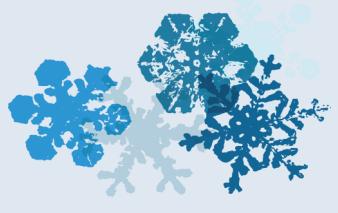


The Parish Pulse

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

January 2026



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Message from Barb Krug

Happy New Year!

I pray you all had a wonderful and blessed Christmas and are ready for a new and exciting year.

January tends to be the long dark month in Wisconsin, but in our Gospel readings, it is very different. There is light shining in the darkness. There is the excitement of Jesus as He is baptized and revealed as the Son of the Most High. The Lamb of God is here! Jesus' ministry begins and He selects His followers.

Let's keep the light shining in the darkness and let our New Year's resolution be one of kindness, compassion and love. But don't keep it to yourself, share it like Jesus did and as He wants us to do as well.

God's blessings for an amazing year!

Barb Krug - SAM

A note from The Northwest Synod of Wisconsin . . . Cyber fraud is apparently on the upswing. Churches in Marshfield and Eau Claire have especially been affected by scammers both via email and TEXT message. Please know that our clergy are not requesting gift cards with the backs scratched off, that they have not changed their contact information and that you should be vigilant on checking the email address from those persons imitating your trusted leaders.

Christmas Memories



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 9:15 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, March 29, at St. Paul's.

2025 JOINT PARISH FINANCIAL

	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	YTD
Income													
OS Income	1906.96	1324.56	1693.50	1811.21	1545.44	1550.31	1518.73	1471.44	1479.00	1829.10	1550.56		17680.81
SP Income	3396.42	2190.82	2222.81	3932.96	2196.53	2226.03	3386.61	2347.63	2200.24	3750.30	2368.34		30218.69
Misc Incom		17.75			0.04		17.00						34.79
OS Lawn Inco				2820.00									2820.00
OS Jator Inco	782.84			782.84			782.84			782.84			3131.36
Total Income	6086.22	3533.13	3916.31	9347.01	3742.01	3776.34	5705.18	3819.07	3679.24	6362.24	3918.90	0.00	53885.65
Expenses													
Joint (ex: checks, resources, tools,etc													
		56.00											56.00
Workman C				910.00									910.00
SP Parish Adm	1132.35	1066.41	1118.92	1092.68	980.12	1079.54	1105.80	1122.39	1059.50	1118.92	1013.30		11889.93
OS Secretary	345.91	266.53	269.89	343.46	289.21	243.32	266.53	282.60	289.31	269.88	237.61		3104.25
OS Custodian			671.56			671.56			671.56				2014.68
SP Custodian	169.41	153.34	171.85	179.79	171.85	121.62	142.77	171.85	185.07	153.34	187.71		1808.60
OS Watchman	120.00	80.00	80.00	120.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	110.00	80.00	80.00		990.00
SAM	900.00	775.00	1045.00	1150.00	720.00	900.00	900.00	850.00	970.00	720.00	850.00		9780.00
Lay Leaders			150.00		150.00			125.00	150.00	150.00	150.00		875.00
SP Music	200.00	150.00	200.00	150.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	250.00	200.00	200.00	250.00		2200.00
OS Music	150.00	225.00	375.00	300.00	300.00	225.00	300.00	225.00	300.00	300.00	300.00		3000.00
Pastor Bob	292.00	327.00		292.00	292.00	292.00	292.00	412.00	292.00	292.00	362.00		3145.00
Busin.Tax Reg													0.00
Pastor Nancy	286.12	286.12	286.12		286.12	286.12	286.12	286.12		286.12	286.12		2575.08
OS Lawn Care					2820.00								2820.00
StateQuarterly	112.21			103.70			96.20			99.90			412.01
Fed Quarterly	1524.70			1662.55			1597.74			1639.07			6424.06
Misc Expense		17.75			40.00	270.00				549.00			876.75
Total Expense	5232.70	3403.15	4368.34	9124.18	3509.30	4369.16	5267.16	3804.96	4227.44	5858.23	3716.74	0.00	52881.36

May Misc is for Dept of Financial Inst yearly filing fee June Misc for Breaking Chains July Misc Deposit-refund from Church Mutual

Oct Misc is for Sundays & Seasons Renewal

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Misson 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 (715-678-2308)
 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)

December 2025 Attendance

December 7	41
December 14	17
December 21	80
December 24	120
December 28	

Bible Study

very Thursday afternoon.
3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Contact Mike Kesling for additional information.

January 2026 Calendar for Our Saviour's**Sunday Worship 8:00 a.m.**

January 4	Worship w/communion, Barb Krug, SAM Church Council Members installation No Sunday School Viewing of <i>The Chosen</i> - 9:00 a.m. Joyful Chimers - 5:00 p.m.
January 7	Confirmation & Sunday School - 4:00 p.m. No WELCA meeting this month
January 8	Ladies Luncheon at New China - 11:30 a.m. Bible Study - 3:00 p.m.
January 11	Worship w/communion, Pastor Bob Giese Sunday School - 9:00 a.m. Viewing of <i>The Chosen</i> - 9:00 a.m. Joyful Chimers perform at St. Paul's (<i>tentative</i>)
January 14	Confirmation - 4:00 p.m. No Sunday School
January 15	Bible Study - 3:00 p.m.
January 18	Worship w/communion, Mike Kesling, Lay Speaker No Sunday School Viewing of <i>The Chosen</i> - 9:00 a.m. Joyful Chimers - 5:00 p.m.
January 21	Confirmation (Stump the Pastor) - 4:00 p.m. Sunday School - 4:00 p.m. Church Council - 6:00 p.m. February Newsletter Deadline
January 22	Bible Study - 3:00 p.m.
January 25	Worship w/communion, Pastor Nancy Amacher Sunday School - 9:00 a.m. Viewing of <i>The Chosen</i> - 9:00 a.m. Joyful Chimers - 5:00 p.m.
January 28	No Confirmation (<i>Family Movie Night</i>) No Sunday School
January 29	Bible Study - 3:00 p.m.

Thank you for sponsoring Poinsettias this Advent/Christmas season.***In memory of Patsy Meier and Kenny Meier***

Cindy & Neil Hassemer, Brad & Donna Meier, Amy & Mark Henke, and Doug & Krist Meier

***In memory of Marleen Lindau***

Mike, Lynn, Kason, and Lakyn Lindau

In memory of Clifford Neitzel, Richard, Florence and Rick Nelson

Derrick and Jamie Neitzel

In memory of Neil Nernberger

Ken & Marian Nernberger

In memory of Keith and Joan Krug

Barb Krug

In honor of Reverend Warran Behling, Reverend Bob Giese, Reverend Nancy Amacher

Barb Krug

In appreciation to Nancy Jones

Barb Krug

Our Saviour's Ladies Luncheon

January 8 at 11:30 a.m.

New China, 344 S. 8th St., Medford

If you are interested, RSVP to Heidi Bower Kesling or the church office.

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

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I hope this message finds you well. I wanted to take a moment to share a bit about myself and express my gratitude as I step into the role of Our Saviour's Council President. Born and raised in Taylor County, I am a proud Holway Slugger alumnus, a devoted husband to Lynn for 25 years, and a father to three amazing young men – Brendan, Lucas, and Josh.

Taking on this role is both an honor and a bit intimidating, but I am deeply connected to our church and its rich history. Growing up in our little old church in the country, I have countless fond memories. I remember watching my Grandma Prell bake desserts for the WELCA meetings, eagerly waiting for her to return with any leftovers. The haunted house in the balcony, bobbing for apples in the basement, Sunday School days, confirmation classes, weddings, funerals, and those magical Christmas programs – these moments have all shaped my love for our church.

What I cherish most about our church is its openness and inclusivity. There have been times when family and friends have passed away without a home church or were declined service by their home church for not being active members. In those moments, our little church in Holway opened its doors, providing solace and support during difficult times.

My goal as Council President is to protect the history of our congregation while also embracing the changes in our world. I firmly believe that God's presence is with us always and everywhere, guiding us through every step.

"You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love." – Galatians 5:13 (NIV)

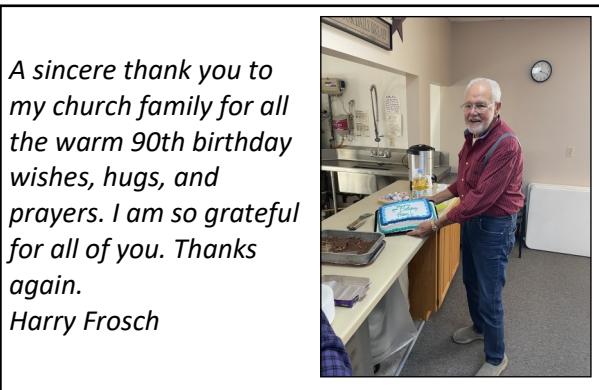
I look forward to serving our wonderful congregation, community, and working together to create more cherished memories. Thank you for your trust and support.

Warm regards,
Jason Borman

January 2026 Worship Assistants

January Altar Guild: Echo Buehler and Paula Stroinski

DATE	MESSAGE	USHERS	LITURGIST	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	COUNTERS	ACOLYTE
January 4	Barb Krug	Heidi & Mike Kesling	Heidi Bower Kesling		Heidi Bower Kesling	Amara Gudmundson
January 11	Bob Giese	Mike and Kason Lindau	Kason Lindau			Alyssa Pagel
January 18	Mike Kesling	Karen & Harry Frosch	Barb Krug	Karen Frosch	Karen Frosch	Jared Houston Brown
January 25	Nancy Amacher	Marian & Ken Nernberger	Marian Nernberger			Braxton Stanke



Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes

December 07, 2025

Mike Kesling called meeting to order and opened with prayer at 8:55 a.m.

A quorum was established.

Jason Borman made a motion to approve the agenda as written and seconded by Lynn Lindau. Motion carries.

Reviewed minutes from December 2024. Marian Nernberger made a motion to approve the minutes and seconded by Julie Janke. Motion carries.

Annual Meeting Reports

Harry Frosch made a motion to approve the reports as written and seconded by Clarice Zenner. Motion carries.

2025 Pastoral Acts - Jim Zenner made a motion to approve the pastoral acts as printed and seconded by Lynn Lindau. Motion carries.

Memorial Fund - Rod Adams made a motion to approve the budget and seconded by Clarice Zenner. Motion carries.

Ed Rowe made a motion to approve the financial reports and seconded by Marion Nernberger. Motion carries.

Old Business

No old business.

New Business

The 2026 Budget was addressed and reviewed. No changes were made from the previous year. With the script money, it is calculated quarterly and a portion is donated as there is an excess available to share with our communities and world. If a pastor were to be called, the supply pastor budget would reduce and of course the budget would increase - an increase in stewardship would be needed and addressed. We did spend more on the buildings and grounds this past year, but the budget itself was not adjusted. Clarice Zenner made a motion to approve the budget and seconded by Heidi Bower. Motion carries.

Council Elections

Marian Nernberger nominated Jason Borman as president and was seconded by Nancie Adams. Heidi Bower moved to close the nominations and seconded by Julie Janke. Motion carries.

Jason Borman nominated Heidi Bower as Vice President and seconded by Marian Nernberger. Paula Stroinski made a motion to close nominations and seconded by Clarice Zenner. Motion carries.

Meagan Neitzel made a motion to nominate Lynn Lindau as secretary and seconded by Mike Lindau. Motion carries.

Heidi Bower nominated Jerry Cypher as a council lay member and seconded by Juanita Krug. Motion carries.

Heidi Bower nominated Julie Janke as a council lay member and seconded by Clarice Zenner. Motion carries.

Echo Buehler and Clarice Zenner will remain as council lay members and Nancie Adams will remain as treasurer.

Synod Assembly Delegates: Jim and Clarice Zenner nominated and approved to be our synod delegates

Council Members for 2026:

President: Jason Borman

Vice President: Heidi Bower

Secretary: Lynn Lindau

Treasurer: Nancie Adams

Council Lay Members: Echo Buehler, Julie Janke, Jerry Cypher, and Clarice Zenner

Heidi Bower made a motion to close the meeting and seconded by Carol Lekies. Motion carries.

Closing prayer read by Mike

Meeting adjourned 9:15 a.m.

Meagan Neitzel



We are still in need of delegates for the **Annual Conference Assembly** - Thursday, February 19, 2026.

The meeting will be at Our Saviour's Lutheran in Greenwood from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Each congregation may send up to 2 lay delegates in addition to a rostered/SAM leaders.

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

Our Saviour's Church Council Minutes

December 17, 2025

Attendees: Barb, Jason, Heidi, Nancie, Jerry, Clarice, & Echo

Absent: Lynn & Julie

Meeting called to order: 6:00. Jason led us in a prayer.

Recited Mission Statement

Jerry made a motion to approve agenda as outlined. Seconded by Clarice-motion carried.

Echo made a motion to approve the minutes as printed for November. Seconded by Nancie-motion carried.

Heidi made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Seconded by Clarice-motion carried.

Education and Youth:

Sunday School

Wednesday night program was tonight. Well attended. Great program. Sunday is the program for the Sunday kids.

Confirmation

Christmas party was tonight. We had treats and did white elephant exchange. Wrote Christmas cards to take to the nursing home residents.

Start the New Testament in January for the rest of the year.

Property

Drywall is hung. Waiting to get the corners before mudding and painting to complete the project.

Brenda mentioned that the back door weather stripping is bad and there is a gap at the bottom of the door. Jason will call Jeff Neitzel to take a look at it and get it fixed.

WELCA

Container Christmas party at 64 North was very well attended and enjoyed by all. We have booked it for July 28th for a Christmas in July get together. Invited St. Paul's ladies to join us again too.

Worship

Joyful Chimers will be playing Sunday during worship along with the Sunday School Christmas program.

Christmas Eve service at Our Saviour's will be at 4:00. St. Paul's services are at 2:00 and 6:00. No Christmas Day service at either church.

Barb asked if anyone had suggestions for changes in worship service/liturgy. None were offered so things will stay the same.

Old Business

Nancie received the new insurance bill; there was about an \$80/month increase. She dropped the bill off with Jerry at Carstensen Insurance to see if they could provide the same coverage for less. Waiting to hear back from him.

Rod and Barb will meet soon to discuss the meditation area in the cemetery so work can start in the spring. Church Directory has been sent. Should be arriving any day. A list will be provided so we know that each person/family that had pictures taken or submitted will get one.

No recent updates on the Dish with the Bish event in May at St. Paul's.

Annual SAM Review for Barb was held following the joint service on Nov. 30. Pastor Bob was the Synod representative, and Mike Kesling and Heidi Haynes were in attendance as the council presidents for each church. Barb said all went well.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting were reviewed. Notices one incorrect name (for motion) and a few names misspelled. Will make corrections before Nancy puts it in the newsletter.

We received a letter from Bishop Martin about a donation to Neighbor-to-Neighbor Synod program. We sent \$500 scrip donation last quarter. Will not be sending any other at this time.

Jason started promoting the Joint Service on July 19th with Breaking Chains on Facebook. Hoping to have a big communitywide turnout. Spread the word.

(Continued on next page.)

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

(Our Saviour's Council minutes from previous page.)

New Business

The lighted cross on the church is not lighting completely. Motion made by Clarice to get an estimate from Wausau Sign Company as to what it would cost to have them come out to look at it. Seconded by Nancie. Motion carried. Barb will call to get an estimate on how much to have them come to look at it. Motion by Heidi to have new council officers installed at the January 4 worship service. Seconded by Clarice. Motion carried.

Next meeting will be January 21, 2026, at 6:00.

Echo made a motion to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Jerry-motion carried.

Ended with the Lord's Prayer 7:10.

Submitted by Heidi Bower

Our Saviour's November Financial Report: 2025

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	\$5017.78
Hunger	\$360.00
Scrip	\$4020.00
Sunday School/VBS/Camp	\$1400.00 (donation to Sunday School program from Jerry Cypher)

TOTAL INCOME: **\$10,797.78**

Expense Section

Benevolence	\$199.44(to NW Synod of WI General Mission Support – 4%)
Hunger	\$360.00(to Northwest Synod of WI for ELCA World Hunger)
Internet Service (Clark Electric)	\$61.94
Phone (TDS)	\$33.78
Electricity (Taylor Electric)	\$144.86
Dumpster (GFL Environmental)	\$25.92
LP Gas (Budget-Medford Coop)	\$286.00
Insurance (Church Mutual)	\$509.10
Holding Tanks	\$205.00 (Decker Sanitation)
Newsletter Postage	\$32.45
Payroll	\$426.50(watchman \$80.00--sec \$346.50)
Church Administrator	\$200.00
Supply Pastors	\$624.06
Music (Organist)	\$300.00
Copier Lease (E.O. Johnson)	\$134.14
VANCO charge	\$6.30
Script Cards	\$5740.65(Co. Market \$1824.00,RaiseRight \$3916.65)

TOTAL EXPENSES: **\$9290.14**

Savings Account: \$8884.07

Script sales profit for Nov \$359.35

<u>Mission Investment Fund:</u>	Term Investment Fixed 4 Year – 3847 Rate 4.3290% Matures 9/23/2029
07/31/2025	Balance: \$17,064.47
Interest 09/30/2025	\$63.48
	New Balance \$17,127.95

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

INCOME - Our Saviour's	November	YTD 2025		
General	5,017.78	53,782.05		
Hunger	360.00	3,535.00		
Sunday School/VBS/Camp	1,400.00	1,650.00		
Change the World/Special Offering		1,740.00		
Scrip	4,020.00	30,770.00		
TOTAL INCOME	10,797.78	91,477.05		
Expenses:	November	YTD	Monthly/Budget	Year/Budget
Benevolence	199.44	2,134.50	250.00	3,000.00
Hunger In/Out	360.00	3,535.00	0.00	
Special Offering In/Out		2,161.00	0.00	
Internet Service	61.94	681.34	62.50	750.00
Phone	33.78	339.67	60.42	725.00
Electricity	144.86	1,605.68	166.67	2,000.00
LP Gas	286.00	3,146.00	333.33	4,000.00
Dumpster - GFL	25.92	387.33	58.33	700.00
Holding Tanks	205.00	205.00	20.83	250.00
Snow Plowing		562.50	100.00	1,200.00
Janitor Supplies		174.29	18.75	225.00
Clear Country Water Solutions		0.00	18.75	225.00
Building Repairs/Maintenance		1,477.86	83.33	1,000.00
Worship/Devotionals/Resources		136.73	50.00	600.00
Organ/Piano Maintenance		115.00	25.00	300.00
Insurance	509.10	5,600.10	508.33	6,100.00
Office & Computer Supplies/parts/ink		678.64	25.00	300.00
Postage and Stamps		0.00	16.67	200.00
Computer Maintenance/Repair		0.00	16.67	200.00
Treasurer Supplies		87.59	8.33	100.00
Newsletter Postage	32.45	373.30	37.50	450.00
Copier Lease	134.14	1,421.54	125.00	1,500.00
Supply Pastors	624.06	5,867.54	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	426.50	6,368.27	650.00	7,800.00
Website		155.88	16.67	200.00
Music	300.00	3,184.52	325.00	3,900.00
Leadership Training		0.00	83.33	1,000.00
Education (Adult, Confirmation, Sunday School, VBS)		375.91	83.33	1,000.00
Background Checks		0.00	8.33	100.00
Camping Funds		0.00	33.33	400.00
Pastorial Admin	200.00	2,200.00	200.00	2,400.00
Miscellaneous- Special Events		780.08	41.67	500.00
Scrip Cards	5,740.65	32,546.93	0.00	
VANCO Charge	6.30	68.70	0.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	9,290.14	76,520.90	4,072.08	49,365.00
Checking Account:			Savings Account:	8,859.39
Camping Fund	873.54		Deposit	24.68
Sunday School/VBS	3,222.53		Total	8,884.07
General	64,060.14			
TOTAL	68,156.21	<i>Submitted By:</i>	<i>Nancie Adams, Treasurer</i>	

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**A Message from St. Paul's Council President - Heidi Haynes**

As we step into a new year, we give thanks for all the blessings and lessons of the past year. May the coming year be filled with hope, joy, and spiritual growth for each member of our church family. Let us remember that with God, every new beginning is an opportunity for renewal and faith.

The new year brings a fresh wave of energy and new goals to strive for. Plan to join us for the Annual Meeting on February 1, 2026, after the service. We will be looking for three new council members. If this is something you are interested in, please reach out to one of the council members. Sam Cook has generously offered to fill the open Sunday School Coordinator position. I look forward to working with you! I want to give a big thank you to Kathy Hackbart for all her years of doing Sunday School. It has been a wonderful experience working alongside all of you over the years.

I am deeply grateful for the generosity, service, and fellowship shown by our congregation over the past year. From outreach programs and children's ministry to worship and prayer, your commitment has kept our church vibrant and loving. Thank you all for every prayer, every hour volunteered, and every act of kindness.

Let us enter this new year with hearts full of faith, trusting that God will lead us forward. I encourage everyone to get involved, whether by joining a small group, volunteering, or simply reaching out to someone new. Together, let's make 2026 a year marked by spiritual growth, service, and unity.

Wishing you and your family a Happy, Healthy, and Blessed New Year!

January 2026 Worship Assistants – St. Paul's

DATE	MESSAGE	LITURGIST	COMMUNION SETUP	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS
January 4	Barb Krug	Sally Lemke	Kathy & Dan Higgins	Marguerite Jochimson Sally Lemke Tina Machon
January 11	Pastor Bob Giese	Tony Schumacher	Kathy & Dan Higgins	Deb Bender Kim Gasek ?
January 18	Val Bach	Gail Heurung	Jo Cypher	Jo Cypher Dawn Harder Tina Machon
January 25	Pastor Nancy Amacher	Cathy Retzer	Jo Cypher	Deb Bender Jo Cypher Dawn Harder

Sunday School

The Sunday School children had their Christmas program on December 14. The children sang 4 Christmas songs and told the Christmas story through Bible verses. We will be taking the next few weeks off to spend time with our families to celebrate the holidays. We hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year! Sunday School will resume on January 11.

Sincerely, Heidi Haynes and Kathy Hackbart

**Confirmation**

Our confirmation students created gratitude pumpkins to be used as Thanksgiving decor. They wrote the things they are most thankful for on their pumpkins leaving room for family members to add to their list.

We are through the Ten Commandments and are now studying the Apostles' Creed. Hope everyone had a wonderful holiday. Remember all of the things you are grateful for...all year long! God's Blessings.



Submitted by Val Bach

St. Paul's WELCA

The WELCA Ladies did not meet in December, but still were active. We hosted a Craft/Bake Sale after the Sunday School Christmas Program. We made \$673.00 and we also received an anonymous donation of \$250.00. This brought our total to \$923.00. Our donation to the new projector project is \$695.00. Thank you to all the bakers, crafters and of course, the buyers! Our next meeting is Monday, January 12th @ 5:45 p.m. at St. Paul's Welcome Hall. All gals are invited!

Respectfully Submitted by Dawn Kasper-Harder

Needles For Needs

Happy New Year Everyone!

We are looking forward to working full steam ahead on our Homeless Veteran Quilts in the new year. So far, we've been able to send 47 regular denim quilts and one apartment quilt! Once we get our rolls of batting we should be able to get quite a few more done. Rita has been sewing up a storm, and it will take a bit to catch up to her! We are getting down to the last couple boxes of denim, so if you have more unused jeans sitting around home, please consider bringing them in to us so we can turn them into sturdy warm quilts! We will be keeping the same schedule this year as previous years, meeting every Tuesday from 9-2. Please join us for an hour or two - or the whole day. If working from home is better for you, we have plenty of jobs you could take home to complete.

Thank you to all who have been contributing to our group with supplies and monetary donations - they sure are appreciated!

God's Work, Our Hands. Tonya Albers

The Mobile Food Pantry served 94 households on December 18, 2025.



First visits in 2025 = 42

53 individuals ages 0-17
102 individuals ages 18-59
63 individuals ages 60+
218 total number of individuals

The next Mobile Food Pantry will be on Thursday, January 15, 2026.

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

Food Distributed: juice, canned vegetables, soup, tuna, pasta, spaghetti sauce, tomato paste, oatmeal, entree meals, ground beef, cheese, onions, potatoes, carrots, apples, bread, and bakery and cookies.

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 **Carol O'Leary, Sam Klinner, Jim Krug, and Brian Krug. Donations from County Market and cookies from the Girl Scouts were also distributed.** for sponsoring the November Mobile Food Pantry and to the volunteers that came to help distribute the food.

Bountiful Thanksgiving, one of our annual community giving projects, once again helped three families in need.

Representatives from the elementary schools identified the families and provided a list of children's needs and interests. We were able to provide clothing, shoes and boots to seven children. Items were delivered to the families the week before Christmas. Thank you to all those who helped make this mission a success.

St. Paul's Ladies Lunch Bunch

Wednesday, January 21, 2026

**Location: New China
344 South 8th, Medford**



Time: 11:15 a.m.

All are welcome to enjoy fun and fellowship.

Please contact Michelle Danen at 715 748-4397 or Chris Finkler, 715 748-6848, if you'd like to be involved.

Church Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 10, 2025

Council members present – Heidi Haynes, Kathy Hackbarth, Tony Schumacher, Carrie Zirngible, Gail Heurung, and Amber Fettes. Members unable to attend – Harley Cook, Marie Koerner, Chris Konieczny and Stacy Dassow. Guests present – Tina Dassow, Nancy Jones and Barb Krug.

Meeting was called to order by Heidi Haynes at 6:45 p.m. Barb Krug led the council in prayer.

Motion by Carrie, seconded by Kathy to accept the meeting agenda.

Motion carried.

Motion by Amber, seconded by Carrie to accept the November meeting minutes. Carried.

Business:

Treasurer's report - discussed the budget preparation and Tina has volunteered to put the budget together for 2026. Will also look at options for an audit – which we currently do thru out the year. Possibly checking with the finance team at Our Savior's for assistance. Nancy announced that the Helen Lindsay Family Foundation gifted \$10,000 to the church. Motion by Carrie, seconded by Tony to accept the Treasurer's report – motion carried.

Financial Secretary - Nothing to report for the financial recording secretary as she was not present.

Barb Krug - Barb told the group she was accepted into a year-long study regarding the SAM program.

Worship team will be meeting on Monday.

Sunday School program is set for Sunday, December 14. Sam Cook has graciously offered to step in and manage the Sunday School program with Heidi. Thank you to Kathy for all her years in the program.

Confirmation seems to be doing great.

Joint Parish Council - Nothing to report on the Joint Parish Council.

Benevolence payment will be sent out in December.

Discussion on our boiler – company no longer in business. Vince Wojcik will continue to service and get parts as long as we can. Looks like approximately \$24,000 to replace it. Will let things go as is for now.

Thank you to Justin Zirngible for treating our quilting groups to a meal – enjoyed by all.

Next meeting will be January 14th at 6:00 p.m. Preparing for the annual meeting will be done.

Motion by Gail, seconded by Amber to adjourn – motion carried. The council closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Heurung – Council Secretary

St. Paul's Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, February 1, after the church service.

If you are interested in being on the Church Council, please contact a current Council member or the church office.

December 2025 Attendance

December 7	105
December 14	115
December 21	39
December 24 (2:00 p.m.)	120
December 24 (6:00 p.m.)	80
December 28	



We had no sponsor for the January newsletter. If you would like to help cover the cost for St. Paul's portion of the newsletter, please sign up in the Welcome Hall.



The choir will rehearse on Sunday, January 11, and Sunday, January 25, at 8:00 a.m. We encourage anybody with an interest in music and singing to join us and make our group even stronger!

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

St. Paul's Treasurer's Report for November 2025

	2025		YTD % of Change
	November	YTD	
Total General Giving	9,365	110,952	-6.4%
Total General Expenses	\$3,297	66,076	-36.2%
Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$6,069	\$44,875	
Designated Giving	1,567	18,794	
Designated Giving - Building	11,240	28,070	
Total Designated Giving	12,807	46,864	
Designated Expenses	1,155	14,668	
Designated Expenses - Building		1,151	
Total Designated Expenses	1,155	15,819	
Net Designated Income	11,652	31,045	
Interest Income	\$127	1,563	
Net Combined Income (Deficit)	\$17,848	\$77,484	

Bank Accounts - As of:	11/30/25	YTD Change	Comments
Fund in SPOS Joint Checking	\$1,000	\$0	
General Checking	\$226,898	\$46,256	
Designated Funds in Checking		\$0	
Building Fund	29,278	\$27,918	0
Comfort Quilts	1,805	\$1,079	726
Community Benevolence Fund	698	\$565	116
Designated Memorials	4,510	\$370	4,140
Fair Trade Sales	196	(\$280)	566
Thrivent Choice	2,075	\$845	1,151
Mobile Food Pantry	10,691	\$779	8,661
Sunday School	735	(\$177)	912
Youth Group	11,701	\$129	11,532
Total Funds in Checking	\$289,588	\$77,484	\$201,159
Other Accounts			
Events/Fund Raiser Acct	3,178	14	3,335
Needles for Needs Acct	1,849	439	3,301
Scrip Acct	4,717	(4,316)	4,491
Total Other Accounts	\$9,745	-\$3,863	\$11,126
Total - All Accounts	\$299,333	\$73,621	\$212,285
Mortgage Balance		\$0	\$68,237

2025 Pastor Expense - Budgeted \$67,960
2025 YTD Supply Pastor Expense \$4,465

**Thank you for sponsoring
Poinsettias this Advent/
Christmas season.**

***In honor of parents and
grandparents***

The Hillebrand Family

***In memory of parents and
grandparents***

The Bender Family

In memory of family

Sally and Tim Lemke

In Memory of Family

Michele Lekie

***In honor of parents and
grandparents***

Carrie and Justin Zirngible

In appreciation of Nancy Jones

Barb Krug

In memory of Linda Zielke

Barb Krug



St. Paul's January 2026 Birthdays & Anniversaries

BIRTHDAY		BIRTHDAY		BIRTHDAY		ANNIVERSARIES	
Jan 1	Chris Carter Gavin Lybert	Jan. 14	Tim Emmerich Richelle Woller	Jan. 19	Pat Hovi Clem Johnson	Jan. 1	Tina & Dan Cederholm
Jan 2	Tim Lemke Brandon Meier Susan Miller	Jan. 15	Ronda Emmerich Jena Faber Jennifer Steen	Jan. 20	Mitch Brehm	Jan. 4	Michelle & Steve Danen
Jan. 4	Dave Konieczny	Jan. 16	Jean Brockhaus Clint Dorioit Darrell Higgins Marguerite Jochimsen Kelly Weiler Betty Block	Jan. 21	Jennifer Hoefs Jaxson Sackmann	Jan. 11	Sue & Kenneth Rodman
Jan. 5	Dawn Doberstein Dawson Rappe	Jan. 17	Camren Frahmann Lynn Glannan Richard Halopka Emmett Machon Quinn Nicks Justin Fuchs Randy Sachmann Mark Willner	Jan. 22	Emma Dombroski Gale Raasch Nialla Hebda Sydnie Peterson	Jan. 21	Stephanie & Wyatt Born
Jan. 7	Tonya Albers Emma Halopka Gary Jensen	Jan. 18		Jan. 23	Matthew Gebert Jacob Knippel	Jan. 30	Kathleen & Robert Harris
Jan. 9	Lily Emmerich Jeremiah Lubahn Brett Schafer			Jan. 25	Jason Cederholm		
Jan. 10	Makenna Tlusty Lindsay Kahn Reilly Nutting			Jan. 26	Kathleen Harris		
Jan. 11	Oakley Siroin			Jan. 27	Larry Johnson		
Jan. 13	Laureen Peterson			Jan. 29	Samuel Lubahn		
				Jan. 30	Tanna Rappe Cash Thums		
				Jan. 31	Jannell Carlson Cassandra Nicks		



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 2025 Church Council

Harley Cook	715-612-2906	cookharley59@gmail.com
Stacey Dassow, Youth Representative		
Amber Fettes	715-965-2830	afettes21@gmail.com
Kathy Hackbarth	715-965-2407	kathyhackbarth@gmail.com
Heidi Haynes, President	715-965-6154	heidi_haynes@yahoo.com
Gail Heurung, Secretary	715-316-2788	gheurung@gmail.com
Marie Koerner, Financial Secretary	715-965-6328	4-koerners@charter.net
Chris Konieczny	715-965-8312	chriskonieczny85@gmail.com
Tony Schumacher, Vice-President	715-581-9488	anthonytylerschumacher@gmail.com
Carrie Zirngible	715-493-1696	cczirn@gmail.com
Tina Dassow, Treasurer		tinadassow@gmail.com

St. Paul's January 2026 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 6:00 p.m. AA Meeting	3
4 9:15 am. Worship/ Communion	5	6 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs 6:00 p.m. Cub & Boy Scouts / Girl Scouts	7 4:00 p.m. Confirmation	8	9 6:00 p.m. AA Meeting	10
11 8:00 a.m. Choir 9:15 am. Worship Communion Sunday School Christmas Pro-	12 5:45 p.m. WELCA Annual Reports Due to Church Office	13 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs	14 4:00 p.m. Confirmation 6:00 p.m. Church Council	15 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Mobile Food Pantry	16 6:00 p.m. AA Meeting	17
18 9:15 am. Worship/ Communion Sunday School	19	20 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs 6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts	21 11:15 a.m. Ladies Lunch 4:00 p.m. Confirmation Newsletter deadline	22	23 6:00 p.m. AA Meeting	24
25 8:00 a.m. Choir 9:15 am. Worship/ Communion 6:00 p.m. Suicide Support Group	26	27 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs	28 4:00 p.m. Confirmation	29	30 6:00 p.m. AA Meeting	31 Annual Congregational Meeting February 1

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

January 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

