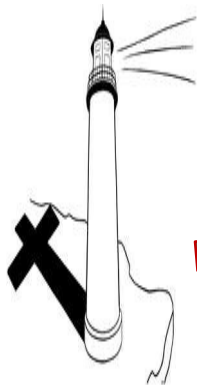


ST. PAUL'S
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

2114 Wedemeyer Street
Sheboygan, WI 53081

(920) 458-1611



The Beacon



DECEMBER 2017

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-closed

Tuesday-Friday:

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Other times by appointment

CHURCH WEB SITE:

www.sspucc.org

CHURCH EMAIL:

sheboyganstpaulsucc@gmail.com

CHURCH STAFF:

Jeremy Hysten, Pastor

Richard Reineking,

Consistory President

John Brown, Vice President

Lisa Flook, Organist

Leslie Ellair, Choir Director

Patricia Jaberg, Handbell Dir.

Lisa Drews, Admin. Assist.

Carol Reineking, Custodian

Midweek Worship

Wednesday @ 6:00 p.m.

Sunday School

@ 8:45 a.m.

Worship Service

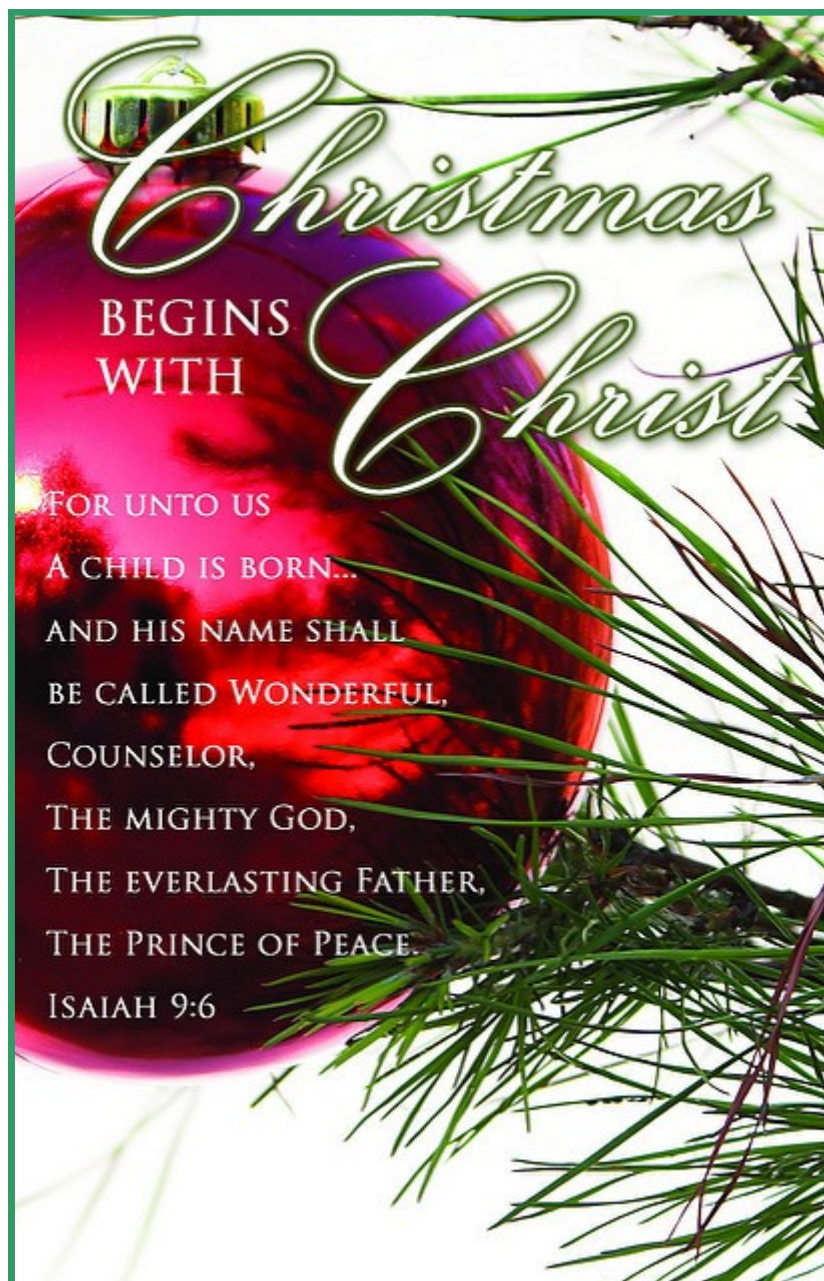
Sunday @ 10:00 a.m.

Communion -

Second Sunday of each
month

Our Mission:

With love and compassion
for all, we guide and nurture
God's children, young and
old, on our spiritual journey
together.



Pastor's Page

One of my favorite things about Advent and Christmas are the decorations. Growing up, my dad was the Christmas light emperor. We began the process in October (so it wasn't so cold). There were diagrams and charts, with numbered lists for where the cords would go. Most trees would have at least 27 strings of lights (2700 lights). There were blue trees, red trees, green trees, multi-color trees, and dad's favorite purple tree. There were about 15 trees...plus the house, and the driveway, and the bushes. All in all there were about 540 strings of lights up at our house (or 50,000+ for those who don't like math). There were cords plugged in outside. There were cords that ran into the basement windows (with specially made window inserts). There were cords through my bedroom window (with foam to help the drafts). They were not on a timer (cause there were WAY too many lights to do that with), which meant each night there was an all hands on deck at dusk to plug in the lights. You could not use the dishwasher when the lights were on or the dryer or space heaters. My dad would joke that he got a personalized thank you letter from the power company. But every year, it was worth it for the tour buses that stopped, the letters from strangers in the community, and the heartfelt thanks from passersby. In short, my dad made Clark Griswold look like an amateur.

Decorations are such an important part of how we celebrate the season. Red and green are the traditional colors based on the holly and evergreens in medieval Europe. In the church we have the red and green as well with our tree and poinsettias.



The Church as a whole has traditionally used purple for Advent, highlighting the connection with the Lenten season with royalty and repentance—in short, purple connects Christ's birth to his death. Around the start of the 20th century, many churches began to rethink to overt connection to lent and rethought Advent. Some churches started to use blue for Advent to signify the incarnation of Emmanuel (God with us) as something separate, though still connected to Lent. Blue symbolizes the more expectant nature of the Advent season, as we anticipate the birth of the Christ child. Blue symbolizes the waters of creation. Blue symbolizes the sky that holds the bright stars (for the Wisemen and the descendants of Abraham. Blue symbolizes peace. You will notice a change in the decoration of our sanctuary. Thanks to the many generous gifts to the memorial fund, we have changed our Advent colors from purple to blue. I hope this change in color will help you think differently about the coming of the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

May this coming season fill your heart with hope, love, peace, and joy (in the midst struggle). May this coming season cause you to stop and wonder about the coming of the Christ Child. But more than anything, may this coming season remind you how much you are loved by God—the same God who would send his Son to us as the greatest gift of love. Merry Christmas!



Consistory at Work

Consistory Meeting Minutes - St. Paul's UCC, Sheboygan, WI Wednesday, November 8, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Jeremy Hylan (Pastor), John Brown, Leon Jump, Joanne Lensink, Linda Mueller, Richard Reineking, Daniel Van Straten, and Mason White. **Absent:** Charlotte Jump, Mike King, Donna Rautmann, and Jaymz Stempihar.

Treasurer's Report and Stewardship Report for October (Linda Mueller): Linda reviewed the reports.

Total Income: \$8,657. Total expense: \$8,967. Net Income: \$-310.
Building Improvement Fund: \$32,817. Parsonage Fund: \$30,334. General Fund: \$-10,483.
Memorial Fund Savings Account: \$69,903, plus Total Memorial Monies: \$1,407.
Other assets: 573 shares Heartland Financial: \$26,072.
Stewardship Report Weekly Giving total: \$8,542.
- \$2,600 will be removed from the Parsonage Fund to pay taxes.
- Growth occurring in the 573 shares of Heartland Financial.
- \$740 memorials donation designated for hand bells and choir
- 2018 Proposed Budget: Budget Meeting scheduled for December 10. Linda Mueller reviewed the 2018 Proposed Budget as prepared by the Budget Committee. Motion to accept and present the 2018 Proposed Budget to the Congregation for approval passed.

Head Trustee Report (Mason White):

- Maintenance and repair completed on the plumbing fixtures in the men's and women's restrooms adjacent to Fellowship Hall.
- Carpet pieces added to the bare tile areas in the Sanctuary.

Board of Christian Education Report (Jaymz Stempihar):

- Trunk or Treat a big hit again—best year yet, with many nice compliments by people in the neighborhood.

Pastor's Report (Jeremy Hylan):

- Carpets cleaned in the Sanctuary, Gathering Area, and Community Room. Carpeting wearing down with seams coming apart, and replacing the carpeting foreseen as a next step.
- Additional memorial donations received from Iva Endres family used to pay for the communion table glass top and also considered for planters in the Memorial Garden.
- Considering the matter of adding automated external defibrillators (AED) and providing the training for using them. A defibrillator delivers a dose of electric current to the heart for some one in cardiac arrest. Little or no training is necessary.
- Separate documented files for mailing addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses need to be combined into one file.
- Photo directory nearing completion. Only fifty percent (50%) of regular church members pictures taken. Church members will be given one more chance for picture taking.
- Shirley Schilling will have church banners cleaned at Imogene's, and they'll be hung near Fellowship Hall.


President's Report (Richard Reineking):

- Working on a new contract for elevator maintenance twice annually instead of monthly, reducing the costs.
- Interior signage: Estimated to cost \$829 for 32 signs. Motion to order the signs passed.
- Annual reports due December 10.
- Selecting candidates for nomination for election to the Consistory, Board of Christian Education, and the Endowment Committee needs to be begin now.

Other Business:



- The pews removed from the sanctuary offered to church members. Any remaining pews will be removed from the church premises. A person expressed interest in the pews and the "old" safe but has no room now.
- Second Mile Challenge coming in a few weeks. Donations welcomed—to help remove the deficit.

Respectfully submitted by Consistory Secretary Daniel Van Straten



DECEMBER

2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship with Advent Cantata	4 1:00 p.m. Dartball Saints @ Sureshots	5	6 9:00 a.m. Dartball Practice 5:00 p.m. Confirmation Class 6:00 p.m. Midweek Worship	7 10:00 a.m. Healing Hearts 7:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal	8	9
10 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion, The Bell Choir, Cong. Budget Meeting Order SCRIP	11 1:00 p.m. Dartball Darts @ Saints	12 1:30 p.m. Sisters Circle	13 9 am Dartball Pr. 5 pm Confirmation 6 pm Midweek Worship 7 pm Consistory Meeting	14 7:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal	15	16 9–11 am Sunday School Children's Play Practice
17 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship with The Sunday School Christmas Program	18 1:00 p.m. Dartball Highflyers @ Saints	19 Beacon newsletter articles due	20 5–7 p.m. Messy Church 5:00 p.m. Confirmation Class	21 10:00 a.m. Healing Hearts 7:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal	22	23
24 No Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship 6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship Service with Communion, The Bell Choir	25 Office Closed  <i>Merry Christmas!</i>	26 Office Closed	27	28 	29	30
31 No Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship						

December Birthdays

Sharon Quicker	December 1
Darlene Hasseler	December 2
Rebecca Lohse	December 2
Patricia Jaberg	December 4
Jacob Dassler	December 9
Carol Ehrenreich	December 9
Diana Neils	December 11
Harlen Voechting	December 27
Kenneth Reinemann	December 28
James Trautman	December 29

*If we missed anyone or made a mistake,
please call the church office.
Thank you!*

Christmas Worship Schedule:

Sunday School Christmas Program
Sunday, December 17th at 10:00 a.m.

Christmas Eve Morning Worship
Sunday, December 24th at 10:00 a.m.

Christmas Eve Worship
with Holy Communion
Sunday, December 24th at 6:00 p.m.



Schedule for December

Liturgists

- 3—Naomi Holzwart
- 10—Vicki Radovan
- 17—Jaymz Stempihar
- 24—Joanne Lensink—Christmas Eve Morning
- 31—Allison Ritt

Scripture Readers

- 3—Ken Cornell
- 10—Steve Flook
- 17—Charlotte Jump
- 24—Daniel Van Straten—Christmas Eve Morning 10:00 a.m. Worship
- 31—Mike King

Ushers

- 3—Jaymz and Corrie Stempihar, Leon and Charlotte Jump
- 10—John and Kathy Brown, T.J. Brown, and Steve Flook
- 17—Mike King, Jeff and Allison Ritt, Bonnie Klabecheck
- 24—Christmas Eve Morning—Daniel & Ervida Van Straten, Mary & Keith Risse
- 31—Richard and Carol Reineking, Linda Horn, Harlen Voechting

Acolytes

- 3—Henry White
- 10—Elizabeth Passmore
- 17—Tessa Englebert
- 24—Charlie White—Christmas Eve Morning Worship
- 31—Shawn Peterson



December Chancel Lady
Carol Reineking



Advent Cantata

The Chancel Choir and Men's Choir will join to present the advent cantata "Loves Pure Light" a Christmas Cantata by Lloyd Larson on Sunday, December 3, 2017 at the 10:00 a.m. worship service.

Poinsettias

Orders are being taken for poinsettias to beautify the sanctuary this Christmas. Orders can be placed in the church office, or may be placed in the offering plate. The cost is \$10.50 per plant. Please include your name, envelope number, in memory of, or in honor of, and payment with your request.

Mitten Tree

Our mitten tree is up again this year. Your donations of mittens, gloves, hats and scarves are greatly appreciated and will go to keep local boys and girls warm this winter season. Thank you for caring and for your generosity.

Sharing and Caring

Check out the seasonal gift items on display in the Gathering Area. Sharing and Caring has a very nice selection of calendars, angels and candles available for purchase.

SCRIP Order Dates

Monthly SCRIP orders will be taken on the following Sundays: December 10th, 2017; and January 14 and February 11, 2018.

New Address

Please revise your church directory with this new address for Jeanette Schutt. She is in Room R109 at 220 Haven Drive at Pine Haven in Sheboygan Falls.

Second Mile Challenge

Second Mile envelopes are available at the back of the sanctuary for anyone interested in helping reduce the deficit in the church's checking account.

Living Nativity

St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Howards Grove is again having a Living Nativity. Come and see a live 15 minute outside presentation of the Christmas story with animals.

Friday, Dec. 1st from 6—9 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 2nd from 6—9 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 3rd from 4—7 p.m.

Free admission, parking and refreshments.
St. Paul's Lutheran is at 441 Millersville Ave. in Howards Grove

Living Nativity

Salem UCC in Plymouth is presenting a Living Nativity on Friday and Saturday, December 8 and 9 from 6:30—8:30 p.m. The program has costumed characters and live animals set up to scripture and music. The program runs every half hour and there will be refreshments in the gathering area. For more information, contact the office at 892-7456.

Congregational Budget Meeting—Dec. 10

St Paul's UCC Congregational Budget Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 10, following the worship service.

Annual Report

All heads of organizations, groups and committees, please submit your annual report articles to the church office by Sunday, December 10th. The Annual Congregational Meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 28, 2018.





**REMEMBER TO PRAY AND VISIT MEMBERS
WHO RESIDE IN ASSISTED LIVING . . .**

Countryside Manor

Gladys Leonard, Room B4

Esther Hemscheymeyer, Room D17

4228 Kadlec Drive

Sheboygan, WI 53083

Office Phone: 452-2229

In Hospice Care

Elaine Rautmann

Pine Haven

Madeline Herr

220 Haven Drive, Room C206

Jeanette Schutt

220 Haven Drive, Room R109

Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085

Phone: 467-2401

Prairie Crossing

Bob Hollenbeck

1280 Pine Haven Lane, Room 109

Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085

The Shores of Sheboygan Senior Living

Elaine Born, Room 12

Florence Hamilton, Room 38

Luella Mueller, Room 6

3315 Superior Avenue

Sheboygan, WI 53081

Office Phone: 457-4000

Sheboygan Senior Community

Jean Carlson

County Road Y, Room 310

Sheboygan, WI 53083

Phone: 458-2137



**FOR CONTACT INFORMATION OF
ST. PAUL'S HOMEBOUND MEMBERS,
PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE.**

Meals on Wheels

Meals On Wheels is in need of bakers interested in sharing their talent with the homebound and disabled in Sheboygan County.

This Christmas season, Meals On Wheels will again be delivering a box of homemade cookies to those receiving meals. (For some clients, this is the only gift they will receive.) The boxes have been donated; box tops have already been decorated by a few very talented youth groups within the community, so now all they need are the cookies! If you would like to donate some of your home-baked specialties to this project please call Maureen at Meals On Wheels at 451-7011. They have set up cookie drop off sites in both Sheboygan and Plymouth. They will be packaging the cookies on the 19th of December.

Meals on Wheels wishes to thank everyone for their continued support, and for their time and consideration.

