

# St. Paul Epistle - October 2015

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### Our Mission is:

- To Know Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord,
- To Grow in faith through His Sacraments and Word, and
- To Go share His Gospel with love in our community and world.



## A Letter from Your Pastor

### Letter from Pastor

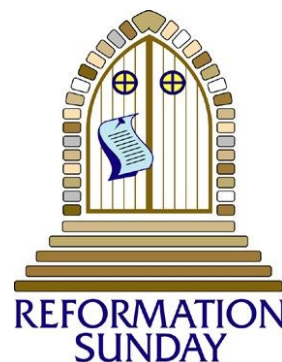
What does it mean to be a Lutheran? Have you ever been asked that? Can you provide an accurate answer to the question? We hear the answer every Sunday, as our Law-Gospel sermon reminds us that we are sinners who have a wonderful Savior, who took our punishment to earn our forgiveness. However, we hear the core message of the Lutheran faith in a very special way each year on Reformation Sunday. You are saved because of what Jesus Christ did for you. You are saved because your Savior paid the price for your sins. You are saved by all that Jesus did, not because of anything that you do. *"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith, and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast"* (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Every October, we Lutherans are filled with excitement as we anticipate our Reformation Celebration. This special celebration is always held on the last Sunday in October. This year, October's last Sunday is a 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, when we usually hold informal worship with music provided by the praise team. So that our Reformation worship on October 25 may include brass, organ and traditional worship, our worship format schedule in October will be revised, with informal worship with praise team music on October 18, the third Sunday of the month.

Plan to join us October 25 as we celebrate God's grace on Reformation Sunday. As Luther reminds us, "This is grace: the forgiveness of sins for the sake of the Lord Christ....Grace is freely given to the most undeserving...and is not obtained by any strenuous efforts, endeavors, or works, either small or great, not even by the efforts of the best and most honorable of men....You dare not imagine that it was done for nothing or cost little....Grace and life were given you, but it meant bitter work for Him. It cost Him much. He earned it at the expense of His own body, blood and life."

Celebrating God's grace for us in Jesus,

Pastor Jenks



## *Worship Services at St. Paul Lutheran Church*

*Sunday, October 4*

*Holy Communion*

*8:30 & 11:00 a.m.*

*Sunday, October 11*

*LWML Sunday*

*8:30 & 11:00 a.m.*



*Sunday, October 18*

*Holy Communion*

*8:30 & 11:00 a.m.*

*Sunday, October 25*

*Reformation Sunday*

*8:30 & 11:00 a.m.*



## CONGRATULATIONS TO JOHN KELLOGG!

A reception was held on August 30th at 9:30 am for John, our custodian, to recognize his 25 years of dedicated service to our church.

We were able to successfully pull off this surprise reception and also presented him with a monetary gift from the entire congregation.

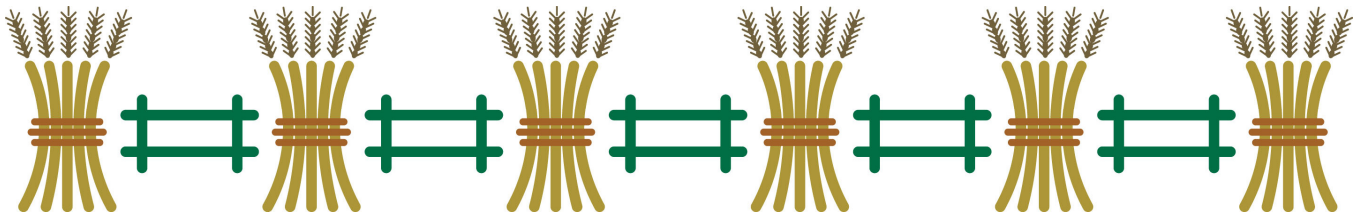
Thanks, John— we love you!!

## TOP TEN REASONS TO JOIN CHOIR by Gretchen Zitterich

10. You will make new friends.
9. Joining doesn't mean you can't ever go to anything else on Tuesday eve... if we have more members we can carry on when you are absent.
8. You can join for just one semester. It's not too late.
7. It is a great stress reliever "...music soothes the savage beast".
6. It's great practice for your eternity with the great choirs in heaven.
5. Practice is only an hour on Tuesday eve...practice at home only if you want to.
4. No cost, the music is provided.
3. The melody is generally the soprano. Easy to learn. (We need 5 or 6 more!)
2. MARY, the BEST director ever...gentle, focused, humorous, no grading...and no degrading.
1. The BIBLE SAYS "...make a joyful noise unto the Lord, sing praises to his name".



**Come joins us Tuesday Evening at 7:30 in the fellowship hall.**



*Thanks,  
Everyone!*

**Thank you** very much for the surprise 25 anniversary reception. Thank you for all the cards and gifts I received. You are a very generous and kind congregation. It's been a pleasure to be your custodian all these years, and I consider you as family. Thanks again, John Kellogg



**We are in need of a treasurer** for our preschool. We ask that you pray about serving the Lord in this way.

Questions can be directed to Lori Jenks or Kent Ziebell.

## Youth News

### NEXT EVENT -October 11, 2015

Mark your calendar for the LYF trip to the Cambridge Apple Orchard! This event is one of our most popular events, and due to the changing growth of the farm we too are changing. We are moving this event to a SUNDAY afternoon rather than a Wednesday night. We will leave church at 12:30pm and return before 5pm. The Board of Youth will pay for any youth in grades 1-12 to attend. The board will also provide a sack lunch for those who indicate it on their permission form. Look for detailed information and permission forms in the lobby.



### High School Youth

We need your input! We would like to plan some activities YOU want to do –some suggestions have been a lock-in, bowling and an ISU sports event. If you have more ideas, please contact Carla Murphy (451-2800) or Thomas Wilson (570-9088).

### Join us in November for Cookie Decorating!

On November 11 we will decorate cookies and then deliver them to shut-ins and visit some of our other members.

If you know of someone in our congregation who would like some cookies or a visit from our youth, please contact Carla Murphy or the church office so we know how many cookies to make and plan our delivery visits.



## Youth News

### YOUTH HAD FUN ON NATURE HIKE

Youth had our first outing on Sept. 9 to McFarland Park for a nature hike/scavenger hunt and a bonfire complete with S'mores!

Just look at some of the fun photos!



### Youth Sunday in April

Please mark your calendars now for Youth Sunday on April 10, 2016. This date has been changed from April 24. Youth will serve as greeters, ushers, readers, music and will give the message. It takes a lot of students to make this service special and uplifting for all. More info will be out as the date gets closer, but plan now to serve and be a part of it all!

Youth  
WORSHIP  
Service

# Education News

## St. Paul Lutheran Church

Organized by the Board of Education

Sunday, October 25, 2015

2:00 - 3:30 pm



Sign up to help on the bulletin board. Please contact the church office with questions.

The community is invited to this *fourth annual* FREE event to trick or treat while enjoying family-friendly crafts, games, and snacks.

You can help by:

1. Hosting a trunk (please provide pre-packaged treats or give aways)
2. Donating small candy or trinkets to hand out (candy must be prepackaged)
3. Volunteering at the event

*Need ideas? Google "Trunk or Treat" or ask Board of Ed members.*

## Fall Sunday School Mission Offerings

This fall, the Sunday School mission offerings will go to support the Lutheran Heritage Foundation's **PEOPLE NEEDING GOD – sharing the Gospel with the kids of Papua New Guinea**. They have translated a Bible Studies book as well as the Catechism for children of PNG. For \$5 a book can be shared with a child of PNG. We have targeted a goal of \$575 enough to match our roster of 115 kids from 3 year olds through 12<sup>th</sup> grade! We will collect offerings through the end of the year.



This is an aggressive goal – we discussed how children at St. Paul are provided with God's Word as 3 year olds, 3<sup>rd</sup> graders, and 7<sup>th</sup> graders. This is our opportunity to support others in the same way.

# Stewardship News

## Is there a difference between a talent and a spiritual gift?

The Bible notes that people are created in God's image, meaning, in part, that all people have certain talents and creative abilities that can be used to serve others. Those who come to faith in Christ also have at least one spiritual gift that is to be used for the common good of believers in the church and to reach those who do not know Christ.

Natural talents and spiritual gifts are closely related. A believer with a musical talent may also have the spiritual gift of encouragement and can use music to encourage and inspire people to grow closer to the Lord. A person who is a talented organizer may also be a Christian who has the gift of leadership and can oversee Christian activities in a way that grows believers and reaches unbelievers.

Examples of believers using natural talents abound. Nehemiah used his abilities to govern Jerusalem and rebuild the wall of the temple. Oholiab and Bezalel were gifted in artistic ability and craftsmanship to oversee construction of the Jewish tabernacle. Lydia used her ability as a "seller of purple goods" to support the ministry of Paul and his associates.

There appear to be two primary differences between talents and spiritual gifts. First, a talent can be available to either believers or unbelievers. Every person is created with certain abilities that can be of benefit to other people. However, it is believers in Jesus who are said to have spiritual gifts that benefit other believers and help in outreach to unbelievers.

Of course, natural talents and abilities given by God can and should be used to honor God as well. The ability to cook, sing, build houses, farm, teach children, work in engineering, serve in medical fields, and other talents are all God-given abilities that can be used to honor Him. While unbelievers can use these abilities for good, believers in Christ are further called to use these abilities, along with spiritual gifts, for the glory of God and to serve others

**1 Peter 4:10** As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace:

St. Paul Stewardship Team



# Human Care News

## Bethesda Food Pantry

**Sunday, October 18th, is Bethesda Food Bank Sunday.** Please bring items and place in the tub in the east entryway. Cash donations are also welcome and allow the food pantry to buy what they need at a greatly reduced price. You may place your check in the offering plate as long as it is marked "Bethesda Food Pantry".



**Conversational Dinners...**With one terrific win already this fall, we are looking for a super season this year. A huge thank you to our Tailgate hosts, Alberta and Phil Voge and their wonderful assistants, Bob and Marilyn Walker. They teamed up to make our "road trip" to Webster City absolutely perfect.

Now, onto the next "game". We will be "teaming up" once again for our 2nd Annual Pumpkin Carving/Decorating Contest to be held on October 11th. We will need several host couples. We will provide the pumpkins, you all need to provide the decorating/carving magic. Pumpkins will be judged by the congregation on October 18th. Please let us know if you will or will not

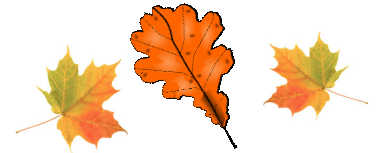
be attending the October event. With so many attending our September "game", let's keep the "ball rolling" and make it a "bowl worthy season"!!!! Please RSVP to Drue and Ellen Sander at [druellen@hotmail.com](mailto:druellen@hotmail.com) or call 292-3574.





# St. Paul Lutheran Preschool News

## October 2015



*God says, "I am with you." Genesis 28:15*

### Important Dates to Remember

Oct. 5 No Preschool

Oct 9 Lion Class Fieldtrip to Fire Station

Oct. 15 M/Th Lamb Class Fieldtrip  
To Berry Patch

Oct. 23 T/Fr Lamb Class Fieldtrip  
To Center Grove Orchard

Oct. 25 St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Hosts Trunk or Treat for all  
Families and Friends (2:00 pm  
to 3:30 pm)



Oct. 29 M/Th Lamb Class Fall Party  
10:30 am—11:30 am

Oct. 30 T/Fr Lamb Class Fall Party  
10:30 am— 11:30 am

Oct. 30 Lion Class Fall Party  
10:30 am—11:30 am



"Beloved, we are  
God's children now!"  
1 John 3:2

*"God is with you wherever you go."  
Joshua 1:9*

During the month of October the **Lamb Class (3-Year-Olds)** focuses on Bible stories in the Old Testament. The Lamb Class starts the month with the story of Joseph and his brothers, then on to Moses' birth and the Israelites crossing the Red Sea and ending the month with the twelve spies' report. In all these stories we remember how God loves us, takes care of us, and forgives us when we do wrong.

*"You, O Lord, are good and  
forgiving." Psalm 86:5*

The **Lion Class (4-Year-Olds)** also focuses on OT Bible stories. The Lions will learn about Joseph and his brothers, Moses' birth, Abraham's promise, and Jacob's troubles. What great true stories that teach us about God's mighty power.



*"My help comes from the Lord."  
Psalm 121:2*



# 2015 Septoberfest



*Pie contest Winner:  
Niki Schieffer*



*Bible Trivia*



*Outdoor Worship*



# Women of St. Paul

## Family Service Quilting Group

### CHANGE OF DATES:

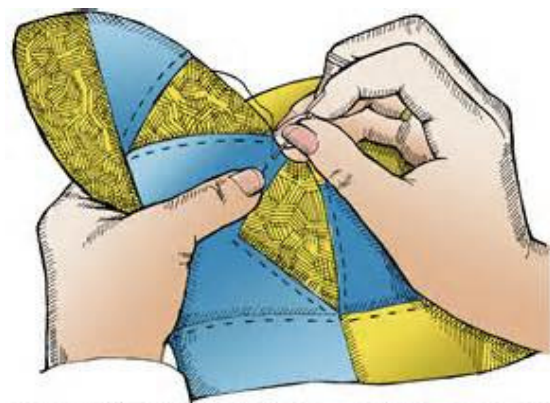
ATTENTION: FAMILY SERVICE HAS NEW DATES FOR THEIR OCTOBER MEETINGS. Instead of meeting on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays, **we will meet on the third and fifth Thursdays.**

**October 15th:** We will start at 11 a.m. and will quilt and/or package quilts for shipment. We will break for lunch at noon, then continue quilting until 2 p.m.

**October 29th:** We will begin quilting at 10 a.m. and break for lunch around noon. At 1 p.m., we will have our Family Service monthly meeting which begins

with a devotion and ends with a dessert/fellowship.

Guests are always welcome! Hope to see you there.



QUILTING GROUP



## SEPTEMBERFEST 2015

*Friday Family Movie Night*



*Saturday morning Yoga with Pastor*



## Women of St. Paul

**LWML Sunday:** Please join us October 11 for LWML Sunday.



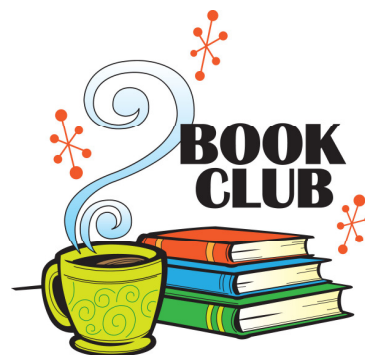
**Do you know what is going on in the Iowa West District of the LWML?**

The LWML IWD eNews is sent to all women of the congregation who have email. If you do not have email, a copy is printed and placed on the LWML bulletin board at the east end of the fellowship hall. You may read it and replace it when you are finished.



### “Book to Know to Help You Grow”

Books have been chosen for the next year. Everyone is invited to join us. We will meet on a Thursday, Nov 12<sup>th</sup> at Karen Griffin's home at 7 p.m. We are discussing *Women of Christmas* by Liz Curtis Higgs. The Barnes and Noble description reads: **“God Reached Down from Heaven with the Best Gift of All** A sacred season is about to unfold for three women whose hearts belong to God. Elizabeth is barren, yet her trust in God remains fertile. Mary is betrothed in marriage, yet she is willing to bear God's Son. Anna is a widow full of years, yet she waits patiently, prayerfully for the Messiah to appear in the temple courts. Following in their footsteps, you too can prepare for the Savior to enter your heart, your mind, and your life in a vibrant, new way. Best-selling author Liz Curtis Higgs explores the biblical stories of Elizabeth, Mary, and Anna, unwrapping each verse with tender care and introducing you afresh to The Women of Christmas.”



| Date                      | Hostess         | Book   |
|---------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Nov 12, 2015<br>Thursday  | Karen Griffin   | <i>Women of Christmas</i><br>By Liz Curtis Higgs   |
| Feb 11, 2016<br>Thursday  | Pam Hagen       | <i>The Veritas Conflict</i><br>By Shaunti Feldhahn |
| April 14 2016<br>Thursday | Thelma Voetberg | <i>The Sign Painter</i><br>By Davis Bunn           |

# October 2015 Service Roster

|                     | <b>Oct 4<br/>8:30</b>                                | <b>Oct 4<br/>11:00</b>                               | <b>Oct 11<br/>8:30<br/>LWML<br/>Sunday</b> | <b>Oct 11<br/>11:00<br/>LWML<br/>Sunday</b> | <b>Oct 18<br/>8:30</b> | <b>Oct 18<br/>11:00</b> | <b>Oct 25<br/>8:30</b> | <b>Oct 25<br/>11:00</b> |
|---------------------|--|--|--|---|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Organist            | Zach Heilman   |  | Mary Nelson                                |   | Praise Team            |                         | Mary Nelson            |                         |
| Elders              | Mark Swenson   | Phil Voge →  |  |   |                        |                         |                        |                         |
| Lectors             | Judy Peter   | Inez Smith   | Judy Peter                                 | Inez Smith                                  | Tom Peter              | Ellen Sander            | Tom Peter              | Ellen Sander            |
| Acolytes            | Katie Barnes   | Hannah Fritz   |  |   | Erin Murphy            | Aurora Olson            |                        |                         |
| Greeters            | Wayne & Marilyn Hagemoser, Jerry Schradle            | Denny & Shirley Tice, Tanny Latuska →                |  |   |                        |                         |                        |                         |
| Ushers              | Reiny & Maureen Friedrich, Tom & Judy Peter          | Greg & Ben Gebhart, Becky Jackson, Matthew Latuska → |  |   |                        |                         |                        |                         |
| Coffee Fellowship   |  |  | Women of St. Paul                          |   | Becky Jackson          |                         | Dennis & Karen Griffin |                         |
| Coffee Time Greeter | Ron Coy →  |  |  |   |                        |                         |                        |                         |
| Altar Flowers       |  |  |  |   |                        |                         | Dennis & Karen Griffin |                         |
| Offering Counters   | Al & Tanny Latuska →                                 |  |  |   |                        |                         |                        |                         |
| Power Point         | Lisa Wilson  | Thomas Wilson  | Lisa Wilson                                | Thomas Wilson                               | Lisa Wilson            | John Murphy             | Lisa Wilson            | Thomas Wilson           |
| Sound Board         | Cindy Baas   | Tom Baas   | Cindy Baas                                 | Tom Baas                                    | Connie Lastine         | Wes Lastine             | Cindy Baas             | Tom Baas                |
| Altar Guild         | Connie Buss, Karen Griffin, Karen Belz, Pat Thiede → |  |  |   |                        |                         |                        |                         |
| Video Recorder      | Jerry Schradle →                                     |  |  |   |                        |                         |                        |                         |
| Collate Bulletins   | Duane & Joyce Aske →                                 |  |  |   |                        |                         |                        |                         |