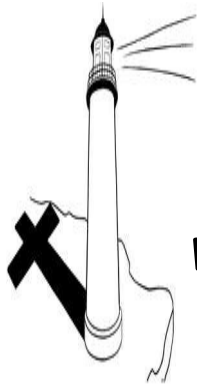


**ST. PAUL'S**  
UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST

2114 Wedemeyer Street  
Sheboygan, WI 53081

(920) 458-1611



# The Beacon



**DECEMBER 2018**

**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](http://www.sspucc.org)

**CHURCH EMAIL:**

[sheboyganstpaulsucc@gmail.com](mailto: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.

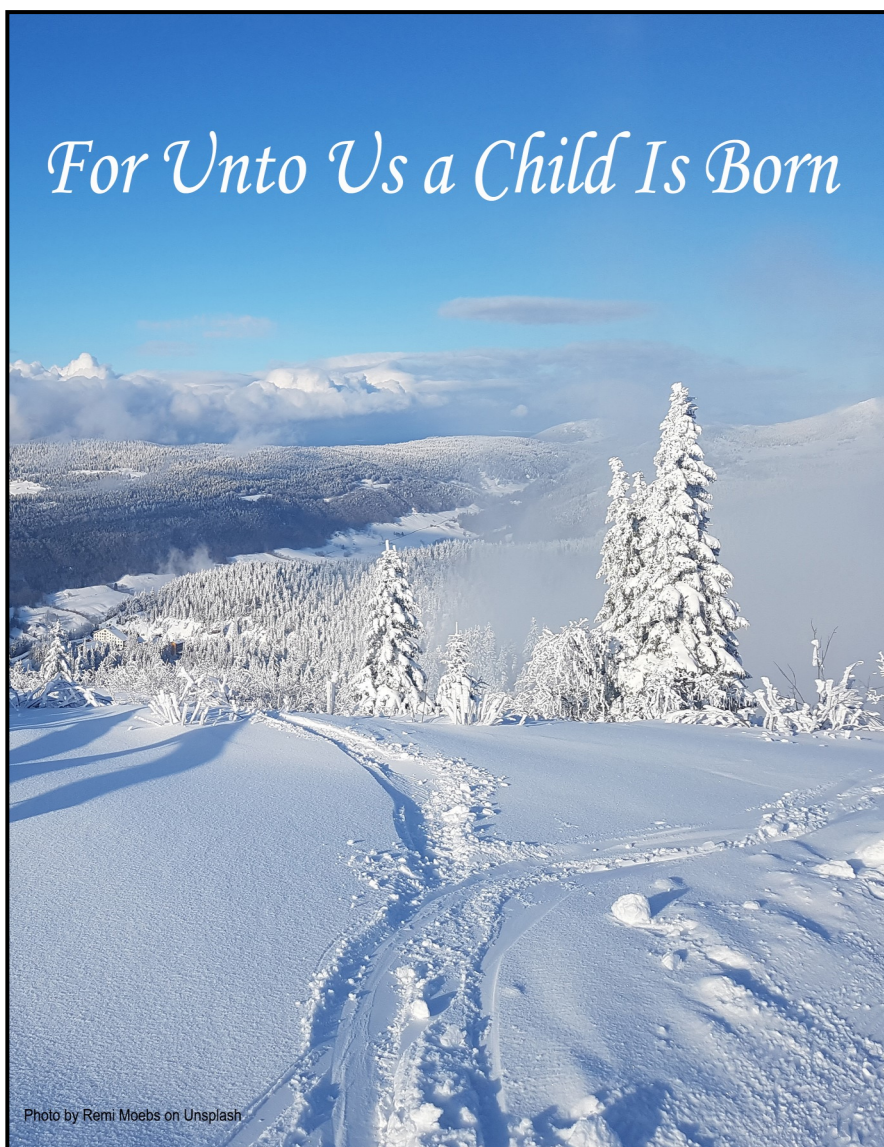


Photo by Remi Moebis on Unsplash

# Pastor's Page

“Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you...The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.” Each Advent we read and hear these words. Words offering light in the darkness—a gift of joy in the midst of struggle. But let me be honest with you, it can be an overwhelming task to feel like a bright light in this season. On a regular basis, I forget to be that light, and instead cover my light under a bushel basket. I get bogged down in all the preparation for Christmas and lose my focus. Between decorations at home and at church, worship services abounding, and pageants and cantatas, my light gets awfully dim. With thinking about loved ones who aren't with me anymore and trying to get beyond my own unreal expectations of the season, my light gets awfully dim. If I'm not careful, by the time Christmas Eve comes along, my light is nearly out.

But then I remember those words from Isaiah: “The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.” Sometimes we just need to take a deep breath and remember that Christmas isn't really about us after all—it's about that little baby in a manger. The waiting and anticipation of Advent which prepares us for the coming of the Christ child is all about kindling that light. It's about finding moments of hope, peace, love, and joy in the midst of a world telling us that the only thing we need is material possessions. We know that the thing we really need in this season of expectations comes in a humble manger, not with ribbons and bows. What we really need in this season of chaos is the gift of love that comes from God, not from Macy or Gimble.

So how do you keep kindling that light in the busy-ness of this season? Let me offer four things that help me keep my light burning bright:

**Hope-** Enjoy Making Spirits Bright and bring some food to share with those in need, or watch a Christmas movie like “It's a Wonderful Life” to remind yourself of the goodness out in the world.

**Peace-** Talk a walk in the quiet of the morning or night. Take a drive and wonder at the neighborhood decorations. Take a moment at night to sit by your tree and just breathe.

**Love-** Spend some time doing something fun with a loved one. Make some cookies or watch a movie or share a glass of cheer for no reason other than to be with someone you care about.

**Joy-** Find those things in your life that make you smile. Spend time with little ones. Listen to great music. Experience something new that delights you. Be with those people you love most.

May this coming season fill your heart with hope, love, peace, and joy. May this coming season cause you to stop and be intentional about kindling your own light. 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

**Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Present:** Richard Reineking, Pastor Jeremy Hylan, John Brown, Mike King, Joanne Lensink, Linda Mueller, Deb Severns, Daniel Van Straten, and Mason White **Absent:** Melody Kolb and Donna Rautmann.

**Treasurer's Report and Stewardship Report for October 2018 (Linda Mueller):** Linda reviewed the reports.

Total Income: \$7,625. Total expenses: \$7,198. Net Income: \$427. General Fund: \$ -15,204.

Building Improvement Fund: \$19,962. Parsonage Fund: \$27,810.

Memorial Fund: \$111,032. (Savings Account: \$102,097. Plus, Total Memorial Monies: \$8,935.)

Stewardship Report Weekly Giving total: \$7,483.

Parsonage – John Laux said we only need to extend the land contract one or two months.

Discussed the 2019 Proposed Budget. Mason White motioned to endorse the entire proposed budget to present to the congregation for approval. Passed.

A discrepancy noted in the Stewardship Report to be corrected.

## **Head Trustee Report (Mason White):**

Window in Kitchen replaced.

Snow blower works.

The weather stripping on the glass doors at the alley entrance needs repair, and the estimated cost amounts to \$150. Mason White motioned to fix the weather stripping and Mike King seconded. Passed.

## **Board of Christian Education Report (Deb Severns):**

December 7<sup>th</sup> Movie Night. Looking to do separate programming for the older kids and a couple dads to help out. The crafts for the evening is going to be cookie decorating. A sign-up sheet is being put out to know how many plan to attend.

The cookbooks are being put on display and orders taken for sales.

Children's Christmas Play, December 16<sup>th</sup>.

## **Pastor's Report (Jeremy Hylan):**

Last Supper – cast almost complete.

Furnace parts delivered and waiting on crewmen to install.

Constitution– Pastor editing changes and making copies for the Consistory to review.

Class Update: Classes going well.

Lights in Church – In progress.

Sound system: waiting on installation.

Finishing up with work on the carpeting in the sanctuary (trim work and larger platform to stand on at lectern).

New pew cards being developed.

UCC Wisconsin Conference insurance subsidy to churches to cease in the year 2020. Impact at St. Paul's church being reviewed.

General Synod in June in Milwaukee. Pastor Jeremy is a delegate. Seeking volunteers from local churches to help out.

## **President's Report (Richard):**

Next Communion Sunday December 9<sup>th</sup>.

Next Consistory Meeting December 12<sup>th</sup>.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship for local Sheboygan UCC churches at St. Paul's on November 21<sup>st</sup> with communion and refreshments.


## **Other Business:**

Discussed the status of Consistory membership, reviewing terms of office expiring and nominations needed.

The front doors facing Wedemeyer Street need maintenance, and this is going to be done in warmer days.

A "human trafficking" seminar is being planned for May of 2019.

Respectfully submitted, Daniel Van Straten, for Consistory Secretary Melody Kolb



# DECEMBER

# 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Children's Choir Children's Play Practice during worship service Congregational Budget Meeting	<b>3</b> 1:00 pm Dartball Saints @ Sureshots	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 9 am Dartball Pract. 5 pm Confir. Class 6:15 pm Children's Choir @ St. Nicholas Hospital	<b>6</b> 7:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal	<b>7</b> 6:00 to 8:30pm CE Movie Night	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship with Holy Communion w/ The Bell Choir Children's Play Practice order SCRIP	<b>10</b> 1:00 pm Dartball Darts @ Saints	<b>11</b> 1:45 pm Sisters Circle	<b>12</b> 9 am Dartball Pract. 5 pm Confir. Class 6 pm Midwk Worship 7 pm Consist. Mtg.	<b>13</b> 7:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 9-11 am Sunday School Children's Play Practice
<b>16</b> 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship with Children's Christmas Program	<b>17</b> 1:00 pm Dartball Highflyers @ Saints	<b>18</b> Beacon newsletter articles due	<b>19</b> 5-7 pm Messy Church 5:00 pm Confirmation Class	<b>20</b> 7:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship with Chancel Choir Cantata	<b>24</b> 6:00 pm  <i>Christmas Eve Worship</i>	<b>25</b> Office Closed  Merry Christmas!	<b>26</b> Office Closed	<b>27</b> 	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> No Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	<b>31</b> New Year's Eve					

# 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 16 at 10:00 am

**Worship Service with  
Chancel Choir Cantata**  
Sunday, December 23 at 10:00 am

**Christmas Eve Worship**  
Monday, December 24 at 6:00 pm



# Schedule for December

## Liturgist/Scripture Readers:

- 2 - Daniel Van Straten
- 9 - Naomi Holzwart
- 16 - Youth
- 23 - Linda Mueller
- 24 - **Christmas Eve**
- 30 - Joanne Lensink

## Ushers

- 2 - Jay & Julie Englebert, and Judy & Richard Belitz,
- 9 - Mason White, Jaymz and Corrie Stempihar, and Laurie Hylan
- 16 John & Kathy Brown, T. J. Brown, and Steve Flook
- 23 - Mike King, Jeff & Allison Ritt, and Jim Schwarten
- 24 - **Christmas Eve** Daniel & Ervida Van Straten, Mary & Keith Risse
- 30 - Richard & Carol Reineking, Linda Horn, and Becky Huberty

## Acolytes

- 2 - Elizabeth Passmore
- 9 - Wyatt Radloff
- 16 - Charlie White
- 23 - Tessa Englebert
- 30 - Jake Englebert

## December Chancel Care

Ervida Van Straten





### **Children's Choir - December 5, 2018**

The Children's Choir will be singing at St. Nicholas Hospital for their Visit with St. Nick event on Dec. 5th from 6:35 to 7:05 pm. They will be playing handbells and singing Christmas carols. We will meet at 6:15 pm in the Francis Room across from the cafeteria. There is a sign-up sheet for families that plan to attend on the table by the office.

### **Choir Cantata**

On Sunday, December 23rd at 10:00 am the Chancel Choir invites you to come and worship with us as we present "Longing for the Light" a Service for Advent by John Purifoy.

### **Poinsettias**

Orders are being taken for poinsettias to decorate the Sanctuary this Christmas. Orders can be placed in the church office, or may be placed in the offering plate. The cost is \$11 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 once again up and waiting to be decorated with donations of mittens, gloves, hats and scarves. These items are greatly appreciated and will go to keep local boys and girls warm this winter season. Thank you for caring and for your generosity.

### **SCRIP Order Dates**

Monthly SCRIP orders will be taken on Sunday, Dec. 9, 2018. The dates for the first half of 2019 are: Jan. 13, Feb. 10, March 10, April 14, May 12 and June 9.



### **Thanksgiving Eve Thank You**

Thank you to the volunteers who helped with the Thanksgiving Eve refreshments.

The workers were: Becky Huberty, Agnes Kunstmann, Linda Horn, Bev Wilke, Ervida and Daniel Van Straten.

The bakers were: Ervida Van Straten, Naomi Holzart, Dawn Peterson, Linda Horn, Agnes Kunstmann, Bev Wilke, Melody Kolb, Vickie King, Carol Drews, Barb Trautman and Linda Mueller. Diana Neils provided the apple juice.

Thanks again for all your help.

### **Congregational Budget Meeting—Dec. 2**

St Paul's UCC Congregational Budget Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 2, 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 27, 2019.

### **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.

### **Inclement Weather**

In times of bad weather to find out about church service cancelations, please tune to TV Channel 4 WTMJ. Please note that when adverse weather conditions cause the area schools to close, our church office will be closed as well.



**REMEMBER TO PRAY AND VISIT MEMBERS  
WHO RESIDE IN ASSISTED LIVING,  
AND THOSE WHO ARE HOME BOUND...**

Countryside Manor  
**Gladys Leonard, Room B4**  
4228 Kadlec Drive  
Sheboygan, WI 53083  
Office Phone: 452-2229

Pine Haven  
**Madeline Herr**  
220 Haven Drive, Room C206  
467-2401

The Shores of Sheboygan Senior Living  
**Luella Mueller, Room 6**  
3315 Superior Avenue  
Sheboygan, WI 53081  
Office Phone: 457-4000

The Waterford  
**Minnett Suscha, Room 8**  
2586 Valley Road  
Plymouth, WI 53073  
Office Phone: 1-866-895-5020

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



**KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS**

**Children's Hospital:** Liam Anderson -  
Infant grandson of Dave & Grace Reinecke

**Members at Home:** Wendy Bohannon,  
Violet Kuitert, Caroline Rodewald,  
Shirley Schilling, James Schuh,  
Jeanette Schutt, and Cindy Vogel

**Living Nativity - December 7 and 8**

Salem UCC in Plymouth is presenting a Living Nativity on Friday and Saturday, December 7th and 8th, from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm The program has costumed characters and live animals set to scripture and music. Please join us for the program that runs every half hour and refreshments in the gathering area. For more information, contact the church office at 892-7456.

**New in the Library**

Two inspiring autobiographies worth reading.

**"George and Barbara Bush, an American Love Story."** The First couple of the Greatest Generation, George and Barbara were bright, funny and strong. Their 73 years of marriage follows their devotion to each other, family and service to the country they loved. Barbara passed away in April of 2018.

**"Becoming," by Michelle Obama,** chronicles the story of a young girl raised in South Chicago by a loving family. She strove to achieve excellence in education and a strong work ethic while facing the reality of race. Michelle and Barack, like the Bush's, were both devoted to each other, family and service to the country they loved.

Both first couples, one Republican, one Democrat, strove for the betterment of the country and the American people.

