



The monthly newsletter of Paynesville Lutheran Church

Point others to Jesus • Love generously and gracefully • Cultivate disciples



SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM DECEMBER 11 • 9:00 AM

> **IQUEST CHRISTMAS PROGRAM** DECEMBER 14 • 6:00 PM

> > **CHRISTMAS CANTATA** DECEMBER 18 • 9:00 AM

BLUE CHRISTMAS DECEMBER 18 • 7:00 PM

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP DECEMBER 24 3:00 PM & 4:30 PM

Once the worship space fills, we will be opening overflow spaces within the church for all who would like to worship.

> **CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP** DECEMBER 25 • 9:00 AM

*If you are available to help with any of the Christmas Eve Worship please let the church office know, and thank you in advance!



Poinsettias

It is hard to believe that it is that time of year again where we begin planning for the holidays. Again this year you have the opportunity to order poinsettias in memory or in honor of someone for our Christmas Eve Worship Services. Envelopes are available in the gathering area or you can contact the church office to order. Cost of the poinsettias is \$12.00 Deadline to place orders is December 5th.

Give the Gift of Warmth

Now that winter weather is here we will be collecting new or gently used hats, mittens and scarves for the Community Service Center. You can place your donations on the tree in fellowship hall beginning the end of November. Thank you for your continuing support of those in our community who need our help.



Be Part of our Memory Tree

Have you ever noticed the different trees that we have around our church building? We always have the "Hat and Mitten" tree where you can bring in new or gently used hats and mittens to share with the Community Service Center. We also have the tree with all the ornaments and paper tags on them. That tree is our Memory Tree. The ornaments on that tree are given in memory of someone who has passed away and the ornaments usually have a special meaning for the family of that person. You can see who each ornament is remembering by looking at the tag connected to each one. As we all know, the holidays can be a difficult time as we remember those who we have lost in the years past. If you would like to share an ornament in memory of someone that you love, please feel free to bring an ornament into the church office and we will get you set up with the tag to attach to the ornament. After Christmas the ornaments will be stored away until next year to be used again. As you notice the unique ornaments on the tree, please take a minute to pray for the families whose loved ones are memorialized on the tree.

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | / Wednesday 7 | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| 1 New Year's Day 9:00am worship 10:00am Fellowship | 2 12:30pm Quilters | 3 3:00-9:00 Just for Kix | 4 No iQuest, Worship, Sowers, Confirmation or Sr. High | ಎ | 9 | 7 |
| 8 9:00am worship 10:00am Fellowship/Education Hour | 9 12:30pm Quilters | 10 3:00-9:00 Just for Kix | 11 9:00am Men's Bible Study 3:00pm iQuest 5:20pm Meal 6:00pm iQuest Christmas Program Sowers, Confirmation & St. High following worship 6:45pm CELEBRATION Choir | 12 10:00am Women's Bible Study | 13 | 14 |
| 15 9:00am worship 10:00am Fellowship/Education Hour 10:00am PLC Annual Meeting | 16.30pm Quilters | 17 3:00-9:00 Just for Kix | 18 3:00pm iQuest 5:00pm Meal 6:00pm Worship Sowers, Confirmation & Sr. High following worship 6:45pm CELEBRATION Choir | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 9:00am worship 10:00am Fellowship/Education Hour PLC Annual Meeting | 23 12:30pm Quiters | 24 3:00-9:00 Just for Kix | 9.00am Men's Bible Study 3.00pm iQuest 5.20pm iQuest 6:00pm iQuest Christmas Program Sowers, Confirmation & Sr. High following worship 6:45pm CELEBRATION Choir | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 9:00am worship 10:00am Fellowship/Education Hour PLC Annual Meeting backup date | 30 12:30pm Quiters | 3.00-9:00 Just for Kix | | | | |

January Birthday Blessings to...

| 1 | Karen Mehr |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2 | Bodie Martinson |
| 3 | Dale Hecht, Rebecca Meyer, Tegan Heimerman |
| 4 | Diane Hoyme |
| 5 | Gavin Stanger |
| 6 | Perry Yungk |
| 7 | Derek Ley |
| 8 | Chad Ahrendt |
| 10 | Betty Loomis, Corbin Price, Axel Tri, Jacob Wolbeck |
| 11 | Caitlyn Gottwald, Ashley Ley, Alyssa Ley, Linda Michaelis |
| 12 | Logan Utsch, Bill Koeckeritz |
| 14 | Rose Nepsund, Evan Jones |
| 15 | Nolan Reeck |
| 16 | Brock Bruntlett, Kennedy Kleist, Noah Larson |
| 17 | Kasey Mattheisen |
| 19 | Bellamy Eickhoff |
| 20 | Matthew Miller |
| 22 | Amy Ellefson, Jeffery Mattheisen |
| 23 | Autumn Fearing, Mardonna Grages, James Newgard |
| 24 | Cindy Kuhnau, Shannon Larson, Steve Swenson, Zachary Swenson, Christina Glasoe |
| 25 | Evie Sorensen, Andy Wendroth |
| 26 | Debra Bennett, Arlene McCalmant |
| 27 | Madison Hentges |
| 28 | Kristin Desm |
| 30 | Coy Price, Rylynn Robinson, Addison Scholten |
| 31 | Erin Bruntlett, Dallee Hecht, Alison Martinson, Paul Fagerberg |

Christmas Kick-Off Party

Join us on Sunday, December 4 from 2-5pm at PLC for a Christmas kick-off party for all ages. There will be family games, cookies and the Vikings game will be on. Join us for an afternoon of fun for the whole family before the business of the season begins.





The Amazing Story of Christmas

Join us Wednesday, December 14th at 6:00 pm for our iQuest Christmas Program. Come and hear readings, skits and songs from our kindergarten—5th grade students.



Blue Christmas Worship Sunday, December 18th - 7:00 pm

We understand this time of year can be difficult for many in our community and our Blue Christmas Worship is intended to acknowledge that reality. For those who have experienced loss or for whom Christmas is not a happy time, we offer this service as an opportunity to gather with others who are searching for light in the darkness. Whatever it is that may be making your Christmas season "blue," we invite you to come and see the Light of Christ that shines in the darkness of our lives.



The Men's Bible study meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at PLC at 9:00am. Join us as we enjoy time together in Bible Study and fellowship.



The Women's Bible study will meet on Thursday December 8, 2022 and January 12, 2023 10:00 in the church Chapel. Please bring your copy of the Gather magazine, a Bible and your prayers for those in need. Copies of the Bible study will be

available for those who need one. See you then





As you have no doubt heard, as it has been announce on several occasions during worships over the past few months, the call committee is well underway. The call committee's work of finding an associate pastor for PLC is a large job and requires both a commitment of time and a great deal of prayerful discernment. We ask that

you continue to keep this team in your prayers as they do this important work. We also ask that you keep Pastor Paul, Tammy and Kari in your prayers as they have stepped up to carry the load that was left in Pastor Adam's departure.

If you are curious who is serving in this important role as call committee members, they are:

Stephanie Johnson - Chairperson

Logan Armstrong

Kristine Buermann

Carter Fuchs

Marie Grothe

LeAnn Hellermann

Henry Lemke

Colleen Moyer

Lisa Reeck

Steve Whitcomb

December 2022

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
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| | | | | _ | 2 | င |
| 4 9:00am worship 10:00am Fellowship/ Education Hour/Council Meeting 2:00pm-4:00pm Christmas Kick-Off Party | 5 12:30pm Quilters | 6 3.00-9:00 Just for Kix | 7 3:00pm iQuest 5:20pm Meal 6:00pm Worship Sowers, Confirmation & Sr. High following worship 6:45pm CELEBRATION Choir | 8 10:00am Women's Bible Study | o | 10 8:00am-4:15pm Just For Kix |
| 11 9:00am worship w/ Sunday School Christmas Program 10:00am Fellowship/ Education Hour | 12:30pm Quilters | 13 3:00-9:00 Just for Kix | 14 9:00am Men's Bible Study 3:00pm iQuest 5:20pm Meal 6:00pm iQuest Christmas Program | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 9:00am worship w/ Christmas Cantata 10:00am Fellowship/ Education Hour 7:00pm Blue Christmas Service | 19 12.30pm Quilters | 20 3:00-9:00 Just for Kix | 21 3:00pm iQuest 5:20pm Meal 6:00pm Worship 8:00pm Worship High following worship 6:45pm CELEBRATION Choir | 22 | 23 | 24 Christmas Eve 3:00pm Christmas Eve Worship 4:30pm Christmas Eve Worship |
| 25 Christmas Day 9:00am worship | 26 12:30pm Quilters | 27 | 28 9:00am Men's Bible Study Christmas Break No iQuest, Worship, Sowers, Confirmation or Sr. High | 29 | 30 | 31 New Year's Eve |

December Birthday Blessings

- 1 Sig Pfeifer, Chris Stanley
- 2 Rebecca Doll, Paul Lura, Jazmin Williams, Christopher Fischer
- 3 Kyle Johnson
- 4 Alivia Buggs, Beckett Hanley
- 5 Jack Hennen, Lillian Swafford
- 6 Todd Lemke, Doris Nepsund, Tami Stanger, Jake Heimerman
- 7 Callie Hennen, Jean Soine
- 8 Judy Larsen, Todd Voigt
- 11 Lou Gabrielson
- 12 Cole Roufs
- 14 Delaney Ignace, Rylee Mumm
- 15 Shaelyn Desm, Jacob Arnold
- 16 Dawn Rajewsky, Kali Reiter, Emma Reiter
- 17 Jodee Buermann, Spencer Eisenbraun, Carolyn Welter
- 18 Rick Caldwell, Lynda George
- 19 Blake Williams
- 20 Logan Armstrong, Carol Desm, Wanda Haase, Gavin Swafford
- 21 Samuel Haines, Preston Welling
- 22 Beth Cook, Steve Lehmkuhl, Chuck Nelson
- 23 Kathryn Huselid, Adrean Louis, Carol Setterberg, Brylie Kotten
- 24 Janell Moburg, Kyler Tri
- 25 Vivian McMillan
- 26 Roy Colbert, Braydon Kierstead-Hahn
- 27 Courtney Hasbrook, Ann Lemke, Maggie Malling, Sara Miller
- 28 Norma Gabrielson, Amy Guzy,
- 30 Lauren Ellefson, Paige Welling
- 31 Wendy Karsch, Makullen Kleist, Drew Tangen, Josh Williams, Garrett Albers

Operation Christmas Outreach

We are pleased to announce we will be working with our local Community Service Center again this year for our "Operation Christmas Outreach" November Mission of the Month!

For those of you who are not familiar with Operation Christmas Outreach: This is an outreach project that our entire congregation has embraced. Our mission of the month for November is to raise funds and awareness for those less fortunate; these funds are used to purchase Christmas gifts for teenagers in our community. This is our way of reaching out to our community and being the hands of Christ. What better time of the year to make Him known to others.

We ask that you pray for the teens in our area that will receive the gifts this Christmas season, that our church may make an everlasting impact that shows Christ loves them and has allowed us to share that love with them at Christmas and within our community each day.

We would encourage you to consider making a donation toward this project, you can do this by simply placing funds in an envelope within the offering and noting it is for "Operation Christmas Outreach" or you could mail your donation to church and ensure you mark it accordingly.





With 2022 quickly drawing to a close now is the time to make your end of the year contributions to Paynesville Lutheran Church. We ask that all gifts be to the church office **no later than 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 29, 2022**. Thank you for your continued generosity toward the mission and ministry of PLC! We couldn't do it without <u>you!</u>

Weather Related Announcements



To check on weather related announcements pertaining to Paynesville Lutheran please check our website www.paynesvillelutheran.org, our Facebook page; Facebook.com/PaynesvilleLutheran, or the KWLM radio station. Please use your best judgment when venturing out during the winter months.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Paynesville Lutheran Church annual meeting is a great opportunity for us to come together and give thanks for all the ways God has worked through us this past year and share together in the vision of how God is leading us in the upcoming year. Mark your calendars now for the 2022 annual meeting on Sunday, January 22nd, 2023 with a backup date of Sunday, January 29th, 2023. More information coming soon. You wont want to miss it!

Paynesville Lutheran Columbarium



As a church rooted in the Gospel we seek to minister to all people in every part of their lives. The Columbarium project is one of those ministries. It will provide an opportunity for us to care for people and their families at one of the most tender parts of their journey. Our prayer is that we might be a caring option for family who would like to have themselves or

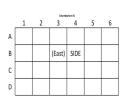
their loved ones interned after cremation right here at Paynesville Lutheran Church.

As a congregation we have embarked on this ministry after receiving several requests to consider serving others in this way. After our congregational vote to create an eternal resting place through a columbarium we have already received four families that will be utilizing it!

The actual granite columbarium will not be installed at PLC until the late spring of 2023 but if you are interested in learning more or

considering this option for you and your family, reach out to the newly created Columbarium committee listed below.

Tom Cremers Marv Niedan Rick Hoyme Bruce Brendal Darrel Voorhees



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Endowment Legacy Recognition Program

Paynesville Lutheran Church is blessed with an endowment program that allows our congregation to give to incredibly worthy ministries each and every year. That is all possible with the gifts given by individuals and families over the years. There are currently seven individual endowments that comprise the PLC Endowment Program. Gifts are given throughout the year to help each of them to continue to grow. Thank you to all who have made this important ministry a priority!

The endowment committee has also begun a new Legacy recognition program where we as a congregation can recognize and give thanks for the gifts given to the endowment. If it is your plan to leave a legacy like this in your final wishes or you are interested in creating a specific endowment for a ministry passion of yours let the PLC office know so that we may recognize you and include you in the Legacy of PLC.

On November 6th, 2022 we had the honor of recognized Dr. Marvin &

Margaret Niedan as our first recipient of the Endowment Legacy Program. The Niedan's have set up an endowment that provides assistance to those wanting to go to Bible Camp or church sponsored mission trips. Their gift has already made it possible for so many young people to experience the love of God in the beauty of creation! Thank you Marv and Margaret for your vision and for your gift that will live on for perpetuity!





We've got a compelling lineup of topics for our upcoming Education Hour at PLC. Our continued goal is to provide meaningful and thought-provoking topics to deepen faith and encourage learning in our community. We'll do this in a variety of ways

throughout the year and we hope you'll join in on the learning and growth we'll do together.

Upcoming Topics:

December 4th-What is the story behind our tree ornaments known as Chrismons-Luan Johnsrud

December 11th-Guatemala Stove Project-Butch Mueller

December 18th-Christmas music and memories-Luan Johnsrud

December 25th-No Adult Forum

January 1st-No Adult Forum

January 8th-No Adult Forum, Epiphany, taking down the greens January 15th-History of Tourism in Paynesville Area-Paul Bugbee