



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Greetings! We've started our new Sunday school year with a bang! We are so grateful to have several new families join us in Sunday school this year, and we welcome them! We give thanks to God for all our Sunday school students, teachers, helpers, and support staff!

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me...for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." There are some who may think that Jesus says this because children are born pure and innocent. Perhaps because they have not yet been stained by sin. But this misses the mark.

Children are born with a great necessity to trust. They are complete dependent upon others to meet their every need. Diaper changes, feedings, comfort, and finding warmth are completely beyond them, and they will die if another does not provide them with these things. If parents are reliable and prove to be trustworthy, a child will develop a great capacity to trust.

But as we age, our capacity to trust in other human beings declines. Promises [and hearts] are broken. Parents may forget to pick us up from school or daycare. Parents may be absent, leaving children to fend for themselves. Perhaps the grace that little are children are shown disappears and the expectations of perfect behavior and high academic achievement results in harsh and shaming disciplinary action. Friends turn against us and spill our secrets. Bullying and attacks on social media designed to humiliate can undermine feelings of security, identity, and belonging, especially in very small towns. Break ups with boyfriends or girlfriends and the drama that ensues further erodes our trust.

Therefore, what a great gift it is for us to bring our children to Jesus in Sunday school early and often, so they can learn to trust in the one who will never fail them: the Lord our God. When I was subbing in a Sunday school class this week, we studied once again the story of David and Goliath (1 Sam. 17). Experienced soldiers were too terrified to face off with the giant. But the teenage David, filled with steadfast faith in the Lord, stepped forward saying, "[I] will go and fight with this Philistine. The LORD, who saved me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, will save me from the hand of this Philistine." Seeing David, Goliath said, "Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and to the wild animals of the field." Yet David had such a deep faith in the Lord that he responded to Goliath's smack talk saying, "You come to me with sword and spear and javelin; but I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This very day the LORD will deliver you into my hand..." Indeed, that very day this teenage boy defeated the enemy of his people through his faith in God, using a sling shot and five smooth stones against Goliath's military arsenal.

In Sunday school, our children learn the history of our salvation – how the Lord has delivered us from evil again and again. They learn that just as David was repeatedly saved by the Lord and strengthened in the faith, so the Lord will do for them also. They learn that their Heavenly Father sent his only Son to die for them, so that they can face each new day knowing that nothing in all the world can separate them from the love of God through Christ Jesus our Lord: not a poor performance in school or sports, not bullies, not gossip or social media attacks. They will learn to trust in the Lord with all their heart, mind, and soul when facing times of trial, so that they may share their own personal history of salvation to shared faith with others. Having a deep and steadfast faith, they will raise their own children so they, too, know that the promise of the Lord's steadfast love endures forever no matter what trials they face in life.

Join us each Sunday for worship at 9:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. and for Sunday school at 10:00 a.m. Come and hear about the mighty deeds of the one who will never fail us or forsake us! See you in church!

In Christian love,

Pr. Tricia Mattson

St. Paul Lutheran Church—Church Council Meeting - September 8, 2021, at 7:45 p.m.

Vice-Chairman Bill Vogel called the meeting to order at 7:50 p.m. in Room 101. Members present were Angel Clemon, Dave Bittler, Tim Vogel, Bill Vogel, Doug Jeske, Pastor Tricia and Jeff Krueger. Members absent were Matt Sargent and Craig Valentin.

Pastor Tricia led the group in a prayer.

M/S/P to approve the Secretary's minutes from the August meeting.

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

Building and Grounds Report:

- Derek Krebs Construction completed installing the new shingles at the parsonage.
- Church Lightning strike repairs – discussion under new business.

Parish Education Report:

- Sunday School staff is complete. Sunday School will actually begin Sunday, September 19.
- Rally Sunday set for Sunday, September 12 at Riverside Park with Meet and Greet for Sunday School teachers and students followed by a potluck.
- Confirmation started September 8 with a parent/student meeting.

Pastor's Report:

Visitation

- Visitation with members in their homes, at nursing homes and assisted living residences.
- Delivered bulletins to residents at St. John's Home, The Maples and Cottonwood Ridge.

Worship

- Led worship with Holy Communion at St. John's Home on August 17, 2021.
- Led worship with Holy Communion at Downtown Estates on August 23, 2021.
- Presided at the funeral of Bette L. Vote on August 26, 2021.

Parish Education

- Attended the Parish Education meeting on August 25, 2021.
- Taught a premarital class on August 18, 2021.
- Leading Bible Study on Tuesday nights at 6:00 p.m.
- Leading Bible Study at The Maples on Mondays at 3:00 p.m.
- Attended Luther League meeting on September 8, 2021.

Confirmation

- Held our first Confirmation class with parents in attendance on September 8, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Community

- Assisted a community member with utility bills on September 8, 2021.
- Submitted the article, *Never Alone*, to the Springfield Advance-Press on August 25, 2021.

Old Business:

- Agreed to support the Springfield Fire Department Fire Education Project. We will donate \$180 to support 60 students (our Sunday School enrollment number) to come from Pastor's Good Samaritan Fund. Suggested this project be a Mission Sponsorship item next year.

New Business:

- Lightning struck the church August 24, 2021 damaging exterior brickwork and trim on the east side of the building, frying the entire phone system, elevator, live Facebook recording router and Dell Docking Station and surge protector in Pastor's office.
 - Grinell Insurance Adjustor will be at St. Paul's on September 16.
 - Nuvera provided a quote for a new phone system
 - MEI Elevator Company will be providing a new quote for elevator repairs
 - Ochs Masonry and Saloneks will be contacted for quotes for outside brickwork repair
 - New surge protector and docking station have been ordered
 - Council will meet again after insurance information comes in to the church
- M/S/P to upgrade the church's internet to 30/2 for \$84.95/month. The present 15/1 internet is very slow.
- Will request snow removal bids be submitted by October 6, 2021.

- LCMC Augustana District reached out to all member congregations with information regarding an ELCA congregation in Slayton that is looking to leave the ELCA and join LCMC. They are not looking for financial support but people and prayer support.
- Fall German Supper is set for September 22. Workers and details are all in place.
- M/S/P to open up the Nursery/Cry Room. It has been closed during the pandemic.
- Discussed offering collection during worship services. Due to very few ushers showing up for their team shifts, offering will remain at the entrances at this time.
- Discussion on the church's projection system.

M/S/P to adjourn at 9:05 p.m. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.
 Next meeting will be Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at 7:45 p.m.

~Jeff Krueger, Church Council Secretary

| <u>2021 Church Council</u> | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| Matt Sargent- Chair | Dave Bittler | Angel Clemon |
| Bill Vogel- Vice Chair | Doug Jeske | Tim Vogel |
| Jeff Krueger - Secretary | Craig Valentin - Treasurer | |
| There are 2 vacancies | | |

A special meeting of St. Paul Lutheran Church Council was held following the 9:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, September 19 in Room 101. Members present were Doug Jeske, Dave Bittler, Jeff Krueger and Pastor Tricia with Bill Vogel and Tim Vogel present by phone. Absent were Matt Sargent, Craig Valentin and Angel Clemon. Ed Meidl was also present.

Ed shared the results from the insurance adjustor's visit regarding the lightning strike to the church. The adjustor stated that we should go ahead with the needed repairs. We will have the new phone system installed and the elevator repaired which will include the necessary updates as discussed in an earlier council meeting. Ochs Masonry has submitted a bid to do the outside brick repair but there could possibly be a bid coming from Salonek Construction. The adjustor said he would submit the claim amount and we should expect payment within 30 days.

M/S/P to go ahead with all the needed repairs.

The adjustor also noted that there is a serious wasp infestation up around the outside damage. Ed will take care of the problem.

M/S/P to purchase a new Christmas tree for the church sanctuary with Marie Weinberger memorial money. Paul Muske and Jill Vogel are working on the project.

M/S/P to adjourn at 10:20 a.m.

~Jeff Krueger, Church Council Secretary

New Church Directory! We have a new online church Directory! It is live and ready to view! Go to <https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com/> and create a log-in account with your email the church office has on file. If you can't log in, let Katie know so we can get it entered! If you don't have access to the internet and would like a printed copy of the directory, let Katie know.

Those with smartphones can easily download the Instant Church Directory app in the Apple App Store or Google Play Store and have the directory at their fingertips!

The greatest thing about the new directory is that it can be updated constantly so information should never be outdated! Have a new family picture? Email it to the church office and it can be added instantly! Recently moved and need to update your address? No problem, it will be updated instantly!

If you need an updated picture for the directory, stop in during Katie's office hours and we can snap a picture of you and get it added to the directory.

Be sure to check it out!

The Board of Parish Education is seeking 2 new board members. Please talk to Katie in the office of Pastor Tricia if you are interested in joining Parish Ed.

| St Paul Attendance | | | | | | |
|--------------------|----------|----------|---------|----------|---------|-----------|
| 8/29/21 | 9am - 36 | | 9/05/21 | 9am - 41 | 9/12/21 | 10am - 66 |
| 9/19/21 | 9am - 90 | 11am - 0 | 9/26/21 | 9am - 91 | | 11am - 0 |

Budget Recap Year-To-Date (01/01/21 to 9/26/21)

| | | | |
|------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| Total Funds for Budget | \$117,194.35 | Total Operating Funds | \$117,194.35 |
| Budget | \$136,881.42 | Operating Exp. | \$127,329.37 |
| Difference | (\$19,687.07) | Difference | (\$10,135.02) |

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 DollarsSM, we ask you to consider St. Paul Lutheran as you help direct Thrivent Financials charitable funds.



Do you shop on Amazon? St. Paul Lutheran Church is now listed on AmazonSmile! For eligible purchases at AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the customer's selected charitable organization. Just select St. Paul Lutheran Church, Springfield, MN and you will be helping our congregation one purchase at a time! Simply enter <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/41-0705873> or go to smile.amazon.com and click on "AmazonSmile" and select St. Paul Lutheran Church, Springfield, MN. Then continue shopping! It's really that easy! Thank you for choosing to support St. Paul Lutheran!

Memorials Given From 08/26/21 to 09/25/2021

| <u>In Memory:</u> | <u>Given by:</u> | <u>Designated for:</u> |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Ken Bisher | Ken & Sharon Renner | St. Paul Lutheran Church |
| Karen Tordsen | Dalores Stern | St. Paul Lutheran Church |
| Violet Johnston | Ken & Sharon Renner | St. Paul Lutheran Church |

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, use one of the yellow information cards in the church pews, call or email the church office at 507-723-5880 or stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com. We appreciate you keeping us updated!

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

Please pray for...Leona Schottle, Sharon Rogotzke, Alice Trebesch, William Matzke, Crissy Rogotzke; Cylee Graff, Ethan Langseth, Jesse Kettner, Emily Wendt, Joseph Wendt, Tabor Gluth and all those serving in the military, at home and abroad.

Prayer Chain – If you have a prayer concern you would like passed along to the Prayer Chain, 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 morning prayers which will be included for **two** Sundays unless otherwise specified or request is renewed.

October 2021

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---|--|--|---------------------|--------------------|
| 3 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast 11:00 Worship | 4 3:00 pm The Maples Bible Study 6:30 Parish Ed Meeting | 5 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast | 6 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 6:00 Luther League Meeting 6:00 Bell Choir 6:30 Confirmation 7:30 Choir Rehearsal | 7 | 8 Office Closed | 9 Office Closed |
| 10 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 10:30—1:00 Church Auction & Lunch 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast 11:00 Worship | 11 3:00 pm The Maples Bible Study | 12 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast | 13 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 6:00 Bell Choir 6:30 Confirmation 7:30 Choir Rehearsal 7:45 pm Church Council Meeting | 14 | 15 Office Closed | 16 |
| 17 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast 11:00 Worship Pastor Continuing Ed---- | 18 3:00 pm The Maples Bible Study | 19 10:00 am SJLH Worship 6:00 pm Bible Study 3:00 The Maples HC 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast | 20 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast No Confirmation 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal | 21 | 22 Office Closed | 23 |
| 24 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast 11:00 Worship | 25 2:00 Downton Estates 3:00 pm The Maples Bible Study | 26 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast | 27 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 6:30 Confirmation 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal | 28 | 29 Office Closed | 30 |
| 31 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast 11:00 Worship | | | | St. Paul Lutheran Church 303 N Cass Ave, Springfield, MN 56087 507-723-5880, stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com pastortriciamattson@gmail.com | | |

9:00 am Worship Service

| Date | Sound & Video | Reader | Acolyte | Usher |
|-------|------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|--------|
| 10/3 | Paul & Jonah | Jo Muske | Alyssa Shaw Jenna Shaw | Team 3 |
| 10/10 | Russell Rogotzke | Mel Vogel | Russell Johnson Ashtyn Christian | Team 4 |
| 10/17 | John Mueller | Kurt Glaeseman | Noah Mueller Wyatt Mueller | Team 1 |
| 10/24 | Peter Heitzman | Jeanette Pidde | Hayden Gluth Nathan Johnson | Team 2 |
| 10/31 | Tim Vogel | Paul Muske | Braxton Brown Brooklyn Anderson | Team 3 |

Usher Teams

- 1 - Delwin Beussman, Don Bloemke, John Marz, Paul Meidl, Mark Rosenau
- 2 - Dave Bittler, Doug Gatzlaff, Kurt Kratz, Mike Marz, Ashley Rogotzke, Jacob Rogotzke
- 3 - Rod Larson, Doug Schiller, Russell Rogotzke, Ethan Langseth
- 4 - Mark Buerkle, Tim Vogel, Scott Vogel, Kurt Glaeseman, Bill Vogel

October Birthdays!

- 1 - Tina Meine
- 2 - Brayden Trapp
- 3 - Denise Gicker
- 5 - Brooke Jensen, Tanner Weisensel
- 7 - Dalores Stern
- 8 - Leo Kral, Nyla Quesenberry
- 9 - Jelene Nachreiner
- 10 - Darlene Wilstermann
- 13 - Jim Groebner, Alice Trebesch, Marlys Wendt
- 14 - Sarah Groebner, Dawn Marz
- 16 - Kari Haugo
- 17 - Doug Schiller, Milo Jensen
- 18 - Ruth Ann Gicker
- 20 - Delwin Beussman, Leona Schottle
- 21 - Ashtyn Christian
- 23 - Sara Haugo, Victoria Hill, Falen Hillesheim
- 24 - Brooklyn Anderson, Paisley Groebner, Bentley Wendt
- 25 - Ashley Cook
- 26 - Norma Freeman
- 28 - Cylee Graff, Grant Jensen
- 30 - Jeff Weisensel
- 31 - Rod Larson, Liz Wendt

October Anniversaries!

- 2 - Jeff & Stacey Weisensel - 28 years
- 3 - Duane & Jelene Nachreiner - 51 years
- 3 - Larry & Kathryn Pederson - 40 years
- 8 - Keaton & Amber Borth - 5 years
- 9 - Bob & Sharon Rogotzke - 45 years
- 13 - Mark & Stacia Rosenau - 20 years
- 17 - Troy & Kay Hagert - 35 years
- 18 - Joe & Jessie Micka - 7 years
- 19 - Adam & Sarah Groebner - 19 years
- 28 - Glenn & Anita Jensen - 32 years
- 28 - Mike & Barb Marz - 54 years
- 28 - Doug & Marcia Schiller - 49 years
- 29 - Brian & Jen Timm - 16 years



October Altar Guild

Kari Haugo, Marcia Schiller

If you are unable to help, please find a substitute or switch months

We have a great need for volunteers for our worship services in the areas of Altar Guild (preparing communion), Ushers, and Sound & Video Recorders!

ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL AUCTION & LUNCH

Sunday, October 10, 2021

10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



* Turkey Supreme Meal *

Turkey Supreme Sandwich, baked beans, chips, cookie and beverage for \$8

* Live Auction begins at 11:45 *

* Silent Auction ends at 12:30 *



Items for sale/auction include: over 20 themed gift baskets, homemade baked goods, homemade jams and jelly and other canned produce, homemade craft items, spa & beauty products, wine baskets, home décor, several kids baskets, over \$500 in local business and restaurant gift certificates, over \$500 in Springfield Chamber Bucks, tool sets, and much more!



If you would still like to donate an item or baked good, please contact Katie Mueller or Kathy Pederson.



We are beginning to collect items for the College Care Packages! This is a service project for our Luther League! Email Katie your college students address so we make sure they get a package!
stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com

Donations are appreciated! Bring in your non-perishable snacks and donation items to the church office by Thursday, October 28th! Our college students love receiving their packages!

St. Paul's will be hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive in the Fellowship Hall on Tuesday, November 2nd from 8 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Volunteers are needed! I need 2-3 people who can volunteer their time to help me that day. Even if you can only help for a portion of the day, that would be great!

Please contact Katie in the church office if you are available to help!



Join St. Paul's Bell Choir

The Handbell Choir will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, October 6th and 13th at 6:00 p.m. in the balcony of the church sanctuary. More bell ringers are needed the more ringers we have, the more complex musical bell selections we can play. The choir will rehearse two times a month and play once a month. Kristin Rogotzke will direct the Handbell Choir contact her if you would like to join in.

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

Postmaster: Dated material
Please Deliver Promptly
Address Service Requested

Calendar Highlights - October 2021

10 - Church Auction & Lunch 10:30-1:00

Phone: 507-723-5880

Fax: 507-723-8712

Office Hours

Pastor: Tricia Mattson

Monday & Thursday 9-noon

Wednesday 1-4

Or by appointment

pastortriciamattson@gmail.com

Parish Coordinator: Katie Mueller

Monday-Thursday 8:00 am-noon

Email: stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com

Housekeeping: Simply Clean LLC

Maintenance: Ed Meidl

Financial Secretary: Anita Jensen

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

10:00 a.m. Coffee Talk

11:00 a.m. Worship



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