November/December 2017



The Messenger

The newsletter of First Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

First Saint Paul's Christmas Concert Sunday, December 17, 4PM

Savior of the Nations, come, Virgin's Son, make here Your home! Marvel now, O heaven and earth, That the Lord chose such a birth.



The centerpiece of this year's Christmas Concert is the Cantata 61, "Savior of the Nations, Come," by Johann Sebastian Bach. This is an early cantata of Bach, rich in musical and textual symbolism, the use of Biblical imagery, and the Lutheran chorale.

In this year of the Reformation, we continue to celebrate the gifts of the Reformation. "Savior of the Nations, Come" is a hymn of Martin Luther, which he adapted from a Latin hymn by Ambrose of Milan. In Bach's setting, Luther's great Advent hymn is paired with part of another great Lutheran hymn, "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright."

"O Morning Star" was written by the Lutheran pastor Philipp Nicolai around 1600, about eighty years after the beginning of the Reformation. Nicolai suffered great losses in his congregation as well as in his own family due to the plague, but found the inner courage to compose texts (and tunes) of great joy and lasting value. "O Morning Star" and "Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying" are often known as the King and Queen of Chorales because of their importance and influence on later Lutheran hymnody. We'll sing both of these chorales at the Christmas Concert.

Other pieces on the program include a new Christmas carol by Carl Schalk, a beautiful setting of Mary's Song, the Magnificat, and a popular carol by John Rutter. As always, the whole assembly will sing favorite Christmas Carols and hymns. The choir will be joined by orchestra and soloists. Please plan to join us for this very special event. A candlelight reception will follow.





FIRST SAINT PAUL'S **EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

First Saint Paul's. established in 1846, is the oldest Lutheran Church in Chicago. The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod was founded when historic meetings were held here in 1847.

1301 N. LASALLE DRIVE CHICAGO, IL 60610 312.642.7172 www.fspauls.org



CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Thomas R. Johnson tjohnson@fspauls.org

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SERVICES OF WORSHIP

Sundays 9:30AM

Wednesday Spoken Eucharist 7AM

HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrated every Sunday morning

ELECTED CHURCH OFFICERS

* Voting member of Church Council

Chairman* Howard Ansorge

Vice Chairman* Mark Knoblauch

Recording Secretary Christine Lutze

Assistant Recording Secretary Valerie Stodden

Treasurer* Brvan Schneider

Assistant Treasurer\ Barbara Webb

Financial Secretary Ian Seefeldt

Assistant Financial Secretary Arlene Dahm

Membership Secretary Gretchen Randall

Assistant Membership Secretary Mary Langman

Chair, Board of Christian Education* Eric Becker

Chair, Board of Stewardship* Amy Hendricksen

Chair, Board of Evangelism & Outreach* Tom Randall

Chair, Board of Social Ministry* Christine DeVries

Chair, Board of Worship & Music* Gavin Morgan

Chair, Board of Deacons*

Buff Bethlen

Board of Elders

Dan Hendricksen, Chair* Jen Masengarb David Rogner Jill Stemmerman

Board of Trustees

Richard Allen, Chair* Michael Cacicio Kristi Selden Zachary Treece Todd Webb Ethan Werkmeister

Nominating Committee

Doug Harkness Wally Heintzen, Chair John Mason Susan Morgan Mike Schubert Hannah Werkmeister

COMMITTEE/GROUPS

CHAIRS/CONTACTS

Altar Guild Sandy Lawrence

Communion Assistant Coordinator

Jody Lucey

Community Meals Lisa Richards Sandy Wilborn

Concordia Cemetery John Stodden

Human Resources Committee Susan Rosborough

Liturgical Arts Darlene Fahrenkrog

Lutheran Home Susan Rosborough

Sunday School Barb Webb, Superintendent

Wunder's Cemetery Dan Hendricksen



Nurturing the Faith Opportunities at First Saint Paul's

SUNDAY SCHOOL

SAVE THE DATE: DECEMBER 10, CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM. The children of our congregation will lead us in worship on December 10th with a presentation of the annual Christmas program. In preparation, children's Christmas program practices will be held on the following Sundays at 11AM: November 5, 19 and December 3.

Friday Night Out

SAVE THE DATE: DECEMEBER 8

There will be a special Friday night Christmas program rehearsal with dinner from 6-8PM. During this time, we will prepare Christmas bags for our Community Meals guests, enjoy dinner, and have the dress rehearsal for the children's Christmas program.

ADULT BIBLE FORUMS, NOVEMBER-DECEMBER

SUNDAYS 11AM

During the Advent and Christmas season, please join us for these faith nurturing opportunities led by Pastor Johnson and FSP members.



December 3: In this presentation, Dr. David Rogner will discuss how poets and painters have depicted the Virgin Mary, particularly in scenes of the Annunciation and the Nativity. In light of the 500th Reformation celebration, he will include commentary on how Lutheran Reformers viewed the Virgin Mary.

ADVENT EVENING PRAYER, WEDNESDAYS IN DECEMBER, 7PM

How to Wait for the End

Join us for prayer and reflection as we consider how we ought to wait for the Lord's coming and how that ought to *in*form, *re*form and *trans*form our living now.

December 6: Wait Prepared Matthew 24.36-51
December 13: Wait Invested Matthew 25.1-30
December 20: Wait Transformed Matthew 25.31-46

BOOK CLUB

THURSDAYS 7PM

This bi-weekly book club delves into rich texts on a variety of subjects throughout the year. The next book we will discuss is *Running with the Horses* by Eugene Petersen. Books can be purchased on line or at LifeWay Christian Bookstore.

"We all long to live life at its best—to fuse freedom and spontaneity with purpose and meaning. Why then do we often find our lives so humdrum, so unadventuresome, so routine? Or else so frantic, so full of activity, but still devoid of fulfillment? How do we learn to risk, to trust, to pursue wholeness and excellence--to run with the horses in the jungle of life? In a series of profound reflections on the life of Jeremiah the prophet, Eugene Peterson explores the heart of what it means to be fully and genuinely human. His writing is filled with humor and self-reflection, insight and wisdom, helping to set a course for others in the quest for life at its best."

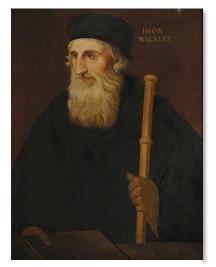
The schedule is as follows: December 7- preface-chapter 2, December 21- chapters 3-6, January 4-chapters 7-9, January 18- chapters 10-12, February 1-chapters 13-14 and February 15- chapters 15-16. Contact Marlo Schulz-Kittl at 312-642-7172 or mschulz@fspauls.org with questions.



HUS AND LUTHER

Standing on the Shoulders of the Reformation

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such hostility against himself from sinners, so that you may not grow weary or lose heart. —Hebrews 12:1-3



John Wycliffe 1320-1384



Jan Hus 1369-1415



Martin Luther 1483-1546

At a recent pastors' conference, Pastor Roger Gallup presented the life of the Czech Reformer Jan Hus (or John Huss). Pastor Gallup's presentation was so informative and encouraging that I shared the slideshow presentation in adult Bible class (with Pastor Gallup's permission). Jan Huss was from Husinec, Bohemia. Hus means *goose* and Husinec translates to *Goosetown*. Hus lived a century before Luther and stood on the shoulders of the English reformer John Wycliffe before him. Wycliffe translated the Scriptures into English, taught that the Church is not the institution but rather the believers, and that we have forgiveness directly from God by virtue of our faith in the Gospel. Though Wycliffe died of natural causes, the Roman Church declared him a heretic, dug up his remains, burned them, and threw them into the river.

Hus learned about Wycliffe through a noblewoman who lived in England and came back to Bohemia. Hus advanced Wycliffe's work by opposing the sale of indulgences and papal infallibility, calling the Roman Church the antichrist, and asserting the primacy of the Scriptures over church leaders and church councils. Hus advanced very quickly at Charles University in Prague and becomes a professor of theology and preacher at the largest church in Europe at the time, Bethlehem Chapel. Bethlehem Chapel was unique in that all the worship and preaching was in the Czech language. Rome opposed this practice and ordered that the church be destroyed. However, it remained unharmed until World War II.



Pope John XXIII excommunicated Hus and his followers (the Hussites) and together they burned the Papal Bull. Three of his followers were beheaded. Eventually Hus was burned at the stake and the fire was stoked by his own writings. The executioner said, "We are going to cook our goose today" mocking the meaning of Hus' name. Hus responded, "You roast a lean goose today, but from my ashes a swan will ascend in a hundred years that you cannot roast." We know that Hus said similar things in his writings many of which are extant today. Hus said, "If the goose which is but a timid bird, and cannot fly very high, has been able to burst its bonds, there will come afterward an eagle, which will soar higher into the air and will draw all other birds."

Martin Luther later discovered Hus' writings when he was accused of being a Hussite. which is the same as being called a heretic. Later Luther said that he and his followers were proudly Hussites. Many believe that Luther is that eagle that came after the goose. Regardless, Luther stood on the shoulders of Hus and Wycliffe before him, just as we should continue our study, worship, and preaching of the Gospel on the shoulders of the faithful before us. This is the best way for us to celebrate this 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

Soli Deo Gloria,

Pastor Johnson

An excerpt from Pastor Gallup's presentation:

The Shadow of Hus on Luther

Hus

- Six Thesis
- Rejection of indulgences for papal war
- Burning of Papal Bull and executions that followed
- Carried away by laymen from Prague for his own protection
- Promised safe passage to Constance
- Insisted he would recant only if convinced by scripture that he was wrong

Luther

- Ninety-five Thesis
- Rejection of indulgences to build St. Peter's
- Luther burning the Papal Bull in front of his students
- Taken to Wartburg for his own protection
- Promised safe passage to Worms
- Would not recant "unless I am convinced by the testimony of the Holy Scriptures or by evident reason"

A Note from our Director of Family Ministry & Outreach

What is your hoped for future for your life, your household, the world?

I was asked to ponder this question and share my answer at the OMNIA Conference for Leadership Development on October 25-27. This question was paired with the questions "what do you value" and "what are you passionate about". These questions mirror our congregation's stewardship focus this year.

What is your God given passion?

God makes a promise to all those He has called, "8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—9 not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do" Ephesians 2:8-10 NIV.

How is God calling you to step out in faith? How has He equipped you?

The apostle Paul tells us with confidence, "And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ" Philippians 1:6 NIV.

God doesn't call the equipped. He equips the called.

Moses had a speech problem.

Rahab had a past.

Paul had a thorn in his side.

Abraham and Sarah said they were too old.

King David was just a kid...so was Jeremiah.

Esther was a captive in a foreign land and didn't think her voice counted.



What is your God given passion? I encourage you to take time in God's Word, in prayer, and in conversation with others to help discern how God may be calling you to step out in faith to pursue a passion He has laid on your heart.

Consider what you value. What has shaped these values? (family history, culture, faith life, etc.)?

What do you hope for your future for your household and this beautiful world?

How has God directed you to where you are today?

Who do you know that shares this hoped for future?

How could you partner together to take steps today towards this future?

How does this help you continue to be a Christian integrator, someone who is working on his or her own integrative journey of faith?

As you abide in Christ, He, along with the Holy Spirit, will continue to work these good works out in you and through you.

God's continued blessings on your journey with Him and with us this side of heaven.

Marlo Schulz-Kittl

Dir. of Family Ministry and Outreach



Save the Date: Information Meeting January 28, 11AM

REAL.PRESENT.COD.

LCMS YOUTH GATHERING | Minneapolis · July 11-15, 2019

Held every 3 years since 1980, the LCMS Youth Gathering provides thousands of youth the opportunity to come together as a community of God's people to learn more about Jesus Christ, the Christian faith, and their Lutheran identity. The next Youth Gathering is **July 11-15**, **2019 in Minneapolis**, **MN**. Youth must be 14 at the start of the gathering OR entering their 9th grade year.

There will be a brief informational meeting Sunday, January 28 at 11 am for all youth, parents, and other caring adults who want to know more about attending. For more information, please contact Marlo Schulz-Kittl at mschulz@fspauls.org.

BAKED GOODS WANTED FOR CHRISTMAS CONCERT RECEPTION

Calling all bakers, baker's apprentices, and novices. A cornerstone of the reception following First Saint Paul's Christmas Concert on December 17th is the holiday cookies, bars, and breads we share in holiday fellowship. We welcome your contributions and encourage you to make or purchase a batch or two of your favorite treats. The more variety, the better! Please bring your baked goods to fellowship hall on Sunday morning, December 17, and add a label noting that they are for the concert reception. Many thanks in advance for your contributions. Please help us with an estimate of numbers by adding your name to the sweets sheet on the bulletin board. Remember, singing a carol while you bake makes it twice as fun! See you on the 17th...yum!





Chicago Choral Artists Concert at First Saint Paul's December 16, 7:30PM

A Candlelight Christmas will feature original carols or arrangements by American composers, with string quartet accompaniment. First Saint Paul's members and friends receive a \$5 discount of the regular ticket price. For more information, please contact Steven Wente, or visit www.chicagochoralartists.org or call 773.658.9799.

Art Showing and Reception for Dan Hendricksen & Anna Wieser



You are invited to a showing of new paintings by First Saint Paul member Dan Hendricksen and (daughter) Anna Wieser. The show, entitled "Kindreds: Layers/Shapes" will have an opening and artist's reception on Saturday, November 18th from 6 to 9 PM at Positive Space Studios, 3520 W Fullerton Ave. You may also view the show through December 14th by appointment only:

contact danarts@me.com.

Save the Date!

First Saint Paul's 2nd Annual Chili Cookoff

Sunday, January 28, following the worship service

short rib chili.



Cornbread and desserts.

Last year's reigning chili masters were Mark Knoblach with his "Cannonadeer" chili, and tied for second were Nick Covello with a beef chili and Todd Webb with

Join us for another tasty afternoon of fun, fellowship, and chili! Last year attendees had their choice of 15 different types of chili, as well as a variety of



Look for a sign up sheet and announcement in the coming months to enter the chili cook-off.



New Format for 2018 Contribution Envelopes

Users of contribution envelopes, which will be available in mid-December, will note several changes in the format for 2018. In addition to the weekly buff-colored envelopes, which focus on contributions for FSP's General Operating Fund, each box will contain a series of monthly green-bordered envelopes (see image on right) to support FSP's other funds including Preserving God's House, Music Ministry, Community Meals, Foot Clinic, and Wunder's Cemetery. Envelopes found

Special Offering for the Ministries & Programs of First Saint Paul's Lutheran Church 1301 N. LaSalle Drive • Chicago, IL 60610 • www.fspauls.org			
Community Meals	\$	Preserving God's House	s
Foot Clinic	\$	Wunder's Cemetery	s
Music Ministry	\$	(Other – Please Specify)	

in the pews will also highlight these ministries as well as the General fund.

Three agencies including Lutheran Child & Family Services, Lutheran Church & Charities Fund, and Lutheran World Relief will no longer appear on FSP envelopes. Going forward members who contributed to these agencies using their FSP envelopes are urged to contribute directly to these agencies. In the past FSP has only been a "pass-through" for funds designated for these agencies. By contributing directly, your donations will reach these agencies more quickly.

The above changes were approved by FSP's Church Council earlier this year, to take effect in 2018.

December 1 deadline for envelope requests. If you currently do not have assigned envelopes and would like a box for 2018, please notify the church office by December 1. Anyone who regularly attends First Saint Paul's is welcome to use contribution envelopes. By using envelopes or FSP's electronic donation program (see below), you will receive quarterly statements, providing you a means of tracking your giving commitment to FSP as well as providing important tax-related information.

Giving Electronically. If you're more accustomed to handling all your financial obligations electronically, you should enroll in First Saint Paul's electronic donation program, **Simply Giving**. To set up a Simply Giving account, please go to the church's website (www.fspauls.org) and click on the word "Donate" on the home page. You will be directed to set up your profile where you will indicate the amount of your contribution. This may be on a weekly, bi-weekly or monthly basis. You may use your bank account, debit card or credit card. Simply Giving provides a secure environment in which to make your donations. Those members who use Simply Giving will not be assigned envelopes unless otherwise requested.

Note to Simply Giving Users. If you are increasing your contribution amount for 2018, please remember to update your Simply Giving record by the end of December. You will need to log into your Simply Giving account through the FSP website (see above) and access your account by entering your email address (the one that is listed in your Simply Giving profile) and user password.

2017 Donations Must Be Made by December 31. Any contributions you wish to be credited to calendar year 2017 must be received by December 31, 2017. Statements covering your 2017 contribution record will be mailed by the end of January 2018.

If you have any questions about receiving envelopes for 2018 or setting up a Simply Giving account, please contact Financial Secretary Jan Seefeldt (jseefeldt@att.net) or call the church office (312-642-7172).

Upcoming Services & Events

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23 *Thanksgiving Day Service*—10AM

WEDNESDAYS, DECEMBER 6, 13 & 20

Brown Bag Supper—5:45PM Advent Evening Prayer—7PM



Children's Christmas Program—9:30AM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

Christmas Concert—4PM (Candlelight Reception to follow)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

The Longest Night Service of Worship—7PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Holy Communion Service—7PM

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

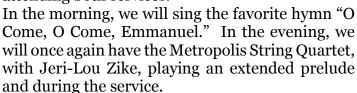
Christmas Day Holy Communion Service—10AM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

New Year's Eve Holy Communion Service—7PM



This year Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday, the evening of the Fourth Sunday of Advent. Advent 4 and Christmas Eve have very different themes. We hope that you will consider attending both services.



The Christmas Concert Fund supports both the Christmas Concert and music on Christmas Eve. We invite you to participate in these events through your attendance and through your financial support. Contributions can be made through the regular envelopes, directly to the church office or online.





ADVENT WREATH CANDLELIGHTERS



It is our tradition that members of the First Saint Paul family light the Advent wreath candles at the beginning of the service during this special season of the church year. If you and your family would like to light the candles for one of the four Advent Sundays or Christmas Eve, please sign up on the bulletin board.



Praying Through the Church

BECAUSE WE ARE A CHURCH FAMILY, a community of faith, we have a concern for one another, a concern that is expressed on Sunday mornings, as we pray for members of our church family 'by name'.

WE PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER remembering the words of St. Paul the Apostle to Timothy, "I urge then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone..." and the promise of our Lord Jesus Christ, "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."

WE ALSO ENCOURAGE members and friends of the congregation to make their prayer requests, births, illnesses, deaths, anniversaries, special occasions for intercession or thanksgiving, known to the pastor, preferably before the Sunday morning services, but in cases of emergency, right up to the service time.

THE FOLLOWING FRIENDS & MEMBERS of our church family will be remembered in the services of worship during the months of November & December:

November 5: Barbara Hart; Matthew Haugh; Matt Hauman; Eva Haussner; Barbara Haveron; Jennifer Heathcote; Wally & Elga Heintzen; Dan & Amy Hendricksen.

November 12: Brian & Jan Hieggelke; Curtis & Estelle Hieggelke; Christa Hoffmeier; John Holland; Dianne Holland; Sammy & Nicholas Holland.

November 19: Keith & Barbara Holm; Roseann Hubbard; Kelli Hurliman; Anita Ivory; Danita Ivory; Daniela Ivory.

November 26: Brian Jones; Melissa Jordan; Alfred & Helga Kairies; Frank & Pam Kaji; Nancy Kamau & Ed Curran and Jeremy Nyambura.

December 3: Dan & Laura Keller, and Mia; Dan Kendt; Jocelyn King; Michael & Linda Kivi. Mark Knoblauch.

December 10: Cheryl & Don Kobetsky; Diane Kohler; Julia Kohler; William Kolb; Peter Kolch; Rev. Paul & Karren Krause; Kim Krubeck and Lena.

December 17: Vicki Ladage; Dale Lagerholm; Barbara and Timothy Laken; Mary Langman; Everardo and Megan Lara, Sandy Lawrence; Jeff & Rachel Leininger, Grace and Andy; Michael Leonhardt & Karla Lewis; Shannon Letts.

December 24: Jesse & Virginia Liles-Dudley; Jan Loesch; Kayla Lohman; Brian & Amy Lovato; Jody Lucey; Lynn Luchtenberg; Sara Luedtke; Juliana Lutz.

December 31: Christine Lutze; Kathleen Maas; Laura Madsen-Jolly; Karen Malonis & Ned Dikmen; Bogdan Manolescu.

Official Acts

Baptisms

10.2.17 Kaitlyn de Pena

11.5.17 Franklin Wallace Rosenwinkel
Born 8.30.17 to Bryant &
Ellen Rosenwinkel

Removed Members

Moved without Transfer

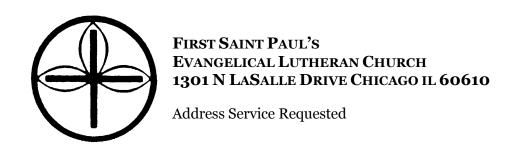
Keith & Barbara Holm

Weddings

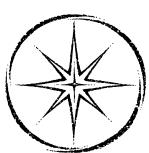
9.16.17 Nikolas James Rodriguez & Kaitlin A. Sheppard

10.28.17 Daniel Hartman & Sarah Marcincin





Savior of the Nations, Come



A concert of sacred music celebrating the Christmas Season featuring First Saint Paul's Choir along with guest soloists and orchestra.

Directed by **Dr. Steven Wente**Margaret Danilovich, organ

Sunday, December 17 4PM First Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church 1301 North LaSalle Drive Chicago IL 60610

FREE ADMISSION A candlelight reception follows the concert.

FREE PARKING - 2 blocks west on Goethe at Franklin School For information call **312.642.7172** or visit **www.fspauls.org**