



The Epistle November 2023

Members and friends of St. Paul's

While the sermon and the Lord's Supper are key components of weekly worship, they only cover about half of the service. What is the point of the other half?

Virtually all aspects of the "other half" of worship are either direct quotes of Scripture, or closely related. Scriptural prayers of praise, confession, and lament are spoken responsively or sung in hymns. Romans 10:17 says that *"Faith comes by hearing and hearing through the Word of Christ."* That Word of Christ can be found in the three Scripture readings, which are read on a three-year cycle. The other half of the service also shows us God's expectations and it continually assures us of our salvation in Christ. We start out confessing our sin, and after hearing absolution we joyfully move forward, ready to hear the Word of God from three readings. After hearing these readings, we joyfully proclaim to God and others who He is in the Nicene or Apostles Creed. After, the sermon specific prayers are brought to the Divine throne, and we then move joyfully to receiving our Savior's very body and blood. After receiving this great gift, we soon depart hearing God's blessings in the Benediction.

Some years back an elderly lady came up to me and said that she heard little of the service, including my sermon, but nonetheless she came to receive God's blessing. This was a lady who knew, and treasured the other half of the service. Lord, help us do the same!

**Blessings,
Pastor Krenz**

"They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers" Acts 2:42

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Pastor Stephen Krenz	
618-363-0121	

November Sermon Series

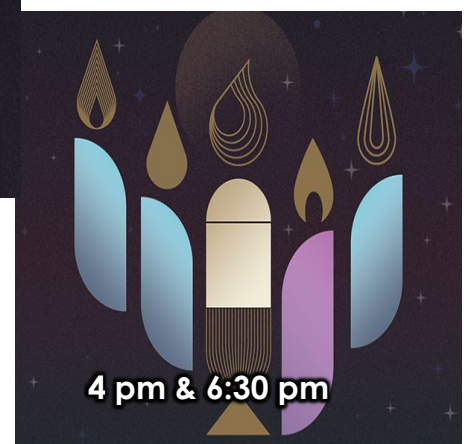
November 5th and 6th
"Surprising Blessings"
Matthew 5:1-12 (All Saints Day)

November 12th and 13th
"Watching Faithfully"
Matthew 25:1-13

November 19th and 20th
"Managing Faithfully"
Matthew 25:14-30

November 23rd
Thanksgiving Day

November 25th and 26th
"The Savior's Unlikely Presence"
Matthew 25:31-46



St. Paul's Lutheran Church Mission Statement:
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



Member Spotlight

Mark and Ellen Heise



Tell us about how you got connected to St. Paul's? How long have you been members?

We joined St. Paul's back in 1990 shortly after we were married and moved to Columbia. Mark transferred from Immanuel Lutheran in Waterloo and Ellen was Catholic, but eventually converted in 2007.

Mark remembers his first connection to St. Paul's when he met the Stechmesser and Jacobs families while working at numerous Camp Wartburg Wurstmarts & Chicken dinners as a youth.

Tell us about your family; what are your interests; what you enjoy doing outside of church?

We have two grown sons: Dan currently resides in Connecticut and is attending grad school and Mike lives here in Columbia and works for First National Bank in Millstadt. Ellen works from home for a Cancer Registry and Mark works as an architect for a company in Webster Groves. We enjoy travelling and especially visiting wineries. In her spare time, Ellen enjoys sewing and craft projects. Mark's interests involve music, such as playing trombone in the Bud Light Brigade and Waterloo Municipal Band and directing the Kaskaskia Trail Barbershop Chorus.

What do you like best about St. Paul's Lutheran Church?

We enjoy the people at St. Paul's!

What committees and groups have you been involved in over the years?

Ellen has been a past organizer of the Youth Group Rummage Sale and is currently involved in the Women's Ministry group and Mark has been a past Elder and was involved with the music team.

What Bible verses or hymns have influenced your faith life?

Romans 12:10 "Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves."

1 Thessalonians 5:11 "Therefore encourage one another to build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."

November 13th

(Early due to Holidays)

=Newsletter Deadline

Usually the 3rd Monday of most months.

Please send articles, photos, etc. to
secretary@stpauls-lcms.org

-Thank you for your help!

Official Acts of the Church

Baptism:

Layne Katherine
Kirmess,
October 14, 2023
✝

Funerals:

Stephen Toolen,
October 17, 2023
✝

Committals: (non members)

William L. Arras, October 13, 2023;
Marlene Scheickwardt, October 14, 2023



Nov 23rd Thanksgiving Thursday 9 am

Dec 3rd Sunday, 8 am & 10:30 am

Dec 4th Monday, 6:30 pm

Dec 6th Wednesday, Advent 4 pm & 6:30 pm

Dec 10th Sunday, 8 am & 10:30 am

Dec 11th Monday, 6:30 pm

Dec 13th Wednesday, Advent 4 pm & 6:30 pm

Dec 17th Sunday, 8 am & 10:30 am

(Children's Christmas Program at 10:30 Service)

Dec 18th Monday, 6:30 pm

Dec 20th Wednesday, Advent 4 pm & 6:30 pm

Dec 24th Christmas Eve, 3 pm & 6:30 pm

Dec 25th Christmas Day, Monday 9 am

Dec 31st Sunday, 8 am & 10:30 am

Jan 1st Monday, 6:30 pm



BREAKFAST WITH

Mary + Joseph



REGISTER YOUR FAMILY FOR BREAKFAST WITH MARY & JOSEPH

- All are welcome, but activities are targeted for students in PreK - 4th grade
- All children must be accompanied by an adult
- Come when you can & leave when you must. It will take about an hour for your family to explore everything in Bethlehem.

Come and enjoy a free continental style breakfast, crafts, music, and fellowship while celebrating the most important Christmas gift of all: our Savior, Jesus.

Meet Mary, Joseph, the Angel Gabriel, and others who will lead you through the account of Jesus' birth in Bethlehem.

Saturday, December 2 9 - 11 am

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
227 N. Goodhaven St., Columbia

Pre-Register by 11/27

stpauls-lcms.org or pick up registration form in Narthex

Contact the Church Office with any questions!
(618)281-4600 | secretary@stpauls-lcms.org



We were greeted by beautiful fall decorations on the tables and on the window sills and balloons as part of our devotion. Thanks to our hostesses for the desserts and table décor and Alice Jestus for the window decorations. A devotion was led by Nancy R.



"Uplifted for the Lord" which was followed by the common table prayer. We enjoyed the box lunches from The Abbey and the desserts.

After lunch, Pastor presented the topic "A Heresy Primer" for us. A business meeting followed. We will **meet again on November 2nd at 11:30 in the Fellowship Hall.** Barb R. and Wanda G. will be our hostesses, providing decorations, drinks, and desserts. Karen Mueller plans to tell us about her experiences at the LWML Convention (Milwaukee) this summer. A business meeting will follow which will also include planning the 2023 Service List (topics & hostesses).

LWML News (For our members and Mailbox Members)

1) The Metro South Zone board is planning a workshop for Unity Lutheran School at Zion, Belleville on October 28th from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm with breakfast at 8:00 a.m. We will be collecting school items for Unity Lutheran School. Please help us gather...

2) The Metro South Zone board will have a planning meeting here at St. Paul's on Nov. 9th at 10:30 am Pastor Krenz is planning a devotion.



Ladies League will host a special Sunday afternoon meeting to further engage our Mailbox Members.

This meeting is Sunday, November 5th from 2 to 4 pm.

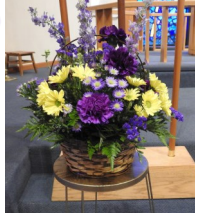
All Ladies League Members and anyone interested in joining our group are invited. Call Nancy Radentz at 618.340.2495 to RSVP—hoping to see you there!!!

You are welcome to join us at our meetings, events, service projects, or just to visit anytime. For more information, contact Wanda at 618-281-4691.

LWML/LADIES LEAGUE

LWML Mission Statement

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



In gathering for
Unity Lutheran School
pencils, glue sticks,
rulers, crayons,
colored pencils, markers,
scarfs, gloves, etc.

Collection box
for donations
Found in the Narthex.
We will assemble the kits
on **Oct. 28th**. Thank you
from the Ladies League
and the Metro South
Zone of LWML.



Comforts of Love Quilters-Tuesdays

Quilters meet
Tuesdays from 9 am
to 10:30 am. Please join us! We
have "sew" much fun!

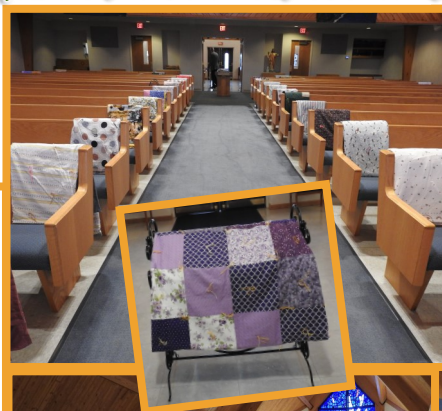
Thank you for all your support!

Wednesdays with Nancy, 10 am
studying the Gospel of Luke

WOMEN'S
BIBLE STUDY

WOMEN's Ministry

Generally meets
on the
third Monday of each
month. (November 20th) Please join
us at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall.



Thank you Quilters!
Such a beautiful display of some of your
handiwork for Missions!



OOPS – OOPS – TO DO BOTH!!!

Each November weekend you will find **door hangers** at church you can pick up to hang on the doors of friends and neighbors to invite them to bring their PK thru 4th graders to our **Saturday,**

December 2nd Breakfast with Mary and Joseph.

You are also invited to join with other St. Paul Outreach-ers at **2 p.m. on Sunday, November 12** to hang one of these Breakfast invitations on the door of every homeowner in the Gilmore Lakes subdivision. With all due respect to Shakespeare, **TO HANG ONE ON** or **NOT TO HANG ONE ON**—that is not the question your BOCO asks you to answer this month. We prayerfully ask you to consider doing **BOTH!**

Outreach Opportunity Suggestion



Order your Christmas poinsettias in Honor or Memory of loved ones by Wednesday, November 15th. Watch for Pink order forms in Narthex. Poinsettias will be \$7.50.

- 1 National Deep Fried Clams Day
- 1 National Vinegar Day
- 2 National Deviled Egg Day**
- 3 National Sandwich Day
- 4 National Candy Day
- 5 National Donut Day**
- 6 National Nachos Day
- 7 National Bittersweet Chocolate with Almonds Day
- 8 Cook Something Bold & Pungent Day
- 9 National Greek Yogurt Day
- 10 National Vanilla Cupcake Day
- 11 National Sundae Day
- 12 National Pizza with Everything Day
- 13 National Indian Pudding Day
- 14 National Guacamole Day
- 14 National Pickle Day
- 15 National Bundt Day
- 15 National Clean Out Your Refrigerator Day
- 16 National Fast Food Day
- 17 Homemade Bread Day**
- 17 National Baklava Day
- 18 National Vichyssoise Day
- 19 National Macchiato Day
- 20 National Peanut Butter Fudge Day**
- 21 Gingerbread Day**
- 22 National Cashew Day**
- 23 Eat a Cranberry Day**
- 24 THANKSGIVING**
- 25 National Parfait Day
- 26 National Cake Day
- 27 National Bavarian Cream Pie Day
- 28 National French Toast Day
- 29 Chocolates Day
- 29 National Lemon Cream Pie Day
- 30 National Mousse Day



FOOD
pantry

Current Pantry Needs:

Cereal, Holiday Baking Supplies

November Dates:

11/1 11/8 11/15

1st & 3rd Wednesdays - 1:30-3pm

2nd Wednesday - 4-6 pm

Thankful

**Call 281-4600
for assistance
on all other
days.**

Save the Date!

Saturday November 18 we will need all the help we can get picking up food, and sorting food from Scouting for Food. Stay tuned for details and sign up sheet. Lunch will be provided. We especially need several trucks on Saturday morning to haul food back to St. Paul's. Please let Carol Erickson know if you can help that day with a truck.



Adult Education

Tuesday Men's Bible Study

Meet w/ us at 7:15 am in the Narthex. All men welcome. We are studying the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel readings for the following Sunday.

Wednesday Women's Bible Study

Wednesdays with Nancy, 10 am studying the Gospel of Luke.

Fridays, once a month

It's Some of the PSALMS in 2023

Please contact Pastor Sievers (314-882-2097) or pastorsievers@yahoo.com.

We continue to study some of the Psalms in our first Friday of the month -Not Just for Couples Bible Study Group. *We will next meet Friday, November 10th at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Before class preparation is strongly encouraged. Adults of any age are welcome.

Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:15am

"What does the Bible Say about..."

A great blessing of being part of the Christian community is reflecting on God's Word together. Sunday Mornings, We are continuing our series where each week we will address a contemporary topic through the Biblical lens. We would love to have you join us as we cover the following topics.
November 5th: What the Bible Says about LGBTQ
November 12th: What the Bible Says about Witnessing
November 19th: Eve's Restoration Home
November 26th: TBD

Women's Wellness Home Presentation:

Sunday, November 19th during Bible Class at 10:15am come hear about Eve's Restoration Ministries!

Amanda Douglas, with the assistance of Pastor Krenz and many others, are in the process of forming "Eve's Restoration Home".

This residential home will assist in uniting mothers with their children in the foster care system.

Eve's Restoration Home will provide a safe environment for these mothers to work through their struggles. These struggles prevent them from properly caring for themselves and their children. This home will take a distinctly LCMS Lutheran faith-based approach to spiritual care, as well as help care for their physical and emotional needs.

Amanda will present the origin, mission, and vision of this future ministry.

If you are interested in hearing more, please feel free to join us!

2023 Youth Event Calendar

November 18th- SAVE THE DATE!

This is the weekend the local Boy Scouts will be collecting food and the sorting will take place in the Fellowship Hall, Volunteers needed!

November 19- The Colyer family will be hosting the High School Youth Life Night. More details to come!

November 26th- Youth tree decorating after the 10:30 service. Pizza will be provided for all of those attending.

December 10, 3-6PM

– Youth Group Christmas Caroling

See the full calendar at

<https://stpauls-lcms.org/youth.html>

New Playground Equipment

Reminder if you would like to donate to the purchase of the new playground equipment, please make your check payable to St Paul's, write "playground equipment" on the memo line, seal in a separate envelope labeled "playground equipment" and place in the offering box. We are attempting to raise \$10,000 as a congregation toward this project.

See Bulletin Board in Narthex to track fundraising progress. At this writing we have received approximately \$1500.



BRIGHT Night
Christmas Parade

Historic Main Street Columbia
Saturday, December 2 at 5:00PM

Bundle up and help us welcome this special holiday season!
Vote for your favorite float
5pm-7pm
Via QR code on the website and Facebook

Join us after the parade for more holiday cheer at
Turner Hall's Christmas Social

Calling all folks who like to sing!
Save the date:
Columbia lighted Christmas parade
Saturday, Dec 2, 5 pm.

A float is being planned & we need singers. All abilities welcome. Come join the fun! Sign up on the sheet in the Narthex. More info to follow.

HANDBELL CHOIR

—Inviting all past and prospective ringers to a new season of Handbell Choir, Wednesdays, 6:30 pm
Contact Mark Eischer for details.





November 2023 Preschool News

As we head into November, we will continue with our fall themes including nature and

all its beauty. We took the children on a nature scavenger hunt around the church grounds and marveled in God's beauty all around us. They collected leaves, acorns and pinecones to add to our science center for observing.

In November, we will have our annual Thanksgiving Feast for our students and their families. This is another opportunity for family involvement at the preschool. The children always look forward to this special day and they enjoy helping prepare the "feast" for our guests. As we celebrate Thanksgiving, we strive to help the children in various ways to recognize all that we have to be thankful for and to realize how very blessed we are.

We would like to give thanks to the following:

- ♥ Columbia Volunteer Fire Department for visiting our preschool during Fire Safety Week
- ♥ Thrivent members for the generous donations of their Choice Dollars to the Preschool.
- ♥ Rex and Carole Hancock for contributing to our "Donuts with Grownups" class fundraiser in October.

Happy Thanksgiving! Shelly Augustin, Director/Teacher

November Jesus Lessons

Samuel

David and Jonathan
The Angel Visits Mary
Jesus is Born

*Give Thanks to the Lord,
for He is good.
Psalm 107:1*





Cohabitation, what is the big deal?

Many of you reading this newsletter remember a time when living together prior to being married was called "living in sin". My how times have changed.

According to the pew research center 69% of Americans find cohabitation acceptable even if couples never get married. For those who are under the age of thirty this percentage increases to 78%. How are we to respond?

First, let us raise up the goodness and blessing of marriage. God created it (Genesis 2:24), and throughout the Bible He shows that sexual intimacy between couples is reserved for this relationship alone (Matthew 19:6, 1 Corinthians 6:9-10, Ephesians 5:3). Marriage is also the go to image of Christ's relationship to the church (Ephesians 5:25-27).

Second, the notion that "pretending to be married" gives a good insight to actual marriage is simply not the case Biblically, nor is it the case psychologically. Studies vary, but most that I have seen still say that divorce is a more likely outcome for couples who cohabit, versus those who do not cohabit (Psychology Today Post, January 27th, 2021).

Third, there are legal protections that marriage provides that cohabitating couples do not participate in. These include property and inheritance rights and medical rights should there be a serious medical difficulty.

Fourth, to refrain from cohabitation prior to marriage stands out in our culture, and that gives Christian couples and family members a chance to share why this honors Christ, and in the long run is best for their relationship. Next month, some approaches family members and friends might consider when addressing this issue with those who are presently cohabitating or considering it.



WURSTMARKT:

Sunday, November 12, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran in Red Bud

70th annual Wurstmarkt

It will be served in the school's old gym (808 South Main) Hosted by the Men's Club & assisted by their youth groups. Buffet style service will include pork sausage, mashed potatoes, sauerkraut, gravy, corn and green beans for either dine-in or carryout.

There will be a Country Meat Store of pork sausage, liver sausage, summer sausage, chops, backbone and ribs.

For advance orders of meat call Judy Guebert at 618/979-2206 and leave a message.

Gateway Ringers

Saturday, November 4, 2023 7:00 p.m.

St. Paul UCC, 127 St. Paul Street, Columbia

The Gateway Ringers is an auditioned community choir, comprised of handbell ringers from the St. Louis metropolitan area. Their mission is to inspire excellence in musicianship and heighten awareness of handbell music. The group was formed in the fall of 1995. Gateway performs using six octaves of Malmark handbells & six octaves of Malmark Choirchimes®. The group is organized as a not-for-profit organization, and auditions are held every two years. Join us and be enchanted by the melodies of the Gateway Ringers.

Boar's Head Festival

Thursday, November 30 - 7:30pm

Friday, December 1 - 7:30pm

Saturday, December 2 - 7:30pm

Sunday, December 3 - 2:30pm & 6:00pm

**FREE tickets available
beginning
Wednesday, November 1**



**Peace Lutheran Church,
737 Barracksview Road, St. Louis
314-892-5610**

**www.peaceboarshead.org
Free will offering will be accepted
at each service.**

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

The Epistle

November.2023



NOVEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 Jason Womack Nicholas Boland	6 Clay and Debra Dietz Roscoe and Michelle Magnuson William Kleinschmidt	7 Glenn Grebing	1 Danielle Ratley Jordan Starek Leslie Eckert	2 Brian and Karen Mueller Evan and Katherine Guebert Marie Maske	3 	4 Becky Wallace Joshua Brunkhorst and Betheny Grabner-Brunkhorst Michelle Mathews
12 Andrea Mastrantuono Doug Feldman Karl and Donna Nowak Nancy Mergelkamp	13 Chad Sackman Doug Stinemetz Jeremy Offermann	14 Brian and Sierra Russell Jamie Lyon Rick and Joydean Beatty	8 Brian Kremmel Jennifer Krick Kenneth and Judy Ostendorf	9 Ron and Mona Newton	10 Ray and Rose Anne Bense	11 Stefanie Newbill
19 Terry Woodcock	20 Chloe Collet Herbert and Margaret Simmons Paloma Niehaus	21 Jeremy Housewright Rich Rottnek	15 	16 Charles and Paige Farris Ken Mathews	17 Mary Clyde	18 Charles and Laura Ford Jill Blattner
			22 Hazel Herbeck Samantha Smith Scott Moeslein	23 Ethan Stumpf John Caldwell Stephanie Duvall	24 Cody Phelps	25 Bailee Williams Betheny Grabner-Brunkhorst Carl and Crista Bierman Haley Herbeck Keith Sackman Rick and Kim Butler Tammy Grueninger
26 Donald Snow Ronald and Dorothy Tomlinson	27 Cindy Troup Mark Eischer	28 Donna Frederick Kenneth Stevers Rachel Faries	29 Brittany Mitchell Leroy and Marilyn Kisro	30 Patrick Grandt		





St. Paul's Lutheran Church

227 N. Goodhaven Drive
Columbia, IL 62236

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The Epistle
November.2023

Sundays

@ 8 & 10:30 am

Mondays - 6:30 pm

BE
thankful
Worship with Us...

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227 Goodhaven Street
Columbia, IL 62236

618.281.4600 stpauls-lcms.org
facebook.com/stpaulscolumbiaill

