



Purpose Statement

Living Christ centered lives so we may love all, serve our community, and share the Word.

News for Sunday November 28

Join us for Worship

10:00 a.m.

Just a reminder that masks are required while in the building.

Click [HERE](#) for the bulletin

Tri-Church Online Worship Services

Worship will be available at 9am on Sunday and any time after that:

<http://stpaulsterling.com/> & <https://stpaulsterling.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=f94d986cbc4c67a176723cace&id=eff197e4e9&e=2acc769427>

You can call the toll-free number 1-888-975-5536 and listen anytime.

To Watch Worship Click [HERE](#)

Bulletin Click [HERE](#)

We Remember in Prayer; those on our Home Visitation list and those on our prayer list: Berta Beyer, Dave Kendall, Michael Harding, Shelly Fullmer, MacKenzie Gorman, and Marcia Fields.

November Gratitude & Generosity Focus

This month at St. Paul we are exploring how we are Blessed to be a Blessing! Check out this video of some folks in our St. Paul family sharing how they are blessed to be a blessing. <https://youtu.be/ttDhIvVQsvo>

Gratitude Sunday was last Sunday, November 21. If you did not have a chance to turn in your 2022 Pledge card, you may do so by putting in the offering plate or in the church office. There are pledge cards available on the Head Usher table at the back of the sanctuary.

Deck the Halls of St. Paul's Dec 5

Everyone is invited to help us decorate for the Advent and Christmas season after worship on Dec 5. The more the merrier!

CLEO (Church Ladies Eating Out) The next date will be Monday, November 29. They will be going to The Factory in Sterling at 6:00 p.m. Sign-up up on the sheet on the kiosk in the Fellowship Hall to let us know you will be attending and to host a future date. We are really looking forward to seeing you! If you need more information, you can contact Libby Schrader: 815-626-0764.

Children's Offering

In November and December the children's offering will be supporting the ELCA Good Gifts Family Farm. **Help a family break the cycle of hunger and poverty — for good.** With eggs, milk and meat to eat and sell, and tools and training to increase the harvest, this gift can create a world of opportunity for a family living in poverty. Remember to all money to your bank box at home and bring it back to church no later than December 26.

LSSI Holiday Hope Chest – DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 6

Because of the Covid and so many restrictions, they have decided to forgo the purchase of individual gifts again this year. They have again opted to purchase gift cards for those in need. The easiest way is to drop off or mail in a donation designated LSSI to the church office. This gives them the opportunity to select the places from which to purchase gift cards that meet the individual needs of their clients. There is a list of place to buy gift cards from if you prefer to do that yourself and those lists are available in the church office. Money should be received by Monday, December 6. **This year another way to give** is through an online giving page that will make it easy for individuals to donate directly to the Holiday Hope Chest Campaign. Here is a link: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/LSSIChrismas2021> It's really easy to navigate and people can donate directly on this page by clicking the blue "Give Now" button.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call Carolyn Duncan @ 815-625-7878 or Kathy Hall @ 815-535-1055. I hope this year we can once again provide some help for those less fortunate. ~ Thanks Carolyn

THIS YEAR you can be a part of the giving of Good Gifts for the ELCA. Instead of animals this year, you can purchase a water filter for safe drinking water; a latrine to help with sanitation, an environmentally friendly cookstove, fruit seedlings, seeds and gardening tools, mosquito nets, and hygiene kits. You can also still donate toward the purchase of a Family Farm. Your donation of any kind is greatly appreciated. Please fill out the form ([on the reverse side of this sheet](#)) and let us know if it is memory or in honor of someone, and then either bring your form and payment into the church office, put it in the offering plate, or stick it in an envelope and mail. You can also click [HERE](#) for the form.

ST PAUL CHILDREN & YOUTH CHRISTMAS WORSHIP:

DECEMBER 12 DURING 10 AM WORSHIP... All St. Paul Sunday school children and youth will be sharing the Christmas story in word and song. Students, we will rehearse 2 more times Dec. 5, 9 – 9:45 AM, and Dec. 12, **8:30 – 9:30 AM**. Please contact Gerad if you have any questions about the program.

LSSI HELP WANTED As we are entering the winter season, we know that snow will likely become part of our daily lives. LSSI's Sterling Group Home is in need of someone to provide snow-removal services at both the Sterling Group Home and the Partnership House. For more information and job requirements/compensation, contact Aubrey Fisher, LSSI Program Director at 815-535-7259.

Christmas Eve Musicians Wanted! Please share your music with us! Contact Dawn Zeigler by December 5. dawn@stpaulsterling.com or 815-275-3775.

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Covid-19 Policy

Per Governor's Order Aug 26, 2021

1. Masks are required for everyone regardless of vaccination status while in the building.
2. Song leaders may take off their masks to sing during indoor worship.
3. During outside worship and/or activities, masks are optional.

THIS WEEK

Monday – November 29

CLEO will meet at The Factory in Sterling

Tuesday – November 30

Good Neighbor Emergency Center – 9:00-11:30a

Wednesday – December 1

Confirmation Class at Immanuel – 7:00-8:15p

Next Sunday – December 5

Tri-Church online Worship at 9:00a

Sunday School Christmas program rehearsal – 9:00-9:45a

Worship at 10:00a

December 5th Worship Assistants:

Head Usher – Jim Gorman

Ushers – Keith Peugh, Nancy Beck

Reader – Keith Peugh

Advent Readers & Acolytes – Shore family

Sound – Jim Gorman

ELCA Good Gifts

As members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), we believe that God's love in Jesus is a gift. ELCA Good Gifts is just one way you can share that love with others.

Deadline to purchase items is December 19.

Family Farm \$715.00 ____ You can give towards the purchase of a family farm with the donation amount of your choice.

Help a family break the cycle of hunger and poverty - for good. A cow, a couple goats, a dozen chicks, two pigs, farming tools, seeds and agricultural training can create a world of opportunity for a family living in poverty. With eggs, milk and meat to eat and sell, and tools and training to increase the harvest, this gift can make a big difference.

Water Filter \$30.00 ____

When safe drinking water just isn't available - especially in times following emergencies or natural disasters - a simple ceramic water filter is a lifesaver. Capable of purifying water without electricity or chemicals, a water filter is a powerful, reliable way to provide safe water when it's needed most.

Latrine \$150.00 ____

When you gotta go, you gotta go. But a startling 2 billion people around the world lack access to basic sanitation, including toilets. Without facilities, contamination of the local water supply and food chain make far too many people sick from preventable diseases. A new latrine, along with training to help with maintenance and hygiene, leads to a much healthier community, not to mention a safer way to take care of business.

Environmentally friendly cookstove \$105.00 ____

Traditional cooking stoves can burn a lot of wood and fill small homes with dangerous smoke that leads to a host of health problems for families. More efficient stoves can burn a variety of fuels, produce less smoke and maintain heat better, which means families burn less wood and face few health risks.

Fruit-tree seedling \$10.00 ____ Fruit tree farm \$150.00 ____

Certain fruit trees - such as mango, orange and guava - are known to thrive in the driest of conditions, even drought. These low-maintenance trees represent an investment in the community that can span generations, protecting the soil from erosion and providing vitamin-packed fruit to children and adults alike.

Seeds and gardening tools \$50.00 ____

Help a new gardener grow! New tools and equipment - along with seeds and comprehensive agricultural training - can help a family start their own small garden, improve their daily nutrition and increase their earning power.

Mosquito net \$10.00 ____ For a family \$20.00 ____

In many places around the world, just one bite from an infected mosquito can transmit malaria and lead to serious illness or death. A mosquito net treated with long-lasting insecticide and accompanied with education on its proper use can protect those most at risk - especially small children and older adults - from this life-threatening disease.

Hygiene Kit \$25.00 ____

We all know that hand-washing is an important way to stay healthy and control the spread of disease, including COVID-19. But in many communities critical supplies such as soap, bleach and even water are scarce. A hygiene kit provides sanitation supplies and education for households, schools, clinics and public spaces. It's a simple yet powerful way to protect our most vulnerable neighbors and save lives.