

West St. Olaf Lutheran Church

70640 260th Avenue – Hayfield, 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.

OFFERING: You may place your offering in the offering plate, in the narthex, as you enter the church (*the plates are not passed during the service*).

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

WELCA Chair(s):

Dec. – Carma Bjornson, Deb Schuck

Altar Guild: Dec. - Jane Estby & Sheryl Wohlers

Acolytes: Dec. 1 - Mathea Horejsi, Scott Cocuzzi

Reader: Dec. 1 - Deb Schuck

Ushers: Pete Danielson organizes volunteers

Deacon: Dec. - Deb Schuck

Stewardship:

1st Sunday - Dec. 1 Alli Horejsi covering

READINGS FOR: Sun., December 1, 2024 First 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.

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.

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 and treats are free-will offering.

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

WEST HELPERS NEEDED

We could really use some help with coffee hours. Luther League is the first Sunday of each month, and JAM is the second, so really if you're a Luther League family, a JAM family, or both, if any of the weeks on the schedule work for you it would be great if you could help out.

This is the signup for coffee hour:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1b-d2jJmMHTVIVy5B6Sk3tm_wlf22i8Mpjet-IP5qpbU/edit?usp=sharing

Also, JAM is busy with Christmas program preparations right now but we'd appreciate teaching help next year (and kid wrangling help would be awesome this year too, if you'd like to help out with the Christmas program)

This is the signup for teaching help:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1OT58SGCkSnWTdVqST4HaRxGDkbDtGTTzfdnJA-9cRaY/edit?usp=sharing>

We really appreciate your assistance! ~ West B.O.E.~

WEST IMPORTANT NOTE:



The West chapel is reserved as "on-hold" Dec. 4 thru Dec. 8 because the West ladies plan to begin setting up early for Advent by Candlelight event.

OUR CHRISTMAS MISSION



West is adopting two families from Stewartville for our Christmas mission this year. There is a tree in the entrance of the church with tags of items needed. Please have your gifts brought to church chapel by December 8. *Luther League is willing to wrap your gifts if you choose not to wrap them. This is a Thriivent Action Team mission. Thank you.*

ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT AT WEST ST. OLAF



Advent by Candlelight will be held next Sunday, December 8.

We may still have spaces for attendees and/or if someone wishes to help in other ways we'd love more hands! Please sign up as you're able.

Advent by Candlelight will start at 5:00 pm for punch, conversation, and the chance to view all of the tablescapes. The church service begins at 6:00 pm in the church. A light supper to follow in the chapel. *Offering on this night will go to Hayfield Fire & Ambulance.* If you have questions, please contact Donna Larsen or Heather Bamlet.

A SPECIAL BIRTHDAY IN DECEMBER:

December 18th will be Mervis Keckhafer's 100th birthday! This is a special birthday for a special lady! *Everyone please shower her with birthday cards at:*

115 2nd Street NE Apt. 209 Hayfield, MN 55940 ...

ALSO, MERVIS' FAMILY IS HAVING A BIRTHDAY OPEN HOUSE FOR HER, on Saturday, Dec. 14 from 1-4:00 pm at the Midtown Manor Community room. *All are welcome to drop by and wish her a happy birthday!*

WEST WELCA INFORMATION

DECEMBER Chairpersons: Carma Bjornson, Deb Schuck
Altar Guild: Jane and Sheryl

- 1 After service DECORATE church – Helpers needed
8 5:00 PM Advent by Candlelight
15 9:00 AM JAM Christmas program & cake served after
11 10:30 AM WELCA Christmas Program & Potluck
Luncheon (Men are welcome too)
24 4:00 PM West Christmas Eve Candlelight service
25 MERRY CHRISTMAS (no worship service)

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).**
WEST: Sheryl Wohlers (365-8816 or 259-5974)

EAST or WEST: Email Gina at eastwest@kmtel.com and certainty@kmtel.com. You may also call the church office (365-8222).

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
	10-11:30 am	<u>EAST DECORATES CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS</u>
	11:00 am After church	West worship, <u>Comm...</u> <u>then</u> <u>WEST DECORATES CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS</u>
Monday	9am-Noon	Pastor at office
Tuesday	10:00 am	East quilting/sack lunch...
Wednesday	7:00 pm	BOTH – Confirmation at West
	----->	West Chapel “on hold” for setup
Thursday	9am-Noon	Pastor at office
	----->	West Chapel “on hold” for setup

Friday	9am-Noon	Pastor's day off-work
	----->	<i>West Chapel "on hold" for setup</i>
Saturday	9am-2:00 pm	<u>EAST HOLIDAY PALOOZA, QUILTING SALE, SOUP LUNCH</u>
		<u>Everyone is invited!!!</u>
	----->	<i>West Chapel "on hold" for setup</i>
Sun. 12/08	9:00 am	East CHRISTMAS PROGRAM... & Jesus Birthday Cake afterward
	>>>>	<u>NO coffee at West</u>
	11:00 am	West worship (<u>Due date for gifts for West's Christmas mission</u>)
		<u>ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT</u>
	5:00 pm	<u>Punch & Table Viewing @ West</u>
	6:00 pm	<u>Advent by Candlelight Service</u>

COMING UP AT EAST & WEST

Dec. 9 (Mon.)	9am-Noon	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>
Dec. 10 (Tue.)	9:30 am	<u>ELCA Pastor's Conference at EAST for Zumbro River Conference, with refreshments served</u>
	10:00 am	East take down quilting items
Dec. 11 (Wed.)	10:30 am	<u>WEST WELCA CHRISMAS PROGRAM & LUNCHEON...</u>
		<u>West men invited too</u>
	7:00 pm	BOTH - Confirmation at West
Dec. 12 (Thur.)	9am-Noon	Pastor at office (<i>10am Kasson mtg.</i>)
Dec. 13 (Fri.)	9am-Noon	Pastor's day off-work
	1-4:00 pm	<u>OPEN HOUSE at Midtown Manor Community Room for the 100th Birthday of Mervis Keckhafer</u>
		<u>All are welcome to drop by!</u>
Dec. 15 (Sun.)	9:00 am	East worship
	10:00 am	EAST CHRISTMAS BRUNCH by

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

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*).

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*).

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

JANITORIAL SERVICE: Becky Wilbourne 507-923-5845

COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION:

President, Will Laxen: 507-208-5399

Vice President, Hans Estby: 507-365-8600 or 507-259-8843

Head Deacon, Sheryl Wohlers: 507-365-8816 or 507-259-5974