

East St. Olaf Lutheran Church

6200 County Road 3 SW – Byron, MN

December 1, 2024: First Sunday of Advent

Holy Communion

Rev. Paul Thompson – Organist: Pat Nelson

WELCOME! WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE VISITING:



If you're visiting, please sign our guestbook (in narthex).
Worship times rotate monthly between East & West St. Olaf.

DECEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE



EAST 9:00 am worship with coffee after church

10:00 am JAM at West (for both), West coffee

WEST 11:00 am worship (coffee before church 10 am)

**>> Check the announcements for information about all
all things Christmas: Practice/Christmas programs,
Christmas meals/celebrations, Candlelight services
And a Dec. 29 JOINT Hymn-sing service at EAST.**

THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING US

Note: Anyone interested may join Altar Guild

Altar Guild: Dec. - Darlene Myhre & Sonya Mansfield

Deacon: Dec. - Jane Williams

Reader/Helper: Dec. 1 – Jane Williams

Acolytes: If none listed, then ushers are covering

East Coffee Servers: 1st Sunday – Sarah Circle

READINGS FOR: December 1, 2024 – 1st Sun. of Advent

INTRODUCTION: *Advent is about the "coming days." God's people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these four weeks. The ancients anticipated a "righteous Branch to spring up for David." The Thessalonians awaited "the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints." Jesus' contemporaries hoped for the time "to stand before the Son of Man." With them we eagerly await the*

coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of Christ in word and supper.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16: *In the Old Testament, "righteousness" often has to do with being faithful in relationship. God acts righteously both in punishing Israel for its sin and in having mercy. In today's reading, Jerusalem's future name – "The Lord is our righteousness" – proclaims that God is even now working salvation for Israel.*

PSALM: Psalm 25:1-10

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13: *Upon Timothy's report from the congregation at Thessalonica, Paul is exuberant with gratitude for them. In this passage from his letter, Paul voices overflowing thanks, joy, and blessings for the people of this growing church.*

GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-36: *God will fulfill God's purposes and, already, hidden signs of that fulfillment abound. On that great day there will be dismay, perplexity, confusion, and terror, but God's people shall be given strength to stand boldly and receive God's promised redemption.*

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

DECORATING CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS!



TODAY: We will decorate our church for Christmas after the church service. Helpers needed, and many hands make light work, and make it go quickly.
We are minding the time for today's football game.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS: "Journey to the Christ Child"



PRACTICE FOR PROGRAM:

TODAY, Dec. 1: 2-hr practice 10am-noon, at East.

PROGRAM DATES: Come celebrate Jesus' birth!

EAST program is Dec. 8, at 9am – after the program, we will Serve Jesus' birthday cake. All welcome.

WEST program is Dec. 15, at 11am and following the program we will serve Jesus' birthday cake. All welcome.

EAST NEEDS VOLUNTEERS FOR PALOOZA EVENT



East St Olaf is hosting a Holiday Shopping Palooza on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 9am-2pm.

We are in need of volunteers to serve soup and sandwiches that day. Call a friend and spend a

day with us, in the Holiday Spirit! You can take the first shift in the morning, or a second shift in the afternoon. Please contact Amy Schwarz at amy.jorgenson23@gmail.com, or Jane Williams (507) 271-2272 (*talk or text*) to volunteer. You can also help by bringing a crock of soup that day. The free will donations from the soup and sandwich lunch will go to East St Olaf's congregation. Please consider a donation of soup or time.

EAST ST. OLAF HOLIDAY PALOOZA & QUILTER'S SALE

Saturday, Dec. 7 from 9:00am til 2:00 pm

EVERYONE is welcome to come shop... And a delicious soup lunch will be available for a free-will donation.

WE'LL HAVE FOOD VENDORS, CRAFTS, BAKING, ALSO ANNUAL SALE BY THE EAST SEWING

SISTERS! LEFSA SALE TOO! COME SHOP FOR CHRISTMAS!

>>> EAST QUILTING SISTERS SALE: ALSO DEC. 7:

The Sewing Sisters of East St Olaf will hold their annual sale on Saturday, Dec. 7 along with the Holiday Palooza Event. There will be quilts of all sizes, material, patterns, templates, a Singer Sewing Machine, and more from Peggy Andreason's estate. Lots of holiday fabric. Soup and Sandwich Luncheon available. 9:00AM - 2:00PM Basement COME ON DOWN!!

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR BY THE FIELD CREST AUXILIARY



Saturday, Dec. 7 from 8:00 am 'til Noon

at Hayfield Senior Center 25 E. Main Street

Lefse, baked goods, embroidered dish towels, Christmas decorations, and craft items. Coffee & treats are free-will

offering. All proceeds are put toward projects at Field Crest Care Center. All welcome!

EAST MISSION: Giving Tree in East Narthex for the



Women's Shelter: All Things Cozy will be the theme for our Giving Tree this year, and presents donated will be sent to the Women's Shelter in Rochester, MN. This safe house serves Rochester and local areas.

Many women arrive here with just the clothes on their backs, seeking refuge from abuse and looking to start a new and better life. Your donations will support women, children, and young adults needing help. *All are invited to donate.*

CHRISTMAS BRUNCH - BY EAST WELCA

December 15 is the WELCA Christmas Brunch and all of East church is invited. WELCA will also have a brief meeting after the brunch (*for our December meeting*).

BEAUTIFYING OUR SANCTUARY FOR CHRISTMAS!



*If you'd like to donate a poinsettia, we will recognize it in the Christmas Eve bulletin. **Please inform one of the following people by Mon., Dec. 16 (please specify who the plant is from and whom it's in memory-of).** **EAST or WEST;** Email Gina at eastwest@kmtel.com and certainity@kmtel.com . You may also call the office (365-8222).*

EAST WELCA & OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

DECEMBER *Worship 9:00*

- 1 After service DECORATE CHURCH - Helpers needed
- 3 10am Quilting/Sack Lunch... and Set up for Quilt Sale
- 7 10am-2pm HOLIDAY PALOOZA & QUILTING
SALE with SOUP LUNCH AVAILABLE
- 8 CHRISTMAS PROGRAM at East & Jesus birthday cake
- 10 Take Down Quilting Sale Items
- 15 EAST CHRISTMAS BRUNCH by the East WELCA:
ALL EAST MEMBERS INVITED... AND after
brunch, East WELCA has their December meeting.
**Sunday School Christmas program at West*
- 24 6:00 PM Christmas Eve CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP

- 25 Christmas Day: NO service – Merry Christmas!
- 29 10 AM Joint Christmas Hymn Service at EAST

EAST MEMBERS: If you know of anyone who would like a get a card from East St. Olaf, please contact Jane Williams (507) 271-2272 (Talk or Text). *Help us share a blessing!*

HAPPENING TODAY & THIS WEEK

Deadline for bulletin information – Wednesdays by 7:30 pm.

TODAY	9:00 am	East worship, <u>Comm.</u> East coffee after church
	10:00 am	<u>JAM at EAST (practice prog. 2 hrs.)</u> West coffee
	<u>10-11:30 am</u>	<u>EAST DECORATES CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS</u>
	11:00 am	West worship, <u>Comm...</u> <u>then</u>
	After church	WEST DECORATES CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS
Monday	9am-Noon	Pastor at office
Tuesday	10:00 am	East quilting/sack lunch... <u>AND set up for quilting sale</u>
Wednesday	7:00 pm	BOTH – Confirmation at West
Thursday	9am-Noon	Pastor at office
Friday	9am-Noon	Pastor’s day off-work
Saturday	9am-2:00 pm	<u>EAST HOLIDAY PALOOZA, QUILTING SALE, SOUP LUNCH</u> <u>Everyone is invited!!!</u>
Sun. 12/08	9:00 am	<u>East CHRISTMAS PROGRAM... & Jesus Birthday Cake afterward</u>
	>>>>	<u>NO coffee at West</u>
	11:00 am	West worship ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT
	5:00 pm	Punch & Table Viewing @ West
	6:00 pm	Advent by Candlelight Service

COMING UP AT EAST & WEST

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| <p>Dec. 9 (Mon.) 9am-Noon
 >>>></p> | <p>Pastor at office
 <u>JOINT council meeting at WEST</u>
 <i>6:00 pm- individual meetings</i>
 <i>7:00 pm- joint meeting begins</i></p> |
| <p>Dec. 10 (Tue.) 9:30 am

 10:00 am</p> | <p><u>ELCA Pastor's Conference at EAST for Zumbro River Conference, with refreshments served</u>
 East take down quilting items</p> |
| <p>Dec. 11 (Wed.) 10:30 am

 7:00 pm</p> | <p>WEST WELCA CHRISTMAS PROGRAM & LUNCHEON...
 West men invited too
 BOTH - Confirmation at West</p> |
| <p>Dec. 12 (Thur.) 9am-Noon</p> | <p>Pastor at office (<i>10am Kasson mtg.</i>)</p> |
| <p>Dec. 13 (Fri.) 9am-Noon
 1-4:00 pm</p> | <p>Pastor's day off-work
 <u>OPEN HOUSE at Midtown Manor Community Room for the 100th Birthday of Mervis Keckhafer</u>
 <u>All are welcome to drop by!</u></p> |
| <p>Dec. 15 (Sun.) 9:00 am
 10:00 am

 10:00 am
 11:00 am</p> | <p>East worship
 <u>EAST CHRISTMAS BRUNCH</u> by East WELCA - ALL East members are invited! (<i>AND after the brunch, WELCA will have their meeting.</i>)
 West coffee
 WEST CHRISTMAS PROGRAM, followed by breakfast and Jesus' Birthday Cake!</p> |
| <p>Dec. 16 (Mon.) 9am-Noon</p> | <p>Pastor at office</p> |
| <p>Dec. 17 (Tue.) 10:00 am
 5:00 pm</p> | <p>East quilting/sack lunch
 <u>DEADLINE to submit info for next newsletter</u></p> |
| <p>Dec. 18 (Wed.) 7:00 pm</p> | <p>BOTH - Confirmation at West</p> |
| <p>Dec. 19 (Thur.) 9am-Noon</p> | <p>Pastor at office</p> |
| <p>Dec. 20 (Fri.) 9am-Noon</p> | <p>Pastor's day off-work</p> |
| <p>Dec. 22 (Sun.) 9:00 am</p> | <p>East worship, <u>Communion</u></p> |

- 10:00 am West coffee / NO classes for JAM
 11:00 am West worship, Communion
- Dec. 23 (Mon.) 9am-Noon Pastor at office
- Dec. 24 (Tue.) CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLIGHT SERVICES
with Communion at both churches.
 4:00 pm at WEST 6:00 pm at EAST
- Dec. 25 (Wed.) MERRY CHRISTMAS - NO church services and
NO class for confirmation
- >>> **Gina on vacation: Dec. 25 thru Jan. 1**
- Dec. 26 (Thur.) 9am-Noon Pastor at office
- Dec. 27 (Fri.) 9am-Noon Pastor's day off-work
- Dec. 29 (Sun.) ----- *Pastor Paul vacation day*
- 10:00 am JOINT Hymn Sing at EAST
- Dec. 30 (Mon.) 9am-Noon Pastor at office
NEWSLETTER DAY AT OFFICE,
Gina will come in, though she is on
vacation Dec. 25 - Jan. 1
- Dec. 31 (Tue.) 10:00 am East quilting/sack lunch

TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER

East Prayers: Todd Pyfferoen, Kathy B., Orillie Iverson, Mary Madson, Jerry Nelson, Kaysie Peterson, Scott Kittleson (*son-in-law of Paul Jordan*), Dawn Hugeback, Debra Moekel (*daughter of Audrey Carlson*), Keith Roeder (*son-in-law of Paul Jordan*), Dalton Mansfield (*in military*), John (*cousin of Pat Nelson*), Sylvia Torstenson, and John Heydt (*brother of Pat Nelson*).

West Prayers: Amber Haley (*Todd and Denice Beaver's daughter*) Russ Skov, Carma Bjornson, Joy Beaver, Kathy B., Jerry Nelson, Sandy Miller (*sister of Carma. B.*), Bill Tietje (*brother of Carma B.*), Loretta Himle, Gloria Brown, Aloma Eastlee, Dawn Hugeback, Darlene Hanson, Kelly Keckhafer, Gloria Pew, Boyd Pew, Cindy Senjem, Philip Senjem, and Matt Miller (*nephew of Carma Bjornson*). Those serving in our military: Jack Kenyon (*nephew of Will & Gail Laxen*), Patrick Reynolds (*grandson of Sue Hyland*), Erika Smith (*granddaughter of Carma & Ardean Bjornson*).

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

PASTOR Paul Thompson: *(Please call before driving to office)*

Cell Phone: 507-273-8504 **Email:** pthomp821@gmail.com

Office hours: Monday and Thursday

9:00 am–Noon... OR by appointment *(Day off-work is Friday)*

SECRETARY: Gina Moser: *(Please call before driving to office)*

Office Phone: 507-365-8222 **Cell Phone:** 507-951-4964

Emails: eastwest@kmtel.com AND certainty@kmtel.com

Send all emails for Gina to both of her email addresses.

Office Hours: Tues. & Thursdays 10:00 am–Noon

OUR WEBSITES: eaststolaf.org OR weststolaf.org More>>

JANITORIAL SERVICE: Becky Wilbourne 507-923-5845

COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION:

President, Bruce Peterson: 507-254-1822

Gary Kearns: 507-206-3158 or 507- 254-5285

Bryan DeCook: 507-208-1590