



Purpose Statement

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

News for Sunday, December 1

Join us for Worship at 9:00 a.m.

Click [HERE](#) for the 9:00 a.m. Worship bulletin

Click [HERE](#) to watch the Livestream

This morning we extend a welcome to Pastor Susan Davenport.

We Remember in Prayer; those on our Home Visitation list and those on our prayer list: Steven Julifs, Bev Julien, Phyllis Jacobsen, JoAnn Garcia, Barb Lenn, Lori Dewey, Betty Steinke, Michael Harting, Larry Wahler, JoDell Cruz, Sandy Julifs, and Lila Edeus.

During this time of transition if you have an emergency, please call Sue in the church office or one of the council members who will contact the pastor that is covering during that time.

Church Decorating

After our worship service on December 1, we will be putting up the Christmas and decorating the tree in the Sanctuary. Kids and families are welcome to help us decorate after their Christmas program practice. Many hands make light work! **Thank you to:** Gary Fields, Randy Dejonge, Ron & Janie Billings, Julie Woessner, Diane Yoeckel for all your help decorating the church for Christmas. It was greatly appreciated.
~ Nancy Eilers

Tri-Church Confirmation

We will meet on December 1, 2024 at St. John's. The lesson will be Messiah's birth foretold. There will be a Christmas party and review.

Families are still needed to light the Advent wreath and share the reading and litany in worship this Advent. Readers are needed on December 24 at the 8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve. worship. Please let Sue know if any dates work for your family. Thank you in advance!

Family photos

On December 1st and December 22nd, Liz (Arduini) Klein will be available following worship to take family photos. These will be used in a new Church Directory being planned for next year. Bring your smiles to worship!

Advent Calendar and Study

ELCA World Hunger invites you into a celebration of storytelling through "Humming With the Word," the theme for this year's Advent season. Advent calendars and a study are available for you to take home. They are available to pick up on the back table of the sanctuary.

Poinsettia orders are due into the church office by Monday, December 2. There are forms at the back of the church if you would like to order one. The cost is \$10.00.

Musicians! Please share your gifts with us Christmas our Christmas Eve. service! The Christmas Eve. candle light service is at 8 pm. Please contact Dawn Zeigler.

Breaking Bread Together (BBT)

You are most welcome to join the people of Immanuel for BBT in December! Breaking Bread Together or BBT is a time of sharing life, God's love and a meal together! This is a no host lunch. Join us for BBT on Wednesday, December 4th at 11:30 a.m. at Benny's Restaurant (2511 Locust Street, Sterling) and December 18th at 11:30 a.m. at A's Kitchen (2004 1st Ave., Rock Falls). ALL ARE WELCOME! Come and share life with God and each other at BBT!

Gratitude Sunday

If you have not had a chance to fill out and turn in your 2025 Contribution Pledge card and Time & Talent Sheets, you can do so at any time either in person or by mail. If you didn't receive one or would like one, please let Sue know. **TO DATE**, a total of \$83,569 has been pledged to our 2025 Contributions.

Contributions for 2024 must be turned in to the church office by the morning of December 31st, to be counted for 2024. Thank you!

Offering envelopes for 2025 will be available for pick-up **December 15** Please dispose of 2024 envelopes at the end of the year as your number for 2025 may be different. If you cannot find your envelopes or you would like some, please contact the church office.

Christmas Program

The Christmas Program is coming quickly! It is a St. Paul tradition for students to share their musical gifts as part of the program. All students are welcome and there is a place for anyone interested in adding their music to the program. Please contact Dawn Zeigler with any questions. She needs to have information by Sunday, December 1 if your child would like to share a carol or Christmas song! Please call, text, or email. 815.275.3775 Or dawn@stpaulsterling.com

LSSI Holiday Hope Chest

Thank you to all who are participating in purchasing gifts. Please return your gifts and the child's information paper to the church office by December 9th. Gift cards, wrapping paper, and bows can also be donated.

Children's Offering

The December children's offering will be for the God's Global Barnyard through the ELCA Good Gifts. A gift to God's Global Barnyard will be used where needed most to support livestock, agriculture and other sustainable-development projects, which help farmers and families with the resources they need to thrive.

THIS WEEK

Monday, December 2

Poinsettia orders due into the church office
Menz Group at St. John's – 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 4

Breaking Bread Together at Benny's Restaurant – 11:30 a.m.

Friday, December 6

Office closed

Saturday, December 7

Birthday party in the Fellowship Hall

Next Sunday, December 8

Worship/Communion service at 9:00 a.m.
Coffee Fellowship at 10:00 a.m.
Christmas Program practice – 10:15 – 11:00 a.m.

Next week's Worship Assistants

Presider: Pastor Kathy Burkheimer
Opener/Head Usher/Closer – Greg Zeigler
Advent Readers – Bartel family
Acolytes – Bartel family
Greeters – Bartel family
Ushers – Diane Yoeckel, Gary Fields
Reader – Marilyn Geiger
Sound – Bradyn Arians
Coffee Fellowship – *Volunteer Needed*