

St. Paul News

Celebrating 125 years 1899 - 2024

October 2024

St. Paul Lutheran Church

*The Lutheran Church -
Missouri Synod*

1050 10th Avenue
Granite Falls, MN 56241

Rev. Jonathan Varns
Pastor

860 11th Ave
Granite Falls, MN 56241
218-235-8493

shepherdofthecross@gmail.com

Church office:
320-564-2221

stpaulgf@embarqmail.com
www.stpaulgf.org

Chairman
DuWayne Galow
320-435-0620

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of
St. Paul Lutheran Church
is to promote the
worship of the Triune God
as revealed in Holy Scriptures,
by teaching the Gospel of
Jesus Christ and administering
the Sacraments, in order to
equip people for Christian
life and service.

Pastor's Message

I really appreciated having the summer off from teaching Bible Studies. A freer schedule was necessary to help get the family ready for Sunday's Divine Service as they adjusted to life with an infant again. I remember that, when we had Rebecca, there were no Bible classes that were going yet because of CoVID closures, and many classes didn't start until spring.

But now that we are in the swing of things again, I want to encourage you to attend a Bible Study. As we have started resuming, I have noticed that attendance is down across the board. And this isn't good. Now is a good time to change that.

About 9 years ago, when I became a pastor, fresh from the seminary, I started to study the basics again, to make sure I had a strong foundation for myself as a Christian and to clarify much of what I learned very quickly in the seminary, so to make sure my teaching and preaching was in line with what our Synod teaches. Even though I had a strong seminary education, there was more to learn.

Martin Luther discusses the importance of continually keeping the Word of God in our ears and upon our hearts in the Large Catechism in the explanation to the 3rd Commandment. These words are important to contemplate on as I encourage you to find a Bible Study to attend. I commend them to you.

"Even though you know the Word perfectly, and have already mastered everything, still you are daily under the dominion of the devil, who neither night nor day relaxes his effort to steal upon you unawares and to kindle in your heart unbelief and wicked thoughts against all these commandments.

"Therefore, you must continually keep God's Word in your heart, on your lips, and in your ears. For where the heart stands idle and the Word is not heard, the devil breaks in and does his damage before we realize it.

"On the other hand, when we seriously ponder the Word, hear it, and put it to use, such is its power that it never departs without fruit. It always awakens new understanding, new pleasure, and a new spirit of devotion, and it constantly cleanses the heart and its meditations.

For these words are not idle or dead, but effective and living. Even if no other interest or need drove us to the Word, yet everyone should be spurred on by the realization that in this way, the devil is cast out and put the flight, this commandment is fulfilled, and God is more pleased than by any work of hypocrisy, however brilliant."

+ God's Peace +

Pastor Jonathan Varns

ITEMS OF INTEREST

LWML News

Mites can do mitey things! The "Noisy Offering" from September was \$51.74. Thanks for finding your loose change to fill the cans. These offering go to support LWML missions!

Sunday, October 6th we will be celebrating LWML Sunday. The ladies will be taking part in the service. We also invite everyone to stay after church to join us for a noon meal in the parish hall. The noon meal will be provided. You are invited to bring a salad or dessert if you like. Pastor Fred Hinz will be joining us for our noon meal. He will be the speaker for the Joy Shop at our church that afternoon. The Joy Shop begins at 1:30 with registration and the program begins at 2:00. Registration fee is \$3.00. The Theme is: Our Life In Exile. Men and women and guests are encouraged to attend! Please refer to page 6 for more information.

On Monday, October 21st is our quarterly meeting at 6:30 pm in the parish hall. We welcome all women of our congregation to attend.

A meal will be provided on October 6th at 11 am. You are invited to bring a salad or dessert if you like.



SPLC 2024 Cookbooks

The cookbooks were a success that we will be doing a second printing. If you would like one please sign the order form that you can find in the narthex or call the church office.

Missing: The wooden cross that was given in memory of LeRoy Schulte is missing. If you know where it is please bring it to the church office.

Shoeboxes

Reminder to all. We will be again working on Operation Christmas Child Shoebox project this fall. Please start to collect items with a quality "wow" item that will capture the child's attention the instant he or she opens the box. Gift suggestions for fun toys, hygiene items, and school supplies to fill the shoebox are available in the back of the church. The packing party will be November 3rd and then all other filled boxes must be here by November 17th.



October Birthdays

- Oct 1 Crystal Cunningham,
Amber Twedt,
Mason Williamson
- Oct 3 Amy Redepenning
- Oct 4 Jonathan Anderson
- Oct 5 Travis Luepke
- Oct 6 Eric Freitag,
Delaney Myer,
Eleora Varns
- Oct 7 Sandra Dudonis,
LeRoy Kvam,
Valerie Skjefte
- Oct 8 Anne Brown, Nancy Hammer
- Oct 9 David Yeager
- Oct 10 Kaddisyn Luepke
- Oct 11 John Korthuis
- Oct 12 Paul Hinz
- Oct 13 Wes Just, Michael Tesch
- Oct 14 Jim Banken
Marie Holtan
- Oct 16 Melanie Gatchell
Colt McCreecy
- Oct 17 Don Gabbert, Kayla Trotter
- Oct 18 Teresa Hildahl, Ken Podratz
- Oct 19 Karen Galow
- Oct 21 Jaden Berends,
Nick Johnson,
Allan Reinke
- Oct 22 James Luepke
- Oct 23 Kathy Enninga
- Oct 26 Mazie Jeseritz
Allison Kahler
- Oct 27 Greg Meyer
Lu-Ann Smith
- Oct 30 Craig Baumann
- Oct 31 Keith Brouwer,
Kelly Rikke

Birthday Blessings to you all.

Please contact the church office if we missed yours.

Portals of Prayer for
October - December
are available in the narthex.

SAC Groups will be our greeters and ushers. If this is your month to serve, please prayerfully consider where you are able to and willing to help.

Group 2

Serving for October

Anderson, Bryan and Renae
 Berends, Randy and Tamra
 Beyer, Brian, and Laura
 Cobb, Kris and Holly
 Enninga, Dan and Kathy
 Enninga, Dustin and Krystle
 Guertin, Sarah
 Hammer, Brett
 Hammer, Mary
 Hempel, Terry and Rosemary
 Hinz, Paul and Diane
 Jeseritz, Randy
 Johnson, Ted and Kathy
 Kirschbaum, Janet
 Korhuis, John and Kathy
 Luepke, Otto and Theresa
 Miller, Eugene
 Myers, Troy and Jenna
 Nokleby, Dorothy
 Podratz, Ken and Carol
 Redepenning, Tony and Amy
 Rigge, Jim and Cindy
 Rigge, Michael
 Sherman, Leslie and Renee
 Sietsema, Barb
 Stengel, Allen and Pat
 Streich, Chris
 Streich, LouAnn
 Varns, Pastor and Lindsay
 Wegner, James and Eileen
 Zempel, Meredith
 Zempel, Nicole
 Zimmer, Kevin and Laura

Daily Bible Readings for October

Oct 1 Nehemiah 1-2 Psalm 96 Revelation 1
 Oct 2 Nehemiah 3 Psalm 97 Revelation 2
 Oct 3 Nehemiah 4 Psalm 98 Revelation 3
 Oct 4 Nehemiah 5:1-7:4 Psalm 99 Revelation 4
 Oct 5 Nehemiah 7:5-8:12 Psalm 100 Revelation 5
 Oct 6 Nehemiah 8:13-9:37 Psalm 101 Revelation 6
 Oct 7 Nehemiah 9:38-10:39 Psalm 102 Revelation 7
 Oct 8 Nehemiah 11 Psalm 103 Revelation 8
 Oct 9 Nehemiah 12 Psalm 104:1-23 Revelation 9
 Oct 10 Nehemiah 13 Psalm 104:24-35 Revelation 10
 Oct 11 Esther 1 Psalm 105:1-25 Revelation 11
 Oct 12 Esther 2 Psalm 105:26-45 Revelation 12
 Oct 13 Esther 3-4 Psalm 106:1-23 Revelation 13
 Oct 14 Esther 5:1-6:13 Psalm 106:24-48 Revelation 14
 Oct 15 Esther 6:14-8:17 Psalm 107:1-22 Revelation 15
 Oct 16 Esther 9-10 Psalm 107:23-43 Revelation 16
 Oct 17 Isaiah 1-2 Psalm 108 Revelation 17
 Oct 18 Isaiah 3-4 Psalm 109:1-19 Revelation 18
 Oct 19 Isaiah 5-6 Psalm 109:20-31 Revelation 19
 Oct 20 Isaiah 7-8 Psalm 110 Revelation 20
 Oct 21 Isaiah 9-10 Psalm 111 Revelation 21
 Oct 22 Isaiah 11-13 Psalm 112 1 Thessalonians 1
 Oct 23 Isaiah 14-16 Psalm 113 1 Thess. 2:1-16
 Oct 24 Isaiah 17-19 Psalm 114 1 Thess. 2:17-3:13
 Oct 25 Isaiah 20-22 Psalm 115 1 Thessalonians 4
 Oct 26 Isaiah 23-24 Psalm 116 1 Thessalonians 5
 Oct 27 Isaiah 25-26 Psalm 117 2 Thessalonians 1
 Oct 28 Isaiah 27-28 Psalm 118 2 Thessalonians 2
 Oct 29 Isaiah 29-30 Psalm 119:1-32 2 Thessalonians 3
 Oct 30 Isaiah 31-33 Psalm 119:33-64 1 Timothy 1
 Oct 31 Isaiah 34-35 Psalm 119:65-96 1 Timothy 2



Vital Statistics

Attendance and Offering Report

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offering</u>
Sun, Sept 1	49	\$4,035.00
Sun, Sept 8	60	\$2,084.00
Sun, Sept 15	64	\$1,722.00
Sun, Sept 22	144	\$3,372.00
Sun, Sept 29	N/A	

(2024 Budget Income
 needed each Sunday - \$3,882.00)

Financials as of 9-26-2024

Year to Date Actual Contributions	\$117,177.18
Year to Date Contributions Needed	<u>\$135,903.69</u>
Difference	(\$18,726.51)
Year to Date Actual Expenses	\$131,289.61
Year to Date Budgeted Expenses	<u>\$135,903.69</u>
Difference	\$4,614.08

125th Anniversary Celebration

September 22, 2024

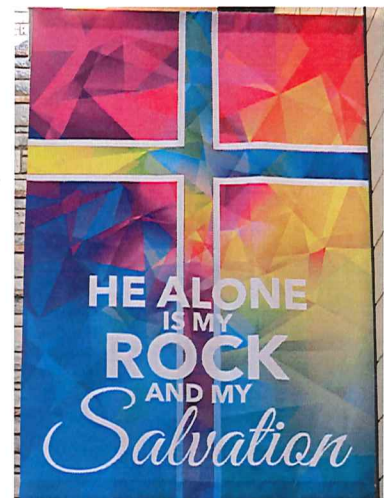
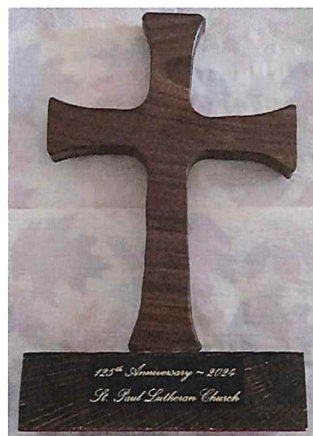


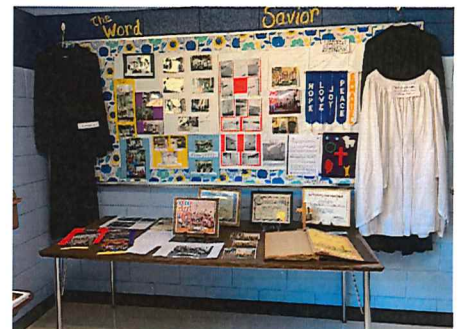
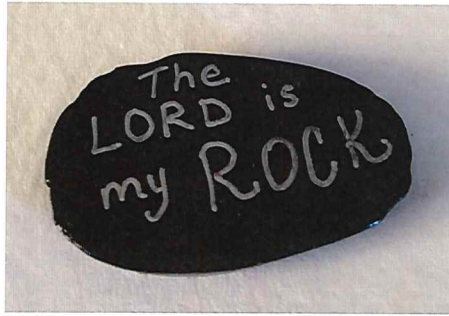
September 22, 2024, was the Sunday that St. Paul Lutheran Church of Granite Falls, MN celebrated their 125th Anniversary. Thanks to all our members and guests who attended and celebrated this event! The morning began with a worship service with the guest speaker Rev. Brady Finner who gave a very meaningful message, and the wonderful and beautiful music performed by the Mixed and Handbell Choirs. Following the service, we enjoyed a delicious ham and roast beef meal. Then after the meal we were invited to view the memorabilia rooms, purchase the 2024 cookbooks and participate in a history, trivia questions, and singing program. The day ended with a concert by The Garms Family and an ice cream treat.

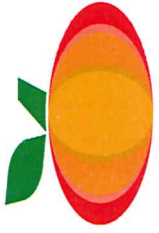
A very special thank you to:

- Rev. Brady Finner, MN North District President for preaching.
- Rev. Dennis Schultz, retired, Granite Falls, for participating.
- The Handbell Choir and Mixed Choir for ringing and singing in the service and director/organist, Phyllis Schultz.
- The Garms Family for their music in the afternoon.
- The trustees, Tom Edman, Chris Berends, Kris Cobb, Dennis Smith and also Dan Enninga, Dave Skjette, Kerry Steffen, and Rolland Hegna for completing the **many** church projects such as painting, washing windows, moving tables, etc.
- Kerry Steffen for all the beautiful yard work. Kerry also did the church cleaning along with Jayne and Dennis Bauman.
- All who contributed to the memorabilia rooms.
- The last 25 Years Memory pamphlet: LuAnn Olson, Kathy Enninga, Phyllis Schultz, and Sue Erickson.
- Judy Rode and Kathy Enninga for displaying the quilts.
- 125th Cookbook by Tammy Edman and assisted by LuAnn Olson, Phyllis Schultz, and Tom Edman.
- Ken and Carol Podratz, and Avis Freitag as our greeters.
- Shelly Loose painting the souvenir rocks with the theme "Built on The Rock."
- The delicious variety of filled cupcakes made by Nancy Cuklanz with Kathy Enninga help.
- David Yeager for making the beautiful crosses used for centerpieces for each table.
- Sue Erickson for trivia & Lindsay, Abigail & Madeline Varns for singing after dinner.

It took many man hours to make this a memorable day and our apologies if we omitted you. Thanks again from the 125th Anniversary Committee: Sue Erickson, Mary Hammer, Mary Kelly, LuAnn Olson, Judy Rode, and Pastor Varns.







OCTOBER

2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Elder Loren Petersen	Altar Guild Kathy Enninga and Mary Hammer	1 8:30 am Quilting St. Paul	2 6 pm Handbell Practice 5 pm 4-6 gr Midweek Class 7 pm 7-8 gr Conf 7 pm Mixed Choir Practice Lutheran Church delivers	3 9 am Bldg Bridges Choir 9:30 am Women's Bible Study at Granite Ridge 6:30 pm Bible Study "Dinner at Your Door"	4	5
6 8:30 am Adult Bible Study 9:30 am Communion Service 10:45 am K-3 Sunday School 11 am Potluck Dinner 1:30 pm Fall Joy Shop LWML Sunday	7 8 am Men's Bible Study	8 8:30 am Quilting 6 pm Board of Elders 7 pm Church Council	9 6 pm Handbell Practice 5 pm 4-6 gr Midweek Class 7 pm 7-8 gr Conf 7 pm Mixed Choir Practice	10 9 am Bldg Bridges Choir 9:30 am Women's Bible Study at Granite Ridge 6:30 pm Bible Study	11	12
13 8:30 am Adult Bible Study 9:30 am Communion Service 10:45 am K-3 Sunday School	14 8 am Men's Bible Study	15 8:30 am Quilting	16 6 pm Handbell Practice 5 pm 4-6 gr Midweek Class 7 pm 7-8 gr Conf 7 pm Mixed Choir Practice	17 9 am Bldg Bridges Choir 9:30 am Women's Bible Study at Granite Ridge 6:30 pm Bible Study	18 Newsletter Articles Due	19
20 8:30 am Adult Bible Study 9:30 am Communion Service 10:45 am K-3 Sunday School	21 8 am Men's Bible Study 6:30 pm LWML Qtly Meeting	22 8:30 am Quilting	23 6 pm Handbell Practice 5 pm 4-6 gr Midweek Class 7 pm 7-8 gr Conf 7 pm Mixed Choir Practice	24 99 am Bldg Bridges Choir 9:30 am Women's Bible Study at Granite Ridge 6:30 pm Bible Study	25	26
27 8:30 am Adult Bible Study 9:30 am Communion Service 10:45 am K-3 Sunday School	28 8 am Men's Bible Study	29 8:30 am Quilting Lutheran Church delivers	30 6 pm Handbell Practice 5 pm 4-6 gr Midweek Class 7 pm 7-8 gr Conf 7 pm Mixed Choir Practice	31 9 am Bldg Bridges Choir 9:30 am Women's Bible Study at Granite Ridge 6:30 pm Bible Study "Dinner at Your Door"		