

Serving Christ During the Week

Today: 9am, Divine Service

7pm New Year's Eve Service

Monday: [No School; Christmas break]

Tuesday: NO 6am Early Bird Bible Study

Wednesday: [Wyneken students return to class]

8:20am Wyneken Chapel

3:15pm NO Public School Catechism

7pm Adult Choir

Thursday: 7pm Sunday School Teachers meeting

Friday:

Saturday:

Next Sunday: 8am, Matins

9:15am Sunday School and Adult Bible Class

10:15am, Divine Service

NEWS AND NOTES December 31, 2017

⊕ During Communion distribution, the Communion hymn is sung. As long as people are still communing, the next consecutive hymns in the hymnal are sung. We do not stand for doxological hymn verses during Communion distribution.

⊕ Today is New Year's Eve. As agreed by the Voters, we will have only one morning service at 9am, with the installation of church officers and appointees. There will be no Sunday School or Adult Bible Class. Additionally at 7pm we will have our Service of Confession as 2017 draws to a close.

⊕ Our regular Sunday schedule for worship, Sunday School and Adult Bible Class will resume next Sunday.

⊕ Our Advent Wreath has now become a Christmas Wreath. We are now in the twelve days of Christmas. Epiphany (January 6) is the close of the Christmas season. We will keep our decorations up one day beyond Epiphany as we celebrate Epiphany next Sunday, January 7th.

⊕ 2018 offering envelop boxes are now available. These boxes are located in the narthex of church. Please see a deacon if you need assistance in locating yours. If you did not receive a box for 2018 and would like one, please contact John Schueler or Alan Zimmerman. Whenever possible, please use these envelopes if you would like to have your donation recorded to your account as this helps the recording process of the financial secretary.

⊕ Sunday School teachers will meet this Thursday at 7pm.

⊕ We extend a hearty thank you to all who were involved with special Christmas services and activities. Among them are the church and church grounds decorator, the Sunday School superintendent, teachers and aides, the choir, the vocalists, the instrumentalists, the carolers, the organizers, etc. To God be the glory!

⊕ Wyneken parents who attend worship here with their Wyneken children are reminded to initial their column on the special books in the narthex. Recall that each Wyneken child(ren) and their families must attend at least 14 services at the church to retain their member tuition status.

⊕ The various church organizations should get their final reports to our church secretary by January 17th so the annual report can be completed before the Church Council meeting on January 22nd.

⊕ Come and learn at the annual Decatur Lutheran Bible Institute (LBI). This year's classes are at Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School. Students and adults can choose from four simulating courses: "Eating God's Salvation Meal, the Highlight of Worship", "What Will Make Me Happy?", "Jonah: On a Tough Mission for a Tender God", and "Praying in the Midst of Suffering". LBI classes meet on Tuesday nights January 16-February 6 from 7-9:15pm. For more inform, contact Bob Keuneke.

⊕ We would like to have a set person lined up to shovel the sidewalks when necessary on Sunday mornings. This individual would be paid for this work. If interested, contact one of our Trustees: Nolan Scheumann, Tom Reinhart, Brian Todd.

⊕ Though not noted at the recent Voters meeting, our next elders, council and voters meetings are planned for January 22 and 23.

⊕ The Orphan Grain Train needs our help. The catastrophic effects of Hurricane Harvey are enormous. Over 50 inches of rain fell in some areas of Texas and the devastation is incredible. Thrivent Financial has offered to match gifts up to \$3,000,000.00 to 8 organizations and the Orphan Grain Train is one. (On a first come first served basis.) Qualifying gifts must be given through Thrivent.com. (Gifts sent directly to Orphan Grain Train will not be matched.) To take advantage of this opportunity follow these simple directions: Go to www.thrivent.com. On the home page click on "Help Now" on the left hand side. Click on "Continue" and then fill in the information to make your gift. (Note that credit card gifts will have a fee deducted from your gift so donations made directly from a checking or savings account will be most beneficial.) Each gift will be doubled until the entire \$3,000,000.00 has been met or December, 31, 2017, whichever is first. It is impossible to overemphasize the extent of this disaster. Orphan Grain Train will be involved in restoring this area for years to come. May our dear Lord Jesus bless your consideration of such a gift! *Rev. Ralph G. Schmidt CFRE, Director of Donor Advising*

⊕ We love babies! We love their moms and dads! In support of Sanctity of Human Life, we are providing you with the opportunity to purchase **new** baby items for The Hope Clinic. We are hosting a church-wide baby shower, so that we can bless moms who have chosen life for their child. The following items are always needed: diaper bags, diapers (especially sizes 4, 5 or 6) and wipes, **new** baby equipment (cribs, mattresses, high chairs, baby gates, strollers, carrier infant car seats, car seats for up to 40 pounds, and toddler seats/boosters), crib sheets, laundry soap, potty chair or ring, pacifiers, teething toys, bottles and sippy cups, baby tableware, baby toys, baby clothes (newborn through 2T), receiving blankets, and formula. We would especially like to have children's books for infant through at least 3 years of age. Items not needed at this time include: baby powder and baby oil. For our mothers, we need gently used maternity clothes in sizes large and extra-large that are suitable for the work place. We thank you in advance!

⊕ The *Portals of Prayer* Devotionals for January-March are available. Make sure to pick one up and use them for family devotions in the coming new year.

⊕ Dear St. Paul Congregation: We are richly blessed to have an established endowment fund that has given us the opportunity to support our youth programs, mission trips and various capital projects in excess of \$170,000.00. Grant applications for St. Paul-Preble Endowment Fund 2018 grants are now being accepted through **January 7th**. The funds can be used for the following: 1. **Missions**: Local, regional and world projects; 2. **Youth**: Support for youth of all ages. 3. **Worship and Music**: Support for the worship activities of our congregation. 4. **Capital Projects**: Major renovations and building of new facilities. All members are encouraged to participate in this process. No fundraising is required! Please give extra thought and consideration to potential uses for these funds. Application forms and Bylaws can be found on the tables in the rear of the church. Completed forms or any questions should be addressed to Steve Kreigh, Scott Ainsworth, Sue Buuck, Barry Melcher, or Mike Werling.

⊕ OASIS YOUTH: HS Youth gatherings on the following Sunday evenings beginning at 6:30pm: **Jan. 7, 21, 28. Sunday, January 7** at 6:30pm is the High School Youth Epiphany Gathering and Gift Exchange. Join us for our annual Epiphany HS youth gathering as we play games and have a "white elephant" style gift exchange. Please bring a wrapped gift and a snack to share. Gifts should be valued at \$10.00 or less. Sunday, **January 21** at 6:30pm is the HS Youth Sanctity of Life Gathering. There will be a special presentation on the sanctity of human life (womb to tomb). We will prepare banners and signs for the Ft. Wayne March for Life. **January 27** 11am-2pm All Youth March for Life in Ft. Wayne. Look for the OASIS calendar of events in today's bulletin. Extra copies of the OASIS calendar are in the Narthex.

Saint Paul Lutheran Church Preble

Sermon: "Simeon's Words for Us" Luke 2:22-40

- I. Lord, now let your servant...
 - A. depart in peace...
 - B. according to your word...
 - C. for my eyes have seen your salvation [peace offering]...
 - D. which you have prepared in the presence of all the peoples.
- II. [This child is...]
 - A. a light of revelation to the Gentiles...
 - B. and for glory to your people Israel.
 - C. appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel...
 - D. for a sign that is opposed...

P: Lord, in your mercy **C:** Hear our prayer:

The Communicants

Our Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

The Nation

Our Sick & Shut-in:

Birthdays: Tim Ehlerding, Molly Baker, Norm Schueler, Kade Fuelling, Joe Nower, Lisa Scheumann, Taylor Blum, Sean Faurote

SERVICE OF LOVE IN CHRIST

Serving Christ and Being Served in Worship

9am Worship: 193 Christmas Eve: 284

Christmas Day: 89

Serving Christ in our Offerings

Need Weekly: \$7,181.70 Received Last Week: \$12,513.80

(+) or (-) Weekly: +\$5,332.10 (+) or (-) Year to Date: -\$53,651.80

⊕ Check out the upcoming events offered by Concordia Theological Seminary (CTSFW), Fort Wayne. For additional information concerning all events, please go to www.ctsfw.edu or phone [260.452.2100](tel:260.452.2100). **Music Events** *All the following music events take place in Kramer Chapel and are open to the public.* **Sunday, January 14 4:00 p.m.** *Epiphany Evening Prayer* Seminary Kantorei **Wednesday, January 17 5:00 p.m.** *Symposia Choral Vespers* Seminary Schola Cantorum **Thursday, January 18 5:00 p.m.** *Symposia Vespers and Organ Recital* Rev. Timothy Frank.

⊕ "Prayer list" for members to use as they bring the needs of others before God's throne of grace: Carol Bieberich; Cathy Terhune has miraculously shown improvement; Eileen Hintz is suffering from bone cancer; Marilyn Harvey; Rae Fuhrmann (long time Wyneken teacher); James Johnson (grandfather of Bobbi Shane).

⊕ Since God has come born of a woman under the law to redeem (Galatians 4:4-5), neither age nor appearance nor ability nor any other illegitimacy will be able to separate from the love of Christ (Romans 8:38-39) and the right to life as His children (Galatians 4:5-6). In this fullness of time, let us not keep silent or stand still about it *righteousness. Amen.*

⊕ The lessons for next Sunday are Isaiah 60:1-6; Eph. 3:1-12; Matt. 2:1-12.

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