# East St. Olaf Lutheran Church

6200 County Road 3 SW – Byron, MN

November 15, 2026: 25th Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Communion

Pastor: Rev. Paul Thompson  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 NOVEMBER**



WEST EARLY at 9:00 am for Nov.
JAM at 10:00 am at West (*also West coffee*)
EAST LATE at 11:00 am for Nov. (*East coffee follows*)

**>> *RETIREMENT DINNER: TODAY at East St. Olaf***

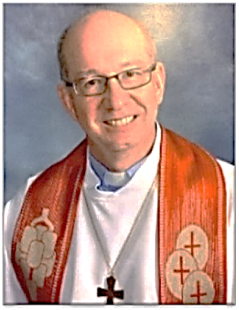
**THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING US**
**Note: Anyone interested may join Altar Guild**
**Altar Guild:** Nov. – Meghan Ohman
**Deacon:** Nov. - Meghan Ohman
**Reader:** Nov. 15 – Jenni Braaten Winch
**Acolytes:** Ushers cover, if no acolyte listed
**Coffee Servers:** 3rd Sun. - Circle 4 (Retirement Dinner)

**READINGS: Nov. 15, 2026: 25th Sunday after Pentecost**
INTRODUCTION: *Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the Lord will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope – word, water, bread, and wine – eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.*

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18: *Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the Lord as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the Lord.*
PSALM: Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12
SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11: *Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.*
GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30: *Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.*

## TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TODAY: EAST RETIREMENT DINNER!!!**



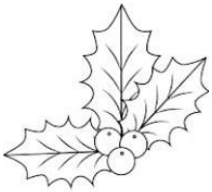
**East St. Olaf Retirement Appreciation Lunch for**
**Pastor Paul & Jana**
**Sunday, November 15, 2026**
11:00am Worship, then Noon Lunch
*Wishing you the best!*

**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*).**
**EAST or WEST**: *Email Gina at eastwest@kmtel.com*

**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

**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)

**NOVEMBER 1, 2026 FINAL RESULTS OF CONGREGATIONAL PARSONAGE VOTE:**



***105 total ballots:*** *East 51 ballots, West 54 ballots.*
1 - Remove it (35 votes)
2 - Sell on open market (38 votes)
3 - Leave as is (32 votes)

**WILLING TO READ SCRIPTURES?**
If you are willing to do scripture readings, please sign up at the lectern by the communion book. Thank you.

**EAST MEMBERS:** If you know of anyone who would like a get a card from East St. Olaf, please contact Jane Williams (507) 271-2272 (Talk or Text). Help us share a blessing!

**PRAYER UPDATES:**
Please email our church secretary at **eastwest@kmtel.com** if you have prayer updates (*whether someone to add to our prayer lists or if someone is now doing well and can be removed*).

## HAPPENING TODAY & THIS WEEK

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **TODAY** | **DAY OF EAST RETIREMENT DINNER!!!** | |
| | 9:00 am | West worship, Communion |
| | 10:00 am | JAM at West (*also West coffee)* |
| | 11:00 am | East worship, Communion |
| | **Noon** | **EAST Retirement Dinner for Pastor Paul & Jana!!!** |
| **Tuesday:** | 10:00 am | East quilting/sack lunch |
| | 7:00 pm | **DEADLINE to submit info *for Dec. newsletter – it gets published before Thanksgiving*** |
| **Wednesday:** | 7:00 pm | BOTH: Confirmation at West |
| **Friday:** | -------- | Pastor's day off |
| **Sun. (11/22)** | **BOTH: DECORATING for CHRISTMAS!** | |
| | 9:00 am | West worship |
| | 10:00 am | JAM practice program (*also West Volunteer Appreciation coffee) WEST decorates church for Christmas- all helpers needed!* |
| | 11:00 am | East worship (*coffee after church*) |
| | **After church** | ***EAST decorates church for Christmas- all helpers needed!*** |

## UPCOMING EVENTS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Nov. 24 (Tue.):** | 10:00 am | East quilting/sack lunch |
| | **>>>>** | **NEWSLETTER DAY at Office** |
| **Nov. 25 (Wed.):** | ------ | **NO class** for Confirmation-holiday |
| **Nov. 25 (Wed.):** | ------ | OFFICE CLOSED – Thanksgiving |
| **Nov. 27 (Fri.):** | 9:00 am | West WELCA decorates chapel |
| | -------- | Pastor's day off |
| **Nov. 29 (Sun.):** | **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*) |
| **Nov. 30 (Mon.):** | -------- | Pastor vacation day |

**SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 2026** (*Pastor Paul retires 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.

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

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Dec. 1 (Tue.):** | 10:00 am | East quilting/sack lunch |
| | Noon | East Circle 4 meeting |
| **Dec. 2 (Wed.):** | >>> | *Note: West chapel is reserved* |
| | _____ | **NO class** for Conf – pastor vac. |
| **Dec. 3 (Thur.):** | >>> | *Note: West chapel is reserved* |
| **Dec. 4 (Fri.):** | >>> | *Note: West chapel is reserved* |
| **Dec. 5 (Sat.):** | >>> | *Note: West chapel is reserved* |
| | **9AM – 2 PM** | **EAST HOLIDAY PALOOZA, a Vendor & Craft Fair and a Lunch** |
| | | ***Everyone is invited to attend!*** |
| **Dec. 6 (Sun.):** | >>> | *Note: West chapel is reserved* |
| | 9:00 am | East worship, Communion… then |
| | | After church -East Women's meeting |
| | 10:00 am | JAM at West – NO coffee at West |
| | 11:00 am | West worship, Communion |
| | 5:00 pm | ADVENT by CANDLELIGHT at West St. Olaf – meal after worship |
| **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) |
| | 7:00 pm | BOTH: Confirmation at West |

**TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

**EAST Prayers:** Lori Peterson, 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