



The Parish Pulse

A monthly newsletter for friends and family of Our Saviour's Lutheran of Holway and St. Paul's Lutheran of Medford

September 2026



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Message from Barb Krug

"To Serve all people, following the example of Jesus."

That is the fourth Baptismal promise made by us or our parents.

September is upon us and with that we celebrate Labor Day, this year on September 7. Labor Day was established as a time to celebrate the achievements, strength, and contributions of working people. It honors the labor movement and reminds society of hard-won worker rights, like fair pay, safe conditions, and the eight-hour workday. I'm not sure what an eight-hour workday is but, I appreciate that someone fought for those who were forced to work longer against their will. Serving all people as workers or as recipients of their work is how we can follow the example of Jesus.

Patriot Day is observed on September 11, to remember the thousands of lives that were lost in the September 11 attacks. Serving the memory helps those that survived as well as helping us to remember that evil is in this world, but by following every example of Jesus, we know that God's grace and mercy surround us always.

We also have Grandparents Day on September 13, this year. This day honors the vital role older adults play in families and society. The purpose of this day was originally established to let grandparents show love for their grandchildren, help youth learn from older wisdom and remember seniors in nursing homes. Whether the children recognize the grandparents or the grandparents show their love to their grandchildren, family is what is important and sharing God's love above all other love should be the focus on this and every day. Be an example and, perhaps, visit someone in a nursing home, just to remind them they are loved and not forgotten.

September is also National Hispanic Heritage Month, National Suicide Prevention Month and National Preparedness Month.

Globally, International Day of Peace is observed on September 21. I think I like this day best of all and hope that we can, as a community and a congregation, pray for peace and intentionally observe this day.

Peace be with you are familiar words we hear from scripture.
Peace be with you is the prayer we pray for all of God's creation.

God's blessings,
Barb Krug – SAM

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Holway

W7809 Apple Avenue, Medford, WI 54451
Phone 715-785-7975
Website: oursavioursholway.com
Facebook: Our Saviour's Lutheran Holway
Email: secretary.saviourschurch@gmail.com
Parish Secretary: Nancy Jones

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

321 N. Park Avenue, Medford, WI 54451
Phone 715-748-4909
Website: www.stpaulsmedford.org
Facebook: StPaulsMedford
Email: stpaulslutheranmedford@gmail.com
Parish Administrator: Nancy Jones
Office Hours: M-W-F 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

For pastoral care emergencies, call the following:

Barb Krug: 715-965-5696, barbkrug@charter.net
Pastor Bob Giese: 847-899-7122, rjgiese@gmail.com
Pastor Nancy Amacher: 715-223-5316, revnia10@gmail.com

Sunday Services

Our Saviour's Service: 8:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
St. Paul's Service 9:15 a.m.
Sunday School 8:10 a.m.

Every 5th Sunday – 9:00 a.m. joint worship to be hosted on a rotating basis between Our Saviour's and St. Paul's. Our next joint service is scheduled for Sunday, November 29, at St. Paul's.

Pack Your Bags: Blessing of the Backpacks is Coming!

Summer is flying by, and a brand-new school year is just around the corner! Whether your kids are heading into preschool, navigating high school, or stepping onto a college campus, we want to send them off covered in prayer, love, and support.



- **When:** Sunday, September 13
- **Where:** Our Saviour's and St. Paul's during the service
- **Who:** All students, teachers, staff, and administration.
- **What to do:** Have your child(ren) bring their empty or packed backpacks or bags to church.

During the service, we will invite everyone up for a special moment of prayer to ask for God's peace, wisdom, and protection over the upcoming school year. Every student will also receive a custom backpack tag to remind them that their church family is rooting for them every single day!

Presentation of Bibles

The presentation of Bibles will be held on Sunday, September 13, during the worship service at each church. At that time, we will present Bibles to the following children:



Our Saviour's - 3rd graders and
St. Paul's - kindergarteners and 6th graders.

We invite the congregations to join in celebrating this special faith milestone and praying for our young people.

COMMUNITY MISSION WITH JESUS

Sub Sandwich Fundraiser – Wednesday, September 16th (10:30 am–12:30 pm)

United Church of Christ – 510 E. Broadway, Medford, WI (SE Corner of Building)

6" SUB SANDWICH, BAG OF CHIPS & DESSERT

ALL FOR JUST -- \$9.00

All subs will be served on a delicious hoagie roll with onion and tomato served on the side.

Stop on down and pick up your freshly assembled sub sandwich. They are delicious!!!

If you would like to preorder so your lunch is ready when you get here, just email Val @ 'brushbach@yahoo.com' or call or text (715)965-2358.

Be sure to include your order information along with your name, phone #, and the time you would like to pick up your order.

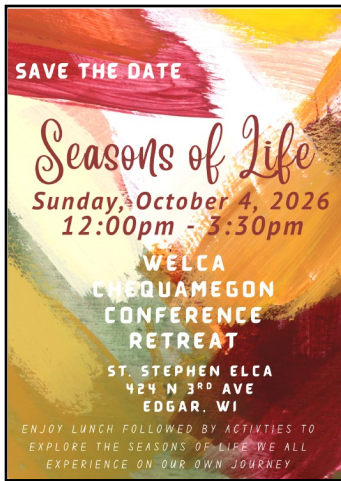
Contact Name/Phone # in Case of Questions: _____

Requested Pick-up Time: _____



Sub Sandwich Type:	Total Quantity Ordered:
Ham & Cheese w/Lettuce & Mayo	
Ham & Cheese w/o Lettuce & Mayo	
Turkey & Cheese w/Lettuce & Mayo	
Turkey & Cheese w/o Lettuce & Mayo	





WELCA Chequamegon Conference Fall Retreat
Please mark your calendars for Sunday, October 4. The theme for the Fall Retreat is Seasons of Life. It is going to be awesome! We have a poster on the bulletin board and save a date cards in the Fellowship Hall and Welcome Areas. Registration forms will be sent out in a couple weeks. We can also set up carpooling if you are interested. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Blessings,
Dawn Kasper Harder, Coordinator
WELCA Chequamegon Conference

**Northwest Synod of WI
Women of the ELCA
Biennial Convention**

September 26, 2026
8:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Bethany Lutheran Church
Rice Lake, WI

Registration forms are in the Fellowship Hall at Our Saviour's and the Welcome Hall at St. Paul's.

Bunks Across America Build Day (Associated with Sleep in Heavenly Peace)

The WI- Spencer area and WI- Wausau chapter will be joining forces with volunteers on September 12, to build beds for local kids. Our start time is 9:00 a.m. Address: 253 E. Business County Road A, Dorchester, WI.



If interested in helping with this very meaningful and needed cause, contact Joleen Schade at 715-613-3140.

2026 JOINT PARISH FINANCIAL

	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	YTD
Income													
OS Income	1480.11	1562.10	1449.75	2962.31		1916.10	1798.30						11168.67
SP Income	3549.84	2285.78	2116.91	3251.31	2264.93	2564.27	6423.26						22456.30
Misc Incom													0.00
OS Janitor Inco	782.64			1291.80			1291.80						3366.24
Total Income	5812.59	3847.88	3566.66	7505.42	2264.93	4480.37	9513.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	36991.21
Expenses													
Joint (ex: checks, resources, tools, etc)			56.00										56.00
Workman C						928.00							928.00
SP Parish Adm	1059.50	1033.25	1072.63	1099.59	1053.28	1059.50	1204.52						7582.27
OS Secretary	263.17	282.60	289.31	288.63	272.37	317.95	244.85						1958.88
OS Custodian			1108.20			1108.20							2216.40
SP Custodian	182.43	126.91	134.84	179.79	71.39	60.82	221.64						977.82
OS Watchman		160.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	100.00						580.00
SAM S	720.00	1400.00	900.00	936.26	850.00	720.00	1331.01						6857.27
Lay Leaders	150.00					150.00							300.00
SP Music	200.00	200.00	200.00	150.00	150.00	250.00	225.00						1375.00
OS Music	225.00	300.00	225.00	225.00	225.00	300.00	225.00						1725.00
Pastor Bob	293.50			293.50	343.50	293.50	393.50						1617.50
Pastor Rachel		293.50		293.50									587.00
Busin.Tax Reg				10.00									10.00
Pastor Nancy	287.70	287.70			525.40	287.70							1388.50
StateQuarterly	87.20			94.30			78.70						260.20
Fed Quarterly	1625.72			1652.02			1632.52						4910.26
Misc Expense							250.00						250.00
Total Expense	5094.22	4083.96	4065.98	5302.59	3570.94	5555.67	5906.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	33580.10

* July Misc - Breaking Chains

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Mission Statement: Our mission is to share the love of Christ with each other, our community, and the world.

Church Council

President: Jason Borman - jason.borman@us.nestle.com (715-965-6058)
 Vice President: Heidi Bower-Kesling - heidijbower@gmail.com (715-512-0557)
 Secretary: Lynn Lindau - lindaly@medford.k12.wi.us (715-965-2383)
 Treasurer: Nancie Adams - adams710@tds.net (715-965-6959)
 Echo Buehler - echo.op14@tds.net (715-748-3928)
 Jerry Cypher - jacypher20@gmail.com (715-965-0937)
 Julie Janke - ccrkennels@earthlink.net (843-430-4519)
 Clarice Zenner - claricezenner@yahoo.com (715-579-4445)
 Barb Krug - barbkrug@charter.net (715-965-5696)

August 2026 Attendance

August 2	36
August 9	27
August 16	25
August 23	28
August 30	Joint Service

A Message from Our Saviour's Council President - Jason Borman

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The summer has flown by. I hope it was a season filled with fun, sunshine, relaxation, and special memories. As we transition into a new season of changing routines—and the addition of pumpkin to nearly every dish—I pray the adjustment goes smoothly for you and your family.

This summer, I was blessed with the opportunity to officiate a wedding. When I was first asked and became ordained online, I felt a bit like an imposter. I have so much respect for the pastors and SAMs who have served our church over the years. I admire their discipline and dedication to studying Scripture, learning about biblical history and characters, and sharing God's message. Being able to go online, answer a few questions, pay a fee, and then legally marry people felt like a shortcut compared to the path they had taken.

But then I was reminded of Martin Luther's teachings and the message we continue to hear today: each of us is called to go out into the world and share the Good News through our own ministries. I realized that God was using me to lead this union, pray for this couple, and share His Word during their ceremony. I felt His presence in the warm sunshine that beamed down on us and in the tears of joy that accompanied the "I do's." God truly is everywhere if we simply slow down long enough to notice.

The Sunday morning after the wedding, I considered skipping church. It had been a long weekend, a long day, and a late night for me—I out until 8:00 p.m. I slept in until 6:30 that morning. But then I remembered something important: God doesn't need me in church, but I need the fellowship and community of our church family. I need to begin my week grounded in faith, sharing the peace, exchanging hugs, and receiving communion. I need to sing off-key along with the beautiful music that Nancy Jones plays.

Church isn't for God. Church is for us.

God's blessings,

Jason

September 2026 Worship Assistants - Our Saviour's

September Altar Guild: Barb Krug & Nicole Worden

DATE	MESSAGE	USHERS	LITURGIST	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	COUNTERS	ACOLYTE
September 6	Barb Krug	Heidi & Mike Kesling	Ed Rowe		Heidi Bower Kesling	
September 13	Barb Krug	Marian & Ken Nernberger	Ed Rowe	Marian Nernberger	Marian Nernberger	
September 20	Mike Kesling		Heidi Bower Kesling	Heidi Bower Kesling		
September 27	Barb Krug	Echo Buehler Paula Stroinski	Ed Rowe	Paul Stroinski	Echo Buehler Paula Stroinski	

September 2026 Calendar for Our Saviour's

Sunday Worship 8:00 a.m.

- Sept. 2 WELCA - 6:30 p.m. fellowship, 6:45 p.m. program, 7:00 p.m. business meeting
- Sept. 6 Worship w/communion, Barb Krug, SAM
- Sept. 9 Confirmation, 4:00 p.m. (*students ride the bus*)
Parent/student Confirmation meeting, 5:00 p.m.
- Sept. 13 Worship w/communion, Barb Krug, SAM
Blessing of the Backpacks, Presentation of Bibles
- Sept. 16 Confirmation and Sunday School, 4:00 p.m.
Church Council, 6:00 p.m.
- Sept. 17 WELCA Ladies "Lunch" at Cindy's, 5:00 p.m.
- Sept. 20 Worship w/communion, Mike Kesling, SAM
Blessing of the Quilts
Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.
- Sept. 23 Confirmation and Sunday School, 4:00 p.m.
- Sept. 26 WELCA Biennial Convention, Rice Lake
- Sept. 27 Worship w/communion, Barb Krug, SAM
Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.
- Sept. 30 Confirmation and Sunday School, 4:00 p.m.

Holway Lutheran Cemetery Association

As fall approaches, the Cemetery Association asks that families to please remove the flowers/decorations from the cemetery to allow us to get the cemetery cleaned up for winter. If families don't remove them, the cemetery crew will remove them and they will not be saved. Please try to do this by mid-September.



WELCA Ladies "Lunch"

Thursday, September 17

at Cindy's Bar & Grill

W7958 State Hwy 64, Medford

Time: 5:00 p.m.

All ladies are welcome! Please let Heidi know if you plan on attending.
Phone (715) 512-0557.

Lutheran World Relief School Kits

We are in need of notebooks to complete our LWR school kits. The notebooks should be 70-sheet notebooks of wide or college ruled paper. No loose-leaf paper, please.

Thank you to Kurt Neibacher for all the work he is doing to make the cemetery look its best. Kurt has been spending time, resources and muscle, to straighten and repair many headstones that have taken a toll over the years. Some will need professional attention, and he is also working on that.

As we begin planning for the Anniversary Dinner, consider putting together a "Basket Donation" for the Basket Raffle. It was decided to discontinue the ticket raffle, so we are looking for more help with Baskets! Thanks for your help. Let Nancie Adams know if you plan on bringing a basket donation. Our Saviour's WELCA

Confirmation - Wednesday, September 9

Attention Our Saviour's families! As we prepare for the upcoming school year, we would like to officially remind our youth about Confirmation. Class starts Wednesday, September 9, with our parent/student meeting. Kids should ride the bus from school to church, and parents can meet us at 5:00 p.m.

Confirmation is open to all! So even if you haven't been to Sunday School in awhile or are new to the area, we are happy to have you. Grades 7 and up!

Please reach out to Heidi Bower Kesling or Meagan Neitzel for any questions or to register if you are new.

WELCA Minutes August 5, 2026

The meeting was called to order by President Echo Buehler with 11 members present.

The purpose statement was read.

Secretary's Report: Approved read as. Paula a made motion to accept, seconded Barb K.

Treasurer's Report: Motion made by Heidi, by Marian. Balance \$2927.48.

Heart For Luther Park donation \$250.00 will be made.

(Continued on next page.)

Wednesday, September 16
4:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 20
9:00 a.m.

To register for Sunday School, please copy/paste the following link to open the registration form or use the QR code below. Registration link:
<https://forms.gle/a9jQhXu1h51zQnMy8>

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

(WELCA minutes continued from page 5.)

Old Business:

- Need pictures taken of the church for the fall ornaments.
- 17 people attended ladies' luncheon at 64 North. Thank you to Heidi for planning.
- Luther Park women's retreat at Chetek was nice. Cardio drumming was new and well received. The weather was hot. Next year's retreat will be in June.
- WELCA Ladies supper social at 5 p.m. on Thursday, September 17, at Cindy's. All ladies are welcome.
- Barb thanked everyone for their help at the joint outdoor service in the park with Breaking Chains.

New business:

- Looking for donations of school supplies for LWR. Unsharpened pencils, pens (black or blue, no gel pens), boxes of 16 or 24 count crayons, blunt scissors, 2 ½" erasers, pencil sharpeners, one 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other.
- Carpet cleaning discussed – waiting until spring. Amie will get a quote on having chairs and pew cushions cleaned for the next meeting.
- Biennial Convention September 26 at Bethany Lutheran, Rice Lake. Barb asked if OS WELCA would make a donation. Heidi made a motion to donate \$100.00 for the breakfast; Julie seconded. A motion was also made to give \$50.00 for offering by Julie, seconded by Amie.
- Anniversary Dinner October 11. Meagan will have the confirmation class help in the dining room. Price of dinner will stay the same. Job sign-up sheet will be at church. Country store/bake sale will be held again. Someone needs to take pictures. No brownies for dessert. Apple and pumpkin pies. Letters need to be sent earlier. Cash donations will be increased to \$15.00. Last year, we planned for 300 meals; 327 were served. This year we will plan for 325. Asking for basket raffle donations.
- August 30 joint service at Our Saviour's will be at 9 a.m. with fellowship afterward. Members are asked to bring breakfast treats. Coffee, milk and juice will be provided by Our Saviour's.
- Thank offering service November 15.

Harry Frosch passed away on August 5. Keep Karen Frosch and the family in your prayers.

Paula made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Nancie seconded.

Submitted by Carol Lekies, secretary,

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - Wednesday, July 29, 2026

Theme: A Celebration of Faith

Children from Our Saviour's Lutheran, Medford, and St. Paul's Lutheran, Medford, participated in a fun and exciting day at Our Saviour's. Activities included: cookie decorating, songs, traveling Jesus, picture frame stain glass crafts, noise makers, and many great faith celebrations.

Thank you to all the families that participated, to the teachers that lead the children in the activities, and to Our Saviour's for being the host this year.

Additional photos of the day's activities can be found on Our Saviour's Lutheran Holway Facebook page.



Our Saviour's July Financial Report: 2026

EXPLANATIONS:

This report shows the normal, ongoing bills that are paid on a regular basis each month. I have detailed the Income, as well as the line items expenses. Nancie

Income Section:

General	\$3777.82
Hunger	\$285.00
Scrip	\$2050.00

TOTAL INCOME: **\$6112.82**

Expense Section

Benevolence	\$150.60(to NW Synod of WI General Mission Support – 4%
Hunger	\$285.00(to Northwest Synod of WI for ELCA World Hunger)
Internet Service (Star Link)	\$35.00
Phone (TDS)	\$32.97
Electricity (Taylor Electric)	\$123.20
Dumpster (GFL Environmental)	\$25.92
Building Repairs/Maintenance	\$18.22(Kramer plumbing, state insp, water repairs)
Insurance (Church Mutual)	\$572.37
Office& Computer Supplies	\$41.02(copy paper)
Newsletter Postage	\$35.37
Payroll	\$616.55(watc-\$100.00-sec \$432.00 2 nd qu tax \$84.55)
Church Administrator	\$250.00
Supply Pastors	\$706.75
Music (Organist)	\$225.00
Copier Lease (E.O. Johnson)	\$134.14
VANCO charge	\$7.10
Mis/Special Events	\$214.00(joint service advertizing, star news and K99)
Script Cards	\$1344.00 (Co. Market)

TOTAL EXPENSES: **\$4817.21**

Savings Account: **\$10,123.17**

6 Month CD Rate 3.45% Matures Sept 20, 2026
3/20/2026 Balance: **\$50,000.00**

Script sales profit for July 2026 \$56.00

Mission Investment Fund:

Term Investment Fixed 4 Year – 3847 Rate 4.3290% Matures 9/23/2029
03/31/2026 Balance: \$17,499.66
Interest **06/30/2026** \$190.95
New Balance \$17,690.61

Church Council Minutes

The Church Council did not meet in August, so there are no minutes to review.

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

INCOME - Our Saviour's	July	YTD 2026		
General	3,777.82	33,336.73		
Hunger	285.00	1,620.00		
Sunday School/VBS/Camp		20.00		
Change the World/Special Offering		1,989.00		
Scrip	2,050.00	18,870.00		
TOTAL INCOME	6,112.82	55,835.73		
Expenses:	July	YTD	Monthly/Budget	Year/Budget
Benevolence	150.60	1,328.16	250.00	3,000.00
Hunger In/Out	285.00	1,620.00	0.00	0.00
Special Offering In/Out		1,455.50	0.00	0.00
Internet Service	35.00	471.49	62.50	750.00
Phone	32.97	226.26	60.42	725.00
Electricity	123.20	1,075.23	166.67	2,000.00
LP Gas		1,867.16	333.33	4,000.00
Dumpster - GFL	25.92	249.58	58.33	700.00
Holding Tanks		0.00	20.83	250.00
Snow Plowing		656.25	100.00	1,200.00
Janitor Supplies		55.10	18.75	225.00
Clear Country Water Solutions		560.00	18.75	225.00
Building Repairs/Maintenance	18.22	4,286.18	83.33	1,000.00
Worship/Devotionals/Resources		202.63	50.00	600.00
Organ/Piano Maintenance		0.00	25.00	300.00
Insurance	572.37	4,006.59	508.33	6,100.00
Office & Computer Supplies/parts/ink	41.02	977.63	25.00	300.00
Postage and Stamps		78.00	16.67	200.00
Computer Maintenance/Repair		0.00	16.67	200.00
Treasurer Supplies		0.00	8.33	100.00
Newsletter Postage	35.37	229.27	37.50	450.00
Copier Lease	134.14	947.75	125.00	1,500.00
Supply Pastors	706.75	4,044.63	600.00	7,200.00
Conference Dues		0.00	3.33	40.00
Assembly Delegates		150.00	41.67	500.00
Joint Account**		0.00	41.67	500.00
Payroll-Secretary-Property Manager	616.55	3,874.04	650.00	7,800.00
Website		131.89	16.67	200.00
Music	225.00	1,800.00	325.00	3,900.00
Leadership Training		0.00	83.33	1,000.00
Education (Adult, Confirmation, Sunday School, VBS)		427.08	83.33	1,000.00
Background Checks		0.00	8.33	100.00
Camping Funds		0.00	33.33	400.00
Pastorial Admin	250.00	1,450.00	200.00	2,400.00
Miscellaneous- Special Events	214.00	507.45	41.67	500.00
Scrip Cards	1,344.00	15,442.50	0.00	0.00
VANCO Charge	7.10	44.20	0.00	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	4,817.21	48,164.57	4,072.08	49,365.00
Checking Account:		Savings Account:		10,060.88
Camping Fund	873.54		Deposit	62.29
Sunday School/VBS	3,172.33		Total	10,123.17
General	25,970.24			
			6-Month CD	50,000.00
TOTAL	30,016.11	<i>Submitted By:</i>	<i>Nancie Adams,</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Message from St. Paul's Council President - Tony Schumacher

It certainly is an exciting time of the year with the return of school for the kids and teachers, and the return of Sunday School and Confirmation classes! What a blessing it is to be able to learn new things really at any age in our lives. You probably have heard the saying that the day you stop learning is the day you start dying. There is some truth in that, I believe. God gave us wonderful complex minds that need challenging, enrichment, and usage to be at their best. When we think we know it all and become stagnant, that clearly is not a good thing.

Whether it is math and reading or messages from the Bible, there are blessings waiting to be unlocked for those eager to absorb and digest the information. Parents, I hope you continue to take joy and pride in helping your children learn and give of your time to help them understand the immense value of faith in God. Give them lots of examples in the way you live how knowledge of God's love changes things. Bring them to Sunday School and Confirmation regularly to take advantage of the materials and blessings of being part of those groups of fellow learners.

I encourage everyone to find a Bible study group to be part of. SAM Barb Krug will be starting up some new adult education opportunities for us all, as well. That is exciting and let us all support them and make St. Paul's a place where we are all learning and growing together. Finally, don't forget to thank and encourage our teachers for the difficult and vital vocation they have. We often take what they do for granted, but surely, we would be hurting without them.

Thank you and have a great month!

September 2026 Worship Assistants - St. Paul's

DATE	MESSAGE	LITURGIST	COMMUNION SETUP	COMMUNION ASSISTANT
September 6	Barb Krug	Cathy Retzer	Kathy & Dan Higgins	Chris Konieczny
September 13	Barb Krug	Dawn Kasper Harder	Jo Cypher	Chris Konieczny
September 20	Dawn Harder	Gail Heurung	Jo Cypher	Marguerite Jochimsen
September 27	Barb Krug	Tony Schumacher	Kathy & Dan Higgins	Tina Machon

Sunday School

This is a very exciting month, as it is the start of our Sunday School year! Please join us for Sunday School BEFORE the service from 8:10 a.m. – 9:10 a.m. for a morning of fun, starting September 13. On their first day, the children will be sent home with a few extra things – mostly important information for their grown-ups about different special days for the children to look forward to. Also, mark your calendars because the children will be singing in church on September 27!

If you have not already done so, please register your children through the link on St. Paul's Facebook page, through this registration link: <https://forms.gle/bF25VmP8fWAFMPPK7> or using the QR code to the right. In the event that you cannot access the link, please reach out to Sam Cook to assist with registration.

I am looking forward to a fun and exciting year, spent celebrating and sharing God's love!

"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made." Psalm 139:14

Sam Cook, Children's Ministry Director

Email: Scook3526@gmail.com, Phone: 715-612-3526



Choir rehearsals will be on the following Sundays at 8:00 a.m.
September 13 & 27
 All singers welcome.



Wednesday, October 14 at 5:30 p.m.
St. Paul's Church basement

Bring your best batch of homemade chili or a side to share with the congregation. We are also looking forward to tasty apple or pumpkin desserts to help us celebrate the fall season. We will be accepting free will donations to go toward the basement bathroom project.

Confirmation

Hello Confirmation Students and Parents:

Summer is coming to an end and, with the start of the school year, we are also excited to begin the 2026-2027 confirmation classes for the 7th and 8th grade students.

Keep an eye out for an informational letter announcing the details of the Informational Parent/Student meeting which will be held on Wednesday, September 23. This night is the kick-off for our confirmation students and will also be the parent informational meeting (one parent, at minimum, is required to attend). We have a faith contract that we will review together. This information provides insight as to what the students and parents can expect, as well as what the church expects from the students and their parents.

Confirmation is the next big step toward an enhanced faith-filled education; and we are so glad that you, as parents, recognize the importance of your children completing the confirmation program. Together, our lives will be uplifted as we embark on this spiritual encounter together. May God fill these young students with love, open hearts and minds, kindness, and excitement!

Val Bach

Needles for Needs Community Quilting Group

We are happy to have our supplies all back in their places - the new flooring looks great! But... we still need your help! Yes, YOU! We have had a few setbacks and low attendance this year due to many things... So we are way behind where we usually are at this time of year. We have only one month to go before the quilt blessing and shipment of quilts! So far, we have completed 66 quilts (For the past few years, we usually have had more than triple that finished at this time of year). It's been slow going, and it's hard not to get discouraged. I feel like we could be spreading so much more good through our quilts, but it just seems to not be in the cards this year. So that's where you come in! Would you be interested in coming in and tying knots for our quilts? If during our Tuesday work days doesn't work for you, when would be a good time? Would anyone want to work on them after worship on Sundays? We are open to new ideas and suggestions! Call or text Tonya Albers at 715-560-0295. We look forward to hearing from you and seeing your smiling faces (and busy hands) at our next work day! We meet every Tuesday from 9-2 in the Welcome Hall.

Thanks be to God for all his blessings! We are grateful to have been able to make so many hundreds of quilts over the past 15 years. It truly has been life changing!

God's Work, Our Hands.

Respectfully Submitted by Tonya Albers

Comfort Quilts

Looking back on this last month, I wanted to thank everyone who helped us take the long arm down and put it back together. This ministry is very important to me and also to the strong group of ladies that are in our comfort quilt group. Right now, it is hot out, but soon people will be needing the warmth of the quilts again to add some comfort to their lives.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to anyone of us or the office if you hear of a need. Our ministry works best if we work together in God's world. Remember "God's work, our hands." Doesn't that just about say it all. Until next month, God bless.

Faithfully submitted by Kim Gasek



Prayer Chain

We are working on putting together a Prayer Chain, here at St Paul's. There is a sign-up sheet in the Welcome Area. This is for guys and gals! How this will work is when I am notified that someone needs our prayers, I will then forward the prayer request to a few people. Then, in return, they will forward the prayer need on, etc. The Power of Prayer!!! Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions.

Blessings, Dawn Kasper-Harder, SAM

St. Paul's Ladies Lunch Bunch Wednesday, September 16, 2026

**Location: BS Bar & Catering
W4782 WI-64, Medford**

Time: 11:15 a.m.

All are welcome to enjoy fun and fellowship. For more information, contact Michelle Danen at 715-748-4397 or Chris Finkler at 715-748-6848.

The Mobile Food Pantry served 78 households on August 20, 2026.



49 individuals ages 0-17
79 individuals ages 18-59
67 individuals ages 60+
195 total number of individuals

There were 33 new individuals who visited our pantry in August.

**The next Mobile Food Pantry
will be on Thursday,
September 17, 2026.**

Volunteers meet at 1:00 p.m.
Distribution begins at 4:00 p.m.

Food distributed: bread, pudding cups, cereal, corn on the cob, frozen ground turkey, shredded mozzarella cheese, eggs, sunflower seeds, kefir, peanut butter, tomato soup, bakery, shampoo, blueberries, oatmeal, toilet tissue, canned vegetables and rice.

If you would like to help sponsor the food pantry, simply make out your check to **St. Paul's Lutheran Church** and include **"food pantry"** in the memo line. Business and individual sponsors are welcome.

Thank you to **Bill Brunner** for sponsoring the August Mobile Food Pantry.

**St. Paul's Church Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 12, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.**

Council members present: Tony Schumacher, Marie Koerner, Carrie Zirngible, Gail Heurung, Leon Gasek, Amber Fettes, Harley Cook and Deb Bender. Guests: Nancy Jones and Tina Dassow. Unable to attend: Kathy Hackbarth, Chris Konieczny and Stacy Dassow.

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Tony Schumacher. Open devotion was provided by Leon Gasek.

Motion by Marie, seconded by Harley to accept the agenda – motion carried.

Motion by Amber, seconded by Deb to accept the previous minutes – motion carried.

Business:

Treasurer's Reports – July and August: Motion by Gail, seconded by Marie to approve the two months of reports – motion carried.

Financial Recording Secretary – Leon reported that some personal issues he is having is not letting him perform this position as he wanted – he has two replacement possibilities – if he finds his replacement – he will invite them to join us next month at the council meeting.

SAM Report – Barb – Barb was on vacation, so she forwarded information to Tony to share with the group. All going well. She is thankful for all the work being done and the people who have been helping.

Worship Team – Nothing new to report.

Sunday School/Confirmation/VBS: Sunday School is getting ready – new time this year. Sunday School will be from 8:10 to 9:10 – allowing the children to be able to go to church with their parents. Val will again be handling the confirmation classes. Parent meeting is set for September 23, with classes to start September 30. VBS was successful – fun for all, with approximately 32 children attending – representing both St. Paul's and Our Savior's.

Joint Parish – Nothing new at this time.

Old Business:

- The new computer purchased for the Church Office is working well. Tony explained what is not completed in the balcony – however we will need to get the video and organ back up and running, as we have two weddings and a funeral we are aware of at this time. Will be after Randy Haynes wraps up his summer building projects before we will get that finished upstairs.
- Discussed the options for water run off on the east side of the church. Tony is working with Mark Temme on the possible solution.
- Marie presented a couple of table options for the narthex. Carrie and Justin have not had time to take care of the display case...they will get to it soon.
- Discussed YouTube options for our service – looks like we can continue to stream on Facebook and then Nancy will upload it to YouTube.
- Tony presented a sign to post for food/beverage use in the sanctuary – we want to keep our nice new facility as clean as possible.
- Our new cleaning staff seems to be doing very well.

New Business:

- Discussed thanking Brian Krug for his generosity in our recent pew storage – Nancy will contact their secretary with the plan we have determined to thank them.
- Tony presented some issues we are having with the bathroom area downstairs – presented the projected repairs and costs. After discussions – a motion by Harley, seconded by Leon to go ahead with the needed repairs – not to exceed \$5000. Motion carried. Due to the large project we just had completed by Wojcik, we determined to have Kramer's Plumbing take care of this project.
- Much discussion on a chili cookoff dinner to celebrate all the work done on our beautiful church building. Determined to have it planned for Wednesday, October 14, following confirmation class. Church council will have their needed discussions, if any, during this time, as well. More to be in the newsletter concerning this.
- Tony still plans to do some painting on our church steeple this fall, as well as freshly painting the door to the old church office entrance.
- Nancy mentioned that the payment has been made for Dawn's second year of training as agreed to last year.
- Leon suggested moving an unused coat rack in the basement to the Welcome Hall to assist with the additional coats in the winter; the rack there is not enough.

Nothing further, a motion by Leon, seconded by Marie to adjourn; motion carried.

Council closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next council meeting is set for September 9, at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Heurung, Secretary

Church Treasurer

We are currently beginning the search for a new Church Treasurer. This position entails working closely with the Parish Administrator on all financial dealings of the church as well as working with the Joint Parish Treasurer on the church's payroll. The position is responsible for reporting back to the Church Council monthly on the financial health of the congregation. Anyone interested is welcome to reach out to Tina Dassow for more details, or contact the church office or any of the Church Council members.

St. Paul's Treasurer's Report for July 2026

	2026		2025		YTD % of Change
	July	YTD	July	YTD	
Total General Giving	10,532	71,418	8,476	72,588	-1.6%
Total General Expenses	41,334	132,005	7,596	45,542	189.9%
Net Surplus (Deficit)	(\$30,801)	(\$60,587)	\$880	\$27,045	-324.0%
Designated Giving	467	10,013	972	13,286	-24.6%
Designated Giving - Building	1,290	13,651	1,050	13,770	-0.9%
Total Designated Giving	1,757	23,664	2,022	27,056	-12.5%
Designated Expenses	1,000	8,929	1,018	11,144	-19.9%
Designated Expenses - Building	1,290	46,319		906	5009.8%
Total Designated Expenses	2,290	55,248	1,018	12,051	358.5%
Net Designated Income	(534)	(31,584)	(46)	15,005	-310.5%
Interest Income	\$67	731	\$151	852	-14.3%
Net Combined Income (Deficit)	(\$31,268)	(\$91,441)	\$985	\$42,903	-313.1%

Bank Accounts - As of:

	7/31/26	YTD Change	Comments
<u>Fund in SPOS Joint Checking</u>	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000
<u>Certificate of Deposit</u>	\$75,000	\$75,000	
<u>General Checking</u>	\$99,317	(\$134,755)	\$208,802
<u>Designated Funds in Checking</u>			
Building Fund	0	(\$33,523)	15,019
Comfort Quilts	1,260	(\$546)	1,049
Community Benevolence Fund	355	\$0	133
Designated Memorials	4,290	(\$220)	4,290
Fair Trade Sales	729	\$532	377
Thrivent Choice	2,737	\$637	1,992
Mobile Food Pantry	23,767	\$1,307	10,098
Sunday School	711	\$71	735
Youth Group	11,790	\$55	11,633
<u>Total Funds in Checking</u>	<u>\$220,957</u>	<u>(\$91,441)</u>	<u>\$255,129</u>
<u>Other Accounts</u>			
Events/Fund Raiser Acct	3,187	4	3,173
Needles for Needs Acct	1,106	102	1,285
Scrip Acct	594	(3,860)	9,186
<u>Total Other Accounts</u>	<u>\$4,886</u>	<u>-\$3,755</u>	<u>\$13,644</u>
Total - All Accounts	\$225,843	-\$95,196	\$268,773

2026 Pastor Expense - Budgeted \$67,960
2026 YTD Supply Pastor Expense \$6,499

There was not enough room in the newsletter to include this month's birthdays and anniversaries. A printed list can be located on the bulletin board in the Welcome Hall.

Mission Statement:

Saved and strengthened by Christ, we proclaim God's love through worship, education, and service to our congregation, community, and the world.

St. Paul's 2026 Church Council

Deb Bender	715-781-7435	magicmoments75@gmail.com
Harley Cook	715-612-2906	cookharley59@gmail.com
Stacey Dassow, Youth Representative		
Amber Fettes, Vice President	715-965-2830	afettes21@gmail.com
Kathy Hackbarth	715-965-2407	kathyhackbarth@gmail.com
Gail Heurung, Secretary	715-316-2788	gheurung@gmail.com
Gary Jensen, Financial Secretary	715-965-4259	gaj595@gmail.com
Marie Koerner	715-965-6328	4-koerners@charter.net
Chris Konieczny	715-965-8312	chriskonieczny85@gmail.com
Tony Schumacher, President	715-581-9488	anthonytylerschumacher@gmail.com
Carrie Zirngible	715-493-1696	cczirn@gmail.com
Tina Dassow, Treasurer		tinadassow@gmail.com

August 2026

Attendance

Aug. 2	62
Aug. 9	44
Aug. 16	62
Aug. 23	49
Aug. 30	Joint Service

Thank you to Loris Fox for sponsoring St. Paul's portion of the September newsletter.

St. Paul's September 2026 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
September 13 Blessing of the Backpacks & Presentation of Bibles during the service. 10:30 a.m. WELCA meeting		1 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs	2	3	4	5
6 9:15 a.m. Worship w/ Communion	7	8 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs	9 6:00 p.m. Church Council	10	11	12
13 8:00 a.m. Choir 8:10 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship w/ Communion/ Baptisms	14	15 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs	16 11:15 a.m. Ladies Lunch Bunch CMWJ Sub Sandwich Sale 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	17 1:00 p.m. Mobile Food Pantry setup 4:00 p.m. distribution	18	19
20 8:10 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship w/ Communion/ Blessing of Quilts	21	22 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs	23 5:00 p.m. Confirmation parent/student meeting	24	25	26 3:30 p.m. Taber/Mueller Wedding Northwest Synod of WI WELCA Biennial Convention
27 8:00 a.m. Choir 8:10 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship w/ Communion	28 Suicide Support Group September 27 at 6:00 p.m.	29 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs	30 4:00 p.m. Confirmation			

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Holway
St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Medford
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Medford, WI 54451-1420

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The Parish Pulse

A monthly newsletter for friends and family of
Our Saviour's Lutheran of Holway and
St. Paul's Lutheran of Medford

September 2026

Sunday Worship

Our Saviour's Worship - 8:00 a.m.
St. Paul's Worship - 9:15 a.m.

Contact

Barb Krug - 715-965-5696, barbkrug@charter.net
Parish Administrator - Nancy Jones
Our Saviour's - secretary.saviourschurch@gmail.com
St. Paul's - stpaulslutheranmedford@gmail.com

