

DECEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH HARTLEY, IOWA

Rev. Chris Nitzel, Pastor

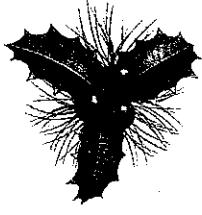
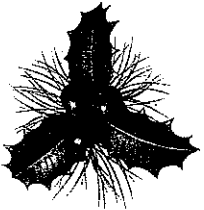
Church Office Telephone: 728-2711

Justin Weber, DCE Intern

Church Office Email: sp@lhart@lcaexpress.net

Church Website: stpaulutheranhartley.com

Email: jweber500@gmail.com Cell Phone: 630-788-8727



St. Paul's Church Council Meeting
November 19, 2024

Church Council met on Tuesday, November 19, at 7:00 pm. Those present: Pastor Nitzel, Bill Treimer, Vickie Roghair, Leroy Raabe, Ed Harders, Donna Ahlers, Carolyn Rubsam, Doug Nagel, and Patty Treimer.

VP Bill Treimer called the meeting to order. Pastor shared devotions from Luke 17:11-19 — a traditional Thanksgiving reading. In the account of the ten lepers, Jesus said "your faith has made you well." Pastor distinguished between 'well' and 'healed'. Being made 'well' is in spirit rather than physically being healed. Pastor led us in prayer.

The minutes of the October 15 meeting were approved as distributed.

Treasurer Report: Vickie Roghair shared the balance of today's checkbook is \$118, 971.93 with 82% of the budget used. She updated us on transactions of several special accounts.

Finance Report: Donna Ahlers reported offering was counted three times since our October meeting: on October 22 for \$9225.99, November 5 for \$14,656.29, and November 19 for \$5941, plus the auto monthly deposit.

Elders Report: No report.

Education Report: Pastor reported for Justin that they have begun working on Christmas program scheduled for December 22.

Stewardship Report: Leroy shared that Inez is Time and Talent forms

Evangelism Report: Carolyn shared that ice cream and pie will be served to the Hartley EMTs this Thursday evening, November 21.

Trustees Report: The carpet for the balcony area where the organ was previously is to be finished up and a new handrail installed for new organ area. The snow blower that isn't needed anymore has been sold. Gutter repairs need to be done. The income from selling the snow blower balances cost of gutters.

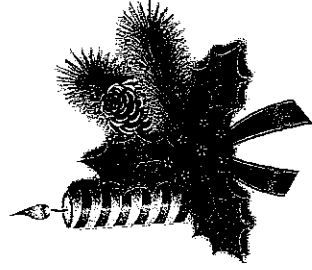
Pastor's Report: Pastor led a discussion on options for having a DCE in the future—options being staying in partnership with Camp, or getting our own intern each year. A decision was tabled to next month's meeting. Advent starts next week; midweek services as well. The Wednesday schedule will change with Confirmation being at 5:15 and choir practice after worship. Pastor's call to a church in Georgia was mentioned.

Old Business: Donna stated that the piano was tuned this week.

New Business: none.

Next meeting is Tuesday, December 17. The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Patty Treimer
Council Secretary





LIBRARY NEWS ...

These books, described below, are now available in our church library.

Three New Christian Thriller Book series in the library: Operation Joktan, By Way of Deception, Out of the Far North by Amir Tsarfati, a native Israeli and former Major in the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF). The books are inspired by real events as well as tactical insights that Amir witnessed during his service in the IDF. For believers in God's life changing promises, these books are a suspense filled page turner that illuminates the blessing that Israel is to the world and follows a newfound and growing Christian faith in one of the main characters.

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU ... to our congregation! These past two months have been very very active for St. Paul's – ESL Christian classes, Bingo Night, Field Meal, Outdoor Family Movie Night, Trunk or Treat, Gems and Junque Sale, Samaritan Christmas boxes, Veterans' Day Meal (we served 84), and EMT Appreciation Pie and Ice Cream social. Sometimes it may seem to many that we are TOO busy and that there is always a request for help in some event—food needed, workers needed, teachers needed, more choir members needed, etc etc and that we are forgetting about the message we are trying to share with our community friends—that we are the Hands and Feet of Jesus and that St. Paul's loves to joyfully serve others. So many people have faithfully signed up to help in various church ministries and on behalf of POP (People of Passion group), we want to extend a HUGE thank you. NONE of these many community outreach ministries, which are a part of St. Paul's mission statement, would be a success without **YOU**. Thank you Thank you Thank you! Blessings!

The Chrismon Trees

The Chrismon Trees originated in the St. Paul's sanctuary in December 1971. They were all made by the members of Rachel Circle. Our congregation continues to use these Chrismons fifty years later to praise and proclaim the Christ!

The evergreen tree, which symbolizes the eternal life which our Savior has won for us, is a background for the tiny white lights and white and gold Chrismons.

The lights speak of HIM who is the light of the world and the Chrismons (CHRIST + MONogram) proclaim the Name, the Life and the Saving Acts of Jesus, the Christ.

White, the liturgical color for Christmas, suggests innocence, purity and perfection of our Savior. In our culture, it is the color of JOY. Scripture often uses white to portray purity and equates it with light to denote completeness.

Gold is a symbol of glory and majesty of God and the Son of God. It is also derived from Biblical scripture.

Some Chrismons are simple copies of symbols of Christianity from its earliest days; others are new explanations of God's never changing presence in our ever – changing world.

May these symbols continually remind you of God's greatest gift to us all, JESUS CHRIST.

DECEMBER / JANUARY 2025

SERVING SCHEDULES

GREETERS

December 1 – Gordan and Roxie Williamson
December 4 (7:00pm) – Rick and Vickie Roghair
December 8 – Ed and Jo Harders
December 11 (7:00pm) – Allan and Inez Dacken
December 15 – Marilyn Honken and Leroy Raabe
December 18 (7:00pm) – Ron and Carolyn Rubsam
December 22 – Wally and Becky Tschopp

December 24 (7:00pm) – Gene and Shelley Hjelm
December 25 (9:00am) – Brad and Beth Fear
December 29 – Cliff and Shirley Ripke
January 5 – Duane and Dee Kolpin
January 12 – Ron and Carolyn Rubsam
January 19 – Wade and Stephanie Gebert
January 26 – Pat McCarty and Ellen Treimer

COMMUNION

Set-up

December 1 – Bill and Patty Treimer
December 15 – Dean and Mary Jane Peterson
December 24 (7:00pm) – Rod and Dyan Roth
December 25 (9:00am) – (Rick and Vickie)
January 5 – Allan and Inez Dacken
January 19 – Gene and Shelley Hjelm

Clean-Up

December 1 – Brad and Beth Fear
December 15 – Ellen Treimer and Leroy Raabe
December 24 (7:00pm) – Rick and Vickie Roghair
December 25 (9:00am) – Brad and Betty Harms
January 5 – Ron and Carolyn Rubsam
January 19 – Wally and Becky Tschopp

USHERS

December 1
Jeremy Walters (H)
Dave Treimer
Bill Treimer
Brad Fear

Dec 4 (7pm)
Bill Pippy (H)
Easton Teal
Leroy Raabe

December 8
Kent Billings (H)
Alex Billings
Dean Peterson
Doug Nagel

Dec 11 (7pm)
Gordon W. (H)
Josiah Nitzel
Wally Tschopp

December 15
David Treimer (H)
Rick Roghair
Jesse Benz
Doug Nagel

Dec 18 (7pm)
Ty Waddell (H)
Bill Treimer
Brad Fear

December 22
Jeremy Walters (H)
Gene Hjelm
Easton Teal

Dec 24 (7pm)
Bill Pippy (H)
Mark Recher
Leroy Raabe

Dec 25 (9am)
Kent Billings (H)
Allan Dacken
Alex Billings

December 29
Gordon W. (H)
Doug Nagel
Rick Roghair

January 5
David Treimer (H)
Wally Tschopp
Easton Teal
Wade Gebert

January 12
Ty Waddell (H)
Leroy Raabe
Jesse Benz

January 19
Jeremy Walters (H)
Mark Recher
Rick Roghair
Alex Billings

January 26
Bill Pippy (H)
Bill Treimer
Allan Dacken

CAMERA OPERATORS

December 1 – Brad Harms
December 4 (7:00pm) – Alex Billings
December 8 – Doug Nagel
December 11 (7:00pm) – Bill Treimer
December 15 – Josiah Nitzel
December 18 (7:00pm) – Brad Harms
December 22 – Alex Billings

December 24 (7:00pm) – Doug Nagel
December 25 (9:00am) – Josiah Nitzel
December 29 – Bill Treimer
January 5 – Brad Harms
January 12 – Alex Billings
January 19 – Doug Nagel
January 26 – Josiah Nitzel

ACOLYTES

December 1 – MacKenzie W.
December 4 (7:00pm) – Ellisyn S.
December 8 – Sydney W.
December 11 (7:00pm) – Simeon N.
December 15 – Hoyt A.
December 18 (7:00pm) – Hayden B.
December 22 – MacKenzie W.
December 24 (7:00pm) – Ellisyn S.

December 25 (9:00am) – Sydney W.
December 29 – Simeon N.
January 5 – Hoyt A.
January 12 – Hayden B.
January 19 – MacKenzie W.
January 26 – Ellisyn S.

FELLOWSHIP SERVERS

December 1 – Rod and Dyan Roth
December 8 – Brad and Betty Harms
December 15 – Bill and Rhonda Pippy
December 22 – Jeremy and Charlie Walters
December 29 – Gordon and Roxie W.


January 5 – Bill and Patty Treimer
January 12 – Wally and Becky Tschopp
January 19 – Allan and Inez Dacken
January 26 – Wade and Stephanie Gebert

December

♥♥♥ WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES ♥♥♥

- 8 – Harvey and Marjean Westerman 18 – Don and Carol Warburton
13 – Cliff and Shirley Ripke 21 – Dennis and Connie Ebel
16 – Lindell and Brianna Clem 28 – Dean and Mary Jane Peterson

♪♪♪ BIRTHDAYS ♪♪♪

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| 1 – Kyle Harms
Amanda Ahrenstorff | 12 – Betty Harms
Megan Recher | 20 – Brent Peterson |
| 3 – Dean Peterson | 15 – Luka Knudson | 21 – Ed Harders |
| 4 – Ethan Adams | 16 – Josiah Nitzel
Sherri Bobzien | 24 – Justin Wohlert |
| 5 – Ed Breidinger |  | 27 – Brenda Harders |
| 9 – Bill Treimer
Robert Nagel | 19 – Harlyn Hengeveld
Steve Petersen
Katie Flick
Kelly Flick
Kristin Ripke | 28 – Alayna Benz |
| 10 – Wyatt Towne | | 29 – Alexa Wittrock |
| | | 30 – Pastor David Ericksen |

~~~~~

### ADVENT / CHRISTMAS 2024 SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES

*Midweek Advent Worship – Wednesday, December 4, 6:30 p.m.*  
    – *Wednesday, December 11, 6:30 p.m.*  
    – *Wednesday, December 18, 6:30 p.m.*  
*St. Paul's Choir Christmas Cantata – Sunday, December 15, 9:00 a.m.*  
*Children's Christmas Service – Sunday, December 22, 9:00 a.m.*  
*Candlelight Christmas Eve Communion Worship – Tuesday, December 24, 7:00 p.m.*  
*Christmas Day Worship – Wednesday, December 25, 9:00 a.m.*

## CHRISTMAS CANTATA

St. Paul's Adult Choir  
Christmas Cantata  
Sunday, December 15  
during the 9:00 a.m. Worship





## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS WORSHIP PROGRAM

Sunday, December 22  
during the 9:00 a.m. Worship



# December 2024

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                          | Monday                                     | Tuesday                                                                             | Wednesday                                                                                                                                                            | Thursday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Friday | Saturday |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| <i>First Sunday in Advent</i> 1<br>9:00am Communion Worship<br>10:00am Fellowship Time<br>10:15am Adult Bible Class                                             | 2<br>6:30pm "Posada"<br>(Last ESL Classes) | 3<br>9:00am POP Meeting                                                             | 4<br>9:30am Prayer Group<br>10:00am Bible Study<br>5:15pm Confirmation<br>6:30pm Midweek Advent<br>7:30pm Choir Practice                                             | 5                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 6      | 7        |
| <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent</i> 8<br>9:00am Morning Worship<br>10:15am Fellowship Time<br>10:15am Adult Bible Class                                      | 9<br>6:30pm Rachel Circle                  | 10                                                                                  | 11<br>9:30am Prayer Group<br>10:00am Bible Study<br>5:15pm Confirmation<br>6:30pm Midweek Advent<br>7:30pm Choir Practice                                            | 12                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 13     | 14       |
| <i>Third Sunday in Advent</i> 15<br>9:00am Communion Worship<br><b>Adult Choir Christmas Cantata</b><br>10:00am Fellowship Time<br>10:30am SS/Adult Bible Class | 16<br>9:30am Mary Circle                   | 17<br>6:00pm Elders Meeting<br>7:00pm Church Council                                | 18<br>9:30am Prayer Group<br>10:00am Bible Study<br>5:15pm Confirmation<br>6:30pm Midweek Advent<br>7:30pm Choir Practice                                            | 19                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 20     | 21       |
| <i>Fourth Sunday in Advent</i> 22<br>9:00am Morning Worship<br><b>Children's Christmas Service</b><br>10:00am Fellowship Time<br>10:15am SS/Adult Bible Class   | 23                                         | <i>Christmas Eve</i> 24<br>7:00pm Christmas Eve<br>Candlelight Communion<br>Worship | <i>Christmas Day</i> 25<br>9:00am Christmas<br>Morning Communion<br>Worship<br> | 26                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 27     | 28       |
| <i>First Sunday after Christmas</i> 29<br>9:00am Morning Worship<br>(No Fellowship or SS/Adult Bible<br>Classes)                                                | 30                                         | <i>New Year's Eve</i> 31                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                      |  <p><b>St. Paul's Lutheran Church</b><br/>           60 N Central Ave<br/>           Hartley, IA 51346<br/>           Office: 712-728-2711</p> <p>Pastor Chris Nitzel<br/>           Cell Phone: 712-363-5433<br/>           Parsonage: 712-728-2890</p> |        |          |

