

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- +For those who mourn:** the family of Malinda Bieberich who fell asleep in Christ last Thursday and will be laid to rest this week.
- +For the Homebound & Infirm:** Delores Rumble, Edna Mesing, Irene Bieberich, Faye Keuneke, Marge Merriman (all at Woodcrest); Anita Spiegel (home).
- +Birthdays:** Lisa Scheumann, Taylor Blum, Delainey Melton, Erin Engstrom, Caleb Merriman, Carol Selking, Claudia Schueler.

ATTENDANCE | *December 29th*

8:00am 66 Bible Class 51 10:15am 105

New Year's Eve 61

OFFERINGS

Need Weekly: \$7,049.84 Received Last Week: \$23,968.07
(+) or (-) +\$16,918.23 Week (+) or (-) Year to date (-\$27,520.95)

Saint Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church – Preble
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Rev. Andrew T. Yeager | 226-0375 | andrewtyeager@gmail.com
Rev. Dr. Daniel J. Brege | 547-4256 | djbrege@hotmail.com

Director of Music: Mrs. Connie Garner.

Field Workers: Seminarians Brendan Harris & Anthony Keilani.

Acolytes: 8am Isaac Friedt 10:15am Matthew Rabel

Greeters: 8am Connie Jeffrey.

10:15am Alan & Pandora Zimmerman & family.

Holy Communion at St. Paul

Communicants at this Altar are to be members in good standing of St. Paul or a congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. So that our pastors might exercise appropriate spiritual care toward all those who commune, we kindly ask all visitors and members who have not communed in the past year to speak with one of our pastors before communing today.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

<u>Today:</u>	8am	The Epiphany of Our Lord, D.S.
	9:15am	Bible Class and Sunday School
	10:15am	The Epiphany of Our Lord, D.S.
	11:30am	Confirmation
	6:30-8:30	Youth Gathering at Parsonage #1
<u>Tuesday:</u>		Early Bird @ St. John
<u>Thursday:</u>	11am	Divine Service at Adams Heritage
<u>Saturday:</u>	TBD	Funeral, Malinda Bieberich
<u>Next Sun:</u>	8am	The Baptism of Our Lord, D.S.
	9:15am	Bible Class and Sunday School
	10:15am	The Baptism of Our Lord, D.S.

NEWS AND NOTES, *January 5, 2020*

At St. Paul, Preble

The Feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord. Today we celebrate Epiphany – the manifestation of our Lord's divine glory on Earth. The text for our meditation is Matthew 2:1-12, the Visit of the Magi to the Infant Christ. Gentiles sages from the East are unlikely worshippers of our Lord. First in line to worship Jesus should have been the King of the Jews and his Scribes- the professors and theologians of the ancient Jewish world. However, these never leave Herod's palace. Herod himself receives the news of our Lord's birth with paranoid rage and sets out to put all children in Bethlehem to death. But the Magi – perhaps Persians from Babylon, perhaps, equipped with a word from the Prophet Daniel – see the appearing of our Lord's star and follow it all the way to the place where the child was – to worship him.

Epiphany is Christmas for the Gentiles. Herein we learn that our Lord's salvation embraces, not only the Jews, but all people of all times and places. St. Paul in today's Epistle calls it a mystery hidden for ages in God – that the Gentiles are, together with the Jews, heirs of the same life and salvation that Christ won for us. Here we see God's hidden plan unfolded: Gentiles receiving Jesus as King and God.

Funeral. Our dear sister in Christ, Malinda Bieberich fell asleep in Jesus last Friday. We lay her to rest in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life, even as we keep her family in our prayers.

Tentatively, the funeral has been set for Saturday and the viewing Friday. Pr. Yeager will let the congregation know final arrangements by way of e-mail. Members can also find more info at zwickjahn.com.

Baby Shower: We love babies! And we love their moms and dads! In support of Sanctity of Human Life, we are providing you with the opportunity to purchase new baby items for the Hope Clinic. We are hosting a Church wide baby shower, so that we can bless those who have chosen life for their child. Please contribute: diaper bags, strollers, diapers (size 4-6), wipes, new baby equipment (cribs, mattresses high chairs, baby gates, carrier infant car seats, toddler seats/boosters, crib sheets, laundry soap, potty chair or ring, pacifiers, teething toys, bottles and sippy cups or anything that a baby might need. Also for mothers: gently used maternity clothes suitable for the workplace. **St. Paul hosts this drive from Sun., Jan 5th to Sun., Feb. 2.**

Final Report: The various organizations should get their final reports to the church secretary by January 19th so that the annual report can be completed before the Church Council meeting on January 27th.

52nd Annual Lutheran Bible Institute – This is the 52nd year for the Decatur Lutheran Bible Institute (LBI) which will take place **January 28, February 4, 11, and 18**, from 7 - 9:15 p.m. at Wyneken **February 25** will be used as an alternate date in case of cancellation due to inclement weather. These continuing education courses, open to students and adults, are conducted by the LCMS churches of the Decatur circuit and taught by local pastors and seminary professors.

Topics for this year include: *Mental health and the Church's Mission*, taught by Rev. Dennis Goff from The Lutheran Foundation in Ft. Wayne; *1 Peter – The Letter of Hope for Christ's Church*, taught by Rev. Leonard Tanksley from St. Peter Lutheran Church (Fuelling); *Guys with Funny Names: Habakkuk, Nahum, Obadiah*, taught by Rev. Dr. Ryan Tietz, from Concordia Theological Seminary in Ft. Wayne; and *Galatians – Christian Faith and Freedom for Today*, taught by Rev. Samuel Wirgau from Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Ossian.

There were 142 participants from the Decatur circuit who attended classes last year including ten from Preble. The courses are open to the public so feel free to bring a friend. Tuition is \$10 per adult.

Middle and High School Youth.

High School Gathering at Parsonage #1 **tonight** 6:30-8:30. Next week, we will also host a H.S. youth gathering at Parsonage #1, same time.

Higher Things Conference 2020. At our annual youth group planning meeting, we decided to attend the Higher Things Conference next summer. The Conferences will be held at four locations across the country. We settled on the Conference happening at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, July 14-17, 2020, because of date and location. If you are interested in going, please contact Pr. Yeager.

Northeast Indiana March for Life. Sat., January 18th, 11am – 3pm. Join thousands of pro-life advocates from our region as we march through downtown Ft. Wayne to show that we support life from conception to natural death. The March for Life is an annual pro-life rally held near the anniversary of the 1973 Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion known as Roe v. Wade. We will leave from Bingen's parking lot at 11am. The rally begins at 12pm at the University of St. Francis Performing Arts Center and the march follows at 1pm. This event is open, not only to our youth, but the whole congregation. Join us.

At Wyneken.

PTL Square Dance Jan. 10 from 6:30-10pm at the Eden in Hoagland. Admission is \$5 at the door and children age 3 or younger is free.

Open House. Wyneken will host an open house Sunday, January 26, 2020 from 12:00-3:00pm. This is an opportunity for any new families to visit our school, speak with school personnel, and learn more about the quality education our school provides. If you know of a family who would be interested in attending the open house, please share this info. with them or have them contact the school at 260-639-6177. Letters of invitation will be going home to families in early January.

Wyneken PTL invites you to our Mighty Warrior Gala, February 29, 2020 located at The Eden, 14013 Emmanuel Rd., Hoagland, IN 46745. This annual fundraiser supports our school in many and various ways and is a fun night of fellowship with Wyneken parents, teachers, and pastors, past and present. Presale Tickets only. Contact Kari Butcher 260-223-2277 or kaributcher31@gmail.com to purchase tickets.