

From Pastor Wonnacott's keyboard:

**Address:**

605 S. Center St.  
Bremen, IN 46506

**Telephone:**

1-574-546-2332

**E-Mail:**

[church@stpaulsbremen.org](mailto:church@stpaulsbremen.org)  
[schools@stpaulsbremen.org](mailto:schools@stpaulsbremen.org)

**Website:**

stpaulsbremen.church  
facebook.com/stpaulsbremen  
vimeo.com/stpaulsbremen

**Church Office Hours:**

Monday – Friday  
8:00 am – 12:00 pm

**Sunday Schedule:**

Sunday School: 8:30 am  
Worship: 9:30 am

**Pastor** Neil Wonnacott

Office Hours: M, W, TH & F  
8:30 – 11:30 am

**Peace** means societal friendship and harmony in the absence of hostility and violence. In a social sense, peace is commonly used to mean a lack of conflict (such as war) and freedom from fear of violence between individuals or groups.

Do you strive for **peace**? How is that working out for you? Where are you looking for **peace**? Are you looking in the right place? What is your source for **peace**? Sometimes we look for **peace** in money, control of others, military might, drugs, our political party, a person, place, or thing.

In Ephesians 4:1-7 we are given the detailed instructions of how to have **peace**:

**(Paul writes)** I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to *walk in a manner worthy of the calling* to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup> *with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love,* <sup>3</sup> **eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.** <sup>4</sup> There is *one body and one Spirit*—just as you were called to the *one hope* that belongs to your call— <sup>5</sup> **one Lord, one faith, one baptism,** <sup>6</sup> **one God and Father of all**, who is over all and through all and in all.

We are worthy of the calling because Christ called us and made us His own, through His life, death, and resurrection. So live the life given to you. Verse two tells us: *with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love*. We pray to the Spirit that we may bear this fruit, to remind us all that Jesus died to forgive us and make us right with the Father. He enables us to forgive each other in love and peace.

Now, what more do I get? Look at verse 3: *eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace*. If Christ is the center, then we can have peace with ourselves and others! We must always remember who we are as children of God, as outlined in verses 4 through 6: *There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all*.

May we push aside our own wants and needs and live for Jesus, and for our brothers and sisters in Christ. Pray for peace that transcends all human understanding to keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus unto life eternal. Amen.

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**THE DEADLINE FOR THE NOVEMBER EPISTLE IS OCTOBER 20TH!!!** Epistle articles, comments, ideas may be deposited in the epistle box in the Narthex mail slots or e-mailed to Eric Thornton at [firemanet@yahoo.com](mailto:firemanet@yahoo.com). I appreciate all of your articles, ideas and comments!

**Ushers:** It is very important that you find your own replacement if you are not going to be able to usher during your assigned time. Please take the time to do this so that we always have ushers available to assist our members and visitors. Thank you.

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### **OUR OFFERINGS TO THE LORD FROM HIS BLESSINGS TO US**

Offerings remind us of the blessings God has given us and are an opportunity to thank Him for what He has done in our lives. Please place your offerings in our Offering Box located in front of the water fountains in the narthex of the church. You may also choose “e-tithing” by having

a weekly deposit to St Paul's from your bank account. If you have questions on e-tithing, please contact the Church Office.

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**Euchre Party** is Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup> from 7-9:00 pm in the Bethany Room. Anyone 16 and older can join us for fun and fellowship, and please bring a snack to share. Bring cards and a card table if possible. Beverages will be provided. Come and bring a friend!

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**The Father / Son Fun Night is October 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm** in the Bethany Room. Come to enjoy a night of board games and card games with family. We'll also have delicious refreshments! There will be a sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex so we can plan accordingly, or you can call the church office. Bring a friend or family member, or just bring yourself on October 17<sup>th</sup>.

**On October 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am** we will observe Reformation Sunday. Rev. Dr. Stuckwisch (President of the Indiana District) will be our preacher. We will celebrate our Lutheran history, when God used Martin Luther to show through Scripture that we are saved – by grace alone, by faith alone. Let us celebrate the truth of God's Word for all!

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**New Member Potluck Dinner on October 27<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am**. The Public Relations Board will provide the pizzas; Parish fellowship will provide the drinks and tableware. We ask that you bring a salad or dessert to share. Let's come together to celebrate our new brothers and sisters in Jesus!

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## YOUTH BOARD NEWS and NOTES

### Recent Events

**JR. HIGH YOUTH RALLY (September 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>):** We had 4 ladies from Grades 6-8 attend the Youth Rally at Camp Lutherhaven. What a blessing it was for them to be with Youth their age from the Indiana District and gather around Word. Thank you to Mrs. Heidi Wildauer for chaperoning the group.



young  
other  
God's

**FALL YOUTH NIGHTS:** Throughout September our Youth in Grades 4-HS have enjoyed various activities and fellowship with one another on Sunday evenings. For this cycle of Youth Nights we have ended each evening with a devotion based on The Beatitudes found in Matthew 5, in which Jesus outlines those who are blessed in God's eyes.

### Upcoming Events



**ANNUAL YOUTH SERVICE / LUNCHEON (October 13<sup>th</sup>):** We invite you to join us for our Annual Youth Church Service on Sunday, October 13th, where Youth of our congregation contribute before and during the service in different ways (through music, Bible readings, etc.). Following

the service, we are hosting a spaghetti luncheon. There is no cost for the meal. Free will donations are appreciated that will go to support those attending the 2025 National Youth Gathering in New Orleans. You may place your order in the Narthex by October 6<sup>th</sup>.

**SERVICE EVENT – BREMEN BAGS (October 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm):** Another opportunity for our Youth to serve our local community.

### 2025 NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING

We appreciate your continued support and ask that you keep all of those listed below in your prayers as they prepare to attend the National Youth Gathering next summer. In addition to the above Spaghetti Luncheon, we will communicate additional opportunities to support this group in the weeks and months ahead.

**Youth Attendees (by grade):** Noah Wildauer (12th), Autumn Napper (11th), Jack Wildauer (11th), Izzy Wildauer (10th), Lexi Andrews (9th), Gavin Hundt (9th), Gabi Mejia (9th), Reuben Napper (9th), Colton Napper (8th), Brantley Thornton (8th), and Abby Wildauer (8th)

**Adult Leaders:** Tonya Hundt, Rebecca Mejia, Rick Napper, Eric Thornton, Heidi Wildauer

Information is available through our GroupMe “St. Paul’s Youth” chat as well as various church communication channels. If there are any questions related to the Youth Group, please contact Andy Wildauer at (801) 707-3399.

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### **FINANCIAL COACHING OFFERED**

The Board of Stewardship is offering a new ministry to our congregation and to the community. We recognize that this economy has created many challenges for families and as a caring church we are offering to provide individualized financial coaching for local families. This is offered at no cost and is on a private and confidential basis with the goal of assisting families in developing strategies to benefit their financial health and ultimately their spiritual health. We have 3 volunteers from our congregation who are finance professionals to serve as coaches. Appointments are one on one and scheduled at the family's convenience. If you or someone you know has interest in speaking to us, please have the Meeting Request card (see below) completed and sent to our Church Office. Additional Meeting Request cards are available on the brochure rack in the Church narthex.

#### Financial Coach Meeting Request

- Best day(s) to meet:     M     T     W     TH     F     (circle one or more)
- Best time of day: Mornings    Afternoons   Evenings   (circle one or more)
- Interest in discussing:   General family budgeting \_\_\_\_\_  
                                  Debt reduction strategies \_\_\_\_\_  
                                  Savings/Investing \_\_\_\_\_  
                                  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Contact:            Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City:                \_\_\_\_\_

Phone:             \_\_\_\_\_

Email:              \_\_\_\_\_

Mail or drop off at the St. Paul’s Lutheran Church office or email this info to:

[janmiller@stpaulsbremen.org](mailto:janmiller@stpaulsbremen.org)

## Epistle- School Corner

School has become quite busy with the approach of fall! The students enjoyed the fresh air activities at Camp Lutherhaven the end of September. They also enjoyed a fun Taco Tuesday, thanks to our PTL! Plus, kindergarten got to join the preschool for chapel at the Whitlock.

Coming up, we have fall pictures; the 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade Band concert at BPS, on October 4<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm; Parent/Teacher Conferences; kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade trip to Kercher's Apple Orchard on October 17<sup>th</sup>; and the 5<sup>th</sup> grade/HS Band concert on October 29<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm, BPS.

**Plus, the congregation is invited to join preschool and elementary school families for an evening of fun and ice cream during the Fall Festival Open House, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 4:30-7:00pm! There will be Indulge Ice Cream, pumpkin games, and more! After the open house, head to BPS for the band concert to top off the entertaining evening!**

**Fall Break is October 18<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup>.**

**If you are interested in volunteering in the school and/or Extended Care, please contact the school office, 574-546-2790. Background checks are required. We appreciate all of our helpers!**

***Remember to give to the Lutheran SGO, and you will receive a tax credit and deduction for your donations! (We can now use these funds to offer assistance to Pre-K students, age 4 by August 1<sup>st</sup>.)*** You can find several (easy) ways to donate at [www.lutheranSGO.org/Donate](http://www.lutheranSGO.org/Donate), or we also have a link on the church website, [stpaulsbremen.church](http://stpaulsbremen.church), under the school drop-down menu. Donations can be given through a check, IRA, stocks, Donor Advised Funds, PayPal, credit card, and **NOW electronic giving!** Benefits to you are a 50% state tax credit for your donation and eligibility for a tax deduction. These scholarships make a big difference for our families. If you desire to mail a check to the LSGO, pamphlets with mailing information are available in the tract rack. **(Checks needs to be written to the Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization.)**

**We also continue to take donations to St. Paul's tuition assistance fund. Checks for tuition assistance can be made out to the church.**

## Mission of the Month

Our Sunday School continues to send \$75.00 each month to a mission.

### **October Mission of the Month: Worship Anew**

1) Worship Anew is available to watch via television, DVD subscription and the internet.

Each service includes music, Scripture readings, prayers and a Lutheran pastor delivering a message that is designed to feel 1-on-1 to the viewer. Each program is closed captioned.

2) Hope-Full Living is a quarterly publication with uplifting, Christ-centered daily devotions written by seniors, for seniors. In addition to print and online, Hope-Full Living devotions are available in an audio format. It's read by staff and volunteers so that it is available for you anywhere.

For further information go to [www.worshipanew.org](http://www.worshipanew.org)

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### **Preschool Postings**

Apples, pumpkins, leaves, and fire trucks - these are just a few of our favorite things we find during October! The changing season means art projects and science experiments using things found in nature. It's also Fire Safety month, so the students look forward to meeting our local firefighters and getting to use some of the equipment. They'll also learn about the people God used as leaders, like Moses and Elijah. We hope to see our school families and church members at the Fall Festival on October 4th from 4:30-7:00 pm. We appreciate your prayers for our students, their families, and our staff!

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The Board of Evangelism along with the Youth Board and anyone else interested in helping will be packing Welcome Bags to be delivered in the Bremen community on Sunday, November 10. Please meet in the Bethany Room following church service. We will be packing approximately 50 bags and will send bags and addresses with volunteers for delivery.

We are asking for the following items to be donated; cheese and cracker packets, microwave pop corn, post it note pads, bottled water, flavored drink sticks, individually wrapped life savers, cotton yarn for dish clothes. Your donations may be placed on the table in the Narthex next to the TV. If you are willing to knit or crochet dishcloths for these bags you may pick up

yarn from the basket on said table if available. Finished dishcloths may be placed in the basket also.

This is an easy and interesting way to meet our neighbors! There will be a short meeting on what we have done in the past when delivering bags. Please pray for those delivering bags and also for our new neighbors! Thank you!

The Board of Evangelism would like to thank all who brought in donations for the Bremen Food Pantry! Items were delivered on September 23 and were available September 25 when the Pantry was open. The next Food Pantry ingathering will be in December.

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### **Sunday School -- Fall Quarter Offerings**

There is something for everyone in our new line-up of Bible studies! Let's grow together in faith and fellowship as we gather around God's Word. We urge you to join us!

(Please note that new classes for Pre-K through Grade 8 will begin Sunday, September 15. We will follow the current Summer Schedule until then. Meet in the Gym.)

#### **Pre-K – Grade 2 (Nazareth Room)**

Through Bible story, themed activities, crafts, songs, and snacks, children will engage in an in-depth study of the "Six Days of Creation," published by Answers in Genesis. . . .  
. taught by Wendy Coxey . . . . . 8:30-9:15 a.m.

#### **Grades 3-5 (Mrs. Roger's Classroom)**

Despite the sinfulness, doubts and corrupt ways of mankind, God still extends His love and forgiveness. See how God used faithful and doubtful people of Old Testament times to further His plan of salvation for all. Bible studies include Cain and Abel, Hannah and Samuel, David, Solomon, Elijah and Elisha, and Naaman. . . . . taught by Jeanette Rettinger . . . 8:30- 9:15 a.m.

#### **Middle School Grades 6-8 (Mr. Miller's Classroom)**

The Gospel of John is an eye-witness account of Jesus' ministry . . . who He Is, His earthly life and ministry, highlights of His signs and miracles, and His message of salvation to all. John calls us to be disciples of Jesus as we listen to His voice and obey His word. . . . . taught by Barb Middaugh . . . . 8:30-9:15 a.m.

#### **High School (Principal's Office)**



**“Unique Stories of the Bible”** -- Read about unbelievable, strange, and amazing events that took place in the Bible!! What is God’s purpose for including them? Can such occurrences happen in our lives today? Invite your friends for a lively discussion with Mr. Miller! . . . .  
taught by Nathan Miller . . . . 8:30-9:15

**Adult Bible Class (Bethany Room)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Peter, Jude – Contend for the Faith** -- These two short letters provide today’s Christian a powerful response to an increasingly pagan world.  
. . . . taught by Terry Miller . . . . 8:30-9:15 a.m.

**More Opportunities for Bible Study:**

**Men’s Wednesday Morning Bible Study** meets every other Wednesday morning (beginning September 4), 6:30-7:30 a.m. at the Bremen Hospital cafeteria.  
Enjoy a delicious breakfast and great discussion!

**Thursday Morning Ladies’ Bible Study** . . . meets every week beginning September 5, 9:30-10:45 a.m. This class will follow the **LifeLight Bible Study:**

**Matthew, Part 2.** Ladies will work together as a group to complete each lesson as they study Scripture, answer questions, share and discuss. Barb Middaugh will lead this class.

**LifeLight Bible Study: Matthew Part 2** . . . . .meets Wednesdays (September 11 thru November 6), 6:45-8:15 p.m., in the Bethany Room. **Matthew Part 2** covers chapters 14-28. As you progress through this nine session study, you will deepen your understanding of who Jesus is, and what He has done for you.

The goal of LifeLight is that through a regular program of in-depth personal and group study of Scripture, more and more Christian adults may grow in their personal faith in Jesus.

Contact the church office (574-546-2332) if you would like to sign up for materials. Otherwise, just show up on Wednesday evening, and bring along a friend!

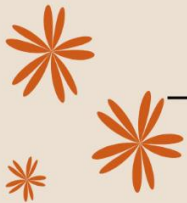




PTL Presents

# ST. PAUL'S FALL OPEN HOUSE

October 4th | 4:30PM - 7PM



Indulge Ice Cream  
Pumpkin Games and More

All Preschool, Elementary School, and Church Families  
are invited to have a fall treat with us!



## Mission Committee Haiti Update:

It has been nearly 10 years since we took a group to Haiti on a mission trip. Below is our latest news from Mission Haiti:

Dear Friends of our Haitian Teachers in Jeremie,

Thank you to the LCMS Schools, Churches, Bible Classes and Individuals that continue to support us during these difficult times. I was so pleased with the financial report from our Mission Haiti Treasurer this month and surprised to see there are enough funds to send our teachers their pay for the past three months (\$7,350.). I know the economy is causing many of our donors to cut back on their giving but God has once again sent us some new donors and for this I am very thankful. I received the following message from our Field Director, Lophane this week:

**Blessings to everyone,**

**Good afternoon my brothers and sisters in Christ. How are you today ? I know it's very painful to hear what is happening in Georgia at Apalachee high school where a child 14 years old killed 4 people. It is very sad to see how the devil use those children to do bad things and I can see the same thing in Haiti now because the gangs hiring a lot children to kill honest people and kidnapping, this is the reason why I want to encourage all the organizations who want to continue supporting a child to go to school this is more than a blessing not only for the parents but also for the country. Because when they are at school there is no time to hangout with friends on the streets just stay home doing their homework. May God will bring comfort and peace for those parents and friends who lost someone at the shooting in Georgia. May God bless America and bless Haiti my lovely country**

**In Christ**

**Lophane**

Mission Haiti continues to support The Evangelical Lutheran Church Of Haiti and the projects it has been successful in implementing to help feed, educate and share the Gospel with those who have been enslaved by voodoo. One of our most important projects is keeping **our seven schools in the Jeremie District** open. Our schools not only provide thousands of children with an education but we also feed our students one meal of rice and beans every school day through our partnership with the **Trinity Hope Feeding Program**. For most of these children it is the only food they will receive that day.

Although I have not been able to travel to Haiti for several years now I believe that these schools, and their teachers are the key to a better future for Haiti. I have met most of the teachers and their schools over the past 23 years and marvel over the ability to teach the children with so few resources. The **\$50 a month we pay teachers** barely buys enough food to feed their families but they continue to teach in our schools rather than searching for other jobs.

Mission Haiti uses local people that we thoroughly trust to follow through on each of our projects which gives them the opportunity to make a living. Our Field Director and other workers are people we have worshiped with, that have invited us into their homes, treated us like family and taught us how to love our neighbors as they do by sharing what little they have with those who are in need.

If you would like to know more about MISSION HAITI and its impact on the lives of those we assist visit our website [missionhaiti99.org](http://missionhaiti99.org) (we are MISSION HAITI out of Orlando).

If your Church, Bible Class, Youth Group or Family would like to support one of our 49 teachers with a monthly (\$50. A month or \$600 a year) or one time donation of any amount you would be helping to feed families and students who are not able to purchase food on their own.

Please make checks payable to  
MISSION HAITI (Jeremie Teachers) in the memo line.  
7360 Curry Ford Rd  
#721612  
Orlando, FL 32872  
MISSION HAITI

Blessings to you,  
Susan Gross



Principal of one of our Haitian Schools passes out the few supplies available.



As you can see, the children have a real desire for learning and for Jesus. When we were there, the children were happy and excited to learn and sing of their Lord. Oh that we had such joy in Him!

Please prayerfully consider supporting Mission Haiti whether in prayer or monetarily, especially now when there is so much violence and upheaval in the lives of the Christians struggling to keep the children safe, fed, and educated. It truly is a ripe mission field but for now, we are unable to physically go help. However, God has placed loving Christians there to minister to the people and hopefully we will be able to go back soon.

Local children wanting to attend our Haitian Lutheran Schools peek through walls.

*Train up a child  
in the way  
he should go,  
And when he is  
old he will not  
depart from it.*

Proverbs 22:6

Teaching resources are rare (teachers desk)

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### **"A LIFE-GIVING SAVIOR"**

*Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, will be with Me in paradise." Luke 23:43*

We could never find a greater depth of and hopelessness than we find in the two crucified with Jesus. With their lives ebbing fiendishly cruel execution, their hearts were hatred and their mouths with curses. What to eternity!



today you

despair  
criminals  
away in a  
filled with  
a prelude

But suddenly for one of the thieves, there was hope where no one could have dreamed of hope. Suddenly, he knew that beside him was his Savior and Redeemer, his Lord and God, who was bearing even his sins. Hardly daring to hope, he turned to his Savior and asked for help. He received help, incredible help.

For Christ it made no difference that the thief's life was one of crime, one in which little if any good had ever been accomplished. Our Lord saw his repentance, and He saw his faith. And that was sufficient. The thief's dying moments had been a prelude

of horror to a horror greater still. Now those moments became a prelude, agonizing still, but to an eternity of glory.

When our sins overwhelm us and seem too great to be forgiven, we too can turn to our Savior in repentance and faith and receive from Him the same promise of forgiveness and never-ending life.

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## **PTL FUNDRAISER**

**Thank you to everyone who has supported us at our past fundraisers!!**



**Fundraising opportunity Tuesday October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 all day at La Parilla Caliente Mexican Restaurant, 119 W. Plymouth St. Bremen. La Parilla will give a percentage of the sales back to the school. This is for dine in and/or carry out. This year La Parilla will sell \$25 gift cards for \$20. They will also donate \$5 from the gift cards back to the school.**

# Birthdays & Anniversaries

## October 2024

### ANNIVERSARIES

2	Lee & Janet Anglemyer	13	Joe & Angie Hughes
3	Joe & Ashley Potoczky	14	Rick & DeAnn Napper
5	Kyle & Samantha Hinds Jon & Jeanette Rettinger	16	Kenny & Lindsi Knigga
8	Eric & Kali Foster	21	Wayne & Robin Spicher
		30	John & Laura Stayton

### BIRTHDAYS

2	John Pulliam II		
3	Tom Coxey		
5	Logan Nick Sophia Sahlhoff Lila VanSoest	23	William Sarber Martha (Heuberger) Schroeder
6	Michael Ernsperger Ron Kramer	25	Curt Nielsen Bill Rogers
8	Jessica Wildauer Andrew Yoder	26	Kay Miller Cameron Owens
10	Ellia Foster Ashley Potoczky	27	Wyatt Beasley
14	Piper Napper Melonee Schutz	28	Dave Burcham
16	Liam Spencer	29	Judy Chrisman
17	Lewis Leeper Melonia Russell	30	Amy Shepherd Diane Sherk
18	Terry Ahlemeyer Jim Russell	31	Ben Andrews
19	Betty Sahlhoff		
20	Grayli Hughes		
22	Joe Potoczky		





# St. Paul's Lutheran Women's Missionary League

*As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.* Adopted 2021

**October 6: LWML SUNDAY Morning Worship Service & Installation of Officers.**

**October 6, Sunday, LWML ZONE FALL RALLY, at Calvary, Plymouth.**

Registration opens at 1:30 pm; Rally begins at 2:00 pm

Light supper is served afterward (donation)

Speaker Laurie Hayn, who will share how her life changed after an horrific farm accident. **INGATHERING:** Phil's Friends. Requested: washable markers; colored pencils; small box crayons; comp. books, Sharpie pens black/colors; soft socks; sock hats or ball caps. A box will be located in the narthex.

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**Monday, October 7, at 7:00 pm.** Program: Sacred Hymn Sing. All ladies of St. Paul's are invited; guests always welcome. Light refreshments will be served afterward.

The Eyeglasses & Eyedroppers ministry for M.O.S.T. is ongoing. Any type, in good condition are needed. Please place in the box beneath the "Bulletin Table." Thank you.

Psalms 100:2a *"Serve the Lord with Gladness"* LWML motto  
*Glorify His name!*

**St. Paul's 178th LITURGICAL YEAR † September 1, 2024 – September 30, 2024**

*Worship Opportunities To Bless Our Lives*       Celebration Of Holy Communion

**Sunday 9:30 a.m.**

**Oct 6**    LWML Sunday 20th Sunday after Pentecost

**Oct 13**     21st Sunday after Pentecost

**Oct 20**    22nd Sunday after Pentecost

**Oct 27**     **Sunday of the Reformation** 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

*October Minor Festivals: 18 St. Luke, Evangelist • 23 St. James of Jerusalem, Brother of Jesus & Martyr • 28 St. Simon & St. Jude, Apostles • 31 Reformation Day •*  
*Commemorations: 7 Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, Pastor • 9 Abraham • 11 Philip The*



Deacon • 17 Ignatius of Antioch, Pastor & Martyr • 25 Dorcas, Lydia, & Phoebe.  
Faithful Women • 26 Philipp Nicolai, Johann Heermann, & Paul Gerhardt Hymnwriters

**Reformation Day, October 31:** The last Sunday of October is usually set aside for the commemoration of the day Martin Luther nailed The Ninety-Five Theses to the door of the Wittenburg church in 1517, which is considered to be the start of the Reformation movement. Reformation means “to straighten thoroughly,” and “rectification.”+ His intent was to debate the unscriptural practice of selling indulgences (paying money to the church in exchange for remittance of sins - sometimes before one actually committed them!). Martin’s hope was that the Roman Church would reform its errant ways and return to sound Biblical teaching regarding justification by faith in Jesus alone (rather than a combination of faith and merit - earned by devotional works); and making the Bible the source and norm for all teaching and preaching (rather than a combination of the Bible and interpretations of the ‘oral tradition of the apostles’ as handed down by popes and councils). + But one thing led to another, Martin stood his ground and was soon excommunicated -- then declared an outlaw. Once it was safe to return home, he had no recourse but to ‘start’ a different church. In derision his enemies called those who adopted his confession based on faith alone; Scripture alone; grace alone; by the name ‘Lutheran.’ Luther would have preferred something else since he did not see himself as the ‘founder’ of a new church, but as a man used by God to return the church to her first century Scriptural foundation. + But the name stuck as a denominational title. Like all denominations, Lutheranism has seen some of its adherents take a stand not in keeping with its original confession. The Missouri Synod - of which St. Paul’s is a founding congregation - still adheres to the truths outlined in the document setting forth what Lutherans believe, teach, and confess: The Augsburg Confession, unaltered; first formulated in June, 1530. + The

color of the day is *red*, for the Spirit's work in preserving the church.+ **Reformation**

**Banner:** Luther's seal with The five "solas" of the Reformation: Sola Fide (faith alone) + Solus Christus (in Christ alone) + Sola Gratia (by grace alone) + Sola Scriptura (on Scripture alone) + Soli Deo Gloria (to God alone be the glory).

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***"I am the way, the truth, and the life.***

***No one comes to the Father except through Me."***

*John 14:6*

***"For by grace you have been saved through faith,***

***and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works,***

***lest anyone should boast.***

***For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works,***

***which God prepared beforehand that we should***