



St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran

Church • School • Preschool

# St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran

## Church, School, & Preschool

### November 2024 Newsletter

*Seeking to proclaim Christ and Him crucified to more people more often.*

office: 920-922-1080

[www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com](http://www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com)

### Thanksgiving!

As I sit in the office contemplating what to write for the November newsletter, I'm struck by the fact that every holiday seems to celebrate something. And most, though I will admit that there are some holidays which are a lot harder to redeem, but most would seem to celebrate some truth of Scripture. Christmas and Easter are easy. Valentine's Day claims love and marriage. 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Veterans Day, Memorial Day, God's gifts given through Government. St. Patrick's Day maybe evangelism though its celebration has gone a bit off the rails. So what of Thanksgiving? What if I were to tell you that while thankfulness is certainly a part of the celebration of the day, what we're truly doing is celebrating the most foundational truth of Stewardship or Vocation?

David in the very first verse of Psalm 24 tells us, *The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.* Paul, that great theologian, whose time amongst the Pharisees had taught him Scripture like the back of his hand, echoes these words in the grand doxology of Romans 11:33-36, *"<sup>33</sup> Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! <sup>34</sup> "Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?" <sup>35</sup> "Who has ever given to God, that God should repay him?" <sup>36</sup> For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen."*

Yes, all things come from God. He is the owner and we are the stewards and when we acknowledge this, when the little lightbulb turns on in our recesses of our mind, it changes everything.

First, the biggest and most quickly learned word in our vocabulary must disappear. Nothing is "mine". Everything really belongs to Him. The ability to work, the ability to rest, our jobs and the money they earn,

the products and services we spend it all on and the places that sell them, spouse and children, home and car(s), clothes and the food I plan to eat, it's all God's! It's all lovingly provided from His bountiful hand.

Second, it inspires my thankfulness and praise. If everything we just said is true, then I suppose there is really no reason God should have given it to me. Allowed me to be so bold as to call it my own as He provided it as a gift. What could I ever provide in return? Certainly not my holiness, that was spoiled even before I took my first breath. *Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me* (Psalm 51:5). No we rightly lament with Job, *"Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised (Job1:21)"* No this is all grace just as the cross is grace. Just as forgiveness for all my selfishness and for my thunderous "mine"s is grace. Yes, may the name of the Lord be praise! To Him be glory forever and ever!

Third, it frees me! That thought seemed so weird the first time I heard it but it's true and it does. The "mine"s of this world, trap me in a prison of my own making. My hands grow tighter and tighter on all that I call mine and the fear of losing it intensifies with each new sparkling little precious thing. Like Gollum in Tolkien's Lord of the Rings it can so easily become consuming. But God opens my hand. Does it in the strangest of ways. He allows me to give it away! He allows me to return it to Him. He allows me to support the work of His Church. He allows me to help my neighbor. Oh, and because He is so giving and gracious, He allows me to use it to better myself, find enjoyment in life, even rejoice in rest. And for all this dear friends, we give thanks!

# THANK YOU TO THE HELPERS.

In this month of thanksgiving, it is good for us to pause and thank our God for the gifts He has given in all who serve. What a blessing He has given in all of you! Thanks for serving in 2024!

## **Board of Trustees**

Joel White, Al Geisthardt, Larry Schultz

## **Board of Properties**

Tony Hettenhaus, Jake Slattery, Thomas Hagman

## **Board of Elders**

Chuck Stollfus, Mark Peachy, David Jeffers

## **Board of Christian Education**

Scott Marshall, Dustin Robinet, Jon Paul,  
Tyler Schwefel, Travis Bortner

## **Church Controller**

Cyndi Hintz

## **Organists**

Becky Miller, Trevor Kuphal, Dawn Hinn, Will Hinn

## **Sunday School Teachers & Aides**

Tony Surian, Tammy Franklin, Lesley Preissner, Trish Pietrzyk, Theresa & Travis Bortner, Kathie Sebestyen, Gwen North, Amelia & Adelaide Tonn, Isabelle Kampman

## **Counters**

Cindy Kitchen, Carol Boehning, Janet White, Anna Reitz, Katie Fischer, Wayne Jahns, Patricia Brennan, Sue Conrad, Cindy Christianson

## **WInGS Leaders**

Joyce Kovalaske, Kristin Kampman, Rhoda Hinz, Kim Geisthardt and all the ladies who function through the work of WInGS on the altar committee, sending birthday and get-well cards, on LWMS boards, etc.

## **Girls Pioneers Leaders & Helpers**

Kathy Thurow, Jessica Merwin, Amy Surian, Jennifer Schoonover

## **Boys Pioneers Leader**

Johannes Jerman

## **Cradle Roll Secretary**

Mary Briski

## **Worship at the Cross Helpers**

### **& Bible Study Leaders**

Kathy and Don Thurow, Gwen North,  
Cindy Christianson

## **Choir**

Kathy Thurow (Dir.), Becky Miller (acc.), Wendy Holmes (flute), Joel Mathwig, Larry Schultz, Jim Laudolff, Kim Geisthardt, Kristin Kampman, Laura Mathwig, Rachel Sweeney, Bonnie Wiener, Amy Surian, Joyce Kovalaske, Pam Rupert, Jackie Christie

## **Chime Choir**

Becky Miller (Dir.), Samantha Miller, Amy Surian, Kathy Thurow, Katie Fischer, Shannon Rickert, Jessica Merwin, Cyndi Hintz, Pam Rupert, Joyce Kovalaske, Wendy Holmes

## **Service Recorders & Sound**

Mark Wiener, Matt White, Kristin, Kaitlyn, Caleb, Izzy & Marcus Kampman

## **Church Librarian**

Cindy Kitchen

## **Resident Plant Care Specialists**

Bonnie & Mark Wiener

## **Welcome Cards**

Cindy Kitchen

## **Mowers & Trimmers**

Tony & Janet Hettenhaus, Matt & Jeff White, Joel & Mitchell White, Mandi Jo Wilkens

## **Equipment upkeep and repair**

Bob Pietrzyk, Joel & Mitchell White, Tony Hettenhaus

## **Snow Removal**

Joel & Mitchell White, Tyler Schwefel, Dave Jackson

## **Cleaning teams**

Thurow, Fischer, Bonney, Wiener, Kitchen

## **Ushers**

The list is a bit long if we thank everyone. Please know that we are thinking of you individually and thanking the Lord for your service in worship.

## **School Cleaning**

Coordinators: Holmes, Kampmans, & Slatterys, The families of our school who give time or money to keep things clean.

## **Before & After Care**

Jason Rose, Rhoda Hintz, Cindy Margelofsky, Pam Rupert, Amelia Wiener, Jess Marshall, Patti Kuechler, Kristin Kampman, Amy Surian, Aaron Hartwig

### Kitchen Helpers

Beverly & Don Buerger, Joyce Kovalaske, Rhoda Hintz  
Sharon Schumacher, Sharon Wodack, Katie Fischer

### Altar Flower Coordinator

Anna Reitz

### Coaches

Elijah Ehlert, Joel Mathwig, Kim Robinet, Jeanna Schultz, MandiJo Wilkens, Amy Surian, Shannon Rickert, Emily Hoepfner, Tony Surian, Greg Wilkens, Kristin Kampman, Tyler Dukelow, Jess Marshall, Tim Utsch, Jeff Bechler, Jonathan Schalk, Jake & Jenn Slattery, Jess Merwin, Ashley Rose

### Zion Cemetery Board Members

David Babler & Howard Miller

### WLA Plenary Board Members

Mitchell White, Tony Surian, & Scott Schwartz

### Christian Education Society

Jess Marshall, Amy Surian, Jenn Slattery, Karri Oelke, Patti Kuechler, Kristin Kampman, Mandi Jo Wilkens, Kim Robinet, Theresa Bortner

### Pioneer Playgroup

Josie Stahmann, Amanda Emerich, Kristin Kampman

### Vacation Bible Study

The list is a bit long if we thank everyone. We would like to thank all of those individuals who donated their time and talents in order to make VBS a success!

### Faculty & Staff

Megan Schoenbach, Dawn Hinn, Kristi Utsch, Kristin Kampman, Joel Mathwig, Ashley Rose, Aaron Hartwig, Amy Surian, Lauren Graumann, Linda Mathwig, Pastor Elijah Ehlert, Pastor Michael Kampman

We know folks sneak in time and labor on any number of other items too. We tried hard to list everyone. If we missed you we are truly sorry. Maybe we should have simply printed our church roster 😊.

As our faculty and staff go about their regular everyday tasks, know that we are regularly grateful for all the work, support, and love you all show on a regular basis. We appreciate you even if your name did not appear on the list of boards, teams, and services above. It is a gift to serve with and for such a wonderful congregation of believers. Your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

<sup>2</sup> We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers. <sup>3</sup> We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thess. 1:2-3

## Hunter's Service



Wednesday, November 20 at 6:30 pm  
Regular Worship Times as well



## Thanksgiving Worship

Wednesday, November 27 at 6:30 pm  
Thursday, November 28 at 9:00 am

### Budgetary Update

As of September 30, 2024

	Actual	Budgeted	Difference
Current	\$525,628	\$615,811.05	-\$90,182.70
Mission	\$29,962.40	\$29,611.52	+\$350.88
Improvement	\$7,287.50	\$4,500.00	+\$2,787.50
Mortgage	\$115,881.80	\$117,663.02	-\$1,781.22
Expenses	\$630,903.74	\$649,922.57	-\$19,018.83

	Balance 9/31/23	Balance 9/31
Church Mortgage	\$1,249,214.03	\$1,184,303.95
Parsonage Mortgage	\$51,867.16	\$49,535.02

Monthly payment for the church mortgage is \$13,073.67  
Monthly payment of the parsonage mortgage is \$363.24

### What Do These Numbers Mean?

This year to date we have not kept pace with our planned ministry expenses (budget). Our current fund savings (\$144,144.81) has been keeping us afloat so far. Our 3-year campaign Kickstarter for the Building Fund Building Fund (Church Mortgage) rebuilt our Mortgage Savings to \$41,007.94. After all the numbers come out in the wash, we are \$62,659.29 behind. That sounds large but if we divide it by all 400 giving units, \$160 per family would put us back on track.

As always, more important than money is our worship life. If this improves, we are confident the Lord of the church will take care of the whole money thing too. More than your money, we would love to see you in God's House for worship each week.

## Coming Up on Our Calendar

### November

- 3 Daylight Savings Time – Fall Back or be really early
- 6 WLA Viking Open House at 6:00 pm
- 8 SPLS ½ Day Faculty Inservice
- 7-10 WLA Musical Cinderella  
www.hometowntickets.com/wla

### 11 Veteran's Day

WLA Veterans Day Assembly at 9:00 am

- 20 Hunter's Service at 6:30 pm
- 27-29 No School: Thanksgiving Break (WLA & SPLS)
- 27 Thanksgiving Service at 6:30 pm
- 28 Thanksgiving Service at 9:00 am
- 30 Church Decorating for Advent/Christmas

### December

- 1 WInGS hosts Advent By Candlelight 1:00 pm
- 7 WLA Grade School Band Concert 4:00 PM
- 6 SPLS ½ Day Faculty Inservice
- 13 Joyful Witness Concert 7 pm (exact time still pending)
- 14 Joyful Witness Concert 2 pm (exact time still pending)
- 15 Children's Christmas Concert 4:00 pm
- 19 WLA Christmas Concert, 7:00 pm
- 20 WLA Christmas Concert, 1:00 pm
- 21-Jan 3 Christmas Break
- 24 Christmas Eve Services 4:00 pm & 6:00 pm
- 25 Christmas Day Service 9:00 am
- 31 New Year's Eve Service 6:30 pm

## Opportunities to Help



We are looking for Greeters! It's always nice to see a smiling face! If you would like to say hello for the ½ hour before worship, contact the office so we can include your name when the new lists come out toward the end of December.

We could also always use more ushers for our services. We add in the male confirmands each year and board members each year but if you would like to join a team please contact Pastor Kampman and he can get you in the rotation for the upcoming year.

Ushers and Greeters probably serve around once a month in our current rotation and if you have a conflict there is always someone around who is willing to help out. Please consider these opportunities. Both of them make a big impact on people as they enter for worship.



By day not year ... nobody needs to know the year 😊

Matthew Riederer	11/1	Chris Roedl	11/15
Riley Kahn	11/3	Brad Trewin	11/15
B.J. Miller	11/3	Brice Hau	11/15
Mark Deibert	11/4	Lee Ninman	11/16
Amber Miller	11/4	Grace Abraham	11/17
Kristin Kampman	11/4	Richard Thelke	11/17
Melissa Cleland	11/4	Nicole Scott	11/17
Mike Rabe	11/4	Jereme Auchue	11/17
Dawson Merwin	11/5	Jerry Krause	11/17
Ricky Eggers	11/5	Jordan Trewin	11/18
Marlene Hansen	11/5	Logan Chambers	11/19
Sawyer Schalk	11/6	Holden Merwin	11/20
Wesley Brunet	11/7	Anna Schumacher	11/20
Ava Roedl	11/7	Angel Fraley	11/20
Joey Marschall	11/7	Caleb Kampman	11/21
David Buss	11/7	Joyce Kovalaske	11/21
Carla Schumacher	11/7	Joseph Haines V	11/22
Amber Weir	11/8	Hannah Kemnitz	11/22
Annika Schroeder	11/9	RoGette Engle	11/22
Tyler Bortner	11/9	Angie Borski	11/22
Matthew White	11/9	Weston Schwitzer	11/24
Damon Sterba	11/9	Miles Chambers	11/24
Jacob Breitreutz	11/9	Larry Margelofsky	11/24
Laurie Huck	11/9	Cathy Mensch	11/24
Patti Kuechler	11/11	Blaine Schwefel	11/26
Josie Stahmann	11/11	Kara Gessner	11/26
Gary Franklin	11/11	Paul Seibel	11/26
Caleb Herzig	11/12	Joel White	11/26
Hayley Herzig	11/12	Nancy Krumbein	11/26
Meg Tadych	11/12	Lyal Manteufel	11/26
Aysha Rumbuc	11/12	Laura Suprenand	11/27
DeeAnn Ahrens	11/12	Kathie Sebestyen	11/27
Kim Krenn	11/12	Danyelle Deibert	11/28
Adelyn Kemnitz	11/13	Trent Brinkman	11/28
Caroline Babler	11/13	Brandon Malloy	11/28
Alex Lindsley	11/13	Julie Kemnitz	11/28
Clark Williams	11/13	Rob Reitz	11/28
Andrea Franklin	11/15	Adam Kemnitz	11/29
Kirk Auchue	11/15	Elijah Utsch	11/29

A fun birthday activity. Find your baptism certificate and recall the day when you were born into the family of God.

*God's own child, I gladly say it: I am baptized into Christ!  
He, because I could not pay it, Gave my full redemption  
price. Do I need earth's treasures many? I have one worth  
more than any That brought me salvation free, Lasting to  
eternity!*