ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH VISITOR
OCTOBER 2026

The mission of St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church is to
Celebrate and Proclaim to all the saving grace of JESUS CHRIST in word and deed.

BECAUSE OF GOD'S GREAT MERCY

a stewardship program for our congregation



COMMITMENT SUNDAY

October 4

10:00am

Commitment cards will be mailed out on Sept. 28. Please return your card by mail or bring it to worship on Oct. 4.



Pastor Mackey will be celebrating his 40th anniversary of ordination on October 19. Congratulations Pastor Mackey!





HARVEST SUNDAY decorating will take place NEXT Saturday, October 3, at 10:00. If you've helped out before, you know it's a fun time. Please join us this year if you are able. Also, if you have pumpkins, apples, gourds, etc. you'd like to display, or produce from your gardens, we'd love to borrow them for the day. Bring them to the church Saturday morning (or before) and you can take them right back home after worship on the 4th. For questions, call Linda Schneider at 740 237-5382.



Trunk or Treat and Blessing of the Animals

OCTOBER 16

6:00PM-8:00PM

Join us for treats, games, food and lots of fun!

Free to all!



Henning Vauth became a citizen of the United States on September 18. We will celebrate with him on Sunday, September 27 with a reception in the parlor right after worship.

Pastor's Reflections

I like music! There I said it. Not that this is such an astonishing thing for you who generally read this reflection each month. But I have come to determine it is more than just liking music. Music (all kinds of music) fills my soul with joy.

A story may help. My Mom had just died, and it was during COVID restrictions. Kathy and I decided that Alex and she would not travel up to Ohio for the service. I alone did. It was an interesting ride to Urbana, Ohio, all by myself. I turned the radio on. It was playing music from the only station (most of the time) that I listen to, K-Love. But I lost the station, as sometimes happens, somewhere west of Chillicothe. I started fiddling with the station knob. I came across several different stations – a country western station, a gospel choir singing station, classical. Through all of them I was in tears as I drove to say goodbye to my mother. This is what I mean about music filling my soul.

The music on that drive touched me deep inside. It touched me in the grief I was feeling. It reminded me of Mom and my siblings. I wonder if music has ever done that to you? Has it touched you in your innermost being? Has it reached you in a place where you keep silent and quiet to others? If it has, I am sure all the musicians out there are saying: That is exactly what I intended it to do!

This October we will once again celebrate Reformation on All Hallows Eve, October 31. Music has always been a part of our tradition as Christians who practice their faith in the Lutheran way. And we have such a gifted musician in Henning, who could ask for more? Music was important to Luther. Some say the anthem of Lutheranism "A Mighty Fortress" is a bar tune. Like a tune people would use to sing songs in a tavern. Can you imagine singing A Mighty Fortress in a Buffalo Wild Wings establishment? You might get a look or two.

The other thing I realized on my drive is that music is as diverse and complicated as there are people in the world. So, do we here at St Paul reflect that diversity in the music we use at worship? I so much value our liturgy and we at St Paul are blessed to have a gifted musician in Henning playing that music, not everyone has this.

But for me a lifelong Lutheran sometimes the liturgy is too rote. Am I really listening to the words I am singing or am I just singing because that is what I am supposed to do and being as old as I am now, I do not really like change. I must admit that at times when I lead worship I stand in the front and just listen. Listen to the saints around me singing and that too fills my soul. I do think it is about following the four-fold order of our worship – GATHERING – WORD – MEAL AND SENDING. I also know that there are others in our community who might appreciate different music. Maybe it is time for some dialogue about all this or maybe not.

Some things to ponder as we celebrate our heritage this October yet also look to the future.
Blessings and Peace,
Pastor KLM <><



Congratulations to Sydney Blake who was baptized here on September 20. Sydney is the daughter of Kathleen Blake.



Dear St. Paul Congregation:

Fall is finally here and we celebrated our Worship and picnic at Ritter Park on the first Sunday in September. The weather turned out great, and I'd like to thank Tim and Cheryl Conzett for their help moving the digital piano from the choir room to the park!

As always, after the picnic, we switched to a different musical setting of the liturgy. Since the choir is not rehearsing during the summer, we use Setting X, for which we do not need a cantor. Currently, we are singing Setting IV, with a cantor singing in the Kyrie and in the beginning of the Song of Praise. A big thank you to the choir members who have traditionally filled this role, Barbara Garnett, Tim Conzett, Carolyn Becker, and Keith Wellman.

On a personal note: Last Friday, I became a citizen of the United States. Before, my immigration status was called LPR (Legal Permanent Resident), AKA Green Card holder. It's been a lengthy and expensive process with lots of paperwork, two trips to Charleston (for a biometrics appointment in March, and for the naturalization ceremony at the Robert C. Byrd United States Courthouse in September) and one trip to the USCIS Field Office in Pittsburgh for the naturalization interview and English and civics tests in June. Even though seven months from filing to naturalization ceremony seems long, my application was processed quicker than many others, so I am grateful for that. I am also VERY grateful for the letter Dan Beals and Pastor Kevin wrote in support of my petition to become a citizen (my lawyer had advised that since a policy update last August, support letters speaking to lifestyle and good moral character are now recommended). I also really enjoyed a celebratory dinner we had with the choir at Thai Fusion in Barboursville!

Thanks to all for you for your warm welcome since I came to St. Paul 9.5 years ago!

Henning



Dear St. Paul Lutheran Congregation,

What a joyful and faith-filled season we have shared together. Over Labor Day weekend, our annual church picnic at Ritter Park brought blessings in abundance. We gathered outdoors for a beautiful worship service, surrounded by God's creation, and enjoyed a picnic-style meal with one another. Several of our youth received new Bibles, marking an important milestone in their faith journeys. Together, our church family packed 100 Blessing Bags to support those who are hungry and in need in our community.

Worshipping in the park is a wonderful way to evangelize and meet new people, and handing out Blessing Bags is another powerful expression of our faith in action. As the season changes, may we all "fall into our faith" with renewed devotion and trust in God's guidance.

We also celebrated Rally Day with an ice cream social and meaningful conversations about our upcoming Sunday School plans. This year, we will explore modern Christian music and connect each song to Scripture, learning how God's Word inspires the music we sing. We will learn new songs and share them with the congregation during worship. All youth will participate in music and Scripture study, and when attendance allows, we will separate into older and younger groups. On other days, we will joyfully combine our groups. Through it all, we will continue to listen for God's lead.

Our CCC program kicked off with a pizza party and birthday celebration at Ritter Park. The youth enjoyed food, fellowship, sunshine, and play. We celebrated Daniel Kist's birthday with a Polar Pizza from Baskin Robbins. The Kist family played soccer while others rode the zipline and enjoyed the playground. We closed our time together in a prayer circle, lifting our concerns and praises aloud. Hearing our youth pray so openly is a beautiful and spiritual moment that I deeply cherish.

We also welcomed a new member to our youth family. Sydney Blake was baptized on Sunday, September 20, 2026, during worship. We will recognize and celebrate Sydney's baptism during Sunday School as well. We give thanks for her life in Christ and the joy she brings to our ministry.

Looking ahead, our annual Blessing of the Animals and Trunk or Treat will take place on Friday, October 16, 2026, from 6–8 PM. We are in need of volunteers to set up trunks and help at various stations. All are welcome—many hands make a lighter load. A sign-up sheet will be available in the Narthex, along with a basket for candy donations. This event is a wonderful opportunity to evangelize and share God's love with our community. Families from the neighborhood join us each year, bringing their children and their furry friends for an evening of fellowship and fun. As we continue forward, let us allow the Lord to lead our youth in heart, mind, and spirit. May their lights shine brightly, illuminating the love of Christ in all they do.

Your Loving Sister in Christ,

Jill



NOISY OFFERING

October 4

We will be collecting change for the Backpack Program. Please leave your change (or paper money) in the bucket in the narthex.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Ron Pease
6 Kathy Rea
7 Abby Bell; Brandy Andrus
8 Henning Vauth
10 Andrew Wellman
13 Myles Brown
15 Lisa Kelley
16 Cameron May
20 Adriana Bakely
28 Will Lindberg; Janet Grimes
29 Susan Kelz
31 Brooklynn Utley



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

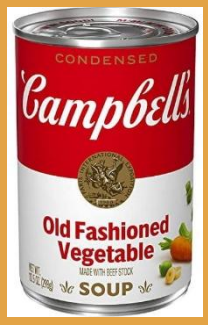
18 Bill and Janet Grimes



FINANCES

August Expected. $18,039
August Giving. $21,496

YTD Expected $144,312
YTD Giving $155,946



Cridlin Food and Clothing Pantry

In October we will collect cans of vegetable soup.
Please leave your donations in the containers in the narthex.



Thank you to everyone who donated items and helped pack the Blessing Bags during our annual picnic at Ritter Park. We were able to pack 100 bags! Each bag includes bottled water, socks, gloves, hats, an emergency blanket, a t-shirt, toothpaste and toothbrush, nail clippers, combs, antibiotic ointments, washcloths, Band-Aids, soap, hard candy, crackers, fruit snacks, granola bars, beef jerky and Vienna sausages. Since we have winter items in the bags, we will wait until cooler weather to have them available in the narthex for you to take and handout to those in need.

Thanks to Thrivent Financial for a $250 grant that helped with purchasing items.

WORSHIP HELPER SCHEDULE

DATE	READER	ASSISTING MINISTER	COMMUNION DEACON	CRUCIFER	ACOLYTE	USHERS	BREAD
10/4	Steve Golder	Bernadette Wellman	Cheryl Conzett		Jaylyn Garnett	Pembertons	Emma Arneson
10/11	Mary Lou Fricke	Keith Wellman	Martha Danelle	Daniel Kist	Jackson Wellman	Andrew Wellman	Emma Arneson
10/18	Jenny Murray	Emma Arneson	Steve Golder	Daniel Kist	Kennady Kist	Andrew Wellman	Emma Arneson
10/25	Mary Lou Pratt	Ruthann Arneson	Jan Kirby	Daniel Kist	Willow May	Andrew Wellman	Emma Arneson

Altar Guild: Debra Egnor and Bill Jennings

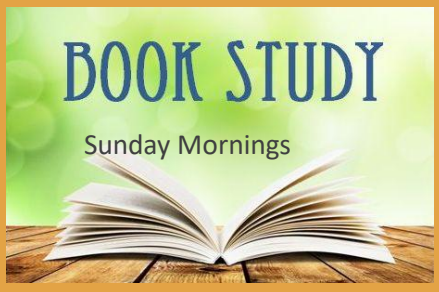


We pray for: LaDonna, Helen, Opal, Stephen, Helen, Rene, Elisha, Bill, Eric, Teresa, Luke, Jake, Phyllis, Michael, Scott, Aiden, Becky, Erica, Freddy, and Josiah.



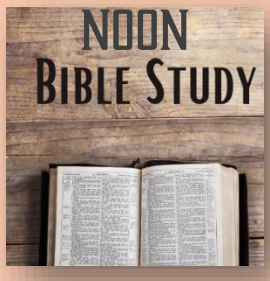


The Book Club will meet on October 14. We will be discussing "Finding Dorothy" by Elizabeth Letts. Please join us!



Sunday Mornings at 11:15am in the library

We will continue our discussion of "Separation of Church and Hate" by John Fugelsang.



Noon Bible Study

Thursdays in the Library (check calendar for dates)

Bring your lunch and enjoy great fellowship and Bible Study.
















ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
721 12th Avenue
www.stpaulhuntington.org


Go In Peace
Serve the Lord

October 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 No Noon Bible Study	2	3
4 10:00am Worship/Harvest Sunday 11:15am Sunday School/Book Study	5 1:00pm Woman's Club	6 9:30am Quilting	7 6:00pm CCC 7:00pm Choir	8 Noon Bible Study 6:00pm Scouts	9	10
11 10:00am Worship 11:15am Sunday School/Book Study	12 Church office closed	13 9:30am Quilting	14 10:00am Book Club 7:00pm Choir	15 No Noon Bible Study	16 Trunk or Treat 6:00-8:00pm	17
18 10:00am Worship 11:15am Sunday School/Book Study	19	20 9:30am Quilting	21 6:00pm CCC 7:00pm Choir	22 Noon Bible Study 6:00pm Scouts	23	24 Confirmation at CTK 9:00am-12:00pm
25 10:00am Worship/Reformation Sunday 11:15am Sunday School	26	27 9:30am Quilting	28 7:00pm Choir	29 Noon Bible Study	30	31



Backpack items are an ongoing need throughout the school year. **We will be providing 30 backpacks each week!** If you can help by donating any of the items below, please leaven them in the containers in the narthex or bring to the church office.

fruit cups	applesauce
Mac and Cheese	Beef-a-Roni
Beef sticks	Cereal
Pop Tarts	Fruit snacks
Drink boxes	Shelf stable milk
tuna salad/crackers	chicken salad/crackers

All items need to be individual sizes and not contain peanuts.

Please leave your items in the container in the narthex or bring to the church office.

BACKPACK DELIVERY SCHEDULE

October—Creigh Pemberton
November—David Stuart
December—
January—Judy Wade
February—David Stuart
March—
April—Cheryl Conzett
May—Pastor Mackey

If you can help deliver backpacks to Southside Elementary in December or March please sign up in the narthex.