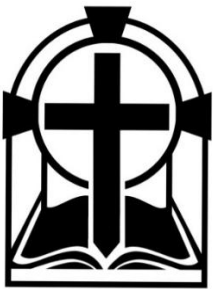




The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.
Psalm 46:7

FORTified

Reformation Sunday
October 25, 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

Crucifers: 8 AM Service Adam Arnholt

10:45 AM Service Elisabeth Laws

Acolytes: 8 AM Service Henry Seifer

10:45 AM Service Corbin Howarth

Church Calendar

Pastor Fickenscher on vacation through October 28th

Today

Reformation 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

Noon Youth Board Meeting

12:15 PM Spanish Bible Study

12:15 PM Youth Confirmation

12:45 PM Jr. Handchimes Rehearsal

1:15 PM Jr. Handbells Rehearsal

2:00 PM Guitar Class

7:00 PM Lutheran Hour WYGS 91.1 FM

Monday

10:00 AM Homeschool Religion Class

10:00 AM Small Group Handbells

Wednesday

9:00 AM Bible Study

10:15 AM Matins Service

2:00 PM Grief Class

6:00 PM Bible Study

6:00 PM Sr. Handbells Rehearsal

7:00 PM Sr. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday

1:30 PM Hickory Creek Devotions

Friday

6:30 PM Wedding Rehearsal

Saturday

Reformation Day

11:00 AM Hall-Foster Wedding

Set clocks back one hour before bed on Saturday

Next Sunday **All Saints Day**

Commemoration of Faithful Departed

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

Noon-1:15 PM KfC Day

12:15 PM Spanish Bible Study

12:15 PM Youth Confirmation

2:00 PM Guitar Class

7:00 PM Lutheran Hour WYGS 91.1 FM

Reformation Sunday

Prelude

Salvation Is Created—P. Tschesnokoff

A Mighty Fortress, adapted from the *Finale of Symphony No. 5 "Reformation"*—F. Mendelssohn

Welcome and Announcements

Please sign the Record of Fellowship

Ringling of the Bell

Processional Hymn

578 stanzas 1-4

Please stand and face the processional cross

Confession of Sins

based on the Small Catechism

P In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **I, a poor sinner, plead guilty before God of all sins.**

I have lived as if God did not matter and as if I mattered most.

My Lord's name I have not honored as I should; my worship and prayers have faltered.

I have not let His love have its way with me, and so my love for others has failed.

There are those whom I have hurt, and those whom I have failed to help.

My thoughts and desires have been soiled with sin.

I am sorry for all of this and ask for grace. I want to do better.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Kyrie

P God the Father in heaven,

C **have mercy upon us.**

P God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

C **have mercy upon us.**

P God the Holy Spirit.

C **have mercy upon us.**

Gloria in Excelsis

946

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

please be seated

First Reading

Revelation 14:6-7

Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. And he said with a loud voice, "Fear God and give Him glory, because the hour of His judgment has come, and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalmody

Psalm 46

P God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be tossed into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns. The nations rage, the kingdoms totter, He utters His voice, the earth melts.

C The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

P Come, behold the works of the LORD, how He has brought desolations on the earth. He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; He burns the chariots with fire. "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

C The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Epistle Reading

Romans 3:19-28

[Paul writes:] Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For by works of the law no human being will be justified in His sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by His grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by His blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in His divine forbearance He had passed over former sins. It was to show His righteousness at the present time, so that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn Response

please stand **578 stanza 5**

Holy Gospel

John 8:31-36

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John the eighth chapter. **C Glory to You, O Lord.**

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in Him, "If you abide in My word, you are truly My disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." They answered Him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that You say, 'You will become free'?"

Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn Response

please remain standing **578 stanza 6**

Nicene Creed

☩ I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life **✝** of the world to come. Amen. *please be seated*

Little Sermon

Hymn of the Day *please stand* **656**

Sermon *FORTified* Psalm 46

Prayer of the Church *please stand*

After each petition of the prayers, the following is said:

P Lord, in Your mercy,

☩ hear our prayer.

Offering **655**

Service of the Sacrament pages 208-210

Distribution **566, 555 stanzas 1-9, 556, 947**

Visitors: Please read our Communion statement on page one of the bulletin

Closing Liturgy *please stand* pages 211-212

Recessional Hymn **555 stanza 10**

Postlude *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God, Cantata BWV 80—J. S. Bach*

Thanks to the Columbus Brass Quintet for enriching our services this morning

Next Sunday's Readings—All Saints Day
Revelation 7:9-17; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12

Door Offering for the Aurora Circuit Church Workers Scholarship Fund

We will receive a door offering this morning for the Aurora Circuit Church Workers Scholarship Fund. This endowment supports members from our Aurora Circuit who are preparing for church work vocations. Glory and Providence Wofford and Nathaniel Bauman together received more than \$10,000 in ACCWSF scholarships for the 2026-2027 school year.

FORTified—Psalm 46

We are FORTified because God is our r_____ and s_____, a very present help in trouble.

We are FORTified because our God f_____ for us.

He is the Lord of h_____ (Sabaoth). His army of a_____ guards protects, and defends us.

G_____ Himself enters this world to conquer and win the victory for us.

We are FORTified because we b_____ to Christ.

We are FORTified because we have the W_____ of God.

LIVING THE SERMON... God is your mighty fortress! He FORTifies you! He is your conqueror, your Savior, your help in time of need. His Word strengthens your faith and bestows His peace. Is your complete trust in the Lord as your mighty fortress? Or are you trusting earthly fortresses of health, financial security, or the government? Repent for your misplaced trust and live in this bold confession: God alone is my mighty fortress!

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH... Rejoice in the true and living God who is your mighty fortress. Pray that you would trust in Him alone and look to His Word for strength and peace. Pray that as a church we would boldly proclaim salvation by God's grace through faith in Christ alone and that we would remain steadfast in the strong and saving Word of God.

MEMORY VERSE FOR THE WEEK... *These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.* Revelation 7:14

2027-2028 Early Childhood Ministry Registration

Registration for the 2027-2028 school year is quickly approaching! Registration opens for church member families and families of current students on **Monday, November 9th**. Open registration begins **Monday, November 16th**.

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.

- 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!
- 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.
- Kindergarten and STREAM are available at no cost to enrolled families.
- Also, the upcoming school year will be ***our first year in the Christian Education Center***, enabling us to serve more students! Children will learn in an age-appropriate space designed for early learners, with a chapel area for Jesus Time and music class, a new playground, and the Great Hall for Minds in Motion, large group activities, and indoor play when the weather is inclement.

Youth Events

KfC (Kids for Christ—fifth graders and younger)

Next Sunday, November 1st Noon-1:15 PM

Join us for lunch followed by a devotion and activities filled with thankfulness and praise.

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

Friday, November 6th 6 PM — Family Game and Euchre Night

Join us for a night full of games of all kinds, good fellowship, and yummy snacks.

Sunday, November 15th 5 to 7 PM — Fun and Fellowship at the Fohne's

Junior and Senior High youth are invited to hang out at the Fohne's house (9611 South 450 East, Elizabethtown).

We will have delicious food and smores. See if you can beat Mrs. Fohne at a game of knockout. Other activity selections will be available as we spend time together. Friends are always welcome!

Sunday, November 29th Noon-2 PM—Gingerbread Dough Making

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

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

The roof is up and on! How exciting it is to see the roof in place. Even as the exterior work continues, rooms are being framed, along with electrical, plumbing, and HVAC work in the interior. In the coming weeks, the roof will be shingled and the building enclosed so that work can continue through the winter months.

We are blessed to have many endowed funds here at St. Paul. Some of these endowments are unrestricted in the use of some or all their income. Others are designated for capital improvement projects. When the roof of the new Christian Education Center is shingled, we will use these endowment funds to reshingle the existing church so that the entire roof will match.



Be Aware Or Beware!? It's wonderful to see the progress on the Christian Education Center. Thanks to your generosity we have not needed to borrow any money to this point. However, we are approaching the point where we will need to utilize the loan through Lutheran Church Extension Fund. **We want you to be aware (or beware?) of this!** Our goal is to delay the need for financing this project as long as possible. Here's how you can help:

- If you are considering accelerating the fulfillment of your Extending Christ's Love pledge, increasing your pledge, or you didn't make a pledge, **now is the time!**
- Participate in Baking for the Building on November 15th. Bring a dessert to share and/or take dessert(s) home with you.
- Donate items for the Silent Auction on November 22nd-29th and bid generously!
- Sponsor items in the *Catalog of Needed Items*. When the church was built in 2009, we raised \$311,000 through the *Catalog of Needed Items*. Our goal is to exceed this amount with the Christian Education Center. Thankfully, over \$250,000 has been raised or pledged from the Catalog. **That's \$250,000 that we don't need to borrow.** Thanks be to God!

The Catalog is online (stpaulcolumbus.org) or hard copies are in the gathering space. Items can be reserved in honor of or in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving for a special event. If you have questions about the Catalog or need assistance reserving items, please contact Phil Burbrink or Rachel Fohne.

We are thankful for your ongoing prayers and support for Extending Christ's Love.

Your Generosity in Action!

SGOs Provide Support for Our School Families

Thanks to your generosity we have utilized **\$95,800** in Scholarship Granting Organization scholarships for the 2026-2027 school year from the St. Paul SGO Fund. Families enrolled in Doves (4-year-old) preschool and kindergarten are eligible to receive these scholarships.

First and most importantly, these scholarships allow families with financial need to attend our school. We never turn a child away because of finances as we want every child to hear God's Word and grow in the faith.

These scholarships also offset our congregation's support for school families. To keep tuition affordable for all our students, we award a \$2,865 St. Paul Scholarship for all Doves students and a \$3,240 St. Paul Scholarship for all kindergarten students. The SGO funds are applied to offset some of the scholarship expenses, reducing the amount of our Sunday offerings needed to fund our school ministry.

These SGO gifts have a huge impact, and we are thankful for everyone who contributed to the St. Paul Lutheran SGO!

We invite you to participate in the Indiana St. Paul Lutheran SGO! Every gift directly supports our school students, **AND** you receive a 50% credit on your Indiana state income tax. For more information on how you can make a difference by supporting our St Paul Lutheran SGO, please see the announcement on the next page or contact Rachel Fohne.

New for 2027: Federal St. Paul Lutheran SGO: The federal government is rolling out a national SGO program. After the first of the year, every taxpayer can contribute up to \$1,700 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. More information about the federal St. Paul Lutheran SGO program and how to participate will be shared at the Annual Meeting.

We are truly grateful for your support for our early childhood ministry. Over 30% of our school families are unchurched so your generosity is making an eternal impact in the lives of our students and their families.

Stewarding HIS Gifts

Supporting the Lord's Work

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 Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization at St. Paul!

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 St. Paul SGO Fundraising Goal: \$110,000

Amount Raised as of September 30, 2026 \$6,350

IN OUR PRAYERS... Installation: Pastor Peter Brock installed as chaplain of Cedar Lake Lodge; **Sick and Recovering:** Nora Cleary (surgery Tuesday), Rob Baltus, Carolyn Schuette, Mike Bridges, Dave Dailey, Sandy Lagneau, Gloria Schultz, Conner Davis, Chris Nolting, Barbara Hughes, Arayah Lutz, Marie Tellman, Art Ramsey, Dee Schurman, Jax Branaman, Jennifer Jeffares, Phyllis Fox, Riley Walton, Jill Scheidt, Nancy Fromer (Sue Kitchin's cousin), Michelle Matthews (Ray and Pat Hall's niece), Todd Gant (Strietelmeier's friend), Ursula Köhne (Liesel Murphy's grandmother), Teresa Hart (Claudette Schroer's sister), Bruce Ness (Vicki Howarth's brother), Grant Noblitt (Lucy Nolting's nephew), Andy and Patty Trobaugh (Katrina Smith's friends), Bob McDonald (Wendy Wiederhoeft's father), Ginger Stache (Doreen's daughter-in-law), Mike Sarver (Danny Johnson's friend), Allen Kanouse (Scott and Renee Strietelmeier's friend), Dakota Faith and Chaleece Leckron (Jayne Dornquast's friends), Pastor Jeff Pflug, Grayson Harker (Irene Shireman's friend), Liz Hettig (Evelyn Pence and Don Strietelmeier's niece), Brittany and Skye Spears (Sharon Templeton's relatives), Anthony Jaynes (Toni Howarth's father), Katy Garza (Clearys' niece), Lynn Ramberg, Ty Ramberg, and Deb Larsen (Kallis' friends), 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 (Sperry's friend), Ty Chamberlain (Taffy Schroer's relative), Devin Klein (Adam and Kristy Hall's nephew), Garrett Grider and Terry Redelman (Kallis' friends)

THE FLOWERS IN CHURCH... are given in honor of Katie Arnholt's 45th birthday.

TODAY'S RADIO MINISTRY... is sponsored by Adam and Kristy Hall in thanksgiving to God for His gifts of faith and family celebrating their 29th wedding anniversary.

THE NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER... is available in the gathering space and online at stpaulcolumbus.org.

2027 PLEDGES... If you have not turned in your 2027 pledge, please mail it, drop it off at the church this week or bring it with you to worship next Sunday as the 2027 budget will be finalized the week of November 1st.

SUNDAY LUNCHES... Volunteers are needed to prepare lunches on **Sundays, November 1st and 8th**. Please sign up in the gathering space.

Today Chicken Sandwiches

November 1st Hotdogs—KfC Day

November 8th Sandwich Bar

November 15th Spaghetti and Garlic Bread

PASTOR FICKENSCHER IS ON VACATION... through **this Wednesday, October 28th**. We welcome Pastor Peter Knutson from Grace, New Albany, who is leading the Spanish service this morning.

INVITATION INSTALLATION... You are invited to the Installation of Pastor Peter Brock as Chaplain of Cedar Lake Lodge **this afternoon** at 3 PM at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Louisville, Kentucky (8305 Nottingham Parkway, Louisville). We pray God's blessings upon Pastor Brock as he serves the residents of Cedar Lake Lodge.

GUITAR LESSONS... St. Paul member Chad Dornquast is offering a four-week guitar class for youth and adults **this afternoon, October 25th-Sunday, November 15th** at 2 PM. This class is open to anyone ages 13 and older.

There is no cost and guitars will be provided for each participant for the classes and for practice at home. In addition, each participant will receive a T-shirt.

A few openings remain. To sign-up or for questions, please contact Chad **this morning** at 812-343-4719 or chadcols@gmail.com.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY... Clarity is hosting Clarity Care Hub Volunteer Work Day **this Wednesday, October 28th** from 10 AM-Noon and 2-4 PM. The Care Hub is located at 3203 Middle Road, Columbus. This is a great opportunity to serve, connect with others, and help keep Clarity's Care Hub ready to welcome the women and families we serve. Whether you can stay for the whole time or just stop by for a little while, every helping hand makes a difference! More information can be found on the bulletin board in the gathering space.

FALL BACK... Before heading to bed **this Saturday, October 31st**, set your clocks back one hour as Daylight Savings Time ends.

ALL SAINTS DAY SPECIAL SERVICES... In the Divine Services **next Sunday, November 1st**, 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 from our church family who have entered into glory since the last All Saints Day. A trumpet soloist will be enriching our services with special music.

MISSION GRANT PRESENTATION... At the 8 AM service **next Sunday, November 1st**, Margie Wickert, Vice-President of Gospel Outreach for the Indiana District of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, will present the \$12,000 Mite Box Mission Grant that is designated for classroom furnishings in the Christian Education Center. We give thanks to God for the generosity of the LWML and pray for God to bless the continued outreach of our early childhood ministry.

MITE BOX SUNDAY... is **next Sunday, November 1st**. Your mites support LWML missions in Indiana, nationally, and internationally.

MOMS IN THE WORD... All mothers and their children are invited to attend our monthly Moms in the Word gathering on **Monday, November 2nd** at 10 AM in the fellowship room. Join us for a devotion and fellowship!

OGT WORKDAY... Our OGT Workday is **Tuesday, November 3rd** from 9 AM-noon. If you cannot attend, 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 4th** at 10:45 AM in the church kitchen. All are welcome for service and fellowship.

TRI-W MEETING... is **Thursday, November 5th** at 6 PM. All women are invite to attend.

EUCHRE AND GAME NIGHT... is Friday, November 6th at 6 PM at the church. A freewill offering will be collected. 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 amazing. All are welcome!

NEW MEMBER RECOGNITION... God continues to bless our congregation with many new members. On **Sunday, November 8th**, 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!

WIZARD OF OZ... Trinity Lutheran High School Drama and Music Departments invites you to their production of *The Wizard of Oz* **Friday-Sunday, November 13th-15th**. The Friday performance begins at 7 PM. There are two Saturday performances at 2 and 7 PM. The Sunday performance begins at 3 PM. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased by calling the school office at 812-524-8547.

YOUNG ADULTS GATHERING... All young adults (post-high school and 20 somethings) are invited to Pastor and Michelle's house (3019 Revere Court, Columbus) for Bible study and fellowship **Friday, November 13th** at 6:30 PM. Bring a snack to share if you desire. Questions? Call or text Pastor Bauman at 812-350-4115.

BAKING FOR THE BUILDING AND SILENT AUCTION... Baking for the Building to benefit Extending Christ Love is **Sunday, November 15th**. Please consider baking one or more desserts. Desserts can be dropped off at church on Saturday, November 14th from 2-4 PM or Sunday before first service. Desserts

will be available for a freewill donation after either service.

We will also have a Silent Auction which begins on **Sunday, November 22nd** and ends at the annual meeting on **Sunday, November 29th**. 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.

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 29th.

Volunteers Needed to help bake and construct gingerbread houses beginning on **Monday, November 30th**. The gingerbread houses will be assembled on **Wednesday, December 9th**.

Mark your calendars for Christmas Family Fun Night on **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.

THRIVENT MEMBERS—WE NEED YOUR HELP...

If you are a Thrivent member, we need your help in fully utilizing your member benefits.

Action Team: Every Thrivent member can sponsor two \$250 action team projects every year. These can be fundraising, educational, or service projects. If you haven't used one or both of your action team grants for 2026, please contact the church office or Pastor Bauman for a list of possible action team grants.

Choice Dollars: There have been significant changes to the Choice Dollars Program. Please note the following:

- All Thrivent members now have Choice Dollars to designate.
- The amount of Choice Dollars for Thrivent members to designate has increased.
- The deadline to designate Choice Dollars has been moved up three months from March 31, 2027, to December 31, 2026.

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 at 800-847-4836. When prompted say, "Thrivent Choice" and then press 1.

We thank all our Thrivent members who utilize their benefits to support our mission and ministry.

PRAYER CHAIN... Bonnie England is updating the prayer chain list. We welcome new links in the chain to pray for your brothers and sisters in Christ. If interested, please call Bonnie at 812-447-7895. Praying for others is one way of serving God.

THANKS TO... all who brought produce and flowers for the Harvest Mission and those who donated. Thanks also to the LWML for sponsoring this endeavor.

The Response of God's People

Sunday, October 18th

Divine Service: **353**

Communion: **289**

Sunday School: **148**

Offering

Sunday, October 11th

General Fund: \$24,051.65

Needed Weekly: \$17,721

Extending Christ's Love: \$20,881 including \$493 Thrivent Choice Dollars

Music Fund: \$25 Door Offering from Harp Recital

Harvest Mission for Food Pantry: \$6

SGO: \$14,200

Sunday, October 18th

General Fund: \$8,225.46

Needed Weekly: \$17,721

Extending Christ's Love: \$1,260



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