



JANUARY 2020

The Disciple's Connection

St. Paul's Lutheran Church—Painesville, OH 44077

Our Mission Statement: To witness to our faith in Jesus Christ through worship, education, building relationships and caring for others.



WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday 6:00pm

Sunday 8:15am & 10:45am

PASTOR

Paul D. Sundbom

Pastor@splcpainesville.org

CHURCH OFFICE

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office@splcpainesville.org

CHURCH WEB-SITE

www.SPLCPainesville.org

Follow Us on Facebook

PRESCHOOL

Amy Marizek, Director

Preschool@splcpainesville.org

PRESCHOOL WEB-SITE

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WAIT A MINUTE!! 2019 CAN'T POSSIBLY BE ALMOST DONE, CAN IT?!

Well, that's what the calendar says; a couple weeks from now [as I write this] 2019 will be done and 2020 [and a new decade!] will be here. As a calendar year winds down, people look back at the past 12 months in their life. 2019 for me seemed to be part taking some forward steps, and then a couple back. There were parts where I felt stuck in neutral, and parts where I could see progress. Believe me, I still have a lot to learn about myself. And through it all God is doing some renovation, despite my hindrance.

How about your last 12 months? How has God blessed you in 2019? What parts of the year was He carrying you through? What do you want to be different, better in 2020? I trust 2020 will be different for you because it seems no 2 years ever turn out the same. I hope the New Year brings new opportunities for you and your family.

Let me suggest one small thing for 2020; for myself, for all disciples of St. Paul's. Make 2020 a year of digging into God's Word. Be it in your personal devotions, group Bible Study, or worship together, find ways to spend more time being in Scripture. Read it regularly, talk about as family and friends, join a Bible Study group. There are many things in the world around you that chip away at you. In the pages of Scripture, you find reminder after reminder of God's promises and faithfulness. You can anchor in the Word and receive strength and encouragement to live each day as disciples, children of God. A new year provides you a chance to start anew. If you are in a Bible Study already, invite one more person to join you. If you aren't part of a Bible Study, consider this an invitation to come to one. All our Bible Study opportunities are listed on the next page of the newsletter

There will always be decisions that this group of disciples will need to make. I want to encourage everyone to be a part of the decision-making process, primarily through attending our Voters' Meetings. You have a voice and a vote. The more people who are involved, the better & more informed our decisions will be.

As we begin this New Year, let us begin it in prayer. Pray that God will lead you and guide you. Pray that you will be ready go where He leads you. Pray that the enemy will not find a way to deceive you. Pray that in the midst of uncertainty, the Holy Spirit will calm you with the sure & certain Word of God. Pray for your Council members & Elders. Pray for them as they serve God and seek to do His will. Pray for each other as brothers and sisters in the faith who need encouragement every day. Pray for people of this community that all may know Jesus as Lord and Savior and may be brought into a saving relationship with Him. Pray continuously, for the prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.

In Christ, Pastor Sundbom





ALTAR FLOWERS for 2020

The Altar Flower Chart has been posted on the wall next to the double doors leading out of the sanctuary (above the ushers' station). If you would like to honor a birthday, baptismal birthday, wedding anniversary, or the memory of a loved one or give flowers "To the Glory of God!" please sign up next to the appropriate weekend. Be sure to print clearly what occasion is being honored and who the flowers are given by. Altar flowers are currently \$30.00. This can be placed in an envelope labeled "Altar Flowers" and the date of the weekend, then placed in the collection plate.



Begin the New Year In The Word!

Sundays, 9:30am (Education Hour)
Pastor Sundbom's study meets in the kitchen/Jack Lelle's in the Sanctuary.

Men's Ministry Bible Study meets at 7pm on the 2nd and 4th **Mondays** of the month.

The Women's Bible study resumes on January 9th. Welcome in the new year by becoming a part of this group which meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 6:30-8:00pm. All studies come from the LWML Quarterlies (available on the Friendship Circle table). (Note: we do not meet during Lent).

Midweek Bible Study meets each **Thursday** from 10:30 to Noon. Everyone is welcome!

Please refer to the congregation calendar for specific Bible Study Dates for Jan.



Portals of Prayer (which contain a daily Bible devotion and prayer) for Jan.—Mar. are out and can be found in book racks outside the church office and in the corner of the narthex.



St. Paul's looked great decorated for Advent & Christmas! A big thank-you to our youth and ALL who helped! But now it's time to UNDECORATE.

Please join the youth on Saturday, January 11th at 10:00am to lend a hand in packing up and putting away the decorations until Advent Season next year.



JANUARY/FEBRUARY FOOD PANTRY

The weather has turned cold and snowy so for the next couple of months we will be collecting "warm you up foods"— soup, crackers, macaroni and cheese, hot cereals, hot chocolate, tea, coffee, etc. ...

Place items in the bins located at both entrance doors of the church. (As most of you know, St. Paul's supports the food pantry at Zion, Painesville). They will then be taken by St. Paul volunteers to Zion and distributed to those in need in our area.

St. Paul's Preschool would like to wish you a Happy and Healthy New Year!



The Epiphany of Our Lord

Celebrated on January 6th, the word "Epiphany" (Pronounced ee-PIF-uh-nee) comes from a Greek word meaning "manifestation" or "being made known." In other words, Jesus was "made known" to all people simply by being born. If we had been alive back then, we could have actually reached out and touched Jesus! He was real, and the evidence was in His birth!

Epiphany is the third part of the Christmas season. During this special season in the church year, we remember the visit of the Wise Men. Traditionally, this visit is celebrated on January 6th. Epiphany also brings to mind many other important events in Jesus' life. For example we remember Jesus' baptism, the star that guided the Wise Men, and most important, His birth!

"God in flesh made manifest." This statement is hard to understand. Jesus is real, alive and once walked on the earth for all to see. Holy Communion is where Christ manifests Himself today and gives His true body and blood for us to eat and drink.

January "Life Quotes" from Lutherans for Life

www.lutheransforlife.org



January 5 "As this New Year begins and you make resolutions of things to do for yourself, consider ways in which you could spend one hour a week helping someone in need—at a crisis pregnancy center, a hospice house, a nursing home, etc." *Rev. Scott Licht, National Director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

January 12 "But the value of children as treasured human beings demonstrated in the ministry of Jesus reflects a God who cherishes the least, the last, and the most vulnerable ... As the Christmas season gives way to Epiphany, Christians around the world are invited to worship the Child Jesus Who was worshipped by kings. And all are invited to wonder and consider the mystery of a faith that proclaims the weakness of God and the foolishness of God to be strength and wisdom. The one who said, 'Suffer the little children and do not hinder them from coming to me' is the God revealed in a Child." *Margaret Manning Shull, Ravi Zacharias International Ministries – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

January 19 "As the Church, we are created to stand against evil. We are created to speak truth ... and forgiveness. The truth is that abortion ends the life of a human being, and we should be unwavering in our opposition to it. But that is not the end of the story. We have been given the gift of Christ, and the power of Christ can wash our sins away." *Rev. Troy Tysdal, Church of the Lutheran Brethren – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

January 26 "The 'right' of abortion does not expand personal choice or freedom; it severely restricts it because it establishes the prior 'right' of the state to permit or to deny the right to life at will. Such a step, the legalization of abortion, is the beginning of the death of freedom and of man." *R. J. Rushdoony, theologian and philosopher – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*





Adopt-a-Family Update:

St. Paul's Sunday School program would like to thank the members of St. Paul's Church - that very generously helped with our Adopt-a-Family program at Project Hope this year. This year was extremely successful!

We collected items for 3 families (5 children and 1 adult). The items consisted of clothing, outerwear, art supplies and toys.



We greatly appreciate everyone who donated items to this wonderful program. In this time of need, it's a blessing to be able to count on the kindness of our church community. Thank you very much for instilling the spirit of giving and for being an inspiration to a

Blessings -

Starshine - Sunday School Superintendent



Adopt a Family



2020 Offering Envelopes ...

The 2020 offering envelopes are now available. They are on the table across from the mailboxes. Please note, these are for **next** year and your number might be different from what it was in 2019. Do not start using these until after January 1st. If you did not get a box of envelopes and you would like one, let Dennis Concoby know and we will prepare one for you.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES:

New Member:
Laurie Srebernek

New Address? New phone number? New email address? A new baby in the family? Please let the church office know of any changes in your information. This will help to keep the Directory and the church database as current as possible.

OSLS 40th ANNIVERSARY Spaghetti Dinner SAVE THE DATE! January 24, 2020

OSLS is having a Spaghetti Dinner to celebrate 40 years of learning, loving, leading children to faith, and lasting memories of Our Shepherd Lutheran School. There is no charge for tickets, **but they must be gotten in advance as there is a limited number** and *none will be available at the door*. Current families, alumni, and long-time supporters are all encouraged to pick up your tickets in January.

What: Spaghetti & meatballs, salad, bread, dessert, and beverage

When: Jan. 24, 2020; serving from 5 to 7 PM

Where: Zion Lutheran Church

Tickets: Available from your OSL Delegates after church services Jan. 5, 12, 19 or from the school office any day beginning Jan. 6th.

Donations will be accepted at the door to go toward the purchase of a much-needed new drinking fountain with water bottle filler.

We look forward to meeting new friends and renewing old friendships!





FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE NEWS

Our Savior Lutheran Church (Mayfield Heights) will be hosting the LWML Northeast Zone Prayer Breakfast on February 8, 2020. Watch the Friendship Circle board for more information.



The Northeast Zone is seeking young women to apply to be a Young Woman Representative (most expenses paid) for the LWML Ohio District Convention to be held in Dayton, Ohio on June 19-21, 2020. If you are between the ages of 19-25 and wish to apply, please contact Zone President, Billie Lelle (bllelle@roadrunner.com) Being a YWR is a great opportunity to learn more about the LWML and how its mission work shares the Gospel throughout the world.

As we close the 2018-2020 LWML Ohio District biennium, please continue to pray for these mission grants which are supported by our mite giving. If you are reading this on line, you can learn more about the various missions by clicking on the links. We will be having another noisy mite offering in early March, so please keep filling those mite boxes (available on the Friendship Circle table).

2018–2020 Mission Grants – LWML Ohio District	
\$10,000	POBLO Missionary /Evangelist – Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Kettering, Ohio
\$10,000	Military Veterans & Family Member Counseling, Care Programs & Services – Lutheran Military Veterans & Families Ministries, Fort Wayne, IN
\$15,000	Support for Seminarians – Ohio District Student Aid & Recruitment Committee
\$10,000	Concordia Theological Seminary Food Co-Op – Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN
\$12,000	Center of Refuge Orphanage, Jacmel, Haiti/ meals – Mission in Ministry, Chesterland, OH
\$15,000	Support for Full-Time Students preparing for Church Work – Ohio District Student Aid & Recruitment Committee
\$5,000	Carrie L. Twyman Kids Church – Immanuel Lutheran Church, Cincinnati, OH
\$8,000	Worship Anew - Sharing God's Word Through TV – Lutheran Ministries Media, Fort Wayne, IN
\$85,000	

Praise God for the monthly mite contributions given to His glory for the mission work of the LWML. Below is our monthly giving for 2019. Please continue to pray for the mission work of the LWML and keep feeding those mite boxes on a regular basis.

Mites by the month 2019

January	\$54.00
February	\$506.50
March	\$39.50
April	\$54.15
May/June	\$78.50
July	\$50.50
August	\$48.00
September	\$71.89
October	\$453.37
November	\$61.04
December	\$35.50
TOTAL	\$1452.95



St. Paul's First Movie Night!

Movie Night is January 23rd at 7pm.
Admission is free.

We will be showing ... **"God's Not Dead!"** ... in the
Sanctuary.

A concession stand will serve:

Popcorn Hotdogs Candy bars
Pop Potato chips ... and more!

**Please come & invite your friends.
Invitations are on the Outreach table
in the Narthex, please grab some and
hand them out!!!**



January Birthdays:

Star Graziadei	January 2nd
Kevin Kiel	January 3rd
Marisa Szoradi	January 7th
Andy Kujala	January 9th
Julie Greig	January 17th
Annikki Tompkins	January 18th
Sylvia Hendricks	January 19th
Terry Wakelee	January 21st
Al Ponsart	January 24th
Nathan Lelle	January 25th
Matt Chaffe	January 28th
Lia Graziadei	January 28th
Norm Salminen	January 29th
Sue Snodgrass	January 29th
MacKenzi Dewit	January 30th

THOSE WHO SERVE IN JANUARY



ELDERS

6:00 P	Saturday	Aaron Lindrose
8:15 A	Sunday	Dale Kerver
10:45A	Sunday	Rich Szoradi



LECTORS

01-05-18	6:00	Saturday	Roy Greig
01-06-18	8:15	Sunday	Jack Lelle
01-06-18	10:45	Sunday	Terry Wakelee
01-12-18	6:00	Saturday	Pastor Sundbom
01-13-18	8:15	Sunday	Craig McConnell
01-13-18	10:45	Sunday	Eric West
01-19-18	6:00	Saturday	Frank McVan
01-20-18	8:15	Sunday	Dale Kerver
01-20-18	10:45	Sunday	Ken Chaffe
01-26-18	6:00	Saturday	Pavel Lindrose
01-27-18	8:15	Sunday	Jack Lelle
01-27-18	10:45	Sunday	Kathleen Pennell



COUNTERS

Terry Wakelee



GREETERS







6:00	Saturday
8:15A	Sunday
10:45A	Sunday





2020



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Worship 8:15A Education Hr. 9:30A Worship 10:45A	Confirmation Class will meet Sunday after the 10:45 service unless otherwise noted.			Bulletin Announcements Due Wednesdays		
 Pastor out-of-town thru January 3 rd Office Closed thru January 6th			1 New Year's Day	2 	3	4 COMMUNION
5 COMMUNION	6 Epiphany Preschool Classes Resume WELCOME BACK! Office hours resume 9 am – 2 pm Pastor out-of-town, Jan. 6 th thru 10 th	7 Choir 7pm	8 Council 6:30pm Women's Bible Study 6:30pm	9 Outreach Meeting 6:30pm	10 	11 COMMUNION Un-decorating the Church 10am
12 COMMUNION Confirmation Class	13 Men's Ministry Group 7pm Preschool-Morley Library visits	14 Choir 7pm	15 Elders 6:30pm Preschool-Chapels with Pastor	16 Midweek Bible Study 10:30am	17 Articles due for Feb. news-letter	18
19 Youth Group 6pm	20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day Church office & Preschool Closed	21 Choir 7pm Preschool-Closed (Teacher's in-service)	22 Women's Bible Study 6:30pm	23 Midweek Bible Study 10:30am Movie Night! 7pm	24 OSLS Spaghetti Dinner 5-7pm @ Zion 	25 COMMUNION
26 COMMUNION Confirmation Class	27 Men's Ministry Group 7pm	28 Choir 7pm	29 	30 Midweek Bible Study 10:30am	31 