

First Sunday/Monday in Advent
November 30 and December 1, 2025
Our Mission: God's Love Shining through Us..
...Opening doors and changing lives!

## + ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK AT St. Paul Lutheran +

(leb=lower education bldg., ueb=upper education bldg., ufh=upper fellowship hall, lfh=lower fellowship hall, cr=conference room, tgp=the gathering place klgr = KREW large group room next to library in leb, dchr=downstairs choir room, ofa=Office Annex)

Sunday	8:00 AM 9:30 AM 9:30 AM 10:45 AM	Worship Bible Study GOD <i>CONNECT</i> S (ueb) KREW and HSBC (leb) Worship
Monday	7:00 PM	Worship
Tuesday	10:00 AM 6:30 PM	Women's Bible Class (cr) <b>NO</b> Bell Choir rehearsal Women's Bible class (ueb)
Wednesday	11:00 AM 5:30 PM 7:00 PM	Bible Study GOD <i>CONNECTS</i> (ueb) Advent Lasagna dinner hosted by WSP Advent Worship
Thursday	8:00 AM to 6:00 PM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM	Noon Office open, Noon – 4pm Remote 1 <sup>st</sup> Year Confirmation (leb) 2 <sup>nd</sup> year Confirmation (leb) Choir Rehearsal (leb) Boy Scouts
Friday	8:00 AM to Noon Office open, Noon to 4PM Remote 8:45 AM Bible study (ueb)	
Saturday	9:00 AM 5:00 PM	Christmas decorating of complex St. Paul Family Christmas

**ATTENTION ALL GROUPS/MINISTRIES**: If you have an event, meeting, function, etc., please send that information to Carolyn at <a href="mailto:stpaulnt@gmail.com">stpaulnt@gmail.com</a>, so she can list it in the above "ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK" calendar. Thank you!

### ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION:

OFFICE HOURS: Monday – Wednesday, 8:00am to 4:00pm, Thursdays & Fridays, 8am - Noon, Noon - 4:00pm Carolyn working remotely from home. If you need to reach Carolyn during the times she is working remotely, please leave a message on the church voicemail or send an email to <a href="mailto:stpaulnt@gmail.com">stpaulnt@gmail.com</a>. If there is an emergency during that time, you can reach Pastor Green at his home at 716-693-7044.

GREETINGS from St. Paul: All first-time visitors should stop at The Information Center in The Gathering Place (TGP) for a special gift.

# + ASSISTANCE DURING our Worship Services +

**FAMILIES:** - **Nursery Care** is available upon request. Please speak with an usher if you would like to use the nursery. We also have a **Cry Room**, if you would like to sit with your restless child there. It is at the rear of the sanctuary and has a speaker, so you can listen to the worship service.

**PERSONAL ASSIST HEARING DEVICES** are available for use during the worship services. We also have **LARGE PRINT ORDER OF WORSHIP** (with copies of hymns attached). Both items are located on the window sill, as you enter the sanctuary from The Gathering Place.

# + PRAYER CONCERNS for our St. Paul Family +

The names of our St. Paul family that are in need of prayers, are now listed on the back inside cover of the Bulletin. Please keep this handy during our Worship prayer time so these people can be lifted up in prayer in our hearts during that time. Thank you.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** If you have a prayer request for our prayer chain, please contact Tom Dreier at <a href="herrdreier@gmail.com">herrdreier@gmail.com</a> or call the church office.

**BULLETIN PRAYER LIST:** If you or a loved one are in need of prayers and would like your name or theirs to be listed in the bulletin - Prayer Concerns for our St. Paul Family – HEALING, now located on the back inside cover of the bulletin, please call the church office. We will keep your name on the list for 3 months unless we know that healing is still needed or unless you call us sooner to let us know of answered prayers.

**IF YOUR LOVED ONE IS HOSPITALIZED,** please call the church office to let us know so Pastor Green and Pastor Bill can pray for them and visit them. The hospital personnel can no longer inform us due to privacy laws.

We pray that you find God's love for you at St. Paul!

**CHILDRENS' MESSAGES** - if you would be interested in giving Childrens' messages, please talk with Pastor Green.

**BULLETIN ARTICLES** must be in no later than **TUESDAY at noon** to be included in the following Sunday. Please email them to stpaulnt@gmail.com.

**LOVE PACKAGES** - so far we have shipped 39 boxes of devotional materials to be shared with people around the world. Don't forget to donate your used Portals of Prayers and other devotional materials when you are done with them.

**ADULT BIBLE CLASS** - our study this week is lesson 11 of **GOD** *CONNECTS*, "The End of Time". We all have questions about the end of time. We can be most certain that as a believer in Jesus Christ as our Savior, we know that our loving God has a place for us in heaven and we can be at peace knowing this. Come and learn more at our classes on Sunday at 9:30am or Wednesday at 11:00am.

*GIFT CARDS FOR CHRISTMAS:* If ordering gift cards for Christmas gifts or to purchase items with the gift card, please have your order in no later than Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. These will then be available for pick up on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions about gift cards or need a digital gift card to send to someone for Christmas, please contact Sue Eckstein at 716-471-2301.

**WORSHIP ANEW** is a weekly Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod (LCMS) worship service that is broadcast on WNYB every Sunday at 11:30am (local channel 26, Spectrum Channel 12 or DirectTV channel 377 (TCT). You can also view the worship service on their phone app or website <a href="worshipanew.org">worshipanew.org</a>, any time along with finding other information. Copies of their magazine "The Broadcaster" are available on the Family Ministry Table.

**ST. PAUL CHRISTMAS DECORATING DAY: Saturday, December 6, 9:00am-11:00am (or earlier if completed). We need you!!** We will serve a lite breakfast at 9am and decorate the church complex. Sign up on the bulletin board at the top of the stairs if you would like to take part in beautifying our church to prepare for Christmas!

ST. PAUL FAMILY CHRISTMAS: "Unwrapping Christmas"

December 6, 5:00-7pmish. Let's gather to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. The Family Ministry Team will be providing fried chicken. Sign up in The Gathering Place and add a food item that you are bringing to complement our main course. It's going to be a fun night with fellowship, a wonderful meal, and a new, fun game!! ~Maryann Magil~

**COMMON THREADS** Christmas tree is in The Gathering Place filled with homemade hats, scarves and mittens for all to enjoy. If you see something you like, please take it or give it to a friend to enjoy the warmth!

ST. PAUL COOKIE WALK, Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM to kick off fundraising for repairs needed to our MIGHTY WURLITZER ORGAN (see flyer in today's bulletin). We need donations of cookies! As many as you can bake will be appreciated! Cookies can be dropped off in the kitchen on December 19<sup>th</sup>, 9:00am to 4:00 PM, or December 20<sup>th</sup> before 8:30am. We will be plating cookies starting at 1pm on December 19<sup>th</sup>. We have a lot of fun, so join us if you can! Please label containers with cookie type and if they contain nuts. If you have any questions, please call Sue Eckstein at 471-2301 or Darlene Felbinger at 691-8930.

**HOMEBOUND MEMBERS' BIRTHDAY LIST** - A list has been compiled with all of the names, addresses and birth dates of our shut-in, homebound and nursing home members. If you would like a copy, please call the church office. Prayers, notes of encouragement and phone calls are greatly appreciated.

FLYERS FROM OTHER CHURCHES AND ORGANIZATIONS - we have moved some of the flyers that do not have specific dates (such as Rainbow Rink Christian Skating, Pioneer on the Lake, Hospice and more). These flyers are now on the bulletin board on the brick wall in The Gathering Place. We will continue to have flyers with specific dates for events such as dinners and basket raffles on the small bulletin board at the top of the stairs. Please stop and take a look at both bulletin boards! You might find something that you want to do!

**ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING: November 30 thru December 21:** Advent begins today! Please sign up to light the candles on our Advent Candle Wreath in anticipation of the birth of Jesus Christ. Help us fill the list up! Thank you ~

**ALTAR GUILD COMMITTEE** is looking for new members! You can volunteer as individuals, couples, friends. You will usually be asked to serve just one month a year. If you have any questions, please see Nancy Witkop or call the church office.

**PHOTO DIRECTORY UPDATE** - we will continue taking photos for the church photo directory in December on these dates:

- Sat. Dec. 6 at St. Paul Family Christmas 4:45-5:30pm
- Sun. Dec. 7 9:00am -10:45am
- Mon. Dec. 8 6:15pm-7:00pm
- Sun. Dec. 14 9:00am -10:45am
- Mon. Dec. 15 6:15-7:00pm

You may continue to submit your own photos for the directory. Please stop at The Information Center to pick up a flyer with specific instructions. If you do not give us a new photo or have one taken here at church, your previous photo will stay in the directory.

**DIRECTORY DATABASE** - this is the last weekend that the tables with directory information will be out in The Gathering Place. Please make any updates needed on the <u>clipboards</u> and if there are any changes after this weekend, you can send an email to the church office (<u>stpauInt@gmail.com</u>).

Please remember that the directory database is different from the official church database, *Shepherd's Staff*. All updates that are on the clipboards will be shared with the church office so that the official database can be updated too. NOTE: any changes in membership need to be submitted to the church office by the person who is asking for a change in membership.

**ANGEL TREE:** Every year we collect gift cards that can be given to people in need. On the side aisle of the church sanctuary, we have the Angel Tree with a box beside it where you can place your donated gift cards. When you donate a gift card, place an angel from the basket on the tree. Please be sure that you indicate the value of your donated gift cards if it is not apparent on the card. Thank you for sharing! ~Maryann Magil~

**ADVENT MATERIALS:** Check out the Family Ministry table... there are new booklets with reading and Advent activities for all!

### + SERVING our Lord week of Nov. 30 & Dec. 1 +

**ALTAR GUILD COMMITTEE: December:** Various Volunteers

FLOWER COMMITTEE:

**December:** Ruth Stolzenburg 716-694-4958 Bonnie Urban 716-622-9040 Nancy Klepp 716-523-0656

#### WEEKLY

**ELDERS:** 8:00 AM - Marc Manth

10:45 AM - Brian Hapeman

Monday, 7:00 PM - Charles Kinne

LAY READERS: 8:00 AM - Marc Manth

10:45 AM – Bob Franke

Monday, 7:00 PM – Charles Kinne

**USHERS:** 8:00 AM – Mike Kijowski, Zak Kijowski

Sam Kijowski, John Urban

10:45 AM -

Monday, 7:00 PM – Jon Blank

**GREETERS:** 8:00 AM – Cindy and Dieter Zahn

10:45 AM - Luis & Desirea Mojica

Monday, 7:00 PM -

ACOLYTES: 8:00 AM -

10:45 AM – Addison Glogowski Monday 7:00 PM – Evan Manson

### WEEK OF 11/23/2025

Offerings given for weekly operating expenses:

\$10,744.00~Thank you!!

Average needed weekly- \$12,160.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED WEEKLY

GIVING as we.....

CONTINUE TO MOVE FORWARD IN FAITH!

#### ATTENDANCE WEEK OF 11/23/25:

8:00am - 123 10:45am - 71 Monday - 45

**LITTLE FREE PANTRY**: If you or if you know of someone in need, please help yourself. There is a bin under the table that is under the TV in The Gathering Place for your donations. Please also feel free to place your donations inside the pantry. Thank you.

**FAMILY LIFE CHRISTMAS FLYERS** are available at The Information Center. Family Life is a local Christian radio station located at 88.3FM or 106.1FM. The flyer lists their special Christmas programming.

**COUNT ME IN!** booklets are on the table under the TV in TGP. You can pick up a booklet and see how you can be involved in ministries here at St. Paul.

**GREETERS NEEDED FOR DECEMBER, ADVENT, CHRISTMAS EVE, AND CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES:** Your help with this important ministry of handing out bulletins and greeting people as they enter the sanctuary for services is appreciated! Please sign up on the bulletin board at the top of the stairs.

**USHERS ARE ALSO NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES.** If you can help with this, please sign up on the bulletin board at the top of the stairs. Thank you!

**YOUTH:** Storm hopes to see you all at our upcoming Youth Events. Youth in grades 5 through 12 are invited to come! Bring a friend or two! We meet in the Youth Room. **Upcoming Youth Dates:** 

Youth group Christmas party- December 21, 2025 6-8pm Please RSVP to Storm at 716-727-1423 with how many kids are coming Youth Group Night-January 4 and January 18, 2026 6-8pm Youth Group Night-February 1 and February 15, 2026 6-8pm

**ST. PAUL WEBSITE** (www.stpaulnt.com) - remember to check our website for information about Upcoming Events, Preschool, Gift cards, listen to sermons and much more. There is a link to our Facebook page and also to the Online Church Directory (access is limited to those members who have their email listed in the directory). On the front of this bulletin is a QR code at the top left which will take you directly to our website.

# ATTN: K.R.E.W. FAMILY AND FRIENDS: FILL THE PANTRY!

KREW kids have been asked to bring in canned goods and boxed goods to be shared in our new Little Free Pantry box located in front of the church. We will be using a reward system for their generosity. We hope to instill a sense of helping their community. We thank you for your support of this outreach event.

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA** Order Forms are available on the credenza in The Gathering Place. Please fill in a form in memory of loved one(s) or in celebration of the Birth of Jesus. Cost is \$8.00 each. **Order forms and payment must be in by December 10, 2025**. Door Wreaths are also available in memory of a loved one or in celebration of the Birth of Jesus. Call Ruth (716 564 7823) or Bonnie (716 622 9040) if interested. Cost of wreaths is \$18.00 each.

**THE SISTERS IN CHRIST CHRISTMAS GATHERING, "STAR OF WONDER"** is Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, at Panes Restaurant, 984 Payne Avenue, North Tonawanda, NY. The sign up sheet and details are on the kiosk in The Gathering Place. All women are welcome. Please see the back of today's bulletin for more information.

**RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS** - during Advent especially, you are encouraged to bless or thank someone personally with a card and maybe a small gift. Please pick up a card at The Information Center and send it to someone anonymously.

**LAY READERS NEEDED** for both the First and Second Readings during the Sunday church services. For more information, please contact Dennis Gurnett.

**FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED:** The North Tonawanda Inter-Church Food Pantry can always use donations. Items most needed are: personal care products such as shampoo, tooth brushes and paste, feminine care, deodorant, toilet paper, canned fruit, veggies, chicken, tuna, corned beef, Spam, quick meals such as Hamburger or Tuna Helper, Rice a Roni, Pasta roni, white or flavored rice, pancake mix, syrup, breakfast & granola bars, cereal, jello, pudding, hot chocolate, coffee, tea bags and empty deposit bottles and cans to return for cash. You can place your donations in the bin by the little library just off The Gathering Place. Thank you!!

**MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY** ("Ministry Meals") to serve our brothers and sisters in Christ. Do you enjoy cooking or baking for others? There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board at the top of the stairs for anyone that would be interested in making a meal or dessert for a family at St. Paul that might be experiencing a serious injury, a death, sickness, caring for a loved one in Hospice, or a recent surgery. When the office receives word of a church family who is currently experiencing one of the above and would like to receive help with meals, our coordinator will then contact one or more of you who have signed up to schedule the making and delivering of meals. Please prayerfully consider joining this ministry and help us serve others at St. Paul. Thank you!

**USED CLOTHING SHEDS IN OUR AREA** - As you drive around town, you may pass by other churches' parking lots hosting sheds designated for used clothing drop off. These sheds are owned by St. Pauly Textile in Rochester, who partner with local churches or community centers to collect used clothing. Donations are collected and used regionally, domestically and in international markets for textiles. Hosting sites also have "first dibs" on donations to distribute locally to people in need. St. Pauly pays hosting sites \$40 per 1,000lbs of clothing collected, which can easily amount to \$100-\$300 per month to a struggling church host site. Our elders looked into hosting a clothing shed here, but determined there are ample sheds in our community where the clothing and resultant funds can do much good. When you do your spring cleaning this year, consider your old clothing to go to one of these drop off sheds. St. Matthew, St. Mark and Redeemer Lutheran Churches all have sheds in their parking lots and would appreciate your donations.

**UPDATE: THE BOOK CLUB** will be discontinued for the time being. Prayerfully we can continue in the near future. Please watch the bulletin for further updates. Thank you. Please call Jackie Brodfuehrer at 716-692-0826 if you have any questions.