



### **Purpose Statement**

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

### **News for Sunday, December 8**

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

**Coffee Fellowship will be served following worship.**

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

Click [HERE](#) to watch the Livestream

**This morning** we extend a welcome to Pastor Kathy Burkheimer.

**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.

**Placing our confidence** in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection of our loved ones, we extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Raymond (Scott) & Deana Seely. They passed away on Thursday, November 28. A family gathering will take place on December 8.

*May God's presence bring you comfort and peace.*

**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.

### **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 9<sup>th</sup>. Gift cards, wrapping paper, and bows can also be donated.

**A Family is 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!

### **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.

**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.

### **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](mailto:dawn@stpaulsterling.com)

### **Family photos**

On December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 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!

### **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 31<sup>st</sup>, 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.

### **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**

**Tuesday, December 10**

Office Closed

CGH Volunteer Lunch – 11:00 a.m.

**Wednesday, December 11**

Office will pen late morning

**Thursday, December 12**

Congregation Council Meeting – 5:30 p.m.

LSSI Christmas party – 5:30 p.m.

**Friday, December 13**

Office closed

**Next Sunday, December 15**

Christmas Program/Communion service at 9:00 a.m.

Coffee Fellowship at 10:00 a.m.

**Next week's Worship Assistants**

Presider: Pastor Kathy Burkheimer

Opener/Head Usher/Closer – Stacey Avelar

Advent Readers – Avelar family

Acolytes – Avelar family

Greeters – Dan Dir, Susan Kuehl

Ushers – Diane Yoeckel, Gary Fields

Sound – Greg Zeigler

Coffee Fellowship – Mary Ordean