

Scripture Readings

Jan 11	The Baptism of Our Lord	Isaiah 42:1-9	Psalms 29	Rom. 6:1-11	Matt. 3:13-17
Jan 18	Second Sunday after the Epiphany	Isaiah 49:1-7	Psalms 40:1-11	1 Cor. 1:1-9	John 1:29-42a
Jan 25	Third Sunday after the Epiphany	Isaiah 9:1-4	Psalms 27:1-9 (10-14)	1 Cor. 1:10-18	Matt. 4:12-25

MATCHING FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR BUILDING PROJECT

Matching funds up to \$500,000 are available for all contributions made through January 19, 2026, towards the building project approved by the congregation on October 19, 2025. These funds are being generously contributed by one of our church families with confidence that St. Paul's will continue to proclaim the Gospel of Christ with faithfulness for future generations.

If you have any questions or would like to visit with a committee member, please contact the office or you may contact any of the building committee members: Brett Ohlde, Mike Holte, Donna Jordan, T.R. Reiner, Linda Underwood, Garry Stenzel or John Bosch.

All contributions made towards the building project should include a notation for "New Building Fund."

Welcome

to

St. Paul Lutheran Church

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Clay Center, KS 67432

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REV. PAUL TESSARO,
SENIOR PASTOR 785-630-0751

REV. MATTHEW VATTHAUER,
ASSOCIATE PASTOR 817-917-6288

"A Place of Grace, A Source of Hope, A Mission of Mercy!"

For 137 years!!!

OUR MISSION

"Existing in God's love and forgiveness, St. Paul proclaims the Gospel of Christ, helps people grow in faith, and nurtures lives of worship and service."

January 3 & 4, 2026

The Lord God Is Manifested in the Incarnate Son

The Feast of the Epiphany centers in the visit of the Magi from the East. In that respect, it is a "Thirteenth Day" of Christmas, and yet it also marks the beginning of a new liturgical season. Where Christmas has focused on the incarnation of our Lord, that is, on God becoming flesh, the Season of Epiphany emphasizes the manifestation or self-revelation of God in that same flesh of Christ. For the Lord Himself has entered our darkness and rises upon us with the brightness of His true light (Is. 60:1-2). He does so chiefly by His Word of the Gospel, which He causes to be preached within His Church on earth, not only to the Jews but also to Gentiles (Eph. 3:8-10). As the Magi were guided by the promises of Holy Scripture to find and worship the Christ Child with His mother in the house (Matt. 2:5-11), so does He call disciples from all nations by the preaching of His Word to find and worship Him within His Church (Is. 60:3-6).

This Week's Schedule - January 3 through January 11

Saturday	Worship Service with Holy Communion - 6:30 PM
Sunday	Worship Service with Holy Communion - 9:00 AM Family Education - 10:30 AM Undecorate Church - 1:30 PM SPMiddles - 5:00 PM
Tuesday	Women's Bible Study - 9:30 AM
Wednesday	Bulletin Deadline - Noon Midweek - 5:30 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry - 6:30 PM
Next Saturday	Men's Fellowship Breakfast - 7:30 AM Board Retreat - 9:00 AM Worship Service with Holy Communion - 6:30 PM
Next Sunday	Worship Service with Holy Communion - 9:00 AM Family Education - 10:30 AM

RADIO BROADCAST this week is sponsored by June Campbell -
Blessed New Year to All.

The cost to sponsor a broadcast is \$40.00.
A book is in the Narthex to sign-up for dates.

WELCOME to our guests and congregation! We are glad you are here! Thank you for joining us for worship and please feel free to join us again!

The Epiphany of Our Lord (observed)
Hymn #s - 412, 397, 624, 822, 629, 623, 394

SERVING THIS WEEKEND

Organist Sat. Connie Paronto/Sun. Nola Schmale
Ushers Mark Pfizenmaier, Walt Lenhart, Kenyon Badsky, Wes Wright
Greeters Braylee & Brynley Langvardt
Live Stream Jarrett Wachsnicht
Acolyte Jackson Prater, Kody Schmale
Communion Assistant Caleb Davis
Altar Guild Lisa Dieckmann, Macey Hynek
Fellowship Host Reiner

FAMILY EDUCATION - 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Preschool - Kindergarten - meet in Preschool Room (Basement)
1st Grade - 3rd Grade - meet in Library Room (West Wing)
4th Grade - 6th Grade - meet in Room 11 (West Wing)
7th Grade - 8th Grade - meet in Conference Room (West Wing)
9th Grade - 12th Grade - meet in High School Room (Basement)
Adult - meet in Fellowship Hall (Basement)

Weekly Attendance	Sat	Sun	Total
December 20 & 21	31	103	134
December 24 - Christmas Eve			420
December 25 - Christmas Day			42
December 27 & 28	23	92	115
December 31 - New Year's Eve			29

Family Education Attendance	Total
December 21	10
December 28	24

Thanks to those who provided a **Poinsettia** for our Christmas worship - the church is so beautiful and festive! You may pick up your plant following the service on January 4. All plants will be disposed of after that service.

Friendship Circle will be collecting Mites for Missions on Sunday, January 4

New Series Starting
 Women's Bible Study
 Tuesday, January 6 - 9:30 AM
 Behold Jesus the Lamb of God
 We invite all women to attend!

Pancake Supper
 Zion Men's Club, Linn
 January 11th
 5:00pm-8:00pm

IN OUR PRAYERS
Congregational Members

Remembering our shut-ins: Bonnie VonLehe-Wakefield Care/Rehab, Georgie Dierking, Larry Rakowsky -Presbyterian Manor; Julie Hillman-Linn Nursing Home; Cedric Pfaff-Well Springs of Westmoreland; Mary Ann Mall, Lola Lehman-Liberty Place; Pauline Burger-Legend; Larry Ernsting - Topeka VA.

Health concerns: Dwight Koch, Carol Bosch, Gary Hageman, Kristi Hager, Cody Hunter, Ron Schmale, Raef Schuette, Larry Ernsting, Lyle Underwood, Nancy Kemp, Dwight Koch, Stan Ohlde, and Larry Rakowsky.

Our outreach programs: Prayer Shawl Ministry, Small Group Ministry, Christian Preschool at St. Paul, Radio Ministry, LWML Friendship Circle, and our Youth groups.

Larger Community Members

Healing: Jackie Hall, Sarah Tessaro, Ron Baehr, Ryan Withee, Bobbie Holz, Emmitt Budy, Dee Hilton, Malissa Milum, Rev. David Grouner, Scott Trautwein, Gary Hilton, Donna Watson, Ron McDaniels, Micah Helms, Addie Voelker, Ann Huninghake, Arnold Pittenger, Mike Dunn, Sandy Larkey, Irene Bane, John Zeller, Rev. Greg DuBois, Melissa Martin, Benjamin Willroth, Jennifer Zimmerman, Gail Thomas, Lois Nash, Melissa Dunn, Darlene Miller, Darla Wilder, Rachelle Smith, Joe Parrlli, Sheila McGrew, Grant & Grace Goodin, Connie Winter, and Kerri Brown

Military: Kyle, Enrique, and Cooper.

Midweek will start back up for the 2nd semester on January 7th with a meal at 5:30pm. If your child/children didn't participate with the meal during 1st semester & would like to be included starting in January, please contact the office to let them know.

Mission Efforts beyond St. Paul

Hope House; LeadaChild; For the Sake of the Church; Lutheran Bible Translators; Lutheran Heritage Foundation; KansaSEED Deaf Ministry; Lutheran Hour Ministries; North Central Kansas LCMS Outreach

Please remember to inform the church office when the person for whom you requested prayer should be removed from the prayer

Looking for volunteers to sign-up to do Fellowship Host on Sunday Mornings. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for those who would like to volunteer. Any questions talk to Gene Ferguson or Pastor Tessaro. Thank you!

We are looking for sponsors for the Radio Broadcast for the year 2026. Please see the sign-up book located in the Narthex to choose your week to sponsor for the cost of \$40. You can sponsor in celebration of, in memory of, or in honor of someone or something special in your life to give thanks to God!

An all Boards and Officers retreat is scheduled for January 10, 2026!

All members of all boards should attend this important event. We will be making action plans for 2026 and beyond. This group will also make a 2026 schedule of church events. Meeting at the Church to begin at 9:00 AM. Lunch will be provided. Please inform the church office if you will be **unable** to attend.