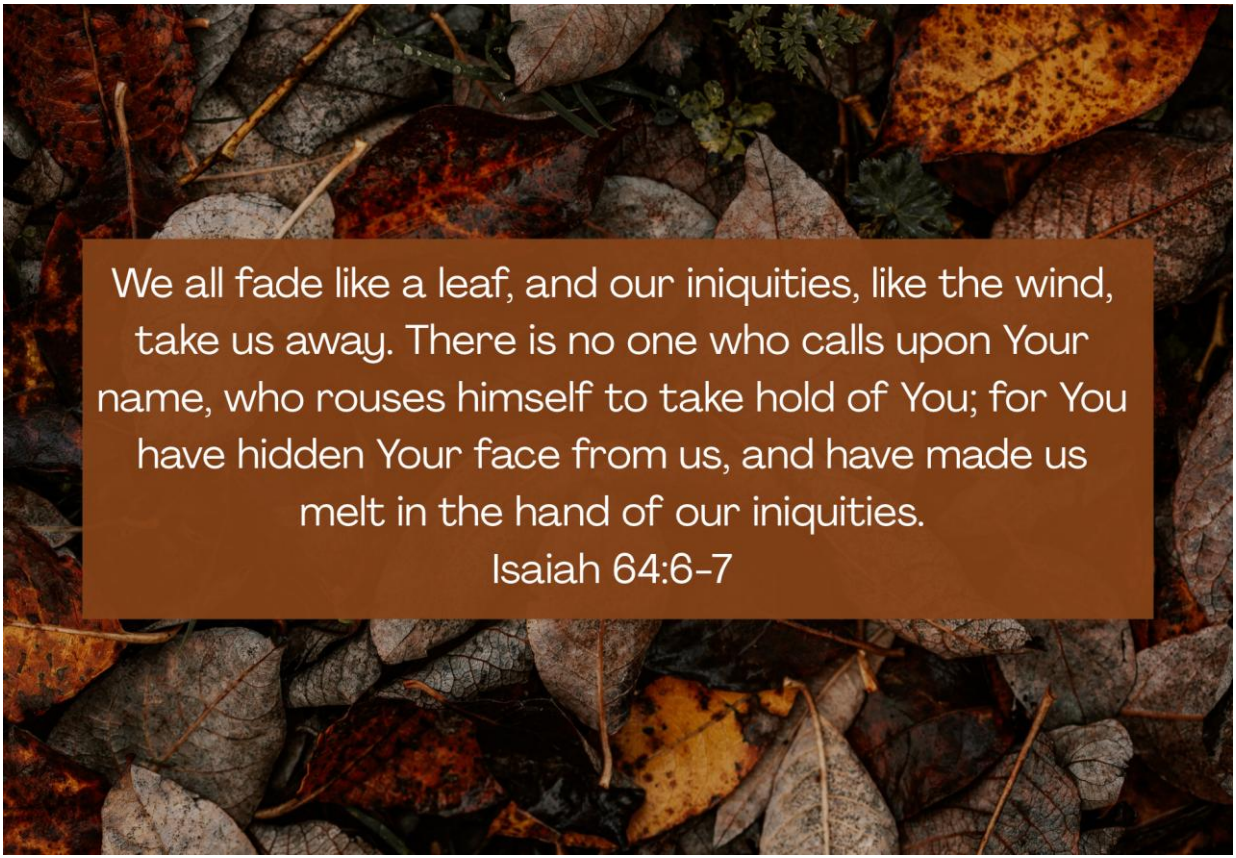

Faded Leaves

First Sunday in Advent

November 29, 2026

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod

Columbus, Indiana

Welcome to St. Paul!

We are glad that you have come to God's house to be fed and strengthened by His holy Word. Guests, we extend a special welcome to you this morning. We are privileged to have you as our guest today and encourage you to worship with us again soon.

The Family Quiet Room and Restroom are located outside the doors of the sanctuary and to the left. In the Family Quiet Room, you can hear and see the service.

Church Busy Bags are available for little ones. The bags are by the coat room in the gathering space.

Assisted hearing devices are available for the service. Please contact an usher.

Do you need prayer support? Please call Bonnie England at **812-447-7895** to activate our **Prayer Chain.** Your fellow church members will pray for you.

Our Communion Practice: We invite and encourage those who have been instructed, confirmed, and confess the faith of this congregation and other congregations of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to receive the Sacrament. Communicants at this altar acknowledge their sins, believe that the body and blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, and desire the Spirit's help to turn from their sins.

Those who are not communing are invited to come forward and receive a blessing by placing their arms across their chest.

If you have questions regarding our Communion teaching and practice, please speak to a pastor.

Communion Preparation: To prepare for the Lord's Supper, you may wish to pray the prayer on the inside cover of the hymnal or review the Christian Questions and Answers on pages 329-330.

Today's Christian Education Opportunities

First Steps of Faith (infants and toddlers with a parent) meets in the conference room
Sunday School classes for preschool-sixth grade
Confirmation Classes for grades 7-8 led by DCE Probst
SPY Youth Class (grades 9-12) led by Pastor Patterson
Lord, Teach Us to Pray Adult Class led by Pastor Bauman meets in the fellowship room

Serving Today

Organist: Kantor Dan Mau
Acolytes: 8 AM Service Faith Fohne
10:45 AM Service Theodore Laws

Church Calendar

Today	**First Sunday of Advent**
	8:00 AM Divine Service
	9:00 AM Radio Service WYGS 91.1 FM
	9:10 AM Fellowship
	9:30 AM Sunday School
	10:45 AM Divine Service—English and Spanish
	Noon Lunch
	Noon Youth Gingerbread Dough Making
	Noon Confirmation Make-Up/Work Ahead
	12:45 PM Jr. Handchimes Rehearsal
	1:15 PM Jr. Handbells Rehearsal
	5:00 PM Pitch-In Supper
	6:00 PM Annual Meeting
	ECL Silent Auction Ends
	7:00 PM Lutheran Hour WYGS 91.1 FM
Monday	9 AM-Noon Gingerbread Dough Baking
	10:00 AM Homeschool Religion Class
	10:00 AM Small Group Handbells
Tuesday	8:30 AM Gingerbread Dough Baking
	9 AM-Noon OGT Work Day
Wednesday	9:00 AM Bible Study
	10:15 AM Matins Service
	6:45 PM Advent Service
	7:45 PM Sr. Choir
Thursday	6:00 PM Tri-W Meeting
Saturday	Church Reserved
Next Sunday	Mite Box Sunday
	8:00 AM Divine Service
	9:00 AM Radio Service WYGS 91.1 FM
	9:10 AM Fellowship
	9:30 AM Sunday School
	10:45 AM Divine Service—English and Spanish
	Noon Lunch
	12:15 PM Icing Making
	12:45 PM Jr. Handchimes Rehearsal
	1:15 PM Jr. Handbells Rehearsal
	1:45 PM SPY and C4Life Christmas Party Education Building
	2-8 PM Church Reserved
	7:00 PM Lutheran Hour WYGS 91.1 FM

IN THE GATHERING SPACE…

+ January-March *Portals of Prayer*
+ December Newsletter; also online at stpaulcolumbus.org

First Sunday in Advent

ADVENT SERMON SERIES… *Crispy Leaves and Mighty Trees* is the theme for our Sunday and Wednesday Advent services. As we look at leaves and trees in the Scriptures, we will prepare our hearts to celebrate the coming of our Savior—His first coming at Christmas and His final coming on the Last Day. Isaiah describes our dire condition: *We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.* But there is hope for us faded leaves: The Lord will come down to save, redeem, and give new life to us dead and decaying leaves.

Prelude *Savior of the Nations, Come,* BWV 657 (Hymn 332)—J. S. Bach

Welcome and Announcements *Please sign the Record of Fellowship*

Ringing of the Bell

Opening Hymn *Sr. Choir sings stanza 3 and 5* **332**

Confession of Sins pages 184-185

Introit Psalm 25:1–3; antiphon: Zechariah 9:9b

P Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation. To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in You I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me. Indeed, none who wait for You shall be put to shame; they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

C ***(all sing—page 186)*** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son…**

Kyrie page 186

The Gloria in Excelsis is omitted during Advent

Salutation and Collect of the Day page 189

P The Lord be with you. C ***(sung)*** **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. C (***sung)*** **Amen.** *please be seated*

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 64:1-9

[Isaiah prays:] Oh that You would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at Your presence—as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make Your name known to Your adversaries, and that the nations might tremble at Your presence! When You did awesome things that we did not look for, You came down, the mountains quaked at Your presence. From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides You, who acts for those who wait for Him. You meet him who joyfully works righteousness, those who remember You in Your ways.

Behold, You were angry, and we sinned; in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved? We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls upon Your name, who rouses himself to take hold of You; for You have hidden Your face from us, and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities.

But now, O LORD, You are our Father; we are the clay, and You are our potter; we are all the work of Your hand. Be not so terribly angry, O LORD, and remember not iniquity forever. Behold, please look, we are all Your people.

P This is the Word of the Lord. C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

[Paul writes:] Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, that in every way you were enriched in Him in all speech and all knowledge—even as the testimony about Christ was

confirmed among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

℗ This is the Word of the Lord. ℂ **Thanks be to God.**

Choir *Creator of the Stars of Night*—A. Mahnke

Creator of the stars of night, Thy people's everlasting Light:
O Christ, Redeemer, save us all And hear Thy servants when they call.

Thou, grieving that the ancient curse Should doom to death a universe,
Hast found the healing, full of grace, To cure and save our ruined race.

At whose dread name, majestic now, All knees must bend, all hearts must bow;
All things celestial Thee shall own, And things terrestrial, Lord alone.

To God the Father and the Son And Holy Spirit, Three in One,
Praise, honor, might, and glory be From age to age eternally. Amen.

Holy Gospel *please stand* Mark 11:1-10

℗ The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 11th chapter. ℂ ***(sung)* Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of His disciples and said to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.'" And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. And some of those standing there said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go. And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and He sat on it. And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest."

℗ This is the Gospel of the Lord. ℂ ***(sung)* Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed page 191

Little Sermon

Hymn of the Day **355**

Sermon *Faded Leaves* Isaiah 64:1-9

Offering **331**

Prayer of the Church *please stand*

Service of the Sacrament pages 194-198

Distribution **350, 339 stanzas 1-3, 334, 335, 342**

Visitors: Please read the Communion statement on the inside front cover of the bulletin.

Closing Liturgy *please stand* pages 199-202

Closing Hymn **339 stanzas 4**

Postlude *Savior of the Nations, Come* (Hymn 332)—J. Pachelbel

Today is the final day to sign up for poinsettias. Please use the insert included in this bulletin.

Annual Meeting Packets are available in the gathering space.
Please pick one up to read and review before this evening's meeting.
The Annual Meeting is tonight at 6 PM with childcare provided.
A pitch-in supper begins at 5 PM (meat and drinks provided). Please bring a dish to share.

The Silent Auction concludes this evening at 6 PM (the beginning of the Annual Meeting).
Proceeds benefit Extending Christ's Love. Thanks to all who donated items.

Our Advent Series "Crispy Leaves and Mighty Trees" continues with our Wednesday, Advent Service at 6:45 PM.
Wednesday's theme is "Palm branches".

Faded Leaves - Isaiah 64:1-9

What is Isaiah's prayer? Have you ever felt like Isaiah, desiring God to help, heal, and deliver you or a loved one?

Isaiah prays that the LORD would come down to set them free from their s_____.

How does God answer Isaiah's prayer? Consider our confession of faith from the Nicene Creed: *Who for us men and for our salvation c_____ d_____ from h_____ and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man.*

Isaiah prays that the Lord would rend the heavens and come down with fire and earthquakes. Did this happen? How were the heavens rolled back at the first Christmas?

When Jesus dies and when the stone is rolled away on Easter, there is an e_____.

Because of Jesus, there has been a change! You are no longer a faded, dry, and decaying leaf. You are a c_____ of the Father. You are c_____ that He molds and shapes in His hands.

Midweek Advent Service Readings—Palm Branches *Psalm 1; Leviticus 23:33-43; Revelation 7:9-17*
Next Sunday's Readings—Withered Grass *Isaiah 40:1–11; 2 Peter 3:8–14; Mark 1:1–8*

LIVING THE SERMON… Isaiah proclaimed the coming of the Lord as the Savior of all. Our calling as those who are new creations in Christ is to proclaim His life and salvation to others. During this advent season, consider those who know who need Jesus and His gifts and invite them to come to worship and the many activities and events during the advent and Christmas seasons.

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH… Without the Lord coming down to save us, we are nothing more than faded leaves that the wind blows away. But God has come down. You are no longer a dead leaf, but a branch connected to Christ the living vine, growing and bearing good fruit. A theme of Advent is repentance. Like Isaiah, confess your sins. Rejoice that God has come down from heaven to forgive and save you, and pray that as the Master Potter, He would continue to mold and shape you as His child.

MEMORY VERSE FOR THE WEEK… *The grass withers, and the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.* Isaiah 40:8

Youth Events



KfC (Kids for Christ—fifth graders and younger)

Christmas Family Fun Night, Sunday, December 13th

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.

C4Life (sixth-eighth grade) and SPY (ninth-twelfth grade)

Today Noon-2 PM—Servant Event: Gingerbread Dough Making

Join us for Zwanzigz pizza followed by making the gingerbread dough for the gingerbread houses that will be used at Christmas Family Fun Night.

This Evening 6-7:30 PM—Servant Event: Childcare at the Annual Meeting

C4Life and SPY youth will enjoy supper with their family and friends from 5-6 PM and then provide childcare during the Annual Meeting.

Next Sunday, December 6th 12:15 PM—Servant Event: Icing Making

All sixth graders and SPY youth are invited to stay for lunch and help us make the icing for the gingerbread houses while the seventh and eighth graders are in confirmation class.

Next Sunday, December 6th 1:45 PM—Youth Christmas Party

After icing making, confirmation, and youth choirs, all SPY and C4Life youth are invited to the Youth Christmas Party in the education building. The gift exchange this year is *Christmas Accessories.* (necklaces, hats, slippers, etc.), with a value of $10 or less.

Sunday, December 13th—Servant Event and Fellowship: Christmas Caroling and Gingerbread House Decorating Contest

Youth and their families are invited to join us at church at 3 PM as we go Christmas caroling to our shut-ins. At 5 PM, we will celebrate together at our Christmas Family Fun Night. Youth will participate in a gingerbread house decorating contest. Prizes will be awarded for the best decorated houses.

Sign up for the App

Stay up to date with the latest events and updates regarding youth activities. Download the Remind app and enter the following: C4Life@4aef23g (grades 6-8) and SPY@ge9993 (grades 9-12).

Friends are always welcome. For more information, speak to DCE Probst or a youth counselor.

Extending Christ's Love

See you at tonight's Annual Meeting! There is much to share ***and*** celebrate at this evening's Annual Meeting. Please join us as we hear updates from the Building and Finance Committees and a presentation about the new federal SGO (Scholarship Granting Organization) that has the potential to greatly impact our mission and ministry.



The **Silent Auction** continues through this evening at 6 PM (the beginning of the Annual Meeting). Stop by the fellowship room and see the wonderful items available. Thanks to everyone who donated items for this year's auction and thanks to all who are supporting Extending Christ's Love by bidding on items.

- **Gayla Alesandro's Retirement Recognition:** After 31 years of service in our early childhood ministry, Mrs. Al will be retiring at the end of the school year. She has requested that in honor of her upcoming retirement, gifts be given for classroom furnishings in the early childhood center. If you would like to honor Gayla in this way, please make your gift before January 24, 2027.
- **Catalog of Needed Items:** If you have been considering sponsoring needed items in the Christian Education Center or the office area in the existing church, now is the time to reserve your items. These gifts, over and above your pledge, can be given in honor of, memory of, or thanksgiving for a loved one or special event.

Over $295,000 has been given or pledged for these items to this point. Thanks be to God! The deadline to reserve furnishings and other items in the Christian Education Center is February 1, 2027. The deadline to reserve furnishings and other items in the office area is May 1, 2027.

- **Trivia Night—Saturday, January 9th at 6 PM:** Gather a group of six people for a night of fun and fellowship. Cost per table is $250 which will literally purchase a new table for use in our church. To sponsor a table, please contact DCE Jen Probst. Childcare will be provided.
- **Thrivent Choice Dollars:** Thrivent members—the deadline to designate your Choice Dollars has been moved up to December 31, 2026. All Thrivent members now have Choice Dollars to designate, and the amount of Choice Dollars available to each member has increased. Don't miss out on this opportunity! If you are a Thrivent member, please login to your Thrivent account and designate your Choice Dollars before the end of the year. You can also designate your Choice Dollars by phone by calling 800-847-4836. When prompted say, "Thrivent Choice" and then press 1 to direct your choice dollars.
- **Pledges:** If you are able, consider accelerating the fulfillment of your pledge or increasing your pledge. If you haven't made a pledge, consider doing so. The more that is donated now will save us on financing charges in the future.
- **St. Paul Lutheran SGO:** We continue to receive donations for the Indiana State SGO program. On January 1, 2027, the federal SGO program will begin. Rachel Fohne will give a presentation at the annual meeting about these two programs and how your contributions support our school ministry and provide tax credits on your federal and state taxes. Participation in both the St. Paul Lutheran State and Federal SGO programs increases our yearly general fund net income which is moved to Extending Christ's Love. In 2025, $120,000 was transferred to Extending Christ's Love.

We give thanks to God for your prayers and generous gifts. If you have any questions, please contact Warren Scheidt, Building Committee Chair or Phil Burbrink, Finance Committee Chair.

Stewarding HIS Gifts

January-October General Fund Update

Total Income: $975,785.62
Total Expenses: $937,879.52
Net Income: $37,906.10

Thanks be to God that as of October 31st, our general fund net income is a positive $37,906.10! Thank you for supporting the work our Lord has given us to do so that we can continue reaching out with Christ's love to serve and grow!

There are multiple ways to give to St. Paul. You can always donate online through the website or use the QR code on the back page of this bulletin. **You can make a one-time donation or schedule weekly or monthly donations that you can adjust or cancel at any time.** Scheduling online donations can help donors stay up to date on general fund and ECL pledges. If you have a question about donating to St. Paul or any of the information below, please reach out to Rachel Fohne at 812-343-3786 or rachel.fohne@stpaulcolumbus.org.

Extending Christ's Love Pledges

Now is an excellent time to revisit your Extending Christ's Love pledge! The fulfillment of member pledges is an essential part of our Extending Christ's Love financial plan. If you have forgotten details about your pledge, need an update on how much you have donated, or need to adjust your pledge, please reach out to Rachel Fohne. These details help us with our financial planning. Thank you for your continued generosity and support!

Multiple Ways to Give with Potential Tax Advantages

Did you know there are strategic, tax advantaged ways to give to St. Paul? You can donate appreciated securities directly to St. Paul to fulfill your General Fund or Extending Christ's Love pledges. Donating appreciated securities such as stocks, bonds, and mutual funds may offer a tax advantage to the donor. Generally, the tax-deductible value

of a gift of securities is the current market value as of the date of the gift. Appreciation (capital gains) of this donated security is generally not taxable to the donor.

Some employers even offer employee stock purchase plans. If you are enrolled in such a plan, you have the option to donate these appreciated securities directly to St. Paul. Reach out to your employer to see what options are available to you. Also, farmers who donate commodities such as grain directly to the church might be able to receive valuable tax benefits. As always, please consult with your tax advisor about your specific situation.

Donate to our Indiana St. Paul Lutheran SGO!

Support our SGO fundraising campaign! SGO donations made between June 1, 2026, and May 31, 2027, will support our 2027-2028 school year. A donation to our St. Paul Lutheran SGO directly benefits our Early Childhood Ministry funding our mission and ministry! Donors receive a 50% state income tax **CREDIT!** You can donate stocks, bonds, mutual funds, grain, and livestock to the SGO and receive a 50% tax credit! Please consult your tax advisor for specific tax advice. You can visit www.lutheransgo.org for more information or speak with Rachel Fohne.

2026-2027 Indiana St. Paul SGO Goal: $110,000 **Amount Raised as of October 31, 2026** $20,550

New for 2027: Federal St. Paul Lutheran SGO: The federal government is rolling out a national SGO program.

After January 1, 2027, every taxpayer can contribute up to $1,700 to our federal SGO which will be a 100% tax credit. In other words, you can give any amount up to $1,700, and you will receive all of it back as a credit on your federal taxes. Married couples filing jointly can receive up to a $3,400 tax credit! Donations to our federal SGO will help fund scholarships for our kindergarten students. More information about the federal St. Paul Lutheran SGO program and how to participate will continue to be shared in church publications and at tonight's Annual Meeting.

SCAN ME

IN OUR PRAYERS… Birth: Elouise Renee Barringer, daughter of Caleb and Samantha, born November 23rd; **Sick and Recovering:** Carol Probst, Pam Wint, Nora Cleary, Rob Baltus, Mike Bridges, Barbara Hughes, Jax Branaman, Jan Brown (Taylor Fickenscher's mother), Barb Wiltsey (James Wiltsey's mother), Elam Spicer (Daniel and Mackenzie Wint's friend), Randy Fox (Kelley Gonsior's father), Todd Gant (Strietelmeier's friend), Liz Hettig (Evelyn Pence and Don Strietelmeier's niece), Michelle Matthews (Ray and Pat Hall's niece), Ginger Stache (Doreen's daughter-in-law), Katy Garza (Clearys' niece), Connie Ball, Linda Hall (Gayla Alesandro's friend), Ed Vogel (Eddie Vogel's father); **Active Military:** Garrett McGaha, Bryce Cleery (Judy Sullivan's friend), Shane McGowen (Sally Haak's nephew), Peyton Mullins (Sperrys' friend), Ty Chamberlain (Taffy Schroer's relative), Devin Klein (Adam and Kristy Hall's nephew), Garrett Grider, Terry Redelman, Samantha Cole, and Josh Edwards (Kallis' friends)

PRAYER LIST UPDATE… The prayer list has been updated. If you or loved ones need to remain on the prayer list, please contact the church office or email Mackenzie at mackenzie.wint@stpaulcolumbus.org.

THE FLOWERS IN CHURCH… are given in thanksgiving for Irma Ramsey by her son Alex Schuette.

SUNDAY LUNCHES…

Today Zwanzigz Pizza—Dough Making Day
Next Sunday, December 6th Meatball Subs
December 13th Taco Bar
December 20th Pizza

GINGERBREAD HOUSE BAKING AND ASSEMBLY… Volunteers are needed to help bake and construct gingerbread houses beginning **tomorrow, November 30th** at 8 AM. If needed, the baking will continue Tuesday morning. Gingerbread house assembly is **Wednesday, December 9th** beginning at 10 AM.

ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN WORK DAY… is **this Tuesday, December 1st** from 9 AM-noon at the Jonesville Warehouse. Volunteers are always needed! If you cannot serve during this time, please consider serving any Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday from 10 AM-3 PM. Donations can be dropped off anytime at the trailer located on the east side of the warehouse.

ADVENT SERVICES… Our midweek Advent services are **Wednesdays, December 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 23rd** beginning at 6:45 PM as we focus on the theme *Crispy Leaves and Mighty Trees*. Our theme for this Wednesday is *Palm Branches.* Please plan to attend and invite others as we prepare and rejoice in Christ's coming to us.

TRI-W MEETING… is **this Thursday, December 3rd** at 6 PM. All women are invited to join us as we prepare for Christmas Family Fun Night and other upcoming events.

MOMS IN THE WORD… meets **Monday, December 7th** at 10 AM in the fellowship room. All moms and their children are invited to join us for devotions and fellowship.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING AND CHRISTMAS FAMILY FUN NIGHT… Please join us on **Sunday, December 13th** at 3 PM as we go Christmas caroling to our shut-ins and homebound members.

At 5 PM, we will gather for our annual Christmas Family Fun Night. Enjoy supper provided by Tri-W, followed by devotions and family activities, including gingerbread house decorating. Please bring some candy to share for decorating. Please invite family and friends to a joyful evening of fellowship celebrating our Savior's birth.

LAS POSADAS SERVICE AND FIESTA… is **Saturday, December 19th** at 5 PM. This is a traditional service in Latin America that recounts Mary and Joseph's difficulty in finding a place to spend the night on the first Christmas. A fiesta will follow the service in the fellowship room, with fajitas, rice, and drinks provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Although the service will be in Spanish, a bilingual bulletin will be provided. This would be a good way for you and your family to experience Latino culture and food.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE… is **Sunday, December 20th** at the 10:45 AM service. Speaking parts for our second-sixth graders have been assigned. Students will begin working on their speaking parts during Sunday School. Parents are also encouraged to work with their children at home. Rehearsal is **Saturday, December 19th** from 9-10:30 AM. If you have any questions or would like your child to participate, please contact DCE Jen Probst.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT… Our annual Christmas Concert featuring the Beecher Singers and Orchestra is **Sunday, December 20th** at 7 PM. Pre-concert harp recital at 6:40 PM. Please invite your friends and neighbors to attend this inspiring concert.

LUTHERAN WITNESS SCUBSCRIPTION… The Lutheran Witness is a magazine published eleven times per year that keeps you updated with news from around the Synod, and addresses topical issues with feature articles, columns, Q&As, and more that will both inform and inspire. The yearly subscription is $25. If you are interested in subscribing, please place $25 in your Lutheran Witness offering envelope. You can also gift the subscription to others who you think may enjoy it! The deadline to order is **Sunday, December 20th.**

ECM REGISTRATION NOW OPEN… *We need your help in promoting our Christ-centered, fully accredited early childhood ministry.* Please share the information flyers on the front table in the gathering space with family, friends, and neighbors who have preschool and kindergarten-aged children or direct them to our website at stpaulcolumbus.org. Director Jen Probst is always willing to provide tours of our school to interested families. The 2027-2028 school year is our first year in the Christian Education Center enabling us to serve more students, planting the seed of God's Word in their hearts.

Financial aid is available to all families, so that finances are not an obstacle for any family member to attend. For more information, please contact DCE Jen Probst.

2027 RADIO MINISTRY AND FLOWER CHARTS… have been posted in the gathering space. The amount for sponsoring our radio ministry and the *Lutheran Hour* remains at $125 for 2027.

THANKS FROM… Shirley Riehn for all the prayers and Christian love following her recent surgery.

The Response of God's People

Sunday, November 22nd

Divine Service: **364**
Communion: **280**
Sunday School: **154**

Offering

General Fund: $11,215.58
Needed Weekly: $17,721
Extending Christ's Love: $5,148
SGO: $1,000

GIVE

Upcoming Services and Special Events

Please join us for the special services and events and invite others!

Wednesdays, December 2. 9, 16, and 23 6:45 PM Midweek Advent Services
Next Sunday, December 6 1:45 PM SPY and C4Life Christmas Party in the Education Building
Sunday, December 13 3 PM Christmas Caroling; 5 PM Christmas Family Fun Night
Thursday, December 17 Early Childhood Ministry Parents Day
Saturday, December 19 5 PM Las Posadas Service and Fiesta
Sunday, December 20 10:45 AM Children's Service; Rehearsal is Saturday, December 19th from 9-10:30 AM
7 PM Christmas Concert; 6:40 PM Pre-concert Harp Recital
Thursday, December 24—Christmas Eve 5:30 PM Candlelight Service; 5:10 PM Pre-service Carol Singing
10 PM Candlelight and Communion Service; 9:40 PM Pre-service Carol Singing
Friday, December 25—Christmas Day 10 AM Festival Communion Service
Sunday, December 27—Christmas Celebration Sunday
Thursday, December 31—New Year's Eve 5:30 PM Communion Service
Sunday, January 3—Celebration of Epiphany Installation of Officers

St. Paul Lutheran Church and Early Childhood Ministry

6045 East State Street, Columbus, Indiana 47201
812-376-6504; www.stpaulcolumbus.org
Pastor Doug Bauman; pastorbauman@stpaulcolumbus.org; 812-350-4115
Pastor Jeff Patterson; pastorpatterson@stpaulcolumbus.org; 812-569-2471
Pastor Daniel Fickenscher; pastorfickenscher@stpaulcolumbus.org; 260-710-6750
Kantor Daniel Mau; daniel.mau@stpaulcolumbus.org; 812-927-9319
DCE Jen Probst; jennifer.probst@stpaulcolumbus.org; 765-491-7818
Administrative Specialist Mackenzie Wint; mackenzie.wint@stpaulcolumbus.org; 812-528-1176
Finance Specialist Rachel Fohne; rachel.fohne@stpaulcolumbus.org; 812-343-3786
Latino Outreach Coordinator Renee Strietelmeier; riskplants@yahoo.com; 812-343-6466
Social Media Coordinator Andrea Cotton; andrea.cotton@stpaulcolumbus.org; 812-344-4580
ECM Teachers: Anne Wiltsey (kindergarten); Michelle Schultz and Brooke Hughes (preschool)
ECM Assistants: Gayla Alesandro, Andrea Cotton, Tara Draeger, Sarah Lewis,
Lisa Seckman, Laurie Schultz, Claudia Sims, Amy Yeley

Reaching out with Christ's Love to Serve and Grow