



NOVEMBER EPISTLE

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH, SCHOOL AND EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER (ECC)

NOVEMBER 2024



From the Early Childhood Center Director

Christine Flores

As we approach the busy holiday seasons, we are often caught up in the flurry of gatherings and events, school work, appointments, athletics, shopping and so much more. It can feel chaotic and overwhelming. In the midst of the flurry, I encourage us all to take a pointed moment where we take a beat and reflect on our many blessings. Let's make a conscious effort to set aside time to appreciate the many blessings often taken for granted; laughter shared in our classrooms, friendships blossoming on the playground, moments in worship together, the natural beauty surrounding

us daily at St. Paul's.

We are filled with gratitude for the many blessings that surround us. Each of you contributes to the culture of our church, school and early childhood center, making them places of love, growth and learning. We are thankful for the dedicated teachers, parents, pastors, staff, families and volunteers who invest their time and energy into our children and ministries. Your support creates a nurturing environment where we can thrive spiritually, academically and socially.

As we look forward, we invite you to consider how you might engage further with our St. Paul's family. There are numerous ways to support our church, school and early childhood center:

Volunteer Opportunities: Whether you have a few hours to spare or can commit to a regular schedule, your talents and time can make a significant difference. From helping in classrooms to organizing events, participating on a committee, every contribution counts. Stay up to date with publications from the school, church and ECC. There are several opportunities to get involved and grow relationships and faith.

Fundraising: The ECC is raising funds to support multiple renovation efforts, specifically on our playground and replacing the classroom flooring. Please keep an eye out for details on our 100 Envelope Challenge in November and our ECC Silent Auction in December.

Church attendance & prayers: Join us in worship. Saturdays at 5pm and Sundays at 8am & 10:30am.

Thank you for being an integral part of our community. Your involvement makes a profound difference in the lives of our children and in our community. Let's continue to uplift one another, work together and continue our mission of receiving and giving the love and hope of Christ.

God's blessings,
Christine Flores
ECC Center Director



Dispatches from The Office

Rev. Lance Armstrong O'Donnell, Senior Pastor

Christian Citizenship & the Purposes of Government

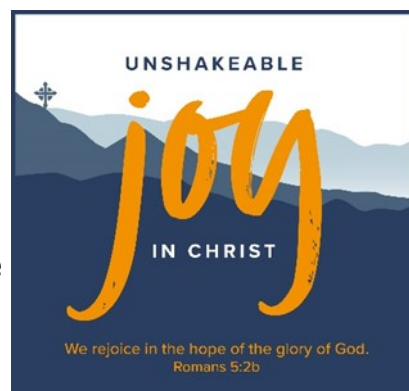
"13 Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, 14 or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. 15 For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. 16 Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. 17 Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor." (1 Peter 2:13–17, ESV)

Greetings in Christ,

As you may know, and as I reminded the congregation in my post-service announcements on October 19-20, 2024, my first adult job was running a state house of representatives campaign in Michigan. We worked really hard for months, many of us, and the election was decided BY ONE VOTE. One vote. One vote changed the course of public policy. *Your vote matters.*

Let me repeat that: *YOUR VOTE MATTERS.* And you certainly don't have to be ashamed to vote as a Christian. The guy who's a single-issue voter on land use issues isn't more important than you. The woman who's a single-issue voter on sexual freedom isn't more important than you. The rich men and women who spent millions of their own dollars and recruited money from outside the country to fund their political action committees that plastered our media with blasphemous, untrue, and misleading advertisements for the last few months are not more important than you.

Your vote counts, for when you step into that ballot box your vote counts just the same as Oprah Winfrey or Elon Musk or anyone else. We have a unique privilege in The United States of America, that we common people have a say in how we are governed. At the ballot box we get to hold our elected officials accountable and express our values. So, when you—as a Christian—enter that ballot box, remember what the Lord taught you about our world and your place in it, that you are made male or female in the image and likeness of God, that you have been redeemed by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and that you have a God-given responsibility to do your part in stewarding God's creation. Remember the basic teaching about government quoted above from 1 Peter 2. The fundamental purpose of government is twofold: punish evil and reward good.



Prepare for your voting task for each office with that in mind. Consider the people, and their policies. Whatever the office—and in many and various ways—our governments are to “punish those who do evil and praise those who do good.”

And remember that Jesus isn’t on the ballot. You’re voting for human beings who have sinful natures. The professing Christians have sinful natures, too. That means that we have to balance a number of factors. May God grant us wisdom as we do our duty. May God grant us faith and humility, and have mercy on us.

After the Elections


After the elections, we will—above all—“fear God.” (1 Pet 2.17) In the Church, come what may, we will “preach Christ crucified” (1 Cor 1.23) and encourage each other to use our God-given gifts in service of our neighbors. In so doing, we will—as Christians always have—strengthen our communities. *After the elections*, as before, we will also “honor those who govern” (1 Pet 2.17) in whatever office they may hold. We will expect them to “punish evil and reward good.” When they do what is right we will acknowledge it and thank God for it, and when they do what is wrong we will honor them by “speaking the truth in love.” (Eph 4.15)

Together let’s pray for peaceful and fair elections. Both before, during, and after the elections, let’s remember that Jesus is our Lord and that we live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, for He is risen from the dead, and lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

Yours in Christ,




Pastor Lance O'Donnell
Thursday of Pentecost 22
24 October, A.D. 2024



WORSHIP SERVICE TIME CHANGE

Due to the Oconomowoc Christmas Parade, our worship service on Saturday, December 7th, will be at 3pm. Please make a note of it.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

James Braatz
Barb Hentz
George Wisser
November 6th

Darryl Wickersham
November 8th

John Lindemann
November 11th

Dona Thurow
November 14th

Robert Buchta
November 15th

Chuck Laabs
Joanne Reimer
November 16th

Brenda Gibbons
Joan Emery
November 17th

Jim Fait
November 20th

Jim Duggan
Michael Majewski
November 22nd

Marilyn Sherman
November 23rd

Marlene Steinberg
November 25th

David Lang
Dan Maynard
Tim Rades
November 28th

Roger Fisher
November 29th

Mary Kummrow
November 30th

For our members 70+ years

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)

210 E. Pleasant Street
Oconomowoc, WI 53066-3050
262-567-5001

WORSHIP & STUDY

Saturday Worship	5:00 pm
Sunday Worship	8:00 am & 10:30 am
Bible Class	9:15 am

Pastor Lance Armstrong O'Donnell 262.567.5001 x217

Pastor Jason Schockman 262.567.5001 x216

Director of Parish Music, Allison Mackie 262.567.5001 x214

Principal - Jill George 262.567.5001 x213

Website: www.splco.org

LIVE BROADCASTS:

8:00 am Sunday Worship
Live on WTKM 104.9 FM/1540 AM
& www.wtkm.com
Live-streamed at www.splco.org

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER (ECC)

Christian Pre-School & Day Care
Director Christine Flores 262.567.4881

Epistle Editor-Heather Scheuer

Newsletter deadline for articles,
announcements and features is the
2nd Wednesday of the month

PLEASE ADVISE THE CHURCH OFFICE OF
ANY ADDRESS CHANGES

NOVEMBER 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 8:00 am Women of Joy Bible Study 9:00 am Funeral Planning Workshop 5:00 pm Divine Worship 8:30 pm AA Meeting
3 8:00 am Divine Worship 9:15 am Blood Pressure Screening 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Confirmation Class 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Worship 7:00 pm HS Youth Group	4 5:30 pm Lord's Cupboard Drive-Thru	5 6:00 pm LWML	6 6:30 pm Lutheran Basics	7 5:30 pm Ladies Aid 6:30 pm Church Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm Praise Team Rehearsal	8	9 7:30 am Journeymen 5:00 pm Divine Worship 8:30 pm AA Meeting
10 8:00 am Divine Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Confirmation Class 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Worship 5:30 pm Parent Partnership Work-shop 5:30 pm MS Youth Group 7:00 pm HS Youth Group	11 6:00 pm Lord's Lambs Giveaway	12 5:30 pm Board of Operations Mtg.	13 11:00 am Caring Through Sharing 6:30 pm Lutheran Basics	14 6:00 pm Board of Elders Mtg. 6:30 pm Church Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm Praise Team Rehearsal	15	16 8:00 am Women of Joy Bible Study 5:00 pm Divine Worship 8:30 pm AA Meeting
17 8:00 am Divine Worship 9:15 am Coffee Fellowship Hour 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Confirmation Class 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Worship 11:45 am Youth Deliver TFB's 5:00 pm Reformation Tap Society 7:00 pm HS Youth Group	18 5:30 pm Lord's Cupboard Drive-Thru & Meal	19	20 6:30 pm Lutheran Basics 7:30 pm Deer Hunters' Worship	21 1:00 pm New Member Sponsor Committee Mtg. 6:30 pm Church Choir Practice 7:30 pm Praise Team Rehearsal	22	23 7:30 am Journeymen 5:00 pm Divine Worship 8:30 pm AA Meeting
24 8:00 am Divine Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Confirmation Class 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Worship	25 NO SCHOOL 6:00 pm Lord's Lambs Giveaway	26 NO SCHOOL 6:30 pm Praise Team Rehearsal	27 NO SCHOOL 6:30 pm Thanksgiving Worship	28 NO SCHOOL OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 am Thanksgiving Worship	29 NO SCHOOL OFFICE CLOSED	30 8:00 am Decorate the church for Christmas 2:00 pm German Language Christmas Service 5:00 pm Divine Worship 8:30 pm AA Meeting



Lord's Cupboard

This holiday season, the Lord's Cupboard will be providing a Thanksgiving meal food bag and a Christmas meal food bag to those in need in our community.

We will be requesting Christmas gifts for our pantry families' children and to Shorehaven residents who may not have something under their tree on Christmas morning.

We anticipate that we will be helping more people than ever before, with the current economy.

THANKSGIVING MEAL FOOD BAG and CHRISTMAS MEAL FOOD BAG

Please support Thanksgiving and Christmas meal food bags with a \$15 gift card to Metro Market/Pick 'n Save or ALDI. Please put your gift card or a cash/check donation in an envelope marked **"Lord's Cupboard"** and place it in the offering plate or bring it to the church office **by November 12th**. You can also give a monetary donation online by going to www.splco.org, click on **"Donate"** button, scroll down to Lord's Cupboard. The list of food items which will be needed for the food bags will be in future bulletins. We appreciate your consideration of the donation of those items.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

The Christmas Caring Trees will be located in the Narthex and in the school entryway starting November 16th. This is where you will find the ornaments with the gift requests and this is also the place to return the wrapped gifts.



Green Ornaments— Gift cards (\$25 increments) to Walmart, Target, or Amazon will help 30+ seniors at Shorehaven and the families from our pantry who are most in need. Please put your gift card in an envelope marked **"Lord's Cupboard"** and place it in the offering plate or bring it to the church office **by December 9th**.



Red Ornaments— support the gifts asked for by families with children under the age of 18. Please put your wrapped gift under one of the **Christmas Caring Trees by December 9th**.

Your generosity helps us serve the people in our community, and we truly appreciate ALL your help in celebrating our Lord this holiday season.



A SPECIAL THANK YOU to everyone who participated in LWML Sunday. A door offering of \$1,230 was collected for current Mission Grants and 77 pillow case dresses and 80 quilts were sent to Orphan Grain Train, a project of the Lutheran Hour Ministries (Lutheran Laymen), the men's auxiliary of the LCMS.

It's not too early to plan for a Winter Getaway! SWD LWML will hold its weekend of fun and fellowship with guest speaker Rev. Michael Salemink, Executive Director of Lutherans for Life (LFL) .

Sessions include:

- ✝ Wonderfully made by God's Grace
- ✝ Wonderfully Made as Male & Female
- ✝ Wonderfully Made for Needing One Another

See the registration form on pg. 8 for details.

Gifts from the Heart for the SOS Center in Milwaukee are art supplies, Legos, calculators, paper plates, cups, cutlery, Ziploc bags (all sizes) 8 & 13 gal. garbage bags, paper towels, toilet paper, dish soap, Windex, 409, Mr. Clean & Pine Sol. For those unable to attend you may still donate items and place in bin in the Fellowship Hall.

Offering Recipients: $\frac{3}{4}$ for LFL, $\frac{1}{4}$ Female Church Work Scholarship Fund

LWML meets Tuesday, November 5th at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall (after you VOTE). Come join us!

SEPTEMBER MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Baptism

Comac Aaron, son of Aaron & Kaitlin Honadel

Elsie Mae, daughter of Christopher & Kristen (Marquardt) Flanagan

Reinstated

Lynn Pelnar

Baptized 1999 Confirmed 1211

Ladies Aid

Our next Ladies Aid meeting is just around the corner. Join us on Thursday, November 7th, at 5:30pm for an evening of fun, food, fellowship and some very useful information. Representatives from Shorehaven will be with us to let us know about senior living opportunities available to us. So, whether you're already a senior, soon to be a senior or know someone who's a senior, you'll want to attend this meeting. We hope to see you on the 7th and we'd love it if you brought a friend!



LWML South Wisconsin District

Winter Getaway

Jan. 31 & Feb. 1, 2025

Wintergreen Hotel & Conference Center
60 Gasser Road, Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965

Wonderfully Made

For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. ¹⁴ I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works (Psalm 139:13-14a).



REGISTRATION FORM

Retreat Registration:

- \$65/attendee (includes Saturday lunch).
- Check made payable to LWML SWD with memo line WG 2025.
- Deadline for registration is January 17.
- After January 17, registration refunds will be given only under extreme circumstances and at the discretion of the Winter Getaway Committee. No refunds will be given at the event.
- Mail check and registration form to:

Wendie Staus
6988 Lark Ave, Hartford, WI 53027
Phone: 262-673-6154 – Email: staushaus@gmail.com



Hotel Room Registration:

- Special LWML room rates (includes breakfast voucher):
 - Room rate for 2 guests is \$105 + taxes and fees; 3 guests is \$110 + taxes and fees; 4 guests is \$115 + taxes and fees.
 - This rate applies to double queen rooms, king with a couch or king whirlpool with sofa.
 - Additional night stays (includes breakfast voucher): Thursday evening for 2 guests - \$75 plus taxes and fees, Saturday evening for 2 guests - \$110 plus taxes and fees; additional \$5 per guest
- Call 800-648-4765 and press 1 for reservations and ask for LWML SWD when reserving
- Reservations must be made by January 2, 2025 to guarantee the special room rate.

Please print and cut. Return this lower portion with your registration fee.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Arrival Day: _____ Zone: _____

Home Congregation and City: _____

Emergency Contact: (name and phone number) _____

Age: ☐ 12-17 ☐ 18-24 ☐ 25-34 ☐ 35-44 ☐ 45-54 ☐ 55-64 ☐ 65-79 ☐ 80+

Interpreter for deaf/hard of hearing needed _____ Large print materials needed _____

Food allergies (circle): milk eggs shellfish tree nuts peanuts wheat soybeans other _____

I have read and agree to the LWML SWD participant information, Acknowledgement, Assumption of Risk (General and Covid 19), and Photo Release form as found on the LWML SWD website:

lwml-swd.org/events/retreat. Please check the line to acknowledge your understanding of the release.



FINAL VICTORY

Funeral Planning Workshop

Pastor Schockman will be leading a funeral planning workshop on Saturday, November 2nd, from 9am to noon. If you are interested in signing up, please contact Heather in the church office at heather@splco.org or 262.567.5001.

youth group

SCHEDULE

Piggly Wiggly Receipt fundraiser

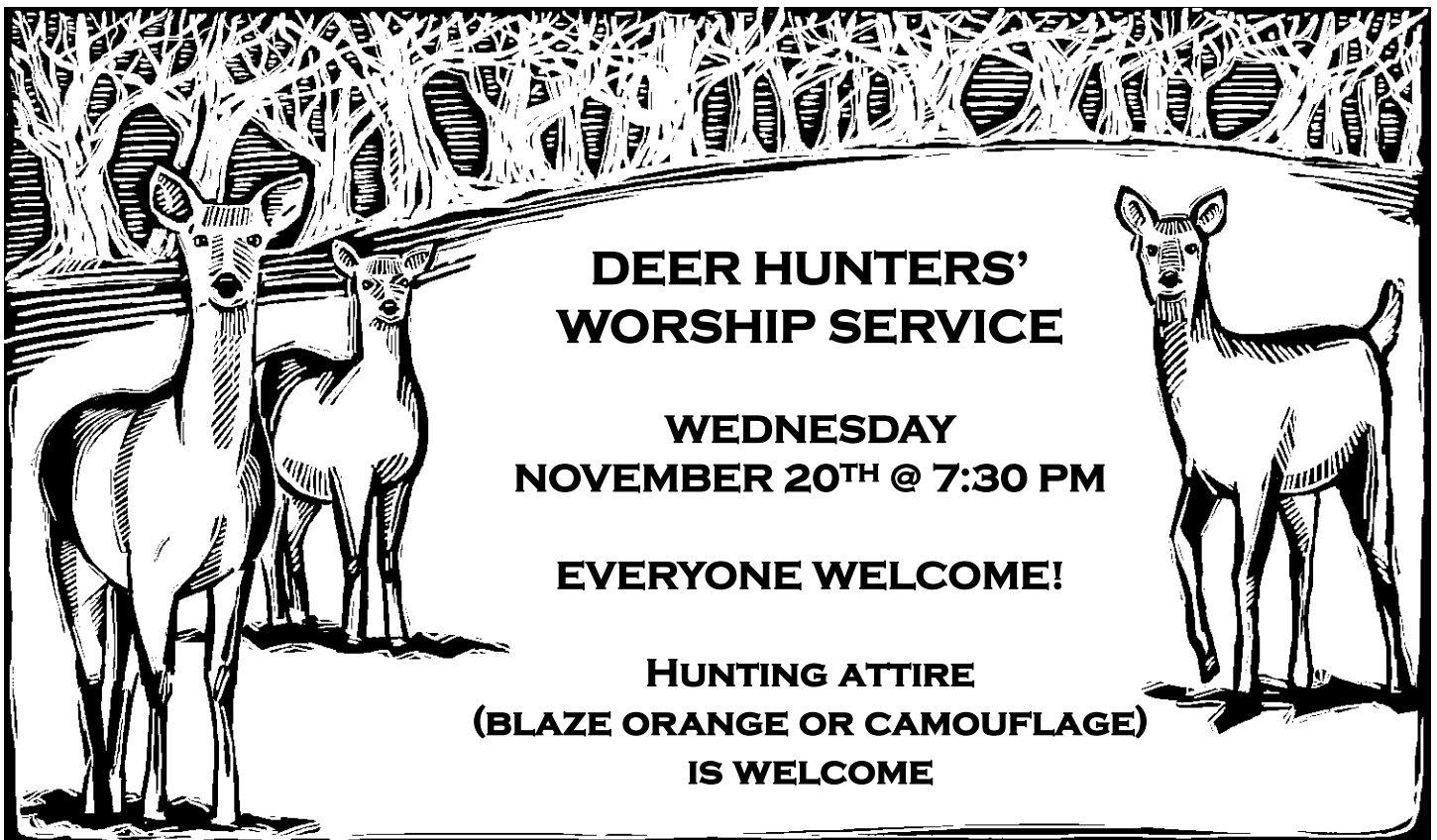
If you shop at Piggly Wiggly, please deposit your receipts in the designated box in Fellowship Hall. The money raised from your receipts helps to continue the programming for our youth.

Information about the MS & HS youth group is available through:

- Email: splyouth.group@splco.org
- Instagram: [splyouthocon](https://www.instagram.com/splyouthocon)

November Events

- | | |
|-------|--|
| 3 | HS (7:00-8:30pm), Room 219Y |
| 10 | MS (5:30-7:00 pm) & HS (7:00-8:30 pm), Room 219Y |
| 17 | Deliver Thanksgiving food bags after the 10:30am service |
| 17 | HS (7:00-8:30pm), Room 219Y |
| 24 | NO YOUTH GROUP |
| 29-30 | Help Journeymen w/ parking for German Christmas Market |
| 30 | Decorate church for Christmas (8am-1pm) |
| 30 | German Language Service at 2pm (Youth help as ushers) |



**DEER HUNTERS'
WORSHIP SERVICE**

**WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 20TH @ 7:30 PM**

EVERYONE WELCOME!

**HUNTING ATTIRE
(BLAZE ORANGE OR CAMOUFLAGE)
IS WELCOME**

St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, School & ECC
210 E. Pleasant St.
Oconomowoc, WI 53066-3050

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Phone: 262-567-5001
Website: www.splco.org

Receiving and Giving the Love
and Hope of Christ



REFORMATION TAP SOCIETY

Theology and conversation
with a bit of hops.

Reformation Tap Society talks are casual and thoughtful adult conversations about important things. The 2024-2025 RTS season explores many facets of grit and endurance under the theme “Unshakable Joy in Christ.” Though we welcome adults of any age, topics and language are aimed at those 18-35. Our speakers understand that RTS is a public event, so the conversation won't be raw, but our speakers are encouraged to practice candor geared towards adults. Parents of young ones should collaborate on a babysitter, then come and enjoy the beverages, food, and conversation. RTS is an opportunity to hear perspectives not regularly heard in popular culture. All are welcome.

RTS is held on the 3rd Sundays, September through May. We gather at 5 p.m., have a “beer talk” from the brewmaster at about 5:25, and at about 5:30 our speaker takes the mic. The speaker will present on a topic of interest, then take questions until 6:15 or so. (BTW, you're welcome even if you're not a beer fan. Other beverages are available.) For more information, visit <https://splco.org/church/reformation-tap-society/>.

November 17

How to Love Your Neighbor when You Disagree:
Politics, Theology, and Family in Community

Presenter: Todd Peperkorn

5-7p.m.

BrewFinity Brewery

N58W38900 Industrial Rd.

Suite D

Oconomowoc, WI 53066

First time guests
get a free
beer or soda on us!