

ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

December News

Volume 8 Issue 12

SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE
WITH THE WORLD

**Sunday
Worship Services**
8:00am & 10:30am

Sunday School
9:15am

**Wednesday
Mid-week Advent Service**
6:15pm

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Advent Mid-Week Worship

*A meal will be served at 5:30pm each Wednesday,
prior to the worship service.*

December 7th: 6:15pm St. Nicholas Festival Service

December 14th: 6:15pm Advent Service-Evening Prayer

December 21st: 6:15pm Advent Service-Evening Prayer



Christmas Eve Worship December 24th

5:00pm Children's Service

7:00pm Candlelight Service

11:00pm Candlelight Service



Christmas Day Service December 25th

There will be one service at 10:30am

CHURCH COUNCIL

A Message From Council President:

Where has the year gone? We will soon be opening presents and ringing in the new year. I hope you will make worship at St. Paul a big part of your December. Worship and fellowship are just not the same without you here.

We are fortunate to have two retired pastors, Pastor Harry Kocotos and Pastor Richard Krogmann, leading our worship services and ministering to our members as we move forward in hiring an interim pastor, and then forming a call committee to call a new pastor in 2012. Both have been a wonderful blessing to our church.

As Council President of St. Paul for the past three years I have seen firsthand the passion and love each of you have for this church and Christ's work in this place. When we work together and focus on our calling to be disciples, we are best able to serve others. As my term on council ends at the close of this year, I would like to thank all of those whom I have served with on council and in other areas of leadership in the church. It has been challenging, rewarding and humbling to have been called to serve in this roll.

I have one final request as your president.

Give of your time, give of your talents, give of your riches, give your love, give your support, give your encouragement, share your wisdom, share your faith and you will truly be a blessing to everyone and you will be richly blessed.

Peace of the Lord be with you,
Tom Sims - Council President

sims51@charter.net

WORSHIP MINISTRIES



St. Nicholas Festival

Wednesday, December 7th

6:15pm

We will receive an offering of new gloves, hats, mittens, that will be donated to local charities for children.

WORSHIP MINISTRIES



We welcome you to worship with us, each Sunday and Wednesday evening, during these days of great expectation!

We have entered the season of Advent, a time of preparation and expectation, leading up to the glorious birth of our Savior.

But the question on our minds should be

“What Are We Waiting For?”

Are we waiting for the holiday craziness to end?

Are we waiting for something special to happen to us?

Or are we waiting with attentive hearts to hear the words of

Healing + Hope + Joy + Peace

that God speaks to us through this season?

Two Services offered Sunday ~ 8:00am & 10:00am

Mid-week Advent Services begin at 6:15pm with a meal preceding, served at 5:30pm.

Advent is known as a season of anticipation. While it is the very beginning of the church year, it might be known as a prelude to the Christmas season- a preparation for what, or who, is to come- Immanuel, God With Us.

So, what are you waiting for?

We hope for **Healing** for our spirits and our bodies, and for those who need our prayers for healing.

We prepare for the **Joy** brought by the birth of the King of the Universe.

We anticipate the **Hope** of the Light that is to come.

We await the **Peace** in the world that is a sign of the Kingdom of God.

Advent is the time of preparation, but we are always preparing. We are always awaiting the Advent of the Kingdom.

Our Wednesday and Sunday worship during Advent will explore these themes as we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Savior.



“The Hope That is in Us,” a book benefitting **Good Neighbors of Blount County**, will be available for purchase on Sunday, December 4 after both services. The book is a compilation of nativity photos, scripture, meditations and carols and makes a great gift of keepsake. St. Paul’s nativity figures as well as three church members in full wise men costume are just a few of the features of the 122 page book. Good Neighbors of Blount County is a 501(c)(3) providing hope to our neighbors in crisis through compassionate coaching, education, referrals and financial assistance for utilities and rent.

PARISH LIFE MINISTRIES

Faith Alive

Wednesday's in December

Dinner served from 5:30-6:00pm

Advent Worship follows at 6:15pm

Women of the **ELCA** 

Christmas Brunch

“Chrismon Christmas”

Saturday, December 3rd

Ladies, mark your calendars to join us for the annual Christmas brunch at 11 a.m. on Dec.3. The theme will be a “Chrismon Christmas” with a chance to celebrate the Chrismon project that we have been working on all year. Each Chrismon is a Christian symbol reminding us of the life and death of Jesus. Join us for food, fellowship and Christmas carols. Please RSVP to Carolyn Speck at jspeck1@charter.net or 865-233-2363.



LUTHERAN
MEN IN MISSION
Building men for Christ

Men in Mission Pot-Luck

Thursday, December 2 ~ 6:00pm



Christmas Party
Thursday,
December 15th

6:30pm ~ The SPAM Christmas Party will be at the Courtyard Grill, if you need a ride call; Floyd Johnson (982-2237) or Brenda McClellan (379-7458)

Creative Play Day II

Saturday, December 10th ~ 10:00am-4:00pm

*We don't take enough opportunities for a fun "play day"
so come and spend a Saturday of creative play
as we gather to explore our individual creativity through artistic play.*

All you need is a desire to create something.

This is an opportunity to feed your internal inspirational whispers with the support of other creative spirits.

Bring any extra art, stamping and scrapbooking supplies, fabric, napkins and fun paper you have at home to share,

a partial finished art or craft project you may want to work on, and a willingness to create. We will offer a fun way to collage, but are open to any new creative ideas offered.

Drop in for a couple hours or have fun all day. Contact Jacqueline Conzemius at 984-2577 if you have any questions and to RSVP, or email the church office at - splchurch@bellsouth.net



DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES



Faith Formation

December

Advent Reflections

Making All Things New

Bible Study, Daily Devotions, & Prayer

Two opportunities for Advent Bible Study will begin Sunday, November 27th and will meet each Sunday during Advent.

The first will be Sunday mornings at 9:15am during the Sunday School hour.

Leaders: Winnie Johnson & Leona Patty

The Second will be Sunday evenings at 6:30pm at Sue Tyler's home.

Leader: Sue Tyler (556-6432)

Weekdays, at 7:50am, during the season of Advent we will offer a time for morning coffee with daily devotions and prayer.

Confirmation Schedule

December 4th 9:15am - Help with Children Christmas Program

December 11th 9:15am - Help with Children Christmas Program

December 18th 9:15am - Help with Children Christmas Program - **Christmas Program @ 10:30 am Service.**

December 28th 6:00pm - Pizza and Movie night



Children's Hand Chime Choir Practice Age 7 AND older

St. Paul Youth will gather with all children 7 and older to teach them how to play the hand chimes.

Practices will take place on
Wednesdays 5:00pm-5:45pm

The choir will play the prelude for the 10:30 service on December 11th and at the Children's Christmas Eve Service.

For more information contact: Jenna Burts, Samantha Fowler or Dana Conzemius.

SUPPORTING/GROWING MINISTRIES

REMINDER FROM YOUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY

If you contribute to the Capital Campaign, please distinguish Capital Campaign giving from your Regular Giving. You may use your current giving envelope or a new envelope and write the amounts for each on the envelope. Or you can write a check for both and distinguish the amounts on the memo line. You also can write a separate check for the Capital Campaign and write "CC" on the memo line. If you would like to receive separate envelopes for your Capital Campaign contributions, please contact me and I'll provide them to you. If you use the Mountain National Bank account on-line system, please make separate transactions for the "CC" contributions. You can call me at 865-405-9474, 423-884-6317 or e-mail me on hpcp2@tds.net,

Herb Perry

DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES

St. Paul Youth National Youth Gathering

*We gather as citizens with the saints to learn to love like Jesus by practicing
discipleship through peacemaking that works for justice*

Fund-raiser
2/\$20 Christmas Special
December 4th -11th



- * Cookies in a Jar
- * Brownies in a Jar
- * Bean Soup in a Jar
- * Mocha Mix
- * Friendship Tea

*These make great gifts for family, friends, teachers,
co-workers...*

St. Paul Youth are trying to raise \$5,000 so they can attend the 2012 ELCA National Youth Gathering next July. Thank you for supporting our journey of Faith.



St. Paul Youth + Faith + Fun + Fellowship

**St. Paul Youth and Youth Workers
Christmas Party
Tuesday, December 20th
7:00pm
Sue Tyler's House**



Bring an Appetizers to share



**High School Youth
Tuesday Prayer Breakfast
December 6th
@ Sweet Celebrations ~ 7:15am**

**St. Paul Youth Lock-in
Friday, December 16th
7:00pm - Saturday,
December 17th 8:00am**



Youth Sunday Worship planning,
Fellowship, Devotions, Games...

Contact Sue Tyler for more info (556-6432)

SERVING MINISTRIES



**Habitat
for Humanity**®

The Blount County Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

is partnering with Blount Habitat for Humanity to raise funds for building a Habitat house in 2012.

Our chapter will be gift wrapping at Belk's in Foothills Mall, beginning Monday December 5 thru Saturday December 10.

Shift hours are:

Monday–Friday: 10am–1pm; 1pm–4 pm; 4pm–7pm and 7pm–8:30pm.

Saturday: 8am–11am; 11am–2pm; 2pm–5pm; 5pm–8pm and 8pm–9:30pm



For working the 3 hour shift, you will get a 20% Belk's discount card.

A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board next to the kitchen.

Please sign up and help us raise money while you save money at Belk's, for Christmas shopping.

Come see Santa Claus at the Blount Habitat ReStore.

Tell the kids to get their Christmas lists ready and Santa will be at the ReStore every Saturday beginning November 19th.

ReStore

Location: 548 Foothills Plaza Drive in Maryville

Dates: November 19 and 26; December 3, 10 and 17.

Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Best part – it's FREE. You are welcome to bring your own camera to capture the moment.

Keep checking "Blount Co Habitat ReStore" on Facebook for dates on which we will be taking pictures for you for FREE.

Any questions: contact Jan Hanes at 980-3353



SERVING MINISTRIES

Health & Wellness Corner

Checked your Blood Pressure lately?



St. Paul offers monthly blood pressure checks on the 2nd Sunday after each service in the Choir Room. This month's date is **Sunday, December 11th.**

ADVENT is a time



of opening ourselves up to the Lord.
a time of deep personal renewal,
a time for more personal prayer,
a time for more Bible reading,
a time for tearing down,
a time for building up,
Author unknown

Featured Volunteer



Have there been times, when at St. Paul that you thought you saw Santa in our midst—you know, a man with long white hair and a fluffy white beard?

Indeed you have, St. Paul's own special Santa—Art Hafner!

Perhaps comments from people regarding his looks prompted Art to attend the *International School for Santas* in Gatlinburg for a weekend training course.

Soon Art will be bringing special holiday cheer to others. Why? To bring a smile to children's (of all ages) faces. He will be donating his time to play Santa at a fund raising event at Maryville College for the literacy corps and also at Parents

Day Out—a day care program at Broadway Methodist Church.

Art has been a member of St. Paul for nearly 40 years. During this time he has been a member of church council and has served as council president, choir member, lector, and worship assistant. He has also played several roles in the MIM's dinner theater events.

Art is also involved in serving the community through his involvement with Adult Education at Pellissippi State Community College, the Blount County Sheriff's Office Senior's Outreach Program and several military and veteran's organizations.

Playing Santa is one way in which Art plans to use his special God-given gifts to serve others.

This Christmas season as we worship the Christ child at the manger let us think of Art and **ALL** the serving ministers of St. Paul as we share our special gifts with others!

Going to have ham during the holidays? Need gift ideas?

How about Honey Baked Ham gift cards? (and benefit Family Promise!)

The cards can be for any amount....an average half ham is around \$50.

Family Promise of Blount County will receive up to 20% of the amount that you request.

You get a \$50 gift card and get \$50 worth of products at the Honey Baked Ham store anywhere with no deadline on usage.

Checks can be made to Family Promise!

Send the orders and checks to Ginny West Case at First United Methodist Church, Maryville, 804 Montvale Station Road, Maryville, TN 37803. Email ginnywc@fumc-maryville.org or call 865-363-1709 if you have



Saint Paul Lutheran Church Weekly Calendar December

<u>Week 1</u>	<u>Week 2</u>	<u>Week 3</u>	<u>Week 4</u>	<u>Week 5</u>
<p><u>Thursday, December 1</u> 7:55am Advent - Morning Prayer 8:30am Lutheran Loungers 7:00pm GS # 20325 6:00pm Men in Mission</p> <p><u>Friday, December 2</u> 7:55am Advent - Morning Prayer 6:00pm WELCA Set up</p> <p><u>Saturday, December 3</u> 10:00am WELCA - Brunch 4:00pm Jerry Sorensen</p>	<p><u>Sunday, December 4</u> 8:00am Worship Service 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service</p> <p><u>Monday, December 5</u> 7:55am Advent - Morning Prayer 2:30pm Staff Meeting 6:00pm Chimes</p> <p><u>Tuesday, December 6</u> 7:55am Advent - Morning Prayer 9:30am Comm Food Com 11:30am Out To Lunch Bunch 6:30pm GS Troop # 552</p> <p><u>Wednesday, December 7</u> 7:55am Advent - Morning Prayer 10:00am Prayer Group 5:30pm Faith Alive Meal 6:15pm Advent Service 7:00pm Adult Choir Practice</p> <p><u>Thursday, December 8</u> 7:55am Advent - Morning Prayer 6:00pm Thrivent BC Chapter 7:00pm Theology Uncorked – Advent</p> <p><u>Friday, December 9</u> 7:55am Advent - Morning Prayer</p> <p><u>Saturday, December 10</u> 8:30am AARP Safety Program 10:00am Creative Play Day</p>	<p><u>Sunday, December 11</u> 8:00am Worship Service 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 6:30pm Theology Uncorked – Advent</p> <p><u>Monday, December 12</u> 7:55am Advent - Morning Prayer 2:30pm Staff Meeting 6:00pm Chimes</p> <p><u>Tuesday, December 13</u> 7:55am Advent - Morning Prayer 5:00pm Property 6:00pm GS Troop #74 6:30pm GS Troop # 552</p> <p><u>Wednesday, December 14</u> 7:55am Advent - Morning Prayer 10:00am Prayer Group 5:30pm Faith Alive Meal 6:15pm Advent Service 7:00pm Adult Choir Practice</p> <p><u>Thursday, December 15</u> Newsletter Deadline 7:55am Advent - Morning Prayer 10:00am WELCA Morning 6:30pm SPAM Christmas Party 7:00pm GS # 20325</p> <p><u>Friday, December 16</u> 7:55am Advent - Morning Prayer 7:00pm Youth Lock-in</p> <p><u>Saturday, December 17</u> 1:00pm Out to Lunch Bunch</p>	<p><u>Sunday, December 18</u> 8:00am Worship Service 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 6:30pm Theology Uncorked – Advent</p> <p><u>Monday, December 19</u> 7:55am Advent - Morning Prayer 2:30pm Staff Meeting 6:00pm Chimes</p> <p><u>Tuesday, December 20</u> 7:55am Advent - Morning Prayer 12:00pm SPAM 6:30pm GS Troop # 552 7:00pm Youth Christmas Party</p> <p><u>Wednesday, December 21</u> 7:55am Advent - Morning Prayer 10:00am Prayer Group 5:30pm Faith Alive Meal 6:15pm Advent Service 7:00pm Adult Choir Practice</p> <p><u>Thursday, December 22</u> 7:55am Advent - Morning Prayer 11:30am Out to Lunch Bunch 6:30pm NAMI Support Grp</p> <p><u>Friday, December 23</u> Office Closed</p> <p><u>Saturday, December 24</u> 5:00pm Children's Christmas Eve Service 7:00pm Christmas Eve Service 11:00pm Christmas Eve Service</p>	<p><u>Sunday, December 25</u> 10:30am Worship Service</p> <p><u>Monday, December 26</u> Office Closed</p> <p><u>Tuesday, December 27</u> 6:30pm GS Troop # 552</p> <p><u>Wednesday, December 28</u> 10:00am Prayer Group</p> <p><u>Thursday, December 29</u> 7:00pm GS # 20325</p> <p><u>Friday, December 30</u> Office Closed</p> <p><u>Saturday, December 31</u></p> <p><u>Sunday, January 1, 2012</u> 10:30am Worship Service</p>

ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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

	December 4	December 11	December 18	December 24	December 25
Dues	8 a.m.	8 a.m.	8 a.m.	7 p.m.	10:30 a.m.
Assistant Minister	Warren Bielenberg	Harry Kocotos	Merl Krull	Joel Searfoss	Charlie Malin
Communion Assistants	Joel Searfoss	Floyd Johnson	Carol Perry	Marianne Searfoss	Carolyn Speck
Lector	Tami Wyatt	Art Hafner	Winnie Johnson	DeeDee Walker	Beth Drane
Ushers	Mo Brueckner Floyd Johnson	Tim Walker Leslie Walker Robert Block	Claude Abbott Karl Weber	John Beck Roy Johnson Herb Perry	Bertha Franks Ethel Duff
Altar Guild	Sandi Weber Betty Ludwig	Karin Bell	Jackie Kreider Joey King	Brenda McClellan	Betty Ludwig Sandi Weber
Acolyte	Dana Conzemus	Destiny Lindquist	Taylor LeBlanc	Samantha Fowler	Joe King
Crucifer	Dana Conzemus	Jessica Lindquist	Taylor LeBlanc	Samantha Fowler	Joe King
Torch Bearers					
Nursery		Judy Krull Karin Bell	Chris Mallette Laura Mallette	Ann Jordan Paula Kenworthy	Emily Moritz Mary Boring
Greeters	Ethel Duff Dorothy Dishman	Perry and Brenda McClellan	Bruce and Alice Andrews	David Walker	Steve Zrioka
Sound Room	Will Ludwig	Mark Fisher	Will Ludwig	David Walker	Steve Zrioka
Tellers		Chris Mallette Carolyn Speck	Will Ludwig Herb Perry	Roy Johnson Marsha Bryant	Herb Perry Barb Miller

DECEMBER 2011

Birthdays & Anniversaries



December 4 Madelyn Carpenter
 December 5 Dan Wynn
 December 6 Jenna Burts
 December 8 James McMillion
 December 10 Dale Biehler
 December 11 Gary Moehling
 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 17 Margaret Richardson
 December 18 Catherine Baglin
 December 18 Larry Galyon
 December 20 Jaye Karvonen
 December 20 Joey King
 December 20 Andre Miller
 December 22 Jeremy Snoderly
 December 23 Emily Moritz
 December 25 Rachel Kaufman
 December 26 Ethel Duff
 December 27 Tina Cusano
 December 30 Erika Hanes
 December 30 Martha Booker

December 2 Roland & Bertha Franks
 December 7 Steve & Linda Zrioka
 December 16 Gloria & Carl Leonard
 December 16 Jeremy & Courtney Snoderly
 December 16 George & Pamela Kloss
 December 20 Claude & Tena Abbott
 December 23 Heinz & Shirley Lips
 December 23 Robert & Marsha Bryant
 December 24 George & Kathi Wong
 December 26 James & Norma Watson



December 28 Mark & Elaine Fisher
 December 29 Dan & Marsha Wynn

ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH



429 Sandy Springs Road
Maryville, TN 37803

*Sharing Christ's Love
With the World*

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If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter please contact the church office at 982-4285 or splchurch@bellsouth.net. Thank You.

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Church Office Hours : 9:00 am—2:30pm
Monday—Friday

Dates of Interest

Check Calendar for times and places

Discipleship:

Sundays in December ~ NYG "Cookies in a Jar" sale
Tuesday, December 6th ~ High School Youth ~ Breakfast @ Sweet Celebrations
Friday, December 16th ~ St. Paul Youth Lock-in
Tuesday, December 20th ~ St. Paul Youth Christmas Party @ Sue Tyler's house

Serving:

Sunday, December 11th ~ Blood Pressure Checks

Worship:

Wednesdays in December ~ Mid-week Advent Services
Sunday, December 18th ~ Children's Christmas Program during 10:30am Service
Saturday, December 24th ~ 3 Christmas Eve Services
Sunday, December 25th ~ Christmas Day Service @ 10:30am ~ One Service only

Parish Life:

Thursday, December 1st ~ Men in Mission Pot-Luck
Wednesdays in December ~ Faith Alive Meal
Saturday, December 10th ~ Creative Play Day
Thursday, December 22nd ~ SPAM Christmas Party @ The Court Yard