

EPISTLE



*St. Paul's Lutheran
The Church On The Hill*

Volume 63 No. 1

January - 2019



The Epiphany of our Lord is celebrated on January 6th and is the manifestation of God's Son to all people. The three wise men or kings come to Jesus and gave presents to honor him. These three represent all nations who witness the Christ born of a woman, fully human, and conceived by the Holy Spirit, fully God.

We look to the past to acknowledge this day of grace God gave us for our salvation and eternal life. We also look to the future which could be today, tomorrow or another day when Christ will come again.

The Wise Men searched for Jesus, guided by a Star. Now Jesus comes to us as the Word of God with the Good News of Salvation and Eternal life.

Praise be to God.

*Go, and make known to all nations the
Good News of Jesus Christ.*

A NEW THING

This Epistle will now be sent to everyone with an email address in the form of a PDF.

What does this mean?

- This new format will allow for a colorful Newsletter with pictures of people, places and events of St. Paul's Lutheran Church.
- There will now be active links you may click on to see more from the Website or other areas such as our Synod and ELCA Churchwide.
- You will normally get the Epistle on the 1st day of the month or before by email.
- It is FREE to any email address worldwide.
- If you still want a paper copy you may print one on your printer, in **Color** or B & W
- **Please send Pastor David or Secretary Debbie your email address to continue getting this newsletter.**
See contact information below.
- If you do not have email or internet you may still pick up a paper copy in B/W at church. If you need a mailed copy please call and leave a message or mail a note to the church.
- With the continued increases of Postal mail costs, this will save our church hundreds of dollars a year. That is **Good Stewardship.**

WE GIVE YOU THANKS, AND

praise YOUR *glorious* name.

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
8618 Church Hill Drive Lohman, Missouri 65053
Website: www.stpaulslutheranlohman.org
FaceBook: <https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsChurchOnTheHill>

Pastor: Reverend David Viles
Email: DavidViles@Cox.Net Phone: 573-782-4458
Church Secretary: Debbie Raitel
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JANUARY 2019 BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Samantha Crossman
- 1 Taylor Crossman
- 1 Aurora Molitoris
- 2 Rania Scheperle
- 6 Misty Schroeder
- 9 Marshall Griffin
- 10 Jenetia Gibler
- 10 Colin Walters
- 11 Lucas Carrel
- 16 Sherrie Hanks
- 20 David Russell
- 21 Kathy Meller
- 30 Kaitlyn Finch

Happy Birthday to you!

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 14 Kendall & Hope Stubinger 2006

Happy Anniversary

EPISTLE NEWS FOR 2019

Gertrude Strobel started the Epistle many years ago with her husband Hugo. This was something they were passionate about and it has continued to be one of the ministries that is dear to Gertrude's heart. She has decided to share the responsibilities of publishing this wonderful message of love and news of St. Paul's Lutheran Church with others and we hope to stay true to the intent it started with in the beginning. Gertrude will continue to supply us with the mainstay favorites of 'Paul the Mouse' and '50 Years Ago' as well as other features. We give thanks to Gertrude and the late Hugo for the work they began and the continued help Gertrude will provide as we go forward.

Financial Update

Date	Attendance	Offering
Dec. 02	105	\$ 3,137.00
Dec. 09	112	\$ 3,253.42
Dec. 16	107	\$ 5,665.67
Dec. 23	120	\$ 2,629.91
Dec. 24 Play	219	\$ 650.00
Dec. 24 Eve	59	\$ 303.00
Dec. 30	94	\$ 8370.40
Total	816	\$ 24,009.40

Special Gifts: From Glenda Kappelmann: \$250.00, From Carol Beck: \$200.00, From Richard and Ryan Heidbreder, a gift of \$5,000.00, and from Gretchen Bruner: in honor of Grandfather Albin Linsenbardt's 101st birthday.

Christmas Treat Fund: \$ 183.00 There were 219 in attendance at the 7 PM worship service. Offering of \$650.00 was divided between Oaks Indian Center and River City Habitat for Humanity. Attendance at the 11 PM was 59 and the offering was \$303.00 directed to the Samaritan Center. The Christmas Day offering envelope to the Heisinger Bluffs Benevolence Fund was \$466.00. Christmas candy sack collection was \$183.00.

Epistle income: \$20.00.

Get well wishes to: Garrett Collins, recovering from leg surgery and Les Linsenbardt who suffered a broken finger recently. Our prayers are with you two!



A LOOK AT WHAT HAPPENED LAST MONTH



Christmas caroling in late December was a huge hit for the Lohman community. Several homes were visited in the area and the singing was greatly appreciated.

A special thank you was received from Ray and Virginia Lister and Albin Linsenbardt homes. The carolers also appreciated the cookies and popcorn received from these gracious homes.



Afterward Mark and Kathy Meller hosted a wonderful gathering in their home with food, drink and delightful conversation and fellowship. Thank you Mark and Kathy for your hospitality and being gracious hosts. <Photo Credit – Alan Scheperle>



Many workers arrived on Dec. 21st. to put up the Christmas tree and decorate it. Thank you to all that showed up to help and joyfully share in completing this annual tradition.



This year the Mitten Tree was covered by many donations from the congregation including a Sunday Children's Sermon where the kids were happily involved.

Thanks to everyone who helped to provide warm things for the kids in the Russellville schools.



Albin Linsenbardt celebrated his 101st birthday with family and friends in the fellowship hall of St. Paul's after helping to decorate the newly erected Christmas Tree in the sanctuary. Link to the video → [HERE](#)

How to keep warm in church

1. Rush to the front of the sanctuary. That will warm you up, and you'll avoid the draft in the back of the church.
2. Invite your neighbors and friends, and sit 12 people to a pew.
3. Seat yourself near the pulpit. Much hot air IS emitted from that area.
4. Wear thermal underwear (in the appropriate liturgical colors, of course).
5. Wait for an unfamiliar hymn - and then watch the sparks fly!

Pastor's Message for January 2019

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Isaiah 46:4

Greetings to you in this New Year. With the beginning of each new year I am always shocked that a whole year has passed so quickly. I can certainly remember being young in school and thinking the year would never end. But as I have matured and my hair has thinned and turned a much lighter color I never have time to think those thoughts.

But as quickly as these days fly by, I tell you I am truly filled with joy and peace by God's grace of days beaming with the richness of beauty and being surrounded by the love and fellowship of my St. Paul's family.

The days come and quickly go, but the love of friends and the joy I'm given in being the Pastor of St. Paul's remains a constant and abundant delight.

We all have had or still experience days when shadows creep upon us and cause some anxiety. But with God as our constant companion our hope is brightened by the light of Christ and our belief God will never leave us alone.

My prayer for each of you during this coming year is for your joy and peace to be sustained by your belief in our God of hope. I pray the Holy Spirit will so fill your heart with the power of love that your eyes are opened to the beauty of God's creation all around you.

Look around and see the blessings that surround you in your daily life and then give thanks to the Lord our God.

Blessings in Christ,
Pastor David

Ask the Pastor

Question: What does the Bible say about drinking alcohol? **Answer:** A lot.

The Bible encourages the drinking of alcohol, especially for the sake of health. In the times the Bible was written the source of clean drinking water was not always available.

Paul told Timothy not to drink water alone but to drink instead. "No longer drink only water, but take a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments."

<1 Timothy 5:23> More than likely the water was contaminated.

Jesus turned water into wine at the wedding feast of Cana, and it was the best wine according to the wine steward.

In the Old Testament there are several positive examples such as Ecclesiastes 9:7 "Go, eat your bread with enjoyment, and drink your wine with a merry heart; for God has long ago approved what you do."

Scripture does not forbid a Christian from drinking anything containing alcohol. **But** scripture **does** condemn drunkenness.

Drinking alcohol in excess can be addictive and it can destroy your life and the lives of others. There are many scriptures that speak against it. For example:

< Ephesians 5:18> "Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery."

<Proverbs 20:1> "Wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler, and whoever is led astray by it is not wise."

A little alcohol is fine but as with anything done to excess it can cause great harm and is not good.

Martin Luther said, "Whoever drinks beer, he is quick to sleep; whoever sleeps long, does not sin; whoever does not sin, enters Heaven! Thus, let us drink beer!"

Do you have a question? Please let me know so we can all learn together.
Peace, Pastor David

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN COUNCIL
MINUTES
December 10, 2018**

Frank Pascoe, Secretary

A regular Congregational Council meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 10th, by Vice President Dan Tschirgi. Present were Council Members Delores Vlach, Alan Scheperle, Kathy Meller, Mitchell Plochberger, Stacy Bubach, Laurie Koestner, and Frank Pascoe. President Zola Finch, and guest David Finch arrived later during the Council deliberations. Also present were Council Treasurer, Kay Pascoe, and Pastor David Viles.

The meeting opened with a prayer by Pastor Viles, who then led the group in a brief devotion focused on finding "Peace", a theme most appropriate to the busy holiday season. The scripture was Micah 5:2-5a. Several Council members recalled the things, situations, or ideas that brought them peace of mind and spirit.

The Vice President then called for a motion to approve the minutes of the November 14th Council meeting. This motion was offered by Laurie Koestner, seconded by Mitchell Plochberger, and passed via voice vote.

The Vice President then called upon Council Treasurer, Kay Pascoe to present a review of the past month's expenses and incomes. A two-page review was presented to the members. There were several questions asked and the Treasurer noted a \$2,960.12 deficit for the month due to the payment of the invoice related to the expense of the new sound system. Several upcoming likely changes to present budget categories were discussed and referred to the Stewardship Committee for future discussion. This would include changes to the Epistle Editor's activities as Pastor Viles and Church Secretary Debbie Raithel are poised to take on more of the monthly Epistle preparation.

The Vice President then asked for Pastor Viles November report. Pastor's November mileage totaled 118 miles. A motion to approve this was

passed upon a motion by Stacy Bubach, seconded by Kathy Meller and passed via voice vote. The amount is \$64.31.

Pastor reported attendance at over seven individual event meetings, including Lion's Club, Russellville School Board, and Lohman City Council. He made a number of home and hospital visits. He took one week's vacation after Thanksgiving service. He offered appreciation to Mr. Bill Gerth for conducting Sunday service on November 25th.

The Vice President called for Standing Committee reports:

(See reports listed after the Council Minutes.)

The Vice President then called for discussion of Old Business. Pastor Viles reported the completion of initial work on the Official Church Rolls. Marie Scheperle and Katherine Linsenhardt assisted Pastor on this project. Pastor passed out to the Council for discussion a list containing names of members, past attendees, etc., whose current status is under question. Some names of persons who have moved away, or have not attended in years were identified. This effort will continue as intention letters will be sent to many past and former St. Paul's attendees.

Under New Business the Council heard from guest David Finch, member of the Safety & Security Advisory Council. The Safety Advisory Council has determined to host here at St. Paul's a general meeting in January to discuss and inform our members and guests concerns on safety preparation issues. A date for this meeting will be announced shortly. The meeting will be presented by the organization "Shepherds of Safety", a group devoted solely to safety for houses of worship.

The Council was adjourned at 9:19 p.m. The Lord's Prayer was recited by all.

Frank Pascoe, Secretary.

Evangelism; Delores Vlach:

Three Thank-You cards were sent to visitors. The 2019 Sunday Fellowship sign-up sheet will soon be posted.

Stacy Bubach reported on the success of St. Paul's participation in Jefferson City's "Living Windows" event on Nov. 30th. She expressed thanks to all who participated.



A new St. Paul's banner (pictured above) was displayed for Council members.

The Russellville Polar Express event on Dec. 8th was a big success.



It is hoped to make these activities annual participation events.

Technology; Dan Tschirgi:

The Council discussed at some length what might be done to continue to improve the sound system. We continue to ask for congregational feedback regarding sound quality and ideas for improvement. Dan discussed types of new microphones available for Pastor David. No decision on specific type was made during the meeting. Dan discussed the sound improvements made for the upcoming Children's Christmas Program on Christmas Eve at 7:00 pm.

Worship & Music; Kathy Meller:

The Committee met on Dec. 4th. Choir singing dates were chosen. Setting Eight will be used until Ash Wednesday [April 21, 2019]. The January Hymn of the Month will be #553,

"Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Sky". The Committee discussed alternate or possible dates next year for the annual Thanksgiving Day service and the Christmas Eve Children's Program. An alternate day suggestion for Thanksgiving Day service might be the Wednesday evening before Thanksgiving Day. An alternate date for the Children's Program might be on the Sunday night before Christmas Day. This earlier date would allow for punch & cookies after the program and an opportunity to visit with the children. On Christmas Eve itself it was suggested having an early [perhaps 6:30] candlelight communion service with carols, and not having the traditional 11:00 p.m. service at all. The Committee discussed getting the confirmation students involved more in our services, reading the lessons, and collecting the offerings. It was suggested that the Bible find a prominent place in the sanctuary. Hymns were selected for January 2019. Kathy reported on a successful Advent Dinner held on Dec. 9th. Sixty-eight attended with a number of guests present.

Parish Education; Laurie Koestner:

December was a busy month for the children in Sunday school. Christmas program practice started right after Thanksgiving and concluded December 23rd. Students gathered in the gathering space for a few minutes before Sunday school where the meaning of advent and the importance of waiting was discussed. Students then met in their rooms for a brief lesson and then they were out in the sanctuary for program practice. December 23rd was the final practice that was followed by a carry-in lunch. Hot dogs, chili and ham were on the menu along with many delicious side dishes!! Christmas Eve brought the traditional Sunday School program. What a great performance!!! A huge thank you to the Sunday School teachers for all their patience, suggestions and willingness to be flexible during this time of the year!!! Another huge thank you goes to Amber Gardner and Stacy Bubach for directing the Christmas Eve program!!!! A great job was done by all!!

Youth Ministry; Laurie Koestner:

December came with many blessings for St. Paul's Youth. One blessing was the ability to purchase 10 carry-on sized suitcases for HALO House residents. The suitcases will be utilized as young women are ready to move out and be on their own. A huge thanks to Michelle Collins for bringing this need to the youth, shopping for the best deals and communicating with the HALO House director.

Another blessing December brought was the Sunday School Christmas program. The upcoming program gave the Youth an idea!!! The youth bought several new Christmas costumes and props for the Christmas program to supplement some of the old costumes.

Church Improvement;

Mitchell Plochberger:

Dulle Overhead Doors, Inc. was paid \$150.00 to repair the broken garage doors. The ongoing leak in the parsonage [between sun room & house] was discussed. Bids on the remaining air conditioning unit have not yet been received. Mitchell and assistants successfully worked on the problem of water running under the garage doors. General questions were raised about the plans and progress up a new kitchen update. These questions will be raised with the WELCA leadership.

STEWARDSHIP; Stacy Bubach:

We continued to work with Evangelism in serving the communities.

We are also hosting 'Movie Night' with Amber Gardner's help on the first Friday night during the month. These nights are a lot of fun and the movies have been enjoyed by everyone as well as the snacks that are brought and shared. The next movie is 'Heaven is for Real' on Jan. 4 at 7:00 p.m.

Mutual Ministry: [Alan Scheperle]: As we begin a new year I want to remind the members of St Paul's that the Mutual Ministry Committee (MMC) is here to listen to the people of the Church, so please remember, if you have a concern or comment, good or bad, let one of the members know. Our goals are;

- develop open communication about the expectations, attitudes, and concerns within the congregation, the community, and the staff;

- identify early warning signs of misunderstandings;
- become a "listening post" for pastor and congregation;
- conduct annual review and affirmation of staff;
- serve as a group where the pastor can test new ideas

Comments made to the MMC are confidential. Names will not be repeated outside of the committee. Also, MMC meetings are "closed" meetings, therefore, if you have a concern that you want to personally bring to a committee meeting, please let a member know and we will listen to your concerns at the beginning of the meeting. Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday at 6:30pm.

At this time members of the committee are Becky Weber, Jacklyn Wood, and Roger Pennell.

The committee is in need of 1 more member. If you would like to serve, please contact Pastor, one of the above members, or myself.

Special thank you to long time members Cynthia Loesch and Paula Linsenhardt who have reached their term limit and are leaving the committee. They have been a huge help to me and have served the committee well.

I am leaving Church Council this year and therefore will not be chairman of this committee, but I have agreed to stay on as a member for a 2 year term.

Advent Dinner 'The Gifts of Advent'

Kathy Meller: On Sunday, December 9th, 68 members and friends of St. Paul's enjoyed a wonderful event of friendship, food, and fellowship to celebrate the advent season. The evening began at 5:00 p.m. with sparkling juice and social time, followed by a welcoming and opening prayer from Pastor David Viles. The tables were decorated in colors of blue and gold and accented with cedar and red candles. After the delicious meal of ham, rolls, sides, and many yummy desserts, everyone settled in for the program, The Gifts of Advent. Through scriptures and songs the gifts were revealed.



Pastor David revealed the gifts- a dove for peace, a candle for Jesus Christ who is the light of the world, a Bible that reveals God's knowledge and understanding, and a wreath that represents God's love which is complete and never ending. As the program ended, gift bags were handed out to those who attended while Zola Finch played a beautiful piano solo. The evening ended with everyone singing Joy To the World.

Worship & Music Committee:

This wonderful program would not have been possible without the vision, hard work and talent of Kathy Meller. 'Thank you' seems inadequate as an expression of our congregation's appreciation, but we truly are very thankful to Kathy indeed.

Jr. Lutherans; Donita Stubinger:

The kids had a great time with the Christmas Play. The children all did a wonderful job and had lots of fun.

Dorcas Circle & S.T.A.R.S. Seniors, tired and retired saints:

Gert Strobel:

The next Dorcas Circle meeting and STARS dinner is scheduled for Wednesday, February 6th, weather permitting. Mark your calendars.

Know Your Numbers!

Do you wonder about the importance of all the numbers you hear in the doctor's office? What do blood pressure readings mean? What does a BMI of 30 mean? Betty Berendzen, RN, Community Benefits Coordinator at Capital Region Medical Center, will be the presenter on Wednesday, February

6, 2019, at the first STARS meeting of the year. Betty will help us learn what different numbers mean and why they are important. Suggestions will be given on small steps which can make a significant difference in one's health. Screenings, including blood pressure, oxygen saturation, and BMI, will also be provided. Invite your friends and neighbors. This program is open to all who are interested in understanding and learning more about their health! **Erika Gerth**

Mobile Food Pantry; Audrey Bunch:

We really had a good afternoon to work outside on December 11th at the Mobile Food Pantry Truck. We served 99 families with 348 people in those families. Some of the items given away this month are as listed: fresh cranberries, persimmons, sweet potatoes, bottles of tea, assorted cookies, assorted crackers, cooking oil, no stick butter flavored cooking spray, frozen pizzas and chicken fingers. Also an assortment of food items donated by a church in the community.

Volunteers were Alberta and Gary Zumwalt from the Lohman Lions Club, Pastor David Viles, Debbie Raithel, Rosemary Heidbreder, Becky Weber and Audrey Bunch from St. Paul's Lutheran.

Next month's mobile food pantry date is January 8th at 1:15 P.M. in the Trinity Lutheran parking area in Russellville.

Food Pantry Item Needed:

*****Empty Egg Cartons*****

The Russellville Food Pantry Truck is in need of egg cartons to fill and give away to those coming to get food.

Please save your empty cartons that you would like to share and leave them in the Samaritan Center Box located in the Fellowship Hall (coat rack area) and we will get them delivered.

Thank you,
Rosemary Heidbreder and Audrey Bunch.

Fruendschaft Gruppe: Jeannette Fischer A wonderful crew of 24 gathered on Friday afternoon, Dec. 21, to trim the official church Christmas Tree with ages ranging from kindergarten to age 101. Following the tree trimming, we gathered downstairs for birthday cake and ice cream to help Albin celebrate his

101 birthday. Thanks to all who volunteered to help. Sherman and Gus assembled all the luminary sacks and they will be placed on the hill early on Christmas Eve. Thanks to Richard and his crew for lighting all the bags. We will remove the Christmas tree and all decorations on January 3 at 3 pm and everything will be safely stored away in the bell tower. Afterward we will again treat ourselves to a wine, cheese and soup supper. If you would like to take part in this activity, we would be happy to have your assistance. Our gruppe will next meet on February 11 at 5:30PM for dinner and chores to follow.

Jeannette Fischer, Chair

Safety & Security –on Saturday, January 12, St. Paul's will host a presentation by the "Shepherds of Safety" organization. Our Safety & Security Team will provide coffee and doughnuts in the fellowship hall from 8:30-9:00 am.

The presentation will take place in the Sanctuary at 9:00 am and will last until 10:30 to 11:00 am.

This is open to all St. Paul's members as well as other local church leaders. St. Paul's Security and Council members are highly encouraged to attend.

St. Paul's Epistle: 50 Years Ago 1969

(Editors Note: Bringing out the January-February 1969, issue of the "Epistle" and reading of what transpired brought back so many memories for me. Our Savior's Lutheran in Jefferson City and Trinity Lutheran in Russellville had pastor vacancies. Our pastor, Anton Eggerling, was trying to serve three congregations. During this time, a tragedy happened in our congregation ...the sudden automobile accident causing the death of a young member in our congregation. Too, the sanctuary was in the process of being redecorated.)

Elroy Stubinger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bruno Stubinger, has been honorably discharged from the U.S. Army. He took his basic training at Fort Leonard Wood and then was stationed in Bamberg, Germany for 18 months. While in the service, he was in communications.

OUR JUNIOR LUTHERANS: In November we received a letter from a missionary in New Guinea. Each Jr. Lutheran had written letters to them

earlier in the year.

Our Luther League: At the October 9th meeting slides were shown to us by Dr. R.H. Riensche of Manchester, Iowa, who was a visitor at the parsonage. The Adult Choir enjoyed a Spaghetti Supper in the church basement.

Congratulations were given to two of our choir members, Hugo Strobel and Gertrude Raithel on their recent engagement. The **Junior Choir** is rehearsing each Saturday morning, preparing for the Lenten season. Edward Ernest Soell, 28, was killed in an auto accident near Centertown on his way home from work on Thursday evening, December 3rd. He was part owner of the Lohman Mill. He was survived by his widow and a son, Jay. And that's the way it was ...**fifty years ago.**



Blessings to our readers as we begin the year of 2019. Where did the time go? This is Paul, the Mouse, reporting. The Mouse family has enjoyed "living" in the huge decorated cedar (Christmas) tree in the sanctuary. So many of our family were here during this festive season, that we sent them out to "camp" in the luminaries on Church Hill Drive. What a beautiful sight with Church Hill Drive all lit up along with the lighted nativity scene. Thanks to this crew for "putting up" the luminaries: Gus Fischer, Mark Fischer, Sherman Koestner, Alan, Kylee and Jackson Schepelerle; Richard Heidebreder. Gus Fischer and granddaughter, Thea Fischer, took down the luminaries. Leroy Plochberger and his crew put up the nativity scene on "the church hill" and Jason Plochberger installed the "spot lights." The huge cedar Christmas tree was a "home away from home" for our mouse family. Where else could we live any better? Thanks to the Fruendschaft Gruppe for decorating the tree. And thanks to all who made worship at St. Paul's this Christmas season so special. ..to the musiciansZola, Kathy, Gert, Dan, Kylee, to the readers, ushers and greeters, acolytesblessings and thanks. We are grateful for all who donated poinsettias for the sanctuary ... remember you can pick up your plant and take it home. Thanks to Kathryn and Les for working with this project. Thank you to Pastor David and Secretary Debbie, and, of course, Marie, for all the extra hours preparing sermons and programs, publishing bulletins

etc., to the carolers for their Christmas carols in and around Lohman. We don't hear "it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas", instead we say "A blessed and Happy New Year.~

Your Friend,
Paul, The Mouse

Margaret Circle; Erika Gerth:

Margaret Circle's members gathered at the home of Erika Gerth on December 4th to enjoy a light supper, fellowship and study. A scrumptious red velvet cake and an assortment of cookies provided by our members may have been the best part of the meal!

For several years, Amber Gardner has provided background information on favorite Christmas carols, and this year chose "We three Kings" Both lyrics and tune were written in 1857 by John H. Hopkins while serving as a rector at Christ Episcopal Church in Williamsport, PA. Mr. Hopkins had been a reporter and legal scholar before embarking on seminary studies. God surely works in mysterious ways!

We learned more about mobility carts, built in Columbia, MO and shipped to countries in Africa for use by individuals who had lost limbs as a result of land mines or in combat. These carts are hand powered, and provide individuals a means of transportation to and from places of employment. The cost to ship one cart is \$300.00 and thanks be to God and the generosity of Margaret Circle's members and friends, our offering of the evening was sufficient for the shipment of one cart!

Election of officers took place. The current officers agreed to stay in their positions for the coming year.

Margaret Circle's first meeting in the new year will take place on Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at 6:30 PM at the church. Donita Stubinger will host and Inge Gauck will lead us in the study of God's holy word. All women of St. Paul's, and their friends, are welcome!

WELCA; Amber Gardner:

December saw us at the Lohman Community Building at the Cookie Sale, which had a great turn out again this year. I want to thank everyone for supporting WELCA this year by contributing canned/paper goods, soap, cookies, the WELCA Thankoffering, and the Chili Supper.

Christmas Play;

This year's Children's Christmas Play was a huge success. We had 219 people come out to see the production and everyone enjoyed it. Many children participated and we had special guitar music by Kylee Scheperle who played 'Away in the Manger' while the children sang and 'Mary Did You Know' during the offering. We are very thankful for the dedication and hard work of the director; Amber Gardner who put this play together, and the wonderful work she did as Amber does every year, to Stacy Bubach who Co-directed and all the teachers who helped out with costumes, food, coaching and encouragement.

Reading Resolutions

Every January, many Christians resolve to read the entire Bible in one year. That's a worthy goal, and God tells us to simply be in his Word and thus be with him-so he can grow our faith, light our path and assure us of his love and forgiveness.

F.B. Meyer offers this helpful advice for a new year of discovering (and rediscovering) Scripture: "Read the Bible, not as a newspaper, but as a home letter. If a cluster of heavenly fruit hangs within reach, gather it. If a promise lies upon the page as a blank check, cash it. If a prayer is recorded, appropriate it and launch it as a feathered arrow from the bow of your desire. If an example of holiness gleams before you ask God to do as much for you. If the truth is revealed, entreat that its brilliance may ever irradiate your life.

This Year, Pastor David will lead a 'Reading Through the Bible' course with weekly discussion for those who desire. It may take a year or it may take a little longer. The important part is reading and being in his Word. Sign up or contact Pastor David.

"A New Year's resolution is something that goes in one year and out the other."

To see the online calendar with extended information, use this link and click item. → [Calendar Online](#)

St. Paul's Calendar							January		2019	
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat				
		1 New Year's Day	2	3 3 pm Remove Christmas Tree. Freundschaft dinner.	4 Movie Night 'Heaven is for Real' Pastor's Day Off	5 3-3:30 pm Book Mobile at Russellville				
6 9am Worship 10:15 am Fellowship Hour, leftover cookies	7	8 9 am Worship & Music Meeting 1:15 pm Food Pantry	9	10	11 Pastor's Day Off	12 9am Safety & Security presentation 'Shepherds of Safety'				
13 9am Worship Communion	14 6:30 pm Church Council Meeting	15	16	17	18 Pastor's Day Off	19				
20 9am Worship 10 am Annual Congregational Meeting	21 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	22 Epistle Deadline	23	24	25 Pastor's Day Off	26				
27 9am Worship Communion	28	29	30	31						

Date	Ushers	Acolytes Communion – Youth - Adult
Jan. 06	Zola Finch Laurie Koestner	Charlie Miller
Jan. 13	Kathy Meller Frank Pascoe	Chris Murphy Jahanna Koestner Audrey Bunch
Jan. 20	Mitchell Plochberger Alan Scheperle	Emma Gardner
Jan. 27	Dan Tschirgi Delores Vlach	Lexie Plochberger Landon Plochberger Rosemary Heidbreder

Date	Greeters	Readers	Communionware For Month
Jan. 06	Stacy Bubach Kaitlyn Finch	Jana Thompson	Kathryn Linsenbardt
Jan. 13	Julie Griffen Marshall Griffen	Harry Thompson	
Jan. 20	Richard Heidbreder Kathy Meller	Jerry Koestner	Flowers For Month
Jan. 27	Jerry Koestner Laurie Koestner	Connie Miller	Kathryn Linsenbardt

St. Paul's Lutheran Church – 8618 Church Hill Drive – Lohman, Missouri 65053

10:15 a.m.: Sunday School & Adult Forum

11:30 a.m.: Confirmation Class

Prayer Chain: Michelle Collins email: michelle.collins4@gmail.com 573-230-9574

Pastor David Viles email: davidviles@cox.net – Cell: 479-670-2000 – Church: 573-782-4458