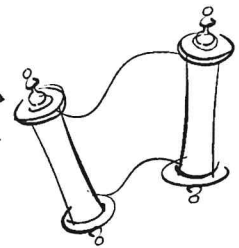


St. Paul Epistle



The Monthly Newsletter of St. Paul Lutheran Church

November 2025

Building Materials

Dear Church Family,

We are on the cusp of an exciting season in our life together. After our Groundbreaking Service on Reformation Sunday, October 26th, we will watch as the Christian Education Center begins to take shape. I hope you will attend the Groundbreaking Service at 9:30 AM on the 26th and all the special services and events that are planned for this joyous and historic day.

Whatever you intend to build, you want the building to endure. This includes a solid foundation so that the structure won't sink or shift. But a good building isn't just determined by its foundation. High quality building materials are needed so that walls do not bow or crack. Insulation is needed so that the structure is energy efficient.

The Scriptures use this same metaphor when describing the Church, not a church building, but *the Church*, the people of God gathered around His Word and holy sacraments. First, the foundation must be Jesus Christ. He is the solid rock in this world of shifting sand. He is the cornerstone on whom we build our faith and life.

The foundation matters. "The Church's One Foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord" as the hymn reminds us (644:1). However, the building materials also matter. Consider the words of the apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 3:

*According to the grace of God given to me,
like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it.
For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.
Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw—
each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it,
because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done.*

1 Corinthians 3:10-13

In the coming months, after the foundation is laid and the concrete building pad poured, the structural steel beams will be set in place. Even more important than using quality building materials are the "building materials" that we utilize to build up our church. Here at St. Paul, we are blessed with a strong and sturdy foundation—177 years of faithfully proclaiming the Word of God and reaching out with the saving Gospel of Christ. But the question always before us must be: *How are we going to build on the foundation of Jesus Christ? What building materials are we going to use? Are we going to use the best and highest quality—gold, silver, and precious stones—the pure and powerful Gospel of Jesus Christ? Or are we going to try to build upon this solid foundation using hay and straw—gimmicks and human ideas and opinions?*

As we celebrate groundbreaking and then witness the Christian Education Center begin to take shape, may it be a reminder for us that our highest priority must be utilizing the highest quality "building materials" in our church and our faith lives. The Lord Jesus and His saving Gospel of Christ crucified and risen for us and for our salvation must be the foundation. God's Word alone is the highest quality building material that will endure every fiery trial that we will experience in this fallen world.

Remain firmly founded on Christ the solid rock. Seek to build your faith and life using the best building material of all—the Word of God. Join with your brothers and sisters in the Divine Service and Bible study so that the Holy Spirit can continue to build us up and make our faith rock solid as the Spirit works through the Word. Tell others about Jesus and invite them to church so that they also can be firmly founded on Christ and with us be built up and fortified in the one true faith. As construction begins on the Christian Education Center, pray that this facility always lives up to its name—truly a center of **Christian** education, that Christ and His Word would be the center and focus of all that is said and done for generations to come.

In Christ's Love to Extend Christ's Love,

Pastor Bauman

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Columbus, Indiana 47201

Phone: 812-376-6504
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St. Paul Early Childhood Ministry

Jen Probst, Director

Anne Wiltsey, Kindergarten Teacher

Michelle Schultz, Alyssa Schultz, and

Glory Wofford, Preschool Teachers

Gayla Alesandro, Sarah Lewis, Laurie Schultz,

Claudia Sims, Caroline Wilcox, Amy Yeley

Teacher Assistants

Sunday Schedule

8 AM Divine Service

9:10 AM Fellowship

9:30 AM Sunday School

9:30 AM Radio Worship Service/91.1 FM

10:45 AM Divine Service

English and Spanish

12:15 PM Spanish Sunday School

7 PM Lutheran Hour/91.1 FM

Prayer Chain

Bonnie England

Phone: 812-447-7895



Musical Notes

It's good to give thanks to the Lord.

It's good to give thanks to the Lord.

It's good to give thanks,

It's good to give thanks,

It's good to give thanks to the Lord.

The words of this children's song really sums up our daily prayer life, for it is both good and right to give thanks to the Lord for all He has given us! The simplicity and repetitive nature of this song make it easy to teach and learn, and the truth contained in the text lives in us throughout our lives. We hear expressions like, "stop and smell the roses" that remind us to pause the perpetual activity in our daily life long enough to enjoy the many blessings God has given us. I enjoy the season of fall due to the cooler weather and brilliantly colored leaves, even though the trees are reminding us that winter is coming. We can rejoice in the moment while still keeping the big picture in focus. The church calendar reminds us that we are moving through Reformation and All Saint's to the end of the church year, only to immediately begin the new church year during the season of Advent.

One of the challenges in planning church music is that we are always working on what is coming up and preparing for the next festival or season. Sometimes we need to be reminded to "stop and smell the roses" each Sunday—to rejoice in the proclamation of God's Word through the church's song in that specific time and place. The musical heritage of the Lutheran Church is amazingly rich, varied, and not static, for the Gospel continues to be proclaimed in new music that builds on the tradition of serving the Word through song. One of the gifts I am especially thankful for is the ability to work in this congregation that actively participates in, understands, and supports church music that finds its' sole purpose in supporting the Word of God. All glory be to God alone!

I give thanks to the Lord for Pastor Bauman, Pastor Fickenscher, Pastor Patterson, the ECM and church staff, our youth and adult vocal and bell choirs, instrumental and vocal soloists, and the congregation of St. Paul Lutheran Church. My sincerest thanks for your time, efforts, and dedication in both supporting me and our on-going mission to proclaim the Gospel in word and song!

Giving thanks for Christ's love as we extend Christ's love,

Dan



Sr. Handbells rehearse on Wednesdays from 6:00-7:00 pm.

Sr. Choir rehearses on Wednesdays from 7:00-8:15 pm.

Jr. Choir rehearses on Sunday mornings from 9:30-9:50 am.

Choristers rehearse on Sundays from 12:15-12:45 pm.

Jr. Handchimes rehearse on Sundays from 12:45-1:15 pm.

Jr. Handbells rehearse on Sundays from 1:15-1:45 pm.

Small Group Handbells rehearse on Mondays from 10:00-11:00 am.

If you are interested in more information or have questions, please contact me at, (mobile) 812-927-9319, or email

kantor@StPaulColumbus.org

Thank you!



Reaching out with Christ's love to serve and grow through early childhood education

The school year is off to a great start and it is already time to begin plans for the next academic year. The educational setting is not only beneficial for the student to learn new things; it helps me better understand how to serve students and families better. Utilizing feedback from parents, teachers, board members, and other staff, I continue to work on reinforcing our ministry strengths and implementing strategies to help student development. After various discussions, I am excited to announce the following additions to our fully comprehensive, half-day Kindergarten program:

- ❖ Extending our educational day to reflect a full 4 hours of learning (8:15 AM to 12:15 PM).
- ❖ Including the STREAM (Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Art, Math) tuition as a part of the full scholarship kindergarten students receive, along with priority registration for this once a week, afternoon enrichment class.
- ❖ Offering kindergarten families complimentary, flexible pick up for their kindergarten student until 2:30 PM and affordable extended care options before school and after 2:30 PM.
- ❖ Commitment to offering low teacher to student ratios for quality instruction (1:10).
- ❖ Maintaining our priority of building a child's education on the foundation of Christ.

As a result of our excitement in offering a high-quality, Christ-centered early childhood education in our preschool and kindergarten classes, we are opening our registration for the 2026-2027 school at the end of November. Existing students and St. Paul congregational members will have the opportunity to register Monday, November 17th. The community will be able to access registration forms on Monday, November 24th. Registration will remain open until all the class spots are filled. This is a big change from our previous practice. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me.

~Blessings,
Jen Probst, ECM Director

NOVEMBER

18 – Lambs Chapel at 8:20 AM
19 – Kindergarten & Doves Chapel at 8:20 AM
24 to 28 – Thanksgiving Break

Church “Merch”

Our church merchandise (“Merch”) orders are coming to a close so we can deliver orders in time for the holiday gifting season. Order forms are due by Sunday, October 26th. Proceeds go toward the Extending Christ's Love Building Campaign. Contact the ECM Board for more details.

				
Shirt - \$15	Tote - \$25	Hat - \$20	Tumbler - \$25	Travel Mug - \$30



Christian Education

Re-Reading Scripture

The explanation to the third commandment states that we have the opportunity to hold God's Word "sacred and gladly hear and learn from it". Similar to an exercise regimen or intentionally consuming healthy meals, our spiritual discipline of reading the Bible needs to be scheduled and prioritized. From this practice, we will be fed with the Bread of Life and strengthened in our faith.

Beyond the length differences between the Old and New Testaments, many find the New Testament easier to read because the majority of the recorded information is in the form of historical accounts and written letters. As many of these Biblical stories are taught when we are younger, it is tempting to skim over the accounts when we are reading them. I urge you to dig deep and take the time to fully read these passages. Ever changing life experiences tend to give us new perspectives on familiar Bible readings. We can also be confident that the gift of God's Word does exactly what God promises, "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes out from My mouth; it shall not return to Me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it" (Isaiah 55:10-11).

Daily November Bible Readings

1	Matthew 20-21	11	John 14-17	21	Acts 13-14
2	Luke 18:15-19:48	12	Matthew 27, Mark 15	22	James 1-5
3	Mark 11, John 12	13	Luke 23, John 18-19	23	Acts 15-16
4	Matthew 22, Mark 12	14	Matthew 28, Mark 16	24	Galatians 1-3
5	Matthew 23, Luke 20-21	15	Luke 24, John 20-21	25	Galatians 4-6
6	Mark 13	16	Acts 1-3	26	Acts 17-18:18
7	Matthew 24	17	Acts 4-6	27	1 Thess 1-5, 2 Thess 1-3
8	Matthew 25	18	Acts 7-8	28	Acts 18:19-19:41
9	Matthew 26, Mark 14	19	Acts 9-10	29	1 Corinthians 1-4
10	Luke 22, John 13	20	Acts 11-12	30	1 Corinthians 5-8

Sunday School Lessons

Nov	<u>First Steps of Faith</u> <i>Infant to 2-year-olds</i>	<u>Early Elementary</u> <i>Preschool to 4th Grade</i>	<u>Upper Elementary</u> <i>5th & 6th Grade</i>	<u>Confirmation</u> <i>7th & 8th Grade</i>
2	Jonah	Joseph is sold	Jesus heals paralytic, etc.	Lord's Prayer 7th Petition
9	Jonah	Joseph in Egypt	Jesus feeds 5000	Lord's Prayer Conclusion
16	Daniel	Joseph becomes a ruler	Jesus walks on water	Baptism First
23	Daniel	Joseph's brothers come	Faith of a Canaanite woman	Baptism Second
30	Advent - Hope	Joseph tests brothers	10 Lepers, Blessing children	Baptism Liturgy

Senior High (9th to 12th Grade): Resilient Minds: Christ-centered Mental Health

Sunday Adult Bible Study – *Nicene Creed* - Fellowship Room (Pastor Bauman)

– *Early Church* - Gathering Space (Deaconess Taylor Brown Fickenscher)

Wednesday Adult Bible Studies

Moms in the Word - Nov. 3rd at 10:00 AM

9:00 AM – Hebrews

Grief Study – Mondays at 2:00 PM

6:00 PM – Isaiah

Youth Ministry

Gifts of Time and Talent:

Acolytes			Music	
8:00 AM	10:45 AM		8:00 AM	10:45 AM
Naomi Lewis	Lane Gilmore	2 nd	Columbus Brass Quintet	
Kylie Price	Caroline Glick	9 th	Sr. Handbells	
Henry Seifer	Zaylie Gonsior	16 th	Sr. Choir	
Daryn Vogel	Haley Hauersperger	23 rd	Jr. Choir	Jr. Handchimes and Jr. Handbells
Jace Vogel - Thanksgiving Eve		26 th	Sr. Handbells	
Sarah Arnholt	William Laws	30 th	Sr. Choir	

Connecting to Others:

KfC <i>Kids for Christ youth group for preschool to 5th Grade</i>	Sunday, November 16th from 12:15 to 1:15 PM (at the Church) We will begin our time together with a meal and a devotion. We will then participate in Autumn fun and festivities. There is no cost for this event. Parents are encouraged to stay and assist children with activities.
C4Life <i>Christ for Life youth group for 6th to 8th Grade</i> Sunday, November 16 – Fun Blast Arcade Join us for a fun afternoon of bowling and laser tag. We will have lunch at church, then carpool down to Seymour. Sunday, November 30 – Gingerbread Dough This activity begins at 12:15 PM with lunch. Youth are encouraged to stay as we make gingerbread dough from scratch. This is the first step in getting ready for gingerbread house making. Sunday, November 30 – Annual Meeting Childcare We need your help. As a service to our congregation, youth are asked to watch children during our annual meeting. Supper begins at 5 PM. Youth can then play games and engage in activities with the little children during the meeting.	SPY <i>St. Paul Youth group for High School students</i> Registration Due: November 2nd <u>March for Life</u> (Washington D.C.) It is time to make travel arrangements for those who are interested in attending the Y4Life conference on January 22-24, 2026. Due to the nature of this planning, it is critical that we know who will be participating by the due date. Cost is \$200 to register for this event. Please contact Jen Probst for additional details. Same Youth Activities listed under C4Life Ongoing Registrations: - Aurora Lock in (Due – December 14th) - Higher Things (Due – January 25, 2026)

Please see DCE Jen Probst for additional details or registration information.

~Friends are always welcome. Parents are invited to help out.~



St. Paul Lutheran Church
& Early Childhood Ministry

News and Notes

Groundbreaking Service and Celebration

Groundbreaking Service and Celebration for the Christian Education Center will be **Reformation Sunday, October 26th**. The schedule for the day is as follows:

- 8 AM Festival Divine Service
- 9:30 AM Groundbreaking Service
- 9:45 AM Extended Fellowship Time
- 10:45 AM Festival Divine Service
- Noon-1:15 PM Lunch and KfC event focusing on Groundbreaking and Reformation Sunday activities



Please note the following regarding Groundbreaking Sunday:

- The Groundbreaking Service is outside on the site of the Christian Education Center and will occur even if it is raining so please dress and prepare accordingly.
- Attendees are invited to bring their own shovel (any size) to turn over dirt.
- Attendees can take a souvenir container of dirt home with them to commemorate the day. The containers will be provided.
- Tri-W is sponsoring an extended fellowship time with many breakfast items.
- Sunday School and Bible classes will not meet on Groundbreaking Sunday.
- Parking—If you are able, please park up the hill by the chapel or Early Childhood Ministry Building or in the grassy area behind the church.
- The KfC event (fifth graders and younger) will focus on the Groundbreaking/Built on the Rock theme. Children (and their parents) should plan to attend this special youth event.
- *Please invite others to celebrate with us on this significant and historic day!*

Loyalty Sunday

Loyalty Sunday is October 19th when we will offer our pledges for 2026 as we respond to the Lord's benefits with thankful and grateful hearts. Prayerfully consider God's blessings in your life and how you can use God's gifts to further His kingdom through our congregation, community, and world. If you will not be in attendance on October 19th, please mail your pledge or drop it off at the church or church office.

Reformation and Groundbreaking Sunday

We will celebrate the Lutheran Reformation on **Sunday, October 26th** with festival services with the theme: *Our Rock, Our Fortress, Our Foundation* based on Psalm 46.

Please see the Extending Christ's Love article above for the schedule and special events for this celebration.

Also, on Reformation Sunday, we will join with other congregations in our circuit to gather a door offering to support the Aurora Circuit Church Workers Scholarship Fund. Since 2018, this scholarship fund has awarded \$73,500 in scholarships to members from Aurora Circuit congregations who are preparing for full-time church work.

Fall Back

Remember to set your clocks back one hour before going to bed on **Saturday, November 1st**.

All Saints Sunday Celebration

In the Divine Services on **November 2nd**, we will give thanks to God that He has made us His saints and we will remember those we know and love who are now with Him forever. Both services will include the commemoration of those who have entered into glory since the last All Saints Day. The Columbus Brass Quintet will be enriching our services with special music.

Orphan Grain Train Work Day

St. Paul serves the OGT by sorting donated items for distribution the first Tuesday of each month. If you are interested in volunteering, please join us on **Tuesday, November 4th** from 9 AM-noon. If you cannot attend, the need for volunteers is ongoing so volunteer anytime during their regular hours Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 10 AM-3 PM. Donations can be dropped off at any time at the trailer located on the east side of the warehouse.

Communion Wafer Making

We are blessed to have faithful volunteers that make Communion wafers. Our next wafer making day is **Wednesday, November 5th** at 10:45 AM in the church kitchen. All are welcome for service and fellowship.

Euchre Night

Your next chance to enjoy a **Euchre Tournament and Family Game Night** will be **Friday, November 7th**, at 6 PM at the church. The free-will offering will support our Military Care Packages that will be mailed out in January or February. We encourage people of all ages to attend this family game night, as euchre is never the only game on hand, and the food and fellowship are pretty amazing. All are welcome!

New Member Recognition

God continues to bless our congregation with many new members. On **Sunday, November 9th**, at the beginning of Sunday School, we will recognize those who have joined our congregation since May. Please plan to attend and welcome those who have joined our family of faith!

Baking for the Building and Silent Auction

Baking for the Building to benefit Extending Christ Love is **Sunday, November 16th**. Please consider baking one or more desserts. Desserts can be dropped off at church on Saturday morning from 8-10 AM or Sunday before first service. Desserts will be available for a freewill donation after either service.

In addition to baked goods, we will also have a Silent Auction which will begin on November 16th and end at 9:30 AM on Sunday, November 30th. We are seeking items for the Silent Auction such as crafts, quilts, themed gift baskets, and whatever creative donations you may have! If you are interested in donating items for the Silent Auction, please contact Phil Burbrink at 812-344-9946.

We are so grateful for your prayers and ongoing financial support for Extending Christ's Love.

ECM Registration

Registration for the 2026-2027 school year is quickly approaching! Church member families and families of current students can begin registering on **Monday, November 17th**. Open registration begins **Monday, November 24th**.

We need your help in promoting our Christ-centered, fully accredited early childhood ministry. When registration begins, please share the informational flyers with family, friends, and neighbors who have preschool and kindergarten-aged children. Director Jen Probst is always willing to provide tours of our school to interested families. Here are some highlights to share about our school to share with others.

- We are one of the few fully accredited early learning centers in the area.
- We have low teacher-to-student ratios in our classrooms.
- We offer financial aid, so finances are not an obstacle for any family to attend.
- And most importantly, we teach the Word of God to every student every day so that their faith may be firmly founded on Christ, the solid rock!

In addition to the above, we are implementing a number of changes to our kindergarten program to better serve our students and their families.

- The kindergarten school day will be lengthened to 12:15 PM to allow more instruction time.

- Flexible pick-up time: Parents can pick up kindergarten students anytime between 12:15-2:30 PM at no additional cost.
- Kindergarten students can participate in the Wednesday afternoon STREAM program.
- Extended care is available before school or from 2:30-4:30 PM for a nominal fee.

Kindergarten and STREAM are available at no cost to enrolled families through Indiana School Choice.

For more information, please contact Director Jen Probst.

Thanksgiving Eve Service

On **Wednesday, November 26th** at 7 PM we will gather to give thanks to the Lord for all His blessings. Before you gather with your family on Thanksgiving Day, please take time to gather with your eternal family of faith to give thanks. Holy Communion will be celebrated. The theme of the service is *The Grateful Leper* based on Luke 17:11-19.

Annual Meeting

We want you at this year's annual meeting on **Sunday, November 30th**! We will review reports from our boards and staff for the past year and approve the mission and ministry budget for 2026 as well as ratify officers. A pitch-in will be held at 5 PM with meat and drinks provided. The meeting begins at 6 PM. The Annual Report will be distributed beginning on November 16th. You are encouraged to review the materials before the meeting. Children are welcome to attend. They can eat with their parents and then childcare will be provided during the meeting. Reports for the Annual Meeting need to be submitted no later than **Monday, November 10th**.

Gingerbread House Donations

Every year we are blessed to have a great turnout for our Christmas Family Fun Night. If you would like to donate items, please sign up on the sheet posted in the gathering space. All items should be brought to church by Sunday, November 30th.

Volunteers Needed to help bake and construct gingerbread houses beginning on **Monday, December 1st**. The gingerbread houses will be assembled on **Wednesday, December 10th**.

Mark your calendars for Christmas Family Fun Night on **Sunday, December 14th**. Christmas caroling to our shut-ins begins at 3 PM. At 5 PM supper is served at church followed by gingerbread house decorating and other family activities.

We are thankful that Katie Arnholt is coordinating this endeavor. If you have any questions or want more information, please contact Katie.

Annual Christmas Concert

The Beecher Singers and Orchestra will return **Sunday, December 21st** at 7 PM to present their tenth Christmas concert at St. Paul. Pre-concert harp recital at 6:40 PM. Please invite your friends and neighbors to attend this inspiring concert.

Mission of the Month

Our November Mission of the Month is the LCMS Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty. The Center provides input, education, advice, advocacy, and resources in the areas of life, marriage and religious liberty and seeks to engage in discussions in Washington, D.C., to establish partnerships and resources in our nation's Capital for the sake of our churches, schools, universities, and seminaries. For more information, please visit lcrfrees.org.

2026 Mission of the Month Submissions

Each month we support a mission of the month, which is highlighted in the monthly newsletter, through a \$1,000 donation. If you would like to recommend an organization to support, please submit it to a member of the Board of Stewardship (Rob Baltus, Carolyn Wilkerson, or Adam Scheidt) by **Sunday, November 2nd**.

Leadership Nominations

If you are interested in serving as a church officer or as a member of one of our church boards or if you would like to recommend someone to serve, please contact Zach Mathews at 812-603-9981 or zachmathews1@gmail.com.

Sunday Lunches

We offer lunches for those participating in afternoon events. If you are interested in serving, please sign-up in the gathering space. Here are the upcoming menus:

October 19th—Fettuccine Alfredo

October 26th—Sloppy Joes/Hot Dogs—KfC Day

November 2nd—Sandwich Bar

November 9th—Spaghetti with Meatballs

November 16th—Chicken Nuggets—KfC Day

November 23rd—Mexican Food

November 30th—Zwanzig Pizza—Gingerbread Dough Making Day

Christian Leadership Discussion Class

Beginning **Sunday, January 4th** and continuing through **Sunday, March 8th**, Zach Mathews will be leading a Christian leadership class using the resource: *Developing the Leader Within You 2.0* by John Maxwell. The course equips participants with the essential principles and practical tools to grow as effective leaders, emphasizing that leadership is developed—not innate. Through ten foundational lessons—including influence, priorities, character, positive change, problem solving, attitude, service, vision, self-discipline, and personal growth—the course provides actionable strategies for inspiring and motivating others in any leadership role. Participants will learn how to leverage the Five Levels of Leadership, cultivate ethical character, serve others, and cast compelling vision, all while engaging in self-assessment and interactive discussions designed to foster integrity, self-discipline, and positive organizational impact. This course is ideal for both new and experienced leaders seeking to enhance their leadership capacity and drive meaningful change within their teams and organizations.

All are invited to participate in the class. However, you must sign up by **Sunday, December 7th** so that materials can be ordered. Please register for the class by contacting Zach in person, by phone, or email (812-603-9981; zachmathews1@gmail.com).

St. Paul Lutheran SGO

Donate to our Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization at St. Paul! A donation to our St. Paul SGO directly benefits our Early Childhood Ministry by helping us fund our mission and ministry! When you donate to our St. Paul SGO, you are eligible to receive 50% of your donation back in the form of an Indiana tax credit!

Did you know that you can use the SGO to strategically plan your church tithing?

Here is an idea:

A couple decides to donate \$10,000 to our St. Paul SGO in December of 2025. They file their 2025 taxes at the beginning of 2026, and they receive \$5,000 back as an Indiana tax credit. They immediately give that \$5,000 back to the church as their general fund tithe for 2026. The result is that a \$10,000 gift turned into \$15,000 for St. Paul in a matter of a few short months!

Let's talk! Please contact Rachel Fohne for more information at financialsecretary@stpaulcolumbus.org or 812-343-3786. You can also visit www.lutheransgo.org for more information!

2025-2026 St. Paul SGO Fundraising Goal \$135,000

Amount Contributed as of September 30th: \$21,914

Our Christian Stewardship

We are grateful for your joyful and generous response to our Lord's blessings through your gifts and offerings. Your faithful stewardship enables us to proclaim the Word so that we can remain firmly founded on Christ, the Rock of our salvation, and proclaim this saving Word to others.

January-September 2025 Financial Report

Offerings Needed:	\$621,387
Offerings Received:	<u>\$615,719</u>
Surplus/(Deficit):	(\$5,668)
Total Income:	\$825,500
Total Expenses:	<u>\$786,931</u>
Surplus/(Deficit):	\$38,569

2026 Pledges: Please remember to bring your 2026 Pledge with you to worship on **Loyalty Sunday, October 19th**. If you cannot attend on October 19th, please mail your pledge or drop it off at the church or church office.

If you have any questions about our church finances, please contact Treasurer Mary Ann Nunn, Financial Secretary Rachel Fohne, or a member of the Board of Stewardship.

Official Acts

Corbin Jaynes and Kenlee Jaynes, children of Toni (Jaynes) Howarth were baptized on October 4th.

Grace Haywood and Madeline Haywood, daughters of Brett and Ashley Haywood, were baptized on October 12th. They were baptized at St. Paul and received into membership at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Oviedo, Florida.

Kailey Smith was confirmed on September 14th.

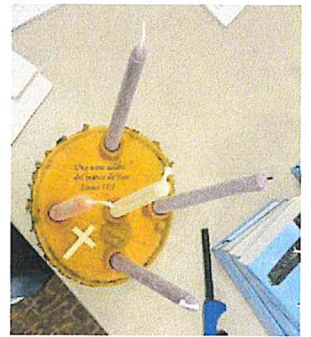
Mick, Liesel, and Grace Murphy were received into membership by transfer on October 12th.

Jacob Howarth and Toni Jaynes were united in marriage on October 11th.

Latino Outreach Report



On Sunday, September 28th, we held a joint Spanish service for the Latino members and friends of Clifty and Trinity, Indianapolis. We first gathered for lunch in the fellowship room along with a Bible study / family activity in which we learned about the season of Advent. Each family or individual assembled an Advent wreath (Big thanks to Dan Schroer and Earl Stam!) and the October-December edition of *La Palabra del Señor* Permanence Para Siempre (The Word of the Lord Endures



Forever), a booklet of daily devotions written by pastors of sister church bodies in Latin America since the discontinuation of the Spanish Portals of Prayer. My prayer is that we all take seriously and grow in our daily home devotions! The verse on the wooden wreath is Isaiah 11:1a, "There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse." After the divine service we headed to the Schroer Ranch to enjoy Harvest Fest with the rest of the crowd. Big thanks to Jeff and Claudette Schroer! We're thrilled that this get together has become an annual tradition.

Mark your calendar for the evening of Saturday, December 20th as we will host the annual Christmas celebration of Las Posadas. Don't miss out!



LWML News

Thanks for your participation and support of the following mission and outreach endeavors:

- Seminary Door Offering on Sunday, September 21st to benefit the Food Co-op at the Fort Wayne Seminary.
- Mite Box Sunday Offering to benefit LWML Missions on LWML Sunday, October 5th.
- Your support for Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch on Honey Sundays.
- Your donations produce, plants, and flowers for Harvest Mission. The final day for Harvest Mission is Sunday, October 26th.

The **LWML Fall Zone Gathering** is **Saturday, October 25th** at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Martinsville. We will be carpooling to the event, and we would love for you to join us. A sign-up sheet is posted in the gathering space.

Euchre and Game Night is **Friday, November 7th** at 6 PM at the church. The free-will offering will support our Military Care Packages that will be mailed out in January or February. We encourage people of all ages to attend this family game night, as euchre is never the only game on hand, and the food and fellowship are pretty amazing. All are welcome!



Looking for leadership opportunities? The LWML is looking for someone to coordinate the **Military Care Packages** outreach. We are planning to send care packages in January or February, not November and December, to save on sanity and shipping costs around Christmas. If you are interested, let Sariina Kalli or Sally Haak know.

The offices of **LWML president and secretary** are up for election in January. If you are interested in taking on a new role in the LWML, please reach out to any member of the current board, or to past presidents Jen Probst or Nora Cleary. You are never leading this mission-based organization alone, and we would love to welcome some new women into these leadership roles.

Looking Ahead to December

Wednesdays, December 3rd, 10th, and 17th 6:45 PM Midweek Advent Services

Sunday, December 14th 8 and 10:45 AM Advent Service of Song

Sunday, December 14th Christmas Family Fun Night; 3-5 PM Christmas Caroling; 5 PM Supper and Family Activities, including Gingerbread House Decorating

Thursday, December 18th Early Childhood Ministry Parent Day

Saturday, December 20th Las Posadas Service and Fiesta

Sunday, December 21st 10:45 AM Children's Christmas Service; Rehearsal is Saturday, December 20th from 9-10:30 AM

Sunday, December 21st 7 PM Christmas Concert; Pre-concert harp recital at 6:40 PM

Christmas Eve—Wednesday, December 24th 5:30 PM Candlelight Service; Christmas Carol Singing begins at 5:10 PM
10 PM Candlelight and Communion Service; Christmas Carol Singing begins at 9:40 PM

Christmas Day—Thursday, December 25th 10 AM Festival Communion Service

Sunday, December 28th 9:30 AM Youth Christmas Party (grades 7-12) in the Education Center

New Year's Eve—Wednesday, December 31st 5:30 PM Divine Service



The Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization

**Directly benefiting St. Paul Early Childhood
Ministry in Columbus, IN**

- 501(c)3 that provides scholarships for children attending Lutheran schools in Indiana
- Donors are eligible for a 50% Indiana tax credit
- Anyone can donate, but you must have state tax liability to receive the credit
- You can eliminate a portion or ALL of your Indiana tax liability
- For more information, contact financialsecretary@stpaulcolumbus.org or visit www.LutheranSGO.org



Variety of Ways to Give

- Cash
- Check
- Stocks, Bonds & Mutual Funds
- IRAs (QCDs) to fulfill RMDs
- Donor Advised funds
- Grain & Livestock

**A FUNDRAISER THAT
GIVES
BACK TO THE
GIVER**

Donor Couple- "We give \$5,000 to St. Paul's SGO every year, and we receive \$2,500 back on our taxes! It is amazing that we can help a child learn about Jesus, while also receiving half of our gift back."

**Here's what those
who have given are
saying**

**I LOVE LEARNING
ABOUT JESUS AT
SCHOOL**



Couple- "We received an inheritance after my father passed away last year. My father valued education throughout his life. My husband and I decided to give a \$25,000 gift to the SGO in memory of my beloved father. This gift holds special significance for us, knowing that we are upholding his educational legacy. Also, as donors, we received \$12,500 back on our Indiana taxes. We also received \$4,000 back as a federal deduction. Our \$25,000 gift only cost us \$8,500."

Retired individual- "Last year, I had a \$6,000 RMD from my IRA. Typically, I just give it directly to the church. However, I gave it to the St. Paul SGO, and I was able to get half of it back into my pocket through the tax credit. When I receive the \$3,000 tax credit, I give that back to the church as well. I have found this to be a strategic way to maximize my giving."

scan to donate





DONATION FORM

Please complete the entire form; missing information may delay the receipt of your Indiana SGO State Tax Certification number.

PLEASE NOTE: Direct gifts to "The Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization of Indiana", not to the school.

Yes! I am donating \$_____ to support scholarships in Indiana.

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Check Enclosed | ☐ Donor Advised Fund Distribution
Name of the DAF: _____ |
| ☐ Credit/Debit Online: www.LutheranSGO.org/Donate | ☐ IRA Distribution:
Name of the IRA: _____ |
| ☐ Credit/Debit Form: Complete the information below | ☐ Gifts of Grain:
Name of the Grain Elevator: _____ |
| ☐ PayPal: www.LutheranSGO.org/Donate | ☐ Appreciated Securities: _____
<small>For instructions to donate appreciated securities, call us at 260-203-4509 or visit www.LutheranSGO.org/Donate</small> |
| ☐ Wire Transfer | |
| ☐ Other: _____ | |
| ☐ I want our gift to be anonymous to the school (only the Department of Revenue will know). | |

Name: _____ Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Phone: _____
Email*: _____ Home Church: _____
Card Number: _____ Exp: ____/____ CVC: _____

** If an email is provided, we will email your SGO tax code letter; if you prefer to receive the letter via U.S. Postal Service, mark this box:* ☐

- ☐ Please designate this gift to the following Indiana Non-Public

Name: St. Paul Early Childhood Ministry City: Columbus, IN

Name: _____ City: _____

Name: _____ City: _____

- ☐ In Memory of: ☐ In Honor of: _____

Please notify this person of my gift: Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Don't have a specific school? To direct your SGO gift to our General Fund for any student in need, mark this box: ☐

*Double your
Support!
We accept
Matching Gifts.*

Submit by mail to:

The Lutheran Scholarship Granting
Organization of Indiana, Inc.
PO Box 5174
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46895

Or email to:

donations@LutheranSGO.org
We will send your unique School State
Tax Credit Certificate Number with your
gift acknowledgement.

Questions?

Contact us:

info@LutheranSGO.org
260-203-4509
www.LutheranSGO.org

The Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization of Indiana, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation approved by the Internal Revenue Service to receive tax-advantaged contributions. Our Tax ID number is 45-4856406. We are also recognized as a "scholarship granting organization" under Indiana Code 20-51-1-7 for "school scholarship programs" certified by the Indiana Department of Education under IC 20-51-1-5. We are authorized to make

Serving at St. Paul

Service	Usher Team	Elders	Greeters
8 AM	Team B	Jim Brock and Brian Arnholt	
10:45 AM	Team E	Eric Scheidt Tim Scheidt	

Day	Acolyte	Flowers	Radio	Fellowship Hour	Lunch
2	8 AM Naomi Lewis	Ann Linke	Tim and Janice Scheidt	Carl and Mary Shaffer	Gonsior Family
	10:45 AM Lane Gilmore				
9	8 AM Kylie Price	Miriam Brougher	Daniel and Mackenzie Wint	Evangelism Board	Wofford Family
	10:45 AM Caroline Glick				
16	8 AM Henry Siefer	Lynn Lutz		Warren and Molly Scheidt	Laws Family
	10:45 AM Zaylie Gonisor				
23	8 AM Daryn Vogel		Colin and Linda Scheidt	Bruce and Natalie Pollert	Latino Families
	10:45 AM Haley Hauersperger				
26 Thanksgiving Eve 7 PM	Jace Vogel	-----	-----	-----	-----
30	8 AM Sarah Arnholt			Colin and Linda Scheidt	Zwanzigz
	10:45 AM William Laws				



Our Sunday Schedule
8 AM Divine Service
 9:10 AM Fellowship
 9:30 AM Sunday School
 9:30 AM Radio Service

10:45 AM Divine Service English & Spanish	12:45 PM Jr. Handchimes (No practice 11/16)
Noon Lunch	
12:15 PM Confirmation (no class 11/30)	1:15 PM Jr. Handbells (No practice 11/16)
12:15 PM Spanish Bible Study	7 PM Lutheran Hour
12:15 PM Choristers (No practice 11/16)	

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 All Saints Day Set Clocks back one hour before bed
2 All Saints Sunday Mite Box Sunday Columbus Brass Quintet	3 10 AM Moms in the Word 10 AM Homeschool Religion Class 10 AM Small Group Handbells 2 PM Small Group Grief Study	4 9 AM-Noon OGT Work Day 12:15 PM Staff Meeting	5 10:45 AM Communion Wafer Making 7:15 PM Elders Meeting 7:30 PM ECM Board Meeting	6 6 PM Tri-W Meeting	7 6 PM Euchre Night	8
9 Sr. Handbells 9:30 AM New Member Recognition 2 PM Stewardship Board	10 December Newsletter and Annual Meeting Reports Deadline 9:30 AM Homeschool Religion Class 10 AM Small Group Handbells 2 PM Small Group Grief Study 6 PM Finance Committee Meeting 7 PM Council Meeting	11 Veterans Day Circuit Pastors Meeting at St. Paul 10:30 AM Divine Service	12	13	14	15 8-10 AM Baking for the Building Dropoff Noon-4PM Church Reserved
16 Sr. Choir Baking for the Building Noon-1:15 PM KFC Event C4Life and SPY to Fun Blast Arcade	17 9:30 AM Homeschool Religion Class 10 AM Small Group Handbells 2 PM Small Group Grief Study 5:30 PM Girl Scouts	18 8:20 AM Lambs Chapel	19 8:20 AM Doves and Kindergarten Chapel	20	21	22
23 Christ the King Sunday Jr. Choir	24 10 AM Small Group Handbells 2 PM Small Group Grief Study	25	26 7 PM Thanksgiving Eve Service Sr. Handbells	27 Thanksgiving Day	28	29
30 First Sunday in Advent Sr. Choir Noon Confirmation Make-up Noon Gingerbread Dough Making 5 PM Pitch-In Supper 6 PM Annual Meeting	2026-2027 ECM Enrollment Monday, November 17th—Enrollment for church members and current ECM families Monday, November 24th—Open enrollment begins Thanksgiving Break; Mackenzie in Office on Tuesday Wednesday Schedule 9 AM Bible Study 10:15 AM Matins 6 PM Bible Study no class 11/26 6 PM Sr. Handbells no rehearsal 11/26 7 PM Sr. Choir no rehearsal 11/26 Radio Service and Lutheran Hour can be found on 91.1 FM Columbus/Madison, 89.1 FM Greensburg, 88.1 FM Versailles/Osgood, and 94.5 FM Salem					