St. Paul Lutheran Church

1427 W. Lake Ave. Peoria, IL 61614-5803
Office: 309.682.2931
Fax: 309.682.6352
Email: spluth@stpaulpeoria.org
www.stpaulpeoria.org

Worship Sundays at 10am
Sunday School at 11:15am (Aug-May)

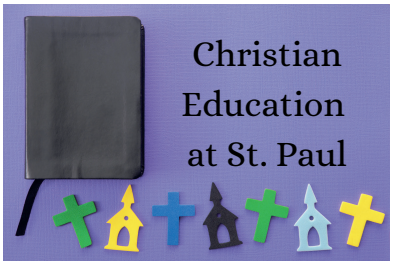


November - what a special month! Our thoughts automatically go to the Thanksgiving holiday. Sometimes, however, we treat gratitude like the closing prayer at the end of a meal. We say thank You, then we move on - but gratitude can be more than a response to something good. It can also change the way we pay attention. When we begin looking for reasons to give thanks, ordinary things become a little less ordinary - the friend who checked in, the meal someone else prepared, the prayer that didn't change your circumstances but somehow helped you keep going. These things were happening before we noticed them. Gratitude simply helps us see them. We don't have to manufacture something wonderful to be thankful. We can learn to recognize the gifts already woven through our day.

With that in mind, let us be aware of the blessings to be found within our church this month - special services recognizing All Saints Day, the Women's Thank Offering Service, and the beginning of Advent; time spent together for the Hanging of the Greens; sharing food during that event, the Pie Fest, and, for the youth, a fun event including a bonfire and games; and fun social time both supporting the beginning of Dawn's 20th year running for St. Jude (kudos and thank you, Dawn), and a morning filled with crafty Christmas card creating.

Thank you, God, for all your gifts both seen and unseen!

(partial credit to Purpose + Grit, LLC)



Sunday School

We have purchased curriculum that follows 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 contact Megan Wertz at 309-435-1819

Dinner, Fire and Fun!

Come join us on Sunday November 8th at 6pm for a fun youth group evening!There will be a bonfire and dinner with some fun, fellowship and games. We hope you can come and join us!

st. paul
youth group

Sharing God's Love With The World
St. Paul Fellowship Together

Pie Fest!

Come to worship on Sunday November 15th 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!

Crafting with MJ

Join us for a head start on your Christmas preparations! On November 14th between 10am-12:30pm (including clean up), we will be creating Christmas cards. I'm planning on 3 cards per person, but if someone wants to make more and time allows, there will be a small fee based on the cost of the cards and envelopes. Please bring any holiday stamps and ink pads or a treat you would like to share with the group. I guarantee fun and festivity for all!



Dawn's St. Jude Fundraiser

Dawn is starting off her fundraising for her 20th year of running for St. Jude with a bracelet making event at Tres Rojas Winery in Washington. Please see the flyer here and on the bulletin board to sign up! Thank you in advance for your support!

Sharing God's Love With The World
St. Paul
Lutheran Church

Church Staff

- Brian Wachendorf, 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
- Sue Borcherding, Vice President
- Linda Lowery, Secretary
- Michael Helgeson, Financial Officer
- Karen Rocke, Service Ministries
- Mary Jane Moder, Worship
- Megan Wertz, Education/Youth
- Brian Sharp, Property

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Church Council Information

- This year's Trunk or Treat had 12 trunks giving out candy to around 100 visitors. Hot dogs and brats lasted until almost the end and it was a perfect weather day.
- The council discussed the upcoming Advent and Christmas season plans.
- The youth group is planning fund raisers to help finance their Youth Gathering next year. Watch for announcements in the near future.
- The deck on the parsonage is nearing completion. They are currently waiting on the a few parts to be delivered. Thanks to Brian Sharp, Michael Helgeson, and Kyle Burkholder for all of their hard work

Call Committee Update

Thank you for all the prayers and kind words! We have received several nominations from the Bishop's office regarding a new pastor. We are working prayerfully and diligently to find the best fit for all of St. Paul. Please continue your prayers for guidance and grace as we continue this process.

Women's Circle Dates

Quilters: TBD
JoAnna: November 5th
Esther: TBD

St. Paul Lutheran Church
Womens Ministry

Women's Thank Offering Service

The Women of St. Paul will be assisting at the worship service on Sunday, November 15th. 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 Thank offering donations the entire month of November. 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 22nd 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! In order to have enough food for everyone we ask that you sign up on the bulletin board. Thank you!

We Pray For:

Rob Hackett, Susie Ney, Jeff Williams, Jim Chamberlain, Nina Marquart, Elijah Bolden, Tom Schreiner, Alisha (Borcherding) and Shari Johnson

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

Notification

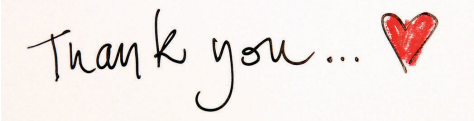
Please if you are in the building for **any reason**, or **any length of time contact** the office so we know who is in the building.

Please place any documents that you have for Bev or Pastor Brian in the box outside their doors. We don't want to get things misplaced when they are just set on the desk.
Thank you!



Undie and Christmas Donation Sunday!

Always one of the most needed items in any Clothes closet is socks, bras, underwear and personal hygiene products. Keeping that in mind, St Paul is planning on having an Undie Sunday on November 22nd! Please bring with you to worship new undergarments and/or socks as part of your offering that day! We also will be having our Christmas giveaway the first Saturday in December and are looking for new or gently used Christmas decorations and children's toys/games that parents can pick out for their children for gifts. We hope to make the clothes basket overflow with items for our clothing closet!



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.

Thank you

Thank you for prayers, cards and hugs after the loss of my husband Steve.
God bless you all. Lisa

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who came out to help with trunk or treat! It was a beautiful day full of trunks, candy and good food! Extra thanks to Karen Rocke and the Johnson's for all their hard work in the kitchen and at the grill! We are blessed to have you at St. Paul!

Thank you and Continue to Pray

By the grace of God, the youngest daughter of Sue Borcherding, Alisha, survived a rare brain condition that caused bleeding and swelling of the brain. Alisha was in a coma for 14 days and spent a total of 73 days in the hospital. She is now home and God has given us a miracle with her healing. Thank you to all of our St. Paul family for your ongoing prayers and support of Sue's family and the prayers for healing of Alisha. They worked! Please continue to pray for her as she continues on her road to recovery. Sue has been and will continue to be with Alisha on her healing journey and will be staying with Alisha in Australia for the months to come. If you would like to reach out to Sue, her phone number/email is in the directory and she also has WhatsApp. Thank you again to everyone and thanks be to God.

Worship Assistants

11/1: Steve Rocke and Larry Hansen
11/8:
11/15: Women
11/22:
11/29:

Fellowship Treats

11/1: Annette Ferrie and Heermans
11/8: Kathy Floria
11/15: Pie Fest
11/22: Hanging of the Greens
11/29:

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
11/19: Zion Barrett
11/21: David Heerman II
11/25: Louie Ulrich
11/29: Scott Smith
11/29: Lisa Snyder

Counters

November 1: Gerry Bloom and Hal Fordham

November 8: Brian Sharp and Mary Jane Moder

November 15: Mike Coffman and Roger Conrad

November 22: Kyle Burkholder and Amber Lowery

November 29: Scott Lee and Julia Coffman



The 55th Annual St. Paul Lutheran Church Women's Mini Dinner "Peace On Earth" December 1, 2026

Mark your calendars and plan to attend this year's 55th annual Mini Dinner, "Peace On Earth". Festivities begin on Tuesday, December 1st at 5:30pm with a social hour including refreshments, basket raffle and fellowship. The evening continues at 6:30pm with a meal, entertainment and a carol sing-a-long. The entertainment this year will be provided by The Tune Tribe. The group consists of 6 ladies who met through Sweet Adeline and have known each other for 40 years. Their singing consists of 4 part barbershop accapella harmony. Tickets will be sold after worship on Sundays, November 8th, 15th, and 22nd. The cost of the tickets are $15 each and are non-refundable. Purchase your tickets early as seating is limited. If you have any questions regarding ticket, 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

Theme baskets will again be raffled off. 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 22nd. A sample basket and information sheets are in the Gathering Space along with tags to write the contents of the basket, especially if it is wrapped in plastic. We will be asking for donations of cookies for the cookie platters and if you are in need of dish cloths we will be selling them during social hour for $2 a piece. 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.



The 55th Annual St. Paul Lutheran Church Women's Mini Dinner "Peace On Earth" December 1, 2026

Mini Dinner Volunteers Needed

Planning for the 55th 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**- 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. To volunteer please contact Shari Johnson (309)472-4221.
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

Donations for this years Mini Dinner will be made to the Children's Home Association of Illinois.
The Children's Home is in need of the following donations at this time:

Personal Hygiene Items for boys and girls including combs/brushes, hair ties, shower gel, deodorant, shampoo & conditioner for all hair types, feminine hygiene products-pads and tampons, all sizes of diapers and wipes.

Cleaning products including dish soap, clorox wipes, multi surface cleaner, sponges, dish cloths, dish towels, dust cloths and laundry detergent.