

Congregational Announcements: December 18, 2022



ST. PAUL'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
— HOWARDS GROVE, WI —

Pastor Adam Bode - Pastor Aaron Mueller - Principal Chad Marohn - Staff Minister Luther Curia

This Week at a Glance:	
Date	Service, Bible Study, and Class Times
Sunday, December 18	<p>Christmas at St. Paul's 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. in the Gym 9:15-10:15 NO Bible Class or Sunday School* *Christmas Service participants will stay for snacks/activities between services. The doors to the gym will be opened 30 minutes before each service begins. There are no reserved seats, except for service volunteers.</p>
Monday, December 19	6:00 p.m. NO Monday Night Worship
	7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Practice
Tuesday, December 20	7:00 p.m. TLCO Irish Christmas Concert
Wednesday, December 21	9:00 a.m. Bible Study
	6:30 p.m. School Board
	6:30 p.m. Officers
Thursday, December 22	<p>No School Office Closed MLHS Christmas Concert 4:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.</p>
Friday, December 23	No School Office Closed
Saturday, December 24	<p>Christmas Eve Worship Services 2:00 & 4:00 p.m. in the Gym 6:30 p.m. in the Church <i>More details included in the announcements below</i></p>
Sunday, December 25	9:00 a.m. Christmas Day Worship
Monday, December 26	NO Monday Night Worship
	5:30 p.m. Trustee

1. **Sunday Bible Study:** Sunday morning Bible study will resume on January 8. Feel free to submit ideas for study to any of the church staff.
2. **3K Teacher Call** - On December 6, the voters met and extended a divine call for the 3K teaching position. We called Mrs. Katie Coudron from St. John's Lutheran School in Milwaukee. She is married to Cody (no

occupation listed for him) and has children ages 15, 14, and 8. Mrs. Coudron is currently teaching at the Kindergarten level and handling Athletic Director duties. Her email is: katie.coudron@stjohnsmilw.org. Please keep her in your prayers.

3. **2nd Grade Teacher Call** - Our voters met during the Bible study hour on November 20 and extended a call to Miss Deborah Doletzky for the 2nd grade teaching position. She has about 30 years of teaching experience and currently serves Grace Lutheran School in St. Joseph, Michigan. Feel free to reach out to her and offer encouragement by email at: debdole21@gmail.com.
4. **Mrs. Meitner** received a call this past Sunday to St. Paul's in Columbus, OH. The call is to serve as 1st-2nd grade teacher and to include some departmentalization. Mr. Meitner also received a call St. Paul's in Columbus to serve as 7th-8th grade teacher, departmentalized music, and worship music. We wish the Meitner's God's blessings as they begin their deliberations. Please reach out to Mrs. Meitner with any feedback or words of encouragement.
5. **Advent Devotions** - Martin Luther College (MLC) has been producing devotions for Advent each year. If you would like to use them for your personal or family devotions this month, they can be accessed at mlc-wels.edu/publications/seasonal-devotions
6. **Called Worker Gift Box** - If you would like to remember our Called Workers with a monetary gift for Christmas, a box is located in the narthex for you to do so. This box will remain out for the month of December.
7. **Seasoned Saints** - Are you 55 or older? Are you looking for a social get-together once a month with your fellow members? We are starting a new group, Seasoned Saints, geared to our members aged 55 and older. We plan on gathering once a month on every third Sunday from 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.. We will begin with a brief devotion followed by a social hour spent playing cards or board games and visiting with each other. Don't like to commit every month? No problem, just come when you can! For our first get together, we ask that you sign up in the member room. If you have any questions, please contact Audrey Kolosovsky, 920-458-5162, or Karen Kuhn, 920-467-4480.
8. **Christmas Break Office Hours** - The office will be closed Thursday, December 22 - Tuesday, January 3rd with the exception of the following days:
 Wednesday, December 28th 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
 Thursday, December 29th 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Feel free to email secretary@stpaulshowardsgrove.org or leave a message at 920-565-3780 if you need anything outside of those days. God's blessings and safe travels!
9. **Shut-in Gifts:** We would like to provide each of our shut-ins with a small Christmas gift from our St. Paul's family. If you'd like to make a donation to help defray the costs for these items, please drop it in the office or put it in an envelope in member mailbox B1. Contact Luther Curia with any questions: 920.287.8575; luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org.
10. **TOUR the Building Project!** On Dec. 17 and 18 we will run several tours for 15-20 minutes for you to see the progress and ask any questions. Quasius will be on hand as well and make these as safe as possible. [Please understand these tours are still weather permitting.] The times each day are 9:15am and 9:45am. Please register by signing up in the mailbox room or with the secretary.
11. **Capital Campaign Update:** As the final building costs become more clear, we could have a potential mortgage around \$3.1M which is about \$500,000 higher than originally planned. There are still on-going activities to reduce the mortgage, but any additional gifts or pledges will help offset the amount of the mortgage. A generous donor at St. Paul's will match \$.50 on the dollar up to \$65,000. If pledges and gifts are given (above and beyond already pledged amounts) up to \$130,000, we will maximize this gift! (Each dollar gifted then is worth \$1.50.)

Additionally, Kohler accepted our grant request and is gifting all the fixtures, faucets, sinks, toilets, etc. for the project! The list is over 100 products! We thank God for these things and marvel at how he provides.

12. **Celtic Christmas Concert:** Join us Tuesday, December 20 at 7:00 for a night of music with The Lutheran Ceili Orchestra! Christmas tunes, many of them hundreds of years old, will be played on traditional Irish instruments: guitars, fiddles, drums, harp, cello, tin whistles, uilleann pipes, bagpipes, vocals, and more. The atmosphere of the concert is very casual and follows the ceili format: “an intimate social event at which there is Irish folk music, singing, and storytelling”. No two concerts of The Lutheran Ceili Orchestra are the same, as the musicians have lyrics and/or melody lines for each tune and then improvise countermelodies and harmonies. Feel free to come when you can and stay as late as you wish. Free and Open to the Public!
13. **MLHS Christmas Concert** - The music department of Manitowoc Lutheran High School will be holding its annual Christmas Concert on Thursday, December 22nd, at the Capitol Civic Centre in downtown Manitowoc. The concert, entitled “Let Earth Receive Her King!” will feature the three high school choirs and the MLHS Symphonic Band. Also featured will be the Lakeshore Lutheran Chorale, an adult ensemble made up of members from the WELS Churches along the Lakeshore. Concert times are 4:30 and 7:30. The concert is free and open to the public; however, a free will offering will be gathered. Come and celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus at the Capitol Civic Centre.
14. **Christmas Eve Worship:** There are three services on Christmas Eve. The 2:00 & 4:00 services, held in the gym, will be candlelight services, involving several musicians. The 6:30 service will be a simple lessons & carols service in the church, accompanied by piano.
15. **Christmas Eve Cleanup:** We are looking for several volunteers to help cleanup after the 4:00 Christmas Eve service (candles, vacuuming, decorations, etc.). Thank you for considering if you may help! If you have any questions, please contact Luther Curia: 920.287.8575; luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org.
16. **New Years Eve Worship** - On New Years Eve, the following worship times are available, so that we can bring 2022 to a close in God’s house: 2:00 pm at Calvary in Sheboygan, 4:00 pm at St. John’s / St. Peter’s in Cleveland, and 6:30 pm at St. Paul’s. Communion will be offered in each of these services.
17. **St. Paul’s Lutheran Pioneers** will be selling Christmas Cards again. They are available in the narthex. Cards are sold per box and the cost is on each box. Please put money in the basket provided. We also have a variety of greeting cards available in the church library. The cost for the cards in the library is \$1.00.
18. **Building Project Update** - This past week saw more block set for the firewall. The steel also arrived!
19. **Worship Greeters** We are seeking members willing to smile and welcome people before worship services. This is a great opportunity to get to know more of our growing congregation. If interested in more details, please see the sign-up sheet in the member room or speak with Katie Schuenemann.
20. **Scrip gift cards** make the perfect gift to give or use yourself for your Christmas shopping (and all year long). We currently have the following cards on-hand:
 - Festival Foods \$50
 - Meijer \$50
 - Pick ‘N Save \$100
 - Piggly Wiggly \$25, \$50, \$100
 - Culver’s \$10
 - Kwik Trip \$25, \$50, \$100
 - Walmart \$25, \$100Gift cards can also be ordered for many retailers nationwide in various denominations. To ensure delivery before Christmas, orders must be in by December 18th, 2022. You can purchase your scrip cards in the school office or at the scrip table in the narthex.