



There's a Place for You at St. Paul's!



FOLLOWING THE STAR

As the season of Epiphany dawns upon us, we are drawn into the wonder and mystery of the star that guided the wise men and shepherds to a newborn king. These familiar figures—the magi from the East and the humble shepherds from the fields—embarked on faith journeys, following signs and whispers of hope to an unexpected place. Their paths converged at the feeding trough, where heaven met earth in the most ordinary and extraordinary way. What a reminder for us today as we step into a new year!

The journeys of the magi and shepherds weren't without challenges. The magi traveled long distances, encountering uncertainty and even danger as they navigated unfamiliar territories. The shepherds left the comfort of their night watch, responding with urgency to the angelic message, stepping away from the familiar into the unknown. Yet, each step brought them closer to the presence of Christ, and their faith was affirmed in ways they could scarcely imagine.

In this Epiphany, we, too, are invited to follow the light of Christ, even when the path feels unclear or challenging. As we move forward as a church community into a new year, we are reminded that the journey of faith often takes us to unexpected places. There may be moments of discomfort when the road seems long or the destination uncertain. Yet, like the wise men and shepherds, we are called to trust that the light we follow leads to life, hope, and renewal.

Epiphany is a season of revelation, a time to open our eyes and hearts to Christ among us and within us. It is a call to pay attention to how God is moving in our lives and church. Where might Christ be leading us this year? How is the Spirit inviting us to grow in faith, love our neighbors, and build deeper connections within and beyond our congregation?

As we follow the star, we are reminded that Christ's presence is with us every step of the way. In moments of doubt, the Spirit guides us. In times of joy, Christ celebrates with us. And in seasons of challenge, God sustains us. Together, as a community of faith, we can embrace this journey, trusting that God's light will continue to illuminate our path.

Continued on page 2

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Church Office Hours
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00

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May this Epiphany season inspire us to follow Christ boldly, to seek God's presence in unexpected places, and to trust that we are never alone on the journey. Let us walk together into this new year with hope, courage, and the assurance that the same light that guided the wise men and shepherds is shining brightly for us today.

Blessings to you and your loved ones in this season of Epiphany and throughout the year ahead!

Pastor Paul M. Larson



THE WISE STILL SEEK HIM

Epiphany also known as "Theophany" in Eastern Christian tradition, is a Christian feast day commemorating the visit of the Magi, the baptism of Jesus, and the wedding at Cana.

In Western Christianity, the feast commemorates principally (but not solely) the visit of the Magi to the Christ Child, and thus Jesus Christ's physical manifestation to the Gentiles. It is sometimes called Three Kings' Day, and in some traditions celebrated as Little Christmas. Moreover, the feast of the Epiphany, in some denominations, also initiates the liturgical season of Epiphanytide.

Eastern Christians, on the other hand, commemorate the baptism of Jesus (but it is also called Epiphany) in the Jordan River, seen as his manifestation to the world as the Son of God. The spot marked by Al-Maghtas in Jordan, adjacent to Qasr al-Yahud in the West Bank, is considered to be the original site of the baptism of Jesus and the ministry of John the Baptist.

The traditional date for the feast is January 6. However, since 1970, the celebration is held in some countries on the Sunday after January 1. Those Eastern Churches, which are still following the Julian calendar observe the feast on what, according to the internationally used Gregorian calendar, is January 19, because of the current 13-day difference between the Julian and Gregorian calendars.

Servants Serving

Greeters

January 5 Judy McPhail
January 12 Jay Olshen
January 19 Ruth Fitzgerald
January 26 Tim Hamilton

Readers

January 5 Heidi Jones
January 12 Dorothea Phelan
January 19 Vera Logie
January 26 Louise Griffith

Livestreaming Team

Nick Cotsonis and Holly McPhail

Musicians

Dave Lingensjo, Principle Musician
Vicki Hamilton, Organist
Carol Arneson, Choir Director

Altar Guild

Brita Steyn and Vicki Hamilton

Counters

January 5 Judy McPhail, Shirley Rickard
January 12 Jeanne Russell, Jay Olshen
January 19 Judy McPhail, Greg Griffith
January 26 Mary DeFelice, Jeanne Russell

Acolytes

Clay Woslum and Greg Griffith

Youth Acolytes

January 5 TBA
January 12 TBA
January 19 TBA
January 26 TBA

Ushers

All dates are open for volunteers.

Ministry Leaders

Altar Guild: Vicki Hamilton
Greeters: Ruth Fitzgerald
Worship and Readers: Judy McPhail
Counters: Mary DeFelice
Youth Acolytes: Traci Angel
Card Ministry: Marla Johnson

Photo courtesy of Carol Arneson



Volunteers are needed for all worship service positions, especially readers, communion assistants, and ushers. If you can serve, please contact the appropriate ministry leaders. Thank you!

Many thanks to everyone who donated to the poinsettias and general fund this Christmas.



January Babies!



- 3 Jessica Lunz
- 3 James Opperman
- 4 Nikki Rohrs
- 5 Traci Angel
- 6 Peter Elverum
- 9 Lisa Hillenbrand
- 9 Scott Thunder
- 10 Hope Chowanski
- 10 Avery Boggs
- 11 Karen Revelle
- 12 David Anderson
- 13 Marla Johnson
- 20 Clay Woslum
- 25 Greg Griffith
- 31 Gayle Kennett



On a rainy Monday morning, 31 (thirty-one) lap robes were delivered to various care facilities in Carson City. They were received with delight. We also delivered a similar number earlier in the year.

If you have yarn left over from a project and don't want it, bring it to the church for the STITCHERS to use for lap robes or for tying quilts.

We meet most 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Come join us.

Thanks!

Carol Arneson



FIREFIGHTERS/PEACE OFFICERS

Brian Hillenbrand, Tina Sherman,
Mark Dickens, John Gould, Michael Gould,
and Jason Wildblood.

SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES

Brandon Luterick, Heather Joyner (Johnson),
Peter Elverum, Sarah McGee,
Bryce Stimpka, and Olivia Lesperance,

WELCA Bible Study
meets on the first Tuesday of the month
from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

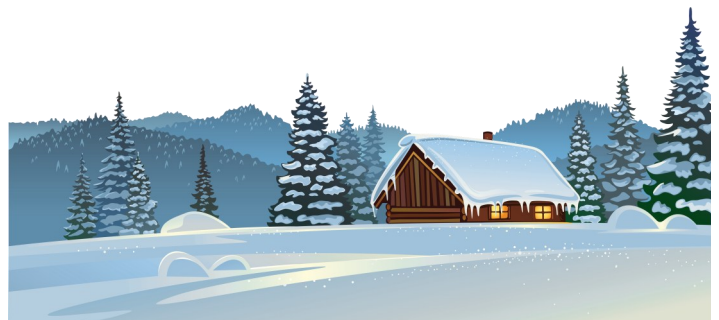
For more information,
contact Vicki Hamilton.



STITCHERS

meet on the second and fourth Tuesday
of the month from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

For more information,
contact Shirley Rickard.



Women of the ELCA

WELCA's December meeting was a fun time for all. Carson City Sheriff Ken Furlong was the guest speaker. There was a cookie exchange plus an ugly sweater contest. Sharon Lyons took First Place while Pastor Paul earned Second Place.



Thank you to everyone who brought cookies for the meeting. They were yummy!



**The Chili Cookoff is coming
March 15, 2025!**





Sheriff Ken Furlong addresses the WELCA attendees.

Sheriff Kenneth T. Furlong was born and raised in Carson City. He graduated from Carson High in 1975. While employed as a Carson City Fire Department Dispatcher, he enlisted in the United States Air Force (USAF) in 1978. During his Air Force career, Furlong earned an Associate's Degree in Police Science, another Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice and a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice Administration.

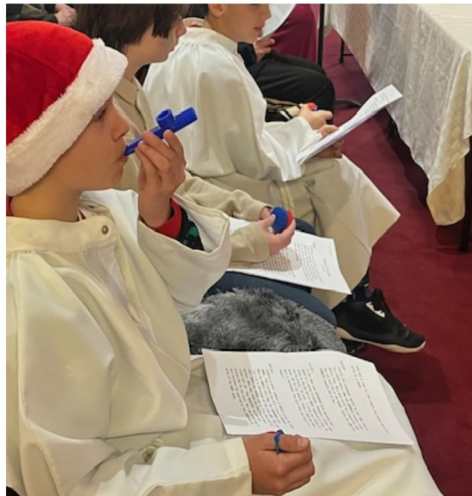


Photos courtesy of Joan Schultz



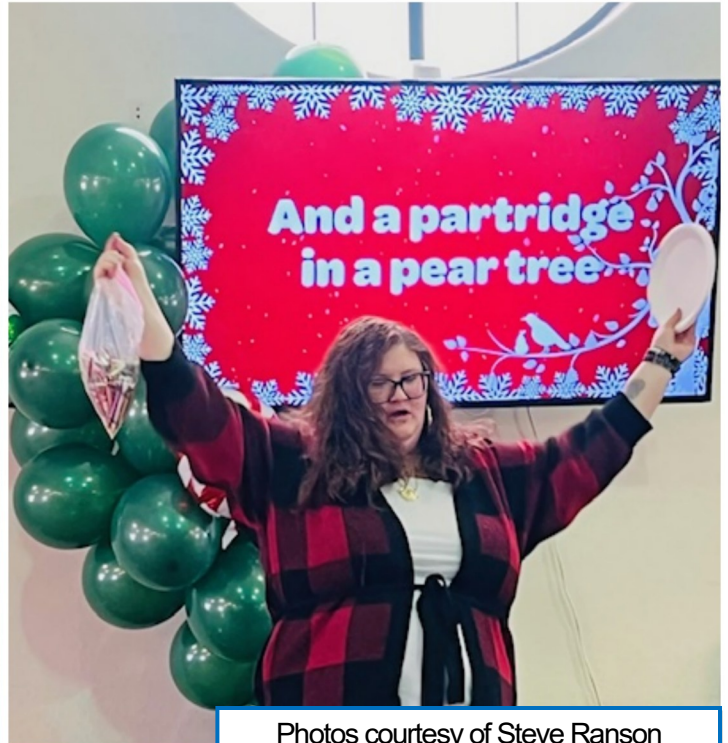
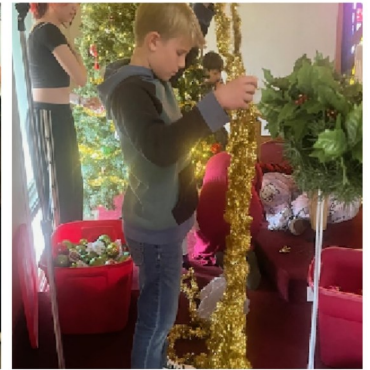
All youth who are in the 6th through 12th grade are welcome to join the Youth Group! Meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Sunday after our worship service.

St Paul's Youth Christmas Program 2024



Budding musicians

Many thanks to Traci Angel, Kelly Boggs,
and St. Paul's youth for the wonderful
Christmas program!
We are so blessed to have these
fine young people in our church.



Photos courtesy of Steve Ranson

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services at St. Paul's 2024



Photos courtesy of
Steve Ranson



Photos courtesy of
Steve Ranson



**Sunday
Worship**
9:00 a.m.

Youth Group
First and third Sunday after worship

Sundays
NA 7:00 p.m.

Monday, January 20
Martin Luther King Day
Church Office is closed.

Tuesday, January 7
WELCA Bible Study
9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
Contact Vicki Hamilton for more information.

Stitchers
Tuesday, January 14 and 28
9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Contact Shirley Rickard for more information.

Tuesdays
Confirmation Class at 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 1
New Year's Day
Church Office is closed.

Wednesday, January 22, 29
Choir Practice, 6:00 p.m.
Contact Carol Arneson for more information.

Thursdays During the School Year
Strings Practice
3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 9
Executive Meeting, 6:00 p.m.


Thursday, January 16
Council Meeting, Meeting, 6:00 p.m.



**Worship services are held
each Sunday at 9:00 a.m.**

**This month services:
January 5, 12, 19, 26**

Our worship service is live-streamed via
YouTube.

Directions for YouTube: 

Copy and paste this link into your web browser.

[https://www.youtube.com/
@st.paulslutheranfamily7828](https://www.youtube.com/@st.paulslutheranfamily7828)

The link will take you to St. Paul's YouTube
channel where you can watch the live service.

To watch recorded services, click on "Playlist"
and then choose the Sunday service/video you
want to watch.

**A Google calendar is posted on St. Paul's
website with all the events
happening at our church.**

<https://www.stpaulslutheranfamily.com/>

