VOLUME 45, NUMBER 12

DECEMBER 2025

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DECEMBER NEWSI FITTER



From the Pastor's desk

Ever year, I hear people fuss and complain about how Christmas has been commercialized: "The Nativity of Jesus is largely overshadowed by Rudolph, Santa, and even the Grinch!" Perhaps they are right. Instead of "Peace on earth and good will among men," we get "Ho, ho, ho," and "Bah, humbug!" If Charlie Brown complained about it 60 years ago, it's gotten worse since then. His friends sang "Hark the Herald Angels Sing," but how many people today have no idea why that's such an important message? Probably more than we even realize.

Please understand that there's nothing wrong with the sappy and the sentimental, whether it's Bing and Bowie crooning about a kid with a drum, or the greeting card channel's latest spin on the same Christmas romance. Enjoy it all, but don't lose the CHRIST of Christmas.

To help keep our eyes on Jesus, the Church has a time of preparation called "Advent." Advent means "coming." For approximately four weeks before Christmas, the Church prepares for the advent, the coming, of Jesus. We remember His coming in history at His Nativity, arriving in the fulness of time to Virgin Mary. We celebrate His coming among us in Word and Sacrament. We also look forward to His second advent, when He comes in glory to judge the living and the dead in the resurrection of all flesh. We even pray for this in the Lord's Prayer: "Thy Kingdom advent."

If you catch yourself being a little jaded by the commercialization of Christmas, or you are really looking forward to the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus, or you simply need a reminder of how Christ Jesus, the Savior, comes for you, I encourage you to open your Bible and read again in Luke 1 and 2 and Matthew 1 and 2 about Zechariah and Elizabeth, and Mary and Joseph, as they made their own preparations for the advent of Jesus 2000 years ago.

I also invite and encourage you to attend our special Wednesday evening services. December 3 and 10 we will look at two special Saints of the Season – Andrew and Nicholas. Our school Christmas program will be December 17. Our Sunday school program will on Sunday, December 14. See Steve W. if you, your kids or grandchildren are interested in being part of that program. We'll celebrate the Nativity on Christmas Eve on the 24th and Christmas Day on the 25th. The season of Christmas continues on Sunday, December 28, but with without Sunday school. New Year's Eve service will be December 31. Check the calendar page to make sure you have the times correct!

How ever you say it:

Feliz Navidad (Spanish),

Freliche Weinachten (German),

Joyeaux Noell (French),

Eokwōj kōn am? (Marshallese),

God Jul (Swedish), or simply

Merry Christmas:

God bless us, one and all.

Pastor Jonathan Meyer

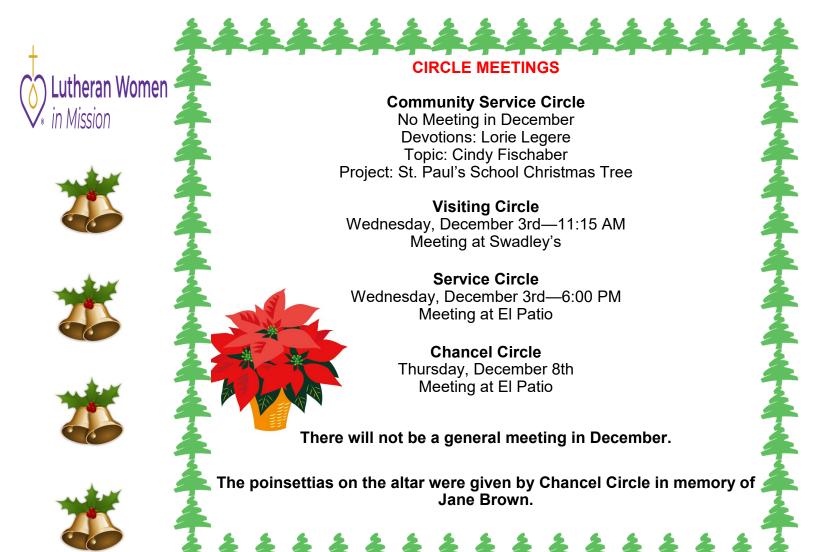


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- Council Minutes on pages 10-19
- Camp Lutherhoma on page 19



CELL PHONES, INK CARTRIDGES, COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS

LWML thanks you for helping us recycle these items. Currently, we only take HP and Canon ink cartridges. (You could put your cartridge in plastic baggie if it is leaking). The commemorative stamps go towards missions, so keep them coming too!





St. Paul's LWML will be hosting a bake sale Sunday, December 21st, before and after the service. The women will be providing baked goods for the holidays. Funds collected help with projects for the year.



Chancel Circle welcomes donations of <u>living</u>
<u>flowers & plants</u> for the worship services. Let the church office
((580) 234-6646)
know the date you would like to provide them. Also, include the instructions after they are used for worship.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

This page will be dedicated for our members who have their own business and would like to put the word out about it. If you are in the need of any type of service please check out this page first to see if there is a member that can provide the service to you. Let's join together to help support each other!

Jenny Smithson—Broker Associate

Lippard Reality

1102 W, Broadway Ave. Enid, OK, 73703 Cell: 580-747-6225

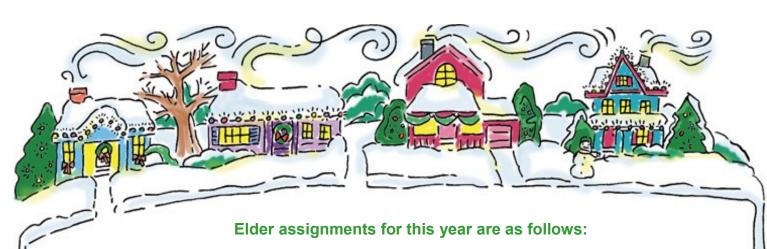
Call me for all your real estate needs!

Your Realtor in the Beginning—Your Friend in the End

"Enid Dental Care Stephanie Herbst DDS Dennis Morehart DDS 2411 Heritage Trail #4 Enid, Oklahoma 73703 (580) 237-2213

"Give us a call if you are looking for a dental home!"





Gene Hollrah 580-234-9586 Adasiak—Clark Cole—Fischaber Jonathan Becker 817-939-5190 Rick Lunday 580-603-0814 Fisher-Hoeltzel **Don Nobis** 580-747-2267 Holland—Malan Ron Young 580-747-1356 Mansoor—Patocka Paul Dunbar Pendleton—Smithson 580-233-6063

Gene Breitenkamp 580-541-9323 Snowden—Zoch

Please contact your elder if there is anything he could do to help serve you.





Sunday School classes offered at 10:15 AM each Sunday:

Age 3 to grade 12 meet in all-purpose room

Adult class meets in the church basement



Sunday Morning Bible Study

Living our Faith Sunday School Schedule:

December 7th—Burdick Family

December 14th—Kathy Wuerflein

December 21st—Grittman Family

December 28th—NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

Project: ALL MONTH— Christmas Program Prep





Financial Professional Bob Morgenthaler is the Thrivent representative for Enid. He is available for questions or concerns you have on your insurance and investments products. Bob has been with Thrivent for 21 years. The office is located at 201 N Grand Ave, on the Northeast corner of Randolph and Grand. The office is Suite #510. Please call ahead to schedule appointments at 918-406-7029. You may also email at:

bob.morgenthaler@thrivent.com.

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LUTHERAN CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

Interest Rates for December are now out. Call "Dial-a-Rate" at 1-800-THE LCEF



FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF OCTOBER 31st

Offering Goal for 25-26: \$524,000
Offering to Date: \$161,350

Income + Offering Goal 25-26: \$775,800 Income to Date: \$507,178

Expense Budget for 25-26: \$1,279,743 Year to Date—Expenses: \$452,736

Net Income to Date: \$54,442





Christmas Decorating Schedule:
Sat. Nov. 29, at 8:00 AM in sanctuary. You are welcome to join us!



We will live-stream all services during the month of December:

https://stpaulsenid.com/churchmedia/#LIVESTREAM



Wednesday, December 3rd

Advent Worship 6:30 PM

Wednesday, December 10th

Advent Worship 6:30 PM

Thursday, December 11th

7:30 PM—Lutheran Night at the Christmas
Tree downtown Enid

Wednesday, December 14th

9:00—Sunday School program (during regular worship)

Wednesday, December 17th

Advent Worship 6:30 PM

Wednesday, December 24th

Candlelight Communion Worship 8:00 PM

Thursday, December 25th

Christmas Day Communion Worship 10:00 AM

Wednesday, December 31st

New Year's Eve Communion Worship 6:30 PM



LWML is hosting a diaper driving during the month of January!

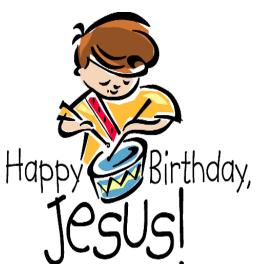






- 1 Rory Fischaber
- 2 David Riesen
- 3 Lovella Fisher
- 4 Phil Snowden
- 5 Joanne Holle Elise Southerland Avery White Robert Winter
- 6 Kyler Cross Koby Cross
- 8 Patty Campbell
- 10 Myrna Pritchett
- 11 Ryan Navarro Shane Peyton
- 14 Carolyn LaBrue
- 15 Cecil Durheim Betty Herth
- 16 Owen Fox
- 17 Trudy Clark

- 19 Jared Lamle James Wuerflein
- 23 Judy Helberg
- 27 Lila Jansonius Travis Sims
- 28 Brenda Woodford
- 30 Mitt Burdick
- 31 Jamie Hoeltzel







31 - Stephen & Pam Wiederkehr



If you haven't given the Church Office your E-Mail address yet call

or send it to: office@stpaulsenid.com

We send out prayer requests, hospital news and reminders of special



Address Changes:

(Please update your directories)

Joanne Crain

Remove Home Phone Number (580) 242-2990

William Wiederkehr

weedwmw@yahoo.com

Sonny Otipoby

(580) 231-6772

Shirleen Otipoby

(580) 297-0853



If you have a son or daughter in college, please call the office and let us know their new address. Thank you!



Candy Wojciechowsky has moved her membership to Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Kingfisher, Oklahoma.



Peace on Earth

Wyatt Ray Gabriel was born on November 19, 2025. He is the son of Aaron and Zoey Gabriel.

Lennon Jayde Sims was received in Holy Baptism on Sunday, November 23, 2025, with Rev. Jonathan Meyer officiating.

Lennon is the daughter of Travis & Sara Sims.

Her sponsors are Casey Sims, and Robert & Brenda Sims.



Stewardship

Mark 12:44 – "For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on." From Old Testament times right through to today the Lord has urged us to give to His work in the Church in proportion to how He has blessed us. He has also called us to sacrificial giving, that is, giving that actually costs us something. That's the shape of true Christian generosity.



Men's Bible Study is held at Boomerang (Oakwood Rd. location) at 7:00 AM each Friday morning.



Dominoes Group meets each 1st & 3rd Monday at 9:45 AM at the home of Gerald & Joyce Nolte.

(3005 Forestridge Place)



Balance & Strength Exercise meets every Tuesday & Thursday at 11:00 AM in the basement.

Room #108



Children's Ministry Team meet will not meet in December!

Reading Buddy – Mentor Program

Attention: St. Paul's Lutheran Church Members

Please, consider becoming a Reading Buddy. We have several students who have received a reading buddy, but we still have seven students who have signed up for the program and are waiting on a reading buddy. Application forms can be found in the school office and narthex.

The next Mentor Orientation is Wednesday, December 3rd at 11:30-12:15 PM in the library.

Mentoring began this fall and will continue through April 26th.



The Senior Adult Ministry Potluck Luncheon will be held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 11:30 AM.

They will not meet in December.



Pinochle will meet on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 1:00 PM at the home of Gerald & Joyce Nolte.

(3005 Forestridge Place)



School News

In November, Mrs. Watkins' 5th grade class had the pleasure of helping with the Special Olympics at Oakwood Bowl. This month our students will be caroling at assisted living centers, participating in RSVP's "Adopt a Senior", and helping the Salvation Army with their "Angel Trees". We are so blessed to have all of these opportunities to give back to our community. Our school Christmas Program will be Wednesday, December 17th at 6:30pm. We will have a Christmas Tree on the stage in the basement with teacher wish list items on the ornaments. If you wish to bless our teachers this holiday season, please take the ornament and return the ornament with the wish list item. Please be sure to return the ornament with the gift so we know which teacher it belongs to! Thank you for always being such a blessing to our school. Merry Christmas and happy holidays from the SPLS Shepherds!



BIBLE BOOK CLUB RESUMES! If you would like to be part of the next Bible Book Club, we will resume in January with the book BEGINNINGS, covering the first five books of the Old Testament, Genesis - Deuteronomy. There will be two sections: Thursday mornings at 8:30am and Thursday evenings at 7pm. We'll meet in the basement. If you are interested, please let Pastor know by December 22 so we can get the books ordered. The cost of each book is approximately \$15, paid after you receive the book. If you prefer electronic format (ie., Kindle,) or a used copy, you can purchase it yourself. We'll meet on Thursday, January 8 thru February 26.





NEW MEMBER/ADULT INSTRUCTION CLASS:

Pastor will have a new member/adult instruction class, January 7 - February 11, from 7—8:30pm. The objective of the class is to teach the basic teaching of the Lutheran Church, using Luther's Small Catechism, leading to membership at St. Paul's. This class is also open to anyone who would like to refresh what they learned in confirmation class years ago. Please let Pastor know if you are interested in attending the class. Location will either be the basement or the school library.

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Journey in January at Camp Lutherhoma January 16-18, 2026

Journey in January is a weekend retreat for high school youth (ages 14-18). The retreat is planned and led by a high school leadership committee and the camp staff each year. The retreat is a great opportunity for high school youth to connect with their peers, dig into God's Word, and experience a great Christian community at camp! Start talking to the youth at your church and plan to bring a group!

Pack your warm coat and enjoy a winter retreat at Camp Lutherhoma!

Arrive 8-9pm on Friday, January 16th Depart 11:30am on Sunday, January 18th

Lodging: Retreat Cabins (limited space) or Summer Cabins

Registration will open November 1st and spots will fill fast! Church groups should register together and provide chaperones during the retreat. If there's only a couple of youth who want to attend from your church, please reach out to other churches in your area or contact erin@lutherhoma.com so we can connect them with another group.

For more information or visit our website https://www.lutherhoma.com/events

Camp Lutherhoma Tahlequah, Oklahoma



ST PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

1626 E. Broadway Ave. Enid, OK. 73701

Phone: 580-234-6646 E-mail: office@stpaulsenid.com

The Mission at St. Paul's Lutheran Church is:

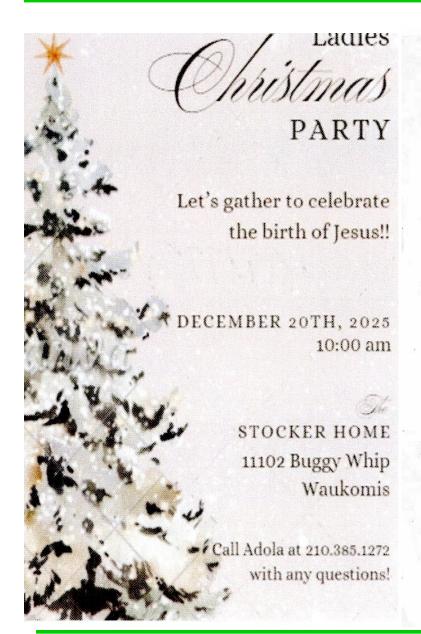
Preach and Teach to ALL, Comfort and Support those in need!



OFFICE HOURS

The Church/School Office hours are from 7:30 AM — 3:30 PM. If you call prior to or after these hours, please leave a message. If it is an emergency please contact Pastor Jonathan Meyer, at (281) 785-5396, or your elder (see page 3). Thank you!

Thank You!



Finding Peace



"Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you ..." John 14:27

Save the Date

59th Convention
Lutheran Women in Mission
Oklahoma District LWML
April 17-18, 2026
Hilton Garden Inn, Edmond

Finding peace in today's world can be difficult. Join us as we explore how Jesus helps us find this peace.

Keynote Speaker: LCMS OK District Pres. Rev. David Nehrenz
Bible Study Leader: Michelle Dierks, Author
Hosted by Kingfisher and Panhandle Zones