

St. Paul's Lutheran
Church ELCA

401 Mill Street
Wilton, Wisconsin 54670



November December 2019
Bi-Monthly Newsletter

Christ's Calling Card

Pastor Cathleen Morris



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Years ago, when I was a college student in the UW-River Falls Concert Choir, we sang a piece by Aaron Copland entitled, "The Promise of Living." It is a song about the harvest, faith, friends, neighbors, and more. The lyrics for the first section go like this:

The promise of living with hope and thanksgiving is born of our loving our friends and our labor. The promise of growing with faith and with knowing is born of our sharing our love with our neighbor. The promise of living, the promise of growing, is born of our singing in joy and thanksgiving.

The song speaks of "loving our friends and our labor," "growing with faith and with knowing," and "sharing our love with our neighbor." As you pause to read this letter, take a moment now to reflect on these phrases. How has God been working in your life? How do you express your love for God and neighbor? What are you thankful for this holiday season?

While the holidays bring many persons great joy, it is important for us to be mindful of those persons for whom the holidays and special occasions are difficult times. Each third Sunday, we will be singing "Happy Birthday" and "Happy Anniversary," as we remember those celebrating their special days that month. Yet, for those who have lost a loved one who will no longer be present at holiday, birthday and anniversary gatherings, these days can be sad and very difficult. This is not only true for those persons with recent losses, but even for those who have lost a loved one years ago.

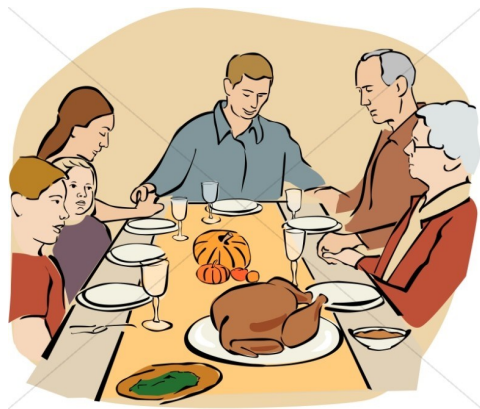


Church Council

Justin Arndt, President
Larry Ballwahn
Steve Brandau
Marcus Buchholz
Rachel Conner
Tim Deichler
Angie Gruen
Bud Osteboe
Vacancy

Looking Ahead

Thurs. Nov. 28th
Thanksgiving Eve Service
7:00 pm
Tues. Dec. 24th
Christmas Eve Service
6:00 pm



Pastor Cathy, Continued:

As we welcome family, friends and neighbors to our church and home gatherings, let us be mindful of one another's needs, allowing those who are grieving to participate as they are able, and not asking them to do things that they do not wish to do. Let us share God's love with one another, through peace and understanding.

As we move into the months of November and December, the holidays allow us to share our lives with our family, friends and neighbors. But what about the special eves? While our first holiday thought may be of Thanksgiving Day, this year, St. Paul's will be hosting the Thanksgiving Eve Service with our brothers and sisters in Christ from the Methodist Church in Norwalk. Our confirmation students have started planning this special event. Please join us. We will be collecting food for the Wilton Food Pantry for our neighbors in need. A list of suggested items will be provided in the weeks leading up to the service. The Thanksgiving Eve Service will provide a time for "sharing our love with our neighbor," and "singing in joy and thanksgiving."

The Advent Season prepares us for our home celebrations on Christmas Day. Advent calendars and meditations will soon be available for your use. The annual Christmas Program, which has been a tradition at St. Paul's for many years, will be presented at the Christmas Eve Service. Our children will once again practice their songs, don their costumes, and practice their lines for this very special event! Please join us and bring your family, friends and neighbors, so they too may celebrate the true meaning of Christmas; the joy of our Savior's birth.

Peace,

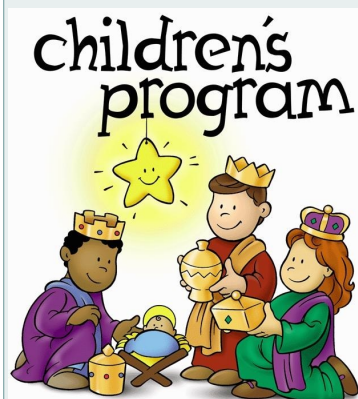
Pastor Cathy

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

As we have done for the past few years, the Sunday school children will gather at 8:00 AM on the Sundays of December to prepare their annual program. Sunday school will follow at 9:00 am.

The dress rehearsal will be held at 5:00 pm on Monday, December 23rd. The program will be presented at the Christmas Eve Service, which will be held at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, December 24th.

Please contact Greg if your child or children will be unable to participate in the program this



WORLD HUNGER

Working with and through our congregations, in the United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands Lutheran churches overseas and other partners, **ELCA World Hunger** is uniquely positioned to reach communities in need. From health clinics to microloans, water wells to animal husbandry, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to respond, supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty.

Donate to **ELCA World Hunger** by indicating on your envelope or submitting a special envelope or check marked World hunger.

Go to ELCA.ORG and put world hunger in the search box.



Arlis Ballwahn accepted the role as LaCrosse Synod Congregational Hunger Leader for St. Paul's. September 14th Arlis & Larry attended a meeting of the Synod's Hunger Committee. Among the information they gathered was the following.

Hunger is all the same... Right? Sometimes people have said to me, "Why worry about hungry people in other countries? We have hungry people right here. We should take care of them first." My reply is, "It's not the same."

There are three levels of hunger:

Level 1: Undernourishment: the person is not getting enough nutrition to meet the minimum needs for an active life.

Level 2: Malnutrition: When the person is so badly nourished they are susceptible to infection & disease.

Level 3: Wasting: When the person has acute malnutrition leading to substantial weight loss & death.

The hungry people around here are probably in Level One: Undernourished. Maybe, occasionally someone would get into Level Two. But worldwide it's a different situation. Consider that everyday around 20,000 people die from hunger & hunger-related diseases. They were in Level Three. By far the most of these 20,000 who die are children, through no fault of their own. They may be infants of mothers who are so malnourished themselves that they cannot produce enough milk. They may be orphans whose parents have both died, or they have been abandoned because the parent or parents could no longer afford to feed them. The reasons for hunger are many & complicated.

We do not have the level of poverty & hunger that is experienced in many places in the world. Don't get me wrong. I'm not saying we should ignore the needy here in our area. I'm saying that our outreach to the hungry here & the outreach to world hunger are two different missions. We should not choose one over the other, nor should we consider them the same thing, for it is hunger on two very different levels. Yes, we need to minister to the needs of the hungry in our area, but we cannot ignore the 20,000 that are dying every day.

In Christ, Bob Weeks, Synod World Hunger Subcommittee.

WORSHIP NOTES FOR

November/December

The following are the Scripture readings that we will be sharing in worship during the months of November and December, 2019.

Nov. 3 – All Saints Sunday

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18; Psalm 149;

Ephesians 1:11-23; Luke 6:20-31

Nov. 10 – 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18; Psalm 17:1-9;

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17; Luke 20:27-38

Nov. 17 – 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Malachi 4:1-2a; Psalm 98;

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19

Nov. 24 – Christ the King Sunday

Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 46;

Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43

Dec. 1 – 1st Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122;

Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44

Dec. 8 – 2nd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12

Dec. 15 – 3rd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 146:5-10;

James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11

Dec. 22 – 4th Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19;

Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25

Dec. 29 – 1st Sunday of Christmas

Isaiah 63:7-9; Psalm 148;

Hebrews 2:10-18; Matthew 2:13-23

THOSE SERVING IN NOVEMBER

Greeters: Barb and John Ornes

Ushers: Greg Bever, Leonard Arndt,
Jerry Von Haden, Steve Brandau

Altar: Nalani and Greg Bever

Readers: 3rd Vanessa Anderson,
10th Leonard Arndt, 17th Brooklyn Gruen,
24th Justin Arndt

Communion Server: Barb Ornes

THOSE SERVING IN DECEMBER

Greeters: Louise and Bob Buchholz

Ushers: Tim Deichler, Bart Arndt,
Justin Arndt, George Dougherty

Altar: Lori and Joel Arndt

Readers: 1st Lori Arndt, 8th Barb Ornes,
15th Carolyn Dougherty,
22nd Larry Ballwahn, 29th Greg Bever

Communion Server: Joel Arndt

Newsletter editors: Arlis & Larry Ballwahn

email: alballwahn@gmail.com

**Calendars & Church information: Nalani
Bever**

Congregation pictures: April Arndt

****The Website & Facebook page were
developed & are administered by April
Arndt**



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

November

Sun., 3rd Sunday School 9:00 am
 Worship 10:15 am
 Council meeting after
 Wed., 6th Confirmation 6:30 – 8:00 pm
 Sun., 10th Sunday School 9:00 am
 Worship 10:15 am
 Friends of the Community
 Thanksgiving Dinner 4-6 pm
 Norwalk Community Center
 Mon., 11th Veteran's Day – Thank a Veteran
 Wed., 13th Confirmation 6:30 – 8:00 pm
 Sun., 17th Sunday School 9:00 am
 Worship 10:15 am
 Children Sing – Noisy Offering
 Birthday/Anniversary Fellowship
 Wed., 20th Confirmation 6:30 – 8:00 pm
 Thurs., 21st W-ELCA General Meeting 10:00 am
 Sun., 24th Sunday School 9:00 am
 Worship 10:15 am
 Shoebox Collection
 Thankoffering Envelope Collection
 Wed., 17th Confirmation 6:30 – 8:00 pm
 Thurs., 28th Thanksgiving Eve Service 7:00 pm

December

Sun., 1st Christmas Program Practice 8 am
 Sunday School 9:00 am
 Worship 10:15 am
 Wed., 4th Confirmation 6:30 – 8:00 pm
 Sun., 8th Christmas Program Practice 8 am
 Sunday School 9:00 am
 Worship 10:15 am
 Mon., 9th Yesterday's Youth, Sugar Creek
 Leave church at 8:00 am
 Wed., 11th Confirmation 6:30 – 8:00 pm
 Sat., 14th Blood Drive, 7:00 – 11:30 am
 Sun., 15th Christmas Program Practice 8 am
 Sunday School 9:00 am
 Worship 10:15 am
 Noisy Offering
 Birthday/Anniversary Fellowship
 Community Choir Concert 4:00
 Wilton Community Center
 Wed., 18th Confirmation 6:30 – 8:00 am
 Sun., 22nd Christmas Program Practice 8:00 am
 Sunday School 9:00 am
 Worship 10:15 am
 Mon., 23rd Program Dress Rehearsal 5:00 pm
 Tues., 24th **Christmas Eve Service 6:00 pm**
 Sun., 29th NO Sunday School
 Worship 10:15 am

November

1st Florence Dougherty
 3rd Carlee Niedfeldt
 4th Gail Riedesel
 5th Diane Gloede
 8th Lori and Rick Brueggen
 11th Camden Niedfeldt
 Julie and John Acker
 Carole and Doug Nevin
 15th Pam and Steve Brandau, Sr.
 18th Justin Arndt
 26th Jacob Picha
 27th Lori and Joel Arndt
 28th Karen and John Arzt
 29th Gannon Tormoen

December

2nd Tammy Roscovious
 4th Dixie Arndt
 5th Tanya Niedfeldt
 7th Branden Fleming
 9th Jenna Picha
 11th Angel Brueggen
 12th Emily Bever, Steve Brandau, Jr.
 13th Dan Buchholz
 17th Julitta Arndt
 19th Barb and Ron Savall
 20th John Ornes
 21st Richard Krause
 22nd Kari Lydon
 Bev and Dale Graunke
 23rd Rob Ross
 27th Makayla Zimmerman
 29th Renee Mayne
 30th Seth Tormoen
 31st Cooper Powell



Church Contact Information (save for reference)

In case of emergency, contact Pastor Cathleen, via text, ** 608-865-1074, or Justin Arndt 414.587.6642

**in addition to sending a text to Pastor at 608-865-1074, you may now reach her at 608-435-0097. The telephone being used on the 435-0097 line has the caption feature. Please realize it takes time between when you speak, the caption appearing for Pastor, and then Pastor being able to continue the conversation.

To activate the prayer chain, please contact Nalani (608-387-2311).

Additional Contact Information: Pastor Cathleen:

cathleenmorris@go.mccormick.edu

Justin Arndt: arndt.now@gmail.com

Church: wiltonchurch@gmail.com

Nalani Bever: nalanib@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.stpaulswilton.com/>

FACEBOOK!!

Home page: St. Paul's Lutheran Church Wilton WI

Office Hours: Wednesdays, 9:00 – Noon.



Operation Christmas Child

We have placed "shoeboxes" in the narthex for your convenience in packing a shoebox for distribution through Samaritan's Purse. The collection date is Sunday, November 24, 2019.

We will bless the boxes collected and prepare them for transport to La Crosse. They will then be loaded onto semi-trucks and taken to distribution centers.

We had several extra school supply items and you are welcome to stop downstairs and include them in your shoebox. There are also pencil containers, which generally hold pens, pencils, eraser, scissors, and sharpener.

We would suggest you consider packing personal care items, which include underwear, toothbrush, bar soap, washcloth, comb, hairbrush, and colorful bandages. Then consider packing a toy doll, colors, coloring book, etc. Toothpaste and hard candy are not items to pack.

We can all remember the excitement of opening a present.

In addition to hearing the Gospel before they receive their shoebox gift, children also receive The Greatest Gift, a storybook that shares the message of salvation. With the Apostle John as narrator, the booklet shares 11 Scripture stories and invites children to follow Christ. Children take this home to share with family and friends. It is used in more than 80 languages.

After receiving shoebox gifts, many children are invited back to participate in our discipleship program, The Greatest Journey. Through this 12-lesson course, which includes Bible stories and Scripture memorization, they learn how to follow Christ in their daily lives as they share Him with friends and family. More than 14.9 million children have enrolled in this program since 2009.

W-ELCA NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2019

Forty quilts, and 220 school kits for Lutheran World Relief were delivered to the boxcar at La Crosse. Thank you to all who contributed. A special thanks to the children and Sunday School teachers for packing the School Kits. A potluck dinner was well attended and raffle winners were drawn.

Raffle winners were: Quilt-Michelle Speicher, Bed Set-Louise Buchholz, Wreath-Cheryl Fenner & Judy Lydon, Table Runner-Katie Wallace, Table Runner & place mats-Allen Pasch, Pillow-Gordon O'Rourke & Karen Arzt, Shelf Sitters-Daphne Arndt, Wall Plaque-Nalani Bever & Miranda Arndt, Ornaments-Jordon Wuensch, Pot Holders-Albert Arndt, Kwik Trip card-Nalani Bever, Culver's card-Albert Arndt, Dish Towels-Brenda Winchel, Note Cards-Alicia Nofsinger. Congratulations to the winners.

On October 3, a group of ladies gathered to thoroughly clean the church kitchen. Stoves and refrigerators were cleaned, cobwebs were brought down and shelves were organized. Thanks to all the ladies and 1 man who helped with the cleaning.

There have already been a couple quilting sessions and they will continue throughout the winter. Watch the bulletin for dates and chance for service and fellowship. Anyone is welcome, experienced or not.

The next General Meeting will be Thursday, November 21st at 10 am in the Church Basement. All ladies of St. Paul's are members of W-ELCA and more participation would be welcome at all events.

Arlis Ballwahn, Secretary





Inviting people to journey with Christ's family in spreading God's love and mercy.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
"A Welcoming Place for over 125 years"
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Name
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