



September

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

John Wesley's 1778 quote, "cleanliness is next to godliness," has perhaps been replaced today by "busyness is next to godliness." These days if you ask someone how they are, you are likely to get the response, "Busy!" Children's schedules are packed with activities, so parents are racing around like chickens with their heads cut off. Empty nesters are tapped on the shoulder to fill their "free time" with service to the church and community. Retired folks find themselves even busier than they were while working. The elderly suffer with feelings of shame when they are no longer able to be busy.

We are quite proud of our busyness. It makes us feel important. It makes us feel like we really matter, and we hope to find our worth in it. Sometimes we are busy serving others with great joy; but other times we are anxious and distracted by our many tasks. Our serving can become a heavy burden to carry when we think of it as our means to becoming God-pleasing.

Martha is the patron saint of busy believers. We can sympathize with Martha, who was entertaining the Lord, and probably his twelve disciples. That's a lot of mouths to feed! Surely Martha wanted to make a good impression: proving herself to be the "hostess with the mostest."

We can understand, too, why Martha is so upset with her sister. Did you have a sibling who lazed about, leaving all the work to you? We can imagine that Martha had probably been trying to catch Mary's eye, waving her over to help. But her slacker of a sister paid her no attention. Mary just sat there at Jesus' feet doing absolutely nothing!

What made it worse was that Jesus didn't tell Mary to get off her backside and get busy. He actually enabled Mary's idleness, so Martha worked herself into a tizzy. She lost her cool and commanded Jesus to order her sister to help her.

But Jesus turned the tables on Martha. After all, he didn't come to be served, but to serve. So, he said, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her." Don't worry about setting the table, Martha. Instead, just grab a cushion, plop yourself down next to your sister, and soak up the words of eternal life that Jesus has come to shower upon you.

We have forgotten that the more we try to do for Jesus, the more we get in his way of doing things for us. If we're always busy using our hands to build spiritual kingdoms, we can't open them as beggars to receive the gifts of Jesus. Our Lord doesn't say, "Be busy and know that I am impressed," but "Be still, and know that I am God." Jesus doesn't draw near to you to ask you how much you've done for him lately. He doesn't come with his ledger book to tally up how much you've done to curry his favor.

Instead, Jesus tells you how much *he's* done for *you*. He handed himself over to be condemned and crucified, so that he could make you his own. He has built an entire kingdom for you from the simple wood of a blood-stained cross. Jesus Christ is beckoning you to sit at his feet, with Mary, and listen as he gives you rest for your soul.

Of course, there is plenty of good for you to do in this world – for your family, your friends, your neighbors, and even your enemies. But the good that you do is not the good that matters most. What matters most is the plan for good that Jesus Christ has for your life. The Lord's good plan is simply this: to crucify and resurrect you with Jesus. To divorce you from your works and your doings, and to join you to his works and his doings! To baptize you into that body that bore your sins and defeated them, and then to resurrect you to new life in the body of Christ! Each Sunday you are invited to just plop yourself down on a cushion at Jesus feet with all your brothers and sisters in Christ to hear our Lord's plan for your good. See you in church!

In Christian love,
Pr. Tricia Mattson

St. Paul Lutheran Church—Church Council Meeting - July 14, 2021, at 7:45 p.m.

Chairman Matt Sargent called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. Members present were Matt Sargent, Doug Jeske, Tim Vogel, Dave Bittler, Craig Valentin, Pastor Tricia and Jeff Krueger. Also present was Katie Mueller, Parish Coordinator and Anita Jensen, Financial Secretary.. Members absent were Bill Vogel and Angel Clemon.

Pastor Tricia led the group in a prayer.

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

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

M/S/P to borrow \$4,000 from the Undesignated Memorial Fund only if it is needed during the month of August.

Building and Grounds Report:

•Derek Krebs Construction is working on the parsonage roof. Should be completed soon.

Parish Education Report:

- Plans for Sunday School are underway. More teachers and helpers are needed to complete the staff.
- Rally Sunday will be held September 12 in Riverside Park with at 10:00 a.m. service and a potluck following. Gospel Express will be doing the music for the service. Aaron Tomschin will help with sound.
- Will wait to see what the Public School Covid Plan to return to school this fall will be before setting up any Covid Plan for Sunday School.
- Confirmation classes will begin on Wednesday, September 8. The new tables for the class should arrive this week.

Pastor's Report:

Visitation

- Visitation with members at church, in their homes, at the nursing home and assisted living residences.
- Delivered bulletins to residents at St. John's Home, The Maples and Cottonwood Ridge on July 15 and July 29, 2021.

Worship

- Led worship with Holy Communion at St. John's Home on July 20, 2021.
- Led worship with Holy Communion at The Maples on July 20, 2021.
- Led Worship on Wednesday Service with Holy Communion on August 4, 2021.
- Baptized Reid Lang, son of Tyler and Catarina Lang, on August 4, 2021.

Scholarship Committee

- Met with the Scholarship Committee on July 27, 2021.

Parish Education

- Attended the Parish Education meeting on August 2, 2021.
- Taught a Baptism class on July 20, 2021.

Confirmation

- Preparing for confirmation classes to begin on September 8, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Community

- Greeted new interim pastor at St. Johns Lutheran Church, Denton Bennet, on July 21, 2021.
- Enjoyed celebrating Alvin Matzke's 90th birthday with him and his family on July 31, 2021.

Old Business:

- Recording/live broadcasting equipment is still not installed. Katie will check on the delay.

New Business:

- M/S/P to approve \$250 to all the applicants for the Good Shepherd Scholarship per the committee's recommendation.

- Katie will be on vacation and out of the office September 9-15.
- Tabled a request from the Springfield Fire Department for funds for their Fire Safety Education Program in the schools.

M/S/P to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. Closed with the Lord’s Prayer.
 Next meeting will be Wednesday, September 8, 2021 at 7:45 p.m.

~Jeff Krueger, Church Council Secretary

2021 Church Council		
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		

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!

Join Springfield Public Library on Tuesday, September 7th, from 6:30-7:30 pm as they discuss the book *The Day the World Came to Town* by Jim Defede. The true Story behind the events of 9/11 that inspired Broadway’s smash hit musical “Come From Away”.

We are nearing the 20th anniversary of a disastrous moment in U.S. history, and this book retells the stories of those in Gander, Newfoundland who offered generous hospitality to passengers in 38 jet planes that were forced to land on that day. “This book recounts the inspiring story of the residents of Gander, Canada, whose acts of kindness have touched the lives of thousands of people and been an example of humanity and goodwill.

Help Support St. John’s Circle of Care Auxiliary by becoming a member! Dues are only \$5 a year. Membership dues go to special programs for our residents, tenants, and staff at St. John’s Circle of Care. Dues can be given to Jo Schwartz, your Auxiliary Rep. Or dropped off in the church office marked “Auxiliary Dues” with your name on it.

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

8/01/21 9am - 39
8/15/21 9am - 51

8/04/21 6:30 pm - 41
8/22/21 9am - 51

8/08/21 9am - 45

Budget Recap Year-To-Date (01/01/21 to 8/25/21)

Total Funds for Budget	\$89,656.72	Total Operating Funds	\$89,656.72
Budget	\$119,332.52	Operating Exp.	\$108,804.91
Difference	(\$29,675.80)	Difference	(\$19,148.19)

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 07/26/21 to 08/25/2021

In Memory:	Given by:	Designated for:
Joan Richert	Larry & Ruth Potter	St. Paul Lutheran Church
Arnie Hinderman	Larry & Ruth Potter	St. Paul Lutheran Church
Ken Bisher	Robert & Sharon Rogotzke	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...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.

September 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
St. Paul Lutheran Church 303 N Cass Ave, Springfield, MN 56087 507-723-5880, stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com pastortriciamattson@gmail.com						
5 9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast	6 No Bible Study	7 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	8 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 6:00 Luther League Meeting 6:30 Confirmation 7:30 Choir Rehearsal 7:45 pm Church Council Meeting	9 Pastor vacation	10 Office Closed	11 Office Closed
Pastor vacation						
12 10:00 Rally Sunday Worship—Riverside Park 11:00 Potluck & Meet Your Teacher	13 3:00 pm The Maples Bible Study 6:30 Parish Ed Meeting	14 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	15 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 6:30 Confirmation 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	16 Katie vacation	17 Office Closed	18
Katie vacation						
19 9:00 Worship - Cradle Roll Doves & Bibles for PreK-K 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast 11:00 Worship	20 3:00 pm The Maples Bible Study	21 10:00 am SJLH Worship 6:00 pm Bible Study 3:00 The Maples HC 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	22 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 4:30-6:30 German Supper Take Out 6:30 Confirmation 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	23	24 Office Closed	25
26 9:00 Worship - 3rd grade Bibles 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast 11:00 Worship	27 2:00 Downtown Es- tates 3:00 pm The Maples Bible Study	28 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	29 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 6:30 Confirmation 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	30		

9:00 am Worship Service

Date	Sound & Video	Reader	Acolyte	Usher
9/5	John Mueller	Jeanette Pidde	Hayden Gluth Noah Mueller	Team 3
9/12	Russell Rogotzke	Paul Muske	Nicholas Groebner Nathan Groebner	Team 4
9/19	Peter Heitzman	Daniel Kettner	Brayden Trapp Bryan Buerkle	Team 1
9/26	Tim Vogel	Jordan Pidde	Brooklyn Anderson Gabby Schenk	Team 2

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

September Birthdays!

- 1 - Stacey Weisensel
- 1 - Bonnie Wells
- 2 - Nancy Renner
- 3 - Jill Vogel
- 3 - Jonah Pidde
- 3 - Nicholas Weisensel
- 7 - Bud Wendt
- 8 - Jan Kratz
- 8 - Sarah Lund
- 9 - Tyler Marz
- 9 - Brian Winter
- 10 - Wes Kral
- 11 - Elsie Groebner
- 11 - Jacob Marz
- 11 - Jenna Shaw
- 12 - Austin Plaster
- 13 - Ruth Potter
- 15 - Katie Mueller
- 15 - Bailey Streich
- 16 - Tyler Hagert
- 17 - Jo Schwartz
- 17 - Lois Zihlke
- 18 - Emily Anderson
- 19 - Linda Nachreiner
- 20 - Catarina Lang
- 24 - Kaden Pyzick
- 24 - Walker Krueger
- 27 - Shawna Jacobs
- 28 - William Halter
- 28 - Shirley Weber

September Anniversaries!

- 6 - Eric & Emily Goblirsch - 1 year
- 8 - Robert & Emily Anderson - 14 years
- 13 - Harold & Marlys Wendt - 63 years
- 14 - Ken & Sharon Renner - 58 years
- 14 - Tyler & Catarina Lang - 2 years
- 18 - Dean & Rachelle Halvorson - 28 years
- 18 - Jerome & Jerrine Kettner - 52 years
- 22 - Dylan & Amanda Thompson - 3 year

September Altar Guild
 John & Katie Mueller
 Family

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



Join in coffee talk!

Please sign up to
 serve in the
 Fellowship hall!

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

PLEASE consider volunteering for one of these much needed jobs!

We will begin our Sunday 11am Worship Service on Sunday, September 19th.

Rally Sunday



We are ready for another year of Sunday school and Confirmation classes! We invite you to join us on

**Sunday, September 12th
At Riverside Park
to kick off the year!**

**Worship: 10 am with music by Gospel Express!
And Blessing of the Backpacks!
Potluck and Meet Your Teacher
Following worship!
Please bring a dish to pass!**

German Supper – Take-Out Dinner

Wednesday, September 22, 2021

from 4:30-6:30

Menu: Sauerkraut with Pork and Dumplings,
German potato salad, grilled brat,
and a cookie for \$10.

Drive up and place your order,
and we will bring the meal to you.

Delivery for Shut-Ins only.

Monetary donations to cover the cost of food and supplies will be accepted

Sunday School Dates to remember

September 19 - Pre School-Kindergarten receive Cradle

Roll Doves and Beginners Bible

September 26 - 3rd Grader receives the Bible

October 3 - 1st grade received the Small Catechism

Make sure to register your child/ren for Sunday School! Email Katie in the church office if you need a registration form.
stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com
Sunday school classes begin on Sunday, September 19th.

SAVE THE DATE

Church Auction

Sunday, October 10, 2021

Following 9 am worship

Lunch will be served, Silent Auction, Bake Sale, Themed Baskets, and Live Auction

St. Paul Lutheran's auction is one of the main fundraisers our church does annually. With your support and donations, we can continue its success.

If you would like to donate, please talk to Katie Mueller or Kathy Pederson or email the church office at stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com. We can pick up your donation or you may drop off or mail to St. Paul Lutheran Church, 303 N. Cass Ave, Springfield, MN 56087.

Many members love creating fun themed baskets! We are looking forward to this fun event and seeing what you create!!

Beginning Sunday, August 22nd, we began broadcasting live on YouTube rather than Facebook. This new way gives us the ability to live broadcast the service just as you would see it on Channel 8. The sound and picture quality should be much better as it won't be recorded from a cell phone! Please be patient with us as we navigate this new system as we may run into issues as we acquaint ourselves with it. The other great news is that you don't need to have a Facebook account to watch live! Just subscribe to our YouTube Channel by clicking here https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrD1aPEnJ7QzKk9GF_wtqdA or searching for St Paul Lutheran Church, Springfield, MN. Once subscribed, you will be notified when we go live!

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

Postmaster: Dated material
Please Deliver Promptly
Address Service Requested

Calendar Highlights - September 2021

1 - Choir Rehearsal begins
8 - Confirmation begins
12 - Rally Sunday
22 - German Supper

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 (beginning Sept 19th)

10:00 a.m. Coffee Talk

11:00 a.m. Worship (beginning Sept 19th)



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