



ST. PAUL VISITOR OCTOBER 2021

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.



We pray for...

LaDonna, Charles, Anne, Jackie, Marty, Judy, Clarice, Rachel, Nora, Myles, the Freels Family and the Cecil Family.

Shepherding God, you are the source of life and health. Surround those who struggle with illness or other difficulties of life and bring them to wholeness and healing. Amen.

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list or have a "prayer email" sent out please call Kathy at 304-525-9630.

WORSHIP

We will have in person worship during October. We ask that you wear a mask while in the building. The service will also be live streamed on Facebook and posted on our YouTube channel.

CHANGES TO COMMUNION
Beginning October 3 we will be changing the way we do communion. Please see the details on page 8 of this newsletter.

COVID 19

As of now the council is asking that all persons wear a mask while in the church building.



OFFICE HOURS

Generally someone is in the church office Monday through Thursday from 9:30am-1:30pm. If you are planning to come to the church please call beforehand to make sure Pastor or Kathy is there.

CONNECT WITH US

Phone: 304-525-9630
Email:
secretary@stpaulhuntington.org
pastor@stpaulhuntington.org
music@stpaulhuntington.org
youth@stpaulhuntington.org



stpaulhuntington.org



St. Paul Lutheran Congregation Group



St. Paul Lutheran Church
Huntington, WV

Pastor's Reflections

I have been thinking lately about Church. For us Christians who practice their faith in the Lutheran way October is probably a really, really good time to think about Church. This all came up because a video series I have been watching suggested that Church is not just the place where we gather on Sunday mornings. His suggestion is that Church is in a lot of different places – listening to Christian music on the radio, taking a quiet walk in the woods, gathering with others in our neighborhoods to have a party together (in a socially distant way).

The video leader challenged my understanding of Church, but it also reminded me of the origin of the word Church in the Bible. The Greek word is: “ekklesia”. This word according to Vines Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words: “was used among the Greeks to describe a body of citizens gathered to discuss the affairs of State.” Basically, it was used to describe a gathering of people. We Christians have used it to describe the gathering of God’s people. This sense of gathering has been challenged the past couple of years. What happens when we cannot gather? So many questions come up for me. Is the Church still Church when we don’t come to gather? Is the Church still the Church when we watch online? Is the Church still the Church when I read my Bible at home?

Part of the dilemma is that we have been raised up to understand the Church is the building. Maybe the video leader had it right. Wherever God’s people are in the world is where there is an expression of the Church. So that means that when I talk to my daughter about the 10 Commandments and Luther’s explanation to those commandments that are found in the Small Catechism there is Church? So, when I visit a homebound person and bring them communion and visit with them there is Church? When I go for a walk in God’s creation and enjoy the creation then there is Church? When I sit quietly and ponder life as a follower of Christ then there is Church?

All this seems so confusing. Maybe it’s not meant to be understood or thought out completely but to be lived out in the world. I wonder what Jesus would say to all the different “churches” in the world. I wonder what Jesus would say about all the arguments and disagreements we as Church have had? I wonder if when Jesus spoke of God’s Kingdom it was about not an organization with a building but a people doing, living, sharing God’s grace with their neighbors? I wonder.

October brings us once again to the celebration of the Reformation (on Sunday this year). Luther, of course, describes the “essence” of the Church as needing two things – 1. Word of God rightly preached and heard, 2. Sacraments administered. I believe we are still Church when we are away from one another. I believe we are still Church as we leave worship every Sunday morning to go into the mission field. I believe we are Church when we are reminded of God’s grace and love and forgiveness.

I pray you are Church in the world no matter where you gather from day to day. I pray that you know God’s mercy and love daily. I pray this Reformation you celebrate the Triune God in your midst – God who creates and recreates, God whose Son showed love to us all on the cross and the Spirit who moves through us as we live as faithful followers of Jesus in the world.

Amen and Alleluia!

Pastor Kevin <><

“In each of us there is a spark that can reverse the trends of violence and depression spiraling within us and in the world around us. By setting in motion the spiral of gratefulness we begin the journey toward peace and joy.”

Br. David Stendl-Rast



Dear St. Paul Congregation:

The pandemic has proven to be unpredictable. In the late summer I still thought we could return to “normal” in the fall, and then the Delta variant of the virus swept through the country and caused a new peak in CoViD-19 case numbers. Thank God, it looks like we may have overcome the peak, and case numbers are continuing to decrease. Thus, I feel comfortable sharing the plan for October with you. One step at a time...

Hymn of the Day: I spend a good amount of time finding Hymns of the Day that inform, reflect, or are related to the readings. Pastor Kevin and I do not coordinate other than referring to the same Bible texts, but more often than not everything works together beautifully. There is an element of chance (is it really just chance?) that makes me wonder in eager anticipation every Sunday how the Hymn of the Day will interact with the Sermon. In order for you to experience this interaction musically, I have asked for volunteers from the choir to sing the Hymn of the Day. If there are volunteers from the congregation, please talk to me after worship. The Hymns of the Day for October are listed below.

Congregational Singing: In October, we will continue our practice of no congregational singing inside, with one exception. IF case numbers in Cabell County continue to drop, we will all sing *A Mighty Fortress* as Sending Hymn on Reformation Sunday and walk out almost immediately afterwards, while I am playing the postlude.

Choir: I have solicited feedback on all of this from our choir members and want to thank them for their support and guidance. I think you will be glad to know that on Reformation Sunday (October 31), you will hear your St. Paul Choir again, live and in-person with an anthem for the occasion. We are following all cautionary measures during rehearsals. As always, I extend an open invitation to anyone in the congregation to join us.

Yours, Henning

October 3

Hymn of the Day: ELW 656 Blest Be the Tie That Binds

October 10

Hymn of the Day: ELW 678 God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

October 17

Hymn of the Day: ELW 431 O Christ, What Can It Mean for Us

October 24

Hymn of the Day: ELW 779 Amazing Grace

October 31

Hymn of the Day: ELW 880 O God Beyond All Praising

And just like that, It is Fall. The temperature and leaves are changing simultaneously. The youth at St. Paul are changing too. All the youth are adapting to their new school year and all the changes. Some youth are virtual and some attend school in-person. We have an eclectic group and it is fun to witness their excitement in gathering, worshipping, and learning together once again.

The church picnic was a wonderful day of worship, fellowship and praise. It was a delight to see so many faces of our congregation and also to welcome a few new faces. The band brought wonderful praise while worshipping outside. The Holy Spirit traveled through Ritter Park. The youth reunited and played and danced and ate until their hearts were content. The adults engaged in worship, song and fellowship too. It was a Glorious day the Lord had made! I was glad to be a part of it. Sometimes, we all need a little spark to restore our soul. My heart was so happy to film church and have front row seating

The youth have started having Sunday school after worship outside by the garden behind the church. We bring a chair or blanket to sit on and enjoy the Gospel story of the day and activities. We have been focusing on serving other people and sharing God's love with one another. The youth are bringing an item each week for the Backpack Program. We will serve in our community where needed. So, if you know of a need, please let me know. The youth have enjoyed gathering for story and fellowship and fresh air. We will continue to meet outdoors weather permitting.

Our CCC and LYO groups will begin meeting outdoors on Wednesdays from 6:00-7:00pm. The 1st and 3rd Wednesdays will be CCC group. The 2nd and 4th Wednesdays will be LYO group. If there is a 5th Wednesday, all youth will meet on that Wednesday. For safety reasons, we will B.Y.O.D.(Bring Your Own Dinner). We will also do this weather permitting. Reminders will be set out each week.

One of our biggest youth and community events is just around the corner- "Trunk or Treat". We will have our annual Trunk or Treat on Saturday, October 23rd from 6:30-8:30pm. This event will be outside in our parking lot. We will need a lot of help. If you can volunteer by decorating the trunk of your car and handing out candy, please let me know. If you can donate candy or snacks to be passed out, please bring items to the church. I will have a basket marked Trunk or Treat. As always, many hands make light work. Help us deliver a safe and fun night to youth in our community by sharing the love and light of Christ with us.

I praise you because you made me in an amazing and wonderful way- Psalm 139:14

"All My children are wonderful- each in his or her own unique way. Just look in the mirror, and you will see My definition of wonderful". - GOD

Just in case, you needed a reminder today! You are wonderfully made in the Lord. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Your Loving Sister in Christ,
Jill





Worship
and
picnic
in
Ritter
Park



October 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10:00am Worship 11:00am Sunday School	1:00pm Woman's Club 	9:30am Quilting 1:00pm Social Ministry Meeting	6-7pm CCC	Pastor Mackey on vacation 7-10		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
10:00am Worship 11:00am Sunday School Pastor Mackey on vacation	Columbus Day Office Closed 7:00pm Writer's Group	9:30am Quilting 12:00pm Pastor at QRT	6-7pm LYO	Noon Bible Study in sanctuary		Synod Assembly
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
10:00am Worship 11:00am Sunday School		9:30am Quilting	6-7pm CCC	Noon Bible Study in sanctuary		Trunk or Treat
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
10:00am Worship 11:00am Sunday School 1:00pm Council Meeting		9:30am Quilting	6-7pm LYO	NO noon Bible Study 12:00pm Pastor at QRT		
31						
10:00am Worship 11:00am Sunday School 						



- 1 Ron Pease
- 3 Clarice Kumlien
- 6 Kathy Rea
- 7 Abby Bell; Ernie Golder; Brandy Andrus
- 9 Henning Vauth
- 10 Andrew Wellman
- 13 Myles Brown
- 15 Lisa Kelley
- 16 Cameron May; Crystal Freels
- 20 Adriana Bakley
- 26 Warren Dumke
- 28 Will Lindberg; Janet Grimes
- 29 Susan Kelz
- 31 Dolly Oshel; Brooklynn Utley

- 12 Abel and Meredith Brumfield
- 16 Luke and Carolyn Fornash
- 18 Bill and Janet Grimes
- 21 Ryan and Pearl Bishop

If you would like to make a prayer request for yourself or someone else there are several ways you can do this:

Call the church office at 304-525-9630 and request a name to be put on the prayers that are read on Sunday morning.

Call the church office and request that a prayer email be sent out to the congregation

Request prayer on our Facebook page— "St. Paul Lutheran Congregation Group"

You may also email the church at secretary@stpaulhuntington.org



For the Month of October we are asked to collect at least 48 cans of Spaghetlios for Cridlin Food and Clothing Pantry. Please place your items in the bin in the narthex.

They are also in need of men's jeans, all sizes and women's tops size 2X and above.

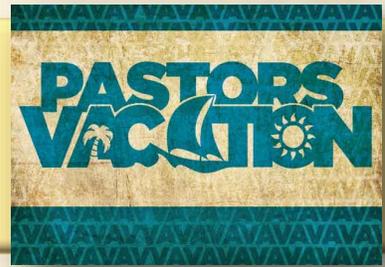


The Social Ministry committee has resumed the Backpack program for Southside Elementary. They will be packing and delivering 25 bags of food each week. The bags contain enough food for the weekend. Our supplies are very low. Donations would be greatly appreciated. Some suggestions of needed items are:

- Individual mac and cheese
- Individual pasta meals
- individual fruit cups
- individual cereal cups
- shelf stable milk
- pop tarts
- individual applesauce

Please do not donate items that contain peanuts.

Pastor Mackey will be on vacation October 7-10. Pastor Jeff Wick will be leading us in worship on Sunday, October 10.



SYNOD ASSEMBLY

Pastor Mackey will be attending the Synod Assembly on October 16. Please keep all of the participants in your prayers as they seek to do the mission of the church.

HOLY COMMUNION

Beginning October 3 we will come forward to receive communion from Pastor. Please follow the instructions below when coming forward.



1. You should have received a cup from the usher when you entered the sanctuary. Please bring this cup with you when you come up for communion. Cups will also be available up front if you did not receive one or if you forget to bring it up with you.

2. The ushers will let you know when to come forward. They will try to bring people up in family groups whenever possible.

3. Please wear your mask when you come up front.

4. After you receive the elements return to your seat and THEN partake of the bread and wine.

5. Only wine will be available (no grape juice). As Lutherans we believe only one element is needed for a full sacrament to be experienced. If you do not desire to drink the wine you will still be fully communed.

Worship Helpers for October

Altar Guild: Linda Schneider

Reader/Worship Assistant

10/3 Steve Golder

10/10 Doug Korstanje

10/17 Linda Schneider

10/24 David Stuart

10/31 Bernadette Wellman

Flowers:

Linda Hay

Candles:

Bread Providers:

Conzetts

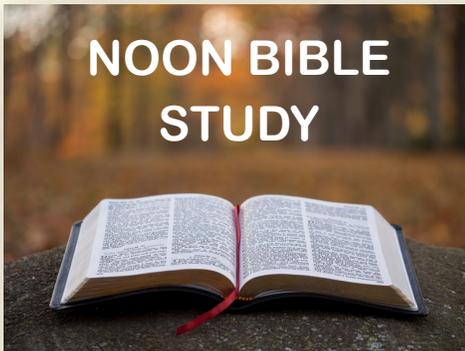
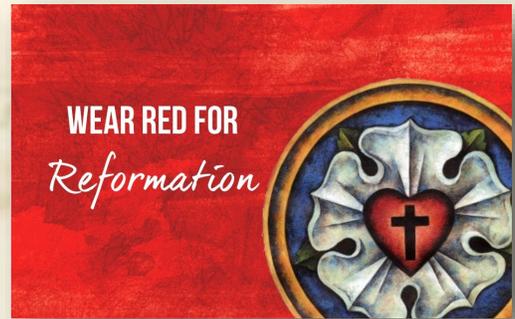


Congratulations to Neil Arneson who retired this year after 35 years as a teacher at Marshall.
Enjoy your retirement!

REFORMATION SUNDAY

October 31

Remember to wear red for this important day in the life of the church.



IN PERSON BIBLE STUDY

We will have the Thursday noon Bible Study in person beginning on October 14. We will meet in the sanctuary. Please wear a mask while in the building.



The readings listed below are sent to the congregation each day (Monday-Friday) by email. If you are not currently receiving the Daily Devotional and would like to please contact the church at secretary@stpaulhuntington.org with your email address.

READINGS FOR OCTOBER

October 4-8: Amos 5:6-7, 10-15, Psalm 90:12-17, Mark 10:17-31

October 11-15: Isaiah 53:4-12, Psalm 91:9-16, Mark 10:35-45

October 18-22: Jeremiah 31:7-9, Psalm 126, Mark 10:46-52

October 25-29: Jeremiah 31:31-34, Psalm 46, Romans 3:19-28, John 8:31-36

PRAYER VENTURES FOR OCTOBER

- 1** Remember in prayer countries or regions where there is conflict, civil unrest or violence, especially Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Myanmar and the Middle East. Pray that God will protect and care for people who endure conflict; have been displaced from their homes and nations; suffer loss, despair, persecution or trauma; and long for peace, healing and stability. Give thanks for the work we do together through Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, Lutheran Disaster Response, ELCA Witness in Society, ELCA World Hunger and our partner organizations.
- 2** Continue praying for people and communities impacted by recent hurricanes, flooding, severe weather and wildfires, and for those working to recover from natural disasters. Pray that all will find comfort, strength and hope in God's loving presence and in the response and support of caring neighbors, faith communities, disaster response volunteers, Lutheran Disaster Response, and the global community of siblings in Christ.
- 3** Give thanks for the teachings of Jesus that clarify God's desire for us to value, respect and accept people of all ages, genders and circumstances.
- 4** *Feast of Francis of Assisi (1181-1226)* Pray that we will greet each day with a sense of awe, gratitude and respect for creation, for the organisms and creatures that inhabit the earth, for our pets, and for humanity in all its diversity and complexity — the handiwork of God entrusted to our care and love.
- 5** Praise God for the gift of Jesus Christ — the Son of God, born as one of us and the “exact imprint of God's very being” (Hebrews 1:3) — who fulfills the promise of God's love and mercy and assures us of our salvation.
- 6** Pray for ELCA congregations and our work together to serve our neighbor, share the story of Jesus, create vibrant communities of faith and reflect the radiant light of God's love, grace and justice in the world.
- 7** Pray for congregational leaders, laypeople and health care professionals participating in the Addiction & Faith Conference (“Awakening Faith Communities to Address Addiction”) in Bloomington, Minn., that they will be inspired and further equipped to care for people who struggle with addiction, as well as their loved ones.
- 8** We should be humbled to know that God has crowned us with glory and honor, especially given how insignificant we seem in the vastness of God's creation. Give praise and thanks to God!
- 9** Pray for the planning team of the 2022 Multicultural Youth Leadership Event, which precedes the ELCA Youth Gathering and focuses on youth of color. Ask God to nurture an inclusive, Spirit-inspired community, that we might celebrate our cultures together in the church, embodying equity, diversity, mutuality and oneness in Christ.
- 10** Pray that the Word of God, example of Jesus and work of the Spirit will inspire, equip and guide us to be service-minded disciples bearing faith, hope, justice, peace and love into the world.
- 11** Give thanks for the bounty of autumn and the people who tend crops and orchards that nourish and sustain us. Pray that we will work together year-round in our communities to help our food-insecure neighbors find convenient, consistent, affordable sources of healthy food.
- 12** God, we ask you to teach us to appreciate life and see each day as an opportunity to do God's work in the world — serving our neighbor, sharing our faith and expressing our gratitude for God's steadfast love and compassion.
- 13** Pray for soldiers serving in places of conflict, returning home from deployment or recovering from injuries or trauma. Give thanks for the people who attend to their well-being and daily needs, especially chaplains serving in the U.S. military and in Veterans Affairs hospitals, and congregation members providing care and support for soldiers and their families.
- 14** Nothing is hidden from God, who knows our every thought, intention, desire and need. Give thanks for Jesus, the Son of God, who lived in the world with us and reassures us that, in every circumstance, God is approachable, full of grace, mercy and understanding.
- 15** Give thanks for women today and throughout church history who have served as reformers and leaders, helping ground our church, institutions and ministries in the good news of Jesus Christ and the work God calls us to do in the world.

- 16** Pray that the Spirit will strengthen our wisdom and skills that we might better steward our oceans, which influence weather, provide bountiful food, facilitate global trade and travel, and renew us with their beauty and power, reflecting God's creative might.
- 17** Pray that, as siblings in Christ, we will encourage and assist one another in being diligent, empathetic and humble as we serve our neighbor throughout our baptismal journeys.
- 18** Pray that during this lingering pandemic the Spirit will guide us to show patience, exercise flexibility and care for our neighbor's physical and spiritual well-being, and that it will inspire in us a spirit of sacrificial love and concern for one another, especially the most vulnerable.
- 19** Pray for our elders, who strengthen our congregations and ministries with their experience, wisdom and passion for doing God's work in the world. Ask the Spirit to stir our creativity in reaching out to and engaging with elders who are homebound or in assisted-living facilities or senior communities.
- 20** Give thanks that in Christ we have a loving, patient teacher and a clear example of how to care for our neighbors in need and pursue justice, equity and healing in the world.
- 21** Give thanks that we can trust in God — our refuge, strength and hope in every circumstance.
- 22** Pray for the ELCA Innovation Lab, created to help our church respond to the opportunities and challenges of introducing more people to God's grace in an ever-changing, increasingly complex world.
- 23** Praise God that our salvation doesn't depend on who we are or what we do but comes to us as a gift of God's love and forgiveness through the life, suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- 24** Pray that our faith in Jesus Christ will reassure us that God's grace, mercy and compassion can be trusted and that only God can truly transform us and make us whole.
- 25** Pray for the work and ministries of our global companions during this time when we cannot accompany them in person. Give thanks that the Spirit continues to strengthen our relationships as siblings in Christ through prayer, technology, generosity, advocacy and shared resources.
- 26** Give thanks for our siblings in Christ who write hymns and songs that reflect on our faith, Scripture and God's work in the world, helping us express our daily joys, sorrows and concerns.
- 27** The year-round outdoor ministries and retreat centers of our church provide opportunities for spiritual growth and renewal, leadership development and ministry with youth. Pray that they will flourish as they recover from and adapt to the impact of the lingering pandemic.
- 28** Praise God for the wisdom and intent of creating a wonderfully diverse humankind and world. Pray that we will respond with awe, respect and joyful thanksgiving.
- 29** "The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced" (Psalm 126:3). Give joy, praise and thanksgiving to God!
- 30** Pray for our neighbors who are, in increasing numbers, homeless or on the verge of becoming homeless. Give thanks for communities of faith that respond with food, shelter, clothing, social services and health care, and that work diligently to end homelessness.
- 31** *Reformation Day* The impact of Martin Luther and other reformers has special significance for the global community of Lutheran Christians. Give thanks that we are set free by the grace and light of God to grow, change, confess our flaws and failings, and ground our church anew in the word and truth of God in Jesus Christ.



ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

721 12th Avenue
Huntington, WV 25701
304-525-9630



CONTACT INFORMATION

Reverend Kevin L. Mackey, pastor
pastor@stpaulhuntington.org
phone: 724-212-9393
Church office: 304-525-9630

Henning Vauth, Music Director
music@stpaulhuntington.org

Jill May, Youth Director
youth@stpaulhuntington.org

Kathy Mackey, secretary
secretary@stpaulhuntington.org

CHURCH COUNCIL 2021

Vice President, Jenny Murray

Treasurer, Andrew Wellman

Secretary, Cheryl Konzett

Financial Secretary, Linda Schneider

Neil Arneson, Worship and Music

Carolyn Fornash, Education

Linda Hay, Worship and Music

Doug Korstanje, Stewardship/Finance

Steve Murray, Property

Jenny Murray, Fellowship

Cheryl Konzett, Property

John Scott, Social Ministry

Bernadette Wellman, Social Ministry