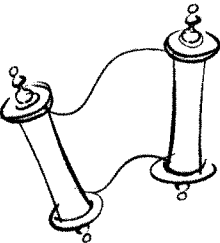


St. Paul Epistle



The Monthly Newsletter of St. Paul Lutheran Church

November 2026

Building Up, Pressing On, Reaching Out, AND Giving Thanks

I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you... Romans 1:8

I give thanks to my God always for you... 1 Corinthians 1:4

I do not cease to give thanks for you... Ephesians 1:16

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you... Philippians 1:3

We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you... Colossians 1:3

We give thanks to God always for all of you... 1 Thessalonians 1:2

We ought always to give thanks to God for you... 2 Thessalonians 1:3

I thank God... as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day... 2 Timothy 1:3

I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers... Philemon 4

Paul begins most of his epistles (letters) with thanksgiving. When he considers the faith, hope, and love of those to whom he is writing, he is moved to give thanks to God. I encourage you to take some time and read the "thanks and praise" verses from each of the epistles listed above.

Our epistle reading for Loyalty Sunday, October 18th, is Paul's words of thanksgiving in First Thessalonians. Like Paul, I give thanks to God for you, and I pray that you would join me in giving thanks to God for the countless blessings He freely gives us as His people in this place and the many opportunities He places before us to serve and to witness. Here are just a few of the many blessings I am thankful for as your pastor:

I thank God that you show up to be built up by God's Word.

The greatest joy you can bring your pastors is faithfully and frequently receiving God's gifts.

I thank God for the privilege of serving with Pastors Patterson and Fickenscher and our dedicated church and early childhood ministry staff. They love God and they love those they serve.

I thank God for your prayers for your brothers and sisters in Christ and for our church.

I thank God for everyone who serves—Sunday School teachers, those who sing and ring in our choirs, youth counselors, officers and board members, those who take care of the landscaping, trim bushes, fix leaky faucets, change lightbulbs, and the list goes on and on.

I thank God for your care for those in need—your support for the Branaman family, scholarships for our school families, food pantry, and providing meals to new parents and those who are sick.

I thank God that you invite others to church and that you greet and welcome visitors.

I thank God for your prayers and support of our Latino outreach and early childhood ministry.

I give thanks to God that our Latino outreach is growing and that every school day we get to share the Gospel with the children that attend our school, 38% of whom are from unchurched families.

I thank God for your generosity in financially supporting the mission and ministry the Lord has entrusted to us and for your support of Extending Christ's Love providing a space and place for the mission and ministry to grow and flourish for years to come.

We are entering the time in the church year that overflows with thanksgiving: **Loyalty Sunday** when we offer our pledges for the coming year with joy and thanksgiving. **Reformation Sunday** when we give thanks for God's grace, His free gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation, and that He is our mighty fortress. **All Saints Day** where we give thanks that God has made us His saints, even as we remember those from our church family who are now offering unending thanks and praise before God's throne. The **final Sundays in the church year** point us ahead to the Last Day when we and all believers will dwell with our Lord and Savior in endless joy and thanksgiving. On **Thanksgiving Eve**, we gather for the purpose of thanking God for the harvest and for all His blessings. November ends with the **First Sunday in Advent**, where we begin this season of preparation, giving thanks for the greatest gift of all—the Son of God lying in a manger.

I pray that as you reflect on all your Lord's blessings, you also will be filled with a thankful heart, giving thanks to God for all His grace and His gifts beyond measure.

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



6045 East State Street
Columbus, Indiana 47201

Phone: 812-376-6504

www.stpaulcolumbus.org

Pastor Douglas Bauman
pastorbauman@stpaulcolumbus.org

Pastor Jeff Patterson
pastorpatterson@stpaulcolumbus.org

Pastor Daniel Fickenscher
pastorfickenscher@stpaulcolumbus.org

Kantor Daniel Mau
daniel.mau@stpaulcolumbus.org

DCE Jen Probst
jennifer.probst@stpaulcolumbus.org
Administrative Specialist Mackenzie Wint
mackenzie.wint@stpaulcolumbus.org

Financial Specialist Rachel Fohne
rachel.fohne@stpaulcolumbus.org

Social Media Coordinator Andrea Cotton
andrea.cotton@stpaulcolumbus.org

Renee Strietelmeier
Latino Outreach Coordinator
riskplants@yahoo.com

St. Paul Early Childhood Ministry

Jen Probst, Director
Anne Wiltsey, Kindergarten Teacher
Michelle Schultz and Brooke Hughes,
Preschool Teachers
Gayla Alesandro, Andrea Cotton, Tara
Draeger, Sarah Lewis, Lisa Seckman, Laurie
Schultz, Claudia Sims, Amy Yeley
Teacher Assistants

Sunday Schedule

8 AM Divine Service
9 AM Radio Worship Service/91.1 FM
9:10 AM Fellowship
9:30 AM Sunday School
10:45 AM Divine Service
English and Spanish
12:15 PM Spanish Sunday School
7 PM Lutheran Hour/91.1 FM

Prayer Chain

Bonnie England
Phone: 812-447-7895



Musical Notes

November is a fascinating month for church music, as it brings the current church year to a close and ushers in the new one at the beginning of Advent. We celebrate Reformation during the last Sunday of October (the actual date is October 31) and then celebrate All Saint's the first Sunday in November (actual date is November 1- which is the first Sunday in November in 2026!) The Sundays that follow focus on the end times—the Second Coming of Christ, returning to judge the earth. The final Sunday of the current church year is November 22, which we celebrate as Christ the King Sunday. The following Thursday is Thanksgiving Day, and the last Sunday in November, the 29th, is the First Sunday in Advent and the beginning of the new church year.

The hymnody for Reformation and All Saint's is well-known and provides musical support for the Word of God. It's fitting that Luther's reforms are highlighted in the hymnody of the Lutheran Church during the festival of the Reformation! We return thanks and praise to the Creator of us all as we sing the Word as the living voice of the Gospel! A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (LSB 656), Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word (LSB 655), Thy Strong Word (LSB 578), By Grace I'm Saved (LSB 566), Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice (LSB 556), and Salvation unto Us Has Come (LSB 555) are all hymns frequently sung on Reformation Sunday. For All the Saints (LSB 677), Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones (LSB 670), and Sing with All the Saints in Glory (LSB 671) are sung proclamations of thanks for the saints who have toiled and gone before us, even as we wait to join them for all eternity in heaven.

The hymnody for the end times, falling this year on November 8 and 15, focuses on Christ's Second Coming. We know that He will come again on the last day and the redeemed will rejoice for all eternity in heaven, but the condemned will be sent to the eternal fires of hell. The Day Is Surely Drawing Near (LSB 508) vividly describes the final day of judgment, not mincing words but stating the truths of God's Word—those who believe will be saved by God's grace. We need not fear God's wrath because we are saved by faith in Jesus Christ, our Redeemer! The Clouds of Judgment Gather (LSB 513), Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers (LSB 515), and Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying (LSB 516), are other great hymns that are fitting for services following All Saint's Day.

The last Sunday of the church year is Christ the King, celebrated this year on November 22. Come, Thou Almighty King (LSB 905), O Jesus, King Most Wonderful (LSB 554), Crown Him with Many Crowns (LSB 525), and Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus (LSB 531) are examples of hymns suitable for this service. Christ IS the King of all creation- all thanks and praise be to God!

The new church year begins on the last Sunday in November, as we begin the season of Advent on the 29th. Savior of the Nations, Come (LSB 332), is from the pens of Ambrose of Milan (340-397) and Martin Luther (1483-1546). This great hymn tells the story of God's plan for our salvation through His Son, Jesus Christ, and is a very fitting way to enter the new church year. We indeed look forward to the coming of Christ to lead His people to eternal life in heaven! Let us continue to sing unto the Lord, for His steadfast love endures forever.

In Christ's eternal love,

Dan



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

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

Jr. Choir rehearses on Sunday mornings during the Sunday School hour.

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

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

Small Group Handbells rehearse on Mondays at 10:00 am.

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

daniel.mau@StPaulColumbus.org

Thank you!



Early Childhood Ministry

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

Registration

Our church and school families are excited for the completion of our Christian Education Center. This special place will be the new home for our Early Childhood Ministry. The plan is to begin the 2027-2028 school year in our new building. We are hoping you will join us!

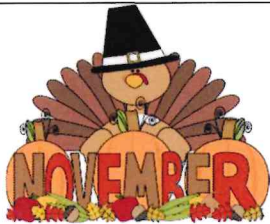
Registration for the 2027-2028 school year will happen as follows:

November 9, 2026 – Currently enrolled families and members of St. Paul Lutheran Church will be invited to register first.

November 16, 2026 – The community will be invited to enroll at our school.

St. Paul Lutheran ECM is excited to offer:

- ~3 year old **Lambs classes** on Tuesday and Thursday from 8:15 to 11:15 AM.
- ~4 year old **Doves classes** on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:15 to 11:15 AM.
- ~Fully comprehensive half-day **Kindergarten** program, Monday to Friday from 8:15 AM to 12:15 PM with complementary, flexible extended care till 2:30 PM.
- ~**Doves STREAM** class on Wednesdays from 12:15 to 3:15 PM (class limit of 20).
- ~**Kindergarten STREAM** class on Wednesdays from 12:15 to 3:15 PM (available for all Kindergarten students enrolled at St. Paul Lutheran ECM).
- ~**Before school care**, starting at 7:00 AM.
- ~**After school care**, ending at 4:30 PM.



9 – ECM Registration opens for St. Paul members and current students

9 – ECM Board at 6:00 PM

16 – ECM Registration opens to the community

17 – Lambs Chapel at 8:20 AM

18 – Kindergarten and Doves Chapel at 8:20 AM

18 – Bookmobile

23 to 24 – Indiana District Teacher's Conference in Indianapolis

23 to 27 – Thanksgiving Break



Christian Education

Family Devotions

Attached to the end of this newsletter you will find a calendar for family devotions for the month of November.

Sunday School

Nov	First Steps of Faith <i>Infant to 2-year-olds</i>	Elementary <i>Preschool to 4th Grade</i>	5th and 6th Grade
1	Jonah	Crossing the Jordan	Joseph Serves Pharoah
8	Jonah	Fall of Jericho	Joseph and Brothers Reunite
15	Daniel	God gives Gideon the victory	Jacob and Joseph Reunited
22	Daniel	Samson the Champion	Birth and Call of Moses
29	Advent-Hope	Samson's Fall and Death	The Passover

Nov	<u>Confirmation Instruction</u> <i>7th and 8th Grade</i>	<u>Senior High</u> <i>9th to 12th Grade</i>
1	8 th Commandment	The Book of Acts
8	9 th and 10 th Commandments	
15	Close of the Commandments	
22	Big Words	
29	Church Year	

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study: Lord, Teach Us to Pray (Pastor Bauman)

Midweek Adult Bible Studies:

<i>Monday, November 2</i>	10:00 AM – Moms in the Word	
<i>Wednesdays</i>	9:00 AM - Romans	6:00 PM - Isaiah

Youth Ministry

1. Warmth, Challenge, Grace
2. Supportive Adults
3. Engaged Parents

Seven Practices of Healthy Youth Ministry: 4. Opportunities to Serve and Lead

Research shows that this generation of youth “want to see how their faith moves beyond the church walls and out into a broken and hurting world”. Creating opportunities for youth to serve and lead gives adults the opportunity to teach children how they can use the gifts God has given to them in their current vocations. As we engage children in their present callings, our congregation can help them to understand why and how they can use their developing skills. What a blessing that the body of Christ is comprised of people of all ages, abilities, and perspectives. The following suggestions help to frame how we can be intentional as we ask youth to serve:

- Offering activities for youth to serve is an opportunity to coach leadership.
 - Provide appropriate instructions.
 - Make it a shared experience. Adults and youth serve together.
 - Make sure that the tasks are not unwanted jobs.
 - Doing activities together helps to provide support for youth and builds relationships.
 - Multi-generational service creates an environment where youth can learn skills, have a safe place to fail, practice emerging abilities, and develop problem solving techniques.
 - Provide regular feedback.
 - Share what was done well.
 - Demonstrate how to improve skills.
 - Explain how the work benefits those being served.
 - Share how our service is a thank you response to all the ways God continues to serve us.

For more information on how to engage youth in meaningful and intentional service, feel free to reach out to DCE Probst (Jennifer.probst@stpaulcolumbus.org).

Gifts of Time and Talent:

November Acolytes			Music	
8:00 AM	10:45 AM		8:00 AM	10:45 AM
Otto Seifer	Theodore Laws	1	Trumpet Soloist	
Daryn Vogel	Arayah Lutz	8	Sr. Handbells	
Jace Vogel	Clark Neawedde	15	Sr. Choir	
Sarah Arnholt	Leo Patterson	22	Jr. Choir, Jr. Handchimes, and Jr. Handbells	
Thanksgiving Eve (7:00 PM) – Silas Lewis		25	Sr. Handbells	
Faith Fohne	Theodore Laws	29	Sr. Choir	

Connecting to Others:

KfC Kids for Christ youth group for preschool to 5th Grade		Sunday, November 1st Noon to 1:15 PM Come and join us for activities filled with thankfulness and praise. We will begin with lunch, followed by a devotion and fun.
C4Life Christ for Life youth group for 6th to 8th Grade Remind App Code: @4aef23g		SPY St. Paul Youth group for High School students Remind App Code: @ge9993
<u>Euchre/Game/Movie Night</u> – Friday, November 6th from 6:00 to 8:00 PM Come and join us for an evening of fellowship and games. Youth will have the opportunity to choose between the Euchre tournament, a movie, or playing Jackbox games. Youth are encouraged to bring a snack/drink to share and an electronic device (phone, tablet, computer, etc.) for Jackbox. Some devices will be available to share if youth do not have a device.		
<u>Fun & Fellowship at the Fohne's</u> – Sunday, November 15th from 5:00 to 7:00 PM Junior and Senior High youth are invited to hang out at the Fohne's house! We will have delicious food and smores. See if you can beat Mrs. Fohne at a game of knock out. Other activity selections will be available as we spend time together. Friends are always welcome!		
<u>Gingerbread Dough Making</u> – Sunday, November 29th from Noon to 1:30 PM We need your help to get ready for Family Fun Night. It is St. Paul's annual tradition to invite families to join us for an evening of gingerbread house decorating. The first step is making the dough for the gingerbread houses. After 2nd service, we will have lunch and then get our hands "deliciously dirty" making gingerbread dough.		
<u>Annual Meeting Childcare</u> – Sunday, November 29th from 5:00 to 7:30 PM Calling all youth to play and have fun with the children of the congregation during the annual meeting. This important service project begins at 5:00 PM with supper. After everyone has finished eating, C4Life and SPY youth are needed to receive children to play on the playground, engage in crafts and other activities. Childcare will conclude once the business from the annual meeting has concluded.		

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

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



St. Paul Lutheran Church
& Early Childhood Ministry

News and Notes

Extending Christ's Love Update

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. If you have any questions about Extending Christ's Love, please contact Warren Scheidt, chair of the Building Committee or Phil Burbrink, chair of the Finance Committee.

Loyalty Sunday

Loyalty Sunday is October 18th when we will offer our pledges for 2027 as we respond to the Lord's benefits with thankful and grateful hearts. Prayerfully consider God's blessings in your life and how you can use God's gifts to further His kingdom through our congregation, community, and world.

Waymansville Fish Fry

St. Peter Waymansville invites you to their annual fish fry on **Sunday, October 18th** serving from 4-7 PM (dine-in, pickup, or carry out). The menu is fish sandwiches, hotdogs, coleslaw, macaroni and cheese, baked beans, chips, pie, and drinks. A freewill donation will be received for new playground equipment.

Reformation Sunday

Special Services and Door Offering

We will celebrate Reformation on **Sunday, October 25th**. The theme is "Fortified" based on Psalm 46. The Columbus Brass Quintet will be enriching our services through song.

We will gather a door offering to support the Aurora Circuit Church Workers Scholarship Fund (ACCWSF). This endowment supports members from our Aurora Circuit who are preparing for church work vocations. This school year Glory and Providence Wofford and Nathaniel Bauman received ACCWSF scholarships.



Guitar Classes

St. Paul member Chad Dornquist is offering a four-week guitar class for youth and adults on **Sunday afternoons, October 25th-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.

The class is limited to five participants. To sign-up or for questions, please contact Chad at 812-343-4719 or by email chadcols@gmail.com.

Fall Back

On the night of **Saturday, October 31st** please set your clocks back one hour as Daylight Savings Time ends.

All Saints Sunday Celebration

In the Divine Services on **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 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 on **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.

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!

Orphan Grain Train 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.

Euchre and Game Night

Euchre Tournament and Family 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!

ECM Registration

Registration for the 2027-2028 school year is quickly approaching! Church member families and families of current students can begin registering 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.

- We are one of the few fully accredited early learning centers in the area.
- We have low teacher-to-student ratios in our classrooms.
- We offer financial aid, so finances are not an obstacle for any family to attend.

- And most importantly, we teach the Word of God to every student every day so that their faith may be firmly founded on Christ, the solid rock!
- 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.

For more information, please contact Director Jen Probst.

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.

Concordia Counseling Presentation

On **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.

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.

Annual Meeting

We want you at this year's annual meeting on **Sunday, November 29th**! We will review reports from our boards and staff for the past year and approve the mission and ministry budget for 2027 as well as ratify officers. The meeting will also include a presentation regarding the new federal SGO program that begins in 2027 and how this program will be a tremendous blessing to our school. A pitch-in will be held at 5 PM with meat and drinks provided. The meeting begins at 6 PM. The Annual Report will be distributed beginning November 22nd. You are encouraged to review the materials before the meeting. Children are welcome to attend. They can eat with their parents and then childcare will be provided during the meeting. Reports for the Annual Meeting need to be submitted no later than **Monday, November 16th**.

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.

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.

Nominations

If you are interested in serving as a church officer or as a member of one of our church boards or if you would like to recommend someone to serve, please contact Phil Burbrink at 812-344-9946.

Sunday Lunches

We are blessed to provide lunches for those remaining for afternoon activities: confirmation, youth choirs, youth groups, and Spanish Bible studies. We need volunteers to prepare the lunches on **November 1st, 8th, and 22nd**. Please sign up in the gathering space.

October 18th Corn Dogs with Macaroni and Cheese

October 25th Chicken Sandwiches

November 1st Hot Dogs—KfC Day

November 8th Sandwich Bar

November 15th Spaghetti and Garlic Bread

November 22nd Chicken Wraps

November 29th Zwanzigz Pizza—Gingerbread Dough Making Day

Official Act

Jerrold Wray and Rachel Waggoner were united in marriage on September 24th.

November Mission of the Month

The Mission of the Month is LCMS Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty. The Center, located in Washington, DC, defends and promotes religious liberty, marriage, and life through advocacy, education, and networking.

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 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 by calling 800-847-4836. When prompted say, "Thrivent Choice" and then press 1 to direct your choice dollars.

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

Our Christian Stewardship

January-September Financial Report

Offerings Needed:	\$691,119
Offerings Received:	\$605,059
Difference:	(\$86,060)
Total Income:	\$812,270
Total Expenses:	\$859,550
Difference:	(\$47,280)

As we enter the final quarter of 2026, our general fund offerings continue to lag behind our weekly need. We appreciate your sacrificial, generous, and cheerful support of the mission and ministry that the Lord has entrusted to our congregation.

If you have any questions, please contact Treasurer Jackie Arnholt, Finance Specialist Rachel Fohne, or a member of the Board of Stewardship: Rob Baltus, Adam Scheidt, or Hayden Shuffett.

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 below 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. Married couples filing jointly can receive up to a \$3,400 credit!! 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 35% of our school families are unchurched so your generosity is making an eternity impact in the lives of our students and their families.

St. Paul Lutheran State SGO

A donation to our St. Paul Lutheran State SGO directly benefits our Early Childhood Ministry by helping us fund 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
SGO Donation Total as of September 30, 2026: \$6,450

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 at rachel.fohne@stpaulcolumbus.org. If you know what you have pledged but have been unable to fulfill your pledge, please also reach out with this update to Rachel Fohne. These details help us with our financial planning. Thank you for your continued generosity and support!

Multiple Ways to Give

There are multiple ways to give to St. Paul such as cash and check, and online through the website or use the QR code. You can make a one-time donation or schedule weekly or monthly donations that you can adjust or cancel at any time. Please also consider donating appreciated securities such as stocks, bonds, and mutual funds as these donations could offer tax advantages to the donor. Farmers who donate a commodity such as grain could also receive valuable tax benefits. Please consult a professional tax advisor for any tax advice. If you have a question about donating to St. Paul, please reach out to Rachel Fohne at 812-343-3786 or rachel.fohne@stpaulcolumbus.org.



Looking Ahead to December

Wednesdays, December 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 23rd 6:45 PM Midweek Advent Services

Sunday, December 13th Christmas Family Fun Night; 3-5 PM Christmas Caroling; 5 PM Supper and Family Activities, including Gingerbread House Decorating

Thursday, December 17th Early Childhood Ministry Parent Day

Saturday, December 19th 5 PM Las Posadas Service and Fiesta

Sunday, December 20th 10:45 AM Children's Christmas Service; Rehearsal is Saturday, December 19th from 9-10:30 AM

Sunday, December 20th 7 PM Christmas Concert; Pre-concert harp recital at 6:40 PM

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

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

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

Latino Outreach Report

On Sunday, September 27th, the Latino brothers and sisters that Pastor Fickenscher serves in Indianapolis joined the Latino brothers and sisters of Clifty for worship and time together before heading to Harvest Fest. We received a brief preview of the book of Deuteronomy as that serves as the basis for our daily Spanish devotions for the month of October, and every family assembled a crucifix to beautify their homes and enhance their devotional lives. Big thanks to the Schroers and everyone who helped pull off another wonderful Harvest Fest! Thanks as well to Katie and Addy Arnholt for hosting our lunch and to Kantor Mau and Art Ramsey for serving as organist and elder for the afternoon divine service.

If you haven't done so already, this is the year that you join us for Las Posadas, our annual Christmas celebration commemorating Mary and Joseph's search for a place to stay in Bethlehem! If you have already done so, then you're thrilled that the wait is almost over. Get **Saturday, December 19th**, at 5 PM on your calendar!



LWML News

The **Harvest Mission Project** will wrap up on October 25th. You are welcome to bring the last of your surplus produce, plants, and flowers to the table in the gathering space, or take from this table for a donation to the Food Bank. More than \$130 has been collected so far this season.

Family Game Night and Euchre Tourney is Friday, November 6th at 6 PM, in the fellowship room. Don't know how to play euchre? No problem! There is always a variety of card games and board games available for all ages! Join us for the last game night of the year.



On Sunday, November 29th, St. John's White Creek is hosting **Advent by Candlelight**. The theme is "On Our Way to Bethlehem", and it's a time for all ladies to prepare their hearts and minds for Christmas. The suggested donation is \$3 per ticket, and all donations will go to Lutherans for Life. Contact Jean Voelker at White Creek, 812-216-1489, for more information or to register.

St. Paul hosted the **LWML Columbus Zone Fall Gathering** on September 26th, and 23 people from seven area churches were in attendance. LWML District President Becky Thibodeau shared her experiences with the Lutheran Association of Missionary Pilots (LAMP) Ministry. She and Sariina were on a team of people from Indiana, Michigan, and Nebraska who traveled to the communities of KI and Wapakeka, indigenous communities in northern Canada, last July. A monetary ingathering of \$640 was collected for future transportation, shipping, and miscellaneous costs of the LAMP Ministry. Visit lampministry.org to learn more.

During the business meeting of the fall gathering, Pastor Fickenscher spoke about the ongoing Hispanic outreach at Cornerstone-Warren in Indianapolis. The ministry received a \$12,000 LWML Mission Grant to help support seminarians and new pastors in Spanish-speaking communities, to increase the local outreach in Indy, and to help send Hispanic teenagers to youth gatherings.

Thank you to all who brought in coins, cash, and additional offerings totaling more than \$500 on **LWML Sunday** October 4th. The core of Lutheran Women in Mission is to joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip others, and we couldn't do it without the support of our home congregations.

The Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch's **Honey Sundays** were held the first two Sundays in October. Twenty-nine bottles of honey were ordered and should be delivered before Thanksgiving. Please visit dakotaranch.org for more info on what your honey purchases do for families and children.

In the Lord's Field

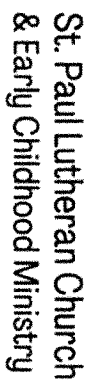
We are blessed to be joined together in a common confession and mission in our synodical fellowship of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Here are some updates from area congregations and ministries:

- Pastor Peter Brock will be installed as chaplain of Cedar Lake Lodge on Sunday, October 25th at 3 PM at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Louisville, Kentucky.
- Pastor Aaron West has accepted a call to serve as pastor of Redeemer in Sidney, Ohio. Please pray for him and his family during this time of transition. Also pray for Holy Trinity Greensburg and Bethany Connersville as they begin the search for their next shepherd.
- Pastor Will Fredstrom has accepted the call to serve as Senior Pastor of Immanuel Seymour. He will be installed on November 8th at 3 PM.
- Pastor Chris Raffa has accepted the call to serve as pastor at St. John's Sauers.
- Pray for the following congregations who are seeking associate pastors: St. Peter's Columbus, Faith Bloomington, Immanuel Seymour, Redeemer Seymour, and Zion Seymour.
- Pray for St. Peter's Columbus as they continue their search for their next school principal.
- Work continues on the expansion at Trinity Lutheran High School with completion scheduled for spring 2027.

Serving at St. Paul

Service	Usher Team	Elders	Greeters
8 AM	Team B	Jim Brock & Brian Arnholt	
10:45 AM	Team E	Eric Scheidt & Jeff Schroer	

Day	Acolyte	Flowers	Radio	Fellowship Hour	Lunch
1	8 AM Otto Seifer	Ann Linke		Lewis & Murphy Families	
	10:45 AM Theodore Laws				
8	8 AM Daryn Vogel			Evangelism Board	
	10:45 AM Arayah Lutz				
15	8 AM Jace Vogel	Lynn Lutz		Colin and Linda Scheidt	Laws Family
	10:45 AM Clark Neawedde				
22	8 AM Sarah Arnholt	Lynn Lutz	Colin Scheidt	Susan Arnholt	
	10:45 AM Leo Patterson				
25 Thanksgiving Eve 7 PM	Silas Lewis	----	----	----	----
29	8 AM Faith Fohne				Zwanzigz
	10:45 AM Theodore Laws				



Our Sunday Schedule
8 AM Divine Service
 9:00 AM Radio Service
 9:10 AM Fellowship
 9:30 AM Sunday School

10:45 AM Divine Service English & Spanish

Noon Lunch

12:15 PM Confirmation (no class 11/29)

12:15 PM Spanish Bible Study

12:45 PM Jr. Handchimes (no practice 11/1)

1:15 PM Jr. Handbells (no practice 11/1)

7 PM Lutheran Hour

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 AI Saints Day/Commemoration of Faithful Departed Mite Box Sunday Noon-1:15 PM KfC Event 2 PM Guitar Lessons	2 10 AM Moms in the Word 10 AM Homeschool Religion Class 10 AM Small Group Handbells	3 9 AM-Noon OGT Workday 12:30 PM Staff Meeting	4 10:45 AM Communion Wafer Making 2 PM Grief Class 7:15 PM Elders Meeting	5 6 PM Tri-W Meeting	6 6 PM Euchre and Game Night	7 9 AM-6 PM Church Reserved
8 Sr. Handbells 9:30 AM New Member Recognition 2 PM Guitar Lessons	9 December Newsletter Deadline ECM Registration Opens for Enrolled and Church Families 10 AM Homeschool Religion Class 10 AM Small Group Handbells	10 5-9 PM Church Reserved	11 2 PM Grief Class	12	13	14 8 AM-1 PM Church Reserved 2-4 PM Baking for the Building Drop Off
15 Sr. Choir Baking for the Building 2 PM Guitar Lessons 5-7 PM SPV and C4Life at the Fohne's	16 ECM Open Registration Begins 10 AM Homeschool Religion Class 10 AM Small Group Handbells 5:30-10 PM Church Reserved 6 PM Finance Committee 7 PM Council Meeting Reports due for Annual Meeting Packets	17 8:20 AM Lambs Chapel	18 8:20 AM Doves and Kindergarten Chapel 2 PM Grief Class	19 1:30 PM Hickory Creek Visit	20	21
22 Christ the King Sunday Jr. Choir, Jr. Handchimes and Handbells ECL Silent Auction Begins 9:30 AM Concordia Counseling Presentation	23 10 AM Small Group Handbells	24	25 7 PM Thanksgiving Eve Communion Service Sr. Handbells	26 Thanksgiving Day	27	28
29 First Sunday of Advent Sr. Choir Noon Gingerbread Dough Making Noon Confirmation Make-up/Work Ahead 5 PM Pitch-In Supper 6 PM ECL Silent Auction Ends 6 PM Annual Meeting	30 9 AM-Noon Gingerbread Dough Baking 10 AM Homeschool Religion Class 10 AM Small Group Handbells	No School - Thanksgiving Break 11/23-11/27				
Teacher Professional Development Conference Church Office Closed Wednesday Schedule 9 AM Bible Study 10:15 Matins Service 6 PM Bible Study no class 11/25 6 PM Sr. Handbells no rehearsal 11/25 7 PM Sr. Choir no rehearsal 11/25 Radio Service and Lutheran Hour can be found on 91.1 FM Columbus/Madison, 89.1 FM Greensburg, 88.1 FM Versailles/Osgood, and 94.5 FM Salem						

DAILY MEMORY WORK: Psalm 8:1-2a

HYMN: How Great Thou Art (LSB 801)

HYMN: How Great Thou Art (LSB 801)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Pray: Pastors	2 Pray: Lord's Prayer	3 Pray: President and leaders	4 Pray: Prayer requests	5 Pray: Luther's Evening Prayer	6 Pray: Family at church	7 Pray: Godchildren/Baptism sponsors Sing: How Great Thou Art (LSB 801)
Learn: Catechism	Learn: Apostles' Creed	Read: Kid's choice of book	Learn: Books of the Bible	Read: Bible story	Learn: Days of Creation	
8 Pray: Grandparents	9 Pray: Lord's Prayer	10 Pray: Family members	11 Pray: Prayer requests	12 Pray: Luther's Evening Prayer	13 Pray: Family at church	14 Pray: Godchildren/Baptism sponsors Sing: How Great Thou Art (LSB 801)
Learn: Catechism	Learn: Nicene Creed	Learn: Commandments	Learn: Books of the Bible	Read: Bible story	Learn: Days of Creation	
15 Pray: Pregnancy centers	16 Pray: Lord's Prayer	17 Pray: Missionaries	18 Pray: Prayer requests	19 Pray: Grandparents	20 Pray: Lord's Prayer	21 Pray: Family members
Learn: Catechism	Learn: Apostles' Creed	Read: Kid's choice of book	Learn: Books of the Bible	Read: Bible story	Learn: Days of Creation	Sing: How Great Thou Art (LSB 801)
22 Pray: Teachers	23 Pray: Lord's Prayer	24 Pray: President and leaders	25 Pray: Prayer requests	26 Pray: Luther's Evening Prayer	27 Pray: Family at church	28 Pray: Godchildren/Baptism sponsors Sing: How Great Thou Art (LSB 801)
Learn: Catechism	Learn: Nicene Creed	Learn: Commandments	Learn: Books of the Bible	Read: Bible story	Learn: Days of Creation	
29 Pray: Unborn babies	30 Pray: Lord's Prayer	1 1	2 2	3 3	4 4	5 5
Learn: Catechism	Learn: Apostles' Creed					



The Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization

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

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



Variety of Ways to Give

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

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

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

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

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

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

**I LOVE LEARNING
ABOUT JESUS AT
SCHOOL**



scan to donate

