

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER of
St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
68 Eagle Street
Williamsville, NY 14221

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St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

68 Eagle Street
Williamsville, NY
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THE

VOICE

January 2012

JESUS IS OUR FOUNDATION - HIS SPIRIT, OUR WINGS.

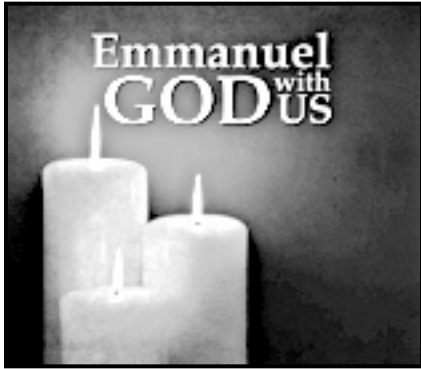


Wishing you ...

A blessed New Year!

"If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, behold, the new has come."

- 2 Corinthians 5:17



January 2012

Is God still “Emmanuel?”

Dear Friends—

All through December, the Church’s cry was “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel!” On Christmas we celebrated the birth of Emmanuel: All this took place to fulfill what had been

spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ‘Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him **Emmanuel**, which means, ‘**God is with us.**’ - *Matthew 1: 22-23*

As we enter a new year, we must ask: **Is God still “Emmanuel?” Is God still “with us?”**

January is the month we celebrate Jesus baptism. It’s a very good time to remember our own baptism, for at our baptism God claimed us as his own. We ought not forget that. Rich Melheim (*Faith Inkubator’s Project*) writes:

“When you were baptized you were branded with the mark that stands for total, complete, unwavering, fiercely passionate love. You belong to the greatest love in the universe. A love that would DIE for the friend. A love that would SACRIFICE for the poor. A love that would GIVE ANYTHING to bring health and wholeness to the downtrodden. A love that would GO TO THE GRAVE for the undeserving... even the ones who would spit in its face and spit at its faith.”

As you begin to move through 2012, remember that you do not look to find God in some remote, distant heaven. You look for God within you, and within the lives of those you will meet and those you will serve. Answer the question with strength and conviction: **God IS STILL Emmanuel! God STILL IS “with us.”** In fact, God never left.

Again, Rich Melheim: “You were marked with the mark of the greatest love in the universe. It’s a love that will never let you go. A love that wants to live in you, through you, with you, to you. Please don’t throw that mark away. The world desperately needs it... and you... and Jesus.”

Pastors Wendy and Tim

St. Paul’s Staff & Volunteer Leadership

Pastor Timothy Madsen 632-5048
 Pastor Wendy Buckley Email – buckleymadsen1@prodigy.net

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 Ladies Aid Mrs. Donna Welton 689-0150
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 Custodian Mr. Robert Germain 833-4783
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 WELCA Web address – www.elca.org/wo/
 Email – womnelca @ elca.org

Samaritan Pastoral Counseling Center 743-9117
 Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center 1-386-4125
 North Park Lutheran Church, Starin and Wingate Ave. 836-2785

2011 Church Council

President Mr. David Johnston 874-9382
 Vice-President Mr. Wayne Pachioli 636-9786
 Secretary Mrs. Emily Dufrene 217- 377-6200
 Treasurer Mr. Wayne Pachioli 636-9786
 Financial Secretary Mrs. Kimberly Brown 636-0480

Church Council Committee Assignments

Building & Grounds Mr. Al Weisser 632-8966
 Mr. John Doerfler 688-8588
 Christian Education Mrs. Kim Retallack 631-5929
 Finance Mr. Wayne Pachioli 636-9786
 Music & Worship Ms. Patricia Walker 908-2335
 Social Ministry Mr. Robert Pim 626-0674
 Ms. Delores (Dee) Marinov 549-2382
 Congregational Care Mrs. Deborah Waldrop 568-1474
 Stewardship Mr. Ray Hopkins 839-9789
 Youth Mrs. Cathy Lambert 632-1047

“The Voice” is the monthly newsletter of
 St. Paul’s Evangelical Lutheran Church
 68 Eagle Street, Williamsville, NY 14221-5551
 Volume 42 – Issue No. 9 January 2012


STUDY THE WORD

Daily Lectionary



SOCIAL MINISTRY

Let your light shine!

Tu	Psalm 86 1 Samuel 15:10-31 Acts 5:1-11	Th	Psalm 111 Deuteronomy 3:23-29 Romans 9:6-18
W	Psalm 86 Genesis 16:1-14 Luke 18:15-17	F	Psalm 111 Deuteronomy 12:28-32 Revelation 2:12-17
Th	Psalm 62:5-12 Jeremiah 19:1-15 Revelation 18:11-20	Sa	Psalm 111 Deuteronomy 13:1-5 Matthew 8:28-9:1
F	Psalm 62:5-12 Jeremiah 20:7-13 2 Peter 3:1-7	4th Sunday after Epiphany	
Sa	Psalm 62:5-12 Jeremiah 20:14-18 Luke 10:13-16	Su	Deuteronomy 18:15-20 Psalm 111 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 Mark 1:21-28
3rd Sunday after Epiphany		M	Psalm 35:1-10 Numbers 22:1-21 Acts 21:17-26
Su	Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Psalm 62:5-12 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 Mark 1:14-20	Tu	Psalm 35:1-10 Numbers 22:22-28 1 Corinthians 7:32-40
M	Psalm 46 Genesis 12:1-9 1 Corinthians 7:17-24		
Tu	Psalm 46 Genesis 45:25-46:7 Acts 5:33-42		
W	Psalm 46 Proverbs 8:1-21 Mark 3:13-19		

Angel Tree - Thank you to all of the “angels” who made our Angel Tree project so successful! Special thanks to Val Keipper for leading the project and using her computer skills to generate labels, etc., to Kim Olsen for organizing the boxes for delivery, and to everyone who helped by buying gifts, helping to organize them last Sunday, and loading the truck. Thanks also to the members of St. John and the William Hein Company for taking names and buying gifts. And, finally, thanks to Wayne Pachioli for the use of his truck and his drivers, Alex and Ryan, who were so helpful to us in loading the truck. With the help of many “angels” we delivered 271 packages that will help to brighten Christmas morning for many children!

Caroling Party - Thank you to all who came out for our Caroling Party this year and to those who contributed items for the gift bags. We had over 50 carolers, who visited 11 shut-ins with songs and gifts, and we appreciate everyone who helped to make this such a great success!

The Ladies' Aid "MITTEN TREE" collected 79 hats, 72 scarves, 67 pairs of mittens, 20 head bands and 6 sets. Donations were delivered to the Salvation Army.

Altamonte, a temporary housing facility for homeless men still needs pillows, pillow cases, towels and wash cloths. Please put your donations in the box located in the Social Hall

Thanks also to everyone who faithfully brings in food for the North Buffalo food pantry, clothing for Friends of Night People, stamps, soup labels, Dash's tapes and those used phones, glasses, and hearing aids!

Old Sandals & Sneakers are still being collected for Nicaragua. A box is in the social hall.

ENTERTAINMENT (\$30) & NIGHT OUT (\$13 or 2 for \$25) books are available in the church office.

THRIVENT MEMBERS are now required to vote as to where their dollars go. **St. Paul's can receive your choice dollars using #504733620.**



Visit & recommend to friends St. Paul's Website
www.stpaulswilliamsville.org

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS...

Our Sunday School was very busy in December preparing for our annual Christmas Pageant. Thanks to Erin Jankowski for working with the children for the pageant and with the Junior Choir for the Service of Lessons and Carols. Both services were wonderful! Thank you to Shawndra Langlotz for volunteering for our pre-K and Kindergarten in December and Tammy Harhigh and Sue Santillo for providing care in the nursery.

We are still looking for nursery volunteers. Sign-up on the sheet which hangs on nursery door.

Our "God's Global Barnyard" offering project has raised enough money to buy 10 chickens and a pig. Keep up the good work!

Sunday School classes resume January 8, 2012. See you there!

New Years Prayer

*Dear Lord,
In the new year, we pray
that You will guide us each new day
in paths that are pleasing to You.
Lord, the new year gives us another chance
to rededicate our lives to You,
to study Your Word
so that we know right from wrong
and to act in accordance with Your commands.
Thank You for the sense of
direction, purpose and peace we get
from aligning our lives with Your Holy will.
We pray for the strength and the will to obey You
each and every day of the new year,
and when we fail, we pray for Your mercy,
Your compassion, Your grace and Your love.
Help us in the new year to be Your faithful servants.
In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.*

By Joanna Fuchs

With gratitude, all life appears as a blessing – without gratitude, all of life is perceived as a burden.

-- Jonathan Lockwood Huie

STUDY THE WORD

Daily Lectionary

First Sunday of Christmas			Acts 19:1-7
Name of Jesus			Mark 1:4-11
Su	Isaiah 61:10-62:3	M	Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36
	Psalm 148		Genesis 17:1-13
	Galatians 4:4-7		Romans 4:1-12
	Luke 2:22-40	Tu	Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36
M	Psalm 148		Exodus 30:22-38
	Proverbs 1:1-7		Acts 22:2-16
	James 3:13-18	W	Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36
Tu	Psalm 110		Isaiah 41:14-20
	Proverbs 1:20-33		John 1:29-34
	James 4:1-10	Th	Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
W	Psalm 110		Judges 2:6-15
	Proverbs 3:1-12		2 Corinthians 10:1-11
	James 4:11-17	F	Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
Th	Psalm 110		Judges 2:16-23
	Proverbs 22:1-9		Acts 13:16-25
	Luke 6:27-31	Sa	Psalm 139: 1-6,13-18
Epiphany of Our Lord			1 Samuel 2:21-25
F	Isaiah 60:1-6		Matthew 25:1-13
	Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14	2nd Sunday after Epiphany	
	Ephesians 3:1-12	Su	1 Samuel 3:1-10, 11-20
	Matthew 2:1-12		Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
Sa	Psalm 110		1 Corinthians 6:12-20
	Exodus 1:22-2:10		John 1:43-51
	Hebrews 11:23-26	M	Psalm 86
Baptism of Our Lord			1 Samuel 9:27-10:8
Su	Genesis 1:1-5		2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1
	Psalm 29		

How to stay safe in the world today.

- 1. Avoid riding in automobiles because they are responsible for 20% of all fatal accidents.



- 2. Do not stay home because 17% of all accidents occur in the home.



- 3. Avoid walking on streets or sidewalks because 14% of all accidents occur to pedestrians.



- 4. Avoid traveling by air, rail, or water because 16% of all accidents involve these forms of transportation.



- 5. Of the remaining 33%, 32% of all deaths occur in hospitals. So, above all else avoid hospitals.



- 6. But, you will be pleased to learn that only .001% of all deaths occur in worship services in church. Logic tells us that the safest place for you to be at any given point in time is at church.



So, ...for safety's sake – attend church.
It could save your life!

Be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let each New Year find you a better man.

- Benjamin Franklin



Please welcome and get to know new members who recently joined our church family!

Bonnie Feltz and
Kathleen Martin
54 Sunbury Ct.
Williamsville, NY
14221
634-4126



Lisa Centrone and
children Olivia and
Matthew

143 Pino Verde Lane
Williamsville, NY 14221
225-5102



Youth Choir singing during Service of Lessons & Carols





ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL CHURCH

January 2012 Prayer List

George Dodd
Marion Dodd - Oakwood
Caroline Edwards
Dick & Donna Edwards
Beth Galmarini
Elizabeth Gentz
Susan Grau
Gert Guth
Pearl Kibler



Gail Olson
Barbara Paulson
Joanne Plant
Gary Rasmussen
Tony Rizzo
Carl Roeser
Ruth Sagerman
Dorothy Serio
Pat Valentine

On behalf of my family, I would like to thank all the folk at St. Paul's for their prayers and support during this time of sorrow. Losing a loved one is never easy. I'm sure my mother, Katherine Senn, is looking down on us from heaven and thanking you also.

Thanks, Nancy Noble

A Note from the Church Library...

"Thanks to Joann McGowan for her recent donation.

Sunday School Costume Storage...

Old garment or dry-cleaner bags hanging in your closet could be put to good use for storing pageant costumes here at church. Please bring them in to Nancy Noble. Thanks.



Deadline for the February 2012 issue of **THE VOICE** January 23rd



What are "Freelance Disciples?"

LC Freelance Disciples is a new opportunity for you to get actively involved in touching the WNY community by serving in, fixing up, working with or ministering next to one of our 12 LC supported agencies. Starting in May 2011, each third Saturday of the month we will have a site picked out and a service opportunity detailed that will get you onsite making a difference for that agency and the people they serve.

Freelance Disciples will work on that third Saturday roughly between 9am and 12pm. We'll send out an email, Facebook update and web communication by Wednesday of the week to let you know when, where and what to bring. Sometimes we might even be at two agencies at the same time depending on the need and the geographical location.

So save the third Saturday morning as often as you can. These events will involve people and families of all ages. They will be perfect for small groups from churches or just one person from a small congregation.

Some months you might be asked to bring supplies for the agency's infrastructure, food for the pantry, diapers for babies, wood for a porch, a rake to clean things up...or just show up to be and reflect the light of Christ.

So sign-up for an email by sending your email address to lutherancharities@gmail.com.

ANNUAL
ST. PAUL'S CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
Sunday, January 29, 2012
9:00am Worship precedes the meeting in the Social Hall.
10:30am Worship will not be held on January 29th.
Approximate meeting start time is 10:15am

The annual meeting includes required reports; election of members to the Church Council, Endowment Committee and Scholarship Committee; and adoption of a budget for the 2012 fiscal year. Please plan to attend.

The nominating committee is seeking candidates for these offices. Please contact Pastor Wendy or David Johnston if interested.



Welcome to 2012

As editor of the VOICE I search “Bing” and “Google” images for appropriate graphics to use in our newsletter. Based on the volume of articles, symbols and graphics already assembled online it’s safe to assume that 2012 will be spent focusing on December 21, 2012 when some assert that the Mayan Calendar ends. Did the Mayans predict the apocalypse?

I suggest that there are many better ways to spend 2012. Recently, I read three “New Year’s Resolutions” that are worth considering. I admit that these three resolutions were contained in a list of ten resolutions most of which were not worthy of re-printings. But, three is a good start.... So here they are:

- 1. Spend more time with family and friends:** Recent polls conducted by General Nutrition Centers, Quicken, and others shows that more than 50% of Americans vow to appreciate loved ones and spend more time with family and friends this year. *(Don’t forget to include your church family. Get involved. Attend events. Volunteer. Join. The more you share with your church family the closer you will grow - a good resolution for 2012).*
- 2. Learn something new:** Have you vowed to make this year the year to learn something new? Perhaps you want to learn a new language, or how to fix your computer? Whether you take a course or read a book, you’ll find education to be one of the easiest, most motivating New Year’s resolutions to keep. *(Keep in mind the resources in our church library. We have many useful, encouraging and inspirational materials. Read and consider God’s place in your life - another good resolution for 2012).*
- 3. Help others:** A popular, non-selfish New Year’s resolution, volunteerism can take many forms. Whether you choose to spend time helping out at your local library, mentoring a child, or building a house, there are many nonprofit volunteer organizations that could really use your help. *(Keep in mind St. Paul’s Nursery, MOPS babysitting, Ladies Aid quilting, Congregational Care, and much more. Your skills can be used in the ministry of St. Paul’s - a good resolution for 2012).*



From the Parish Register

All memorials go into the Memorial Fund unless otherwise indicated.

Deaths: Katherine Senn, died November 30, 2011.
Funeral from St. Paul’s December 7, 2011

Margaret Braun, died December 3, 2011.
Memorial Service at St. Paul’s December 9, 2011

In memory of Katherine Senn:

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Rasmusson	Lynn Jones
St. Paul’s Ladies Aid	Lois E. Yoerg
Tony & Rosemary Rizzo	

In memory of Margaret Braun:

St. Paul’s Ladies Aid	Lois E. Yore
Janice (Braun) Richard	Muriel Braun
Marcie Markwardt	Betty Corbett
Deborah E. Krembel	
William & Dorothy Shaver - <i>endowment fund</i>	
Strong Surgical Center Sunshine Fund	

In memory of Herbert & Margaret Braun:

Kathleen Braun Cesaro



BOOK CLUB



BOOK CLUB will meet in the Friendship Room on Friday, January 20 at 7:30pm to discuss *Enemy Women* by Paulette Jiles. Hostess will be Kathy Hannon. All are welcome! Questions? Call Ellen Pachioli at 636-9786.

St. Paul's Church Family Christmas Party

Hopefully these photos will remind you of the fun you and the children had at the party. For those who missed the party, please make a mental note of all the fun you missed so you won't miss it next year!



Kids loved the Elf Shop



Yes, the cookies are the best part



Plenty of really good food!



Perfect

He said we were both good this year!

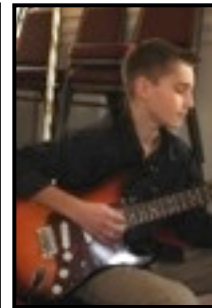
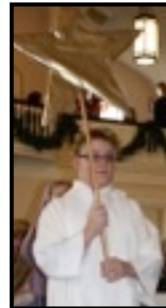


Another wonderful Service of Lessons and Carols!



Chancel Choir, Bells of St. Paul's, St. Paul's Ringers and St. Paul's Youth Choir all contributed to making this year's Service of Lessons and Carols an enjoyable and inspirational experience. Thanks to all who worked so hard!

2011 Sunday School Christmas Pageant





Santa, with the Pastors, Sharon, Marilyn, Arlene and some of the MOPS children!

The Angel Tree gifts were loaded with an efficient assembly line



271 boxes were delivered to Buffalo School 41 to brighten Christmas morning for the children. Another Social Ministry project well done!



The crew! I think they are all tattooed Teamsters!



St. Paul's Church Family Christmas Party (continued)



So much good stuff....



You have my attention!



Lots of people - but room for you!



Can you tell that our moms made us take these pictures?



Hey! I want my picture with this cute Santa!