

## THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

### Sunday 11/29

9:20 am Education Time

12:00 pm Sanctuary Decorating for Christmas

### Monday 11/30

6:00 pm 20s & 30s Small Group

### Tuesday 12/01

5:45 am Fitness at First Exercise Class (Rm 122) *All Welcome!*

6:30 pm Lay Ministry Meeting (Conference Room)

### Wednesday 12/02

12:15 pm Midweek Advent Worship (Traditional)

5:30 pm Midweek Advent Dinner: Chicken & Noodles

6:30 pm Midweek Advent Worship (Contemporary)

### Thursday 12/03 Rehearsals: Handbells 5:30pm, Choir 6:30pm

5:45 am Fitness at First Exercise Class (Rm 122) *All Welcome!*

6:30 am Barr Men's Bible Study (Conference Room)

1:00 pm Hinz Group Bible Study (Conference Room)

### Friday 12/04

#### Saturday 12/05 Message: "From Jerusalem to A Child"

9:00 am Mommy and Me (Fellowship area)

4:00 pm SPL Praise Team Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

6:00 pm Contemporary Worship

#### Sunday 12/06 Message: "From Jerusalem to A Child"

8:00 am Traditional Worship

9:20 am New Member Welcome Brunch (Fellowship area)

10:30 am Contemporary Worship

6:30 pm THRIVE Community - Sr. High Youth (Bender Home)

## We Worship...

Last Week in Worship: 827

4 Week Avg. Regular Attendance: 863

...Better Together!

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

### November 29th *All volunteers welcome!*

Christmas Decorating (12:00pm @SPL Sanctuary)

### December 2nd ("No Perfect Tree" - Also December 9th & 16th)

Midweek Advent Worship (Worship 12:15/6:30pm Dinner 5:30pm)

### December 5th

Mommy & Me (9:00am @ SPL Room 122)

### December 6th

New Member Welcome (Brunch 9:30am @SPL Great Room)

Kubow Shepherd Group Caroling (2:00pm @SPL - Bring cookies)

### December 9th-13th *Books!...a perfect Christmas gift!*

ELC Scholastic Book Fair (ELC South Entrance Lobby)

### December 10th "Christmas In Our Jammies!"

ELC Christmas Program (6:30pm @SPL Sanctuary)

### December 11th & 12th

THRIVE ALIVE Jr. & Sr. High Lock-In (@LSA Gym)

### December 20th *Everyone welcome to come!*

Children's Christmas Worship (10:30am - Led by SHiNe Ministry)

Christmas Caroling (hosted by SHiNe, Meet @12:00pm-Room 122)

### December 24th "A Baby Changes Everything"

Christmas Eve Worship (6:00pm & 8:00pm @SPL)

### December 25th

Christmas Day Worship (10:00am @SPL)

### December 27th *No Worship Saturday, December 26th*

Pastor Eric Trickey Installation (One Service @10:00am)

Reception for the Trickey family (Following worship @SPL)

### December 31st

New Year's Eve Worship (7:00pm @SPL)

## CONNECT WITH US!

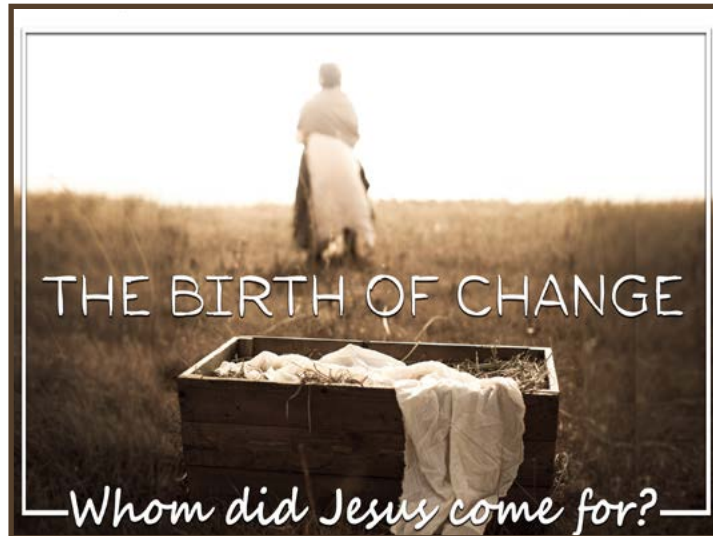
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Whom did Jesus come for?

6:00 PM & 10:30 AM WORSHIP  
NOVEMBER 28 & 29, 2015

Pastor Wray Offermann

Pastor Doug Bender



Christ Jesus  
came into the world  
to save sinners -  
of whom I am the worst.  
1 Timothy 1:15b

### Prayer Before Worship

Lord, on this weekend of celebration and thanksgiving, how vital that we praise You as the one from whom all blessings flow. Help us now to turn our attention to the greatest reason for thanksgiving the world has ever known - the gift of a Savior from sin at Christmas. Bless us now in this Advent season as we prepare. In Jesus name, Amen.

### Call to Worship

#### Welcome

#### Invocation

#### Opening Praise

*He Has Come For Us (God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen)*

#### Scripture Reading

1 Timothy 1:15-17

*Stronger*

#### Baptism (Sunday 10:30am Worship Only)

#### Message

The Birth of Change: *Whom Did Jesus Come For?*

Luke 18:9-14

#### Offering God Our Gifts

Our offerings, gifts and tithes are returned to Jesus in response to His sacrificial love for us. During the offering time, please complete one of the worship cards found in the pew in front of you and pass it to the center aisle.

*Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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BUILD THE HOME, CHANGE THE WORLD.

### Confession of Sins

Lord, we confess to You that it is a hard thing to acknowledge that our relationship with You is a gift of pure grace; that we are no more deserving of Your kindness and mercy than even the most despicable persons; that we too are among the worst of sinners. Forgive us for the times we discard others as unfit for Your kingdom while placing ourselves above them. Our prayer is that of the tax collector, "Be merciful to me a sinner." In Jesus' name, Amen.

### Words of Institution (Saturday 6:00 pm only)

#### Celebrating the Lord's Supper (Saturday 6:00 pm only)

If you have not communed with us before, please read "Our Belief: Receiving the Lord's Supper" located on the following page. We encourage families to commune together. Prayer Ministers are available at the front and back of the sanctuary to pray with you at this time.

### Communion (Saturday 6:00 pm only)

Adore

Your Name

### Prayers of the Church

A *handout of this week's prayer concerns is available at the back of the sanctuary for those who would continue to pray about these concerns.*

### The Lord's Prayer

### Blessing

### Closing Song

King of Heaven

Join us for **Midweek Advent Worship - Beginning Dec. 2nd**  
Wednesdays at 12:15pm & 6:30pm (Dinner 5:30pm)

### Family & Faith Celebration - Baptism

At 10:30am worship, we celebrate the baptism of Thomas Jonathan Offermann. Thomas was born October 28, 2015 to parents Jonathan and Ashley (Littrell) Offermann. Please welcome Thomas as he receives new life in Christ. Congratulations!



### Family & Faith Celebration - Baptism

At 10:30am worship, we celebrate the baptism of Wade Terry Littrell. Wade was born August 4, 2015 to parents Wesley and Amanda (Nicholls) Littrell. Please welcome Wade as he receives new life in Christ. Congratulations!



### 'Tis the Season - SPL Angel Tree

Help others enjoy Christmas this year! The Angel Tree is available in the Fellowship Area. All gifts should be returned by December 9th. Questions? Call Beth Simminger at 217-423-6955.

### Christmas Music Concerts at LSA

Enjoy the sounds of the Christmas Season! LSA K-4 Concert: Sunday, Dec. 13th @3pm, LSA High School Concert: Tuesday, Dec. 15th @7pm, 5th-8th Grade Concert: Dec. 20th @3pm.

### Flowers on the Altar

Flowers on the altar are to the glory of God and in celebration of the 22nd wedding anniversary of John and Amy Stock.

### Our Belief: Receiving the Lord's Supper

The Apostle Paul wrote, "A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup." (1 Corinthians 11:28) In order to examine yourself before attending the Lord's Supper, when offered, ask yourself the following questions:

1. Do I believe I am a sinner, and am I sorry for my sins?
2. Do I believe Jesus, by His death, offers me forgiveness for all my sins?
3. Do I believe I receive the body and blood of Jesus in and with the bread and wine? (They are not merely symbolically present.)
4. Do I truly desire to turn from my sinful ways?

If you are able to answer "yes" to these questions, we invite you to join us for the Lord's Supper, when offered. Children and adults who cannot answer affirmatively are invited and encouraged to come forward for a blessing but should refrain from receiving the bread and wine.\*

\*For those who are unable, or prefer not to consume wine, cups with white grape juice are located in the center of the communion trays.

### MESSAGE NOTES

"The Birth of Change"

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Community Life Discussion Questions are available along with the weekly Prayer Concerns at the back of the sanctuary.

### Position Available

Part-time Janitor at St. Paul's. 20-25 hrs/wk. Resumes may be submitted to Ruthie Baum (ruthie@spldecatur.org) by Dec. 7th.

### CONNECTING POINTS

There are several opportunities to connect with God and one another through worship, fellowship, & service in the weeks ahead:

- SANCTUARY DECORATING:** Decorating helpers needed on Sunday 11/29 beginning at 12:00pm. Call Heidi Sack 423-6955.
- MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP:** Wednesdays in December (12/2, 12/9, 12/16) at 12:15pm (Traditional) & 6:30pm (Contemporary), with dinner served weekly at 5:30pm (Fellowship Area).
- OPEN HOUSE & NEW MEMBER SUNDAY:** Sunday, December 6th features brunch in the Fellowship Area at 9:20am & New Member Welcome at the 10:30am service. *Invite your friends!*

### CHILDREN'S & YOUTH MINISTRY CORNER

Follow @SHiNeSPL

**Children's Ministry:** SHiNe with us on Sundays at 9:20am (Saturday 6:15pm) for children's education time. PreK-K meet in 206. 1st-4th Gr. meet in 203 to start. Gr. 5/6 meet in the Choir Room. F3 classes meet on Wednesdays at 6:30pm (Room 122).

#### Children's Christmas Worship: December 20th @10:30am.

Looking for readers, actors, singers, and dancers. Contact Jen Power if your child is interested in participating (423-6955).

**BUILDING BLOCKS:** Class for Parents/Caretakers and Babies to 3 year olds on Sundays at 9:20am in Room 211. Contact Jennifer Power at 423-6955 or jennifer@spldecatur.org for info.

**Youth Ministry:** THRIVE Senior High Youth Sundays at 9:20am (214B) (pastordoug@spldecatur.org). Confirmation classes meet Sun. 9:20am (Rm 122) & Wed. 6:30pm (Great Rm).