

DECEMBER 2018 PARISH POST
St. Paul's & Buffalo Lutheran Churches

Comments from Pastor Thea . .

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“...and on earth peace...” (Luke 2:14).

Greetings to you in this Advent season.

This is the season of hope which reaches its fulfillment in the birth of Christ. It is a season whose purpose is to lift our hearts in joy-filled anticipation of the greatest Gift of all. Yet, for many this is a time when spirits plummet. The memory of previous losses may rob us of the full joy of the season.

As we pray for all to be “calm and bright” in our world, we are reminded daily of the suffering that plagues so many. Wars do not cease. New spheres of aggression develop daily. Our needy world needs the message of Christmas. Into the cold and darkness of our world, Christ is warmth and light. He draws to Himself the local shepherds and the distant sages. All bow before Him. The God of love in the infant Jesus brings the hope of peace to the world.

A young girl...a wee baby...a perplexed fiancé...a tiring journey...an overbooked town...a foul stable...an unlikely cadre of callers...and a jealous king...Could God have delivered the Best Gift the world has ever known in a more humble or human fashion? God placed this fragile treasure of immeasurable worth in the care of sinful humanity. For that act of incredible love Christians continue to hold Christmas in high esteem.

As we enter this special season, I am thankful that we have a place like this parish of three congregations which continues to celebrate the hope and promise that is ours in Christ. I am delighted for the caring people of our congregations who, stirred by the Holy Spirit, labor with the joy of serving Christ. In this special time of sharing, many wonderful opportunities are planned in the parish for us to welcome “Christ, the newborn King” and to let “ev’ry heart prepare him room.”

I look forward to this Christmas with you as we journey to the manger. In the midst of a noisy and restless world God grant you the peace that is in Jesus. Love in Christ, Thea Monson, Interim Pastor

BUFFALO LUTHERAN CHURCHST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Financial news for both churches isn't available for the newsletter, see Buffalo Lutheran's Report at the annual meeting. St. Paul's Report will be available soon.

December Acolyte Schedule

December 2	Kiana Lerud	December 9	Chloe Wetch
December 16	Riley Besette	December 23	Kiana Lerud
December 24	Chloe Wetch	December 30	Riley Besette

Please try to acolyte as scheduled and feel free to trade with someone if necessary.

Cares and Concerns and Upcoming Events

DECEMBER SUNDAY WORSHIP WILL BE HELD AT 9:00 AM AT ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH* AND AT 11:00 AM AT OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH, PAGE. TO REACH PASTOR THEA MONSON PLEASE CALL 701-668-2295, 218-820-7006 (cell), OR BY EMAIL AT pastorthea2.0@gmail.com

Wednesday, December 5: St. Paul's Council meets. Check on the time.

Sunday, December 9: Worship will be at Buffalo Lutheran Church this day to accommodate the Buffalo Lutheran Church Annual Meeting after the service followed by a Potluck meal. If there are further reports for the Annual Report please have them into the office by Tuesday, December 4.

Sunday, December 16: Tentative date for Sunday School Program

Tuesday, December 18: Naomi Circle meets at Karen Tabor home at 11 AM beginning with a Potluck Lunch. Sounds good!

Please note---Confirmation classes are planned to be held the second Wednesday afternoon of the month. If there needs to be a change Pastor Thea will let our confirmands know. An Acolyte schedule will be mailed and listed by the month in the newsletter.

Can you help? We are trying to come up with a name for our newly-grouped parish of Buffalo Lutheran Church, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, and Our Savior Lutheran Church. If you have an idea for a name for our new group please share it with one of our Council Presidents, Kal Boyd or Chad Wetch. There will be a tri-council meeting on December 16—watch for the time!

Buffalo WELCA will accept free will offerings for our coffee hour following services beginning in 2019. This will go toward the many causes we support.

Dear Family and Friends,

I want to take this time to wish you a blessed Advent and Christmas Season. I pray that you will experience the *joy* of Advent and *wonder* of the Christ child. Take time to breathe and enjoy this time of year and all your experiences.

The books of Psalms are a collection of several authors including; Moses and King David. They focus on prophesy, instruction, comfort, prayer and thanksgiving. Many of the chapters point to Christ and the Messiah. Today it is used in many aspects of our worship as well as in personal and family devotion.

Listed below are some selected psalms that can be used at different times in our life with God, others and ourselves.

Psalms that deal with Relationship with God.

Benediction : 7, 19, 80:3.

Christ: 2:7, 16:8-10, 22, 34:20, 45:6-7, 68, 69, 89, 110, 118:22.

Lament: 27, 71, 77.

Praise: 23, 121, 125, 123, 128, 130, 132, 113-118.

Thanksgiving: 118, 138.

Relationship with: Others

Betrayal/evil: 10, 35:14-15, 140.

Confession: 124:8.

Justice: 35, 58:1-2, 137

Peace: 122, 131, 125, 128.

Relationship with: Self

Discouraged: 27, 34, 143.

Fear: 3, 46, 91.

Guilty/Forgiveness: 32, 51, 69, 86, 103.

Need for Hope and Joy: 9, 16, 17, 23, 126.

Protection: 4, 31, 121.

Tired: 6, 13, 25, 40, 142.

“...May the Word of Christ richly dwell in You” Col.13:16-17.

Have a Blessed Christmas,

Gwen Fraase RN Parish Nurse Community Health Ministry (CHM) Seasons of Wholeness IV



Third Annual Food Drive

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Our Churches are coordinating a food drive so people in need in our communities are able to have a special holiday meal. Boxes will be available for contributions of the suggested groceries on listed dates. The food collection will conclude on December 16 and we'll pack the boxes that day (if you have other food ideas those things will be welcome!).

Sunday, December 2	Canned Yams and Canned vegetables
Sunday, December 9	Canned Gravy and Canned fruit
Sunday, December 16	Potatoes and Christmas treats

Cash donations will be welcome anytime during the Food Drive to pay for hams for the Food Boxes. Money boxes will be near the food collection boxes.

An Angel Tree is set up with several angels on it. Please choose one or more angels with suggested gifts listed for local young people. Return the gifts wrapped (if possible) with the angel attached to the gift by December 16 to the church.
Any questions? Ask Colleen Clancy for direction.



*St. Paul's & Buffalo Lutheran Churches
& Our Savior Lutheran Church, Page*

Christmas Service Schedule

Christmas Eve, December 24

Service at Our Savior Lutheran Church, Page at 3:00 PM

Service at St. Paul's Lutheran Church at 5:00 PM

Service at Buffalo Lutheran Church at 7:00 PM

No Christmas Day worship

