our hope is to have you help us with more:

BATH TOWELS

BATH SOAP (Ivory and unscented for sensitive skin like Dove)

BABY RECEIVING BLANKETS,

HEAVY DUTY HOUSEHOLD GLOVES

NAIL CLIPPERS.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Another great St. Paul's Christmas program is over and done with. If you looked up in the sky as you came into church that day, there was a rainbow over our church. We like to think that this was a sign that Carol Emmans was looking down from heaven ready to watch the program. She would have been so proud of how well all the kids did.

We would like to thank the many, many people who made this program possible.

Jenny Hines who edited, assigned the parts and directed the program.

Cindy Scheevel for co-directing.

Pastor Burns for his guidance and support.

Esther Burns for the musical accompaniment.

Steve Gamache for designing the logo for the program.

All of the teachers who chipped in to help where needed.

Cindy Pomerleau and Jane Hines for organizing and serving the luncheon for Jesus' birthday party on Saturday.

Leah Olson and the Alumni Sunday School Parents for the luncheon following the program. Special thanks to Tim Gamrath for the pulled pork sandwiches. They were so good!!!!!!

All the people who set up and took down the stage, set up and put away tables for the luncheon and helped clean up.

Parents for all the hard work you did helping your kids learn their parts. Without your help, this program would not be as good. Special thanks to the West Wing parents for making sure your kids knew their parts and song. Those four boys were amazing.

The Sunday School kids for sharing the Christmas story with the congregation. We are all so proud of you. If you missed this program, you can go to the church's website (stpaulsosseo.org) and find the link to watch it.

LESSONS

There will be no Sunday School on December 25 or January 1. On January 8, we will be watching the Christmas program video. We have a few Old Testament lessons to finish up in January and then we will move on to New Testament lessons.

CROSS TOY DRIVE

Thanks for all the toys that were put under the tree for CROSS. You have helped make Christmas merrier for Many children.

OFFERINGS

Our offerings for the rest of the year will be going to "The Kids for Kindles Mission Project" for the Confessional Lutheran Education Foundation (CLEF). This organization provides Lutheran seminary students around the world with Kindles. All of the books that these students need can be downloaded on these Kindles and they can take them wherever they go. These Kindles can also instantly translate words for the students. Each Kindle costs \$150. Let's see how many we can buy!!!!

Your Past Does Not Define Your Future

New Year's is a celebration of the past and the future. We take stock of the past with thanksgiving and sometimes even relief (that it's over), and we look to the future in hope and anticipation, and perhaps with some worry, for what it holds.

The point is that New Year's celebrations remind us of who we are as opposed to who we would like to be, what we have done in comparison to what we want to do. It reminds us of our accomplishments, but mostly it reminds us of our failures. What we've lost. Who we've lost.

New Year's is our own version of Charles Dickens' classic, *A Christmas Carol*. And we all play Scrooge. We are visited by the ghosts of our pasts, presents and futures.

St. Paul writes: "The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. As it is written, 'He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.' He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for all your generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God" (2 Cor. 9:6–15).

St. Paul tells us that the Lord will both supply and increase what we need to give to the church for its work in the world. He tells us that this work God does in us will enrich and bless us in every way, and through this, will produce thanksgiving to God. With this in mind, here is some practical advice to help you take stock of your giving in years past and change what needs to be adjusted, improved, or done away with altogether.

First, attend the Divine Service to receive God's gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. If you've not been faithful in attending worship to hear the preaching of God's Word, to receive forgiveness and feast on the rich food of our Lord's body and blood for the eternal benefit of your body and soul, then repent and come to receive the gifts God freely gives. God doesn't want your money. He wants you — all of you (Matt. 22:20–22).

Second, pray for the Lord's help. Your right as a Christian is to speak with your Father, the King of all creation, freely through His Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. Go to the throne of grace and ask for strength and wisdom to follow His bidding faithfully (John 15:1–16).

Third, consider what the church is and what the church does. The church is a place of mercy. It inhales the mercy of the Father by the death, resurrection and ascension of His Son through the preaching of the Gospel and the Sacraments. It exhales this mercy in love toward neighbors. You are a member of the church, of God's family. Thus, you are not only a recipient of God's mercy, but a bearer of that mercy for the life of the world. You spread that mercy through the generous giving of your income to support the work of the church in the world, as the Israelites did in the Old Testament (Lev. 27:1–34).

Fourth, take stock of your current giving in light of the New Testament's teaching on supporting the work of the church. Are you giving of your first fruits, taking it out of your paycheck first, or does God get what's left over? Are you giving voluntarily and cheerfully? Are you giving proportionally and generously? The Old Testament required a tithe, or ten percent. The New Testament gives freedom to be generous, to give more for the Church's work. Are you relying on God's promise to provide and increase what you need to do His work? If your answer is no to any of these, repent. If God gave you His only Son, will He not provide for you all things, even physical things? Trust Him, His Word, and heed it.

So, don't let your past define your future. Rather, commit for the year a generous proportion of your income, which is God's gift to you for this body and life.

You Can Use Amazon Smile to Support Saint Paul's throughout the year!

Did you know that when you shop at smile.amazon.com the Amazon Smile Foundation donates 0.5% of your purchase price to the charity of your choice? When you sign into smile.amazon.com, and select Saint Paul's Lutheran Church you will be supporting our congregation at no extra cost to you.

Visit smile.amazon.com, sign in with the same account you use for Amazon.com. Select your charity — we are listed as Saint Paul's Lutheran Church (location Osseo, MN) Then start shopping! (you will be on the Amazon website). It's that easy!



God has blessed Saint Paul's Lutheran Church for over 150 years with faithful members who love their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In the Church, as well as in our households, there are times that can be challenging. Saint Paul's is facing this right now. But instead of looking at this being difficult, we would like to look at this as an opportunity for our congregation to grow in our faith and our Christian Stewardship. We have some maintenance projects for the church that we are asking for your assistance with. 1) outside lighting, 2) replacing the downstairs drinking fountain by the bathrooms, and 3) repair the boiler system. All of these projects have been approved by the Church Council, but the cost for them will severely deplete the Building Fund. The cost for these 3 items comes to around \$25,000. The new lighting will be LED lighting and will bring great savings down the road. The drinking fountain no longer

works and the new one will be one that will include a bottle filler. The boiler system has many issues that is causing it to fight against itself. Some of this entails wrong components in some areas while wrong valves and pumps are in other areas. When the boiler system is fixed it will run much more efficient and will provide some much-needed energy savings. With the new year, you can assist with these projects with a special gift to the "Building Fund."



In GriefShare: Surviving the Holidays, we learn that Christmas is a holiday of suffering. If there was no suffering in this world, then there would be no need for Christ. As we celebrated our remembrance of the first coming of Christ, we remembered why He came: to go to the cross to pay the price for our sins. It is through His death and resurrection that we have the forgiveness of our sins and the free gift of eternal life. But even while we know this truth, we still mourn those who have gone before us.

The journey from mourning to joy shouldn't be walked alone. That's why there's Grief Share.

Starting in January, I will be leading GriefShare classes every Thursday evening at 6pm in the Youth Room. Classes will begin on January 5th. There will be 13 classes. The dates for the classes will be on our website (stpaulsosseo.org) and in the church calendar.

Please contact the church office to register 763.425.2238 or office@stpaulsosseo.org

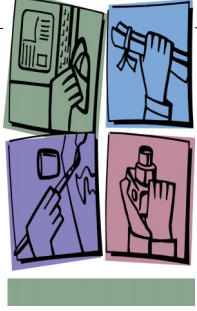
These classes are open to all. I pray that many who are mourning will be able to find healing through Christ.

Pastor Burns

January 2023

763.425.2238

office@stpaulsosse.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 1st Sunday after Christmas Communion Service 10:00a Mite Box Sunday	2 Office Closed	3 <i>Just for Kix 4:15p-9:15</i>	4 Confirmation 6:00p	5 GriefShare 6:00p	6 Epiphany Communion Service 7:00p Office Closed <i>Shooting Starz 12:00p-2:00p</i>	7
8 Baptism of Our Lord Worship Service 8:30a Coffee Fellowship 9:30a Church Undecorating 9:45a Sunday School 9:45a	9 Staff Meeting 10:30a	10 Bible Study 9:15a Morning Prayer 10:30a Board of Elders 6:30p All Other Boards 7:00p Council Meeting 7:30p <i>Just for Kix 4:15p-9:15p</i>	11 LWML Business Meeting 1:30p Confirmation 6:00p	12 Pastor at Circuit Meeting 9:30a (Beautiful Savior) GriefShare 6:00p	13 Office Closed	14
15 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany Communion Service 8:30a Coffee Fellowship 9:30a Education Hour 9:45a Newsletter Deadline	16 Staff Meeting 10:30a	17 Bible Study 9:15a Morning Prayer 10:30a <i>Just for Kix 4:15p-9:15p</i>	18 Confirmation 6:00p Web Meeting 7:00p	19 GriefShare 6:00p	20 Office Closed	21
22 3rd Sunday after Epiphany Worship Service 8:30a Coffee Fellowship 9:30a Education Hour 9:45a 2&1 Club White Elephant 6:00p	23 Staff Meeting 10:30a	24 Bible Study 9:15a Morning Prayer 10:30a Sunday School Teachers' Meeting 7:00p <i>Just for Kix 4:15p-9:15p</i>	25 Confirmation 6:00p	26 GriefShare 6:00p	27 Office Closed	28
29 4th Sunday after Epiphany Communion Service 8:30a Coffee Fellowship 9:30a Education Hour 9:45a <i>Centerstage 3:00p-6:00p</i>	30 Staff Meeting 10:30a	31 Bible Study 9:15a Morning Prayer 10:30a <i>Just for Kix 4:15p-9:15p</i>				



ST. PAUL'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
OSSEO, MINNESOTA

St. Paul's Lutheran
710 East Broadway Street
Osseo Minnesota 55369
Office Telephone: 763.425.2238

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Osseo, MN 55369

January 2023

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