

The Link



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

December 2019

I love Christmas – the lights, my collection of classical Christmas music, the hymns (both Advent and Christmas!), stars, the crisp air, the constant smell of goodies baking, how everything seems to glisten, wassail, the smell of burning candles on a wreath, the general sense of cheer.... Yeah, I love Christmas.

But I admit, there is one part of Christmas I don't love. As much as I appreciate both giving and receiving thoughtful gifts, I absolutely hate all the *stuff*, and the subsequent garbage, that tends to go with this season. The amount of money people spend on Black Friday and Cyber Monday alone, the frantic search to find some *thing* to get everyone, just for the sake of giving something, and the huge pile of trash that is the result of Christmas morning present-opening. Don't get me wrong – wrapping and opening presents is one of my secret delights, but the pile of waste that results leaves a pit of sadness and even despair in my stomach.

What if this year for Christmas, we tried to avoid accumulating more stuff? One of my sweetest memories of my grandparents was late in their lives when they were trying to get rid of years of accumulated things. Every Christmas gift they gave that year was something they already had and wanted to either share or just get rid of. I remember opening a beautifully wrapped gift that turned out to be a 20-year-old box of pushpins. The best part of the gift was seeing my classy, thoughtful grandparents snickering together about how clever they were. (They also gave us many beautiful things that year!) I heard of one woman who, for her 70th birthday party, wrapped up something of hers for every guest. Each person got to choose something from the pile, and hilarity ensued as they discovered each item. By the end, everyone had traded for something they actually wanted, and the birthday girl was happy to know her excess had gone to good homes.

Here are some ideas of gifts you can give or ask for that will avoid adding to the mountain of stuff that already distracts us from our lives with God.

- An experience, such as a massage, a spa day, or tickets to a game or concert.
- Something helpful, such as a housecleaning or a day's worth of chores.
- Something immediately consumable, such as food (even something healthy!), a gift card to a restaurant, candles, or soap.
- A donation in someone's honor to help someone else. ELCA Good Gifts allows you to buy an animal for a village in need that will provide them with milk, eggs, or wool to sell or consume, as well as training to care for the animal. Or, you can buy school tuition for girls, or school uniforms, or support for refugees, or a well... there are many options – check it out!

<http://www.elca.org/Our-Faith-In-Action/Responding-to-the-World/ELCA-World-Hunger/Donate-Now/ELCA-Good-Gifts.aspx>

The gift of giving need not go hand-in-hand with the burden of accumulation. This Advent and Christmas season, my prayer for you is that you will fully experience the free and boundless joy of Christ, unburdened by the many distractions in the world. Come, let us adore him!

In Christ,
Pastor Johanna

SERVICE ATTENDANCE

“WE COUNT BECAUSE YOU COUNT”

	<u>9:30</u>	<u>Nursery</u>	<u>Total</u>
Oct 6th	107	7	114
13 th	63	0	63
20 th	101	8	109
27 th	92	6	98

Average Sunday attendance through
October 2019 – 95

Average Sunday attendance through
October 2018 – 107

Average Sunday attendance through
October 2017 – 114

Correction to information published in the November Link:

Average Sunday attendance through
September 2019 – 96 (not 82)

PASTORAL ACTS

Funeral

November 23rd ~ Joan Scardino

St. Paul's Vision

*To spread the Word, build a strong
community, and make the world a better
place.*

Our Mission Statement

*St. Paul's is a welcoming Christian family.
We are created by God, saved by Jesus
Christ, God's Son, and inspired by the
Holy Spirit.
Through joyous worship and Mission
Commitment, St. Paul's furthers the word
of God's Saving Grace.*

In the December Link

Page 1	From the Pastor
Page 2	Church Statistics Table of Contents
Page 3	Council Summary Notes Church Office News
Page 4	Planning Ahead Confirmation Study Group
Page 5/6	Advent/Christmas at St. Paul's Special Opportunities Liturgy Notes: Advent Wreath Two New Traditions (page 6)
Page 6	Concerts Candlelight Night Perinton Concert Band Concentus Women's Chorus
Page 7	St. Paul's Choral Scholars
Page 8	St. Paul's Women of the ELCA
Page 9/10	Groups/Committees: Dorcas Rachel Altar Guild Fellowship
Page 11	RAIHN
Page 12/13	Community Events RAIHN Shopping “Strike Out” Homelessness Loop “Roc the Day” ESWA – Thank you!

❖ Our December Calendar can be found
online: www.stpaulspittsford.org

amazonsmile

You shop. Amazon gives.

When you shop Amazon this holiday season,
sign yourself into Amazon using the
Smile.Amazon.com address and choose St.
Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (in
Pittsford, NY, of course :-)) as your chosen
charity. Amazon will then donate a portion
of your purchase to us! What a great way to
give back while doing your holiday giving and
any other future shopping needs!

Happy Shopping!!

St. Paul's Lutheran Congregation Council Meeting

Church Council met on November 12, 2019

Synod Check-in: Conference Dean Jonathan Deibler attended this month's council meeting to hear about Pastor Johanna's time as pastor so far at St. Paul's. He also asked for and received feedback about the pastoral search process.

Finance report: Giving and spending remain roughly in line with our 2019 budget. The Finance Committee is developing a 2020 budget using income estimates based on pledges of financial commitment for the coming year.

Staff Reviews: Annual reviews of St. Paul's employees (Church Office Manager, Sexton, Director of Music, LYO Coordinator and Nursery Attendant) will be conducted by council members in the coming months. Mutual Ministry is leading Pastor Johanna's first annual review.

Committees for 2020: Council discussed congregational needs for the coming year: Council will need 2 or 3 new members; St. Paul's will have an ad hoc committee to update our church Constitution, to bring it in line with ELCA guidelines adopted at the most recent conference; and St. Paul's would benefit from an active, ongoing stewardship committee. Council members will be contacting congregation members individually over the next several weeks to explore interest and availability.

The annual **Hanging of the Greens** will take place on Saturday, December 14 beginning at 10:00am. The LYO will be helping out this year. All are welcome to join in.

St. John's will have a rededication ceremony for its wonderful organ (the one they received from Trinity Lutheran) on January 19, 2020.

Council's next meeting will take place on Monday, December 9th, at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by
Jamie Foster, Council President

Notes & News From the Church Office

Articles for the **January issue of the "Link"** must be received by 9:00 a.m. on Monday, December 16th.

Church Office Hours are Monday through Thursday, 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM. As always, please feel free to call the office with any questions, concerns or membership needs. A member of St. Paul's Staff will be in the office to help you during these times.

We are very excited to announce that our new copier is here. With our current lease expiring, the lower monthly cost and higher functionality of this new machine, this is a win, Win, WIN! So grateful for the amazing support of our office staff. Thank you!

Committee leads: Please note that your **annual committee reports** are due by **Thursday, January 9th** for inclusion in the Annual Congregational Report to be presented at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 26th. Thank you for your cooperation. Please let me know if you have any questions at all.

Many blessings and Merry Christmas,
Michelle Josephson
Church Office Admin.



PLANNING AHEAD

Sunday, Dec 1st

First Sunday of Advent
9:30 a.m. Holy Communion
Hanging of the Banners after worship

Tuesday, December 3rd

Candle-light Night in Pittsford Village
Event at St. Paul's, 5-8pm

Friday, December 8th

Creche Blessing

Monday, December 9th

Congregation Council Mtg at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 10th

Race, Ethnicity and Culture Study Group #5
(final)

Thursday, December 12th

Dorcas Rachel Luncheon at 11:30 a.m.
Bocaccini's Italian Bistro

Saturday, December 14th

Hanging of the Greens at 10 a.m.
Potluck lunch to follow

Sunday, December 15th

9:30 a.m. Advent Lessons & Carols

Sunday, December 22nd

Fourth Sunday of Advent
9:30 a.m. Holy Communion
Christmas Pageant after worship

Tuesday, December 24th

Christmas Eve
5:15 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.
Holy Communion
Dinner between services

Wednesday, December 25th

(No Christmas Day Service)
Merry Christmas! (Church office closed)

Sunday, December 29th

9:30 a.m. Christmas Lessons & Carols
(*hymn singing!*)

January 2019

Sunday, January 26th
after 9:30 a.m. Service
Annual Congregational Meeting

A very special thank you to our 2019 Advent Devotional Contributors!

Dorothy Borglum	Linda Jackson
Aaron Casper	Shari MacFarlane
Elizabeth Conderman	Ann Menendez
Emilia Foster	Laura Patchen
Jamie Foster	Grace Rehbaum
Noah Foster	Derek Gonzalez
Holley Haynes	Pr. Johanna Rehbaum
Jordan Jackson	Pr. James Sheldon



Confirmation class meets 1st and 3rd Mondays from 6-7:30pm. This year we are studying the Bible. Our goal this year is to help these young people – and their parents – grow in their understanding of the Bible, and see the ways God works in their lives, as well as give them tools for their personal prayer life that they can share with their families. Please keep these young people and their families in your prayers as we embark on our year together.

December 2	FAITH5 and questions (with parents)
December 16	The Story of Jesus (including Christmas story) (with parents)

Race, Ethnicity and Culture: Final Gathering Dec 10, 7pm

We have had some wonderful conversations around race, ethnicity and culture over the course of the fall. Our final conversation on this social statement will be December 10. Even if you haven't been to any others, you are welcome to attend this one. We hope to begin conversations on a new topic in the spring, so stay tuned.



Special Seasonal Worship Opportunities

Advent Lessons and Carols, Dec. 15, 9:30 p.m.

Using some of the traditional readings, as well as some contemporary meditations, we will reflect on this season of waiting and watching for Christ. Readings will be interspersed with a mix of hymns and anthems.

Christmas Eve Services, Dec. 24 at 5:15 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! We will offer our usual two services to celebrate Christ's birth. The earlier service will include a longer prelude with many of our children and youth sharing their musical gifts, as well as a children's sermon. Come at 4:45 to get a good seat and hear the music. Our 10:30 service will feature our adult choir, and both services will be replete with instruments, your favorite Christmas hymns, Holy Communion, candle-lighting, and plenty of joy!

Christmas Lessons and Carols, Dec. 29, 9:30 a.m.

Didn't get to sing your favorite on Christmas Eve? Come back the next Sunday for a Christmas lessons and carols. In this Service of the Word, we will use the traditional lessons with hymns sung after each reading.

Liturgy Notes: Advent Wreath



One of the staples of the Advent season is the Advent wreath. *But where does it come from, what does it mean, and what is its purpose?*

The Advent wreath has its roots in the pre-Christian practices of northern Europe. People sought the return of the sun in the dark time of the year (at the winter solstice) by lighting candles and fires. As early as the Middle Ages, Christians used fire and light to represent Christ's coming into the world. Using this same symbolism, the Advent wreath developed a few centuries ago in Germany as a sign of the waiting and hopeful expectation of the return in glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. The wreath, a circle, came to represent the eternal victory over death through Jesus Christ. The evergreens were a sign of the faithfulness of God to God's people, even in death, and the lighted candles were a reminder of the light of Christ brought into the world.

In addition to the Advent wreath being used in worship, it is also appropriate for daily use in home devotions. The making of the wreath can be a family activity, using materials gathered from the yard or garden (see Day 2 of our Advent devotional for directions!). Lighting the candles each night as a family, and subsequently watching them burn lower and lower as we approach Christ's birth, is a powerful reminder in our homes of the waiting and anticipation we have at the coming of Christ.

(Taken from ELCA webpage:
<http://www.elca.org/Growing-In-Faith/Worship/Learning-Center/FAQs/Advent-Wreath.aspx>)

Two New Advent & Christmas Traditions

Creche Blessing

Dec. 8, during coffee hour

Bring your creche/nativity set from home on the 2nd Sunday of Advent and set it up in the foyer. Bring a note saying who brought it and where it came from, and if you wish, explaining its significance for you or your family. During coffee hour, we'll say a prayer over these home devotional tools, that they would remind us all of the place we prepare for the coming Christchild.

Bonus: Retired Pastor Jim Sheldon, St. Paul's member, has a few nativity sets he plans to bring and give away! Maybe you could be a lucky recipient!



Christmas Eve Dinner

Are you an "orphan" with no family in town this Christmas? Are you too rushed to make dinner and also get to church? Why not enjoy a special meal with your church family?

This year we will be hosting a potluck dinner following the 5:15 service, about 7pm. This will be SIMPLE. Bring something to share; you are responsible for preparing and setting it up, so think crock pots, easy to heat, etc. If you have family/friends in town, or you know another "orphan" with no place to go, they are welcome, too! Please sign up in foyer, so we can set up accordingly.

MUSIC FOR THE SEASON!

**Candlelight Night 2019
at St. Paul's**

Tuesday, December 3rd, 5:00-8:00pm

Come enjoy some festive holiday cheer as part of the 48th annual Pittsford Candlelight Night!

Scott Conderman, Holley Haynes, Addie Canning, and friends will be playing jazz on the porch; in the foyer, Minister of Music Caroline Robinson will lead singers in fun arrangements of Christmas music (and there will be a chance for sing-along!), and there will be crafts for kids.

Hot cider and cookies will be waiting for you when you come in from the cold.

See you there!

The Perinton Concert Band will present
Yuletide Celebration on

Friday, December 13, 2019 at 7:30 PM
in the Minerva DeLand School Auditorium, 140
Hulburt Rd., Fairport.

**The performance will also include a visit from
Santa.**

The concert is **free** and is sponsored by the Town
of Perinton Recreation and Parks.

For more information, contact 585-490-4751, or
find us online at

<http://www.perintonconcertband.org/> or on
Facebook at: Perinton Concert Band.

**Concentus Women's Chorus on WXXI
Backstage Pass
Dec. 18, 1-2pm**

Hear Concentus Women's Chorus perform live on the radio (91.5). This choir includes two of our choir members (Sarah Casper and Melissa Netzband) and Pastor Johanna. The performance will include some sneak peaks for the concert they will be performing at St. Paul's on January 12. Tune in, and you might even hear some familiar voices sing solos!

In December of 2018, following approval from the Worship and Music Committee and Council, St. Paul's welcomed three choral scholars into the adult choir. These three young adults assumed leadership roles within their respective sections of soprano, tenor, and bass. The choral scholars provide support to the members of the choir by singing on the anthems, providing insight on vocal technique and strategies for learning respective parts, and occasionally offering solos. The choral scholars enrich regular Sunday services as well as services during special occasions such as Pastor Johanna's installation, Holy Week and Easter, and Christmas. Joshua Bassette and Kira Kaplan joined us in December of 2018, and David Falterman took the tenor scholar position in August of 2019. Their contributions far exceed musical enhancement. They are kind, considerate, responsible, and flexible, and we greatly value their presence with us in the choir.

Josh Bassette is a Rochester native, born and raised in Honeoye Falls, NY. He has been singing for most of his life, eventually earning a Bachelor's of Music in Music Education from Grove City College. Josh is musically active in the Rochester area, performing with groups such as Música Spei, the Eastman Rochester Chorus, and The Christ Church Schola Cantorum. You may also hear Josh on the radio at WXXI where he works part-time as a classical music host, and when he isn't doing something musical he works for St. John Fisher College in their Residential Life Department.

A Texas native, **David Falterman** is a PhD candidate in music theory at the Eastman School of Music. His research interests include formal hybridization practices in nineteenth-century music and narrative remoteness in the music of Paul Simon. David has been serving the liturgy through music almost continuously in churches since co-founding the youth choir at his home church as a middle schooler.

Kira Kaplan, originally from Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania is currently completing her Doctorate of Musical Arts at Eastman School of Music. A soprano, she has sung several opera roles during her time at Eastman in their productions of Ravel's *L'enfant et les sortilèges* and Mozart's *The Impresario*. Though singing is now her primary focus, she played flute for 11 years prior and started voice as a senior in high school. This past summer, she spent two months in northern Italy with an opera program and is now fluent in Italian. Besides singing, she enjoys teaching voice lessons, reading whenever she can, watching cartoons and baking obsessively after watching *Great British Bake Off*.



St. Paul's Women of the ELCA

2019 Advent Gathering
Christmas Cookie Exchange
and
Potluck Luncheon
Saturday, December 7th, 2019

Where: Our Saviour Lutheran Church
Time: 10:00 am Registration / \$3.00
Program: 10:30 am, "The Bright Star"
Presenter: Shari MacFarlane

Bring:

- Covered dish to pass
- Christmas cookies to exchange
- Donation Collection: Women's hygiene and sundries

To: Women & Children Residential Home
(Open Door Mission)
Coldwater Raod, Gates, NY

RSVP: Ann Seppa (585) 889-4413
By Sunday, December 1st.

Check out our website,
www.cwurochester.org for more information
on the projects above or if your interested in
more information on our group.

Dorcas Rachel Circle May Book Review

"Before We Were Yours"

By: Lisa Wingate

We are happy to announce that Sandy
Link will be facilitating
our book discussion at our May
meeting!

2019 Notre Dame Convention Ingathering Report

St. Paul's Ingathering of "September Socks" collected **161 pieces** of socks for the Notre Dame Convention in October. Congratulations and Thank you!

Over 700 pairs of socks were donated and distributed to:

1. Open Door Mission
2. Saint's Place
3. Bethany House

Women from across New York State greatly enjoyed the convention in October. We encourage all women to attend the next convention in the Fall of 2021.

2020 Upcoming Events:

- Spring Communion Brunch
- Joint Conference Retreat
- Advent Gathering



The **Dorcas Rachel Circle** invites all to bring in hats, mittens, gloves, and scarves to hang on our "**Maggie's Kids**" **Christmas Tree**. Please bring them in before Christmas. All items will be distributed to Community Lutheran Ministry (aka Maggie Harris/Maggie's Kids).

Dorcas Rachel Circle *Christmas Luncheon*

Date: Thurs., December 12th, 2019

Place: Bocaccinis Italian Bistro
6720 Pittsford Palmyra Rd.
Fairport
(Perinton Square Mall)

Time: 11:30 am Exchange
Secret Pal Gift (\$10)-or-
Grab Bag Gift (\$10)
Christmas Cards exchange

Prayers: Shari MacFarlane

Hostesses: Shari MacFarlane
June Buskey

*Order off the menu.
Responsible for own tip.*

**Please notify Laura Patchen or
Audrey Meyers to place a
reservation by
Sunday, December 8th.**

No Paper Goods for Pittsford Food
Cupboard. A special offering will be
taken for perishable foods to be
purchased by the PFC.

Upcoming Dates:

January 9, 2020

Dorcas Room at 9:45 am

Program: Senior Care Authority
Senior Care Advisor, Mike Kearney

Any questions, please contact Leisa North



News from the Altar Guild

Great things are always happening on the Altar Guild committee! This committee keeps our Sunday Services running smoothly. Thank you to all our present committee members and Lay Ministry volunteers. We couldn't do it without you!

With that being said, we are always looking for more volunteers. Many hands make light work. Time and Talent sheets are still being accepted. ☺

Thank you to the Dorcas Rachael ladies for their donation of new purificators for the altar.

A donation was also made for the purchase of baptismal handkerchiefs to be given to those baptized at St Paul's.

The first two weeks in December we will be making deliveries to our home bounds and spreading some cheer. If anyone is interested in helping us out in making a visit and dropping off some mini poinsettias, please contact Leisa North.

In January, we hope to be offering some short refresher classes for current and new volunteers for each of our Altar Guild areas. Maybe you've thought about volunteering in a Lay Ministry area but aren't sure. Come to our January meeting to hear more, get your questions answered, and maybe shadow a current volunteer to see what it's all about.

There will be sign up sheets in the Fellowship Hall for those who can attend. Please consider helping us to make 2020 a great year!

Respectfully submitted by:

Leisa North and Mara Berndt

Poinsettias



If you love flowers and love arranging please join us before Christmas to make our Sanctuary ready for Christmas Eve.

No talent necessary - The spirit of Christmas and the love of our Almighty is all that is needed.

Please contact
Leisa North at leisanorth@gmail.com
or Mara Berndt at mberndt49@gmail.com
By December 15th, 2019
if interested in helping out with the poinsettias.



**A Big
"Thank You"**
Goes out to:

Clara Firth, Jim Berndt,
Barb Serve and all of the congregational members who donated candy this year, especially Park Road School – Thank you!!

We were able to fill 2 big boxes of candy gift bags that were delivered to the Pittsford Food Cupboard for them to share with the families over the Holidays.

This is something St Paul's has been doing for many years now and the Pittsford Food Cupboard looks forward to these little goodies every year. They say each bag puts a smile on their clients' faces and makes them feel special that they are being thought of over the holiday seasons. Thank you St Paul's for making someone's day a little brighter!

Till next year! Keep warm and many blessing being sent your way! – Mara



We make fun things happen!

The committee had its first meeting on Wednesday, November 20th and what an enthusiastic and fun group!

We looked over the suggestion forms that were turned in after the Ministry Faire event and plan to get some of those "Would like to have at St Paul's" on the calendar for 2020. We will be discussing and working out details at our next meeting, Saturday, January 4th at 10am.

We are very excited to present:

Christmas Eve Pot Luck Dinner to happen on December 24th in between services. More details to come in the upcoming December Bulletins and emails.

On January 5th at Moments for Mission the idea of "**Fellowship Friends**" will be presented to the Congregation. So make sure your there so you don't miss out hearing all about it!

Fun things are happening at St Paul's!

If you have any questions or want to learn more about the Fellowship committee, please feel free to contact Mara Berndt at mberndt49@gmail.com



RAIHN DROPS

RAIHN (the Rochester Area Interfaith Hospitality Network) is a not-for-profit organization that provides temporary shelter, meals & case management to help homeless families find housing & employment or education. The goal is to keep families together until they can find safe, sustainable permanent housing. Families also receive follow-up services for a year after housing is found.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Our next RAIHN rotation will be the week of **January 5th, 2020**. St. Paul's is committed as a RAIHN support congregation to volunteering **Friday, January 10th beginning at 5 pm through Saturday, January 11th at 10 am**. Sign up sheets for dinner cooks and servers, evening and breakfast hospitality, and overnight volunteers are in the Foyer. Please join in the fun in the New Year and join us!!

VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Not sure what RAIHN is? St. Paul's will host a Volunteer Orientation for new RAIHN volunteers on **Tuesday, February 11 at 6:30 pm**. If you'd like to learn more about the organization, the families they serve, and the role of the volunteer, please RSVP to coordinator@raihn.org.

DAY CENTER NEED

As families move into their new homes, there is a need for refrigerators, stoves and mattresses (queen, double, or twin). Please email daycenter@raihn.org if you are able to provide new or used donations of these items.

ADOPT-A-FAMILY

There are lots of ways to help the families of RAIHN this holiday season!

- 1) If you are interested in participating in RAIHN's Adopt-A-Family program, please contact Erica at coordinator@raihn.org. Sponsors are matched with a family of a specific size and asked to shop for each family member based on the family needs and wish lists that will provide the age, gender and clothing sizes of each family member.
- 2) Join a group of St. Paul's women in adopting a large RAIHN family! We will be shopping **Saturday, December 7th at 12 pm** at Target in Victor, and wrapping on **Friday, December 13th at 6 pm** at 50 Aldwick Rise, Fairport while celebrating with some holiday cheer. Please let Jen know at jennifer.canning@urgrad.rochester.edu if you would like to participate in either of these activities, or if you would like to contribute to the purchase of gift items with a monetary donation.
- 3) RAIHN is also accepting monetary contributions for their operating budget, gift cards for families (Walmart, Tops, Aldi, Price Rite, Sav-A-Lot, gas stations), or donations of bus tickets, new winter pajamas or cleaning supplies at this time.

SAVE THE DATE

Join us for a unique shopping experience and raise money for RAIHN

DECEMBER 17, 2019
5pm-7pm

A HORSE WITH WINGS
775 University Avenue
@Merriman Street
~ Refreshments served ~

Customers simply mention RAIHN at time of purchase to have 25% of their sale donated to RAIHN.

HOLIDAY SHOPPING,
BIRTHDAY GIFTS, HOME
DECORATING
You will find it all here!

If you can't make the shopping event on December 17th but visit the store sometime between 12/18 and 12/31, mention RAIHN at checkout and they will donate 25% of sales during that 2 week time.

Store hours:
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Saturday 11AM-6PM
Thursday, Friday 11AM-8PM
Sunday 12-5



"STRIKE" OUT
HOMELESSNESS!
SAVE THE DATE
2nd Annual Bowl-a-thon
Sunday, February 16, 2020

BOWL-A-ROLL LANES
1560 JEFFERSON ROAD
Get out of the cold and
have some fun!!

Join us to support RAIHN
RAFFLES, BALLOON POP,
PIZZA, PRIZES AND
MORE!!!!



**Please Roc the Day in support of
The Loop Ministries Urban
Food Pantry!**

*It is once again time to make a real
difference in the Rochester community by
feeding the many hungry people in our
city during the cold winter months!*

On Tuesday, **December 3**, the whole
Rochester community will come
together to "ROC the Day"

HOW?

Just go to:

<https://roctheday.org/LoopMinistriesInc>
and donate to the
Loop Urban Food Pantry

Tuesday, December 3
Join this 24 hours of unprecedented
community giving!
Together we can change the face of
poverty in Rochester!

**Eastern Service
Workers Association**

Clothing Drive



Thank you to the many of you who brought
in clothing for the Annual October Clothing
Drive and to all who supported ESWA's
Thanksgiving basket collection!

**You overflowed the collection closet and
blessed so many families this winter
season! Thank you so much for your
amazing generosity and support!**



*Everlasting God, you never promised that
life would be easy. But in the birth of
Jesus, you promise that we will never be
alone. This Christmas and beyond, help us
to live joyfully in response to this truth, so
that the whole world may know joy in the
coming of Jesus Christ.*

Prayer Source:

A Christmas prayer: The coming of Christ, 12.25.2018 from
<https://www.womenoftheelca.org/blog/daily-grace/a-christmas-prayer-the-coming-of-christ> (This message is an
excerpt from the devotionals "Joy to the World" in the
December 2017 issue of [Gather](#) magazine. Today is
Christmas Day and the Nativity of our Lord II (Luke 2:[1-7]
8-20) and III (John 1:1-14).)

**Please remember to submit your January
2020 Link articles to the church office by
Monday, December 16th.**

Email articles to:

michelle@stpaulspittsford.org.

*Submissions in MS Word allow for the
most efficient compilation of aritlces.*

**Thank you so much.
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to
you and yours!**
