

# THE OTHER GOOD NEWS

## St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Preschool

22915 Greater Mack Avenue, St. Clair Shores, Michigan  
Church 586-777-0215 E-mail – st.pauls.scs@gmail.com  
Websites – “stpaulsmi.com”, and “www.lcms.org”

January, 2019

**Christian Education is important**

Worship Services Sundays 8:30 am and 11:00 am

Adult Bible Class 9:45 a.m. Sundays

Sunday Bible Class 9:45 am

Vision Statement

*“A Christian church that shares the love of Jesus.”*

Mission Statement

“St. Paul’s is a family of evangelical Lutherans that share the love of Jesus Christ. We believe the **Holy Bible** to be the true Word of God, without error, and the basis of our teaching, as confessed in the ‘Book of Concord 1580.’ Our Savior Jesus Christ answers prayers, provides comfort, peace, and blessings. Through the power of the Holy Spirit we respond to God’s love by joyfully worshipping, serving, teaching, and witnessing.”

“St. Paul’s Lutheran Church Early Childhood Center shares the Lord Jesus Christ with children, their families and friends, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, many will believe in Him and be saved.”

## KEEP AN OUT!

### Upcoming events

January 10 <sup>th</sup>	Taking down Christmas Decorations
January 13 <sup>th</sup>	Installation of Officers and Board Members
January 18 <sup>th</sup>	St. Paul’s Fun Night
January 20 <sup>th</sup>	Memorial Service – Observance of 46 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Roe v. Wade
February 3 <sup>rd</sup>	New Member Welcome
March 19 <sup>th</sup>	Council of Lutheran Women Luncheon
November 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Luther Fest

### St. Paul’s FUN Night

Friday, January 18, 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. (you may leave earlier.) Come join us around 6:30 p.m. (or anytime after) for an evening of friendly games and other fun. Very informal -- do as you please. Pizza and salad, etc. Please bring a few dollars to contribute. Such evenings have usually been well attended with a lot of good memories. We should end around 9. Who is welcome? Everyone ... members and non-members ... Christians and non-Christians ... male, female, tall, short, babies, mature, etc. BYOG or BYOC (games or cards). **Sign-up sheet --- before January 17.** Organizers needed also --- *please contact Pastor Rutter* if you can help him organize this event.



**Gardening Angels** soon it will be warm again and we can beautify the exterior of God’s House with trimmed shrubs and flowers. If you would like to serve as one of the “Gardening Angels” this year, please contact the church office. We typically meet on Monday mornings (before trash pickup) from May-October. You don’t have to commit to serve every week, although you could, but whenever you are able will be great!

*“He who has a bountiful eye will be blessed, for he gives of his bread to the poor.” Proverbs 22:9*

Wednesday Morning Bible Study 10:30 - 11:30 resumes January 16. First Corinthians. Presently in chapter 12 (of 16), but you main join the class “in progress.” Come and see, and learn, and be blessed.

**Readings for Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup>:** Isaiah 60:1 – 6, Psalm 24, Ephesians 3:1 – 12, St. Matthew 2:1 – 12

**Readings for Sunday, January 13<sup>rd</sup>:** I Kings 8:6 – 13, Psalm 50:1 – 15, Romans 12:1 – 5, St. Luke 2:41 – 52

**Readings for Sunday, January 20<sup>th</sup>:** Exodus 33:12 – 23, Amos 9:11 – 15, Psalm 67, Psalm 111, Ephesians 5:22 – 33, Romans 12:6 – 16, St. John 2:1 – 11

**Readings for Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup>:** II Kings 5:1 – 15a, Psalm 110:1 – 4, Romans 1:8 – 17, Romans 12:16 – 21, St. Matthew 8:1 – 13

**Special Plate Offering for Missionary Daniel Conrad that was received in December fulfilled our \$600 pledge. Many thanks to all who contributed so generously. Our congregation intends to continue sponsoring him throughout 2019. Rev. Conrad, like most of our Synod missionaries, receives his support from many synodical congregations in the United States. Rev. Conrad teaches students in Mexico to be pastors for congregations in Mexico.**

**Prayer Lists Need Updating.** Dear Brothers and Sisters, every now and then we must update our prayer lists. Often members will submit a name but will forget to update the church office, and the name remains on the list for “years” --- which may not be “necessary.” Beginning February 1, we plan to begin a new Prayer List, removing all names unknown to the Pastor, unless the members call or write and say, “please leave Zechariah’s name on the list” ... something to that effect. Certainly no offenses are intended, but if a name is unnecessarily removed, please call or write to have the name restored. Thank you for your assistance in keeping our prayers lists up to date.



## INSTALLATION of 2019 Church Officers and Board

Members Sunday, January 13, 2019, both Services. Please pray for our Leaders, that the Holy Spirit will grant them strength and wisdom and guard them from the evil one.

**PARTY: ALL MEMBERS** needed to welcome the newest members of St. Paul's --- all who joined our fellowship in 2018 and early 2019. We would like to welcome them through a Reception/Party on Sunday, February 3, 9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. (no Adult Bible class). Please join us to celebrate the gifts with which God continues to bestow. We are blessed.



**OBSERVANCE** of the 46<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Roe vs. Wade with a solemn Memorial Service dedicated to the Victims of Abortion. Certainly the victims within our nation include the 57,000,000 children who were never born, as well as the parents who suffer from guilt following an abortion --- we pray for them and serve them as well. Please attend. Encourage others to attend. Sunday, January 20, 3:00 p.m.



**Altar Guild** a most important service in the House of God, that of *preparing the holy things for the holy ones*, caring for the sacred vessels and linens. Our congregation is blessed with many

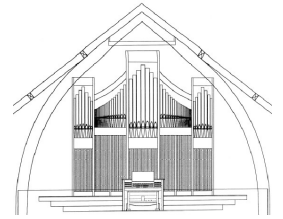
members who faithfully serve on this Guild and who have faithfully served in the years past. Thank you for your excellent service. Several additional members, male and female, are needed to serve one month per year, and to attend occasional instructional meetings. We would like to hold our Winter (instructional) Meeting on Tuesday, January 15, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., Pastor Rutter teaching. If you would like to serve on this important Guild, please contact the Pastor or the office secretary. Thank you for your consideration.

**What Can I Do?** Glad you asked! As you know, the St. Paul's Preschool mission is currently in its twelfth year (thanks be to God) of sharing the love of Jesus with the children and their families --- what a wonderful mission! And our church family is blessed again with the *opportunity to interact with the preschool families*, some of whom may attend a church Service or two in the coming weeks. If you see someone new, welcome him or her, sit with him or her, and offer your assistance during the Service --- it may be their first time. Beyond that --- just as important, members are needed to attend the preschool events whenever possible --- to engage the parents and grandparents. Please watch TOGN in the weeks to come for Preschool events. Let them meet us and discover how kind and caring we truly are.



**IT'S COMING!**

“Problems besetting the church can be attributed to incompetent and/or insufficient training in the Word of God. Parents, pastors, and teachers in academic settings on whatever level, all must rank Christian education as among their highest priorities” — Rev. Horace Hummel.



**Organist at St. Paul's**—Since November 2002, the organist at St. Paul's has been Pastor Rutter. He is able to serve in this capacity by means of technology, whereby the 2002 Allen Digital Protégé Organ is able to interface with a Palm-Pilot to record and play-back every key-stroke, piston-push, and expression-pedal movement. During the “recording phase”, which usually occurs on the Saturday prior to the Sunday Service, the hymns and various parts of the Service are played on the organ (as any organist would play them), and saved into individual files onto a 2002 Hewlett Packard Palm-Pilot, which later, upon request, streams the data from the individual files back into the organ computer and *voila!* ... the organ sounds exactly as the Pastor had played it several hours earlier.

To make this “playback” happen during the Services, a member of the congregation operates the Palm Pilot at precisely the “right moment”, with the result that it appears that there is a living organist on the bench. Many members have operated the Palm Pilot during the past 12 years, for which we are thankful and grateful --- there is a certain level of stress involved and a commitment to arrive 20 minutes early. Other members are welcome to add their names to the rotation --- there is a 5-minute training process, and first-timers are assisted by the experienced until they are comfortable “going solo.” Please contact the church office.

A living organist on the bench is ideal, and for \$20,000 - \$30,000 per year we could probably hire a decent one. But the present “technology” system does work --- fairly reliably.

As the Palm Pilot ages (the product is no longer manufactured and well beyond its life-expectancy), it may eventually no longer function, and we may have to hire an actual organist. For the time being, we are able to make use of the Pastor's musical gifts as he serves the congregation.

**Do you know of a child** who could attend our Sunday Bible School? Please invite and bring. Sunday Bible School takes place every Sunday, 9:45 a.m. Thank you.

### **From the Wise**

“To disregard the Sabbath rest profanes God. To treat God's will (that of keeping the Sabbath day/rest) as mere custom or a matter of personal choice is finally to treat God Himself as though, at best, He were only another take-it-or-leave-it moralizer; ... this is to deify oneself.” — Rev. Horace Hummel

**"I would rather stand with God and be judged by the world, than stand with the world and be judged by God."**  
— anonymous

**Can't Afford to Come?** Dear Friends, I fear that some persons within our community believe they cannot come to church because they have nothing to give, as if the church wants only their money. Please, if you hear anything on this theme, assure the person that the church is all about caring for their soul. Please remind them that God wants them in church regardless of their present income or financial situation, ... that He has something to give them ... namely, blessings! As a congregation, we need each other, not for our money, but for mutual encouragement and the sharing of Christ's love. Every member of the Body of Christ is important. Please remember that YOU are important, YOU are needed. Come every week for blessings and come every week to bless the members of God's family.

**GREAT RADIO!** [www.issuesetc.org](http://www.issuesetc.org). Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show broadcast on the satellite radio network, but can be heard on-line also. Host: LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. Please see their website for many other good, Lutheran broadcasts from days and weeks gone by.



**Read through the Bible in a year.** Bible Reading Plans are available in the wooden organizer on the table in the Parish Hall. Several people in the congregation have completed reading the

Bible in a year. Sheral Schwartz in 2017, Anita Schettenhelm in 2018...and some others, I am sure. Please let me know if you are one of these. It would be nice to know.

#### Floor Lamps Needed

Does anyone have an old floor lamp (that works) that you could donate to the Youth Group room? Please contact Pastor Rutter. Thank you!

#### Wednesday Evening Bible Class

Wednesday Evening Bible Class 4-week course, "Blessings in Disguise." Jesus' Sermon on the Plain (Luke 6) has a powerful and comforting and encouraging message for modern Americans. The four Wednesday evening sessions include:

- I: Blessed are the Poor/Woe to the Rich
- II: Blessed are the Hungry/Woe to the Well Fed
- III: Blessed are the Weeping/Woe to the Laughing
- IV: Blessed are the Despised/Woe to the Popular

Please use the sign-up sheet in the parish hall --- booklets have to be ordered. Dates: January 16, 23, 30, February 6. A small collection plate to defray booklet costs will be available. Instructor: Pastor Rutter.

**One Dollar Per Member Per Week for Missions ---- "1-1-1"**  
At the June 2018 Convention of the English District, the district of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod to which our congregation belongs, an overture was adopted to encourage congregations of the English District to begin and join in a new program entitled, "1-1-1." This program basically means each member, including the youngest baptized member, brings an extra \$1.00 every week, and places it into a special "mission box." The collected monies will be sent to the English District to enable the District to support various missions and raise up, support, and send church workers into the harvest field. One congregation in Wisconsin adopted this program and raised \$5000 in one year for a designated mission. The English District is using the funds from this new "1-1-1" program of the congregations presently participating to begin a mission in Myerstown, Pennsylvania (Concordia Lutheran Mission), as well as to increase the help extended to our church partners in the Dominican Republic, a ministry the English District has supported for a number of years. Imagine if this new program was adopted by all 162 congregations of the English District --- we could fund more missionaries, more church work students could be recruited, more teachers could be commissioned overseas, --- the list could be endless. If, after seeing the English District use this new program, the congregations of the entire Synod participated --- even at only 50% of baptized membership, \$52,500,000 would be generated. Considering the annual budget of the Synod is \$69,400,000, this is quite remarkable. "There is power and strength in many giving a little." St. Paul's congregation will begin this program in February 2019.

Reminder – **Please** support the "Building for Christ, Sharing the Faith Fund" using the golden-colored envelopes in the pew racks.



#### **Stewardship Bible Verse:**

**St. Matthew 2:11 – "And going into the house they saw the Child with Mary His mother, and they fell down and worshiped Him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered Him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh."**

**Worship and the giving of gifts go together. This makes sense because God is the great Giver of every good gift, and we worship Him and desire to grow into His image. We receive His gifts in worship and then, being conformed to the likeness of His image, we imitate His generosity..**



"For Christians, then, 'too many people' is impossible. Each additional person affords another opportunity to love and give in the way that brings God Himself the highest joys. And in the neediness of every neighbor more, we encounter and embrace Christ Jesus (Matthew 25:40)." Rev. Michael W. Salemink, executive director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)



Holiday Nuts available --- no peanuts, from the Shorewood Kiwanis (a worldwide organization that helps support the needs of children --- including the children in St. Clair Shores). \$25/can --- a great value. Contact Shorewood Kiwanian Pastor

Rutter to order & receive same minute or for more information. Thank you.

**Preschool enrolling now.**

ST. PAUL'S PRESCHOOL . . . offers a variety of activities: Art Classes, Field Trips, Story Time, Snacks, Music and Movement, Weekly Themes, Cooking, Bible Lessons and Prayers.

Taught by Michigan Certified Teacher:  
Heather Thomason

**Food Pantry Update**

Thank you for your donations to our food pantry. Between 1 and 6 people visit the pantry each week. In addition to 2 bags of groceries, guests receive a *Portals of Prayer* devotion book, a prayer, and an invitation to church services. The pantry is in need of canned fruit (especially peaches and pineapple), canned pasta and chili, crunchy peanut butter and canned soup (except chicken noodle). Many thanks to all who have donated to the food pantry. Please pray for those we serve that they will know Jesus loves them.

Human Care Ministry <\*)>><

**Help Needed around the church:** someone needed to repair falling pictures behind a glass frame. Thank you.

**Young Persons needed as Communion Cup Washers, rotating schedule, contact Pastor.**

**Bottle & Can Drive**

Total so far, \$539.90 More bottles and cans welcome – kitchen.

**Amazon Smile**

Total so far, \$7.29

**TWO AMAZING WEBSITES for LIFE**

**[www.lcms.org/life](http://www.lcms.org/life)**

**[www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)**

**Calling all members** who shop at **Amazon**, please consider shopping through the Amazon Smile website (<https://smile.amazon.com>) designating St. Paul's as the charity you wish to support. This will enable St. Paul's to receive .5% from your eligible purchases. The above website with the addition of /ch/38-6007736 will automatically support St. Paul's so you won't have to look it up.

Volunteers are needed as Ushers. Please call Larry Schmalz or the church office if you would like to assist as an usher.

The Kroger Rewards program has changed. You no longer need to enroll each April. You will remain enrolled. If you are not enrolled, please do so as this will help St. Paul's to pay off the mortgage. Our enrollment number is **83153**. For new enrollees our enrollment number is **PH719**. Please use this new number if you are not currently enrolled and wish to enroll. Please call the church office if you need assistance in enrolling. Thank you!



**Parish Library** now open and lending. A printout of books/periodicals/DVDs is available on the table in the Parish Library.

A congregation in the Word thrives.  
A congregation not in the Word dies.  
Conclusion: Each member be in the Word.



Read the Word of God at home. Study the Word of God together with your Pastor and brothers and sisters in the congregation.

"THE LUTHERAN HOUR" every Sunday. Detroit WDFN (1130) @ 6:30AM, WRDT (560) @ 12:00PM; visit RealAudio on the Internet at [www.lhm.org](http://www.lhm.org).

Please see the bulletin board for additional information on events listed on the calendar.



*Movie Night*

Friday, January 25th at 7pm

**What Would Jesus Do? The Journey Continues (2014)**

Bound by a promise he made to his mother on her deathbed, a pastor seeks to lead his wayward ex-con brother to Christ as they work together to renovate a dilapidated church. But when a desperate man robs the church at gunpoint, one brother's sacrifice sets events into motion that lead the pastor, the gunman, and the community on an improbable journey of faith and redemption.

**Director:** Gabriel Sabloff

**Stars:** John Schneider, Lorenzo Lamas, and Peter Sebastian Wrobell