



## ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

9340 TOWNSHIP ROAD 32

JENERA, OH 45841

DEB NOLL, MINISTER

*We celebrate God's love and forgiveness  
by living the Word and sharing the life,  
death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.*

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ST. PAUL LUTHERAN WEBSITE ~ [www.stpaullutheranjenera.org](http://www.stpaullutheranjenera.org)

## ST. PAUL "MESSENGER" NOVEMBER ~ 2025

*But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word,  
retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.*

Luke 8:15 (NIV)

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As October slides into November, I give thanks for the blessed opportunity to serve God and the people of St. Paul Lutheran Church. I am thankful for the many ways our members live lives of "**Baptismal Ecclesiology**" – *the way of being church focused on helping the baptized people live out the baptismal promises*. These are the promises: 1) to live among God's faithful people; 2) to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's Supper; 3) to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed; 4) to serve all people, following the example of Jesus and 5) to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. How might we grow in practice and implementation of these promises individually and as a community? A few thoughts:

### 1. *Living among God's faithful people, hearing God's Word, and sharing in the Lord's Supper.*

- ⊕ Prioritizing Faith: Is keeping faith a high priority in your life? What things use more of your time than being a faithful participant in Christ's mission? What is God calling you to do right now?
- ⊕ Do you know individuals in need of a faith community? Faithfully invite them to worship or church activities. Begin with an invitation to the **BGSU Men's Chorus** concert on Friday, **November 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm**.
- ⊕ Are you a life-long learner? **Growing in Faith (Diakonia)** might be for you. *Growing in Faith* is a call to discipleship. Participants in *Growing in Faith* are invited to a rich, theological education listening and learning from Pastors and one another. The program develops disciples by providing: a deepened appreciation of the Bible (dynamic, living, and transformational), and clarity in forms of grace-filled service. Information on *Growing in Faith (Diakonia)* is available at the Synod's website at [nwos-elca.org](http://nwos-elca.org).

### 2. *Proclaiming the good news of God in Christ through word and deed.*

- ⊕ We are called to proclaim the good news. **Fifth Sunday Faith Stories** is an opportunity for you to give testimony to your faith in worship. In months with five Sundays, the fifth Sunday will be dedicated to sharing our faith stories. The first *Fifth Sunday Faith Story* will be shared at both worship services on Sunday, November 30<sup>th</sup>.
- ⊕ Individuals willing to share a faith story can sign up for one of the following Sundays: March 29, 2026; May 31, 2026; August 30, 2026; or November 29, 2026 by reaching out Minister Deb who can provide more information.

### 3. *Serving all people, following Christ's example and striving for justice and peace.*

- ⊕ In addition to *Our Daily Bread* community meals, and contributing to *Good Hope's food pantry*, and other outreach programs through Outreach, Parish Board, Youth, and Worship, **how can we do more for the people outside of our building?** Share your ideas and thoughts with Minister Deb or any member of Church Council.

The members of St. Paul are blessed to have had seeds planted by those with noble and good hearts. Those seeds have blossomed and grown into a faithful ministry. We plant new seeds through our current programs. **Can we do more? Help us!** Share your ideas with church leadership (including Minister Deb) so we can persevere and produce a good crop of disciples for Jesus by practicing **Baptismal Ecclesiology**.

In Christ's Love, Minister Deb

## 2025 CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

**Chairperson:** Jan Grieser

419-889-3339

**Vice Chair:**

419-721-1011

**Recording Sec:** Natalie McClelland

419-722-4324

**Treasurer:** Jane Follas

419-722-7458

**Elder:** Tom Carey

419-306-3451

**Elder:** Mary Coldren

419-722-5118

**Trustees:** Tom Marquart

419-306-8260

Jacob Orwick

419-721-8882

Bart Welte

419-721-7127

Deb Clevenger

419-306-1150

Dan Settlage

419-303-2513

**Sr. SS Supt:** Emily Clark

419-722-6060

**Deacons:** Nathan Cowan

Lynn Boehm

419-722-8022

### Ex-Officio Representatives —

**Financial Sec:** Jake Leu 567-208-7739

**Minister:** Deb Noll 419-560-1988

**Youth Ministry Coordinator:** Amy Gibson 419-348-1653

**Youth Board Representative:** Amanda Price 419-957-1988

## ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

### CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2025 – 7:00PM**

*Attendance: Jan Grieser, Jane Follas, Mary Coldren, Minister Deb Noll, Nathan Cowan, Tom Carey, Jake Leu, Amy Gibson, Deb Clevenger, Dan Settlage, Amanda Price and Natalie McClelland.*

### CALL TO ORDER – Jan Grieser

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7pm and Minister Deb provided a word for thought and prayer. Council members joined together in our Mission Statement followed by the Council Prayer

**MISSION STATEMENT:** *We celebrate God's love and forgiveness by living the Word and sharing the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.*

- *Value #1 – We believe in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit as proclaimed in the Holy Bible and the Apostles' Creed.*
- *Value #2 – We believe that all people are justified by grace through faith and are called to forgive as we have been forgiven by God.*
- *Value #3 – We believe that people who pray for God's guidance and work together can make things happen.*
- *Value #4 – We believe that interpersonal relationships centered on Christ build strong communities.*
- *Value #5 – We believe that, although diverse, everyone is a child of God created equally, loved unconditionally, respected and valued.*
- *Value #6 – We believe in reflecting God's love and sharing the gospel with all people of every generation through our words and actions.*
- *Value #7 – We believe that you learn from the past, live in the present, and plan for the future.*

**COUNCIL PRAYER:** Our gracious God, You have called us to be Your people and to bring Your word to our community. Help us to respond to the guidance and direction of Your Holy Spirit, so that all we do is done according to Your will and gives praise and glory to Your name. Amen.

### STATUS OF GOALS FOR COUNCIL:

Update all job descriptions and update bylaws.

- Staff Support has completed detailed job descriptions.
- Updates to our constitution are underway.

Develop a five-year plan for ministry and building.

- Create a rough draft of five-year plan; will have a four-year plan in September.

Keep Council informed of Synod's activities and programs

- elca.org
- Living Lutheran weekly email

- Seeds monthly
- nwos-elca.church.org or nwoscares.org
- On the Way: News from NWOS

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written.

**FINANCIAL REPORT – Jake Leu**

- Expenditures are falling in line with budgeted amounts with the exception of increases in insurance and building expenses (due to new flooring in the fellowship hall). Although we're down about \$30,000 in Current contributions, we're still in a healthy financial position.
- The chair noted a 3% increase in salaries was discussed for the 2026 budget.
- The Synod is asking that for 2027 the congregation of a SAM pay a stipend of \$1,000 to the SAM supervisor as part of the SAM renewal process in 2026. Therefore, the stipend to be paid to Minister Deb's supervisor (Pastor Steve Ramsey) needs to be included in the 2026 budget.
- Any member or community needs for the Council Discretionary Fund? Will keep until a need is expressed.
- Discussion was held on the location of memorial funds.
- Financial statements were reviewed. Total income from Jan–Sep 2025 was \$199,273.31 vs. a budgeted amount of \$173,514.00. Total expenses for the same period were \$251,319.85 actual vs. \$203,453.42 budgeted.
- Interest income generated by our Money Market account is estimated at ~\$350 for September 2025.
- Third quarter Designated Income for St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Maria Stein, Ohio is \$6,670.
- St. Paul received \$203 from Thrivent in September from individuals who directed their funds accordingly.
- Still waiting for work to be completed before paying the final bill for new flooring in the Fellowship Hall.
- The chair submitted a bill for expenses related to a pastor's appreciation gift for Minister Deb.
- Discussion was held on the approval of paying Amy Gibson for summer hours. A motion was made by Deb Clevenger to approve this expenditure, seconded by Mary Coldren. Motion carried.
- Detailed account balances are as follows:

**Account Balances at September 30, 2025**

**Checking**

Current	127,352.93
Council Discretionary	813.77
Improvement	561.63
Missions	27,695.33

**Special Projects**

Shipwreck Festival	2,318.35
Music	2,450.69
C. Price Memorial Funds	28,039.68
Bell Choir	1,432.30
Special Projects - Other	0.06
	<hr/>
	34,241.08

**Total Quickbooks Operating/MMDA**      \$ 190,664.74

Operating Account	65,599.86
Money Market Demand Account (MMDA)	128,434.88
<b>Total Operating/MMDA - Bank</b>	<b>\$ 194,034.74</b>

Outstanding Deposits at 9/30/25	6,196.00
Outstanding Checks at 9/30/25	(6,183.55)
<b>Total Reconciled Operating/MMDA</b>	<b>\$ 194,047.19</b>

<b>Savings</b>	
General Memorial	\$ 14,771.32

## TRUSTEES REPORT – Tom Marquart

- Humpy Water has begun delivering softener salt and bottled water.
- Hand rails have been installed in all women's restroom stalls.
- Blacktop crack sealing is complete for this year, thank you to all who helped. Lee Laird has supplied a machine for future use which was placed in the church storage barn.
- A water leak in the kitchen was repaired, thanks to Wayne Young.
- Landscaping at the parsonage is complete.
- Tom Valentage reported to the Trustees that dart ball teams will be using the fellowship hall on Monday evenings during fall and winter, with rugs or mats placed under the dart boards to prevent floor damage.

## MINISTER'S REPORT HIGHLIGHTS – Deborah Noll

- The recent Blessing of Animals service included 6 adults and 4 animals.
- Upcoming events were reviewed including: Oct. 18 – Trunk or Treat and Fall Festival; Oct. 19 – Harvest Home Sunday with guest Bishop Daniel Beaudoin; Oct. 31 – SAM renewal documents are due to the Synod Office; Nov. 7 – BGSU Men's Chorus meal and concert; and Dec. 8 – SAM/Supervisor CaSTLE Grant dinner at the Hilton Garden Inn in Findlay. Regarding the men's concert on Nov. 7, a question was asked about setting up a screen in the fellowship hall for overflow seating and live streaming. The chair will check with Ed von Stein about this.
- I'm requesting vacation from Tuesday, Dec. 2 through Friday, Dec. 5, 2025.
- A request was made by the Bishop's office for St. Paul to host the Northwest Ohio Synod Council meeting on 12/12/26 from 9am – 1pm. This event will include a light breakfast/brunch (coffee, pastries, fruit).
- The baptism of Willow Gibson will be held on Oct. 26, 2025.
- See full report at end of minutes.

## YOUTH MINISTRY – Amy Gibson

### Highlights:

- September
  - Sunday School Theme: TBD (Think Believe Do) – Prayer
  - 7<sup>th</sup> – Parent Meeting and Confirmation: Canon 3–8<sup>th</sup> graders 2–7<sup>th</sup> graders
  - 7<sup>th</sup> – Ignite – 8 youth (Pizza and Labor Day Lesson – What God says about Rest)
  - 9<sup>th</sup> – Church Council – 7pm
  - 14<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation: Hebrew Bible 5–6pm
  - 14<sup>th</sup> – ReFUEL – 6–8pm
  - 21<sup>st</sup> – Confirmation: Genesis 5–6pm
  - 28<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation: Exodus 5–6pm
  - 28<sup>th</sup> – ReFUEL – 6–8pm
- October
  - 5<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation: Law 5–6pm
  - 5<sup>th</sup> – Ignite Campfire Night – 6–8pm (13 attended – Lesson: False Idols)

### Upcoming:

- October
  - Sunday School Theme: TBD (Think Believe Do) – Sin
  - 12<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation: Judges 5–6pm
  - 12<sup>th</sup> – ReFUEL Campfire Night – 6–9pm
  - 15<sup>th</sup> – WNL/Kids Praise Begins (WNL Theme: Fruit of the Spirit) – 6:30–7:30pm
  - 18<sup>th</sup> – Fall Fest (Youth needed to volunteer)
  - 19<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation Youth will be asked to assist with Worship service
  - 22<sup>nd</sup> – WNL – 6:30–7:30pm
  - 26<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation: Ruth/Kings – 5–6pm
  - 26<sup>th</sup> – ReFUEL – 6–8pm
  - 28<sup>th</sup> – Youth Board – 7:30pm
  - 29<sup>th</sup> – WNL – 6:30–7:30pm

- November
  - Sunday School Theme: TBD (Think. Believe. Do.) – Mission
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> – Confirmation: Babylonian Captivity – 5–6pm
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> – Ignite – 6–8pm
  - 5<sup>th</sup> – WNL – 6:30–7:30pm
  - 9<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation: Prophets – 5–6pm
  - 9<sup>th</sup> – ReFUEL – 6–8pm
  - 12<sup>th</sup> – WNL – 6:30–7:30pm
  - 16<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation: Psalms – 5–6pm
  - 19<sup>th</sup> – WNL – 6:30–7:30pm
  - 23<sup>rd</sup> – Confirmation: Wisdom – 4:30–5:30pm\*\*
  - 23<sup>rd</sup> – Giving Blitz (grades 7–12) – 6–9pm
  - 25<sup>th</sup> – Youth Board Meeting – 7:30pm

### **Ongoing:**

- Planning and Execution of ReFUEL, Ignite, Wednesday Night Live (WNL), Fundraisers, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School Games and Confirmation
- Communication: Newsletter Info, Flyers, Bulletin Board, Emails, Texts, Social Media Updates, Calendar 3-6 months in advance, Website, One on One with Youth (face to face or call/text)
- Attend: Youth Board, Parish Board, Staff Meetings, Council

### **Council Requests:** N/A

#### **PARISH EDUCATION – Emily Clark**

- Kids Praise will begin on Oct. 15.
- Fall Fest with Trunk or Treat will be held on Oct. 18.
- Bibles will be presented to 3<sup>rd</sup> graders this Sunday.
- A single service on Dec. 14 at 10am will incorporate the children’s Christmas program, *A Joy Story*.
- Money from Parish Board’s mission fund of 2024 will be given to Good Hope to support their food pantry.

#### **WORSHIP COMMITTEE – Nathan Cowan**

- No report due to no meeting in October.

#### **OUTREACH COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS – Chris Sheets**

- Our fall outreach project is collecting items to support Good Hope’s food pantry as their shelves have been recently depleted due to higher demand.
- The next *Our Daily Bread* community meal will be Sunday, Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> from 11am–1pm. We will be serving shredded chicken sandwiches, baked beans, pasta salads, fruit and an assortment of desserts.
- No community meal is scheduled in November, but plans for shut-in meals and care packages are in development.
- Holiday meal bags will be distributed in December, continuing the tradition from 2024.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- Two dead pine trees at the parsonage still need to be removed. Deb Clevenger will follow up on this.
- Discussion was held on playground equipment and funding. The Chair investigated reputable suppliers and received the following proposal from Willygoat, a leading provider of playground equipment in the U.S. Equipment \$16,349; Shipping \$4,907; Installation \$8,238; Discounts \$2,500; Total \$28,294.20. A motion was made by Emily Clark to move forward with the playground project, seconded by Nathan Cowan. Motion carried. Funding will come from Designated Income received from the congregation in the third quarter of 2024 as well as Clarabelle Price’s memorial money. Emily noted that Dustin Price will construct a Gaga ball pit, and Parish Board will reimburse his expenses.

- The following slate of officers for 2026 were presented:
  - Chair: Jan Grieser
  - Vice Chair: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Elder: Mary Coldren and Lynn Boehm\*
  - Recording Secretary: Natalie McClelland
  - Treasurer: \_\_\_\_\_
  - 9am Service Deacons: Sean Adams\*, \_\_\_\_\_
  - 11:15am Service Deacons: Lee Laird, Lynn Boehm
  - Trustees: Deb Clevenger, Bart Welte, Dan Settlage, Wayne Young\*, Joe Creque\*
  - Parish Board Superintendent: Sally Valentage
  - Parish Board Assistant Superintendent: Kendra Parke
  - Parish Board Secretary: Amanda Price
  - Parish Board Treasurer: April Rettig
  - Parish Board Members: Carlie von Stein, Kelsie Gillespie, \_\_\_\_\_\*, \_\_\_\_\_\*
  - Youth Board: appointed by Council

\* Indicates first year of term

## NEW BUSINESS

- The date of the Annual Congregational Meeting was set for Nov. 16, 2025 during the Sunday School hour.
- Discussion was held on clarifying Amy's role in Catechism and salary. Classes begin in 7<sup>th</sup> grade with the Ten Commandments, creeds, confessions, daily prayers and Luther's small catechism. Year two is a Biblical year with a deeper dive. Each year is 30 lessons and includes activities. Amy's current salary is based on 28 hours per week year-round. It was suggested that we consider 30 hours per week. Discussion will continue at next month's meeting. Amy noted there are family events being planned for the future.

## ADJOURN

- Prior to adjournment, prayer requests were presented. The meeting adjourned with The Lord's Prayer at 8:30pm. The next meeting will be held on November 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm, led by Jan Grieser.

*Natalie McClelland, Recording Secretary*

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**St. Paul Congregational Council  
October 14, 2025  
Synod Authorized Minister's Report**

### **Word for Thought**

#### **Northwestern Ohio Synod Year of Listening Memory Verse**

Isaiah 55:3a *"Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live."*

### **Scripture**

Psalm 116:8 *You have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.*

Two Years of War! Hope for Peace!

On October 9, 2025, (Two years and two days after the war began) Israel and Hamas agreed to a ceasefire and the exchange of all Israeli hostages and Palestinian prisoners. It is a beginning to what we hope and pray will lead to a lasting peace in the region. We pray also that it is a sign to other nations to negotiate for peace.

If you paid attention to the news yesterday you witnessed an event that some are calling a miracle they never imagined could happen. Hamas released back to Israel the last surviving hostages held in the Gaza Strip. The twenty young, male survivors—Alon Ohel, 24; Ariel Cunio, 28; David Cunio, 35; Avinatan Or, 32; Bar Kupershtain, 23; Eitan Avraham Mor, 25; Eitan Horn, 39; Elkana Bohbot, 36; Evyatar David, 24; Gali and Ziv Berman, (twins) 28; Guy Gilboa-Dalal, 24; Maksym Harkin, 37; Matan Angrest, 22; Matan Zangauker, 25; Nimrod Cohen, 21; Omri

Miran 47; Rom Braslavski, 21; Segev Kalfon, 27; and Yosef-Chaim Ohana, 25—had been held captive for two years, “738 agonizing days” writes reporter Jay Ganlani quoting a statement released from the *Hostages and Missing Families Forum*. It was an emotional day for these men and their loved ones.

Four deceased Israeli hostages—Guy Illouz, 26; Bipin Joshi, 23; Yossi Sharabi, 53; and Captain Daniel Peretz, 22—were returned to their families for burial. The remains of 24 individuals have not yet been returned, but it is hoped body remnants may still be found in the debris in Gaza.

Palestinian detainees, prisoners, and thousands of residents of Gaza City who had fled from their homes to safer areas, were freed to return to the Gaza Strip. What they experienced returning to where they once called home was not as joyful. Unlike those who returned to the welcoming arms of loved ones, they returned to war-torn ruins, rubble, and devastation. They returned with hope of peace.

God sent his Son Jesus Christ as the Prince of Peace. It is in Christ that we have hope for a peace that will last. For all those who returned to their home lands yesterday, we lift up our voices with theirs and thank God saying, “*You have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.*”

Let us pray: God of wisdom, help us to remember not to fight each other but rather to fight the systems that exploit and destroy your good creation. Give us endurance when it is easier to give up. It is with hope and trust that we pray for everlasting peace throughout the world. Amen.

### **Activity Since the September Council Meeting:**

#### **Worship, Church Functions, Member Contact Outside of Worship**

- Worship Services (x10)
- Shipwreck Cemetery Service (x1)
- St. Francis of Assisi & Animal Blessing (x1)
- Hospital Visits (x1)
- In-office, at home, rehab, and phone visitations (x5)
- Outreach Committee (x1)
- WELCA (x1)
- Sewing Day (x2)
- Staff Meeting (x1)
- Pre-marriage Consultation (x2)
- Wedding Rehearsal (x1)
- Wedding (x1)
- Confirmation Class (x5)
- “The Jokers” Card Group (x4)
- Choir (x1)

#### **Related Church Activities**

- SAM Supervisor (x3)
- SAM Cohort Monthly Zoom (x1)
- SAM/Supervisor Gathering in Bowling Green (x1)
- SAM/Supervisor Text Study (x1)
- Central Conference Ministers Gathering (x1)
- Serenity Spring Worship (x1)

#### **Candidacy/Seminary Update**

- Preliminary Application to Wartburg has been completed so they can request a scholarship on my behalf from the ELCA’s *Fund for Leaders* ... Needed to be turned in by September 30 for the upcoming year.

## Upcoming Events

- October 18, 2025 – Trunk-or-Treat and Fall Festival
- October 19, 2025 – Harvest Home – with Bishop Daniel Beaudoin
- October 31, 2025 – SAM Renewal documents are due to the Northwestern Ohio Synod office
- November 7, 2025 – BGSU Men's Chorus 7:00pm ... feeding the 100+ chorus & crew
- December 8, 2025 – SAM/Supervisor CaSTLE Grant dinner @ Hilton Garden Inn, Findlay

## Vacation

- Vacation Request: Tuesday through Friday, December 2 through 5, 2025

## For Council's Consideration

- Request from the Bishop's Office for St. Paul to host the Northwestern Ohio Synod Council meeting on December 12, 2026, 9AM to 1PM. Requires providing a light breakfast/brunch (coffee, pastries, fruit).
  - \$1000 stipend to be paid to SAM Supervisor during the SAM renewal process (due October 31, 2026) for the 2027 year.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Deb Noll, Synod Authorized Minister

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## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR NOVEMBER 2025

**SENIOR CHOIR DIRECTOR:** Lisa Gossman

**PRAISE TEAM DIRECTOR:** Jan Grieser

**HANDBELL CHOIR DIRECTOR:** Tammy Robinson

**AUDIO VIDEO:** Marty Grieser and Ed von Stein

**ALTAR GUILD:** Mary Coldren

**LECTOR:** Natalie McClelland

**WEBSITE COORDINATOR:** Chelsea Boehm

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## PRAYER CHAIN CONTACTS

Nadine Boehm — [nadineb@thewavz.com](mailto:nadineb@thewavz.com) or 419-722-6370

Jenny Welte — [jwelte92@gmail.com](mailto:jwelte92@gmail.com) or 419-788-0724

## HOSPITAL STAYS

It is important to the church that we support you through illness and hospitalizations. If you are admitted to Blanchard Valley Hospital for an overnight stay we would like to know.

If you are planning an admission to any hospital, please call the church office at 419-326-3535 to let us know the date you are entering and how long you anticipate staying.

At admission to BVH, *planned or unplanned*, you (or your spokesperson) will be asked several questions,

1. Religion: this may be asked at pre-registration or at admission along with your address, phone number, etc. Please give our denomination.
2. If you wish to be on the Hospital Directory and the Religion List. These questions will be asked of you (or your spokesperson) during the "Consent to Treatment" process. Please answer "yes" to both.

In order to protect your privacy the hospital does not routinely call the church to tell us you have been admitted, unless you specifically ask them to call us. We depend on you or your family to let us know if you have been admitted.

If you have been in the hospital for a day or two and have not been visited, please ask your family or nurse to contact the church office.

A new federal law greatly restricts the disclosure of patient information by hospitals. As a result, the pastors and church office may not know that a member of the church has been admitted to the hospital. If you are hospitalized and would like to notify the pastor, it is important that you or a member of your family inform the church office as soon as possible at 419-326-3535 and the secretary will contact the pastor.

**PERSONS ST. PAUL HAS PRAYED FOR DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2025:** David Bower; Zac Carman (*son of Babette Grieser Reese*); Pegi Crates (*Sean Adam's mother*); Andy Creque (*Joe's cousin*); Dave Creque (*Joe's brother*); Dick Cupples (*friend of Marcia Russell*); Danny Dangler (*classmate of Keith Bower*); Jon Gast; Willow Gibson; Marsha Grieser; family and friends of Robert Grieser; Shane Grieser; Norm Hahn; Rose Hites (*aunt of LuAnn Wood*); Lino Ibarro (*friend of Steve McClelland*); Steve McClelland; family and friends of Marilyn McDowell (*Ron & Judy's sister-in-law*); Vera Sheets; Gregg Smith (*Sally Valentage's son*); Glen Stechschulte (*friend of Steve McClelland*); Trisha Vermillion (*LuAnn Vermillion's daughter*); family and friends of Dorine von Stein; Jim von Stein; Louise Wilson; LuAnn Wood (*friend of Sally Valentage*); all military personnel including — Griffin Hartman, Lance Leisure, Brycen Lucius, Evan McMonigal, Justin Riegle, Nate Sheets, Colin Tobin, and Alex von Stein.

**PRAYERS FOR CHURCH LEADERSHIP:** ELCA Presiding Bishop Curry; Northwestern Ohio Synod Bishop Beaudoin; Central Conference Dean Pastor Stenke; Minister Deb; and all Missions of Ministry.

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**PRAYER CHAIN INFORMATION:** If adding a name to the Prayer Chain please be sure you have permission from the immediate family that their name can be included in the Prayer List in the News of the Flock. Thank you.

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## *Thank You ~ Thank You ~ Thank You ~ ~*

**Thank you** for the very delicious dinner that you delivered to us on Sunday, October 26<sup>th</sup>. We wish to thank the Outreach Committee, the workers, and drivers for the time to prepare and deliver the meal.

Thank you again,

*Pat, Sandy, Paul, Millie, Jean, Paula, Jim, Ruth, Rollie, Julie, Jolene, Wanda, Nancy, and Larry, ~ The Orchard Residents*

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## **Our Christian Sympathy is extended to ~ ~**

**Our Christian Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Dorine von Stein.** Dorine, 87, passed away on Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup>. Dorine's funeral was held here at St. Paul on Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:00AM.

**Our Christian Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Robert Grieser.** Robert passed away on Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Our Christian Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Marilyn McDowell.** Marilyn, 75, is Ron and Judy McDowell's sister-in-law. Marilyn passed away on Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup>.

May the family and friends of Dorine, Robert, and Marilyn feel God's love surrounding you and fill you with the hope of the resurrection.

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**We welcomed Willow Grace Gibson by Infant Baptism into membership at St. Paul on Sunday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at the 9:00AM Worship Service.** Willow was born on June 27, 2025 and is the daughter of Britt Dean Gibson and Amy Michelle Gibson. May blessings be with Willow as she begins her baptismal journey. Godparents of Willow are Adam and Melissa Robke.

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## *A Heartfelt Thank You from The Outreach Team*

The Outreach Team would like to extend our sincere gratitude to everyone who has supported “Our Daily Bread Ministry”. Your time, generosity, and faithful donations have been the foundation of our ability to serve the community. We’re especially grateful for the amazing bakers here at St. Paul — your delicious contributions have been deeply appreciated and thoroughly enjoyed by all!

As mentioned during our Semi-Annual Meeting, we are considering adjustments to our schedule in 2026 to better serve shut-ins and those unable to attend in person. This may mean stepping away from offering a monthly meal at the church as we explore new ways to reach more people in need.

As we prepare for this transition, we’d like to share our plans for the remainder of 2025:

- **November**—No Meal Scheduled—Plans for shut-in meals and care packages are currently in development.
- **December**—No Meal Scheduled—We will distribute **Holiday Meal Bags**, continuing the tradition from 2024.

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**The last Sewing Day for 2025 was held on Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. There were 14 people at the Sewing Day. Three quilts were brought in and 186 quilts were packed up and have been delivered to Lutheran World Relief.**

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**DESIGNATED OFFERINGS: The Fourth Quarter offerings will benefit Open Arms Domestic Violence & Rape Crisis Services in Findlay, Ohio.** The mission of Open Arms is: Serving individuals affected by domestic violence and sexual assault through crisis intervention, emergency shelter, outreach, advocacy, prevention, and education. Open Arms provides shelter, safety, and support while helping survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault to live an abusive-free healthy life. The number for the 24-hour Crisis Hotline is: 419-422-4766. Prayerfully consider giving to this cause through your giving envelope, designated under “building fund”.

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**Sunday School Option** – The conference room Sunday School is starting a new movie Series, “The Chosen”. This movie digs deeper into the back stories of the people and events of the Gospel. Come join us for the movie, discussion and fellowship.

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### Welcome to 2025: The Year of Listening.

The focus of the Northwestern Ohio Synod in 2025 is to learn the sacred art of listening.

Listening to God. Listening to Ourselves. Listening to Others. And Listening to the Community.

God’s invitation to listen is a gift that permeates the Scriptures. From the Shema, “**Hear, O**

**Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might**” (Deuteronomy 6:4–5).

To the Psalms, “**Hear my cry, O God; listen to my prayer**” (Psalm 61:1).

To the words of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount, “**Everyone who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock**” (Matthew 7:24).

To the words the Exalted Jesus repeats to the seven churches in Revelation, “**Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches**” (Revelation 2–3).

God longs for us to hear, so God invites us to listen.

The Synod has provided an eight-session Bible Study, Devotions for small gatherings, Weekly Listening Practices, and a New Testament Reading Plan. All the information can be found on the Northwestern Ohio Synod ELCA website <https://nwos-elca.church/listening/> and some parts will be shared with the St. Paul congregation throughout the year in the News of the Flock and monthly newsletter.

I’m excited to share in this “Year of Listening” and I hope you are too.

Blessings, Minister Deb

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Please consider donating pretzels, cookies, crackers, etc. for the Fellowship Table. If donating, please leave them on the Fellowship Counter. Monetary donations can be left in the donation can and snacks will be purchased.



#### UPCOMING NOVEMBER EVENTS FOR ST. PAUL

**Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary — *Bowling Green State University Men's Chorus* will provide a concert for our members and the community.** Over a hundred men will lift their voices singing classical, current day, and gospel songs. Invite your friends to come enjoy an evening of excellent entertainment.

**Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm at Good Hope Lutheran Church — *Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service*.** Pastor Steve Ramsey will serve as host, Pastor Matt Blau will be lector, and Minister Deb will provide the “Thanksgiving” message. A time of fellowship will follow the service. Join us to bring in the Holiday Season by gathering together with our friends and neighbors to give thanks for the many blessings God bestows on us each and every day.

**It's time for Kids Praise! Kids Praise will run through Wednesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>.** We are teaching, singing, crafting, and feeding the children, teachers and parents in attendance. There is a sign-up sheet in the welcome space if you would like to help with food donations. Monetary donations can be given to Christine Kemerley. Thank you for helping to feed inquisitive minds and hungry tummies.

Meal before Kids Praise — 5:45PM – 6:30PM

Kids Praise — 6:30PM – 7:30PM

Wednesday Night Live / Grades 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>  
(WNL Theme: Fruit of the Spirit) — 6:30PM – 7:30PM



#### ReFUEL and Ignite INFORMATION

##### Upcoming:

- Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> — Ignite — 6pm – 8pm
- Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup> — ReFUEL — 6pm – 8pm
- Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> — Giving Blitz — 6:pm – 9pm
- Wednesdays, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup> — WNL/Kids Praise Begins — 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade  
(WNL Theme: Fruit of the Spirit) — 6:30PM – 7:30PM

#### Confirmation Class Information for October

- Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> — Confirmation Class — 5:00PM – 6:00PM
- Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup> — Confirmation Class — 5:00PM – 6:00PM
- Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup> — Confirmation Class — 5:00PM – 6:00PM
- Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> — Confirmation Class — 4:30PM – 5:30PM — NOTE – Time Change
- Sunday, November 30<sup>th</sup> — NO Confirmation Class



### DARTBALL SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER 2025

**[NOTE:** Copies of the REVISED Dartball Schedule are available  
on the Information Counter in the Welcome Space.]

[**ALL First and Second Half season games throughout the season begin promptly at 7:00PM]**

**Monday, November 17<sup>th</sup>**      Jenera Jr. @ St. Johns/Trinity, Findlay  
 Salem, Findlay @ Jenera Sr.

**Monday, November 24<sup>th</sup>**      Jenera Jr. @ Jenera Sr.



### POINSETTIA SALE

**SPONSORED BY:  
ST. PAUL LYO**

Once again the St. Paul LYO will be selling poinsettias to decorate the church for the holiday season.  
**THE PROCEEDS FROM THIS POINSETTIA SALE**

**WILL GO TOWARDS:  
St. Paul Youth Projects**

The poinsettia plants will each come in a 6 inch container at a cost of \$11.00 per plant.  
 Colors available are: Red — White — Ice Crystal

Order forms are available on the Information Counter in the Welcome Space. Fill in the order form and leave the order form and money in the box provided on the Information Counter in the Welcome Space. Payment must accompany orders and checks need to be made payable to: St. Paul Lutheran LYO.

Deadline for placing orders will be Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>

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**Our congregation, along with other local churches, was contacted by Good Hope regarding their food pantry.** Earlier this year, the food pantry was supporting an average of 10 families per distribution. In August and September, the need increased to approximately 22 families per distribution. The food pantry has supported 51 families so far this year. Because of this growing need, the food pantry shelves have been severely depleted. Good Hope is asking for 3 things:

1. Pray for this ministry.
2. Refer any families in need.
3. Food donations to stock their shelves.

Each local church was given a different grocery list of items.

The following items were requested of St. Paul:

Pork and Beans	Kidney Beans	Chili Beans
Chili Spice	Jiffy Muffin Mix	Boxed Mashed Potatoes
Gravy Packet		
Cake Mix (White, Yellow, Chocolate)		Brownie Mix
Frosting (Chocolate or Vanilla)		
Cookie Mix (Sugar or Chocolate Chip)		
Bag of Rice		
Macaroni & Cheese		
Canned Vegetables — Green Beans	Corn	
	Carrots	Peas
Pickles (spears or whole)		Mixed Veggies
Canned Soups — Chicken Noodle – Tomato – Beef Vegetable –		
Cream of Mushroom – Cream of Chicken – Chili – Dinty Moore Stew		

This food collection drive will last through at least December. As you are doing your grocery shopping, if you can pick up some extra items to support these families in need, it would be greatly appreciated.

Donations can be put in the baskets in the welcome space. You can also give money to a member of the Outreach Committee, and we can do the shopping for you.

If you have any questions, please contact any member of the Outreach Committee. Thanking you in advance for your donations.

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**FYI — There are copies of the Food Pantry List on the Information Counter in the Welcome Space if you would want a copy to use when you go grocery shopping.**

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## November 2025 Birthdays

Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup>  
 Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>  
 Wednesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>  
 Wednesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>  
 Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup>  
 Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup>  
 Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup>  
 Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup>  
 Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup>  
 Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup>  
 Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>  
 Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>  
 Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup>  
 Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>  
 Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>  
 Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>  
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 Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup>  
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 Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>  
 Wednesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>  
 Wednesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>  
 Wednesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>  
 Wednesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>  
 Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup>  
 Friday, November 21<sup>st</sup>  
 Friday, November 21<sup>st</sup>  
 Friday, November 21<sup>st</sup>  
 Friday, November 21<sup>st</sup>  
 Saturday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>  
 Saturday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>  
 Saturday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>

Holly Saum  
 Claire Fisher  
 Ariaan Swanner  
 Katelynn Solt  
 Marc Depuy  
 Collin Haley  
 Judy McDowell  
 Pam Pepple  
 Carly Amos  
 Melissa Kroske  
 Reid Rammel  
 Ron Riegler  
 Kerwin Gillespie  
 John Rettig  
 Bryce Geissinger  
 Sarah Grostick  
 Wanda Renner  
 Ryan Wilhelm  
 Ed Boehm  
 Mac Langhals  
 Jacob Leu  
 Phil Riegler  
 Lisa Creque  
 Shane Grieser  
 Cameron Huss  
 Charlie Breitigam  
 Barbara Bower  
 Cheryl Gast  
 Rebecca Peyton  
 Brantley Trout  
 Everly Trout  
 Jaron Welty  
 Alex McDowell  
 Jenna Stoltz  
 Rebecca Stoltz  
 Emma Smith  
 Sean Adams  
 Amber Durlat  
 Cindy Durlat  
 Lauren Etler  
 Lisa McDowell  
 Aaron Korte  
 Kennedy McCasland  
 Bailey Parke  
 Tammy von Stein  
 Brittany Robinson  
 Jacob Russell  
 Wyatt Wilson

Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>  
 Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>  
 Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>  
 Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>  
 Monday, November 24<sup>th</sup>  
 Monday, November 24<sup>th</sup>  
 Wednesday, November 26<sup>th</sup>  
 Thursday, November 27<sup>th</sup>  
 Thursday, November 27<sup>th</sup>  
 Friday, November 28<sup>th</sup>  
 Friday, November 28<sup>th</sup>  
 Saturday, November 29<sup>th</sup>  
 Sunday, November 30<sup>th</sup>

Deb Bower  
 Berkley Grieser  
 Elizabeth Haley  
 Cheryl Lentz  
 Hannah Rader  
 Grant Wilson  
 Shiuli Sidle  
 Carrie Ludwig  
 Tammy Robinson  
 Cameron Haley  
 Melissa Solt  
 Zachary Durlat  
 Ryan Wolford



## November 2025 Wedding Anniversaries

Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>  
 Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup>  
 Tuesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>  
 Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>  
 Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>  
 Tuesday, November 25<sup>th</sup>  
 Thursday, November 27<sup>th</sup>

Steve and Emily Clark – 19  
 Mark and Morgan Tiell – 18  
 Jaron and Taylor Welty – 8  
 Ryan and Brittany Robinson – 14  
 Robert and Evelyn Robison – 56  
 Richard and Jean Crooks – 58  
 John and Mary Wilson – 60



# ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH ~ NOVEMBER 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>Altar Guild:</b> Mary Coldren <b>Lector:</b> Natalie McClelland <b>Organist:</b> November 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> , and 30 <sup>th</sup> : Lisa Gossman						1
<b>2 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</b> 9:00AM Traditional Worship / Communion 10:15AM Sunday School 11:15AM Contemporary Worship / Communion 5:00PM – 6:00PM Confirmation Class 6:00PM – 8:00PM Ignite	3	<b>4</b> 7:00PM Worship Committee Meeting	<b>5</b> 5:45PM Meal before Kids Praise 6:30PM – 7:30PM Kids Praise 6:30PM – 7:30PM Wednesday Night Live Bible Study [6 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade]	<b>6</b> 9:30AM Bible Study / Library 1:00PM “The Jokers”	<b>7</b> 4:00PM Use of Fellowship Hall for meal for BGSU Choir members 7:00PM BGSU Choir / Sanctuary	8
<b>9 TWENTY–SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> 9:00AM Traditional Worship / Communion 10:15AM Sunday School 11:15AM Contemporary Worship / Communion 5:00PM – 6:00PM Confirmation Class 6:00PM – 8:00PM ReFUEL	10	<b>11</b> 7:00PM Congregational Council Meeting	<b>12</b> 5:45PM Meal before Kids Praise 6:30PM – 7:30PM Kids Praise 6:30PM – 7:30PM Wednesday Night Live Bible Study [6 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade] 7:00PM Senior Choir Practice	<b>13</b> 9:30AM Bible Study / Library 1:00PM “The Jokers”	14	15
<b>16 TWENTY–THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> <b>ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING</b> 9:00AM Traditional Worship 10:15AM Annual Meeting 11:15AM Contemporary Worship / Communion 5:00PM – 6:00PM Confirmation Class	17	<b>18</b> 7:00PM Dartball Jenera Jr. @ St. Johns/Trinity, Findlay Salem, Findlay @ Jenera Sr.	<b>19</b> 5:45PM Meal before Kids Praise 6:30PM – 7:30PM Kids Praise 6:30PM – 7:30PM Wednesday Night Live Bible Study [6 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade] 7:00PM Senior Choir Practice	<b>20</b> 9:30AM Bible Study / Library 1:00PM “The Jokers”	21	22
<b>23 CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY</b> 9:00AM Traditional Worship / Communion 10:15AM Sunday School 11:15AM Contemporary Worship / Communion 4:30PM – 5:30PM Confirmation Class 6:00PM – 9:00PM Giving Blitz 7:00PM Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service at Good Hope Lutheran	24	<b>25</b> 7:00PM Dartball Jenera Jr. @ Jenera Sr	26	<b>27 THANKSGIVING DAY</b> <b>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</b> ALL Day Fellowship Hall reserved by Rachel Hartman	28	<b>29</b> 9:00AM – NOON Outreach using Fellowship and Kitchen
<b>30 FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT</b> 9:00AM Traditional Worship / Communion 10:15AM Sunday School 11:15AM Contemporary Worship / Communion 2:30PM – 8:00PM Fellowship Hall reserved by the Boehm Family <u>NO Confirmation Class</u>						