



Thanksgiving

This time of year is always a busy time at St Paul. Sunday School is up and going, confirmation class is under way, Bible Study is well on its way, prepping for the Mini Dinner has started, thoughts about stewardship campaign, pledge cards, Pie Fest, and a myriad of other activities are up and running. There are shut-ins to visit, hospital visits to be made, quilts to be tied, tables to be set up, festivals to celebrate, people to be remembered and prayed for. The life of the church is never dull. There is always work to be done in the name of the Lord.

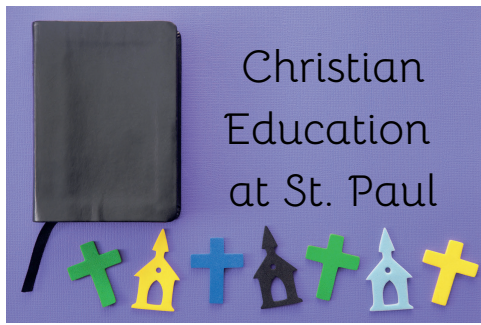
I pray that during this often busy time, that you each have time to enjoy the crispness in the air, the fresh breeze, time with family and friends and time to worship together giving thanks to God for all the good gifts that you have received in your life. It is good and proper for us to give Thanks to the God who constantly forgives us, claims us, saves us from ourselves and our sinfulness.

Give Thanks to the God who created, sustains, and cares for you, loves you, and continues to walk with you through all the ups and downs of this life. Give Thanks to God for God's faithfulness when we aren't nearly as faithful as we would like to be or should be. Give Thanks to God for all the good gifts that you have received and the knowledge that no matter what God is walking with you and never gives up on you. Give Thanks for the gift of a loving, caring, ever present God.

Give Thanks dear ones. I give Thanks for each and every one of you.

In peace,

Pastor Lisa



Exodus Bible Study Continues

You are always welcome to jump in on any Bible Study! We would love to have you join us! Pastor is leading a Bible Study on Exodus twice a week, Monday nights at 6:00 PM and Wednesday afternoons at 2:00 PM! We always learn something and we definitely always spend a lot of time laughing! Who knew Bible Study could be so much fun?! Join us!

Confirmation Classes Continue

Confirmation Class will meet November 2nd and November 9th. The students will finish their studies of the Ten Commandments during November. We will have the month of December off from class and resume on January 11th to study about the sacrament of Holy Baptism. Please continue to pray for the students and their families as they live out their baptismal promises.

Women's Circle Dates

Quilters: November 3rd and 17th

JoAnna: November 6th

Esther: November 18th



Women's Thank Offering Service

The Women of St. Paul will be assisting at the worship service on Sunday, November 16th. Please see the bulletin board to sign up for the various ways that you can help serve that morning. Envelopes and a donation basket will be available in the Narthex for a Thank offering on Sundays, November 9, 16, and 23. Each year the funds received from this offering are used to benefit Women's Programs of the ELCA. Please make checks payable to St. Paul Women or place cash in the envelope provided. Thank you to all of the women for helping use their time, talent, and gifts through worship and financial support.

Hanging of the Greens

It's hard to believe that it is that time of year already! Plan on helping with decorating the church building, both upstairs and downstairs on Sunday November 23rd following worship. Lunch will be provided for all volunteers! Many hands make light work and there is always something for everyone to help with. Join us and have a great time prepping for the coming of the Christ child!



Church Staff

- Rev. Lisa Dietrich, Pastor
- Bev Fordham, Administrative Assistant
- Eric Coffey, Custodian
- Kyle Burkholder, Groundskeeper
- Deborah Garmers, Organist
- Michael Helgeson, Celebration and Praise Music Coordinator

Church Council

- Abigail Williams, President
- Michael Helgeson, Vice President
- Linda Lowery, Secretary
- Penny Post-Freeman, Financial Officer
- Karen Rocke, Service Ministries
- Mary Jane Moder, Worship
- Morgan Wertz, Education/Youth
- Brian Sharp, Property



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America



Game Night!

Woot! It's time to get together for some great fun! Pastor has designed a great night for all! Come and be Super together! (that's a little hint!) We will meet in the Bess room on November 12th at 6:00 pm. We will have a quick Souper Supper and then let the Super Powers begin to shine! Trust me you will have a Blast! Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board so that Pastor has enough supplies for everyone to make this night Super fun for ALL!

LGBTQIA+ Support Group

St Paul is starting a support group for those who are interested in coming together for mutual support, learning, and advocacy of the LGBTQIA community. They will begin with a book study on Saturday November 8th at 6pm. If you are interested in being a part of such a group regardless of how you identify or if you are an ally, please contact either AJ Dunn, Kathy Niu or Quincy Johnson for more details.

Pie Fest!

Come to worship on Sunday November 16th for a special worship service, the Women's Thank Offering Service. Make sure you come hungry! Following worship we will prep our bellies for Thanksgiving with our annual Pie Fest! Bring a pie to share and we will feast after worship! This is always a very delicious event!



We thank each and every one of you for your gift of service to our country!

Gerry Bloom, Ryan Burkholder, Jennifer Caraway, Pastor Brian Coffey, Mike Cook, Troy Cunningham, Bob DeCroix, Scott Dietrich, David Heerman Sr., Stuart Johnson, Timothy Johnson, Jerry Kuester, Steve Rocke, Tom Schreiner, Jim Ulrich, Jonathon Voigt, Scott Voigt, and Halston Williams.

Worship Assistants

11/2: Hal Fordham
11/9:
11/16: Women
11/23: AJ Dunn
11/30: Sue Borcharding

Fellowship Treats

11/2: Karen Rocke
11/9: Annette Ferrie
11/16: Pie Fest
11/23: Hanging of the Greens
11/30:

Birthdays and Anniversaries

11/3: Dawn Helgeson
11/5: Aubrey Conrad
11/5: Heather Hill
11/7: Larry Hansen
11/10: Rae'Venn Heerman
11/11: Tom Schreiner
11/15: Jason and Rachel Biller
Anniversary
11/16: Wendy Smith
11/18: Genevieve Bretsch
11/18: Nick Conrad
11/19: Scott Lee
11/21: David Heerman II
11/25: Louie Ulrich
11/29: Scott Smith
11/29: Lisa Snyder

Counters

11/2: Scott Lee and Julia Coffman
11/9: Karen Rocke and Jodi Sharp
11/16: Gerry Bloom and Hal Fordham
11/23: Brian Sharp and Mary Jane Moder
11/30: Mike Coffman and Roger Conrad



Council Highlights

The next confirmation class has started

Karen reported that Trunk or Treat was paid for by Thrivent cards and wanted to encourage people to use their cards for church activities

Brian has been working on replacing the current basketball hoop with a permanent one. The hoop is used a great deal

Kyle installed a wheelchair ramp for the clothing closet and the Bess room

Pledge Sunday November 23rd

Soon you will receive in the mail a letter and pledge card asking that you prayerfully consider the gifts that you are able to share with the church in 2026. These pledge cards are helpful to the finance committee and the council as they prepare a budget for next year. You will be asked to bring your pledge cards with you to worship on November 23rd to place in the offering basket. If you know that you will not be here that Sunday, please drop your card off at the church office or place it in the mail. We are extremely grateful for absolutely every gift, no matter how big or small. Thank you!

Help us out!

Sunday mornings can become very chaotic! We ask that if you have anything that we need to remember please write it down for us and put it in the box outside of our offices. We don't want things to slip past us because we don't remember what was said. Please also remember that Sunday is a day off for the staff and they are here to worship with you. Please try and respect their day off. Thank you!

We Pray For:

Shirley Barber, Rob Hackett, Floyd Rademaker, Andrea Williams, Susie Ney, Jeff Williams, Kendra Tallman, Abby Mundwiler, Shannon Perales, Jim Chamberlain, Terri Montgomery, Joe Ferrie, Nina Marquart, Susan VanMoorlehem, Roger Conrad, Boyd Conrad, Willie Miller and Rachel Jenks.

Our Shut-ins:

Floyd Rademaker, Nina Marquart, Tom Schreiner and Sam Kahl

Prayer Chain Contacts:

Cindy Lee 309.635.9691
Eileen Cunningham
309.685.0720

Article deadlines

Please submit articles for the weekly bulletin no later than 10am Thursday mornings.

Articles for the December newsletter need to be submitted no later than 10am on November 21st.

Notification

Please if you are in the building for any reason, or any length of time contact the office so we know who is in the building.
Thank you!



Sharing Christmas Hope

St. Paul's 54th Annual Mini Dinner

Mark your calendar and plan to attend this year's 54th annual Mini Dinner, Sharing Christmas Hope. Festivities begin on Tuesday, December 2nd at 5:30pm with a social hour including refreshments, general store, basket raffle and fellowship. The evening continues at 6:30pm with a meal, door prizes, entertainment and a carol sing-a-long. The entertainment this year will be provided by the First English Lutheran Church Bell Choir. The First English Lutheran Church Bell Choir has been in existence for over 50 years. All of the members are volunteers, and there are usually 9-12 players. The group plays once a month for regular worship services. The group also played at the 10th Anniversary of the ELCA Festival Eucharist held at the Peoria Civic Center in 1998, the opening worship service for the Central/Southern Illinois Synod Convention in Springfield, the St. Paul Mini Dinner in 2015 and with the Peoria Area Civic Chorale as part of "An American Family Christmas" in 2016. Tickets will be sold after worship on Sundays, November 9th, 16th, and 23rd for a cost of \$15 each. Buy your tickets early since seating is limited. Any questions regarding tickets, see Sally Bloom or call her at (309) 231-7442. Hope you can join us for this festive celebration. This is a great way to start the Advent and Christmas season!

Theme Baskets and General Store

Once again we will be having the gift store for the Mini Dinner. We are asking for your generous donations of baked goods, such as cookies, bars, breads, snack mix, candies, fudge, etc. In addition we need cookies for the cookie platters for the Mini Dinner. Theme baskets will again be raffled off like years past. You may donate a complete basket or individual items to create a basket. The recommended basket value should range between \$35-\$45 and put in the Bess Room kitchen by Sunday, November 23rd. A sample basket and information sheet are in the Gathering Space along with tags to write the contents of the basket, especially if you wrap it in plastic. Should you have any questions please contact Mary Conrad (309) 360-8734 or Cindy Lee (309) 635-9691. Thank you for all your help and generosity for the Mini Dinner.



Sharing Christmas Hope

Mini Dinner Volunteers Needed

Planning for the 54th Annual Mini Dinner is well underway. As you well know, it takes a dedicated "community" to have a successful event. We have a wide variety of ways for you to volunteer your time and talents and to support this huge undertaking. If you are wondering how you can help, here are some of the ways.

- **Bake-** for the general store and cookies for the cookie platters for the dinner.
- **Cook-** a day or two ahead or the day of the Mini Dinner to make the meal for the night of the event.
- **Donate-** a theme basket or individual items to create a basket
- **Serve-** the night of the Mini Dinner. This includes some set up, serving and cleaning up. We are in desperate need of more men to help in this capacity.
(Men are desperately needed for the above jobs)
- **Decorate-** help decorate the Sanctuary and Narthex for "Hanging of the Greens" and decorate the Bischoff and Bess Rooms for the Mini Dinner
- **Work-** to help the night of the event with serving, greeting people who come and help clean up, tear down after it's over.
- **Greet-** to be in the Narthex and the lower level entrance that evening, to greet and direct them to Social Hour 5:30-6:30pm.

Please carefully consider how you can help. This is the Women's Group only fundraiser of the year, so it needs to be successful so we can support the many organizations that we donate to financially, church functions and projects that we offer to the women of our congregation. Thank you for all that you do and continue to do here at St. Paul. We are so thankful for you!

Mini Dinner Donations

St. Paul's Little Pantry is in desperate need of the following items: soup, mac & cheese, spaghettios, rice, instant potatoes, cereal, canned meat, fruit, soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes and hygiene products. Any other products you would like to donate would be appreciated.

We also will be collecting New bras, socks, underwear, and pajamas for the St. Paul Clothing Closet. There will be donation boxes in the Narthex during the month of November and at the Mini Dinner. The last day to donate will be Tuesday, December 3rd. Thank you for your generous donations.