

## Prayers of the Church

+*St. Paul Lutheran Church*  
+*The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, our Congregations and Sister Churches*  
+*Rev. Matthew C. Harrison, Synod President*  
+*Rev. Andrew Yeager, Pastor of St. Paul*  
+*Rev. Daniel Brege, Pastor of St. Paul, President of the Indiana District*  
+*President Donald Trump, the Legislature and Supreme Court of the United States*  
+*Governor Eric Holcomb, the Legislature and Judiciary of Indiana*  
+*The Sick: Jim Schueler, recovering*  
+*Those who Mourn:*  
+*The Homebound and Infirm: Delores Rumble, Edna Mesing, Fred and Irene Bieberich, Malinda Bieberich*  
+*Birthdays: Rob Ehlerding, Avery Gallmeyer, Gerry Bulmahn, Tim Hoffman, Beth Reinhart, Jeff Stout, Deb Wiegmann, Jackie Hamilton, Alan Haines, Tyler Korte*

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## Attendance

8am 102 Bible Class 77 10:15am 128

Advent 59

## Offerings

Need Weekly: \$7,049.90 Received Last Week: \$4203.15  
(+) or (-) Week(\$2803.15) (+) or (-) Year to Date: (\$62,827.37)

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**Saint Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church--Preble**  
**4510 W 750 N, Decatur, Indiana 46733 | 260.574.4176**  
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**[www.facebook.com/StPaulPreble](https://www.facebook.com/StPaulPreble)**

**Pastor:** Rev. Andrew T. Yeager | 260-226-0375 | [andrewyeager@gmail.com](mailto:andrewyeager@gmail.com)

**Pastor:** Dr. Daniel J. Brege | 260-547-4256 | [djbreg@centurylink.net](mailto:djbreg@centurylink.net)

**Director of Music:** Mrs. Connie Garner

**Seminary Students:** Timothy Schmeisser, Brendan Harris

**Acolytes for December:** 8am Ben Enterline 10:15am Sam Albert

**Greeters:** 8am Jim, Rhonda & Alyssa Brune

10:15am Jonathon, Michelle, Kade, Kenzie & Kord Fuelling

## Weekly Schedule

**Today:** 8am pg. 184 Divine Service  
9:15-10am Adult Bible Class & Sunday School  
10:15am pg. 219 Matins  
11:30am Catechism- Public School  
6:30-8:30pm Movie night at Caston Home

**Monday:**

**Tuesday:**

6am Early Bird Bible Class

7pm Adult Catechism

**Wednesday:**

7pm Advent Service (Preaching: Seminarian Timothy Schmeisser)

8pm Choir Practice

**Thursday:**

**Friday:**

**Saturday:**

**Next Sunday:** 8am pg. 219 Matins

9:15-10:00 am Sunday school and Bible Class

10:15am pg. 184 Divine Service

6:30-8:30pm Crafts & Caroling at Bingen Parsonage 1

NEWS AND NOTES, December 9, 2018

## At St. Paul, Preble

☐ December Baptismal Birthdays : Katelyn Borne, Tyson Minnich, Kallin Strome, Ashlynn Williams

☐

SUNDAY MORNING, we will meditate on the Gospel from Luke 3:1-13, which gives us the account of John the Baptist, preparing the way of Jesus in the wilderness. Since we too await the coming Savior, John's preaching, which calls sinners to repentance and faith, is as equally relevant to us as it was to those who first heard him by the Jordan River. Our hymn of the day, which we have been learning at Wyneken, is "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry." Join us!

☐ The Ladies Aid Christmas party will be held Thursday, December 20th at 6:30pm. Please remember to bring your Secret Pal gift and a gift for your spouse. We wish to invite all those who graciously helped with noodle making and the church bazaar. Make your reservations no later than Sunday, December 16th by contacting Jan Blum (223-3532), Lynn Brege (547-4256) or Kelly Todd (466-7494). We look forward to seeing you there!

☐ The children are practicing for the Christmas Program. If you wish for your children to be in our program please have them at practice.

☐

ADVENT MIDWEEK SERVICES. We have two more of these on the 12th and

the 19th at 7pm. Our Seminarian Tim Schmeisser preaches on the 12th on the 'Benedictus' and Pastor Brege preaches on the 19th on the 'Nunc Dimittis.'

☐

ACOLYTES- If you (or your kid) currently serves as an acolyte, please let me know your availability for the Christmas Eve program. **I need all acolytes who are willing, and I will use every one that is here!** I need acolytes to carry the cross and help light individual candles which will be passed out to all the members of the congregation at the beginning of the service. **Please plan to be present here at 5:30pm Christmas Eve for training. Thanks**

- ☐ ELECTED OFFICERS at St. Paul for 2019, as selected by the Dec. Voters' Assembly are Chairman: Mike Hoffman; Vice Chairman: Mike Macke; Recording Secretary: John Schueler; Financial Secretary: Darrel Ehlerding, Tim Ehlerding; Treasurer: Jim Brune; Trustees: Brian Todd, Wally Mesing, Ed Albert; Elders: Steve Kreigh, Ted Buuck; Deacons: Jim Schueler, Jake Miller, Dan Bleeke, and Nolan Scheumann; Wyneken School Board: Mike Rabel, Jim Melton, Micah Borne; Sunday School Superintendent: Tim Hoffman.

- ☐ APPOINTED OFFICERS are: LLL: Ralph Selking; Cemetery committee: Tim, Mike, Nick Hoffman and Jim Schueler; Lutheran Foundation: Tim Ehlerding, Mike Macke; St. Paul Endowment: Ethan Brege, Catherine Faurote, Scott Ainsworth, Luke Ainsworth; LBI: Darrel Ehlerding; Auditors: Ken Selking, Tom Korte. **The installation of all these officers will take place at both services, Sunday, January 6th. Please be in attendance if serving this year.**

- ☐ 2019 Offering envelope boxes are now available in the narthex. Please see a deacon if you need assistance in locating yours. If you did not receive a box and would like one, please contact Alan Zimmerman.

- ☐ Email and Updated Contact Information: if you would like to start receiving email announcements of upcoming events at Preble, please write your email address on the Church Director in the narthex. Also please update any relevant contact information on the Church Directory.
- ☐ St. Paul Endowment Fund. Do you have an idea on how the St. Paul Endowment Fund can be used for the following items? 1. Missions: Local, regional and world projects. 2. Youth: Support for youth of all ages. 3. Worship and Music: Support for the worship activities of our congregation. 4. Capital Projects: Major renovations and building of new facilities. All members are encouraged to consider potential uses for these funds. Take this time to give it some thought to submit ideas and quotes for any of the items listed above for the 2019 year. In the recent years more than \$222,000 has been used to support the above items.

Application forms and Bylaws can be found on the table in the rear of the church. Grant applications will be accepted thru January 6th. Any questions call Sue Buuck, Barry Melcher, Ethan Brege, Catherine Faurote or Mike Werling.

### At Wyneken Lutheran School

- ☐ As we celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School, we recognize the graduates of our school. This week we remember the Wyneken graduating class of 1985. Todd Berning, Tina Bultemeyer, Julie Buuck, Troy Buuck, Timothy Decker, Dawn Gallmeyer, Michelle Hartman, Cathy Jeffrey, Amy Kolter, Brian Lepper, Wendy Liby, Melinda Macke, Gail Merriman, Michelle Oliver, Beth Schaekel, Chris Schieferstein, Sue Schieferstein, Karen Schueler, Paul Selking, Leslie Smith, Jerry Steup, Beverly Werling, Mark Witte
- ☐
- ☐ Youth Event: 6:30-8:30pm Movie night at the Caston Home \*1988 E 900N Decatur, Come and enjoy their incredible home theater! Popcorn provided. Butter if you wish.
- ☐
- ☐ Youth Event next week: Craft & Caroling, we will gather in the Bingen Parish Hall for lunch and Christmas crafts before traveling to a couple nursing homes for caroling and distributing the Christmas crafts.
- ☐ SCRIP: A new SCRIP representative (volunteer position) is needed for St. Paul, Preble. Please prayerfully consider your church and school in this capacity. If interested, contact Mr. Gavrun at principal @wyneken.org or by phone at 260-639-6177
- ☐ SGO Donations. For those donating to our Wyneken School through an SGO, SGO donations will still give the donor a 50% tax credit for their Indiana State taxes. However, the federal IRS will no longer allow such donations to be itemized. Call John Dize at 260-203-4509 or go to [info@lutheransgo.org](mailto:info@lutheransgo.org)
- ☐ Attendance Record. Our Wyneken Parents who attend worship here with their Wyneken children are reminded to initial their column on the special books in the narthex. We have begun another 6 months of record keeping for attendance. Recall that each family with their Wyneken children must attend at least 14 services at the church to retain their member tuition status.
- ☐ "50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala & Silent Auction" We would appreciate your support and partnership with us as we hold our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala & Silent Auction. This special event helps reduce the number of smaller fundraisers our school does while helping to benefit our students, teachers, and staff through the dollars

raised. Portion of the proceeds from this event will be used to help update and improve the school's playground. We are seeking donations for the silent auction as well as sponsorship. Your donations are greatly appreciated and are tax deductible. All donors will be featured in our event program! For any information call Kari Butcher 260-223-2277 / [krose272@gmail.com](mailto:krose272@gmail.com) or Erin Hull 260-580-2709/ [erinhull@outlook.com](mailto:erinhull@outlook.com)

□ Next Week Readings: Zephaniah 3:14-20; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 7:18-28

Sermon:  
Prepare the Way of the Lord

Luke 3:1-14

John the Baptist was God's bulldozer. His purpose, as laid down in the Old Testament prophets Isaiah and Malachi, was to prepare the way of the Lord, to level mountains and raise valleys, to make crooked roads straight and rough places plain-why? Because the Messiah was coming after him. John's duty was to make people ready to receive him when he finally came.

John came preaching a message repentance. Repentance means the forsaking of self. It is a turning away from all of the idols and gods of the flesh we might otherwise look to for our greatest good, and a turning and trusting in God alone.

Calling sinners to repentance is dangerous work! It involves personally confronting another person's sin. John was no coward. He told others the painful truth about their evil. Then, he preached Jesus. The ultimate work of John the Baptist was to point sinners to the Savior, who atoned for all sin by his death and won the world's redemption through his vicarious, substitutionary sacrifice. That was the end and goal of all John's preaching- to point us to Christ, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

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