

## The Epistle October

2022

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Pastor Stephen Krenz 618-363-0121 DCI Intern Sam Wegner 920-530-8638

"but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect" -1 Peter 3:15

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On Thursday nights through the early part of November a group of 8-10 of us are meeting for a book study on C.S. Lewis's book "Mere Christianity". C.S. Lewis was a great 20<sup>th</sup> century defender and spreader of the faith. Having been an atheist, he is especially attuned to the "skeptical" audience when it comes to religion in general and Christianity in particular. Below are a few quotes from this book that I have found especially helpful. Enjoy!

"I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept his claim to be God. That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic — on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg — or else He would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon or you can fall at His feet and call him Lord and God, but let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to."

"A proud man is always looking down on things and people; and, of course, as long as you are looking down, you cannot see something that is above you."

"A silly idea is current that good people do not know what temptation means. This is an obvious lie.

Only those who try to resist temptation know how strong it is... A man who gives in to temptation after five

minutes simply does not know what it would have been like an hour later. That is why bad people, in one sense, know very little about badness. They have lived a sheltered life by always giving in."

"Do not waste time bothering whether you 'love' your neighbor; act as if you did. As soon as we do this we find one of the great secrets. When you are behaving as if you loved someone, you will presently come to love him."

#### Blessings in Christ, Pastor Krenz

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Mission Statement:
Our mission is to Proclaim Christ,
Teach Christ's Word
and Reflect Christ's Love to all!

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 227 Goodhaven Street, Columbia, IL 62236 618.281.4600 stpauls-lcms.org facebook.com/stpaulscolumbiail





Welcome Micah Aaron Essert to the body of Christ who received the blessings of baptism on September 18, 2022.



Newsletter Deadline is the third Monday of most months. Please send articles, photos, etc. to secretary@stpauls-lcms.org Thank you for your help!

October 17th

November 12th \*\*Early Deadline due to Holiday
December 12th \*\*Early Deadline due to Holiday

#### Something from Sam

In September, I had the pleasure of attending the Southern Illinois LWML Convention, where we spent a weekend discussing what it means to "Walk with Jesus".

As we walk through our days and our life, our Lord promises that He is always with us. This is a comforting



reminder as we walk through the winding path of life, filled with its ups and downs. Even though there may be trials along, Jesus gives us exactly what we need, caring for us always as His own dear children.

Along this path of life, there's another gift that God has given us too: the Church. None of us walk through this life alone, but in his Church, God has given us a community, brought together by the blood of Jesus. As we gather for worship, Bible study, and fellowship, we are able to share this gift of community with those around us, even as we simultaneously receive it from our neighbors. In this community, we hear the Gospel proclaimed, remember that we have been baptized into a holy family, and partake of the Lord's own body and blood. God uses these good gifts to strengthen us for the journey ahead. May we continue to walk with Jesus, sustained by His gifts, all our days!









The children are adjusting quickly to the new school year and meeting new friends. We would like to give thanks to the following for helping us get off to a great start!

- -Karen Mueller, Jaime Moeslein for helping clean the preschool room and toys in preparation of the new school year.
- -Marianne Mays for her never-ending time in keeping our playground and other outdoor areas around the church and preschool free of weeds and debris.
- -Thrivent members who have donated their Choice Dollars to the preschool.
- -The **Women's Ministry** group for their donations of the Happy Times Magazine Subscription to our preschool children.
- -Special thanks to **all who attended** the 30th-anniversary celebration of the preschool! It was wonderful to see so many familiar faces from the past as well as the present. Thanks to the **Board of Education** for helping to make it happen and to **Wanda Gross and Marilyn Snider** for helping to plan and coordinate the event. And, to **all who helped** in any way with the celebration, your efforts do not go unnoticed.
  - Thank you. Your help is very much appreciated. God Bless all of you. -Shelly Augustin



- Jacob and Rachel Have a Baby
  - Jacob Takes Care of Joseph
    - Baby Moses
    - Joshua and Jericho











#### LWML/LADIES LEAGUE

#### OCTOBER 2022

Our September meeting began with a devotion by Vice-President Nancy R. entitled "Healing Praise" in a colorful decorated fall setting. After lunch, we had our business meeting followed by our service project of bundling the personal care kits to be delivered to Lutheran World Relief. Thanks to congregation members who donated to make this a successful project!

We are continuing our "What's Your 80?" (anniversary of the LWML) by sending cards to congregation members who are over 80 (37) cards sent so far this year). We have delivered 800+ masks to Unity Lutheran School, and will deliver quilts and kits for Lutheran World Relief.

Thank you for the donations of school supplies for Christ our Savior Lutheran High School in Evansville, IL. They were delivered on September 17th at the SID convention.

Did you know that our Ladies League purchased the beautiful green "the time of the church" banners recently? In addition to helping with funerals, altar cloths, and flowers, we are always happy to serve our congregation.

Our Mail Box Member program continues to grow. We are excited to have nine members now! The members are receiving information via email, mail, or church mailbox which includes our meeting minutes, devotions from LWML, and a mite challenge calendar.

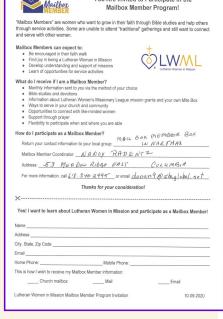
We will meet on October 6th beginning at 11:30 a.m. with a box lunch from The Abbey. If you have not requested a lunch and will be attending, please contact Rose Anne Bense. Marilyn S. and Wanda G. will set up decorations and drinks. You are always welcome to serve, meet, or visit with us! Call Wanda for more information at 618-281-4691.

**LWML News** We will be observing LWML Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022. We will have several displays, mite boxes, flowers on the altar, and be included in the church service. Thanksgiving for 80 years (1942-2022) of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League.

Dates to note: LWML CID/SID Joint Retreat at Camp CILICA in Central Illinois on 10/7-8. Registration closes on 9/23/22.

#### LWML Mission Statement

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



You Are Invited to Participate in the



#### OOPS for October 2022 OOPS – It's a Tree!

This month's OOPS comes from Ruth Nelson, who will head up the Grief Ministry Plan she recently proposed to our BOCO (Board of Christian Outreach) Noting that the feeling of loss weighs heavily on the hearts of those who have lost loved ones long after the funeral is over and the sympathy calls and cards have stopped coming, she plans to reach out to the newly bereaved in our church family in the following way:

- (1) A caring phone call several weeks after the funeral,
- (2) a request for a short home visit opportunity to bring them a special gift from St. Paul's, and
- (3) the gift of a sympathy card from The Arbor Day Foundation announcing that a tree will be planted by them in honor of the loved one of the bereaved.

Continuing to reach out in Christian love to those in our church family and friendship circles who have lost loved ones is not just a good suggestion. It's what the love of Jesus often calls us who love Jesus to do.

COME FLIER WITH US Outreach Challenge: The BOCO (Board of Christian Outreach) challenges St. Paul's leaders and able-bodied members to come out and FLIER WITH US from 2 to 3:30 p.m., Sunday, October 30, 2022 to distribute more than 600 fliers containing information on fall/winter worship/ fellowship events to homes and apartments in different areas. Our ambitious goal is 20 teams of 2 each delivering 30 fliers in their deployed area—no personal contact or witnessing. What a wonderful way to say to our community that the Sending Love and Hope Through Jesus message on our yards signs is one of our outreach missions! Please accept this challenge, sign up at church or call the office (618-281-4600), and dare to ask someone to be your teammate.

Just another "ah-ha" OOPS (Outreach Opportunity Praying Suggestion) from your Board of Christian Outreach.

#### A.C.C.T. Ministries Women's Residential Home Update:

Pastor Krenz and Amanda Douglas had a meeting with a newly formed vision committee to share more about the ministry concept while asking for input in the coming months, as the research phase continues. Prayers are appreciated as the mission and vision of the women's home continues to progress. For more information or if you have an interest to getting involved, feel free to contact Amanda Douglas 314-221-6700 or douglasfam07@gmail.com

-For Their Joy and His Glory, Amanda Douglas

The **WOMEN's Ministry** generally meets on the **third Monday of each month**. Please join us at 6.30 in the Fellowship Hall.

\*\*\*October's Meeting will be at 5:30 pm\*\*\* Decorating\*\*\*

**WOMEN'S MINISTRY** 

Our Food Pantry is open on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of every pantry month from 1:30-3:00pm. Call 281-4600 for assistance on all other days. The food pantry will be adding a food distribution day on Wednesday. Oct 12th from 4pm-6pm.



Comforts of Love Quilters—Tuesdays in the Fellowship Hall 9 am All are welcome! Join us!

We have SEW much fun! We always need material and non-white gueen sized sheets. Also needed. Embroidery Thread. Thank you for your support.

#### Save the Date

What? **An Evening With Katie Luther** 

Where? St. Paul's Fellowship Hall

Sunday, November 6, 2022, 5 pm When?

Free Will Offering Cost?

Please make your reservations soon. Watch the Weekly announcements for updates! A delicious meal will be served. Then Katie Luther will arrive to tell us about her experiences of life with her husband. Martin. You will be amazed!





ign Up on the chart by

Altar Flowers—always was beautiful addition to our the Church Mailboxes.







#### **Preschool Anniversary**

Last month, we celebrated 30 years of St. Paul's Lutheran Preschool. It was such a joy to gather together, share stories about the preschool over the years, and give thanks to God for this wonderful milestone! Over the years, the preschool has been a rich blessing to our congregation and to families in our community. A special thank you goes out to everyone who was able to make it, everyone who helped with the anniversary, and to all who have been a part of the preschool over the last three decades!

> Past/Current Preschool Staff & Alumni First Row - Brooke Quevreaux, Sam Schrader, Lennon Ottwell, Violet Schrader. Second Row - April Schrader, Dane Quevreaux, Mitchell Augustin, Shelly Augustin, Wanda Gross, Barbara Schmaltz, Tammy Roessler, Berit Ericson

























St. Paul's Pre-School 30th Anniversary Celebration



#### **Board of Education**

# **Iransformed by Jesus**

#### **Sunday School Update**

This month, Sunday School is wrapping up their unit which walks through the life of Paul, and will be starting back at the beginning of the Bible with the story of creation! The theme for the year has been how we are "Transformed by Jesus!" **Children in PreK - 7th grade** are all meeting together for Sunday School in the **Little Lambs room**.

#### Youth Bible Study

**Students in grades 8-12** are continuing to meet in the **Youth Room**. We are just beginning a new series looking at different emotions in the Psalms, and talking about how God is with us and how we follow Him, in everything we feel and experience!

#### **Adult Education**

There are a number of adult education opportunities happening in October that meet throughout the week!

On **Sunday morning**, Pastor will be teaching a Bible Study on Galatians.

At the same time, another study will be taught about people in the reformation and their writings, taught by Michael Ewert, Dan Thoelke, and Sam Wegner.

Throughout the week, men's and women's Bible studies continue to meet at 7:15am on Tuesdays (men) and 10am on Wednesdays (women).

Additionally, Pastor's study on the book Mere Christianity will continue through the month, meeting on Thursdays at 6:30pm.

### Youth Ministry Update

#### Paddle Boating (Rain Date)

The rain slowed us down in August, so the new date for Paddle Boating in Forest Park is Sunday, Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 2:30 – 5pm. All youth in grades 5-12 are invited to join us! Please meet us in the lower parking lot, and let Sam Wegner know if you plan to attend at <a href="mailto:crf">crf</a> wegnersm@cuchicago.edu</a> or (920) 530-8638.

#### **Youth Night**

On **Sunday**, **Oct 16th**, St. Paul's will be hosting a **Youth Night from 6:00-7:30pm**. It will be a fun evening of games, community, and learning about Jesus.

**All youth in grades 5-12** are invited to join us and bring a friend! Please contact Sam with questions.

#### **Bonfire & Hayride at Eckert's**

The youth group will be having an evening of fall fun at Eckert's Farm in Millstadt on Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, from 5:45pm – 9pm. The night includes a hayride, bonfire, s'mores, and time to explore the activities around the farm! All students in grades 5-12 are welcome to join us! The evening will cost \$5 per student, which should be given to the church office by Sunday, Oct 23<sup>rd</sup> to save your spot. Please contact Sam with any questions.



#### Galatians Bible Study:

Join us on Sunday morning (9:15am-10:15am)
October 16th to November 20th as we take a look at this Epistle which helps give us a clearer understanding of what it means to be justified by Grace.

#### The Reformation:

A second Sunday morning adult Bible Study led by our two seminarians and our DCE intern, will take place in one of the Sunday School rooms. They will discuss the writings and themes of the Lutheran Reformation, and what they mean for our faith today.

#### **Book of Romans:**

In depth Ladies Bible Study on Wednesdays w/ Nancy Radentz 10 am - 11 am. (Began on September 14th) All are welcome! Meeting in Fellowship Hall.



19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own,



<sup>20</sup> for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your <u>body</u>. -1 Corinthians 6:19-20

#### **Question: What about cremation?**

This is one of the most common questions that has come my way in my 27 years of ministry. While the practice is not inherently sinful, and not forbidden by the Lord, believers for centuries have used the burial of the body as an opportunity to express their Christian faith. God does not just care about our soul; He also cares for our body. Why? He created it, and through Jesus Christ He will one day resurrect it. On a very practical level it is very helpful to have a place where one can go to remember that this person existed. Scatterings one's ashes does not allow this to happen. A cross or Bible verse placed on the gravestone can provide a witness even in one's death of Christ's victory over death and everything that surrounds it. Again, Christ will resurrect the believer, whether cremated or not. However, for 95% of Christian history, the care and burial of the body gave the believer one last chance to declare that Jesus' love for body and soul, does not end when we breath our last and our hearts stop beating. A recent study on this topic from the Lutheran Church in Canada makes the following point...

From the time of the Patriarchs onward, God's people treated the human body with great dignity after death and conscientiously and faithfully established and maintained tombs for the dead. Conversely, being burned up with fire is most often associated scripturally with the judgement of God. Throughout her history, the Christian Church has not sanctioned or encouraged the practice of intentionally destroying the body after death. Following the Jewish burial practices, the human body has been consistently and reverently entombed; its return to dust has been left in the hands of the One who created it. (Cremation and the Christian, a 2011 report by the Lutheran Church of Canada)

If you have a question that you would like addressed by Pastor Krenz in future newsletter articles, please send it to <u>Pastork@splcolumbia.com</u>.



# Donations Toward the lift project

As part of the Voter's meeting proposal the congregational members are being asked to cover 10% of its costs through special donations. This means that between now and the Lift completion in November, we hope to raise 15,500. If you do make such a donation please make the check out to the congregation and mark "lift donation" in the memo.

Update-Lift Construction: Throughout October and into November a "Lift" from the first floor to the second is being installed near the staircase. Due to the demolition and installing of the "Lift", things will be a bit untidy in that section of the building.

#### Thinking ahead to 2023:

The stewardship committee is actively meeting to help members best utilize their time, talent, and treasure for the benefit of God's kingdom. With that in mind, prayerfully consider raising your regular contributions in the upcoming year, and consider becoming involved in a new ministry of the congregation and/or become more regular in attending the congregational worship services.

The	e Epistle 0	ctober.2022				
Saturday	1 Patricia Gruber Dean Lyon	8 Josh Colyer Neil Hunt Ken & Michelle Mathews 🎔	15 Courtney Elbrecht Judith Kellenberger Craig Story	22 Nancy Bennett Dennis Everding Brynlee Rule Heinrich Theiss	29 Ashlynn Magnuson	
Friday		7 Reed Greatting Tom & Sherry Smith	14 Stephanie Althoff-Lammert Adeline Chandler Terri Grohman	21 Robert Glaenzer	28 Ty Camp Rex & Carole Hancock ♥ Robert & Penny Rauh ♥	
Thursday		6 Terry Aldridge Gary Camp Michael & Denise Nowak 🎔	13 Kaitlyn Koenigstein Kevin Koenigstein Zachary Mathews Dan Schwartz	20 Cyndee Luther Mitch & Carol Essert	27	
Wednesday		5 Steve Howell Marthew & Jodi Foster ♥ Kent & Pam Haberl ♥	12 Ellen Heise Lyle Jahr Brett Luther Brooke Quevreaux Joe & Wanda Portell	19 Dale Ritter	26 Andrew Colyer Dallas Eytchison Jackie Haberl Mackenzie Offermann Jessica Womack Glenn & June Grebing	<b>♥</b> Anniversary
Tuesday		4 Keaton Schmitt	11 Denise Grider Karl Nowak Joe Rahn Derrick & Katie Rule ♥	18 Madeline Nowak Andrew Watts Toby & Gina Search ♥	25 Evelyn Gross	
Monday		3 Mike Zavadil	10 Ricky Gulin Mike Roediger Payton Roland	17 Lori Camp Anthony & Amanda Douglas ♥ Bill & Barb Goshen	24 Darby Boland Jeremy & Stephanie Duvall ♥	31 Dallas & Jana Eytchison 🖤
Sunday	<b>W</b> *	2 Diane Busch Matthew Louis	9 Tyler & Haley Herbeck ♥ Randy & Cynthia Hill ♥	16 Ray Bense Lloyd Dinkelman Brock Kleinschmidt Brittany Russell Alan & Michele Colbert ♥	23	30 Rebecca Byerley



S	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
***Dates, times, & locations subject to change. Additional activities my be added at a later date. For the most up-to-date calendar listing, go to: stpauls-lcms.org then click on the "calendar" tab. ***	ect to e o-date ı then						-	
2 LWML Sunday Divine Service 8 am (Sanctuary) Adult Bible Class 9:15 am Fellowship Hall Youth Bible Study 9:15 am Youth Rm Sunday School 9:15 am SS Wing Divine Service 10:30 am (Sanctuary) Adult Confirmation 4 pm		3 Financial Count (Team 2) Divine Service 6:30 pm District Conf	al Count 4 Men's Bible Study 7:15am (Narthex) Auilters 9 am Vice District Conference-Carlyle	5 Women's Bible Study w/N. Radentz 10 am Food Pantry Open 1:30 pm (Lower Level) Confirmation 6 pm Handbells 6:30 pm	6 Ladies League 11:30 am 4 pm Stewardship Mtg Board of Ed 6:30 Mere Christianity 6:30 7:30 pm Mary & Joseph	7 2 pm Bible Study @ Health Care	∞	
9 Divine Service 8 am (Sanctuary) Adult Bible Class 9:15 am Fellowship Hall Youth Bible Study 9:15 am Youth Rm Sunday School 9:15 am SS Wing Divine Service 10:30 am (Sanctuary) Adult Confirmation 4 pm	10 F (Teo 5:30 Boa Boa Outh Could be columble 204)	10 Financial Count (Team 3) 5:30 pm Board of Christian Outreach 6:30 pm 6:30 pm	11 Men's Bible Study 7:15 am (Narthes) Circuit Mtg 9am Quilters 9 am 5:15 pm Board of Trustees 5:30 pm Cemetery Board 6:30 pm Board of Elders	12 Women's Bible Study w/N. Radentz 10 am Reflections Memory Care Bible Stories 1 pm Food Pantry Open 4 - 6 pm	13 6:15 pm Daisy Scouts 6:30 pm Mere Christianity	14	15	
Divine Service 8 am (Sanctuary)  Adult Bible Class 9:15 am Fellowship Hall Youth Bible Study 9:15 am Youth Rm Sunday School 9:15 am SS Wing Divine Service 10:30 am (Sanctuary)  Adult Confirmation 4 pm Youth Night 6-7:30 pm	Visitw/DCE Supervisor Newsletter Articles Due	(Team 1)  (Team 1)  Divine Service 6:30 pm Women's Ministry 5:30 pm (Decorating)  Mary & Joseph Breakfast	18 Men's Bible Study 7:15 am (Narthex) Quilters 9 am 5:30 pm Youth Mtg 6:30 pm Church Council	19 Women's Bible Study w/N. Radentz 10 am Food Pantry Open 1:30 pm (Lower Level) Confirmation 6 pm Handbells 6:30 pm	20 9 am Newsletter Folders Pre-School Chapel 11:15 Stewardship 3pm 6:30 pm Mere Christianity	21 Integrity Worship 2 pm	22	The 1
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Adult Bible Class 9:15 am (Sanctuary) Adult Bible Class 9:15 am Fellowship Hall Youth Bible Study 9:15 am Youth Rm Sunday School 9:15 am SS Wing Divine Service 10:30 am (Sanctuary) Come Flier with Us Outreach 2-3:30 pm Adult Confirmation 4 pm		(Team 3)  Divine Service 6:30 pm  REFORMATION	TIONDAY					tober.2022



Nonprofit Organization
Bulk Mailing
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Columbia, Illinois
Permit No. 15

Sundays 8 am & 10:30 am

Mondays—6:30 pm





2022 LUTHERANS FOR LIFE
NATIONAL CONFERENCE – BLESSED FOR LIFE

October 21-22 | All day Friday until Saturday at noon. Rock Island, Illinois (Quad Cities)

#### **Speakers**

Melissa Ohden – Abortion Survivor, Jeanne Mancini – March for Life, Steve Deace – Blaze TV and Radio Host

Special Friday Night Banquet Music Wendysue Fluegge

#### **Conference Registration**

LFL Members: \$125 | Non-Members: \$150 Students: \$25 | Children 12 and under: FREE

# HELP SAVE LIVES IN THE SOUTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT

Learn more ...
get involved ...
and sign up for prayer
times by visiting a



campaign at the web address shown below!

Fairview Heights

https://coalitionlife.com/fairview-heights-adopt-a-day

