

ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Maryville, TN

THE GOOD NEWS

December 2015 Edition



Christmas Eve

*Candlelight Service
with Holy Communion*

Thursday, December 24, 2015

7:00pm & 11:00pm

Prelude Concert ~ 10:30pm

Worship Times

Sunday Morning

8:00 am & 10:30 am

Sunday School

9:15am

Contact Us

Pastor: *The Rev. Rick Ohsiek*

Phone: 865-982-4285

Fax: 865-977-8070

Email: splchurch@bellsouth.net

Web: www.stpaulmaryville.org

Church Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 9:00am-3:00pm



PASTOR AND CHURCH COUNCIL

A Message from Pastor Rick: Advent Offerings

Traditionally, our Wednesday Advent offerings have been designated for a ministry outside of our congregation. This year we will split the offerings between our campus ministry programs at the University of



Tennessee (Tyson House) and East Tennessee State University (LSM-ETSU). Both of these ministries have incredible pastor leadership.

Pastor John Tirro serves as chaplain at Tyson House. He is a gifted leader and musician. We occasionally sing his setting of the Lord's Prayer in worship.

Pastor Ed Myers is at LSM-ETSU. Many of our youth have gotten to know him through AFFIRM and All Tennes-

see youth events.

There are several reasons that I asked council to designate these recipients this year.

First, we have students at both of these schools. We have promised to do all we can to nurture these young people in their faith formation. Supporting ministries at their universities helps us to keep that promise for them and for the other lives that will be touched.

Second, there is a need for help. As chair of the synod's Campus Ministry Team, I am deeply aware of the lack of funds available in our synod's budget for many ministries such as these. Currently, both of these campus ministries are supported primarily through local congregations (St. John – Knoxville & Our Saviour – Johnson City). While our support will not make a huge difference, every little bit helps.

Third, it's a good evangelism tool. We often complain that there are not enough young people in the church, but we fail to do anything to change the situation. By supporting college students and trying to keep them active in the life of the church, we are continuing to develop new leaders for the present and future.

Fourth, I have to admit that I have a personal connection to both of these ministries and want them to flourish. Pastor Myers is one of my best friends and is doing great work with this small gathering of students. While not as big as Tyson House, they are slowly growing and can use our help.

Continued on the next page

The St. Paul Church Council will meet monthly on the third Monday ~ 7:30pm

Rick Anger – President
angerrick@gmail.com

Mike Culross - Vice President
maculross@msn.com

Carolyn Speck – Council Secretary
jspeck1@charter.net

Loda Wylie – Treasurer - lodarae@yahoo.com

Jan Hanes - jehanes@bellsouth.net

Shirley Lips - thequilthaus@yahoo.com

Nan Wylie - nurseonthego@charter.net



Greg Caldwell - GregC@whs-pi.com

Marianne Searfoss - msearfos@gmail.com

Beth Drane - Tenneliz2000@yahoo.com

PASTOR AND CHURCH COUNCIL

Tyson House has a special place in my heart. Slightly over 50 years ago, my parents were very involved in campus ministry at UT. While working at St. John's, she was responsible for getting the Lutheran Student Association started in Knoxville. As a young pastor in the area, my dad helped at the campus site and worked on folks at the synod and national level to help get support for the new ministry. To them, the students at UT were like their children. Who knows, I might not be around if they had not worked together on this before and in the early years of their marriage.

Please help us support these ministries during Advent. Even if you are unable to be present for our Advent evening worship, you can give on Sunday. Just mark your envelope "Advent", and we will make sure it gets to the right place.

Peace,

Pastor Rick



A Message From the Council President

**Dear Friends of St. Paul,
God is Great! Halleluiah, God is Great!**

Well this is my last letter as Council President of St. Paul Lutheran Church and God is indeed great. I have had the opportunity to be your President for the last 2 years and it has been an honor to serve you and the Lord. There have been many times that I have asked for help from our Lord and he has given me the guidance to move forward.

Over these last 24 months I have continued to thank and praise our volunteers for all they have done for St. Paul. These folks have given their time and efforts to make St. Paul the church it is today.

As members of this Congregation I would hope that you take the time to thank these unselfish volunteers of St. Paul Lutheran Church.

We sometimes take our staff for granted and forget to thank them. I would like to take some time to recognize them and hope that you will also.

Library Corner:

Parents and grandparents: You will find a wonderful variety of books about Advent and Christmas to help you share with your youngsters the real meaning of the season. Check out a few of them! There is also a display of books for adults on the holiday season. Take time from your busy schedules to contemplate the wonderful blessings we have received from the birth of the baby Jesus.



Let me start by thanking Pastor Rick for all his faith in me and for all his guidance over these past 2 years. I truly believe that without his help and his love for God I would not be the person I am today.

Next on my list is Sue Tyler, Sue and I have worked very close together meeting at least once every month and I must tell everyone how lucky we are to have her in our church. Sue is a faith driven person who loves St. Paul. We are very blessed to have her as our Administrator and Lay Minister.

Next is Chase Hatmaker. What a wonderful addition to St. Paul. He has brought us music from the Lord and helped to make our Sunday Worship a blessed event. Thank you Chase for all you have given St. Paul.

Last but not least is Jimmy Prince. Jimmy has been keeping St. Paul clean for many years and I know that God has helped him guide his brooms and mops. Thanks Jimmy.

That is all I have to say other than thank you and thank the Lord for all the support.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Rick Anger

Staff Christmas Gifts

During the Holiday Season we like to give a gift to our staff; Pastor Rick, Sue Tyler, Chase Hatmaker, Marsha Wynn, & Jimmy Prince, to show our appreciation of all their hard work. The amount is not important it's the thought that really counts.

We ask that all contributions **be in cash and given by December 20th**, to Suzanne Bielenberg, 8:00am service, or Marsh Bryant, 10:30 service. Contributions will then be split between the staff members. Thanks in advance for any contribution you wish to make.

Rick Anger - Council President

Mid-week Advent Worship
Wednesday's in December

Holden Evening Prayer Service

6:15pm

Chrismons Tell the Story



Sunday, December 27th
10:30am

Join us for a special service of Lessons and Carols.

We will not have an 8:00am service or Sunday School this day.

Before the Manger

(A Christmas Story Prequel)

Sunday, December 20, 2015

9:15am

Hear the exciting story of
Mary & Joseph's journey
to Bethlehem.

Retold by the St Paul
Confirmation Class



**St. Paul Sunday School children invite you to celebrate the
Announcement of our Savior!**

Special Music by: **Sing-N-Sign Choir And St. Paul Carolers**

Stay for Fellowship and holiday treats after the program.

The fun begins at 9:15am in the Fellowship Hall!



"Holiday Buffet"

Please share your favorite Christmas
treat for a special "Holiday Buffet"
to be served immediately
following the Christmas Program on

Sunday, December 20th - 9:15am.

Please contact Leigh Caldwell for more information.

FELLOWSHIP

Leigh Caldwell - Coordinator

ADVENT SOUP SUPPERS

Wednesday, December 2nd, 9th, and 16th

Meal Served at 5:30pm



Beginning Wednesday, December 2nd, and for the following 2 Wednesday evenings during Advent, suppers will again be soup and sandwiches—a simple meal to help remind us Advent is a season of preparation for the coming of our Savior. Individuals are asked to assist with set up, prepare soup or sandwiches or help with clean up as indicated in the chart below.

(rotation of responsibilities alphabetically by beginning letter of last name.)

DATE	SET UP	SOUP or SANDWICHES	CLEAN UP
DEC 2	A-F	G-L	M-Z
DEC 9	G-L	M-Z	A-F
DEC 16	M-Z	A-F	G-L

Please **sign up** on the sheet located on the bulletin board by the kitchen the week you are assigned to bring soup or sandwiches.

5:00 PM—SET UP (set out cups, bowls, plates, napkins, spoons, soup ladles/serving pieces and food; make coffee and Kool Aid, fill water pitchers) *Drinks need to be maintained during the meal*

5:15 PM—Have food at church



5:30 PM—Meal begins

6:05 PM—CLEAN UP (Clear drinks station, wash coffee pots/carafes, wipe off tables and counters, wash dishes belonging to church, take out trash, take towels/dishcloths home for washing)

6:15 PM— Mid-Week Advent Service



10:30 Service

**Fellowship
Teams**

Each team is responsible for providing cookies or donuts, setting up and cleaning up the Fellowship time after the 10:30 service. Contact Jacqueline Conzemius for more information.

December 6 Judy & Jerry Sorensen,
Frank & Julie Rutherford

December 13 Mark & Elaine Fisher,
Beth & Bill Drane

December 20 Barb & Bob Miller,
JB & Sylvia Johnson

December 27 Jacqueline Conzemius

PARISH LIFE

Carla McMillion- Coordinator



SPAM Christmas Party

O'Charley's ~ December 15th ~ 2:00pm.

Dress in your finest bib and tucker and join us. Sign up on the bulletin board, so we will know to expect you! We will order from the menu and have a free room.

HO HO HO, Merry Christmas to all!



WELCA

Christmas Brunch
December 5, 2015

11:00am

Bring a dish to share.

LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION

All men of the church are invited to our Christmas Dinner.

**Friday, December 4th
6:30pm**

Sullivan's, 121 W. Broadway, Maryville,
Please let Chris Mallette (984-5396) or Rene Zimmer (406-9016) know if you are coming.



The Women of the ELCA Ladies Christmas Brunch will be, December 5th at 11 AM.

There is a sign-up sheet on the WELCA bulletin board. The theme of this year's brunch will be Christmas in other countries, feel free to bring a story of a tradition from your family. Also, if anyone has a small nativity scene to be displayed, please see either Elaine Fisher or Beth Drane. We look forward to this event every year.

The Beekeepers Dinner is December 14th. Please look for the sign up sheet on the WELCA bulletin board to bring goodies for this special meal we host for the Blount County Beekeepers.



Special Visitor

**Sunday, December 13th
11:30am**

During Fellowship time following the 10:30 service.

Have your picture taken with Santa

- as portrayed by Art Hafner

STRENGTHEN YOUR COMMUNITY



THRIVENT
FINANCIAL®

Make an impact with a Thrivent Action Team

If you're a Thrivent Financial member, you can lead a **Thrivent Action Team** to bring people together for a one-time project to help others be wise with money and live generously.

You can:

- Coordinate an educational event.
- Conduct a service activity.
- Organize a fundraiser.

Thrivent will provide:

- Resources to help you plan the event.
- Promotional items, including Thrivent T-shirts.
- Community Impact Card with \$250 of seed money.

Learn more at Thrivent.com/actionteam and apply online.

Not a member of Thrivent? Share your service idea with me. Together, we can make a difference.

Contact me for more information:

Name Warren Bielenberg
Address
City, State ZIP
Phone Number 681-7884

Ask me about how some of our Thrivent members have already used this program to assist Habitat for Humanity, Keep'em in Stitches, Community Food Connection and our Thanksgiving baskets.



SERVING

Charlie Malin- Coordinator



Thrivent Action Team Event Thanksgiving Baskets

With generous donations from St. Paul Congregation and the Action Team dollars, we were able to purchase fresh fruit, vegetables, milk, and cheese to fill 19 baskets for the community.



Community Giving Tree

This holiday season the Serving Ministries Team invites you to pick an ornament from the “Community Giving Tree” and make a special Christmas donation to benefit one of four organizations providing help and hope to people in our community. The Community Giving Tree will be in the Welcome Center December 1st thru January 3rd. Take an envelope from the tree, place your monetary donation inside and put it in the gift box. **All checks should be made payable to St. Paul Lutheran Church with the organization selected written on the memo line.** If you would like your gift to be shared equally amongst the organizations select the envelope with the pie symbol and write share on the memo line. A single check from St. Paul will be sent to each of the following organizations at the end of the giving period.

The Community Food Connection provides food to any individual or family in need of assistance.



Family Promise of Blount County helps homeless families achieve sustainable independence.

Good Neighbors of Blount County

provides resources to assist our neighbors struggling with the challenges of everyday life.



Haven House

provides services to victims of domestic violence.

Habitat for Humanity
Builds affordable housing.



As the advent candles are lit this year reminding us that the light of Christ has come into the world, let your light shine by sharing with those in need in our community. *Thank you for your generosity.*

ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Note: If you are unable to serve when scheduled, please find a replacement for that Sunday.

Duties	December 6	December 13	December 20	CHRISTMAS EVE				
	8 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	8 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	7 p.m.	11 p.m.		
Assistant Minister	Jean Beck	Merl Krull	Mike Culross	Jean Beck	Warren Bielenberg	Marsha Wynn	Charlie Malin	Joel Searfoss
Communion Assistants	Jackie Kreider Laura Mallette	Tom Sims	Betty Ludwig Joel Searfoss	John Walker	Jackie Kreider Marianne Searfoss	Kris Zimmer	Marsha Bryant	Marianne Searfoss
Lector	Warren Bielenberg	Ann Hall	Carolyn Speck	John Walker	Betty Ludwig	JB Johnson	Beth Drane	Marianne Searfoss
Ushers	Mo Brueckner Greg Wyatt	Perry McClellan James McMillion Robert Bryant	Bertha Franks Dot Dishman	John Beck Al Hutchison Roy Johnson	Betty Ludwig Will Ludwig	Tom Sims Herb Perry René Zimmer		Greg Wyatt
Altar Guild	Jackie Kreider	Karin Bell	Linda Zrioka	Janice Hoover	Bertha Franks	Kris Zimmer		
Acolyte/Crucifer	Jean Beck	Darian Lindquist		Hannah Rundle	Autumn Burnett	Alyssa Rundle	Noah Ohsiek	
Nursery		Eric Walker Jessica Lindquist		Chris Mallette Laura Mallette		Dorine Keeble Anne Sims	Philip Tyler Scott Lindquist	
Greeters	Warren and Suzanne Bielenberg	Doris Hite	Ed and Jackie Kreider	Judy Krull	Bertha Franks	Thelma Fastner Christi Pfister	John Walker Family	Tom Lindquist Family
Sound Room	Steve Zrioka	Kevin Rokavec	Will Ludwig	Tom Sims	Joel Searfoss	Bob Block	Greg Caldwell	Sue Tyler
Tellers		Carolyn Speck John Beck		Chris Mallette Jan Hanes		Dee Dee Walker Kris Zimmer		Warren Bielenberg Joel Searfoss (Sunday)
Torch Bearers							JB Johnson Shari Martin	



December 2015

Birthdays & Anniversaries

December 4	Madelyn Carpenter
December 5	Dan Wynn
December 6	Judy Krull
December 6	Jenna Burts
December 8	James McMillion
December 9	Andrea Joyal
December 12	John Beck
December 12	Joel Searfoss
December 13	Ann Jordan
December 14	Delores Block
December 15	Elaine Fisher
December 16	Olivia DaCruz
December 18	Larry Galyon
December 20	Mary Schopmann



December 22	Jeremy Snoderly
December 25	Rachel Patterson
December 26	Ethel Duff
December 27	Tina Cusano
December 27	Kathy Kaun
December 30	Erika Hanes



ANNIVERSARIES

December 1	Ken & Neenah Dressler
December 2	Roland & Bertha Franks
December 7	Steve & Linda Zrioka

December 16	Gloria & Carl Leonard
December 16	Jeremy & Courtney Snoderly
December 20	Claude & Tena Abbott
December 23	Heinz & Shirley Lips
December 23	Robert & Marsha Bryant
December 26	James & Norma Watson
December 28	Mark & Elaine Fisher
December 28	Rick & Elizabeth Anger
December 29	Dan & Marsha Wynn
December 30	Curly & Sarah Wainwright



ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

429 Sandy Springs Road
Maryville, TN 37803

Dates of Interest

Check Calendar for times and places

***NOTICE* Church Office Closed ~ December 25th - January 1st**

Discipleship:

Sunday, December 20th ~ Christmas Program

Fellowship:

Wednesday's December 2nd, 9th, & 16th ~ Soup Supper

Sunday, December 20th ~ Holiday Treat Buffet

Parish Life:

Friday, December 6th ~ Men's Christmas Dinner

Monday, December 14th ~ WELCA, Bee Keeper's Dinner

Tuesday, December 15th ~ SPAM Christmas Luncheon

Sunday, December 13th ~ Special Fellowship with S. Nick

Worship:

Wednesday's December 2nd, 9th, & 16th ~ Mid-Week Advent Services

Thursday, December 24th ~ Christmas Eve Services

Sunday, December 27th ~ Lessons & Carols ~ **ONE SERVICE ONLY 10:30am**