



St. Paul News

November 2022

St. Paul Lutheran Church

*The Lutheran Church -
Missouri Synod*

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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

In October of 1529, the Holy Roman Empire was attacked. It was unsuccessful but revealed the divisions and weaknesses of the Holy Roman Empire. Just a little over a decade before, on October 31, 1517, Luther nailed the 95 Theses to the church door in Wittenberg. One could easily say that the Lutherans were responsible for the divisions.

However, Luther and the Lutherans were concerned about one thing. The Gospel. It was being lost in the Church. Bishops and Pastors didn't know basic teachings of the Church, and with the sale of indulgences and the emphasis on doing good works to merit salvation, the Lutherans were right to be concerned about the Church. The division was not in the Lutherans, but in the Church which was preaching and teaching wrong doctrines.

Within a couple of months after the attack on the Holy Roman Empire, Emperor Charles V, against the backdrop of war, called for a theological meeting at Augsburg. In the Emperor's mind, the theological issues had to be addressed in order to unite the German states against the invading Turks. He was concerned that the Holy Roman Empire would be lost. The Lutherans, however, were concerned that something much more important would be lost, namely, the Gospel.

The Lutherans presented the Augsburg Confession at that theological meeting. The heart of that confession, Article IV on Justification, reads as follows: Our churches teach that people cannot be justified before God by their own strength, merits, or works. People are freely justified for Christ's sake, through faith, when they believe that they are received into favor and that their sins are forgiven for Christ's sake. By His death, Christ made satisfaction for our sins. God counts this faith for righteousness in His sight (Romans 3 and 4).

Basically, it puts the correct understanding to faith and works. You are saved by works. But not yours. Jesus did more than die for you. He lived for you. Salvation is not merely the forgiveness of sins. It is the gift of righteousness, received by faith. We receive what He deserves — rewards for His good works — given as a gift. And He received what we deserve because of our deeds — punishment.

God works to save you. He gives you the fruit of His labor by grace. You receive this through faith. This Good News is the focus of the Scriptures. You do nothing. God works. And His works are very good.

Your good works are done in response to salvation. Justification by grace through faith does not mean good works are bad, but puts them in their proper role. We live according to God's will out of thankfulness to His love.

+God's Peace+

Pastor Jonathan Varns

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Advent

During Advent we look forward to the coming of Christ, who is our King. The word "ADVENT" means "coming" and during this season we prepare for Christ's coming as:

- a - The baby of Bethlehem.
- b - His coming into our hearts and lives.
- c - His second coming at the end of time.

Explanation of the blue paraments that are used during Advent. The blue represents Royalty. The Altar: This symbol is a modified Chi Rho. The Chi (X) and the Rho (P) are the first two letters in Greek for the word "Christ". They are often used together in Church symbolism to denote "CHRIST". These altar Paraments tell the story that Jesus, born in the manger in Bethlehem, came to suffer and die for our sins (the three crosses), and now reigns in heaven as our King (crown). The Lectern: The star and the trumpets are announcing the coming of Christ. The Pulpit: The four candles depict the four weeks of Advent when we wait and prepare for the coming of Christ.

Midweek Advent Services

Midweek Advent Services are Wednesday, November 30th, December 7th, 14th and 21st starting at 6 pm. Handbell Choir practice to follow the service. Midweek Classes for K-6th grades remains at 5 pm as does the Confirmation Class at 7 pm.

Council Notes

The monthly Board of Elders and Church Council meetings for November and December have changed. The November meeting is now Tuesday the 1st and December's is the 6th. The times remain the same - Board of Elders at 6 pm followed by the council; at 7 pm.

We are looking for a treasurer and secretary for the church council. If interested please contact one of the council members. We are also looking for someone to fill the chair of the SAC committee.

Starting **January 1, 2023** we will only be sending out the newsletter to those homebound or special circumstances due to increased costs. The options to receive it will be to have one put in your church mailbox, receive via email or view on our website.

TIME TO FALL BACK



Qtly Meeting

The Quarterly Voters' Assembly will meet Sunday, December 11th directly following the service. The 2023 Congregational Budget will be presented. All confirmed members who are 18 years of age and older are encouraged to this meeting and to share in the decision making of the congregation.

LWML News

We would love to see new members join us in all the mission work we do (we only meet 4 times a year). A sign-up sheet has been placed in the narthex for the 2023 Membership dues which are \$10.00 and please pay them by November 13th. Dues can be placed in the offering plate or given to the office. Please indicate that it is for LWML.

Mites can do mitey things! The "Noisy Offering" from October was \$76.27. Thanks for your continued support of LWML missions! There are also mite boxes available for adults and children to use at home. You can find them on the bulletin table.

Shoebox Dates



Packing Day
November 13th at 10:45 am

All Boxes Due
November 20th

Christmas Calendar

Sunday, December 4th
Christmas Potluck - 5 pm

Saturday, December 24th
Christmas Eve Service - 6 pm

Sunday, December 25th
Christmas Day Service - 9:30 am

Bake Sale

A bake sale is planned for November 13th following the service. Proceeds from this sale will go to the YMC Food Shelf and Family Services Santa Sleigh. If you would like to donate an item or two, please have it at church before the service that morning. We also ask that you mark a price on the items. Any questions please see Nancy Cuklanz.



Building Bridges Choir

Everyone is welcome to The Building Bridges Christmas Concert with will be held at St. Paul Lutheran Church on November 13th at 2 pm. Coffee and Christmas cookies to be served afterwards. (The Building Bridges Choir exists to celebrate the potential of people living with Dementia, or other memory loss caused by stroke or an accident, and their care partners.)



Vital Statistics

October Attendance and Finances

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attend</u>	<u>Comm</u>	<u>Offering</u>
Sun, Oct 2	41	39	\$1,795.00
Sun, Oct 9	63	49	\$4,729.00
Sun, Oct 16	47	42	\$3,547.00
Sun, Oct 23	45	38	\$1,435.00
Sun, Oct 30	N/A		

(2022 Budget Income needed each Sunday - \$3,331.20)

Financials as of 10-23-2022

Year to Date Actual Contributions	\$109,019.56
Year to Date Contributions Needed	<u>\$144,352.00</u>
Difference	(\$35,332.44)
Year to Date Actual Expenses	\$140,970.41
Year to Date Budgeted Expenses	<u>\$144,352.00</u>
Difference	\$3,381.59

November Birthdays

Nov 1	Keyona Eastman
Nov 2	Melissa Soukup
Nov 3	Carrie Kvam
Nov 4	Kathy Brunner
Nov 5	Trevor Hustad
Nov 6	Saul Lee
	Noel Petersen
Nov 9	Chad Luepke
	Abigail Varns
Nov 14	Amanda DeJong
Nov 15	Olivia Hinz
Nov 16	Wes Erickson
	Kelly Winters
Nov 17	Makaylee Roberts
	Jill Schmidt
Nov 18	Brielle Redepenning
Nov 21	Karla Meyer
Nov 22	Jacob Guertin
	Marci Petersen
Nov 23	Loretta Hewitt
Nov 24	Brian Beyer
	Michelle Miller
	Deven Schmidt
Nov 25	Brett Hammer
	Judy Rode
Nov 26	Gordon Kvam
Nov 27	Tricia Chodur
Nov 28	Kari Twedt
Nov 30	Janine Banken
	Trevor Read

Birthday Blessings to you all.

Please contact the church office if we missed yours.



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 1

Serving for November

Anderson, Rachel
 Berends, Anthony
 Berends, Chris
 Buchholz, Merlin and Sylvia
 Christensen, Brad and Maria
 Doose, Chad
 Doose, Greg and Susan
 Doose, Mike and Kristi
 Erickson, Wes and Sue
 Gabbert, Dennis
 Gatchell, Dorian, and
 Melanie
 Guertin, Dave and Nancy
 Hammer, Nancy
 Hammer, Tracy
 Hempel, Tim and Jody
 Hildahl, Eric and Teresa
 Johnson, Matthew
 Klassen, Jim
 Klassen, Kristin
 Luepke, Travis and Jenn
 Markgraf, Kevin
 Myers, Troy and Jenna
 Phinney, Katie
 Putnam, Charlie
 Rode, Judy
 Ryer, Lisa
 Schulte, Richard and Kelly
 Staab, Tyler and Tara
 Steffen, Don
 Stengel, Gene and Pam
 Stengel, Rob
 Syring, Melodee

Group 2

Serving for December

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
 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

Daily Bible Readings for November

<u>Day</u>	<u>Morning Study</u>	<u>Evening Study</u>
1	Jer. 31,32	Titus 2
2	Jer. 33-35	Titus 3
3	Jer. 36,37	Philemon 1
4	Jer. 38,39	Heb. 1
5	Jer. 40-42	Heb. 2
6	Jer. 43-45	Heb. 3
7	Jer. 46-48	Heb. 4
8	Jer. 49,50	Heb. 5
9	Jer. 51,52	Heb. 6
10	Lam. 1,2	Heb. 7
11	Lam. 3-5	Heb. 8
12	Ezek. 1-3	Heb. 9
13	Ezek. 4-6	Heb. 10:1-23
14	Ezek. 7-9	Heb. 10:24-39
15	Ezek. 10-12	Heb. 11:1-19
16	Ezek. 13-15	Heb. 11:20-40
17	Ezek. 16	Heb. 12
18	Ezek. 17-19	Heb. 13
19	Ezek. 20,21	James 1
20	Ezek. 22,23	James 2
21	Ezek. 24-26	James 3
22	Ezek. 27,28	James 4
23	Ezek. 29-31	James 5
24	Ezek. 32,33	I Peter 1
25	Ezek. 34,35	I Peter 2
26	Ezek. 36,37	I Peter 3
27	Ezek. 38,39	I Peter 4
28	Ezek. 40	I Peter 5
29	Ezek. 41,42	II Peter 1
30	Ezek. 43,44	II Peter 2




We have the opportunity to purchase red poinsettias for our Christmas Services. The cost will be \$18.00 each. A sign-up sheet is available in the narthex, or you may return this form to the church office. All orders need to be placed by November 27th and payment is due by December 3rd.

I WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE A POINSETTIA

 IN MEMORY OF:



November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6 pm Board of Elders 7 pm Church Council St. Paul Lutheran Church delivers "Dinner at Your Door"	2 5 pm K-6 Midweek Class 6 pm Handbell Practice 7 pm 7-8 gr Conf Class 7 pm Mixed Choir Practice	3 7 pm Bible Study	4	5 
6 8:30 am Adult Bible Study 9:30 am Communion Service	7	8 8:30 am Quilting	9 6 pm Handbell Practice 7 pm Mixed Choir Practice	10 7 pm Bible Study	11	12
13 8:30 am Adult Bible Study 9:30 am Communion Service 10:45 am Bake Sale 2 pm Building Bridges Choir Concert	14 8 am Men's Bible Study	15 8:30 am Quilting	16 5 pm K-6 Midweek Class 6 pm Handbell Practice 7 pm 7-8 gr Conf Class 7 pm Mixed Choir Practice	17 7 pm Bible Study	18 Newsletter Articles Due	19
20 8:30 am Adult Bible Study 9:30 am Communion Service	21 8 am Men's Bible Study	22	23 7 pm Thanksgiving Eve Service	24 Happy Thanksgiving	25	26
27 8:30 am Adult Bible Study 9:30 am Communion Service	28 8 am Men's Bible Study	29 8:30 am Quilting	30 5 pm K-6 Midweek Class 6 pm Midweek Advent Service 6:30 pm Handbell Practice 7 pm 7-8 gr Conf Class St. Paul Lutheran Church delivers "Dinner at Your Door"	Elders Dave Guertin and Jim Rigge	Altar Guild Karen Galow and Eileen Wegner	

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“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Wednesday, November 23rd

at 7:00 pm



We invite you, your friends and neighbors to join in thanking our God for all the blessings He gives to us. Following our Thanksgiving Eve Worship, we will enjoy a piece of pie and coffee during the social hour. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex if you wish to donate pies