

Receiving and giving the love and hope of Christ

Weekly Announcements

August 17, 2025



St. Paul's

OCONOMOWOC

splco.org

A member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

Worship Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Special services during Advent, Lent & Summer

210 E. Pleasant St., Oconomowoc, WI 53066 | 262-567-5001 | www.splco.org

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Calling ALL Children 4K-6th Grade

Sunday School starts on September 7th. Join us every Sunday for friends and fun (and sometimes food!) while learning how God loves you and is a part of your everyday life.

We encourage ALL St. Paul families (regardless of what school kids attend) to participate in Sunday School.

Sunday School begins September 7th, 2025

4K (must be potty-trained) – 6th Grade

9:15 – 10:15 am

Starts in school gym

Ends in the classroom (parents will be given classroom assignments)

Online registration:



You can also register by filling out this form and turning it in to the church office or by placing it in the offering plate.

CHILD'S NAME: _____

AGE: _____ GRADE: _____

PARENTS' NAMES: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

ALLERGIES: _____

ANYTHING ELSE WE NEED TO KNOW: _____

(Please place in the offering plate or turn in to the church office.)

Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost + Back to School Services: *Lead Me to Christ, the Rock*

August 17-24, 2025

Lead Me to Christ, the Rock

In their wandering toward the promised land, the people of Israel were thirsty, lost faith, and quarreled with Moses and with The LORD, who showed them his mighty and creative power by sending water from a rock (Num 20.1-13). As with all things in the Old Testament, this pointed to something to come. Centuries later, David penned Psalm 61, by which he and Israel were reminded who their rock really was. St. Paul knew it, too (1 Cor 10.1-4), as did the “little stone” among the Apostles, who made the good confession that Jesus is “. . . the Christ, the Son of the living God.” (Mt 16.16) Since Jesus is risen from the dead, the author of salvation, the living water and cornerstone of faith, the Church’s mission is to lead people to Christ, the Rock.

Order Meditation and Prayer

Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Christ-Centered Theme: Christ’s church has a mission to lead people to Christ, the Rock.

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: 2 Samuel 22:2-3 The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; The God of my strength, in whom I will trust, My shield and the horn of my salvation, My stronghold and my refuge; My Savior, You save me from violence

Psalm: Psalm 54 and/or the appointed daily psalms for General Psalms in Psalm Schedule **LSB, p. 304**

Catechism: *Table of Duties—What the Hearers Owe Their Pastors (first half): 1 Corinthians 9:14; Galatians 6:6-7; 1 Timothy 5:17-18*

What the Hearers Owe their Pastors The Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel. <div>1 Corinthians 9:14</div>	1 st grade+
Anyone who receives instructing in the word must share all good things with his instructor Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. <div>Galatians 6:6-7</div>	2 nd grade+
The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, “Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain,” and “The worker deserves his wages.” <div>1 Timothy 5:17-18</div>	3 rd grade+

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost + Back to School Services: *Lead Me to Christ, the Rock*

Day	Bible Stories for Families with Young Children	Readings for Adults & Older Children	
Sun.	The Lord Stops the Enemies: Judges 4-5	Psalm 19, 81, 113	Mt 16:13-19
Mon.	Gideon: Judges 6	Psalm 136, 97, 112	Ps 48:1-53:6
Tue.	A Sword for the Lord: Judges 7-8	Psalm 123, 30, 86	Ps 54:1-60:12
Wed.	Samson: Judges 14-15	Psalm 15, 48, 4	Ps 61:1-66:20
Thur.	The Lord Makes Samson Strong: Judges 15-16	Psalm 36, 80, 27	Ps 67:1-72:20
Fri.	Ruth Goes Home with Naomi: Ruth 1-2	Psalm 130, 32, 139	Ps 73:1-77:20
Sat.	Sunday’s Gospel Reading: Luke 22:24-30	Psalm 56, 100, 62	Ps 78:1-82:8

Prayers: *Collects for the Week, Daily Themes for Prayer, In Our Prayers at St. Paul’s*
 Merciful Lord, cleanse and defend Your Church by the sacrifice of Christ. United with Him in Holy Baptism, give us grace to receive with thanksgiving the fruits of His redeeming work and daily follow in His way; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lord's Cupboard food pantry date changes

- ✝ LC will NOT be open on Monday, August 18th, due to a school opening event.
- ✝ We will be open instead on Monday, August 25th, from 5:30-6:30pm. This is also a free meal night.
- ✝ LC will NOT be open on Monday, September 1st, because of Labor Day. We will be open instead on Monday, September 8th.
- ✝ We will be open as usual on Monday, September 15th. This is a free meal night.
- ✝ LC will be open on the first and third Monday of every month for the remainder of 2025.

Please share this with your family, friends and neighbors who could use a little extra help right now. Contact the office or email lordscupboard@splco.org with any questions or needs.

Thank you!

Garden abundance and Lord's Cupboard

Donations of your surplus garden vegetables will be welcomed by our LC guests when they are ready! Please drop off any of your extra vegetables in the kitchen for our distribution days and mark them for the Lord's Cupboard. Upcoming dates: 8/25, 9/6 (Senior Food Bags) and 9/8. Thank you for your prayers for the families that we serve and for our dedicated volunteers.



Now Hiring: Lead Teacher



St Paul's ECC is seeking a faith-filled, enthusiastic Lead Teacher to join our team.

Responsibilities include:

- Leading Bible-based lessons and activities
- Creating a safe, nurturing, and fun environment
- Partnering with parents to support spiritual growth

Ideal Candidate:

- Has experience working with children (ministry or teaching)
 - Is passionate about sharing God's Word
- Demonstrates strong leadership and communication skills

✉ **To apply or learn more, contact:**

Christine Flores - Center Director

262-567-4881

stpaulsecc@splco.org



To commemorate our 160th anniversary, we will be creating a new pictorial directory which will also include a history of the congregation, making this a wonderful keepsake. The dates have been set for photo sessions with Mortensen Photography as follows:

Sunday, September 14th from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Monday, September 15th from 4:00 – 8:00 pm

Tuesday, September 16th from 4:00 – 8:00 pm

These will all be held at St. Paul's in Room 202.

To get your preferred time slot, book now by registering through

this link: <http://mortensenphotocart.com/booking-calendar/st-pauls-church-directory-2664/>

If you cannot register online, please contact Cheryl Tesch at 920-285-3628 to assist with scheduling.

The directory will be a full-color 8x10 (roughly), and we will also have the directory available to view on St. Paul's website.

Packages of your family pictures will be available for purchase, but you are under no obligation to buy, and there will not be any pressure to do so during your photo session.

To help offset the cost of printing, if you are a business owner and would like to place an ad in the directory, the following ad sizes are available:

Full Page - \$400 8x10"

½ Page - \$250 8x5"

¼ Page - \$175 4x5"

1/8 Page - \$125 4x2.5"

Files submitted must be in a high-resolution format:
pdf, jpeg, png, or tiff.

You may also contribute in memory of a loved one, which will be listed on a page in the directory.

Please return this form to Cheryl Tesch by August 31, 2025 along with your payment to St. Paul's Pictorial Directory.

Company/Business Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Ad Size: _____

Memorial in memory of: _____ Amount: \$_____

If you have any questions, please direct them to Cheryl.tesch@splco.org, or by texting or calling 920-285-3628.

Daily Themes for Prayer

- Sunday:** *Pray for the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.*
- Monday:** *Pray for faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.*
- Tuesday:** *Pray for deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.*
- Wednesday:** *Pray for marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.*
- Thursday:** *Pray for the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deacons, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of Christ's body and blood.*
- Friday:** *Pray for the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.*
- Saturday:** *Pray for faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ's holy gifts.*

In Our Prayers this Week

Those sick or hospitalized: MEMBERS – Joyce Anderson; Sue Beles—broken kneecap; Phyllis Schuck—fractured foot; Carol Lenz; Catherine Weidler-Loney—cancer; Tammy Frazier—cancer; Bob Bratz; Ian McMillan; Joanne Kullman; Carol Fellin—cancer care; Jim Braatz; Ruth Polcha; Gary Flanagan; Virginia Meintz; Nancy Wolter; Don Meyer—cancer; Ann Duggan; Jim Duggan; Marilyn Marohn; Sally Eubanks; Dick Allen; Truman Seifert—acute myeloid leukemia; Carolyn Nagel—lung cancer; Don Schmitt; Karen Meyer—cancer; Stan Kuehl; Marian Faltersack; Michael Stollenwerk; Marilyn Runyard; Linda Leidel; Lucille Campbell—cancer treatment

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF MEMBERS – Those with cancer: Janice Mulvaney Krueger—lung cancer; Della—Diana Radtke's sister; Lauri; Steve Latino (Bruce & Mary Bojko's son-in-law)—pancreatic cancer; Dana—recent cancer diagnosis; Daniel (Bill Merten's brother); Curt Duchow (Dorothy's son)—mantle cell lymphoma; Rhonda—breast cancer; JoyAnn; Dan Faltersack—COPD; Jeff—stage four colon cancer; Jeff—non-Hodgkin's lymphoma; Missy (Sheila Ram's niece)—breast cancer; Dawn—lung cancer; Jim (Jackie Meyer's dad); Elizabeth—breast cancer; Kayla—thyroid cancer; Erin (Mileager)—Rayborn—Hodgkins Lymphoma; Mary Sprague—breast cancer; Kathy Berkbigler (Pat Borgman's cousin)—breast cancer Nancy—breast cancer

Other: Karen (Alfonso Flores’ mom); Beth Dowhen; Baby Quinn, born prematurely; Todd (Sandy Raben-Roger’s cousin) – blood clots; Jim Krueger (Lynn Pelnar’s brother); Dorothy–Alzheimer’s; Patricia Eberhardt (Chad’s mom); Brent (Barb Allwardt’s brother)–Alzheimer’s; Paul; Bob; George; Paul; Liz Peronto (Barb Allwardt’s sister); Doug–CCL; Scott Kleist (Jim & Ann Duggan’s son)–MS; Paul Fellin

Those serving in the military-deployed: Trevor Thiel–Alaska (Fort JBER); Joe; Sam Duggan; Justin Michener; Zach Howard; Theresa; Phil Preston; Casey, Phil, Andy & Steve Koth; Luke; Jacob; Brian; Randy; Kyle; Jake; Jeff; Matt; Brad; Ben; Mike & Rob

Those serving God as missionaries: Rev. Shauen & Krista Trump and family; Dennis Denow (Thailand), Bob & Chris Prouty (Australia), Pastor Reinke (Deaf Ministry), Rev. Bud Palmer; Rev. Ted Krey, Deaconess, Tirzah Krey in the Dominican Republic; all seminary students in the Dominican Republic, and all other pastors and missionaries in Latin America

Those in need: Our Shut-Ins; Sam—a young man struggling to make good choices; those struggling with addiction; Jennifer; Brian; David

Anniversaries: Mark & Sue Baganz – 60th – August 22nd
Chip & Sue Zastrow – 55th – August 22nd

Public Reception of New Members: Larry & Bonnie Vasatko
Adriana Fischer and daughter, Ellawyn Manvilla

Lord’s Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism
Hymn of the Week: My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

LSB 575

Looking forward to St. Bartholomew, Apostle **August 24, 2025**
Hymns: 655, 583 (628, 688, 857) 644

St. Bartholomew, Apostle (Pastor Schockman)

Skinned alive! That, according to tradition, is how Bartholomew (called Nathanael in John) was martyred. Christ’s preachers are not to be great lords, but servants who faithfully stay with Christ in His trials (Luke 22:24–30). They are “*jars of clay*”; the Savior they preach is the “*surpassing power*” (2 Cor. 4:7). Christ’s servants are “*afflicted in every way,*” “*always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested*” there (2 Cor. 4:8–10). We bear sufferings not leaning “*on [our] own understanding,*” but trusting in the Lord (Prov. 3:5–7). Life will be manifested in our bodies, too, when the Lord brings “*healing to [our] flesh and refreshment to [our] bones*” in the resurrection (Prov. 3:8). For this reason, Bartholomew is often depicted holding his flayed skin. He will have need of it on the Last Day — at least for sizing.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

WEDNESDAY August 20	Summer Lakeside Worship	Backyard	6:30 pm
THURSDAY August 21	Deborah Gibbs/Ryan Selner Rehearsal Praise Team Rehearsal	Church Church	5:00 pm 6:30 pm
FRIDAY August 22	Deborah Gibbs/Ryan Selner Wedding	Church	2:00 pm
SATURDAY August 23	Women of Joy Divine Worship AA Meeting	Whelan's Church Fellowship Hall	8:00 am 5:00 pm 8:30 pm
SUNDAY August 24	Divine Worship Life Application Bible Study Summer Sunday School Divine Worship	Church Fellowship Hall Meet in Gym Church	8:00 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am

BIBLE STUDIES

Life Application Bible Study

Sunday: 9:15 am - Fellowship Hall

262-567-5001

Sunday School

Sunday: 9:15 am – Meet in Gym

August 10, 2025

Creation 3 & 4

Close of the Commandments

Women of Joy

Saturday (1st & 3rd) - 8:00 am

Whelan's

Journeyman

Saturday (2nd & 4th) - 7:30 am

Maxim's

NEXT WEEKEND

	5:00 PM	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
Readings	Prov 3.1-8	2 Cor 4.7-10	Lk 22.24-30
Altar Guild	Michelle Wilson	Amber Butler Sue Thelen	Stacey Balistreri
Elders	Rick Zastrow	Neil Anderson	Jerad Luedtke
Greeters	Char Binney	David & Bonnie Schliewe Rick Zastrow	Tom & Denise Showen
Live-Stream	N/A	Edwards	N/A
Radio	N/A	Cheryl Tesch	N/A
Ushering Team	Rick Zastrow	Neil Anderson	Jerad Luedtke

AUGUST 24, 2025

ST. BARTHOLOMEW, APOSTLE

Pastor: Jason A. Schockman

Theme: *St. Bartholomew, Apostle*

5pm & 8am Worship

LSB, Divine Service, Setting 1, pg. 151

10:30am Worship

Special Order

ATTENDANCE COST

Costs include room fees, breakfast on Saturday and Sunday, and dinner on Saturday. Register by September 30th for early bird pricing!

Standard Room: \$440/ couple

Early Bird: \$415/couple

Suite: \$480/couple

Early Bird: \$455/couple

REGISTRATION

To register, please notify Heather Scheuer at heather@splco.org or by stopping in the office. Payment can be made online through the donation portal (use the "Marriage Retreat" line to submit your payment) or by paying in the office.

Registration is not finalized without both notifying Heather or registering online AND submitting payment.

SCAN TO REGISTER ONLINE



THE OSTHOFF RESORT



St. Paul's Marriage Retreat has been held at the Osthoff Resort for the last decade, and we are happy to be returning again this November for fellowship, enrichment, and fun!

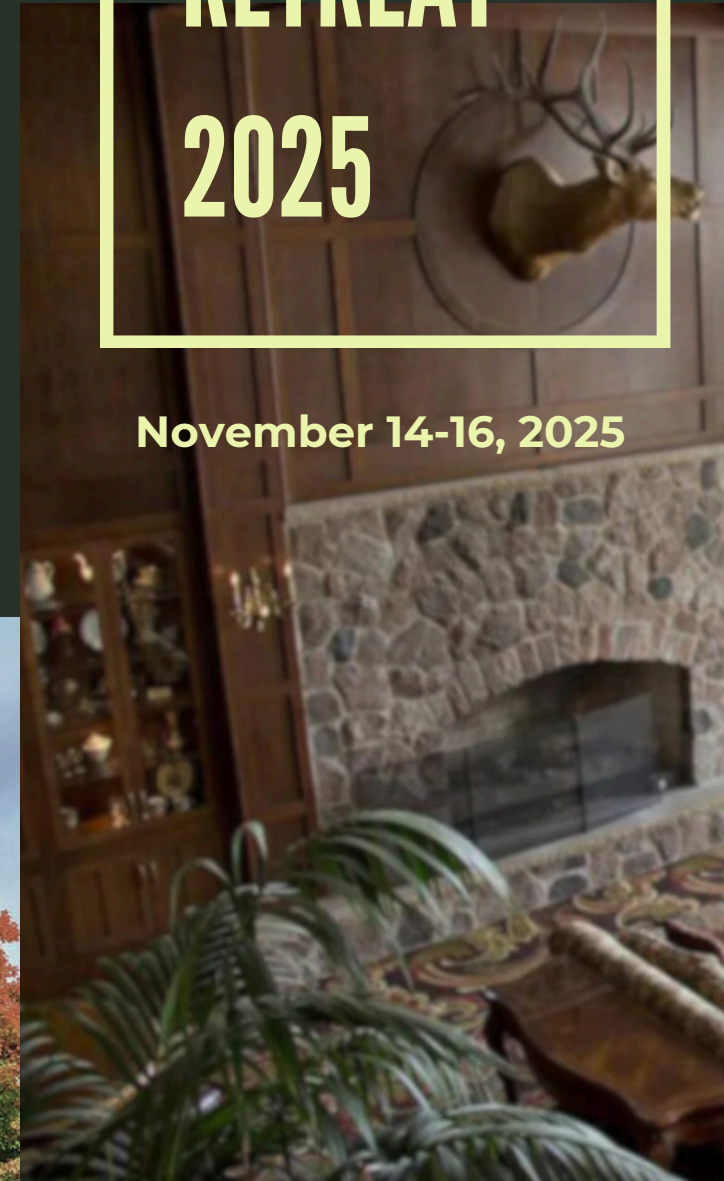
101 Osthoff Ave.,
Elkhart Lake, WI
(855) 876-3399

www.osthoff.com



MARRIAGE RETREAT 2025

November 14-16, 2025



COME TO THE DANCE:

FOLLOWING CHRIST'S LEAD IN MARRIAGE AND IN LIFE

"... a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance."

Ecclesiastes 3:4 ESV



WHAT'S IT ABOUT?

Back and forth, giving and receiving, helping and being helped. In many ways, married life is one long dance. What are the steps? How do I learn to trust my partner? When are the slow parts and the fast parts? How can I get ready for what comes next? In this retreat, Dr. Todd and Kathryn Peperkorn will take us through the Scriptures, through the lives of some famous couples, and will use the story of dance to teach us about what it means to be husband and wife on the dance floor.

ABOUT THE PRESENTERS

Todd and Kathryn Peperkorn have been married for thirty years, and have four (mostly) adult children. Todd serves as a professor at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana, where he teaches classes in preaching, pastoral counseling, and pastoral theology. He has also served as a pastor in northern California and in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Kathryn has been a teacher for thirty-two years, ranging from preschool up through college and adult students. She currently teaches music at Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran School in Fort Wayne. She also plays the title role in the one-woman opera, Katie Luther.



ST. PAUL'S STAFF

Rev. Lance Armstrong O'Donnell, Senior Pastor
Allison Mackie, Director of Parish Music
Jill George, Principal

Rev. Jason Schockman, Associate Pastor
Christine Flores, ECC Director

Summer Office Hours: 8:00 am – 2:00 pm (Monday-Friday)

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost + Back to School

Old Testament Reading: Numbers 20:1–13

And the people of Israel, the whole congregation, came into the wilderness of Zin in the first month, and the people stayed in Kadesh. And Miriam died there and was buried there.

Now there was no water for the congregation. And they assembled themselves together against Moses and against Aaron. And the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Would that we had perished when our brothers perished before the Lord! Why have you brought the assembly of the Lord into this wilderness, that we should die here, both we and our cattle? And why have you made us come up out of Egypt to bring us to this evil place? It is no place for grain or figs or vines or pomegranates, and there is no water to drink." Then Moses and Aaron went from the presence of the assembly to the entrance of the tent of meeting and fell on their faces. And the glory of the Lord appeared to them, and the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "Take the staff, and assemble the congregation, you and Aaron your brother, and tell the rock before their eyes to yield its water. So you shall bring water out of the rock for them and give drink to the congregation and their cattle." And Moses took the staff from before the Lord, as he commanded him.

Then Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock, and he said to them, "Hear now, you rebels: shall we bring water for you out of this rock?" And Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock with his staff twice, and water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their livestock. And the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not believe in me, to uphold me as holy in the eyes of the people of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land that I have given them." These are the waters of Meribah, where the people of Israel quarreled with the Lord, and through them he showed himself holy.

Psalm 61:1-3 (chanted responsively)



Hear my cry, | O God,*
listen | to my prayer;
from the end of the earth I call to you
when my | heart is faint.*
Lead me to the rock
that is high- | er than I,
for you have been my | refuge,*
a strong tower against the | enemy.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 10:1–4

I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 16:13–19

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

August 10, 2025



St. Paul's

LUTHERAN CHURCH

A member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

Receiving and giving the love and hope of Christ



Worship Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Special services during Advent, Lent & Summer

210 E. Pleasant St., Oconomowoc, WI 53066

262-567-5001

www.splco.org

Welcome to St. Paul’s Lutheran Church,
School, & Early Childhood Center

- + Please fill out an attendance card and place it in the offering plate.
- + As the prelude begins, worshipers are encouraged to conclude conversation and quietly prepare for worship.

GUEST INFORMATION

Welcome! We’re delighted that you’ve joined us for worship.

If you have questions, or would like more information about St. Paul’s, a greeter, elder, or pastor will be happy to help you.

Please fill out an attendance card, located on the pew in front of you, and place it in the offering plate.

We welcome young children to the service. Try sitting closer to the front by a side aisle. There are activity bags located behind the back pews, and a simulcast downstairs if necessary.

HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord’s Supper is not a private meal, but a body-and-soul communion with Christ and His body, the Church. In keeping with the Lord’s instruction (cf. 1 Corinthians 11.17-34) and with the common historical practice of the church, St. Paul’s welcomes only those who are in full confessional agreement to receive the Body and Blood of Christ. If you hold a confession differing from The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod or are not yet confirmed in our confession of faith, we welcome you to come forward for a blessing (Please indicate by folding your hands over your heart.). If you are physically unable to come forward, please let an usher know and the pastor will come to you and give you communion. Those communing should mark this on the attendance card. If you have questions, our pastors will be pleased to speak with you.

Distribution and Communion Wine

Please place open hands out to receive the Body of Christ and also to indicate whether you are receiving the Blood of Christ from the common cup or the individual cup. The wine glasses in the center of each tray contain **one drop** of communion wine. The glasses that contain more wine are dark in color.

LAST WEEK’S ATTENDANCE

5:00 pm – 43

8:00 am – 105

10:30 am – 103

Wed. – 38

Total: 289

Scan the QR code and give electronically. This is a safe and easy way to offer your gifts to God.



THOSE SERVING THIS WEEKEND

	5pm	8am	10:30am
Liturgist	Ps. Schockman	Ps. Schockman	Ps. Schockman
Preacher	Ps. O’Donnell	Ps. O’Donnell	Ps. O’Donnell
Musicians	Allison Mackie	Allison Mackie	Praise Team
Altar Guild	Jamie Stache	Barb Hentz	Karen Gotthardt
Elders	Arno Kirchenwitz	Dan Eifert	Tom Showen
Greeters	Margie Hertnek Roxie Gerlach	Chris & Pam Kroupa Dutch & Lynda Holland	Al Mueller
Live Stream	N/A	Edwards	N/A
Radio	N/A	Chuck Muecke	N/A
Ushering Team	Gary Flanagan	Dan Friedrich	Tom Showen

Radio Broadcast: Sponsored by Mark & Sue Baganz in praise to God for their 60th wedding anniversary on August 22nd

ST. PAUL’S MEDIA

- + Radio: *LIVE* Sunday at 8am on WTKM (104.9 FM)
- + YouTube: *LIVE* Sundays at 8am (stpaulsev.lutheranchurch7279)
- + Web: Anytime at www.splco.org or YouTube

DIVINE SERVICE

Lutheran Service Book
Setting 1, pg. 151

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Lead Me to Christ, the Rock

by Rev. Lance Armstrong O'Donnell, Senior Pastor
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Oconomowoc, Wisconsin

The 10th Sunday after Pentecost + Back to School Services
17 August, A.D. 2025
Num 20.1-13; Ps 61.2; 1 Cor 10.1-4; Mt 16.13-19

Introduction

. . . Now, I say that whatever you set your heart on and put your trust in is truly your god. . .

A god means that from which we are to expect all good and in which we are to take refuge in all distress. So, to have a God is nothing other than trusting and believing Him with the heart. ~~I have often said that~~ the confidence and faith of the heart alone make both God and an idol.

³ If your faith and trust is right, then your god is also true. On the other hand, if your trust is false and wrong, then you do not have the true God. For these two belong together, faith and God [Hebrews 11:6]

(Luther's *Large Catechism*. McCain, ed., *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions* (St. Louis, MO: CPH, 2005), 359.)

What are some highly questionable things upon which to build the house of one's life?

What is a truly solid foundation for life?

CCT: Christ's church has a mission to lead people to _____ Christ, the Rock.

I. Confessing Christ, The Rock

"Hear my cry, O God, listen to my prayer; from the end of the earth I call to you when my heart is faint. Lead me to the rock that is higher than I, for you have been my refuge, a strong tower against the enemy." (Psalm 61:1-3, ESV)

"For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ." (1 Corinthians 10:1-4, ESV)

Why is Christ the truly solid foundation? (See Mt 16.15-16; Lev 17.11; Jn 1.4; Jn 4.10; Lk 24.44-48)

II. Christ the Rock and the Lutheran School

Why does St. Paul's exist? (See above Scriptures)

What is a "confessional Lutheran congregation"?
What is the role of Scripture in such a congregation?

Why does St. Paul's have "U.A.C." above the entrance? Why is that so dear to us?

Lutherans believe that "where there is forgiveness of _____, there is also life and salvation." Thus, confessionally rigorous Lutherans have an absolute, unrelenting focus on Christ's _____ of forgiveness, and the means by which He promises to deliver that forgiveness; that is, by _____ and Sacrament.

Conclusion