

DECEMBER 2021

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
610 15TH ST.
AMES, IA 50010
515-232-5838

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.SAINTPAULAMES.ORG
OR OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AT ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH, AMES, IA

REV. DR. TODD JENKS, PASTOR

LORI JENKS, PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR
PRESCHOOL- 515-233-1914

Letter from Pastor

Friends in Christ,

Families receive great joy when they welcome a new child into their midst. Parents and grandparents proudly and joyfully share photos of the new little one. It's a wonderful time of celebration! However, not every family has that joy. Some instead experience sorrow or loss.

On the other hand, there is a baby boy we welcome this month who brings joy to every single family of the world! Even in our times of sorrow and struggle, He brings us hope, and He offers us help. What child is this? Jesus, of course!

Come share the joy with us during this Advent season! Our special services of reflection will be held on Wednesday evenings. These devotional services are designed to be around 45 minutes in length, more or less (depends on how long-winded the preacher gets).

Advent midweek worship will be held at 7 p.m. December 1, 8 and 15.

In Jesus, whose birth blesses us and brings joy to the world,

Pastor Jenks

Special Note about Upcoming Livestream Services

Sunday, December 12, we will livestream only the 11 a.m. service rather than the 8:30 service – so that everyone can enjoy the Sunday School Christmas Program that will occur at the late service that day.

Christmas Eve, December 24, we will livestream only the 5 p.m. service.



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Our Mission is:

- To Know Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord,
- To Grow in faith through His Sacraments and Word, and
- To Go share His Gospel with love in our community and world.

Worship Services at St. Paul Lutheran Church

Wednesday, December 1 **Advent I**

7:00 p.m. Worship at church
And Livestreamed

Sunday, December 5

8:30 a.m. Worship at church
with Holy Communion
And Livestreamed

11:00 a.m. Worship at church
with Holy Communion

Wednesday, December 8 **Advent II**

7:00 p.m. Worship at church
And Livestreamed

Sunday, December 12

8:30 a.m. Worship at church
11:00 a.m. Children's Christmas Program- Livestreamed

Wednesday, December 15 **Advent III**

7:00 p.m. Worship at church
And Livestreamed



Sunday, December 19

8:30 a.m. Worship at church
with Holy Communion
And Livestreamed

11:00 a.m. Worship at church
with Holy Communion

Friday, December 24 **Christmas Eve**

5:00 p.m. Worship at church
And Livestreamed
7:00 p.m. Worship at church

Saturday, December 25 **Christmas Day**

10:00 a.m. Worship at church
with Holy Communion
And Livestreamed

Sunday, December 26 **Only One Service**

10:00 a.m. Worship at church
And Livestreamed

Please note— On Dec. 12 the livestreamed service will be the Children's Christmas Program at 11:00 a.m. The 8:30 service will not be streamed on Dec. 12.

HOPE Gift Market

The Board of Human Care extends their sincere thanks to all who so generously donated to the HOPE Gift Market. It is always good to give thanks for the blessings God has given us by sharing them with people in need!



Helping Other
People Everywhere



PLEASE COME AND HELP DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR THE JOYOUS SEASON OF OUR SAVIOR'S BIRTH

What a joy it is to be able to worship together after so many months of being separated as a family in Christ during worship. With being together to worship and celebrate the coming of our Lord and Savior and the magnificent events of His birth, it is a time for us to assist in making our Church area a special time of rejoicing and singing praises. One way all of us can take part in this special time is offering to volunteer your time with assisting with the decorating and assisting with the beautification of our sanctuary and church area.

Saturday, December 4th there is Children's Christmas Program practice from 9:00 to 11:30. We will be "Decorating for Christmas" starting at 11:00 and can work in the narthex and fellowship hall and then start in the Sanctuary when the Program practice is done. Please come whenever you can and join in the fun. We will be decorating the sanctuary and putting up the tree which is a very big task.

If anyone is unable to come on Saturday the 4th and would want to volunteer on Friday the 3rd please let Judy Peter, Altar Guild Chair, know and she can assign you some decorating that can be done on Friday.

Wednesday, December 1st following Advent Service, please stay and help getting all the containers of Christmas decorations from the old balcony for decorating on Friday and Saturday. Your help is greatly appreciated.



Join us for Advent Meals!

Meals will be served from 6:00 pm to 6:30 pm.

Dec 1— Women - Soup and Sweets

Dec 8—Elders— TBA

Dec 15— Evangelism & Trustees - Smoked meat sandwiches, baked beans, chips and dessert.



Board of Stewardship

³⁰Then Moses told the people of Israel, “The LORD has specifically chosen Bezalel son of Uri, grandson of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. ³¹**The LORD has filled Bezalel with the Spirit of God**, giving him great wisdom, ability, and expertise in all kinds of crafts. ³²He is a master craftsman, expert in working with gold, silver, and bronze. ³³He is skilled in engraving and mounting gemstones and in carving wood. He is a master at every craft. ³⁴And the LORD has given both him and Oholiab son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan, **the ability to teach their skills to others**. ³⁵**The LORD has given them special skills as engravers, designers, embroiderers in blue, purple, and scarlet thread on fine linen cloth, and weavers. . . .** ^{36:1}Let them construct and furnish the Tabernacle, just as the LORD has commanded. “Exodus 35:30–36:1 (Read Exodus 35:1–40:38)

I can (check all that apply) paint; talk to people; make something out of cloth, paper, wood, metal, or plastic; mow grass; cut hair; grocery shop; hammer nails; vacuum; pick up trash; rearrange tables and chairs; read aloud. If you checked even one of those abilities, you can serve God in the church. This section of Scripture tells how the Israelites carried out God’s instructions for building the Tabernacle, God’s mobile house of worship. The passage includes some Sabbath regulations, descriptions of materials used for the Tabernacle, and many miscellaneous anecdotes. **Everyone pitches in.**

As you read, you will learn about giving freely and generously, being helpful, and delegating responsibilities to others—a whole host of practical advice for ordinary believers who are ready to use their skills for God. Moses asked people with various abilities to help with the Tabernacle (Exodus 35:10-19). Those who could spin cloth made an important contribution—cloth. Bezalel and Oholiab, men with artistic skills, lent their expertise in cutting jewels, carving wood, and other areas (36:1-2). Moses laid out the steps, while Ithamar served as scribe for the project. God didn’t ask Moses to build the Tabernacle alone, but to motivate others to do it. Once the Tabernacle was built, its physical care required a long list of important tasks (40:17-33).

Every one of God’s people has been given special talents and gifts. We are responsible to develop these abilities—even those not considered religious—and use them for God’s glory. This principle is important to remember today, when God’s house is not a building but a body of people—the *real* church. Many seemingly unimportant tasks must be done to keep our local church functioning. Washing dishes, painting walls, or collating newsletters may not seem very spiritual, but these tasks are vital to the ministry of the church and have an important role in worship.

This is an excerpt from: The One Year Through the Bible
Gretchen Zitterich (Stewardship Chair)



Evangelism

ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN

The Board of Evangelism thanks all who have donated items and cash to this worthy charity and we will continue to collect items from you and any of your friends. We deliver them on Tuesday mornings. If you need a receipt put a note on the bag or box.

Thank you to Dick Peterson for his faithful support, every Tuesday he goes and helps at the Clemmons collection site and is working on the T-shirt diaper project. Ask him for a pattern and instructions if you would like to help with this simple sewing project.

CLEAN CONTAINERS

Thank you for all the clean containers for Food at First. They also like paper napkins and larger plastic bags (like Menards). We want to thank Linda Kelly for picking up the items for Food At First.

CAMP OKOBOJI

Thank you to Ron Coy for being our church representative for the camp and for the continued support and work on the camp maintenance.

We will have a camp support event in memory of Charles Ellis during Lent.

Christmas Blessings and thank you to all for your donations as we continue to support all these very worthy missions.

Education and Youth

Get your "Our Iowa" Calendar!

The youth attending the National Youth Gathering are selling "Our Iowa" 2022 wall calendars as a fundraiser. Calendars are \$13 each. They're great for home, office or as Christmas gifts!

We will have a table set up in the narthex. **The last day to purchase a calendar is December 5.** However, you can always contact Eric and Chaney Phipps or Carla Murphy to make arrangements to get your copy!



SAVE THE DATES for CAMP!

Camp Okoboji has released its summer 2022 dates. Please mark on your calendar NOW so your youth or family can attend as part of your summer plans!



- June 3-5: Kid's Camp (K-2nd grade w/ parent or guardian)
- June 12-15: Cub week 1 (completed 3rd grade-5th)
- July 3-8: July 4th Family Retreat
- July 10-16: Jr High Week (6-8th grade)
- July 17-23: Cub Week 2 (completed 3rd grade-5th)
- July 24-30: Youth Week (9-12th grade)
- July 31-Aug 5: Family Retreat #1
- Aug 7-12: Family Retreat #2

Education and Youth



Sunday School Youth Present: "From Heaven Above Children's Christmas program"

The Board of Education is excited to present an original production, "From Heaven Above", for the Sunday School Christmas Program on Sunday, December 12th at the 11:00 AM service.

Parents of youth in Sunday School (Preschool through 12th grade) **please note the following rehearsal times:**

Saturday, December 4th - 9:00 - 10:30 AM Run through with 3rd - 8th grade youth
10:30 - 11:30 AM - Instrumental Ensemble Rehearsal

Saturday, December 11th - 9:00 - 9:30 AM - Instrumental Ensemble Warm-up and rehearsal.
9:30 - 11:00 AM - Complete Run through with all youth Preschool - 8th grade.

Sunday, December 12th: High School Youth report at 10:30 AM to greet and usher. All other youth attend Sunday School hour 11:00 AM – Program

UPCOMING LYF EVENTS -

We will not be having a Wednesday night meal or activity in December but will return on January 12. Look for information and a sign up later in December.

The Board of Youth is excited to announce some of the activities we have planned this year!

- Bowling
- Blanket/Pillow making
- Youth Sunday
- Blessing Bags for YSS youth
- Project Sunshine
- possible lock-ins

LYF is held the 2nd Wednesday of the month after midweek unless announced otherwise (like September). *please note there may be changes in activities/protocols depending upon Covid and the Delta variant.



Help our youth help other youth at YSS

In the near future youth will be putting together "blessing bags" to give to YSS of Ames to give to youth in need. We will have a collection bin for the following items needed:

Toilet paper (we can separate out to give one to each one)

- + Full sized deodorant
- + Full sized shampoo and conditioner
- + Full sized body wash or face wash

- *Male, female or universal scents
- + One towel and wash cloth
- + Small travel first aid kits
- + Small travel sewing kits

+Pocket/travel sized tissues

+New crossword or word find books

+New deck of cards or card games (like Uno)

We are hoping to have enough materials to put together about 25 complete bags. Thank you in advance for your help with this service project.



Education and Youth

Silent Auction items needed

January 15 will be our NYG Trivia and Silent Auction Fundraiser. More info will be out soon, but we are looking for donations for the silent auction now! If you own a business, are an artist or craftsman and have something you could donate, please contact Carla Murphy before December 30.

LYF Canvas Collages turned out fun as each youth created their art. Youth cut out pictures, words, letters from various magazines to form a collage about themselves or someone special. The pieces were glued to canvas and then covered with a decoupage coating. The Board of Youth thanks everyone who donated magazines for us to use for this project. A big THANK YOU shout out to Mo at Flame & Skewer for donating the meal of chicken strips and French fries for the youth to enjoy before starting our activity.



Women's Ministry

Angel Tree

We have a few Angels remaining on the tree. Stop by any time to pick one up if you would like. **All the gifts are due back to the church by Dec. 12.** Thank you to everyone

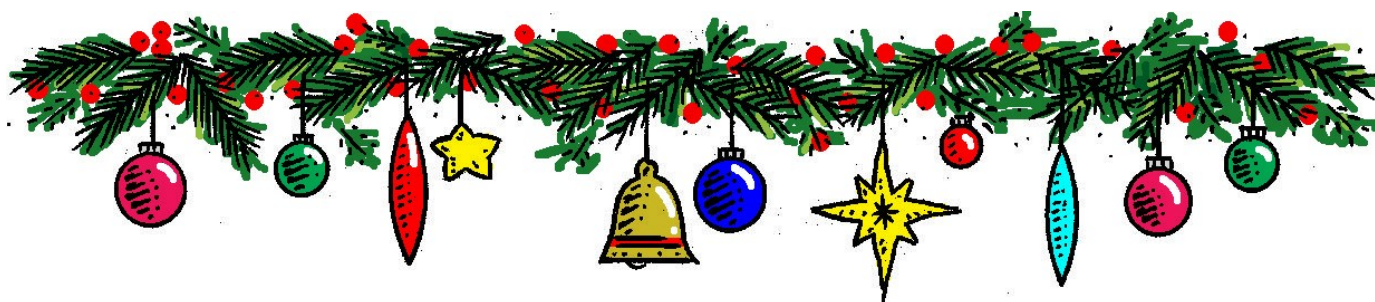
who is participating in this wonderful program. These gifts are appreciated so much!



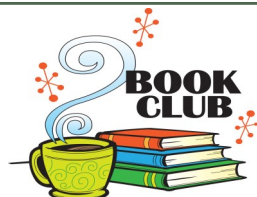
Family Service will be hosting a **Potluck/Christmas party** **December 9th** at

12:00 noon. We would like anyone who wants to join the party to attend. We always play games, and have a very good time.

If you would like to attend it would be appreciated if you brought a casserole or salad to share.



"Book to Know to Help You Grow"



Our Books to Know group decided to meet the rest of the year in our church. On May 12 we will meet at 7 PM in the Fellowship Hall. On January 13 and March 10 we will meet at 2:15 in the Fellowship Hall.

We meet next on January 13th in the Fellowship Hall and we will be discussing "The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek" by Kim Michele Richardson.

Date	Location/Hostess	Book
Jan 13, 2022, 2:15 pm	Fellowship Hall	"The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek" by Kim Michele Richardson
March 10, 2022, 2:15 pm	Fellowship Hall	"Hidden Places" by Lynn Austin
May 12, 2022, 7 pm	Fellowship Hall	"The Shot Caller: by Casey Diaz

December 2021 Sunday Service Roster

Due to the uncertainty of the Delta variant, the schedules have been (and will be) made up for only 3 months at a time. We will print those assigned for the current month below and also send out a reminder postcard. You are welcome to call the office if you have any questions. Thank you for serving!

	Dec 5 8:30 am	Dec 5 11:00 am	Dec 12 8:30 am	Dec 12 11:00 am Sunday School Program	Dec 19 8:30 am	Dec 19 11:00 am	Dec 26 10:00 am ONLY ONE Service
Organist	LaDonna Osborn	LaDonna Osborn	Ellen Sander	Ellen Sander	LaDonna Osborn	LaDonna Osborn	Ellen Sander
Elders	Mike West	Greg Gebhart	Mike West	Greg Gebhart	Mike West	Greg Gebhart	Mike West
Lectors	Mark Swenson	Judi Charlson	Mark Swenson	Youth	Lynn Dreyer	Gretchen Zitterich	Lynn Dreyer
Acolytes	Preston Stensland	Natalie Emery			Wilson Buckley	Cody Puck	
Ushers	Mark & Janelle Swenson, Bob & Marilyn Walker	Tanny Latuska, Ron Coy, Larry Wiebel, Vickie Roach	Mark & Janelle Swenson, Bob & Marilyn Walker	Youth	Mark & Janelle Swenson, Bob & Marilyn Walker	Tanny Latuska, Ron Coy, Larry Wiebel, Vickie Roach	Mark & Janelle Swenson, Bob & Marilyn Walker
Greeters	Elsie Bauman, Jerry Schradle, Lynn & Kim Dreyer	Dave & Judi Charlson, Phil & Alberta Voge	Elsie Bauman, Jerry Schradle, Lynn & Kim Dreyer	Youth	Elsie Bauman, Jerry Schradle, Lynn & Kim Dreyer	Dave & Judi Charlson, Phil & Alberta Voge	Elsie Bauman, Jerry Schradle, Lynn & Kim Dreyer
Coffee Greeter	Linda Peterson		Linda Peterson		Linda Peterson		No Coffee Today
Offering Counters	TBA						
Power Point	Cindy Baas	Julie Coy	Judy Peter	Becky Jackson	Cindy Baas	Julie Coy	Cindy Baas
Sound Board	Tom Baas	Becky Jackson	Tom Peter	Angi Esser	Angi Esser	Becky Jackson	Tom Baas
Camera	John Murphy			Matt Carver	Tom Baas		Matt Carver



December 2021 Special Service Roster

Due to the uncertainty of the Delta variant, the schedules have been (and will be) made up for only 3 months at a time. We will print those assigned for the current month below and also send out a reminder postcard. You are welcome to call the office if you have any questions. Thank you for serving!

	Dec 1 7:00 pm Advent I	Dec 8 7:00 pm Advent II	Dec 15 7:00 pm Advent III	Dec 24 5:00 pm Christmas Eve	Dec 24 7:00 pm Christmas Eve	Dec 25 10:00 am Christmas Day
Organist	LaDonna Osborn	LaDonna Osborn	LaDonna Osborn	LaDonna Osborn	LaDonna Osborn	LaDonna Osborn
Elders	Greg Gebhart	Mike West	Wayne Hagemoser	Phil Voge	Lynn Dreyer	Ron Coy
Lectors	Gretchen Zitterich	Mark Swenson	Cindy Baas	Alberta Voge	Lynn Dreyer	Reiny Friedrich
Acolytes						Estan Buttery
Ushers	Jerry Schradle, Jim George, Larry Wiebel, Dave Osborn	Ellen Sander, Judi Charlson, Mark & Janelle Swenson	Tom & Cindy Baas, Tanny Latuska, Becky Jackson	Phil & Alberta Voge, Bob & Marilyn Walker	Lynn & Kim Dreyer, Jim & Sandy George,	Harry & Pam Mundt,
Greeters	Ardy Ulrichson, Phil & Alberta Voge	Elsie Bauman, Jerry Schradle, Reiny & Maureen Friedrich	Keith & Carol Folkmann, Harry & Pam Mundt	Tom & Cindy Baas, Janelle Swenson	Tom & Judy Peter, Bud & Thelma Voetberg	Dennis & Karen Griffin, Katie Friedrich
Offering Counters	TBA					
Power Point	Judy Peter	Julie Coy	Sarah Fahrman	Amy Carver	Julie Coy	Cindy Baas
Sound Board	Tom Peter	Becky Jackson	Ben Fahrman	Tom Peter	Tom Peter	Julie Coy
Camera	John Murphy	John Murphy	John Murphy	Matt Carver		Tom Baas

