

WE ARE ST. PAUL'S!

Sunday Opportunities

Prayer Time 8:45AM in the Chapel (9:45 today)
Adult class every Sunday 10AM in Wesley House (not today)
Adult Class in the Library 10AM in the Library (not today)
Jr. Church 9AM & 11 AM in Room 211 (at 10am today)

Weekly Opportunities

St. Paul's PreSchool: Scholarship and donations accepted.
Saving Grace Advocacy: Monday - Thursday 9am-12:30pm
A.A. meets every Monday at 7pm in Fellowship Hall.
Dinner with Neighbors Wednesday at 5:30 PM. (not 12/24 or 12/31)
Chancel Choir Rehearsal Wednesday 7-8:30 PM in Choir Room
Al-Anon meets every Wednesday at 7:30pm in the Library
Alateen meets every Wednesday at 7:30pm in Wesley House.

Events:

Social Hour will begin today after the 10 AM Service

**No Dinner With Neighbors Wed. December 24th or Wed. December 31st
due to the holidays**

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service—Wednesday, December 24th at 7 PM.
(If you ordered a poinsettia, you may take it home with you following this service)

**The Church office will be closed December 25th & 26th
and January 1st for the Holidays.**

Last Week Attendance: 113
Weekly Average This Year: 120
Last Week's Giving: \$8,323
Weekly Budget Needs \$7,074
December Giving: \$19,355
Month-to-Date Budget: \$14,148
Year-to-Date Giving: \$245,713
Year-to-Date Budget: \$353,700
Annual Budget Needs: \$367,822



Believe in our Mission

Support our work today



Fourth Sunday of Advent

Choir Cantata

December 21, 2025

Finding Christmas - Trust More

Matthew 1:18-25

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us"). When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

St. Paul's UMC: Rev. Tom DeFries, Pastor
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10:00 a.m.

Prelude: "Noel Joyeux" Young

Welcome:

Passing of the Peace:

Advent Candlelighting: "Jesus, the Light of the World" Doug & Myra Cors

Opening Hymn: Hymn #238 "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Offertory: "The First Noel"

Offering/Offertory/Prayer: *Faithful God of unfolding plans, when our certainty falters and our expectations collapse, you are still at work, inviting us into grace that redefines and redeems. Like Joseph, we bring our gifts and lay down our plans, trusting that your Spirit can shape our offering into something greater than we imagined. Let these gifts and our lives be signs of obedience, humility, and hope. May they help carry Christ into a world still longing for peace, hungry for love, and needing redemption. We pray in the name of the one who is Emmanuel—God with us. Amen.*

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Hymn Hymn#218 "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

Pastoral Prayer/Lord's Prayer:

Sermon Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25

Message: [Finding Christmas - Trust More](#)

Choir Cantata

Chancel Choir - Misty Grubbs, Director * Donna Wagner, Organist

"Go Tell It" Schrader

"Angels From the Realms of Glory"

"Come Messiah, Come"

"How Great Our Joy"

"Still, Still, Still"

"Mary, Did You Know?"

"Silent Night"

"Christmas Medley"

"Go Tell It"

Choral Benediction: "The Lord Bless You and Keep You"

Postlude: "Joy to the World"

Prayer Requests: Family of Dick Read, Family of Nancy Willis, Corinne Poucher, Tom Fillio, Mark Longacre, Betsy DeFries, Randy Adams, Debbie Wolfinger, Betty Beck, Bill Mann, Anderson Family, Rick Jones, Cam McJunkin, Nancy Willis, Ellie Strukel, Kathy Scott, Sue Miller, Marcy Mercer, Scot Lauderbach, Louise Jones, Billie Carl, Mama Jessie, Mateo and his mother, our leaders, our nation, and our world.

Cancer: Lynne O'Brien, Greg Mercer, Cathy Murschel, Janna Tomasini, Randy Zonker, Stephen Jones, Claudia Phipps, Doug and Shannon Gullett, Samantha Moyer, Adler Carris, Kent Pettet, Ms. Joy, and Tim Portolese.

Continuing Prayers: Scott and Stephanie McElravy, Kathy DeFries, Austin Johnson, Sue Moses, John Thompson.

Prayer Chain: To start someone on the prayer chain call one of these three: Millie Ferro 574-262-4124, Pat Klockow 574-262-5949, or Louise Jones 574-361-5517.