



***Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.***

Psalm 106:1

November is the month of Thanksgiving. It is a time to pause and thank our Lord and Savior for his provision throughout the year. Many of us have a lot to be thankful for over the past year. My list includes:

- A growing relationship with our God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
- The opportunities for good ministry.
- Overall Good health
- A chance to serve as your intentional interim pastor
- Our children
- A fulfilling and loving partnership with my wife, Pamela
- A country that allows us the freedom to worship the way we choose
- Faithful Friends
- Material blessing to meet my family's needs and allows us to share with others.

I could go on for quite a while. My thanksgiving list is a long one. It is enough to say that I have been blessed, and I am thankful. I am sure you can come up with an equally long list.

I recently heard a fascinating insight on the difference between thankfulness and gratitude.

Thankfulness is the feeling of appreciation for received blessings. Gratitude is an active response to that feeling of thankfulness. The dictionary on my computer defines gratitude as "*readiness to show appreciation for and return kindness.*" In other words, gratitude is the way we live out our thankfulness.

So my question to you is this, "How are you going to express your gratitude this November?" There could be several ways to show your gratitude. One way is by showing kindness to those close to you, your family, neighbors, and friends. You can participate in Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service and Potluck at the community center on November 24th. You might help Katie in the preparation and distribution of our Thanksgiving Baskets, making many people's thanksgiving a little brighter. In addition, you could express your gratitude by giving an extra financial gift to St. Paul's Lutheran Church or another one of your favorite charities. Again, I could go on for quite a while, but I'm sure you have some ideas of your own.

Just know that in every active expression of gratitude, you will be saying,

***Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;  
his love endures forever.***

Be Hope-filled, Stay Strong, and God Bless,  
Pastor Carl

**St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting  
October 9, 2024**

Chairman Paul Muske called the meeting to order at 7:47 p.m. on Wednesday, October 9, 2024.

Members present were Paul Muske, Kathy Pederson, Angel Rummel, Kim Graff, Jacob Marz, Pastor Carl and Jeff Krueger.

Parish Coordinator Katie Mueller and Financial Secretary Anita Jensen were also present.

Members absent were Kelly Sargent, Sarah Groebner and Randy Wendt.

Pastor Carl led the group in prayer.

M/S/P to accept the Consent Agenda.

M/S/P to approve the Secretary's Report of the September 11, 2024 meeting.

M/S/P to approve the Financial Statement as printed.

**Pastor's Report**

- Conducted two pre-Baptism meetings.
- Conducted two counseling sessions.
- Conducted new member orientation. Gene & Bev Thorston will join St. Paul's October 13, 2024.
- Made two hospital/nursing home visits.
- Conducted two in home communions.
- Teaching Confirmation classes for St. Paul's and St. Johns students.
- Continuing to move forward with Call Committee and Mutual Ministry Committee.

**Parish Education**

- Sunday School room updates continue to be worked on.
- Sunday School Christmas Program is set for December 15 at 10 a.m.
- Will work on a Parent Sunday School Update letter to send home since there is no Superintendent this year.

**Old Business**

•Parsonage window and paint repair from hail damage was discussed. Insurance Company said they would re-open the claim.

M/S/P to have the exterior of the parsonage painted by Vogel Painting and replace the broken window.

•The Call Committee has been meeting. They have reached out to possible candidates with not a lot of response. Emails are being sent out to all states. Will continue to market the church with the "possibility of becoming a two-point parish" if needed.

•No one has stepped forward to direct the Bell Choir. At this time no action will take place and it will be taken off the agenda.

•Church Auction will be Sunday, October 13 right after the worship service. To-Go Lunches will be available right after the worship service.

**New Business**

•Sue Hendrickson shared with the Council the plans to re-open the thrift store in Springfield. A group of volunteers is working on the project and just wanted the church to know of the plans.

•Saw Works will be submitting a bid for snow removal for the church and parsonage properties. They have done it the past few years and have the proper equipment to complete the job.

•M/S/P to have a Thanksgiving Eve Service Wednesday, November 27 at 7:00 p.m. St. Johns will be invited to join us. There will be a potluck dessert social following the service.

•M/S/P to have the Sunday School Christmas Program on Sunday, December 15 at 10:00 a.m.

•M/S/P to not have a Christmas Day Worship Service.

•M/S/P to have the Christmas Eve Service. Time TBD..... depending on the pastor situation with St. Johns Church as Pastor Carl would have to cover both.

•Springfield Ministerium is planning a Community Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service Sunday, November 24 at the Springfield Area Community Center. Time TBD.

There may be a meal following like two years ago. More details to come.

- The Thanksgiving Basket account has a \$2,926.44 balance. We will do baskets again this year. Katie will organize for Sunday, November 24 but will need help packing and delivering. Nominations will be accepted for the basket recipients.
- SW Minnesota Men's Chorus will do their Christmas Concert at St. Johns Church rather than St. Paul's this year—just to change up the venue. It will be on Monday, December 9.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer. M/S/P to adjourn at 8:43 p.m.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, November 13 at 7:45 p.m.

~by Jeff Krueger, Council Secretary

**Thrivent Financial**—As always, St. Paul Lutheran Church is grateful for your consideration when you make charitable giving plans. If you are a Thrivent Financial member eligible to direct Choice Dollars<sup>SM</sup>, we ask you to consider St. Paul Lutheran as you help direct Thrivent Financials charitable funds.

**THANKSGIVING CHEER BASKETS**

**Deadline to sign up is Monday, November 11th at noon. Late requests will not be accepted.**

If you know of a family who is in need or could use the thoughtful gift of receiving a full Thanksgiving meal, please call the church office at 507-723-5880 or fill out the below form and return it to the church office.

**We need to know their address, phone number, how many people are in the family.**

Help will be needed to package and deliver the boxes, please let Katie know if you can help.

**DONATIONS ARE APPRECIATED AND NEED TO BE IN THE CHURCH KITCHEN BY NOVEMBER 10TH AT NOON.**

**Items you can donate:** *Boxed Stuffing, canned green beans or corn, canned cranberries, canned turkey gravy, disposable roaster pans, jars of pickles, boxes of instant mashed potatoes, frozen Cool Whip, frozen Pumpkin Pie, apples and oranges.*  
(Please put pies and Cool Whip in the Freezer)

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Springfield, MN

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**THANKSGIVING CHEER BASKETS**

Please send a Thanksgiving Cheer Basket to

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Adults \_\_\_\_\_ Children under 10 \_\_\_\_\_ Children under 18 \_\_\_\_\_

**We need to know their address, phone number, how many people are in the family.**

I would like to:

\_\_\_\_\_ donate/buy \_\_\_\_\_ for the baskets. Name & Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ help put baskets together. \_\_\_\_\_ help deliver baskets.

St Paul Attendance

9/29 9am - 78      10/6 9am - 108      10/13 9am - 88  
 10/20 9 am - 74      10/27 9 am - 73

Budget Recap Year-To-Date (01/01/24 to 10/17/24)

Total Funds for Budget	\$149,241.13	Total Operating Funds	\$149,241.13
Budget	\$182,089.32	Operating Exp.	\$166,292.05
Difference	(\$32,848.19)	Difference	(\$17,050.92)

German Supper to date: \$4,344.09      Annual Auction to date: \$4,361.50

Memorials Given 9/25/2024 - 10/17/2024

<b>In Memory:</b>	<b>Given by:</b>	<b>Designated for:</b>
Sharon Rogotzke	Jim & Elsie Groebner	Good Shepherd Scholarship Fund

**2024 Church Council**

Paul Muske - Chair	Kelly Sargent - Treasure
Jeff Krueger - Secretary	Jacob Marz
Randy Wendt	Kim Graff
Kathy Pederson	Angel Rummel
Sarah Groebner	

**Deadlines:**

**Sunday Bulletin:** Wednesday by 10 am.  
**Epistle:** 20th of each month. Please call or email the church office with additions or changes for the bulletins or Epistle. [stpaul\\_lutheran@hotmail.com](mailto:stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com)

Please pray for... The family of Duane Pingeon, The Family of Sharon Rogotzke, Dale Peterson, Pastor Maurice Hagen; all those serving in the military, at home and abroad: Jesse Kettner, Cylee Graff, Shane Clemon, Ethan Langseth, Emily Wendt, and Tabor Gluth.

Prayer Chain –If you have a prayer concern you would like passed along, please call Jan Severson (723-6358) or the church office (723-5880). Please specify if you want the concern on (1) the Prayer Chain and/or (2) included in Sunday

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 • Notice: Please update your phone numbers and/or email address with the church office!  
 • Several of the numbers we have are disconnected and we need to know how to get a hold of you!  
 • You can leave a note in the box outside of Katie’s office, call or email the church office at 507-723-5880 or  
 • [stpaul\\_lutheran@hotmail.com](mailto:stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com). We appreciate you keeping us updated!  
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**Our worship services are live broadcast on YouTube! Just subscribe to our YouTube Channel by going to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and searching for St Paul Lutheran Church, Springfield, MN, or simply scan the QR Code with your smartphone. Be sure to subscribe so you will be notified when we go live!**



# November 2024

\* Indicates Choir Singing.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
St. Paul Lutheran Church, 303 N Cass Ave, Springfield, MN 56087 Church Telephone: 507-723-5880 www.spicspringfield.org stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com						
3 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast	4 6:30 pm Parish Ed Meeting	5 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	6 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 6:15-7:15 Confirmation @ St. Johns 7:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	7	8 Office Closed	9 Office Closed
10 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast	11	12 10:00 am Worship at SJLH 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	13 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 6:15-7:15 Confirmation @ St. Johns 7:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 7:45 Council Meeting	14	15 Office Closed	16
17 * 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast 7:00 pm Nativity Choir Rehearsal @ St. Paul's	18	19 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	20 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 6:15-7:15 Confirmation @ St. Johns 7:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	21	22 Office Closed	23
24 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast <b>5:00 pm Ecumenical Worship &amp; Meal @ Community Cetrer</b>	25	26 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	27 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast <b>* 7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship followed by dessert</b>	28 Office Closed Happy Thanksgiving	29 Office Closed	30

\* Indicates Choir Singing.

## Worship Service Helpers

Date	Sound & Video	Projection	Reader	Acolyte	Usher	Organist
11/3	Dove Family	Dove Family	Kurt Glaeseman	Blake Zihlke Cash Anderson	Team 4	Jeff Krueger
11/10	Mueller Family	Mueller Family	Jeanette Pidde	Molly Jacobs Gavin Brown	Team 1	Jeff Krueger
11/17 *	Paul Muske	Jordan & Jonah Pidde	Brittany Cook	Bentley Wendt Wyatt Dove	Team 2	Jo Schwartz
11/24	Tim Vogel	Jacobs Family	Paul Muske	Lily Groebner Jonah Pidde	Team 3	Jo Schwartz
11/27 *	Mueller Family	Mueller Family				

### November Altar Guild

Rhonda Laron, Ashley Cook

### Usher Teams

- 1 - Don Bloemke, John Marz, Jake Marz, Paul Meidl
- 2 - Doug Gatzlaff, Kurt Kratz, Dave Bittler, Peter Heitzman
- 3 - Doug Schiller, Russell Rogotzke, Mark Buerkle, Jeremy Dove
- 4 - Tim Vogel, Scott Vogel, Bill Vogel

## November Birthdays!

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- 1 - Cassie Krebs, Barry Hoecherl
  - 2 - Michael Graff, Troy Hagert
  - 4 - Tyson Meidl
  - 5 - Bentley Borth
  - 7 - Xandar Asmus
  - 9 - Abigail Shaw
  - 10 - Shane Clemon
  - 11 - Kendra Rummel
  - 12 - Krystal Plaster, Alex Quesenberry
  - 16 - Russell Rogotzke, Craig Valentin, Kaitlyn Wendt
  - 18 - Jan Kettner
  - 19 - Claire Krebs, Tiffany Trapp
  - 20 - Gerritt Meidl, Amber Borth
  - 21 - Dave Bittler, Kelly Sargent, Shay Kieper
  - 22 - Casandra Graff, Lucas Jensen
  - 23 - Lydia Vogel, Tristan Fabian
  - 27 - Jerome Kettner, Ben Jeppesen
  - 29 - Ken Renner
  - 30 - Hudson Lund, Skyler Gewerth

## November Anniversaries!

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- 3 - Richard & Lois Zihlke - 62 years
  - 11 - Ben & Ashley Henning - 1 year
  - 13 - Mark & Michelle Buerkle - 25 years
  - 19 - Brian & Malorie Kral - 13 years
  - 23 - Jacob & Marlayna Gatzlaff - 5 years

"St Paul's Cares" meals are in the kitchen freezer. The meals are each labeled with a post card message and prayer on the front and cooking instruction on the back of the card. The idea is that any member of St. Paul's may take a meal and deliver it to someone who could use it. Some examples would be during an illness or death, welcoming a new baby home, enduring some hardship, etc. Thanks to the use of a Thrivent Action Team card, we have been able to provide this service to our community. Please let Katie know if you have any questions.

# Trunk-or-Treat



Halloween is soon upon us! Please join us for Trunk-or-Treat St. Paul Lutheran Church parking lot on October 31st, from 4-7 p.m.

Together with St. Johns Lutheran we encourage both individuals and families to decorate their cars for the Halloween Trunk-or-Treat. The kids will walk from vehicle to vehicle, collecting candy along the way as they would during a normal trick-or-treating outing. What a great chance to reach out to the children in our community!

The Springfield Nativity Pageant will be held Friday, December 6 and Saturday, December 7 at 7:00 p.m. On the east parking lot at the Springfield Area Community Center. **There are a number of positions or roles to fill for the pageant, including shepherds, scribes, townspeople and innkeepers family.** If anyone is interested in a role, contact Jeff Krueger or Katie in the office.

There will also be a Nativity Choir again this year. Jeff Krueger will be directing the choir again this year. The choir is open to anyone who likes to sing.....seventh grade on up. Rehearsals are tentatively set for Sunday, November 17 and Sunday, December 1.

Rehearsals for the pageant are set for Sunday, December 1 at 1:00 p.m., Monday, December 2 at 6:30 p.m. And Thursday, December 5 at 5:30 p.m.

**Three-four people are needed to help set up and take down the Nativity Set. Set up will be November 30 at 9:00 a.m. And take-down will be December 8 at 1:00 p.m. Please let Jeff, Ed Meidl or Katie know if you can help. We will also need some helpers to dress and undress characters each night of the pageant.**

**ATTENTION STUDENTS GRADES 7-12: Luther League will be having their Kick-Off Event on Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup> by joining in the fun of Trunk or Treat! All students in grades 7-12, from both St Paul's and St. Johns, are encouraged to come and help serve hot cocoa and run games for the trick or treaters! Following Trunk or Treat we will have a brief meeting to discuss Luther League and what the program will look like. The fun goes from 4-7pm. If you can't be there the whole time, just stop in when you can.**



A "BAND" app group has been set up for students and parents. Request to join here....<https://band.us/n/acabA513W4A3G>  
If you have any questions, please contact Shawna Jacobs at 641-990-2833.

- I am beginning to work on the College Care Packages information.
- If you have a student in college, please email Katie with their name and school address. If you want the package dropped off at your house, we can arrange that as well. (Saves us the shipping costs)
- Donations of non-perishable food items, school supplies, etc., can be brought to the church office.
- We hope to send them out between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

**St. Paul Lutheran  
Church, LCMC**  
303 N Cass Avenue  
Springfield, MN 56087

Postmaster: Dated material  
Please Deliver Promptly  
Address Service Requested

**Calendar Highlights - November 2024**  
17- Nativity Choir Rehearsal  
24 - Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service & Meal  
27 - Thanksgiving Eve Worship & Dessert

**Phone: 507-723-5880**  
**Fax: 507-723-8712**

**Office Hours**

Pastor Carl Billings

Parish Coordinator: Katie Mueller  
Monday-Thursday 8:00 am-noon  
Email: [stpaul\\_lutheran@hotmail.com](mailto:stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com)

Housekeeping: Mary Jo Simonson

Maintenance: Al Groebner

Financial Secretary: Anita Jensen  
[Fin\\_secretary@newulmtel.net](mailto:Fin_secretary@newulmtel.net)

St. Paul EPISTLE is a publication of St. Paul Lutheran Church. It is published monthly to keep members and friends informed of programs and ministries of the church.

Articles may be submitted for publication subject to content.

**Sunday Schedule:**

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:00 a.m. Sunday School (September-May)

10:00 a.m. Coffee Talk



**Springfield Area Food Shelf hours**  
Tuesday 5:00pm – 7:00pm  
Thursday 9:30am – 11:30am  
625 N Jackson Ave - Springfield, MN 56087  
(Springfield Clinic Lower Level)  
507-723-3663 (FOOD)

**We are on the Web!**  
[www.splcspringfield.org](http://www.splcspringfield.org)