

St. Paul Lutheran Church and School

The Masthead

Monthly Newsletter

"Equip, Support, Serve and Witness Where God Calls Us!"

JANUARY 2020



Church Office: 248-541-0613 & School Office: 248-546-6555

EPIPHANY: WHAT DOES IT REVEAL?

"The birth of Jesus is not the end of the story. Our church year has just begun and we continue to tell the story of God's love."

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Christmas Leads to Epiphany

Advent and Christmas are rich with rituals that draw together community. These rituals retell our common—yet uncommon—narrative. With the Advent wreath we mark the growing light of Christ in the world. When arranging the crèche we remember Jesus' humble beginnings. We move the wise men ever closer to the Christ child to arrive on Epiphany, reminding us that Jesus is King, worthy of our finest gifts.

Ritual is good indeed. Participating in ritual engenders belonging, and it creates meaning in a community where we become known. Belonging, meaning and being known are three basic needs of our lives. While Advent and Christmas are rich with rituals, the birth of Jesus is not the end of the story. Our church year has just begun and we continue to tell the story of God's love – celebrating the rituals that deepen community in Epiphany.

Revealing Jesus

The stories of Epiphany reveal the Jesus we know—God's son, miracle maker, teacher, prophet, and healer. He challenges us to walk the way. And we learn the way by telling our stories, by marking them with ritual. Through those rituals we know ourselves as people of the way, we deepen our belonging to a community with particular meaning, a community called to justice, partnering with Jesus to bring the Kingdom to earth today.

"It is this emphasis on the manifestation of Christ that permeates the entire season that follows the feast of the Epiphany. In Christ we see the fullness of God dwelling in a human being. This fullness is Christ's by right, but it is to be ours as adopted heirs of God. On this feast, we celebrate the glory that is to be revealed in us when Christ is 'all in all.'"

JANUARY SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Stewardship NEW Bible Class
Woman of the Year Honorarium
Stewardship Giving Kick-Off
Baby Bottle Boomerang
Big Bash Game Info

*Jennifer Gamber
Christian author and writer for adults and teens*

MINISTRY



BIBLE VERSE OF THE MONTH

Praise be to
the God and
Father of
our Lord
Jesus
Christ, who
has blessed
us in the
heavenly
realms with
every
spiritual
blessing in
Christ. —

Ephesians 1:3



Congratulations to Rita McClatchey St. Paul Woman of the Year!



Rita McClatchey was announced as this years, "Woman of the Year" at our recent Advent by Candlelight program held on December 6, 2019.

Congratulations, Rita!

Rita has been a St Paul teacher and finished her 40 year career as Principal of our school. She organized and guided the School accreditation program successfully. She is a dedicated educator, she is helping with the school as the new principal gets settled in. She helps with Art, Beats, and Eats. She helps care for her mother. Rita is married to her husband Dennis and together they have 3 children and 3 grandchildren.

A special luncheon will be held for Rita and other area Women of the Year winners in March. Date and time to be announced later. Watch upcoming bulletins as when to purchase tickets for the luncheon so you can celebrate with Rita. Please contact Colleen Olsen at 248-288-0769 for questions on this celebration luncheon.



Uganda Missionary Rachel Meyer, Update

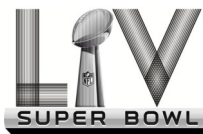
Rachel will be visiting us on Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. and will be telling us all about her mission in Uganda.

Everyone is invited to come and hear Rachel and all are welcome to join us for a potluck luncheon around 12:00 p.m. Bring a dish to share.

Vacancy Update—God is Good!

For those of you don't know, we have received a call list of pastoral candidates. God's hand is clearly leading us to our next pastor. Of the twelve names on the original call list, seven said they are willing to consider a call at this time. The Call Committee is reviewing the personal and professional information available on these candidates. They met last Wednesday to begin discussing who best fits the needs of St. Paul Lutheran Church.

Please continue to pray for the pastoral call, the committee and the congregation at St. Paul during this time of vacancy.



The Annual Big Game Bash is going to be here on **February 2nd** in the church lounge. We will be watching the Big Game on the Big Screen and enjoying some food and fellowship. Game kickoff will be determined. Watch the Sunday news for updates. We will have a sign up at the Welcome

Center so we can approximate how many people will be coming. We are asking people to bring a snack or dish to share or make a monetary donation (the night of the party) to help offset the cost. The main dish, soda, water, dessert and festive atmosphere will be provided. If you have any questions or if you would like to help with the party please contact Chuck Brewer, (586) 822-8619.



New Bible Study Coming

Stewardship Basics is a new eight part bible study from the LCMS Stewardship Ministry designed to help congregations start a discussion on whole-life ministry. As we enter the new year, we'd like to

organize this study for the congregation as a way to bring us together, focus on our relationship with God and how that relationship can empower the way we live each day. There is a survey at the welcome center for interested people to review and complete. The survey can be found on our website as well. Based on feedback, we will publish timing and details. For more information on the study itself, please go to the LCMS – Stewardship website: <https://www.lcms.org/how-we-serve/national/stewardship-ministry>

Women's Bible Study

The Monday morning Women's Bible study group will resume and will meet on Monday, January 6 through to the end of May. They meet from 9:00 to 10:30 A.M. in the church lounge. All are welcome to join us. Call Janet Dunker (248-646-7378) for more information. We are studying the Book of Romans.



The Baby Bottle Boomerang—

We will observe **Sanctity of Human Life Sunday on January 19** by kicking off with our Baby Bottle Boomerang (B3) to benefit Care Net Pregnancy Centers of Berkley | Detroit. Here's how it works: Pick up a baby bottle on January 19 or one of the following Sundays, leaving your name and a contact number so we can keep track of who takes a bottle. You may fill it with spare change — but paper money and checks are great, too! **Bring your bottle back by Sunday, February 9**, so we can return them to Care Net. Questions? Contact Lee Anne Millinger, 248-417-9526.

The Installation of New Officers and Board Members will be held on **Sunday, January 12 2019** during each of the services.

Men's Saturday Breakfast All men of St. Paul and their friends and neighbors are welcome to the Men's Breakfast on **January 18** for some great fellowship, food, devotions and Bible study. We meet in the church lounge at 7:30 a.m. Come Join Us!

Men's Thursday Morning Breakfast Attention all men of the congregation! Come and join us for breakfast and devotions at The Avenue Restaurant on Woodward north of 13 Mile Road. We will now be meeting at 7:30 a.m. If you are retired or on your way to work this is a great way to start your day. Great group of men to fellowship with. We hope to see you there!

Operation Christmas Child Another year for a successful giving was complete. We thank you! Again beginning this month we will begin to collect for 2019. Each month a different item(s) will be listed. You can place items in wood box located in the lobby coatroom.
January: *Washcloths*

Un-Decorate With Us! We need extra hands to help un-decorate the church from the holidays. Meet us at 12:00 p.m. on January 5 to help out. Thank you.

New 2020 Phone Directory — Needed:

Any Address/Phone # changes are needed for yourself or any member in your family. This needs to be in the church office by January 30. If you are not using your landline number anymore and are using a cell number as a main line, please let the office know so this can be printed in the directory. Please email Pam at prodway@stpaulroyaloak.org. Thank you.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Last month, on December 15th, we had the honor of bringing in new members to our home congregation. Let us welcome our newest members to our church: **Gay Eskew, Brett, Julie, Logan & Griffin Hansen, Danielle & Imani (Mitchell) McCall, Janica, Kendal & Sage Smith**. A photo board is in the lobby to see who they are. When you see them at church, please stop and introduce yourself and welcome them.

Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory in the heavens. Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger. When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them? You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor. You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet: all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild, the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.

Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Psalms 8

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY



Spotlight on Service

It still seems nearly unbelievable how much the world has changed in the last several decades. Can you remember the time before people had ever heard of the internet or when pagers and CD players were high-tech? Do you remember when cordless phones had an extension antenna and the best answering machines were digital? Technology continues to speed forward with extraordinary innovation.

Communication has certainly been influenced by the latest capabilities and availability of technology. People connect with the world in so many different ways including blogs, Facebook streams, podcasts, Google News, WhatsApp and hundreds of other applications. The influence of social media is astounding.

St. Paul recognizes the opportunity there is to reach out to the community and to inform its members through the latest technology. A little over a year ago, St. Paul approved the development of a Communications Manager. There was a significant need to have a talented, tech-savvy individual galvanize the different ways in which St. Paul connects with people in new and innovative ways. We are truly blessed to have Steven Carpenter fulfilling the position of Communications Manager for St. Paul.

Steven is a St. Paul School alumni and is part of an entire family that supports St. Paul and the community it serves with their time and talents and has done so for many years. He brings enthusiasm, leadership, creativity and ingenuity to the position. Steven has a degree in Computer Technology and has roughly 5 years of work experience Information Technology.

When asked, Steven shared why he applied for the position. "I primarily saw the large window of opportunity to grow our ministry. With decreases in attendance in Christian churches & schools alike, I really wanted to see if I, with the help of God, could make a difference. I love a challenge & this is something I haven't really done before." Steven continued, "I'm just trying my best to start a conversation about who is St. Paul."

Steven truly enjoys what he is contributing in the Communications Manager role. "I love that I can express my creativity. I love that my work has impact. Our social media impact has grown exponentially; we're finally entering the 21st century with our technology and our reach and I'm HONORED to be a part of it. Finally, I love communication: whether at our Voter's Meetings giving updates, emailing other boards during the week, or putting together some graphic... being able to communicate in a multitude of different ways makes this job unique and certainly enjoyable."

Serving as the Communications Manager for St. Paul is rewarding for Steven spiritually as well. He shared, "I find myself more often now talking about what I do outside of church. My friends, extended family, co-workers, & students I mentor all know about my faith. They know I'm passionate and involved at St. Paul. Additionally, it has affected my relationship with God as well. I often find myself searching for the 'right' Bible verse to include for an update or for the website and I stumble upon a verse I haven't read before. It's great to be able to learn more about the Bible, our God, and my faith... all while working!"

Steven's experience serving can be the same experience for all of us. We simply need to look for opportunity to do something we enjoy as part of the St. Paul community and we can find similar personal and spiritual fulfillment that Steven so wonderfully shared. One opportunity we can all help with is providing feedback to Steven on communication at St. Paul. He is continually looking for content to add and update. He encourages us to share ideas to improve or enhance what we share. Provide reviews of the church and school online to provide a broader description of the impact of our congregation. If you attend an event and take pictures, send them to Steven so he can potentially use them in ways to promote future events. Be encouraged to contact Steven if you have anything you would like to share through his email at scarpenter@stpaulroyaloak.org. When you see Steven next, thank him for all of his positive contributions to the St. Paul ministries!

St. Paul Lutheran January Stewardship Month Kick-Off

Our Stewardship program begins on January 12, 2020. We will ask you to fill out a survey which will be provided in the bulletins beginning that weekend thru January 21. **Promise Sunday** will be on January 26, in which you will fill out your commitment card provided for you, for the year ahead. We ask you to pray about God's commitments to you and about your commitment to his church.

SCHOOL MINISTRY



St. Paul Lutheran School

100+ Years of God's Grace

Our Mission

"Equip, Support, Serve and Witness Where God Calls Us!"

Statement of Purpose

St. Paul Lutheran School equips children for a life of service with a foundation of academic, physical, spiritual, and social maturity centered around Christ Jesus.

by Dr. Margie Baldwin, Principal



New Beginnings

As St. Paul Lutheran School begins a new calendar year we have a sense of many new and exciting things. We have a newly formed Board of Education that has provided vibrant leadership as we look at ways to improve the school and to promote the school. Led by Co-chairs, Gay Eskew and Jeff Szerdi, we made a commitment to move forward with diligence and unity so that the school will benefit from timely and bold decisions. Our other Board members include: Susan Beyerlein, Ola Martin, Jennifer Louwers, Ross Pierce, Anne Sagan, Rachael Shipp, and Carrie Smith. We want to congratulate Dr. Ola Martin on the completion of her Doctorate in Education.

In January, Travis Grulke, Assistant to the President – Superintendent of Schools, Michigan District, LCMS, will join us at the January meeting to provide some training, vision casting, and encouragement. We are looking forward to his insights and expertise. Please remember to pray for this Board as we seek to make wise decisions to propel the school forward.

In the New Year we will also expend our energies to increase our social media presence, marketing strategies, and community presence so that we let people know what a great school St. Paul is. We are incorporating some past ideas and some new strategies so stay tuned for details!



KINDERGARTEN ROUND UP: Kindergarten Round Up will be held at 7:00 p.m. on January 23 for all parents who may be interested in sending their children to our kindergarten for the 2020-2021 school year. Mrs. Lorence and Dr. Baldwin will share details of our program, tuition costs, and the curriculum materials used in our school. Health requirements will also be discussed. St. Paul offers a full day kindergarten program from 8:15 a.m. to 3:20 p.m.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS: Please watch your local TV broadcast for school closing notices. We follow the Royal Oak School District. If they are closed for weather conditions, we will be closed also. St. Paul will be listed under School Closings on your local stations. Don't forget to sign up to receive text messages. Information about that is listed below.

THANK YOU: The Faculty and Staff would like to thank the parents who volunteer at our school. We greatly appreciate all you do to help with driving, fundraisers, etc; everyday. St. Paul is very blessed with so many awesome and helpful volunteers! THANKS!



ST PAUL TOTES: These canvas bags can carry all your essentials, keep you organized and ready for anything! Show your support for our school by purchasing a tote today! Cost is only \$15. Proceeds will go towards our playground.

JANUARY CALENDAR:

1-3	NO School (Christmas Vacation)	23	Kindergarten Round-up 7:00 P.M.
6	School Resumes	28	Parent/Teacher Meeting 6:30 P.M.
20	Martin Luther King Day—No School		

Church NOTES

Directory

For Pastoral Services

Pastor Ron Farah
(cell) 248-642-3137

Pastor Jon Reusch
248-932-5374

Pastor Rick VanBriggle
586-425-3260

Church Office
248-541-0613

School Office
248-546-6555

Church Fax
248-541-6965

School Fax
248-546-8096

Church E-Mail:
prodway@
stpaulroyaloak.org

School E-Mail:
slutheranscho113880@
comcast.net

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/
stpaulroyaloak

Web:
www.stpaulroyaloak.org

PRAYERS

Church Boards
Board of Education
Board of Elders
Board of Evangelism
Parish Fellowship
Fund Operating

Music Ministry
Board of Stewardship
Board of Trustees
Women's Guild
Board of Youth

Prayers for our Homebound

Walter Cole
Jean Frincke
Marion Havrilla
Leona Jackson
Alan Lacey
Shirley Lenz
Donna McMinn
Lavergne Nancarrow
Betty Saunders
Jean Schneider
Charlette Schroeder
Ralph Schroeder
Kathleen Ulrich
Don Whitbeck
Teri Whitbeck

Prayer for our Missionary
Rachel Meyer in Uganda

Prayers for Military

Eric Banker
Mark Bowdich
Paul Bowdich
Matthew Canfield
Sam Eskew
Brandon Newton
Brendan Sharp
Joe VanDamme
Tirzah VanDamme
Jason Zuniga
Gabrielle Zuniga

To Add/Remove a prayer,
please email the office at prod-
way@stpaulroyaloak.org.



MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

St. Paul Church

In memory of *Arthur Lentner* by Edna Lentner

In memory of *Astrid Holcombe* by Joel Holcombe

In memory of *Brian Strick* by M/M Bob Rutledge

In memory of *Yvonne Marone* by M/M Glenn Sattelmeier

In memory of *Art Jackson* by M/M Bob Rutledge,
M/M Art Steiber, Sr.

In memory of *Robert Schauwecker* by M/M Bob Rutledge

St. Paul School

In memory of *Yvonne Marone* by Christine Runnette

Garden Club

In memory of *Herbert Huff* by Dorothy Huff

CEF Debt Reduction Fund

In memory of *Mabel Brown* by Joan Feldman



OFFICIAL ACTS

MEMBER CHANGES

Transfers In:

Gay Eskew, Brett, Julie, Logan & Griffin Hansen,
Danielle & Imani (Mitchell) McCall, Janica, Kendal & Sage Smith

Transfers Out:

Ben & Krista Getz, Aaron (3), Bethel Lutheran,
Morton, IL

Funerals:

Art Jackson

Service Date:

12/10/2019

Service Place:

Kinsey/Garrett

Address:

Tim & Melissa Snell, 33764 Shelley Lynne,
Sterling Heights, MI 48312

BIBLE CLASSES

Sunday Bible Classes 9:30 am

Sunday Class	w/Kevin Calhoun (lounge)
Sunday School	Sr. High Bible Study (mtg rm)
	Youth and Adult 'Growing in Christ' (school)

Weekday Bible Classes

Mondays 9:00am	Women's Bible Class (lounge)
Wednesdays 10:00am	w/Gay Eskew Class, (lounge)
Thursdays 8:15am	Men's Breakfast at the Avenue Restaurant (Woodward, N of 13 mile)
3rd Saturday, 7:30am	Men's Bible Study, (lounge)

JANUARY BIRTHDAY'S

If we've missed listing your birthday, please contact the church office 248-541-0613

Birthdate: 1/2

Banker, Lauren

Birthdate: 1/3

Olsen, Erik

Birthdate: 1/4

Simon, Ephraim

Simon, Ezra

Birthdate: 1/6

Valdes, Emily

Webb, Darlene

Birthdate: 1/7

Louwers, Brian

Birthdate: 1/8

Brandt, Aaron

Heins, Dawn

Lillis, Mike

Sigman, Wilma

Birthdate: 1/9

Saunders, Betty

Birthdate: 1/11

Baker, Zandra

Schroeder, Charlette

Birthdate: 1/12

Peludat, Richard

Birthdate: 1/13

Brown, Paul

Birthdate: 1/14

Manteuffel, Al

Birthdate: 1/17

Smyth, Martha

Birthdate: 1/18

Ohngren, Michelle



Birthdate: 1/19

Eising, Henry

Birthdate: 1/22

Burch, Dawn

Guilmette, Kaylee

Newell, Laura

Birthdate: 1/24

Jarvey, Sara

Woodward, Courtney

Birthdate: 1/25

Wlotkowski, Susie

Birthdate: 1/26

Tokar, Bill

Tripp, Marilyn

Birthdate: 1/27

Cuddington, Susan

Rummel, Maya

Zenk, Tyler

Birthdate: 1/28

Jackson, Alice

Pittman, Joan

Birthdate: 1/30

Guilmette, Trevor

Kratt, Larissa


Malczynski, Hope

Birthdate: 1/31

Limbaugh, Beverly

Simon, Esther

Happy Birthday
To You!



**The Faculty and Staff of St.
Paul Lutheran Church &
School wish you and yours
a very blessed...**

2020

**May God fill your life with
Love, Peace and Joy!**

HAPPY NEW YEAR