

"Come and See"

a Good News Letter



December Worship and Activities

Advent begins Sunday November 27. Each Sunday in Advent we will light our Advent candles in worship and prepare our hearts to celebrate the coming of Jesus.

Advent Services

Advent Services will be Wednesday Nov. 30, Dec. 7 and Dec. 14. The Sanctuary will be open for individual prayer at 6:45 p.m. and Holden Evening Prayer will begin at 7 p.m.

Hanging of Greens and Caroling Sunday December 4

We will decorate the Sanctuary Christmas tree and set up the nativity scene on Sunday December 4 after the Goals Exploration Event. At 3 p.m. we will leave to go caroling to some of our older members.

Children's Christmas Program December 11

Our children will share the story of Jesus' birth with us in readings and music during the worship service. The program and service will be followed by a Soup Luncheon and Bake Sale in Fellowship Hall. Donations will assist our youth attending the National Youth Gathering next summer and with supplies for Kid's Kingdom and Sunday School.

Youth Program Rehearsal Schedule

Youth are rehearsing during Sunday School and also have a dress rehearsal at 10 a.m. on Sat. Dec. 10.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Holy Communion services will be at 5 p.m. and 10 p.m. on December 24

Everyone is invited to come early for fellowship time prior to the services. On Christmas Day worship will be at 9:30 a.m.

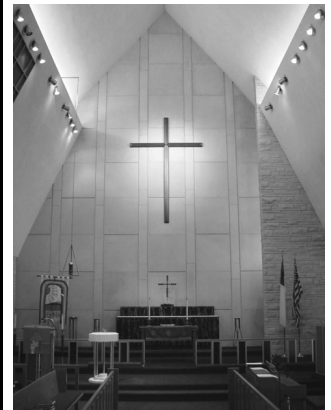
Cookies Needed for Christmas Eve Services

If you can provide cookies for the Fellowship time preceding the services, please contact the church office or talk to Betty Ladwig.



Special points of interest:

- ◆ **Annual Reports Due!**
- ◆ **Soup Lunch December 11**



**Sunday School
8:30 am**

Worship 9:30 am

1st and 3rd Sundays are traditional worship, 2nd and 4th Sundays are contemporary.

Christmas Eve
Candlelight Holy
Communion Services
5 pm and 10pm

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Council Positions

President Steve Schweitzer
(2009-2012)

Vice President Amy Morgan
(2009-2012)

Secretary Darrell Isham (2010
-2013)

Treasurer Barb Hanstedt
(2010-2013)

At Large

Elaine Harvey (2011-2014)

Randy Isham (2009-2012)

Judy McDiffett (2011-2014)

Committee Liaisons

Outreach: Elaine Harvey

Stewardship: Elaine Harvey,
Barb Hanstedt

Worship and Music: Darrell
Isham

Finance: Barb Hanstedt

Property: Randy Isham

Kid's Kingdom: Steve
Schweitzer, Judy McDiffett

Gift of Marriage: Steve
Schweitzer, Judy McDiffett

Christian Education: Amy
Morgan

GoZones! After-School: Elaine
Harvey

ESOL School: Elaine Harvey

Partners for Wichita: Amy
Morgan

Memorials: Randy Isham

Staff

Pastor - The Rev. Dave Fulton

Office Administrator - Donna
Embree

Kid's Kingdom Director - Dixie
Learned

Daycare Staff - Maria Persson

English School - Leon Rausch

Organist - Frances Sloan

Custodian - Cinty So

St. Paul's Discipleship

Practices: Worship
Weekly, Pray Daily,
Spiritual Reading,
Mentoring, Discipleship
Groups, Congregational
Support

From the Pastor's Desk



A Healing Community

Advent is a time of expectation. It is a time of yearning for new birth and new beginnings. Our advent season will include a series of Advent services on Wednesdays at 7:00pm. The meditations for this service will build an awareness of prayer based on our Lord's Prayer. Our Lord's Prayer is very well know but one wonders how well understood it is. Jesus' prayer is about healing, healing our relationship with God and healing our relationships with others. My hope is to lay a spiritual foundation for a "Healing Community" here at St. Paul's. The "healing community" at St. Paul's is a fresh emphasis on healing in our congregation, healing from the inside out. The healing community will be based on learning, prayer, conversation and action. There are numerous times when people contact the church and say, "pray for us." The healing community is a concrete way in which we can respond to those requests. Our weekday Advent services will lay the foundation, the healing community will be formed and I believe we will be living into greater depth and wonder in our life together.

Advent, join us!

Pastor Dave

St. Paul's Vladivostok

In Vladivostok, Russia, there is a St. Paul's Lutheran Church too. The city hosts the headquarters of the Russian Pacific fleet. It is on the Sea of Japan and is only 900 Kilometers from Fukushima, Japan. St. Paul's Vladivostok was founded by Swedish and German Lutherans but beginning in 1930 the building was taken over by the state and only restored to the congregation in the 1990s. St. Paul's is one of 8 Lutheran congregations in the Russian Far East. The Dean of the area, the Rev. Manfred Brockman, has visited Wichita a couple of times. The picture is from the dedication of their newly complete "church square". Luthvostok.com is their website.





Sunday Bible Readings

December 4

Isaiah 40:1-11
Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 (13)
2 Peter 3:8-15a
Mark 1:1-8

December 11

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
Psalm 126 (3) or Luke 1:46b-55 (52)
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28

December 18

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16
Luke 1:46b-55 (52) or Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26 (1)
Romans 16:25-27
Luke 1:26-38
December 24

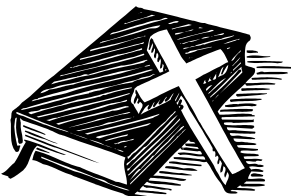
Set I – Christmas Eve
Isaiah 9:2-7
Psalm 96 (11)
Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

Set II – Christmas Day
Isaiah 62:6-12
Psalm 97 (11)
Titus 3:4-7
Luke 2:[1-7] 8-20

Nativity of Our Lord

December 25

Set III – Christmas Day
Isaiah 52:7-10
Psalm 98 (3)
Hebrews 1:1-4 [5-12]
John 1:1-14



Upcoming Events

Goals Exploration

St. Paul's is having a Goals Exploration Event on Sunday Dec. 4 after worship. A Pizza lunch will be part of the event. We hope all of us can participate. St. Paul's Mission Statement is Making Disciples to Make Peace and our Discipleship Practices are Daily Prayer, Weekly Worship, Discipleship Group Participation, Congregational Support, Mentoring and Spiritual Reading. These are some things to think about as we look ahead to strengthen the ministry of St. Paul's. In 2007 we identified 4 Hallmarks of our life at St. Paul's. They are: Gospel – Our life is centered around it; Outreach – Our culture is defined by it; Partnering – Enriches our ministries and Sharing – Communication is essential.



Caroling



St. Paul's will go caroling on Sunday Dec. 4 beginning at 3 p.m. Everybody is invited! We will have cards to sign from the congregation on Nov. 27 and Dec. 4. All ages are invited, parents are welcome to bring young children. We will meet in the church library to review our route and leave right at 3 p.m. We travel in cars and visit several group residences and some homes. We do need to dress for the weather. Song books will be provided.

Soup Lunch December 11



Join us for a delicious soup lunch and bake sale on Sunday Dec. 11. This will follow worship. The goal is to raise \$500-700 to help youth with the costs of attending the ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans in the summer of 2012 and for educational needs for Kid's Kingdom and Sunday School. Soups will include chili, vegetable and potato.

The NW Sedgwick County Thrivent Chapter will match our proceeds.

Annual Reports Due



St. Paul's regular annual business meeting will be held Sunday January 29, 2012. Each committee and activity group at St. Paul's is asked to prepare an annual report and the reports are due to the church office by Friday, January 6. St. Paul's committees are asked to give their budget proposals for 2012 to Barb Hanstedt, church treasurer, as soon as possible so the council may review the proposed 2012 budget at their December 20 council meeting.

December 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<i>1</i> Property Committee 6pm	<i>2</i> Quilters 9:30	<i>3</i>
<i>4</i> Sunday School 8:30, Worship 9:30 Goals Exploration Workshop following worship; Hanging of the Greens to follow 3pm Caroling	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i> Bible Study 1pm	<i>7</i> Holden Evening Prayer Service 7pm Choir Practice 7:30	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i> Quilters 9:30	<i>10</i> Community Breakfast St. Paul's Team 8:00-9:30 Rehearsal for Children's Program 10am
<i>11</i> Sunday School 8:30, Worship 9:30 Sunday School Christmas Program	<i>12</i> Outreach Committee 5:20	<i>13</i> Bible Study 1pm Kids Kingdom Board 6 pm	<i>14</i> Holden Evening Prayer Service 7pm Choir Practice 7:30	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i> Quilters 9:30 Wedding Rehearsal 5pm	<i>17</i> Community Breakfast Reformation Team 8:00-9:30 Wedding 5pm
<i>18</i> Sunday School 8:30, Worship 9:30	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> Bible Study 1pm Council Meeting 6pm Last day of GoZones until Jan.	<i>21</i> Choir Practice 7:30	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i> Quilters 9:30	<i>24</i> Christmas Eve Community Breakfast 8:00-9:30 Christmas Eve Services 5 and 10pm
<i>25</i> Christmas Day Sunday School 8:30, Worship 9:30	<i>26</i> PFW Board of Directors 6pm	<i>27</i> Bible Study 1pm	<i>28</i> Choir Practice 7:30	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i> Quilters 9:30	<i>31</i> Community Breakfast Gloria Dei Team 8:00-9:30

Unless otherwise noted, GoZones After School meets Tuesdays-Thursdays, 4:15-5:45; ESOL classes meet Mondays-Thursdays 9:30-12:00. When Wichita Schools are closed, GoZones and ESOL are also closed.

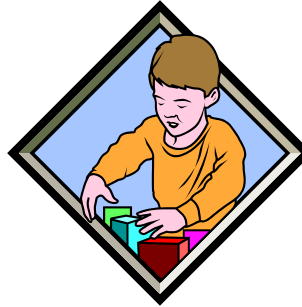
St. Paul's Ministries

Help Our GoZones Kids

The GoZones After School Program Christmas Tree will be in the Narthex starting November 27. Stars on the tree name small gifts the children would like or need for Christmas. People are invited to choose a star from the tree, purchase the gift and place it, unwrapped, in the box by the tree or in the church office. On the last day of GoZones! before Christmas break, the children also choose and wrap gifts for parents and we need donations of inexpensive items such as hygiene products, gloves, small photo albums, household items or tools. Donations of gently used items are definitely acceptable as well. Please contact Cindy Galstad or Donna Embree for additional information. Thank you in advance for helping to bring the joy of the season to our kids in need!

ESOL Program Expanding!

Beginning in January, St. Paul's will offer a preparatory course to people to help them be ready for the Citizenship Exam. This will be offered on Fridays from 9:30 to 12. Some of our ESOL students are close to taking the exam and are taking English classes toward becoming a citizen. St. Paul's ESOL classes will continue to meet Monday – Thursday from 9:30 a.m. – 12 with a break between Christmas and New Year's. Volunteer instructors are needed. Instructors can volunteer for a season or a semester or on a continuing basis. And they can be scheduled for 1 day a week only or for all 4 days. Teachers have the opportunity of learning about several different cultures as the students come from many lands. All the instruction is in English so people don't have to know the language of the people they are helping learn English. Contact Leon Rausch if you would like to learn more about helping at 263-0810 or send him an e-mail at ESOL@stpauls-wichita.org.



Kid's Kingdom Corner

Kid's Kingdom currently has 12 children enrolled, with 2 more planning to begin in December. A highlight from

November was a Thanksgiving dinner and talk about Thanksgiving customs.

Sunday School

Sunday School classes have been learning about the stories that Jesus told such as the story of the bridesmaids who fell asleep and the workers in the vineyard from the Gospel of Matthew and some Old Testament stories like the story of Joseph. Thanks to teachers Judy McDiffett, Betty Ladwig, Diane Harman and Elaine Harvey and music and opening time leaders Amy Morgan, Mary Sommerfeld and Deb Ary. Our fall term just ended. Now the youth are rehearsing for our Christmas program. The winter term will begin January 8. If you would like to help teach a class in the new year or can substitute contact Amy Morgan. Our levels are ages 3 - Pre-K, Grades K-2, 3-4, 5-7



**St. Paul's
Youth Minis-
tries**

***Kid's Kingdom Learn-
ing Center***

Director Dixie Learned

M-F 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.
For ages 3-6. Call 263-
2433 for information
and fees

***GoZones! After-
School***

For grades K-5. Call
263-0810 to enroll

**St. Paul's
Adult Commu-
nity Ministries**

***GoZones! English
School***

Coordinator Leon
Rausch

M-Th 9:30 a.m. – 12
p.m. For Adults. Call
263-0810 for informa-
tion.

***Free Community
Breakfast***

Coordinator Elaine
Harvey

Call 263-0810. Most
Saturdays 8-9:30 a.m.

Gift of Marriage

Coordinator Pastor
Fulton

Call 263-0810.

Church Office Hours

8-4:30 Monday and Wednes-
day

8-12 Friday

*Please submit articles for the
weekly bulletin to the office
by 5pm Wednesdays.*

Ministry Support



Thanks to Breakfast Helpers!

Thanks to those who brought lots of helpful supplies for St. Paul's Community Breakfasts when Outreach Committee hosted a Harvest Home After-Church Coffee. And special thanks to those who volunteered to serve breakfast on Saturday Nov. 26, Thanksgiving weekend.

St. Paul's regular December Breakfast turn is Dec. 10. Our helpers begin to arrive by 6:30 a.m., we need to get the coffee going and crack eggs.. We will set up about 18 tables to serve the guests with 7 or 8 at a table. In November St. Paul's team served over 180 people. We serve from 8-9:30 a.m. We would like to have extra greeters for our December breakfast. We like to greet people when they arrive and also when they leave. A table of 7 costs about \$21 including the bus tickets we offer the guests each month. In December the teams will be St. Paul's, Reformation Lutheran and Christ Lutheran.

Forum on Childhood Hunger

Attendees gained a clearer picture of "food insecurity" among Wichita area children and throughout the state at the Oct. 27 event at St. Paul's and also shared ideas for action to reduce childhood hunger. Partners for Wichita sponsored the event. Major speakers included Wichita Fire Chief Ron Blackwell, Martha McCabe of Catholic Charities, and Debi Kreutzman, Kansas Food Bank. **Good ways to act now** to help families with children include: Support food pantries, Food Bank, and meals programs with funds, food and volunteers... Take part in "Filling the Gap Lunches for Kids," including Spring Break... Visit & tour a helping agency ... Speak up, write and advocate with decision-makers.

2012 Community Helping Opportunities from PFW

Bags of Blessings campaign collects gallon plastic bags filled with a dozen personal care items, to be given as Valentine blessings to people through area service programs. Collection on Thursday, Feb. 23 at St. John's Episcopal Church, 3rd & N. Topeka.

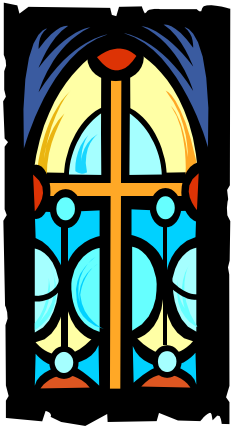
"Filling the Lunch Gap for Kids" will offer sack lunches during Spring Break March 15 -23 at several area locations. Help with funds, fresh fruits/veggies, snack items, and volunteers. Watch for email info - or email partnersforwichita@cox.net or phone Pr. Sally Fahrenthold, 316-683-8649.

Church Family News

Thanks!

Thanks to all those who helped at the Halloween Party on Oct. 27. We had a lot of really great helpers and provided a safe and fun event for St. Paul's and neighborhood kids.

Worship and Hospitality Helpers



Can you read lessons or be a greeter or help usher or be a worship assistant or serve on the Altar Committee? If you can, please contact Donna Embree in the church office at 263-0810 and she will check for an opening on the schedule or help you contact the coordinator for that team. We hope to grow our Altar Committee soon. Please call Phyllis Wessel if you can help. If you can be a greeter, please call Pam Buxton at 721-3394. If you can provide food for coffee time please sign up on the chart outside the library or contact Amy Morgan. Also it would help people get to know your name if you wore your name badge. If you need a new one, please contact Elaine Harvey who is making a list for a badge order. If you can help with music for the contemporary service please contact Deb Ary or Julianne Kallman. Interested in singing in the choir for the Traditional Liturgical Service? Attend a rehearsal (each Wed. at 7:30 p.m.) and give it a try.

Stewardship

Thank you to those who turned in Estimates of Giving and Time and Talents sheets on Commitment Sunday on November 20 as well as those who turned theirs in early and who have turned them in since. If you haven't turned in yours yet you may put them in the offering or mail or bring them to the church office. St. Paul's 2011/2012 Stewardship Theme is "Blessed to be a Blessing". There are extra copies of the Time and Talent Sheet in the information center if you want one for each member of your family as well as extra copies of the Estimate of Giving Cards. We are blessed with St. Paul's community and our opportunities to be a blessing through St. Paul's ministries.



December Birthdays

12/2 Evelyn Furst
12/4 Melissa Stoddard
12/4 Jeanette Clews
12/5 Derek Day
12/7 Alice Graham
12/8 Kenneth Engber
12/8 Marci Stege
12/9 Benjamin Paulsen
12/13 Betty Ladwig
12/16 Mary Boehmer
12/20 Julie Buxton Walker
12/26 Mary Koehn
12/26 Aidan Wessel
12/30 Barb McDougal

Wedding Anniversaries

Dec. 2 Morgan and Julie Koon

Area 5 and Synod News

Area 5 Prayers: Praying Together in the Spirit

We pray for Area Ministry 5 Pastors and congregations and for St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Vladivostok, Russia.

Dec. 4: Christ, Wichita, Pr. Chad Langdon

Dec. 11: Cross of Glory, Derby, Interim Pastor Thomas Hallstrom.

Dec. 18: Bishop Gerald Mansholt, Bishop's Associates Pr. John Kreidler, Pr. Janice Kibler, and Pr. Len Dale; Bishop's Assistant Dan Glamann; JP Palmer; other staff.

Dec. 25: Retired pastors of Area 5: Pr. Robert Albin, Pr. Mike Clark, Pr. Larry Cross, Pr. Sally Fahrenthold, Pr. Henry Hartman, Pr. Bill Horn, Pr. Robert Kloth, Pr. Al Lindberg, Pr. H. O. Lindblad, Pr. Paul Reimers, Pr. John Schroepel.

Gift Can Save a Child from Malaria

The new ELCA “Good Gifts” catalog is offering an array of gift opportunities that benefit people around the world in many ways. Gifts to choose from include \$10 for a mosquito net treated with insecticide, \$10 for 10 chicks, \$40 for a child's school fees, \$100 for a village health team - \$250 for a village water well – \$1600 provides one course for a semester at an ELCA seminary. If you want to give a unique Christmas gift consider choosing from the Good Gifts catalog. Copies are available in the information center across from the Library or look at www.elca.org/goodgifts where you will also see how you can make a gift on-line.

“Breakfast with Santa & Christmas Cookie Walk”



8-11:30 a.m. at Lord of Life Lutheran on Saturday, December 10. Address is **10215 W. 13 St. N.** The event will include Breakfast (Free Will Donation) for all ages, crafts and games. Kids can visit with Santa and have pictures taken and Mrs. Santa Claus will tell stories every hour. And homemade cookies can be purchased by the box – you purchase the box for \$6 and fill it with cookies you select (or you can purchase the large sized box for \$12. Bring your family!

Historic Midtown Citizen's Association

As of this fall, St. Paul's is hosting the Historic Midtown Citizen's Association's Board meeting and will be the site for their Volunteer dinner on Tuesday Dec. 6.



General News



Poinsettia Order Form

Poinsettias this year will be \$7.00 for a 6" plant (4-6 blooms). The price includes wrapping, tray and delivery price. They will be delivered to St. Paul's on December 16 and will be on the altar through Christmas service.

The deadline for ordering is December 9. Please put your money and order form in the offering tray or send to the church office.

Please indicate:

Your Name _____

Your Dedication _____

(For example, "To the Glory of God"; "In Loving Memory of _____" or "In honor of _____").

The poinsettias are to be picked up after service on Christmas morning, or you may donate the plant to a church member who is unable to attend services. Please indicate your preference.

I will pick up my Poinsettia _____

I would like to donate my Poinsettia to a Shut-in _____

Please submit any information for the January Come and See by December 23. Submissions received later than December 23 may not be put in the newsletter. You can drop the information in the folder in the office or e-mail Donna at office.stpauls@sbcglobal.net. If you send an e-mail, please note "Newsletter" in the subject heading. Thank you for your contributions!



*"Come and See" is a monthly newsletter of
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St. Paul's Lutheran Church