## **St. Paul's Epistle**

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Box 726, Garrison, ND 58540

November/December 2024

### ALL ARE WELCOME!

#### German Supper

Thank you for your support of the German Supper and Camp of the Cross Ministries!

#### Hanging of the Greens

Join us Sunday, November 24th

after worship to decorate the church for Christmas! If you can't join us there are always projects to do before or afterwards!

#### **All Saints Sunday**

was celebrated on Sunday, November 3rd.

## All Saints Day

#### Jesse Tree

During Advent the children of the church, with help from our members, will have a leafless tree branch to help come alive with color. That color will be winter hats, scarves, and gloves. The Garrison Pantry is in real need of mittens and gloves for all ages. They will then be donated. Please consider helping during Advent.







Our mission is to GATHER as God's people; to GROW in faith, love, and service; and to GO into the community and world as disciples of Jesus.



## Mark your calendars!

## Camp of the Cross Ministries

Scandinavian
Supper will be
Saturday,
November 23rd.
Call the camp
office to reserve
your seat now.



#### Blue Christmas Eve Worship Service at St. Paul

Sunday, December 22nd @ 3PM.



## Sunday School

Sunday School is on most Sunday's from 11 a.m. to 11:50 am.

Our curriculum will follow the lectionary and we will have a game or craft to accompany what the kids learn during the bible story station.

The months of November and December we will be practicing for our Christmas program during Sunday School. If you would like your child to participate, please make sure they are here as often as possible.

If you are interested in volunteering to teach Sunday School, please contact Holly Klemisch or Pastor Janis for more information.



Everything is prepared ahead of time for you so all you need to do is come and lead the groups!

NO Sunday School Classes—Enjoy your long weekends!

November 10th

December 1st

**Sunday School Christmas Program** 

December 15th during worship!



#### **GATHER**

GROW

GO

## Children & Youth

## Happpenings

Sonshine Friends: (Wed. After-School Program)

Our theme for this year is "Awesome Promises of God and How He Always Keeps Them."

We continue to separate into two groups; K-2nd Graders (Group A) and 3rd-6th Graders (Group B). It's not too late to join us!

Friendsgiving will be celebrated with both groups on Wednesday, November 20th. This is a time of fellowship for both groups, complete with a craft, Thanksgiving lesson and a game. We will need parent volunteers to help run the stations and with serving the meal.

College Student Outreach We will be asking that you help us bring greetings to all of our students who are continuing their education after high school. We will be sending them cards and a gift card. Please prayerfully consider helping support this project.

#### LYO - LIVING OUT LOUD

Youth Meet-up for the Fall is for 6th-9th graders in the couch room after worship for visiting...we will talk about life happenings and discuss some tough questions we may have about our faith while enjoying a snack/beverage from fellowship! We will try to meet once a month most months.

6-8th Grade Sunday Evening Youth Group will be meeting November 24th and December 22nd from 6PM-7:30PM.

#### Fleischkuekle Sales

Our LYO Youth will again be participating as a Dickens Street Vendor by selling Fleischkuekle on Garrison's Main Street each evening of the Dickens Festival. Their booth is located beside the Firefighter's Museum, and they serve from 4:30-6:00 p.m. Stop down to support our youth and enjoy good eats!!



#### Sundays

Scripture Readers needed for November and December.

Acolytes needed for November and December.

**Fellowship Servers** are needed for the Fall! We are looking for people willing to serve coffee, juice and goodies on Sunday mornings after worship during fellowship time.

#### **UPCOMING Special Sundays**

Hanging of the Greens Join us Sunday, November 24th following worship as we decorate the church for the upcoming Christmas Season. You can't be there that day, please let Pastor Sloka know and you could come in later that week to help!

The Christmas Choir Festival will be Sunday, December 8th. Practices start Sunday, November 10th at 8:30AM. Our Savior, Max will be joining us. Any one in 7th grade and older is invited to sing in the Christmas Choir Coordinator is Lisa Haugen

**Wednesdays in Advent** will begin on Wednesday, December 4th at 7PM. There will not be a meal beforehand for the evening worship.

Children's Sunday School Program will be Sunday, December 15th.

Christmas Eve Services will be held at 2:30PM and 4:30PM. We will be serving Holy Communion and having a candle light service at both times.

Christmas Day will not be celebrated in person. The staff will be providing a pre-recorded service that day at 9:45AM. It will be on Facebook and YouTube. Live.

#### **Spring Supper Raffle Items needed!**

The women are asking for raffle items for our annual spring raffle during the annual spring supper. We have to apply for our permit the first Monday in December.

Please let Loree or a staff member know what you would like to donate. It does not have to created or purchased at this time. You can also donated a Krauses's or Cenex Gift Card

## Women's Ministry

Dicken's Bake Sale St Paul will be sponsoring a bake sale the second weekend of the Dickens Festival, December 6th and 7th. We will need all bakers and booth workers available to make this the success it has been in the past. On the 1st Sunday in November, we will have sign-up sheets for work schedule and anticipated donations as well as sheets with suggested prices and packaging info.

Lefse Making Day We are looking for lefse makers to come and share their talents in making lefse for the Women's Bake Sale at the Dicken's Festival. The lefse making will be on November 16th at 9:00 a.m. in the church kitchen. Please sign up or call the church if you can make lefse.

#### Quilting %



Quilting will continue to meet every Monday at 1PM through December,.

Please call the office in case of inclement weather.

## Weekly Bible Studies

#### Men's Tuesday morning Bible

**Study:** will continue on Tuesdays, at 10:00 a.m. in the chapel. The study is looking at the upcoming Sunday readings.

Thursday Morning Community Bible Study: at the Meadows will continue at 10:00 a.m. on Thursdays. The study is looking at the upcoming Sunday readings.

## WOMEN'S CIRCLE MEETING and BIBLE STUDY

Morning Circle meets every month for fellowship and Bible study. They meet the 1st Wednesday at 9:30AM



#### Greetings friends!

Autumn is upon us. Hopefully I am not jinxing myself by mentioning the wonderful warm weather too! I always enjoy watching the green leaves turn into beautiful colors and the brisk air that comes along in October and November.

Along with the fall season and its changes comes a change in our church liturgical seasons. I look forward to sharing Advent and Christmas with you. We move from the green paraments to Advent blue and Christmas white. There will be one worship option every Wednesday for Advent this year and we will be having 2 Christmas Eve services. We will not be gathering in person on Christmas Day, but our staff is putting together a Christmas Day worship service that will air via Facebook, YouTube and will be available on our website.

#### CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

#### **Church Council met on October 24th.**

- They visited about the progress of the ceiling in the Sanctuary/Worship Space.
- They set the date for the Annual Meeting. It will be Sunday, February 2, 2025.
- They set the date for the Annual Spring Supper. It will be Sunday, March 2, 2025.
- They adjusted the Background Check Policy on staff and volunteers. It will be every 2 years for those who have it completed. New staff and volunteers will automatically be checked.

#### Snowbirds



Please let Holly Klemisch know when you are heading south so that she can change your mailing address for the winter.
Thanks!

**Operation Christmas Child:** We are collecting shoe boxes during the month of October through November 10<sup>th</sup>

The first round of Confirmation classes is ending soon, and confirmation will begin again in January. St. Paul is blessed with bright students who take their faith seriously. 4 young people have affirmed their faith this year and have put a lot of time into sharing their faith statements with you.

Thank you!! We continue to lift up together the hospitality of "You are welcome here!" in our ministry and worship. We had new members join us in September and have had and will continue to have baptisms into the winter. We had new children join us for Sunday School and Sonshine Friends. Thank you for your hospitality and reaching out!

If you are struggling, please remember there are many resources at St. Paul that can help you in your journey. There are many sisters and brothers in Christ who would be available to visit with you and share in your life happenings with you.

My office door is always open. I am easily emailed, and a cell phone call or text away! And if you are a Snap Chatting person, I am slowly but surely learning how to do that too. :)

Blessings as we move into the Advent and Christmas season!

#### **Financial Update**

#### November, 2024

As of 10/24 OCTOBER YEAR TO DATE
Offering \$11,955.68 \$161,859.51
Expenses \$10,935.91 \$180,252.47
Principal on loan \$1,019.77 \$1,591.60

-\$19,693.86

#### ACTION GROUPS

The December Action Group will meet on Sunday, November 17th.

The January Action Group will meet on Sunday, December 15th.

#### **LOOKING AHEAD**

The Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, February 2, 2025

REPORTS will due by January 12th!



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24 Christ the King Sunday 8:30 Christmas Choir Practice 9:45 Worship 10:45 Fellowship 11:00 Christmas Decorating 11:00 Sunday School 6:00 6tt-9th Youth Group	17 8:30 Christmas Choir Practice 9:45 Communion Worship 10:45 Dec. Action Group meets 10:45 Fellowship 11:00 Sunday School	10 8:30 Christmas Choir Practice 9:45 Worship 10:45 Fellowship NO Sunday School Shoe Box Deadline Out of the Sanction	3 All Saints Sunday CCM Sunday 9:45 Communion Worship 10:45 Fellowship 11:00 Sunday School 11:30 Summer Youth Meeting 4:30 German Supper Out of the Sanctuary	SUNDAY
25 1:00 Quilters	18 1:00 Quilters	1:00 Quilters NO SCHOOL	4 1:00 Quilters	MONDAY
26 10:00 Men's Bible Study	19 10:00 Men's Bible Study 4:00 Gifts from the Heart Star Making	12 10:00 Men's Bible Study 5:00 Girl Scouts	10:00 Men's Bible Study 5:00 Girl Scouts	TUESDAY
27 Office Closed No Sonshine Friends	20 2:00 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor Chapel 3:00PM Sonshine Friends Friendsgiving (A&B) 3:00 BLC Chapel	13 3:00 Sonshine Friends (B)	9:30AM Circle Meeting 3:00 Sonshine Friends (A) 6:00 All Confirmation Students at the Pantry	WEDNESDAY
28 Office Closed  Thanksgiving Day	21 10:00 Community Bible Study at the Meadows	14 10:00 Community Bible Study at the Meadows	7 10:00 Community Bible Study at the Meadows	THURSDAY Halloween Trunk or Treat
29 Office Closed Dickens Festival- 4:30PM Fleischkuekle	22	15	80	FRIDAY 1 CCM Youth Bash
30 Dickens Festival- 4:30PM Fleischkuekle	Piano Lessons  CCM Scandinavian Supper	16 Piano Lessons Lefse Making Day	9 Piano Lessons SACA Soup & Bread	SATURDAY SATURDAY SATURDAY SATURDAY SATURDAY SATURDAY

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#### St. Paul Lutheran Church

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#### Church Council

Staff Barbara Holland Ferguson Tami Engel Cheryl Mehlhoff Wade Kolden Leeann Wimer Traci Ruhland Mike Maki Andrew Haugen Jenny Collings Deb Youngs, Secretary Randy Essler, Vice President Clair Eslinger, President

#### November and December Newsletter



Holly Klemisch, Faith Formation Director
Rev. Janis Sloka, III pastor

We will be purchasing poinsettias for the altar this year. The cost is \$20 for one. We welcome all that would like to give an honorarium or memorial for someone special or a thanksgiving gift. We will use the money for a plant or your donation can go to our local
pantry, GARC. You choose. Please fill in the information below and place this completed form along with your donation in an envelope and place it in the offering plate or send it to the Church.
<ul> <li>Deadline to get poinsettias ordered is December 1st!</li> </ul>
Deadline to give donations (no plant) is December 15th!
For a Plant:
OR - For a pantry donation:
IN MEMORY OF:
IN HONOR OF:
IN THANKSGIVING:
YOUR NAME:
PHONE NUMBER