



...to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours

1 Corinthians 1:2b

On October 6, we will have a crucial Congregational meeting. The reason for the meeting is to consider whether we want to enter into mutual ministry with St John's Lutheran.

The mutual ministry proposal is not becoming one congregation with Saint John's. Instead, we would continue as two separate congregations and share pastoral and programmatic staff.

There are several reasons for considering a mutual ministry with Saint John's. First and foremost, there is a drastic shortage of pastors available for call. Speaking personally, I usually receive two or three inquiries a month from congregations, wondering if I am available for either a permanent call or as an intentional interim. I inform them every time that I am not available. I am committed to be your interim until you find your next permanent Pastor.

The demand, however, for pastoral leadership is high. The Call committee has been working hard over the summer and has had very little response. They will give a full update at the meeting.

There are numerous positive aspects to consider when it comes to a mutual ministry. If the two congregations were to share a lead pastor, it would open up resources for hiring another programmatic staff member, specifically focusing on youth and families. This additional staff member need not be an ordained pastor and could even be someone from our own community.

In addition, a formal partnership would build on the mutual ministry that we have already started with St. John's. This summer, the Feed My Starving Children Mission Trip, The Community Night Out Picnic, and Rally Sunday were high points of our congregational life.

The cooperation of the two congregations will also allow us to reach critical mass for specific ministries. For example, I am teaching confirmation for St John's and St Paul's. We have nearly twenty kids in the class, which is an excellent size for a youth group, and that doesn't even include our senior high students in both congregations.

This is your decision as a congregation. It is not mine. It is an important decision. For the reasons outlined above, I would encourage you to consider carefully a mutual ministry partnership with St. John's Lutheran Church.

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

Pastor Carl

St. Paul Lutheran Church Council Meeting September 11, 2024

Chairman Paul Muske called the meeting to order at 7:47 p.m. on Wednesday, September 11. Members present were Paul Muske, Kelly Sargent, Jacob Marz, Randy Wendt, Sarah Groebner, Angel Rummel, Kim Graff, Kathy Pederson, Pastor Carl Billings and Jeff Krueger. Parish Coordinator Katie Mueller and Financial Secretary Anita Jensen were also present.

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 August 14, 2024 meeting.

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

Pastor's Report

- Conducted one pre-Baptism meeting
- Conducted two counseling sessions.
- Met with Pastor Kelly (St. Johns pulpit supply pastor).
- Led four of the five combined worship services for St. Johns and St. Paul's churches.
- Will be doing pulpit fill on Sundays at St. Johns Church beginning September 15. St. Paul's worship will be at 9:00 a.m. and St. Johns will be at 10:30 a.m.
- Will be leading Confirmation classes for St. Johns and St. Paul's students beginning September 18. The classes will meet at St. Johns Church. There are 18 students in the class this year.

Parish Education

- Sunday School staff is in place for the coming year.
- Sunday School will begin on September 15.
- Student presentations will be as follows: Cradle Roll Doves and Kindergarten Bibles on September 22; First Grade Catechisms on September 29; and Third Grade Bibles on October 6.
- Some changes have been made to the required memorization for each class this year.

Old Business

- Parsonage window and paint repair from hail damage will require photos and quotes submitted to our insurance company. The damage was due to hail last October. Building and Grounds is waiting for quotes to do repairs. Will cost around \$300 to repair the window but will also get a quote to replace it.
- The Call Committee has been meeting. They have reached out to possible candidates with not a lot of response.
- The needed updates to the Fire Protection Equipment in the church kitchen equipment is being looked into.
- No one has stepped forward to direct the Bell Choir. At this time no action will take place.
- Church Auction will take place Sunday, October 13 right after the worship service.
- German Supper will be Wednesday, September 18. Council members were encouraged to sell tickets and to help with the event.

New Business

- Discussion on holding a Special Congregational Meeting to inform everyone on the Call Committee's work and also everyone's feelings about the possibility of sharing a pastor with St. Johns Church. M/S/P to have Chairman Muske work on setting up the meeting. Everyone agreed that Pastor Carl should be at the meeting and that it should happen on a Sunday morning following the worship service.
- St. Johns Church has agreed to pay \$400 per week to St. Paul's for the extra duties Pastor Carl is performing for their congregation. M/S/P to accept the offer.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer. M/S/P to adjourn at 8:30 p.m.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, October 9 at 7:45 p.m.

~by Jeff Krueger, Council Secretary

ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL AUCTION & LUNCH

Sunday, October 13, 2024

Meal 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



BBQ Sandwich, chips, cookie
and beverage for \$5

To-Go Meals Available



*** Expanded Market begins at 11:00 ***

*** Live Auction begins at 11:30 ***

*** Silent Auction ends at 12:00 ***

Items for sale/auction include: over 20 themed gift baskets, for adults and kids, homemade baked goods, homemade canned goods, homemade craft items, spa & beauty products, wine baskets, home décor, tool sets, local business and restaurant gift certificates, and so much more!



St. Paul Lutheran Church
303 N. Cass Ave
Springfield, MN 56087
507-723-5880 or
stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com



SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING NOTICE: A special meeting of the congregation has been scheduled for October 6th immediately after morning worship. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the extent to which our congregation is interested in pursuing mutual ministry with St. John's Lutheran. It is very important that everyone attend the meeting to listen and discuss.

St Paul Attendance			
9/1 9am - 100	9/8 10am - 160	9/15 9am - 110	9/22 9 am - 96

Budget Recap Year-To-Date (01/01/24 to 9/24/24)			
Total Funds for Budget	\$132,810.23	Total Operating Funds	\$132,810.23
Budget	\$169,083.94	Operating Exp.	\$148,353.75
Difference	(\$36,272.71)	Difference	(\$15,543.52)
German Supper to date: \$4,570.40			

Memorials Given 8/28/2024 - 9/24/2024

In Memory:	Given by:	Designated for:
Yvonne Loomis	Rod & Rhonda Larson Audrey Rositzke John & Katie Mueller	Good Shepherd Scholarship Fund St. Paul's Memorial Account Good Shepherd Scholarship Fund
Jan Anderson	Rod & Rhonda Larson	Good Shepherd Scholarship Fund
Jan Larson	Rod & Rhonda Larson	Good Shepherd Scholarship Fund

2024 Church Council	
Paul Muske - Chair	
Jeff Krueger - Secretary	Kelly Sargent - Treasure
Randy Wendt	Jacob Marz
Kathy Pederson	Kim Graff
Sarah Groebner	Angel Rummel

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... 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 morning prayers which will be included for **two** Sundays unless otherwise specified.

Our worship services are live broadcast on YouTube! Just subscribe to our YouTube Channel by going to 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!



We need 2 volunteers for BINGO on October 11th at 2:00 pm.
 Please let Katie know if you can help out!



October 2024

* Indicates Choir Singing.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	2 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 6:15-7:15 Confirmation @ St. Johns 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	3	4	5
6 9:00 Worship 10:00 Special Congregational Meeting 10:30 Ch. 8 Broad- cast	7	8 10:00 am Wor- ship at SJLH 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	9 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 6:15-7:15 Confirmation @ St. Johns 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 7:45 Council Meeting	10 2:00 p.m. St John's Home Birthday party	11 2:00 BINGO @ SJLH-Volunteers needed	12
13 9:00 Worship * 10:00—12:00 Church Auction and Lunch 10:30 Ch. 8 Broad-	14	15 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	16 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 6:15-7:15 Confirmation @ St. Johns 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	17	18 Youth Mission Trip to Feed My Starving Children	19
20 9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:30 Ch. 8 Broad- cast	21	22 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	23 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 6:15-7:15 Confirmation @ St. Johns 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	24	25	26
27 9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:30 Ch. 8 Broad- cast	28	29 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	30 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 6:15-7:15 Confirmation @ St. Johns 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	31 4:00-7:00 Trunk or Treat	St. Paul Lutheran Church, 303 N Cass Ave, Springfield, MN 56087 Church Telephone: 507-723-5880 www.splespringfield.org stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com	

* Indicates Choir Singing.

Worship Service Helpers

Date	Sound & Video	Projection	Reader	Acolyte	Usher	Organist
10/6	Paul Muske	Jordan & Jonah Pidde	Daniel Kettner	Bobbi Jo Timm Reagan Plaster	Team 4	Jeff Krueger
*10/13	Tim Vogel	Jacobs Family	Jordan Pidde	Ali Trapp Rylyn Marz	Team 1	Jeff Krueger
10/20	Groebner Boys	Groebner Boys	Jo Muske	Abbygail Jeppesen Ellie Jensen	Team 2	Jo Schwartz
10/27	Trevor Krebs	Mueller Family	Mel Vogel	Randee Dombek Madisen Schumacher	Team 3	Jo Schwartz

October Altar Guild

Jo Schwartz, Megan Hillesheim, Crissy Rogotzke

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

October Birthdays!

- 
- 1 - Tina Meine
 - 2 - Brayden Trapp
 - 3 - Denise Gicker
 - 3 - Abigail Dove
 - 5 - Brooke Jensen
 - 5 - Tanner Weisensel
 - 8 - Leo Kral
 - 9 - Jelene Nachreiner
 - 10 - Darlene Wilstermann
 - 13 - Jim Groebner
 - 13 - Marlys Wendt
 - 14 - Sarah Groebner
 - 14 - Dawn Marz
 - 16 - Kari Haugo
 - 17 - Doug Schiller
 - 17 - Milo Jensen
 - 18 - Ruth Ann Gicker
 - 20 - Delwin Beussman
 - 20 - Leona Schottle
 - 21 - Ashtyn Rudolph
 - 22 - Weston Steinhaus
 - 23 - Sara Haugo
 - 23 - Falen Hillesheim
 - 24 - Brooklyn Anderson
 - 24 - Paisley Groebner
 - 24 - Bentley Wendt
 - 25 - Ashley Cook
 - 25 - Maggie Vogel
 - 26 - Oakleigh Cook
 - 28 - Cylee Graff
 - 28 - Grant Jensen
 - 30 - Jeff Weisensel
 - 31 - Rod Larson
 - 31 - Liz Wendt

October Anniversaries!

- 
- 2 - Jeff & Stacey Weisensel - 31 years
 - 3 - Duane & Jelene Nachreiner - 54 years
 - 3 - Larry & Kathryn Pederson - 43 years
 - 8 - Keaton & Amber Borth - 8 years
 - 9 - Bob & Sharon Rogotzke - 48 years
 - 13 - Mark & Stacia Rosenau - 23 years
 - 17 - Troy & Kay Hagert - 38 years
 - 19 - Adam & Sarah Groebner - 22 years
 - 28 - Glenn & Anita Jensen - 35 years
 - 28 - Mike & Barb Marz - 57 years
 - 29 - Brian & Jen Timm - 19 years

Thank you Notes

Thank you so much for the scholarship money to put towards my tuition at the University of Sioux Falls. I greatly appreciate all of your support. Thank you!

Jordyn Plaster

Thank you for your continued support to the Springfield Area Food Shelf. Numbers continue to rise and we are serving many people monthly. Your donations help a lot.

Shari Koll

Thank you so much for your donations to NUMAS Haus. We are grateful to live in such a caring community. Your gifts not only feeds and cloths homeless women and children, but helps them build a brighter and more hopeful future. Bless you all!

Your friends at NUMAS Haus

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING NOTICE: A special meeting of the congregation has been scheduled for October 6th immediately after morning worship. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the extent to which our congregation is interested in pursuing mutual ministry with St. John's Lutheran. It is very important that everyone attend the meeting to listen and discuss.

We are trying out a new ministry at St. Paul's by providing meals to someone or a family in need of prayers, comfort, peace, and support. Twenty-one "St Paul's Cares" meals have been prepared and 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!

Tenors and Soprano's are needed!!
ADULT CHOIR REHEARSALS are every Wednesday evening 7:30 p.m. in the church sanctuary. All current members are encouraged to attend and new members (seventh grade and older) are always welcome. Contact Jeff Krueger or Katie in the church office with questions.

HELP WANTED: Someone who would like to direct St. Paul's Bell Choir. The bells have been silent for almost two years now and we would like to start the choir up again. If you are interested in organizing and directing the group, please Contact Jeff Krueger or Katie in the church office.

The Sunday School rooms are getting a much needed update and the committee is making sound -absorbing panels for in the Sunday school rooms. They are in need of clean, used bath towels. The towels can be frayed/worn, and the color doesn't matter as they won't be visible. We need about 60 towels total. Please bring to church in a bag if you have some to donate.

Sunday school is also in need of scraps of fabric and PAPER grocery bags for a couple of craft projects this fall. These can be brought to the church office. Thank you!

**Good Neighbor Thrift Store Closeout Sale is Saturday, October 5th, from 9am-4pm.
Located at 20 East Central St. All merchandise must go!**

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

Postmaster: Dated material
Please Deliver Promptly
Address Service Requested

Calendar Highlights - October 2024

6 - Special Congregational Meeting

11 - BINGO @ SJLH

13 - Church Auction & Lunch

31 - Trunk or Treat

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

Housekeeping: Mary Jo Simonson

Maintenance: Al Groebner

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 (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