

# The Epistle

November—  
December  
2020



St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
227 Goodhaven Dr.  
Columbia, IL 62236

## Notes from Pastor Krenz

*Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's; and to God the things that are God's.* Matthew 22:21

You are probably reading this newsletter just before or right after the presidential election. For months you have been bombarded with countless political advertisements and have probably had your fill of the nasty attacks candidates have made against one another. How are we as believers to respond to all of this? Let me suggest a couple of things.

First, while we honor our leaders, let us not give them "Messiah-like" status. They are fallible, and under God like everyone else. While a particular president may affect some aspect of our daily lives, the most important things in our life have little to do with the one who is in the oval office.

Last I checked, the president, or any other leader cannot deliver eternal life, forgive our sins, give us peace that passes understanding, resurrect our bodies, and conquer death, and the evil one.

Second, while we do not give them "Messiah-like" status, we are not to dismiss God's gift of good order in society. How does He bring that order? Through all kinds of local, state, and national leaders and governments. In Romans 13:1 Paul writes "*For there is no authority except from God*". We can easily become cynical and dismissive because of the poor ways leadership and governments carry out their tasks. Yet, despite all the poor examples of governing, God is still at work, which is why Paul states, "*First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and*

*thanksgivings be made for all people, <sup>2</sup>for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. <sup>3</sup>This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior. (1 Timothy 2:1-3).* It is noteworthy that in the early church most of those kings in high positions were not believers in the Savior, but they were still to be honored for ways in which God used them.

Before you know it, we will be anticipating the Savior's coming in Advent and then celebrating at Christmas the birth of the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords. Thank God for this Savior and pray for those whom He places in various leadership positions.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Krenz

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### Church Secretary

Mary Lou Oglesby  
secretary@stpauls-lcms.org  
618.281.4600 (office)

### Website

<http://stpauls-lcms.org/>

### Pastor Stephen Krenz

pastork@splcolumbia.com  
618.281.4600 (office)  
618.363.0121 (cell)

### Find us on Facebook

@stpaulscolumbiail



# Member & New Member Highlight

## Charlie & Wanda Gross



**How long have you been a member of St. Paul's?** Wanda grew up in the Red Bud (Prairie) area and Charlie grew up in the Renault area. They moved to Columbia and began attending church here after they were married in 1971.

**What changes in the church/congregation have been most significant over the years?** Going back a few years (about 1979), Wanda remembers teaching VBS for two consecutive weeks prior to having air conditioning at the church! The addition of the preschool was a significant event for our church and for Wanda. The addition to the church in 1999 was a huge project for our congregation.

**Tell us about your family.** Charlie & Wanda are blessed with two sons – Matthew and Timothy. They and their families all live in the St. Louis area, so they are fortunate to see them often and enjoy doing activities together and kid-sitting.

**What committees and groups have you been involved in over the years?** Wanda is president of Ladies League and is also involved with Women's Ministry, the Board of Education, a Comforts of Love quilter, & substitute preschool teacher. In the past she taught VBS & Midweek School, was the preschool Teacher/Director, and served on the Board of Finance. Charlie and Wanda were both involved in Singles and Doubles Club for many years. You will often find Charlie doing handyman work here at church.

**How has being involved in the preschool influenced your life and your faith?** Wanda: "I really enjoyed working at the preschool from its beginning. I worked with many fine Christian co-workers who were dedicated to early childhood education and a faith-based curriculum. . . . The biggest joy from working at the preschool was to see the children grow and change physically, emotionally, mentally, and spiritually. Their increase in faith helped my faith to grow, too."

**What is your favorite Bible verse?** "As the Father has loved me so have I loved you. Now remain in my love." John 15:9. This is Wanda's confirmation memory verse and also the verse the pastor used at their wedding.

## Brittney Hudacek

**Where are you from and what brought you to the area?** I'm originally from Springfield, IL. I attended SIUE and met my husband. We married and he got a job at Children's Hospital in St. Louis so we decided to settle in this area. We live in Dupo.

**When did you become a member at St. Paul's? What led you to become a member here?** I became a member in January of 2019. I was looking for a local LCMS church and I came across St. Paul's. I started attending services and loved how friendly and welcoming everyone was.

**What is your favorite Bible verse?** Isaiah 41:10. "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you. I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

**What do you like to do as a family when you aren't at church?** My favorite thing to do is spend time with my husband and daughter. We enjoy going to all of the fun places that the St. Louis area has to offer. Some of our favorites are the zoo, Eckert's, and Grant's Farm. I also enjoy traveling and hiking.



# Treasurer's Report

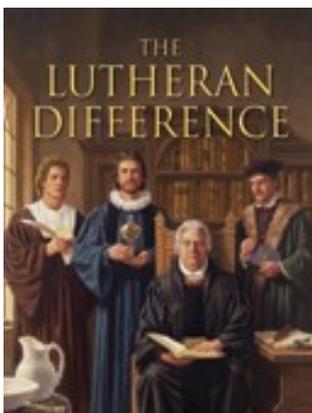
## Aug- Sep Receipts & Expenditures

Fund	Receipts	Expenditures	Operating Balance*
General	\$46,127.56	\$51699.42	\$121,094.10
Building Improvement	\$3868.00	—	\$47,803.88
Sign Fund	\$3,850.00	—	\$3,850.00



At the September & October meetings, the ReVitality group focused on identifying the congregation's core & aspirational values. These will guide the group to develop mission, vision, and purpose statements which are summaries of who and what we are, why we exist, and where we see our congregation going in the future. These statements will, in turn, guide and focus future activities and drive our short and long-term goals. As these processes mature, the group will be soliciting congregational input. Please continue to pray for this team and their efforts. Interested in learning more or joining the process? Contact Kevin Koenigstein at [koenigsteinkevlill@gmail.com](mailto:koenigsteinkevlill@gmail.com).

## The Lutheran/Christian Difference



### The Gospel: The Ultimate gift!

In the last newsletter we heard that God gifted us with the law to uncover our penchant for following other gods. God speaks to us in the law to show us his will, and to lay us bare so that we can receive Christ. The Gospel is what God sends our way to revive us in our dead like state. What is the gospel? **"The Gospel** is the teaching

that Christ has satisfied and paid for all of our guilt, won for us the forgiveness of sins, and given us a right standing before God. Through the gospel Christ not only takes away our sin, but he also replaces our sin with a robe of righteousness (a right standing before God). *"If the son sets you free, you shall be free indeed"* John 8:36.

When Lutherans are at their best, the good news of Christ's death and resurrection is proclaimed to us again and again, de-

livered to us through baptism and brought into our lives through the Lord's Supper. All these blessings are sent our way through the Gospel without any merit or worthiness on our part. What could be better than that?

About this column. . .

The purpose of this column is to state clearly what we believe, teach, and confess as Lutheran Christians. Using the word "Lutheran" in the title does not mean to denigrate other Christians, for much of what will be stated finds an "amen" in many Christian circles. Rather, it is intended to bring out our Lutheran/Biblical heritage in order to bring more depth of understanding to your God-given Christian faith.

Lutheran/Christian Resources to strengthen your faith:

- KFUE Radio 850 AM
- The God Whisperers Podcast
- Being Lutheran Podcast
- Issues Etc. Podcast
- The Lutheran Hour Podcast or Website
- Lutheran Women in Missions Website

## Order Your Poinsettias Now



### CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

**ABSOLUTE DEADLINE NOVEMBER 15!**

To be guaranteed that we receive 5-bloom poinsettia plants in time for the Christmas season, we need to place our order by Nov. 15! These will be displayed in our Sanctuary during the Christmas season. Please fill out the following form and include \$7.00 for each plant ordered. Place your order form along with payment in an envelope marked **"Christmas Poinsettias"** in the offering drop box in the narthex or send to the church office. Make check payable to "St. Paul's Lutheran Church". Questions? Contact Kathy Stechmesser, 281-4670. Thank you!!

Name: (Given by) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Poinsettia(s) @ \$7.00 each      Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_      Paid by Check # \_\_\_\_\_      or Cash \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of:

In Honor of:

In Thankfulness for:

Other Intention:

## Sunday School News

Children's Sunday School classes are back to meeting in the regular Sunday School classrooms from 9:15—10 a.m. and God willing, will continue to do so. Students are asked to wear masks.

A sign-up for Sunday School is now on the webpage. PLEASE sign your kids up so appropriate plans can be made for teachers and materials.

Our lessons for November begin with the story of Joseph reun-



ing with his family. The rest of the month's lessons revolve around the events of Moses' life.

Normally, our December Sunday School time is spent practicing for the children's Christmas program. However, due to the uncertainty around COVID, we are considering various options for how to proceed. For example, due to recent low Sunday School participation, should we opt for an intergenerational program? Should we forego the program altogether this year? We welcome your input and ideas. Please contact Karen Mueller at 618.806.4369 or [klmueller\\_1969@yahoo.com](mailto:klmueller_1969@yahoo.com).

## Youth News



The Youth Group had a great time floating on the Meremac River in September. For upcoming events, Bible Studies, & service projects, check out their page on the church website. Questions? Text Christina Schmitt at 314.807.2200.

## Women's Ministry

The Women's Ministry met in September and October. The women's Bible Study and monthly after-church potlucks are on hold until further notice. All women are invited to join the group for their next meeting on November 16th at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. December meeting date/time TBD. For more information, contact Donna Lake: [laked03@gmail.com](mailto:laked03@gmail.com).

## Gifts & Talents Survey

The Board of Stewardship recently sent out a gifts/talents survey to all the members in early October. We hope these surveys will help our leadership match our member's gifts and abilities with our ministries. If you haven't filled it out yet, please do so and return in the self addressed envelope or drop it off in the office by November 30th.

The 2021 Financial Giving Intention Forms were sent out in late October. Please fill these out and place in the intention form box in the narthex, also no later than November 30th.

Copies of both forms can be found on our website at <http://stpauls-lcms.org/index.html> (scroll to bottom of page).



In order to encourage everyone to be 'more intentional' in reaching out to others in Christian love and care, the Board of Christian Outreach is providing specific outreach suggestions in each newsletter.

They gave these the catchy label **OOPS** — short for

**O**utreach  
**OP**portunity  
**S**uggestion.

The **OOPS** suggestion for November and December is to **single-out someone who has gone out of their way to serve you cheerfully during the pandemic and to thank them personally.** This could be a teacher, doctor, store clerk, bank teller, paper boy, waitress—anyone, really! Take the time to thank them with an in-person thank you, a greeting card, or a phone call.

Don't know what to say or write? How about "In the Name of Jesus, I want to thank you for (what you did for me)?" Be intentional about it! Don't forget to include the name of JESUS in it! Be blessed and be a blessing—guaranteed!

## Rise Against Hunger Update

The meals from our Rise Against Hunger Experience on August 9th have been shipped in a container totaling 270,864 meals which will be received by Salesian Missions in Haiti. To learn more about Salesian Missions, visit the partner/country spotlight on the Impact Stories tab and click and drag on the World Aid Map at:

<https://www.riseagainsthunger.org/global-impact/>.

Due to the global health crisis, Rise Against Hunger's meal inventory is shrinking and they are working to find ways to continue to meet the needs of their beneficiaries. To make a difference in the lives of children and families



around the world during this challenging time, please donate at [riseagainsthunger.org/meettheneed](https://www.riseagainsthunger.org/meettheneed).

## LWML/Ladies League

We had a busy couple of months in September and October! On September 3<sup>rd</sup>, we put together 10 fabric kits to send to Lutheran World Relief along with 49 quilts that the Comforts of Love group made in the last year. We hosted the Southern Illinois District LWML in late September for ballot counting as well as filming for their convention took place at our church on Oct. 1. Convention proceedings and associated content may be viewed at [www.sidlwml.org/2020-sid-convention](http://www.sidlwml.org/2020-sid-convention). Pastor Krenz led our October 1<sup>st</sup> meeting with a topic entitled



Assembling fabric kits. From left to right: Helen Nowak, Stefanie Newbill, RoseAnne Bense, Kathy Stechmesser, Doris Mathews, Ruth Nelson, Barb Ries, & Wanda Gross.

“Responding to Tragedies and Suffering & the ‘Why’ Questions.” We recognized and thanked him for his service as part of October’s Pastor Appreciation month. LWML Sunday was observed on Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>.

### Meeting Schedule:

**November 5<sup>th</sup>** at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your own lunch, drinks, and masks. We will begin with a devotion/prayer, lunch, and a short video about Lutheran World Relief. This is our planning meeting for 2021. We will also have an election for the President and Secretary positions. Please contact Doris Mathews with nominations for either office.

**December 3<sup>rd</sup>** at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This is our Christmas luncheon party. Plans will be discussed that the November 5th meeting. Updates will be provided in the bulletin and email.

All ladies are welcome to any meeting or event. We would love to see you! Call Wanda at 281-4691 for more information.

***Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever. Psalm 136:1 NIV***

## Meet Our Missionaries

St. Paul’s supports a number of missions or missionaries both locally and internationally. We will be highlighting each of these in this “Meet Our Missionaries” series. We are kicking off this series with Rev. Dale and Suzanne Kaster who serve the Lord in mission through the LCMS in Prague, Czech Republic.

In this role, Dale trains men to be pastors of the Lutheran Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in the Czech Republic. He serves as the pastor of an English-language Lutheran church in Prague that serves the LCMS Eurasia regional office staff and many English-speaking expats living in Prague. Dale also assists the regional chaplain with pastoral service to the LCMS missionaries serving in the Silesian region of the country. Through the relationships formed, Dale and Suzanne seek to share the Gospel with the Czech people.

Dale was born in Stephenville, Newfoundland, Canada. His home congregation is Celebration Lutheran Church, Jacksonville, FL. He graduated from Concordia College, Bronxville, NY, with a bachelor’s degree in Judeo-Christian heritage. He received his Master of Divinity from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. Before serving in Prague, Dale served as a pastor at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Point Pleasant, NJ; Celebration Lutheran Church, Jacksonville, FL.; and Martin Luther Chapel, Pennsauken, NJ. He also served on short-term mission trips to the Ntshongweni Village in South Africa and as a theological educator in Tamale, Ghana. Dale enjoys cooking, skeet shooting, reading and Civil War history.



Suzanne was born in LaGrange, IL, and her home congregation is also Celebration Lutheran Church, Jacksonville, FL. She attended Concordia University Chicago, River Forest, IL. Suzanne enjoys cross-stitching, reading and working on genealogy.

Pray for Dale and Suzanne as they serve in the Czech Republic. Ask God to give Dale daily strength and knowledge as he mentors men for the ministry and serves the congregation in Prague. Pray that the Holy Spirit leads and guides him as he ministers to the LCMS missionaries serving in this country. Pray for the men who receive Dale’s instruction that their hearts and minds are open to what God wants them to learn. Ask God to help these men grow to become faithful and compassionate under-shepherds serving His children. Pray that the Czech people will learn of the Gospel through the missionary work being done there.

More information about the Kastars and how to support their mission can be found at <https://www.lcms.org/Kaster>.

## Trustee Report

Things have certainly slowed down for the Trustees since the sale of the parsonage earlier this year. They are now focusing on general maintenance and upkeep of the church property and preparing for the installation of new signs. Not only will the signs on Route 3 and the corner of Bottom Avenue and Good Haven be replaced, but signage will also be updated in other areas around the church and inside the building. Here you can see the Bottom Avenue sign has been dismantled and trustee Kevin Miller has washed the stone bases which will be retained for the new signs.



## Fund Drive for New Signs

The total cost of all of the new signage is approximately \$65,000. The Voter's Assembly voted unanimously to fund-raise at least \$10,000 of the total cost from the congregation. The remainder will be paid for from a bequest from the Schneider estate. As of mid-October, \$6,570 has been raised. Please prayerfully consider you ability to financially support this outreach activity. Write "For Church signs" on the check's memo line or envelope (if cash).



## Food Pantry News

Unlike the Trustees, things have been very busy for the Food Pantry! They continue to serve approximately 40 households per month. Packing the boxes ahead of time and keeping up with marking, sorting, and storing incoming donations in addition to the actual distribution takes a lot of time and many willing hands. It takes approximately 6 manhours to pack 30 boxes. The pantry has a great small group of 3-5 people that meet most Monday nights to pack boxes and keep things organized. There is a larger group of 7-10 people that help on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays (distribution days) to ensure that our patrons get a warm welcome and are served in a timely fashion.

**SAVE THE DATE!** The annual Scouting for Food drive is coming up. The Boy Scouts will be delivering the donation bags to Columbia residences on Saturday, November 14th and will pick up the morning of Saturday, November 21st. Our pantry is the grateful recipient of much of what the Scouts collect in town and this is our **SINGLE LARGEST** donation source each year. Besides leaving a bag out for the Scouts, here are other ways you can help:



- **Saturday, November 21st** at 11:15 a.m. Volunteer drivers to pick up food from Scout Hut and deliver to fellowship hall. Usually takes no more than 1 hour. If you can drive, please call Barb Ries at 618.476.1065.
- **Saturday, November 21st** from 11:30 a.m.—4 p.m. Sort & mark donations. Lunch provided.
- **Sunday, November 22nd** from 9:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. (refreshments provided) and 5—8 p.m. (dinner provided) to sort & mark donations.
- To maintain social distancing guidelines, sign up for a timeslot at <http://stpauls-lcms.org/> or call the church office 618.281.4600.
- Additional dates/times will be added if needed.

In lieu of the Giving Tree, this year the Board of Christian Caring is doing a "Reverse Advent Calendar." Each day, place an item on the list below in a box or bag. Bring your items to church each Sunday in December or wait and deliver them all at once on Christmas Day or thereafter. Collection bins will be located in the Narthex and at the foot of the stairs near the lower entrance.



## Reverse Advent Calendar Shopping List

- |                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 - box of cereal            | 13 - can of baked beans      |
| 2 - peanut butter            | 14 - can of chicken breast   |
| 3 - stuffing mix             | 15 - can of fruit cocktail   |
| 4 - boxed or canned potatoes | 16 - oatmeal                 |
| 5 - jelly, jam, or honey     | 17 - canned ham              |
| 6 - can of pineapple         | 18 - spaghetti sauce         |
| 7 - can of tomatoes          | 19 - can of pears            |
| 8 - can of tuna              | 20 - tomato soup             |
| 9 - dessert mix              | 21 - can of peaches          |
| 10 - jar of applesauce       | 22 - can of mixed vegetables |
| 11 - can of sweet potatoes   | 23 - can of carrots          |
| 12 - can of beef stew        | 24 - can of oranges          |

## November

## December



1 Leslie Eckert Danielle Ratley Jordan Starek	19 Kenneth Ostendorf Terry Woodcock	1 Willa Bates Jennifer Housewright	13 Samantha Mueller
2 Keith Sackman	20 Chloe Collet Paloma Niehaus	Eddie Luedeman Gina Search	14 Bohdon Luberda Alberta Spradling
4 Michelle Mathews Rebecca Wallace	Derrick Rule	Cassen Woolley	15 Allison Ramsey
5 Nicholas Boland Debra Roediger Jason Womack	21 Jeremy Housewright Richard Rottnek	2 Tallulah Ray Marilee Schueler	16 Aaron Essert Martin Mueller
6 William Kleinschmidt	22 Hazel Herbeck Scott Moeslein Samantha Smith	3 Joel Greatting Larry Murray Luci Washburn	17 Danielle Arras Jana Eytchison Erwin Hofstetter Derek Niehaus
7 Glenn Grebing James Probst	23 John Caldwell Stephanie Duvall Ethan Stumpf	4 Leroy Kisro Jamie Moeslein	18 Daniel Elbrecht Brianna Elms Robert Rauh
8 Brian Kremmel Jennifer Krick	24 Cody Phelps	5 Harold "Dean" Lyon Melissa Roessler	19 Judy Ostendorf
9 Joseph Quevreaux IV	25 Betheny Grabner Tammy Grueninger	6 Bert Fulk Jordan Holten	20 Denise Nowak Dean Schorr
11 Stefanie Newbill	Haley Herbeck Bailee Williams	7 Gianni Glasco Thomas Pierson Earlwayne Stumpf	21 Reid Glaenger
12 Douglas Feldman Andrea Mastrantuono Nancy Mergelkamp	26 Savannah Greatting Donald Snow	8 David Gummersheimer	22 Gregory Woolley Sarah Zavadil
13 Jeremy Offermann Chad Sackman	27 Mark Eischer Dorothy Ratley	9 William Luther Jr. Sandra Roessler	23 Ruth Camp
14 Donna Donovan Jamie Lyon	28 Rachel Faries Kenneth Sievers	11 Roger Floarke Dylan Ray	24 Erin Glaenger Sherry Smith
16 Kenneth Mathews	29 Brittany Mitchell	12 Carole Hancock Susan Housewright Ruth Nelson Gale Toolen John Wallace	25 Rory DeLunas 26 Donna Nowak Joshua Thompson
17 Mary Clyde Derek Gregson	30 Patrick Grandt		28 Beckett Grider Oliver Kremmel
18 Jill Blattner Lorelei Henerfauth			30 Deborah Caldwell Cayden Kritz
			31 Jonathan Duvall



2 Evan & Katherine Guebert Karen & Brian Mueller	18 Charles & Laura Ford	5 Donald & Corla Greer
4 Betheny Grabner & Joshua Brunkhorst	20 Margaret & Herbert Simmons	7 Ray & Sue Champion
6 Debra & Clay Dietz Michelle & Roscoe Magnuson	25 Carl & Cristi Bierman Richard & Kim Butler	8 Allison & Jacob Ramsey
12 Karl & Donna Nowak	26 Ronald & Dorothy Tomlinson	10 Michele & Douglas Nelson
14 Joydean & Rick Beatty Brian & Sierra Russell	29 Leroy & Marilyn Kisro Michiel & Dorothy Ratley	12 Jack & Carol Wayland
16 Charles & Paige Farris III		20 Samantha & Joshua Mueller
		21 Lloyd & Patricia Pulcher

**“Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God;  
and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.”**

1 John 4:7

## Voter's Meeting Synopsis

This is a VERY brief synopsis of the Voter's Meeting that occurred on August 25th. Committees that gave no reports are not listed here. If you would like a full set of minutes, please contact Mary Lou in the church office. For questions about the content of this or the full minutes, please contact Glenn Grebing (Voter's Assembly/Congregational Secretary) or Kevin Koenigstein (Congregation President).

### General Business

Membership Transfers - John Idoux to Faith Luth, Branson, MO

Membership Releases: Kevin Blosser, Brian and Rhonda Eads & family, Joshua Killy, Kim Pierson, Larry Pierson, Matthew Gross, Teri and Kevin Timmerman & family, Alice Rodgers

Junior Confirmation, 5 set for Confirmation on Sun., Aug 30th

Funeral/Death's since last meeting:

March - Delphine Girard

April - Bill Hertz, Michael Maske, Maurice Schneider

May - Lorene Moehrs, Betty Pierson

August - Linda Idoux, Mike Donovan

### Reports

Lutheran Church Extension Fund interest rate is at 0.5%.

Youth Ministry: August work mission trip to Altenburg, MO.; toured Luther Heritage Museum. Meramec River float trip over Labor Day weekend.

Congregational Endowment Fund: current balance \$73,164.75

Board of Communications: New newsletter design, mailed every 2 months. Option to deliver via e-mail & also posted on the church website.

Board of Christian Outreach: see "New Business". Holding off on neighborhood canvas. Need additional member.

Board of Christian Caring: Need volunteers. Average patronage 20 households. Bank Balance in August approx. \$30k.

Board of Stewardship: Will be doing a gifts/talents survey. A Will & Estate Planning Seminar in Jan/Feb 2021. Stewardship Sunday is November 15<sup>th</sup>.

Board of Education: Sunday School possibly to start in October. Preschool not opening until the January at earliest.

Board of Finance: General Fund balance is over \$495k (this includes the revenue from the sale of the parsonage & part of the Schneider bequest). The Building Repair &

Renovation Fund is currently over \$220k. **The Finance Board decided to invest \$350k (\$200K in general funds + \$150K in building funds +\$83,250 in missions funds) in the LCEF Partner Plus Accounts that earn a higher rate of interest.**

Board of Trustees: In process of cleaning various areas of the church. Future Projects are replacing the heating and cooling units as needed, possible elevator.

Board of Elders: Church services will continue as is through Oct. Elder lists updated and all members assigned an elder. Elder/pastor visits continue on Sundays. No church in the park this year. Approved the purchase of new computer by Josh Colyer for service preparation and editing through a contribution by the Consolino's + 3 other elders.

Treasurer's Report: General Fund Balance as of 7/31/20 \$473,997.90 (includes parsonage sale \$228,281.01). Building Fund Balance \$221,745.

**Other Business.** Church Re-vitality Project: 8 to 9 people on committee to identify strengths & weaknesses of church and direction of the congregation.

### New Business

Nominating Committee for 2021 Officers – Poll members of each board to verify who wants to stay on each board to assist Toby Search.

**New Signage: After briefing about sign options, unanimous vote to approve new signage from Summit Sign for new signs on Rt 3 and corner of Bottom Ave & Good Haven as well as updating indoor/outdoor signage for building for \$65K. Sign Fund raising drive to raise a minimum of \$10k by the end of 2020 for this project; remaining funds coming from designated bequest from Schneider estate.**

Nominations made and voted upon for various seminary, district, & circuit positions.

**Need to establish an Estate/Parsonage Gift Committee – Handout provided; committee to consist of 5-8 people from various boards & at-large church members. Goal of this group is to make specific recommendations for use of this money to the congregation at the Oct.2021 voter's meeting.**

## Pod People?



When the local public schools started the academic year with remote learning on short notice, many families were left in a lurch. Karl and Donna Nowak organized a "pod" of 14 students & pooled the resources of their parents to supervise the kids M-F from 7:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m. They needed a place to meet and the Trustees agreed that the Fellowship hall would be the perfect place for them. The kids LOVE having a place to go for school AND the opportunity to interact with each other and just be kids and the parents are eternally thankful

for the church's generously allowing the use of the space. You can see them in the photo playing in the rain one day after their lessons were over. With the transition to a hybrid model, the kids continue to meet in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday & Thursday afternoons. A big thanks to Don Radenz for all of his help with internet & wifi issues!



Our 2020 Junior Confirmation Class was confirmed on August 30th. Pictured from left to right are Andrew Colyer, Kyva Meyer, Trey Roessler, Hayden Theiss, Gabi Nowak, and Pastor Krenz.

The confirmands participate in the Rite of Confirmation. Pictured left to right: Andrew Colyer, Kyva Meyer, Gabi Nowak, Trey Roessler and Hayden Theiss with Pastor Krenz facing the camera.

Please pray for all of the students currently attending confirmation/adult information classes.

Adults: Gary Crawford, Debbie Jordan, Wes Mahnken

1st Year: Sylvia Ebersol, Zane Ebersohl, Brynnley Grider, Madi Kraft, Ashley Magneson, Tanner Roessler, Payton Roland, & Quinton Roland

2nd Year: Aiden Colyer, Will Kleinschmidt, Drake Luedeman, Reagan Mathews, Lilly Misra, & Grace Nowak

## Worship Services & Guidelines

Wednesday Communion Devotionals (9:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.) will continue through the end of November. The 10-person limit has been increased to 25 per service.

Advent devotional services (no communion) will be held on December 2nd, 9th, & 16th. These will be held at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Weekend services are held on Saturdays at 11 a.m. and Sundays at 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. through December. These services have a 35 person limit and can also be viewed online (link on our website).

Reservations are highly encouraged for all services (link on our website or call the church office). However, if you forget to make a reservation, you will not be turned away!

Please wear a mask in and out of the church building and use hand sanitizer when you enter the building. Hand sanitizer and disposable masks are available immediately inside the front entrance (narthex). Masks may be removed during worship. Social distancing should be observed when inside the building, especially before and after services as people tend to congregate in the narthex.

### St. Paul's Lutheran Historic Church and School

The perfect place for your event!

114 W. Liberty Street  
Columbia, IL 62236

Contact: psnider@htc.net or  
faithg1962@yahoo.com

Facebook: St. Paul's Historic Church  
and School

## The Concordia Corner



Keep your eyes out for our seminary students!

You'll see Aaron Beckman, our pastoral student, on Sundays helping out with services and Bible classes. He is also assisting with confirmation class instruction, youth events, and Bible studies.



Alicia Benning, our deaconess student, is involved in many aspects of the church's life. She is helping teach Sunday School, learning about Food Pantry operations, directing the Bell Choir, making shut-in visits and calls, and assisting with youth activities.

# November 2020

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	<p><b>ALL SAINT'S DAY</b></p> <p>Communion Service 8 &amp; 10:30am (Sanctuary)            Adult Bible Class 9:15am (Sanctuary)            Youth/Sunday School 9:15am (Youth Room/Sunday School Wing)</p>	2 Financial Count (Team 1)	3 Polling Place 5am—7pm (Fellowship Hall) Men's Bible Study 7:15am (Narthex) Confirmation 3:30pm (Sanctuary) Trustee Mtg 5:30pm (Narthex) Revitality 6:30 pm (Narthex)	4 Communion Devotional 9:30 am & 5:30 pm (Sanctuary) Food Pantry 3:30 pm (Lower Level) Confirmation 6pm (Sanctuary) Handbells 7pm (Sanctuary) Adult C onfirmation 7:15pm (Fellowship Hall)	5 Ladies League 11:30 am (Fellowship Hall) Board of Ed 6:30 pm (Sunday School Room)	6	7 Communion Service 11 am (Sanctuary) Elder Visits 2pm
8	<p>Communion Service 8 &amp; 10:30am (Sanctuary)            Adult Bible Class 9:15am (Sanctuary)            Youth/Sunday School 9:15am (Youth Room/Sunday School Wing)            Elder Visits 2pm</p>	9 Financial Count (Team 2)	10 Men's Bible Study 7:15 am (Narthex) Circuit Pastor's Mtg (TBD) Confirmation 3:30pm (Sanctuary) Board of Elders 6:30pm Fellowship Hall)	11 <b>VETERAN'S DAY</b> Communion Devotional 9:30 am & 5:30 pm (Sanctuary) Confirmation 6pm (Sanctuary) Handbells 7pm (Sanctuary) Adult C onfirmation 7:15pm (Fellowship Hall)	12	13 Adult Bible Study 6:30pm (Narthex)	14 Communion Service 11 am (Sanctuary)
15	<p><b>STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY</b></p> <p>Communion Service 8 &amp; 10:30am (Sanctuary)            Adult Bible Class 9:15am (Sanctuary)            Youth/Sunday School 9:15am (Youth Rom/Sunday School Wing)            Elder Visits 2pm</p>	16 Financial Count (Team 3) Women's Ministry 6:30pm (Fellowship Hall)	17 Men's Bible Study 7:15 am (Narthex) Confirmation 3:30pm (Sanctuary)	18 Communion Devotional 9:30 am & 5:30 pm (Sanctuary) Food Pantry 1:30 pm (Lower Level) Confirmation 6pm (Sanctuary) Handbells 7pm (Sanctuary) Adult C onfirmation 7:15pm (Fellowship Hall)	19	20	21 Communion Service 11 am (Sanctuary) <b>Scout Food Drive &amp; Pantry Work Day</b> 11:30am—4pm (Fellowship Hall)
22	<p>Communion Service 8 &amp; 10:30am (Sanctuary)            Adult Bible Class 9:15am (Sanctuary)            Youth/Sunday School 9:15am (Youth Room/Sunday School Wing)            Elder Visits 2pm  <b>PANTRY WORK DAY 9:30am—1pm; 5—8pm</b></p>	23 Financial Count (Team 1)	24 Men's Bible Study 7:15 am (Narthex) Confirmation 3:30pm (Sanctuary)	25 Communion Devotional 9:30 am & 5:30 pm (Sanctuary)	26 <b>THANKS-GIVING</b> Worship Service 9am (Sanctuary)	27	28 Communion Service 11 am (Sanctuary)
29	<p>Communion Service 8 &amp; 10:30am (Sanctuary)            Adult Bible Class 9:15am (Sanctuary)            Youth/Sunday School 9:15am (Youth Room/Sunday School Wing)            Community Outreach 2pm (meet in Narthex)</p>	30 Financial Count (Team 2)					

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 Dates, times, & locations subject to change. Additional activities may be added at a later date. For the most up-to-date calendar listing, go to: [stpauls-lcrms.org](http://stpauls-lcrms.org) then click on the "calendar" tab.  
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# December 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>*** Dates, times, &amp; locations subject to change. Additional activities may be added at a later date. For the most up-to-date calendar listing, go to: <a href="http://stpauls-lcms.org">stpauls-lcms.org</a> then click on the "calendar" tab. ***</p>		<p>1 Men's Bible Study 7:15am (Narthex) Confirmation 3:30pm (Sanctuary) Trustee Mtg 5:30pm (Narthex) Revitality 6:30pm (Narthex)</p>	<p>2 Advent Services 11am &amp; 6:30pm (Sanctuary) Food Pantry 1:30pm (Lower Level) Confirmation 6pm (Sanctuary) Handbells 7pm (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>3 Ladies League 11:30am (Fellowship Hall) Board of Ed. 6:30pm (Sunday School Room)</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 Communion Service 11am (Sanctuary)</p>
<p>6 Communion Service 8 &amp; 10:30am (Sanctuary) Adult Bible Class 9:15am (Sanctuary) Youth/Sunday School 9:15am (Youth Room/Sunday School Wing) Elder Visits 2pm</p>	<p>7 Financial Count (Team 3)</p>	<p>8 Men's Bible Study 7:15am (Narthex) Confirmation 3:30pm (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>9 Advent Services 11am &amp; 6:30pm (Sanctuary) Confirmation 6pm (Sanctuary) Handbells 7pm Sanctuary</p>	<p>10 Board of Stewardship 5:30pm (Fellowship Hall)</p>	<p>11 Adult Bible Study 6:30pm (Fellowship Hall) <b>Deadline for Jan/Feb 2021 Newsletter</b></p>	<p>12 Communion Service 11am (Sanctuary)</p>
<p>13 Communion Service 8 &amp; 10:30am (Sanctuary) Adult Bible Class 9:15am (Sanctuary) Youth/Sunday School 9:15am (Youth Room/Sunday School Wing) Elder Visits 2pm</p>	<p>14 Financial Count (Team 1)</p>	<p>15 Men's Bible Study 7:15am (Narthex) Confirmation 3:30pm (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>16 Advent Services 11am &amp; 6:30pm (Sanctuary) Food Pantry 1:30pm (Lower Level) Confirmation 6pm (Sanctuary) Handbells 7pm Sanctuary</p>	<p>17 Board of Comms 6:30pm (Narthex)</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 Communion Service 11am (Sanctuary)</p>
<p>20 Communion Service 8 &amp; 10:30am (Sanctuary) Adult Bible Class 9:15am (Sanctuary) Youth/Sunday School 9:15am (Youth Room/Sunday School Wing)</p>	<p>21 Financial Count (Team 2)</p>	<p>22 Board of Elders 6:30pm (Narthex)</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 Christmas Eve Services 4pm &amp; 6:30pm (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>25 Christmas Service w/ Communion 9am (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>26 Communion Service 11am (Sanctuary)</p>
<p>27 Communion Service 9am (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>28 Financial Count (Team 3)</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 New Year's Eve Service 5pm (Sanctuary) Financial Count (volunteers)</p>		

## St. Paul's Lutheran Church

227 N. Goodhaven Drive  
Columbia, IL 62236

Nonprofit Organization

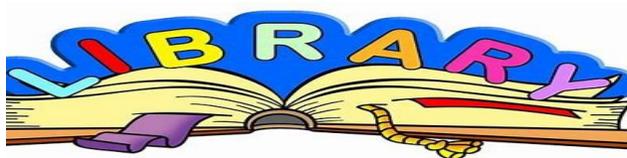
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### Coming Soon

The church's lending library is being relocated to the atrium to increase visibility and accessibility. Materials will be available for all ages in fiction and non-fiction — everything from Biblical commentary to cook books, you're sure to find something! Instructions for checking out/returning materials will be posted.

Interested in helping out? Questions?

Helen Nowak  
618.281.4875  
Or  
618.98.6549

