


# *Living Each Day for THE DAY*

25th Sunday after Pentecost

November 15, 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 Jace Vogel
10:45 AM Service Clark Neawedde

## Church Calendar

| | |
|---|---|
| Today | ***Baking for the Building*** |
| | **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 Youth Confirmation |
| | 12:45 PM Jr. Handchimes Rehearsal |
| | 1:15 PM Jr. Handbells Rehearsal |
| | 2:00 PM Guitar Class |
| | 5-7 PM SPY and C4Life at the Fohnes |
| | 7:00 PM Lutheran Hour WYGS 91.1 FM |
| Monday | ***ECM Open Registration Begins*** |
| | 10:00 AM Homeschool Religion Class |
| | 10:00 AM Small Group Handbells |
| | 5:30-10 PM Church Reserved |
| | 6:00 PM Finance Meeting |
| | 7:00 PM Council Meeting |
| Tuesday | **8:20 AM Lambs Chapel** |
| Wednesday | **8:20 AM Doves and Kindergarten Chapel** |
| | 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 Visit |
| Next Sunday | **Christ the King Sunday** |
| | *ECL Silent Auction Begins* |
| | **8:00 AM Divine Service** |
| | 9:00 AM Radio Service WYGS 91.1 FM |
| | 9:10 AM Fellowship |
| | 9:30 AM Sunday School/Concordia Counseling Presentation |
| | **10:45 AM Divine Service—English and Spanish** |
| | Noon Lunch |
| | 12:15 PM Youth Confirmation |
| | 12:45 PM Jr. Handchimes Rehearsal |
| | 1:15 PM Jr. Handbells Rehearsal |
| | 7:00 PM Lutheran Hour WYGS 91.1 FM |

**THE DECEMBER NEWSLETTER…** is available in the gathering space and online at stpaulcolumbus.org.

# 25th Sunday after Pentecost

**Prelude** *Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying,* BWV 615 (Hymn 516)—J. S. Bach

**Welcome and Announcements** *Please sign the Record of Fellowship*

**Ringing of the Bell**

**Opening Hymn** *Sr. Choir sings stanza 2* **336**

**Confession of Sins** page 151

**Kyrie** pages 152-153

**Hymn of Praise** *Glory to God in the Highest* page 154

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

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

P Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C ***(spoken)*** **Amen.** *please be seated*

**Old Testament Reading** Zephaniah 1:7–16

[Zephaniah writes:] Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is near; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated His guests. And on the day of the LORD's sacrifice— "I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all who array themselves in foreign attire. On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their master's house with violence and fraud.

"On that day," declares the LORD, "a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate, a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills. Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no more; all who weigh out silver are cut off. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, 'The LORD will not do good, nor will He do ill.' Their goods shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them."

The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there. A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

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

**Epistle Reading** 1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

[Paul writes:] Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has not destined us for wrath, but to

obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with Him. Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

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

**Alleluia and Verse** *please stand and sing* page 156

C **Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Holy Gospel** Matthew 25:14–30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter. C ***(sung)*** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.' But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. C ***(sung)*** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**Little Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day** *Sr. Choir sings stanza 4* **508 stanzas 1-5**

**Sermon** *Living Each Day for THE DAY* Zephaniah 1:7-16

**Apostles Creed** *please stand* page 159

**Prayer of the Church**

**Offering** **508 stanzas 6-7**

**Service of the Sacrament** *please stand* pages 160-163

**Distribution** **562, 511, 665, 668, 804**

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

**Post-Communion Canticle** *Thank the Lord* *please stand* page 164

**Closing Liturgy** page 166

**Closing Hymn** **941**

**Postlude** *The Day Is Surely Drawing Near* (Hymn 508)—H. Scheidemann

# Living Each Day for THE DAY—Zephaniah 1:7-16

The Hebrew word translated into English as "complacent" refers to the thick d_____ at the bottom of a wine bottle.

How do all three Scripture readings address those who have become complacent in their relationship with the Lord?

Why does Satan especially attack believers tempting us to become spiritually complacent and apathetic?

What has Jesus done for you and what does He continue to do for you so that you do not become complacent but live every day for THE DAY?

***Next Sunday's Readings*** *Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24; 1 Corinthians 15:20–28; Matthew 25:31–46*

**LIVING THE SERMON…** Our Scripture readings for today call for self-examination. Consider the following questions: Am I living each day for THE DAY, the day of the Lord? Do I seek to have a faith that is living and thriving, or have I allowed my faith to become bitter and stagnant? Am I ignoring the impurities in my heart? Am I concerned about the eternal welfare of others, or have I become indifferent to where they will be for eternity? Seek forgiveness for your spiritual complacency and the impurities in your heart and pray for God to give you a faith that is living and thriving.

**PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH…** Pray that you do not become complacent in your relationship with the Lord but for a faith that is living and active. Pray for those who do not believe, those who have fallen away, and those whose love for the Lord has grown cold, that they would be restored to the faith and saved on the great day of the Lord.

**MEMORY VERSE FOR THE WEEK…** *For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I Myself will search for My sheep and will seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out My sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness.* Ezekiel 34:11-12

## 2027-2028 Open Registration Begins Tomorrow!

*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.

# Baking for the Building and Silent Auction

***Baking for the Building is today!*** Please stop by the fellowship hall and take home one or more desserts for a freewill donation. Thanks to everyone who made desserts for this event.

The Silent Auction begins **next 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 other creative donations! If you are interested in donating to the Silent Auction, please contact Phil Burbrink at 812-344-9946.

# Extending Christ's Love

***Over 4 million dollars in 27 months!*** That's how much you and your brothers and sisters in Christ have contributed to Extending Christ's Love. Your remarkable generosity means that we have not needed to begin borrowing through Lutheran Church Extension Fund. The result is that every gift given to this point has been applied to the project and not to interest payments.




In addition to Baking for the Building and the Silent Auction (see announcement above), there are many other opportunities to support Extending Christ's Love.

- **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 $260,000 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 together 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 the St. Paul Lutheran SGO 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.

# 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)**

**Tonight from 5-7 PM — Fun and Fellowship at the Fohnes**

Junior and Senior High youth are invited to hang out at the Fohne 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—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.

**Sunday, November 29th 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.

**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.

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

All SPY and C4Life youth are invited to the Youth Christmas Party in the education building.

**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.*

# Stewarding HIS Gifts

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 the Annual Meeting.

SCAN ME

**IN OUR PRAYERS… Mission Trip:** Rev Garry and Margie Wickert (Clearys' friends) who are traveling to India; **Sick and Recovering:** Bev Neawedde (surgery Wednesday), Shirley Riehn, Don Schroer, Carol Probst, Pam Wint, Nora Cleary, 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, Jill Scheidt, Chris Linke, Elam Spicer (Daniel and Mackenzie Wint's friend), Ronnie Daluge (Chad Dornquast's uncle), Laurie Hoover (Carolyn Wilkerson's neighbor), Randy Fox (Kelley Gonsior's father), 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), 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), 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 (Sperrys' friend), Ty Chamberlain (Taffy Schroer's relative), Devin Klein (Adam and Kristy Hall's nephew), Garrett Grider and Terry Redelman (Kallis' friends)

**TODAY'S RADIO MINISTRY…** is sponsored by Tim and Janice Scheidt in honor of Jennifer Scheidt Brewer and Alexis Scheidt who celebrated their birthday on November 10th.

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS…** are given for thanksgiving and the beautification of God's house.

**SUNDAY LUNCHES…**

Today Spaghetti and Garlic Bread
Next Sunday, November 22nd Chicken Wraps
November 29th Zwanzigz Pizza—Dough Making Day
December 6th Meatball Subs

**CONCORDIA COUNSELING PRESENTATION… Next Sunday, November 22nd** during the Sunday School hour, Deaconess Michelle Downey of Concordia Counseling will give a presentation of the ongoing work and ministry expansion of this important outreach. Please plan to attend.

**DEWBERRY HAM AND TURKEY SUPPER…** is **next Sunday, November 22nd** from 4-6 PM. Freewill offering. The church is located at 5588 East 900 South, Cross Plains.

**THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE…** On **Wednesday, November 25th** 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 sermon theme is *Bigger Barns or Greater Gratitude?* based on the Parable of the Rich Fool from Luke 12:13-21.

**OUR ANNUAL MEETING…** is **Sunday, November 29th** at 6 PM. We will gather for a pitch-in supper at 5 PM. Please plan to attend. ***Annual Meeting Reports are due tomorrow, November 16th.*** The packet will be available next Sunday, November 22nd.

**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.

**ADVENT SERVICES…** *Crispy Leaves and Mighty Trees* is the theme of all our Advent services (Sundays and Wednesdays). Our midweek Advent services are **Wednesdays, December 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 23rd** beginning at 6:45 PM. Please plan to attend and invite others as we prepare and rejoice in Christ's coming to us.

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE…** is **Sunday, December 20th** at the 10:45 AM service. All second-sixth graders have speaking parts in the service. If you have a child in these grade levels that cannot participate, please contact DCE Probst **this morning,** as speaking parts will be assigned this week.

**MRS. AL RETIREMENT RECOGNITION…** Gayla Alesandro, known to our students as Mrs. Al, has announced her retirement after 31 years of service in our early childhood ministry. She will continue serving through the end of the school year. Mrs. Al has requested all gifts in honor of her retirement be given for classroom furnishings. If you would like to honor her service with a gift, please designate on your check or online donation that it is for "Mrs. Al's Retirement." Please make your donation before Sunday, January 24th, our National Lutheran Schools Week celebration.

**PRAYER LIST UPDATE…** We gladly lift up in prayer all who are in need. However, twice a year we update our prayer list. The prayer list will be updated on the First Sunday in Advent, **November 29th.** If you, a family member or friend, need to remain on the prayer list, please contact Mackenzie Wint by email (mackenzie.wint@stpaulcolumbus.org) or at the church office (812-376-6504) by 8 AM on **Monday, November 23rd.**

**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.

**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.

## The Response of God's People

**Sunday, November 8th**

Divine Service: **368**
Communion: **300**
Sunday School: **178**

GIVE

**Offering**

General Fund: $11,186.23
Needed Weekly: $17,721
Extending Christ's Love: $329,907.37 including $250 for Trivia Night
Radio Ministry: $125
Aurora Circuit Church Worker Scholarship Fund: $50

# Upcoming Services and Special Events

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

**Wednesday, November 25** 7 PM Thanksgiving Eve Communion Service
**Wednesdays, December 2. 9, 16, and 23** 6:45 PM Midweek Advent Services
**Sunday, December 6** SPY and C4Life Christmas Party
**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
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*Reaching out with Christ's Love to Serve and Grow*