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Worship Sundays at 10am

Sunday School at 11:15am (Aug-May)



Hello
September
2026

Fall is quickly coming!

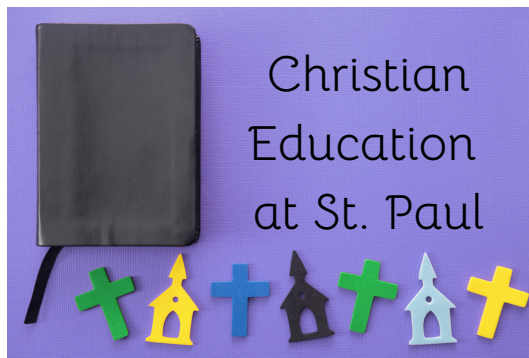
The crisp air, the falling leaves, school has begun and football is coming soon!
Sunday School will begin on September 6th which is our last Sunday of learning about
the 10 commandments.

The following week we begin the sermon series on creation--Judges.
We will hear about the flood and promises that God gives us. Then we move to the call
of Abraham and the last week of September we learn about Joseph in Prison.

There is so much to learn in the Old Testament!

This month also brings OctoberFest on the last Sunday of the month. Please help us to
share our loving, welcoming church with hospitality to the neighborhood and
community. Please plan on helping or attending this fun event!





Sunday School

Sunday School will begin on September 6th!

We have purchased curriculum that will follow our text that is used during Sunday Services to reinforce learning. If you have any questions or would be willing to volunteer to teach please sign up on the bulletin board or contact Morgan Wertz 309-635-0089

Thank you from the youth

Thank you to everyone who came to or supported us with the car wash! We were able to raise \$1400 towards the National Youth Gathering, with \$1,000 of that being a donation toward scholarship toward the Gathering. We are so appreciative of all the support from our St. Paul Family!



Crafting with MJ

Come and join MJ as she leads a fall pumpkin painting project on Saturday September 12th at 10am. Cost for this event is \$15 payable to MJ to cover supplies. This will take place downstairs in the Bess Room. Look for a sample in the gathering space and a sign up sheet on the bulletin board.



Church Staff

- Linda Murray, Interim 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



Women's Circles

JoAnna: Sept. 3rd at 7pm

Esther: Sept. 22nd at 9:30am

Quilters: Sept. 8th and 21st at 10am

The St. Paul Women's General Meeting and Salad Buffet will be held on Thursday, September 17th at 6:00 pm in the Bischoff Room. Devotions will be given by Mary Conrad. Joanna Circle will host and provide breads, butter, beverages, decorations, and napkins. Everyone is asked to please bring a salad to share. Due to the scare of various lettuce, and salad ingredients, please remember that salads can also involve vegetables, fruit, meats, etc. Be creative. Following the salad buffet, we will have a program presented by Mike Coffman, a "laywoman's" informational program on Artificial Intelligence, "AI Demystified" that was AI created just for you. What is AI, and why is this term in the news almost daily? Is it good or is it evil? Is AI just for a computer geeks, or should I be aware of how it could affect my life - my privacy, my health, my finances, my purchases, my country's security? Get ready. AI is here! Afterwards, Mike will help our St. Paul Women interact with an AI to see what we can learn. Following his presentation, we will have a short business meeting. We encourage ALL women to join us for fun, food, fellowship, and learning more about AI in our world today. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board.

Hope to see you there. Thanks, Mary Conrad

The Women's Book Discussion will be held on Tuesday October 20th at 10 am in the Bischoff Room. We will be discussing the book "The Prayer Box" by Lisa Wingate. The book can be purchased at Barnes and Noble, Thrift Books or on Amazon. Please sign up on the bulletin board if you will be attending.

Here is a synopsis of the book:

When Iola Anne Poole, an old-timer on Hatteras Island, passes away in her bed at ninety-one, the struggling young mother in her rental cottage, Tandi Jo Reese, finds herself charged with the task of cleaning out Iola's rambling Victorian house. Running from a messy, dangerous past, Tandi never expects to find more than a temporary hiding place within Iola's walls, but everything changes with the discovery of eighty-one carefully decorated prayer boxes, one for each year, spanning from Iola's youth to her last days. Hidden in the boxes is the story of a lifetime, written on random bits of paper--the hopes and wishes, fears and thoughts of an unassuming but complex woman passing through the seasons of an extraordinary, unsung life filled with journeys of faith, observations on love, and one final lesson that could change everything.

This masterfully woven tale includes: A lush, southern setting. Themes of past mistakes, faith, and redemption. A touch of romance.

We Pray For:

Shirley Barber, Rob Hackett, Susie Ney, Jeff Williams, Jim Chamberlain, Nina Marquart, Elijah Bolden, Tom Schreiner, Alisha (Borcherding) and Bev Fordham

Our Shut-ins:

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 June newsletter need to be submitted no later than **10am on September 23rd.**

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.

Please place any documents that you have for Bev or Pastor in the box outside their doors.

We don't want to get things misplaced when they are just set on the desk.

Thank you!



Council Highlights for August 17, 2026

- A committee meeting was scheduled for planning Octoberfest activities.
- There was a discussion about finding a volunteer Parish nurse to do blood pressure checks and answer questions for church members.
- The roof is leaking and Kreiling will be coming by to check on the situation. A tree fell down behind the dog park. A tree service will be called to take care of the problem.
- Parts have been ordered to replace the air conditioning unit in the clothing closet.

Finance Reports

June: Income = \$12,841.15

Expenses = \$24,609.80

July: Income = \$13,474.35

Expenses = \$44,319.21



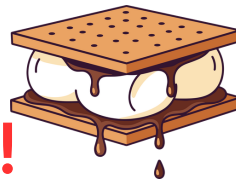
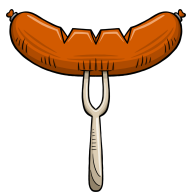
October Fest Open to ALL!



Sunday September 27th

4:00pm- 6:00pm

Come and join us!



1427 W. Lake Ave. Peoria, IL 61614

**Free food, storyteller,
hay rack rides, live music
All activities behind the church
Bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on.**

Worship Assistants

9/6: Larry Hansen

9/13:

9/20: Steve Rocke

9/27:

Fellowship Treats

9/6:

9/13:

9/20: Annette Ferrie

9/27:

Birthdays and Anniversaries

9/1: Beverly Karstensen

9/2: Gerry and Sally Bloom's
Anniversary

9/4: Molly Guy

9/13: Sh'Coria Heerman

9/15 Caiden Crotz

9/16: Nina Marquart

9/16: Abigail Williams

9/18: Miles Heerman

9/19: Marcy Bretsch

9/20: Annabelle Wertz

9/20: Anyx Heerman

9/27: Madison Caraway

9/28: Cindy Lee

Counters

9/6: Mike Coffman and
Roger Conrad

9/13: Kyle Burkholder
and Amber Lowery

9/20: Scott Lee and
Julia Coffman

9/27: Gerry Bloom and
Hal Fordham