

## DECEMBER 2020 PARISH POST

### *St. Paul's & Buffalo Lutheran Churches*

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**To Buffalo Lutheran Church & St. Paul's Lutheran Church Members:** To help explain the availability of the December newsletter---All St. Paul's members will receive their newsletter by mail and Buffalo Lutheran Church members will receive their newsletters as they have been. Just to remind people, when we discontinued using bulk mail to deliver the newsletters as requested there have been printed copies of the newsletter available and on the website the first Sunday of the month or by email and by mail as per request. This was a decision made only for the December newsletters and as far as we know now we will be going back to the previous plan in January.

### **Pastor Bill's December Message**

To All The Folks At Harmony,

**"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." John 8:12**

December is a time the church, you and I hear about the words of light and life in the ongoing and sometimes formidable darkness of the world.

Into this darkness the Gospels point us to the light shining in this darkness and to the voice of our Lord to follow Him.

May the journey of Advent find us walking with and in the light.

"Come, O house of Jacob let us walk in the Light of the Lord." Isaiah 2:5.

How is it that we walk in the Light of the Lord?

By --

**Faith** – We put our trust during this time of darkness focusing on what Christ has done, is doing, and will continue to do. The Good Shepherd tends his flock. Leave darkness aside and walk in faith with Jesus—

**Holy Scripture** – Christ is present in the word. Christ's voice speaks to us in the word. Our Lord teaches, leads, guides, disciplines, gives hope and sight to the believer in the word. If we do not read His word, we walk in darkness.

**Prayer** – Prayer is the key to walking in the Light of Jesus. In prayer, we make known our hopes and prayers, our fears, confessions. We meet Jesus in prayer, "Sweet Hour of Prayer, that calls me from the world of care and bids me at my Father's throne to make all my wants and wishes known. In seasons of despair and grief, my soul has often found relief, and oft escaped the

*(Pastor Bill's article continues on Page 2)*

tempter's snare, by thy return sweet hour of prayer."

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Walking in darkness is possible by Faith, Word and Prayer. The light of our Lord shines on our path with Him and through them and Him.

We hope to have a plan to "live stream" Christmas Eve–Day available for our congregation at Harmony. Access the "live stream" of our Sunday and other worship opportunities by going to the Our Savior web page and clicking on to Tim Hiam's e-mail and asking Tim to add you to his sending page. Tim's address is [oslcpage@gmail.com](mailto:oslcpage@gmail.com)

**Confirmation** – I have a list of students at Page. Are there any students at Tower City or Buffalo? Confirmation will begin in January 2021 – a letter will be sent to you with more information.

**Sunday School** – Because of our inability to meet, I plan to send weekly Sunday School lessons to you either through mail or computer. More info to come.

**Remember** -- "O Come – let us walk in the Light of the Lord; Faith, Word, Prayer."

God's Blessings in Christ,  
Pastor Bill & Weslie

P.S. For quick access to YOUTUBE - [oslcpage.com](http://oslcpage.com) (Click on YOUTUBE live)

### *Cares and Concerns and Activities*

**DECEMBER SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES WILL BE HELD AT 9:00 AM AT ST PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND WITH NO IN PERSON SERVICES AT OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH, PAGE (OUR SAVIOR MEMBERS AND ANYONE ELSE FOLLOWING DIRECTION LISTED IN PASTOR BILL'S LETTER WILL BE NOTIFIED HOW THE SERVICE WILL BE AVAILABLE VIA INTERNET.(BECAUSE OF COVID COMPLICATIONS AND NORTH DAKOTA DIRECTIONS OUR SAVIOR HAS CHOSEN THIS ROUTE AS A MEANS OF PROTECTION FOR THEIR MEMBERS.) PASTOR BILL AHLFELDT CAN BE CONTACTED BY PHONE AT 701-412-6953. HE WILL APPRECIATE BEING CONTACTED BY PHONE REGARDING ANY SPECIAL EVENTS SUCH AS BAPTISMS OR FUNERALS! IF YOU CAN'T REACH HIM CONTACT BETTE HOVELSON, OUR SECRETARY, BY LEAVING A MESSAGE ON ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH'S PHONE AT 749-2309 OR CALLING BETTE AT HER HOME AT 749-2508 AND THOSE IMPORTANT MESSAGES WILL BE FORWARDED TO PASTOR BILL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!**

**The Church Office** should be open on Fridays from 10 AM-4 PM. If you find you need something at a different time don't hesitate to call Bette at her home at 701-749-2508.

**A Message from St. Paul's Council President, Shirley Anderson--** This has been a difficult year for individuals as well as organizations. Through your help, St. Paul's is continuing with the Angel Tree program and is working ecumenically with all Buffalo/Tower City churches to sustain the Christmas food basket deliveries. With an initial donation from WELCAs and continuing with individual gifts we have had this quarantine time to remodel St. Paul's basement. The kitchen and bathrooms are nearly completed. With the vaccine soon available, hopefully the quarantines will be lifted and normalcy will return. Please prayerfully consider a donation to the churches to help us continue the programs that are desperately needed. Be safe, pray for those who struggle, and maybe by Easter we will fill the pews once again with renewed faith and excitement.

**Message from the Synod** Rev Tessa Moon Leiseth, our new Synod Bishop, has communicated with advice to our churches. She has included a Memo from Kristy Albrecht, the Synod Attorney, regarding the State Health Officer Order #2020-08 which explains what we should and could be doing as a Church group. There are copies of this document available at the churches and in the mailbox on the handicapped entrance at St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

**Worship time and Buffalo Lutheran Church Annual Meeting** - Buffalo Lutheran Church's Annual Meeting is planned for December 13 after worship service. All Annual Report information into the office by Thursday, December 10, will be included in the Report. **Take note that Worship for both our churches on December 13 will be held at 9 AM at Buffalo Lutheran Church (with St. Paul's members welcome for the Worship Service!).** There will not be a Pot-luck Meal with the meeting this year.

**A** Let us also remember in prayer Tallan Boone Tofsrud, son of Chris & Mariah Tofsrud, as he was baptized December 6 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Tallan was born April 3, 2020 in Fargo. His Baptismal sponsors are Tim & Alicia Ziemba, Tanner & Anna Hambek, and Reid & Jenna Haagenon. May God bless them as they grow together in God's love!

**Angel Tree Gifts and Christmas Meal Box** People involved in coordinating the Christmas Meal Box and Angel Tree gifts distribution should gather about 10:15 Am AT St. Paul's in Tower City. Call Colleen Clancy with any questions and many thank yous for her hard work!

### **St. Paul's WELCA 2020 Raffle Winners**

**1<sup>st</sup> place: Handmade Quilt by Deb Schneckloth—**Bette Hovelson; **2<sup>nd</sup> place- Handmade Minky Travel Blanket-**Darrel Scott; **3<sup>rd</sup> place:Hand Tied Fleece Blanket-**Tristan Posser; **4<sup>th</sup> place: Hand tied Fleece Blanket-**Patty Baasch; **5<sup>th</sup> place: 3 piece set of "Blessings" bowls-**Deb Schneckloth; **6<sup>th</sup> place: \$25 donated by Tower Travel Center-**Tinley Tofsrud; **7<sup>th</sup> place: \$25 donated by Tower Travel Center-** Duane Wetch; **8<sup>th</sup> place: \$25 donated by Tower Travel Center-** Ethel Grieger; **9<sup>th</sup> place: \$25 donated by Tower Travel Center-**Duane Scott *Thanks to everyone who generously sold and purchased the WELCA tickets! It helps us give back to the church and communities in many ways.*

**W** May We Remember with Prayers of Sympathy and Compassion  
Families and the Friends of our Neighbors . . .

**A** May we remember with prayers of peace and compassion the family and friends of Harold Kasowski, long-time Buffalo resident. He passed away November 27 at RiverView Place, Fargo and a private Funeral Mass was held December 5 at St. Thomas Catholic Church, Buffalo.

**A** May we remember with prayers of sympathy the family and friends of Claudia Von Bank who passed away December 2 at Essentia Hospital, Fargo, due to complications of the COVID virus. Claudia's family has chosen to wait with funeral plans for the present time.

**PARISH NURSE NOTES** – A Parish Nurse Message was not available this month.



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

*Christmas Service Schedule*

**Christmas Eve, December 24**

**In-Person Service at St. Paul's Lutheran Church at 4:00 PM**

**A Personal Christmas Message from Pastor Bill  
will be available on You Tube to be viewed  
on Christmas Eve (follow directions  
in the Pastor's letter)**

