# East St. Olaf Lutheran Church

6200 County Road 3 SW – Byron, MN
November 29, 2026: First Sunday of Advent
Pastor: Rev. Jim Rushton  Organist: Pat Nelson

**WELCOME! WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE VISITING:**



If you're visiting, please sign our guestbook (*on the stand in the narthex*). Note that worship times rotate monthly between East & West St. Olaf.

**SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 2026**

(*Pastor Paul retires at end of Dec.*)

EAST EARLY at 9:00 am for Dec. (*East coffee after church*)
BOTH JAM at 10:00 am at West (*also West coffee*)
WEST LATE at 11:00 am for Dec.

**>> December 13:** 9:00 am Play "*On the Road to Bethlehem*" at EAST
11:00 am JAM Christmas program at WEST during church

**>> Christmas Eve Candlelight Svc:** WEST 4:00 pm, EAST 6:00 pm

**THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING US**
**Note: Anyone interested may join Altar Guild**
**Altar Guild:** Nov. – Meghan Ohman
**Deacon:** Nov. - Meghan Ohman
**Reader:** Nov. 29 – EllaMae Ohman
**Acolytes:** Ushers cover, if no acolyte listed
**Coffee Servers:** 5th Sun. – Sun. School or Council

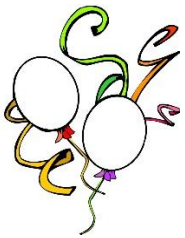
**READINGS: Nov. 29, 2026: First Sunday of Advent**

INTRODUCTION: *Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of*

*people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.*
FIRST READING: Isaiah 64:1-9: *This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account – to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.*
PSALM: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9: *As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.*
GOSPEL: Mark 13:24-37: *Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.*

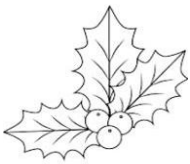
## TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

**COME & GO OPEN HOUSE CELEBRATION!**



Everyone is invited to join Jana Thompson in celebrating two momentous events: Her 60th BIRTHDAY and RETIREMENT!!!
It's a "come & go" OPEN HOUSE
Friday, December 4 from Noon thru 4:00 pm at 430 12th Street NW, Byron.

**HOLIDAY PALOOZA CRAFT & VENDOR FAIR: EAST ST. OLAF**



**Saturday, December 5, 2026**
**9:00am – 2:00pm: All welcome!**
**Local Crafters & Vendors!**
Baked Goods, Candles, Flower arrangements, Christmas Items, Cookbooks & more!

***If you would like to sell your wares, tables are $30.***
***Contact Amy Schwarz if interested: amy.jorgenson23@gmail.com***
**Lunch Menu:** Hotdishes, dinner rolls, coffee, & hot cocoa bar
**Price**: Free will donation

**DECEMBER MISSION: "All Things Cozy Tree" for Youth**



This year, there is still a need at ***180 Degrees Emergency Youth Shelter*** on Bamber Valley Road. This shelter is a 12-bed facility for teens and provides the basic items for teens in need, along with counseling for youth and families, and support for school success.

**Our Mission: Provide clothing donations for these teens!**

> Clothing is needed in sizes 10/12 to 2X (male and female).
> Tags of clothing needs are on the Christmas Tree in the Narthex. *You can also make a donation on their website, directly to 180 Degrees.*
> **Donations will be collected from Nov. 20 thru Dec. 21 at East St. Olaf**. *Tuesday, Dec. 22 items will be delivered to the 180 Shelter. Please consider a gift under our Mission Tree for a young person who is truly in need.*

**HAYFIELD TRINITY QUILTERS AND WELCA BAZAAR**
**Saturday, December 5 from 8:30am-11:30 am**
Goodies, Crafts & Quilts. Rolls & Coffee
ALSO Saturday, December 6 (AFTER Messiah Concert)

**A PLAY AT EAST (DEC. 13): "On the Road to Bethlehem"**



We hope everyone can come and enjoy a play by East members about the birth of baby Jesus, during our worship service on **December 13** at East (*of course, coffee follows the service*).



**BEAUTIFYING OUR SANCTUARY**
*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. 14 (*specify who the plant is from and whom it's in memory-of*).**
**WEST**: *Sheryl Wohlers (507-365-8816 or 507-259-5974)*
**EAST or WEST**: *Email Gina at eastwest@kmtel.com*

**EAST CONTRIBUTIONS:**
(11/22/2026): Current $790.

## HAPPENING TODAY & THIS WEEK

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **TODAY** | **(11/29)** Rev. Jim Rushton preaching at both | |
| | 9:00 am | West worship |
| | 10:00 am | JAM practice program (*also West coffee)* |
| | 11:00 am | East worship (*coffee after church*) |
| **Monday:** | -------- | Pastor vacation day |
| **Tuesday:** | 10:00 am | East quilting/sack lunch |
| | Noon | East Circle 4 meeting |
| **Wednesday:** | >>> | *Note: West chapel is reserved* |
| | ____ | **NO** Class for Conf (pastor vac) |
| **Thursday:** | >>> | *Note: West chapel is reserved* |
| **Friday:** | >>> | *Note: West chapel is reserved* |
| | Noon-4:00pm | **"Come & Go" OPEN HOUSE** for Jana Thompson's 60th Birthday & her Retirement!! Everyone welcome! |
| **Saturday:** | >>> | *Note: West chapel is reserved* |
| | **9AM – 2 PM** | **EAST HOLIDAY PALOOZA, a Vendor & Craft Fair and a Lunch** ***Everyone is invited to attend!*** |
| **Sun. (12/06)** | >>> | *Note: West chapel is reserved* |
| | 9:00 am | East worship, Communion ***NO MEETING*** *for East Women* |
| | 10:00 am | JAM at West – NO coffee at West |
| | 11:00 am | West worship, Communion… *and Deadline to donate for the West Christmas Mission family* |
| | 5:00 pm | ADVENT by CANDLELIGHT at West St. Olaf – meal after worship |

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**>>> NOTE: Pastor Paul on vacation Dec. 1 thru Dec. 5 <<<**

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|---|---|---|
| **Dec. 8 (Tue.):** | 10:00 am | East quilting/sack lunch |
| **Dec. 9 (Wed.):** | 10:30 am | WEST WELCA CHRISTMAS PROGRAM & POTLUCK (men are welcome too) |
| | 6:00 pm | Luther League teens wrap gifts for Christmas Mission family (at chapel) with PIZZA served too |
| | 7:00 pm | BOTH: Confirmation at West |
| **Dec. 13 (Sun.):** | 9:00 am | East worship, Coffee follows |
| | 10:00 am | JAM at West – also West coffee |
| | 11:00 am | JAM CHRISTMAS PROGRAM at WEST |
| **Dec. 14 (Mon.) >>>>** | | **JOINT COUNCIL Meeting @ West** |
| | | *6:00 pm – Individual meetings* |
| | | *7:00 pm – Joint meeting* |
| **Dec. 15 (Tue.):** | 10:00 am | East quilting/sack lunch |
| **Dec. 16 (Wed.):** | 7:00 pm | **DEADLINE to submit info** for the next newsletter |
| | 7:00 pm | BOTH: Confirmation at West |

## TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER

**EAST Prayers:** Tom Myhre, Sr., Jim Olson, Linda K. (friend of Pat Nelson), Keith Roeder (friend of Audrey Carlson), Salem (cousin of Keaton DeCook), Todd Pyfferoen, Kathy B., Kaysie Peterson, Dawn Hugeback, Debra Moekel (daughter of Audrey Carlson), John (cousin of Pat Nelson), Sylvia Torstenson, and John Heydt (brother of Pat Nelson); Serving in our military: Dalton Mansfield, Dawson Meier (completed Basic, starting AIT training).

## CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

**PASTOR Paul Thompson:** (*Call before driving to office*)
**Cell Phone:** 507-273-8504 **Email:** pthomp821@gmail.com

**SECRETARY** Gina Moser: (*Call before driving to office*)
**Office:** 365-8222 **Cell:** 951-4964 **Email:** eastwest@kmtel.com
**OUR WEBSITES:** eaststolaf.org OR weststolaf.org
**JANITORIAL SVC EAST**: Becky Wilbourne 507-923-5845
**COUNCIL CONTACT INFO: ALL area codes are (507)**
**EAST:** President: Randy Robinson: 923-0479
Gary Kearns: 206-3158 or 254-5285
Bryan DeCook: 208-1590