

### **SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING**

Sign-up sheets are on the display board in the narthex to ring bells with the Salvation Army. Ringers are needed at Fareway, Hy-Vee, Kmart, and Shopko from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the next three Saturdays (December 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup>). Please consider volunteering an hour or so of your time, as 90% of the money collected in Cherokee County helps local people who are in need.

### **FLOWERS FOR THE COMMUNION TABLE**

We are now circulating the list to provide flowers for 2019. If you happen to have the list in your possession at the end of our service, please set it on the table in the back of the narthex. Thank you!

### **CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS**

Orders are now being taken for poinsettias from Blooming House. The cost for each poinsettia is \$15.00. You may purchase poinsettias in honor of or in memory of your loved ones. If you'd like to order a poinsettia, please note that on your attendance sheet, stop by or call the office, or send an email to [meribethadams@outlook.com](mailto:meribethadams@outlook.com). The last day to order poinsettias this year will be Monday, December 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **OUR MINISTRY SUPPORTED**

Budget expense 46 weeks into the year:   \$243,386  
Received to support budgeted expenses:   \$185,090

### **ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS GIFT GUIDE**

The Missions Committee is again offering the Alternative Christmas Gift Guide as one way to give a Christmas gift to a loved one, as well as making a difference in the life of someone else in need. In this gift guide, you will find various agencies and missions that are really making a difference in the world. Why not consider making a donation to these agencies in honor of that special person in your life? We encourage you to look through the gift guide and give this idea some consideration. An order form is included and the Missions Committee will be present in the narthex before church today through December 23<sup>rd</sup> to assist you with any order and offer you an acknowledgement card that you can use with all gifts. This year we will be offering gifts from the Heifer Project, Church World Services, and missionary support for the Kies, as well as a collection today for Cherokee's own Needy Children's Auction.

### **ST. PAUL'S CARE AND SHARE SHOP**

Come check out our Care and Share Thrift Shop at St. Paul's. We have lots of clothes and a large assortment of brand new purses. Get some last minute Christmas gifts and support the missions of St. Paul's. Thank you for all of the donations to our shop. They are greatly appreciated!

### **TREES IN THE NARTHEX AND DOWNSTAIRS**

There is a tree in the narthex and a tree down by the office that we'd like to decorate with hats, mittens, gloves, and scarves for the children at Roosevelt Elementary School. If you can bring your donations by Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, that will be greatly appreciated!

### **VISITATION TEAM MEETING**

The St. Paul's visitation team will be meeting on Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30 a.m. in the office.

### **UMW CHRISTMAS BRUNCH**

The UMW Christmas Brunch will be held on Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30 a.m. in the Schuldt Dining Hall. A program will follow the brunch.

### **CHRISTMAS COOKIE TIME APPROACHES**

Our Christmas cookie plate project will be next Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. As you begin your holiday baking, the cookie batch you set aside for St. Paul's will help to maintain the numbers and varieties of this holiday treat that we have enjoyed for years. Your donated cookies will be sorted to trays starting at 9 a.m. on December 9<sup>th</sup>, so dropping your contribution by the church kitchen on Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup> or first thing on the 9<sup>th</sup> will be important. Call the church office if you need someone to pick up your cookies. Proceeds of this project support the many ministries here at St. Paul's.

### **ADVENT TRYST ON DECEMBER 12TH**

This year's Advent Tryst will be held on Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. at Memorial Presbyterian Church (127 East Willow Street, Cherokee). They welcome everyone to this time of worship, music, and fellowship. Cookies, cider, and coffee will be served in the Fellowship Hall after the program. A collection of mittens, gloves, and hats will be taken for children in the Cherokee Schools. A free will offering will also be taken, with that money being used to purchase additional winter apparel for the children.

### **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

We are looking forward to our children's Christmas program on Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, during our morning worship. Following the service, our traditional soup luncheon will be served in the Schuldt Dining Hall. No reservations needed. Please join us!

### **2019 PLEDGE CAMPAIGN**

Thank you to all who have returned your estimates of giving for 2019. These estimates are an important planning tool as we proceed into the new year. If you have not yet returned your pledge card, you will find some on the table in the back of the narthex. There are also some tucked in the pew pockets in the sanctuary. Please return your pledge card to the office or drop it in the offering plate this morning.

### **CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**

In our family tradition here at St. Paul's, we will have our Christmas Eve service on December 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Come warm your hearts as we gather together to officially welcome Christmas Day and the Christ Child into our hearts.



