NOVEMBER EPISTLE

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

NOVEMBER 2026



Lectures in Church Music and "Sing, Pray, and Keep His Ways" Synodical Initiative Updates

Allison DeWitt, Director of Parish Music

In October I was blessed to be able to attend Lectures in Church Music at Concordia University Chicago. This is a yearly gathering of church musicians, where we are able to hear speakers, attend breakout sessions, sing together, and discuss and learn from each other.

Worship is a highlight of every church music conference. Although we all serve in congregations of varying sizes, serve different populations, and live in different areas, we all come together to sing the same song. Our plenary speaker, Bishop Dien Ashley Taylor, was able to weave together the words of hymns as he told us stories of what the song of the church has meant to some of his parishioners. It was beautiful to listen to everyone at the conference join in harmony as Bishop Taylor sang.

I stayed two days after the conference to meet with members of other congregations in our "Sing, Pray, and Keep His Ways" cohort. We discussed progress on our pilot projects and how we have been using them to pass on the Church's song to the next generation.

It was fascinating to hear about the other congregations' projects. Several are focused on building robust acolyte and altar guild programs. A number are focused on equipping parents with devotional materials for the home that link to public worship. A few are developing mentorship or "pew grandparent" programs to intentionally connect families with young children to families who will be able to support parents during the worship service.

As we continue to develop resources in our congregations, we look towards bringing the next group of congregations into the project. These congregations will test and refine the resources we have already started developing. We also look forward to the worship institute next summer where many of us will discuss our projects and what we have been developing.

Stay tuned to hear more information about this initiative and how you can help as we strive to encourage children to be full members of the church!

In Christ,

Allison DeWitt



Dispatches from The Office

Rev. Lance Armstrong O'Donnell, Senior Pastor

Ten Years of Marriage Retreats, Thank God!

"... But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."" (Joshua 24:15d, ESV)

Dear Friends in Christ,

Ten years ago, from November 11-13, 2016, after a year of planning by our Marriage Ministry Team, we hosted the first Biblical Marriage Retreat of this era on the subject, "Love, Respect, and Forgiveness." This year twenty-eight couples will gather for our 11th retreat, "As for Me and My House: Stewardship of the Gospel in Our Families." I wanted to pause and thank God for the privilege of being a part of this, so I looked up the retreat evaluations from 2016. Here are just a few of the responses:

- "Outstanding. Inspiring. Great fellowship with very loving people."
- "Very good. Not as scary as I thought it would be."
- "This was my first time at an event like this and didn't know what to expect. It was a wonderful and great learning experience at a crucial time in our lives."
- "The retreat allowed us to focus on our strengths and weaknesses as individuals and as a couple in a safe, Christ-centered environment."
- "I needed this. This opened a line of communication that wasn't there before and led to some confession and a lot of forgiveness."
- "This was a very positive experience. I appreciated the blend of "lecture", small group and couple discussion time balanced with social opportunities and free time. I liked the mix of age ranges and experience among participants."
- "So positive and enriching. This was not only Christ centered and scripture focused, but gave us the opportunity to draw on the experiences and strengths of all those attending. It also gave each couple a chance to spend some quality time together for growth, reaffirmation and fun!"
- "It was a great experience. Probably saved my marriage."

Please pray for the retreat participants, that this year's retreat may be what—by God's grace—it has been since the beginning: quality time together for growth in Christ, reaffirmation of our relationship with Christ and with one another, and fun as couples and as a group. And mark your calendars for next year. Our 2027 retreat is scheduled for November 12-14, 2027.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Lance O'Donnell
Tuesday of Pentecost 21
20 October, A.D. 2026



Lord's Cupboard Food Pantry

This holiday season, the Lord's Cupboard will be providing a **Thanksgiving meal food bag** and a **Christmas meal food bag** to our neighbors who are food insecure in our community.

We will be requesting **Christmas gifts and gift cards** for our pantry families with children and for 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.

This is how you can help:

1.) Purchase gift cards to Metro Market or Aldi ($15 increments) for the holiday food bags

2.) Purchase gift cards ($25 increments) to Walmart, Target or Amazon for Christmas gifts

Please put your gift card/s 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 30th.**

You can also give a monetary donation online by going to www.splco.org, click on **"Donate"** button, scroll down to Lord's Cupboard.

Christmas Gifts

The Christmas Caring Trees will be located in the Narthex and in the school entryway starting November 18th with the ornaments that have the gift requests, and this is also the place to return the wrapped gifts.

Your generosity helps us serve the people in our community, and we truly appreciate ALL your help in celebrating our Lord's birth this holiday season and sharing that love with others.

Thank you!

SINCE THE 1972
CHOCOLATE FACTORY
SUB SANDWICHES & ICE CREAM
LOVE FROM WISC

+

ST. PAUL'S OCONOMOWOC
St. Paul's
LUTHERAN CHURCH
LORD'S CUPBOARD
FOOD PANTRY

Fundraiser for Lord's Cupboard food pantry to purchase food for Thanksgiving and Christmas food bags for our neighbors in need

When: Thursday, November 12th, 4pm-8pm

Where: The Chocolate Factory Subs and Ice Cream (2 locations)

1077 Summit Avenue, Oconomowoc 262.567.0625

3230 Golf Road, Delafield 262.337.9479

Website: https://thechocolatefactorywi.com

3 ways to contribute:

You can come in and place your order,
or place your order online for pickup,
or order Door Dash delivery
and we will receive 25% of all sales
paid for during the 4pm-8pm time period.

(online preorders paid for prior to 4pm will not count)

The Lord's Cupboard food pantry helps all our neighbors in the surrounding communities who are food insecure.

(No proof of residency or income requirements)

Please share this with your family, friends, neighbors and coworkers.

Thank you!

St. Paul's Oconomowoc Lord's Cupboard Food Pantry 262.567.5001 ext. 308

LWML
Lutheran Women *in Mission*

St. Paul's LWML welcomes every woman of our congregation to join us the first Tuesday of each month for Bible Study and a short business meeting. Come learn what LWML is all about.

MISSION STATEMENT

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

VISION STATEMENT

The LWML is the leading group for LCMS women where each woman is welcomed and encouraged to use her unique God-given gifts as she supports global missions and serves the Lord with gladness.

OBJECT

Mission Education, Mission Inspiration, Mission Service, Financial Grants for Mission Needs

Our next meeting is **November 3rd** in room **219**. Please join us!

St. Paul's Women of Joy

presents

Advent by Candlelight

FAVORED:
Mary, My Friends, and Me

The Unforgettable Story of God's Favor for Us

Nothing to bring - simply enjoy the beauty of Advent

by Schawn Starfeldt

Register by calling the church office (262-567-5001) or using the QR code

Saturday, December 5, 2026
12:00 - 2:00 pm
Fellowship Hall
Ages 3rd grade and up

November 2026

LWML MITES

Lutheran Women *in Mission*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 **ALL SAINTS DAY** **$1**	2 Raked leaves today? Yes-10¢ No-15¢	3 Remember to vote 50¢	4 10¢ for each child/grandchild in college	5 Senior citizen Yes-15¢ No-30¢	6 Bought a coffee today- 25¢ Made your own-15¢	7 10¢ for each apple you ate this week
8 Johannes von Staupitz *Luther's Father Confessor*-25¢	9 Martin Chemnitz *Pastor & Confessor* 25¢	10 10¢ for each cup of coffee or tea today	11 VETERANS DAY 50¢	12 Drank bottled water 15¢ Tap water 5¢	13 TGIF 50¢	14 Emperor Justinian *Christian Ruler & Confessor of Christ* 25¢
15 Attended church today-25¢ No-50¢	16 Senior citizen Yes-15¢ No-30¢	17 Ate breakfast this morning Yes 20¢ No-40¢	18 5¢ for each meal at home today	19 Elizabeth of Hungary 25¢	20 Fish Fry today Yes-20¢ No-40¢	21 Lawn mower put away for the season Yes-15¢ N0-30¢
22 Last Sunday of the Church Year 50¢	23 Clement of Rome *Pastor* 25¢	24 Going out of town this week? Yes-15¢ No-30¢	25 Cooking for Thanksgiving Yes-15¢ No-30¢	26 GIVE THANKS TO GOD $1	27 Shopping today Yes-25¢ No-15¢	28 Still eating left-overs? Yes-15¢ No-20¢
29 First Sunday in Advent 50¢	30 Christmas tree up ? Yes-40¢ No-20¢					

*Commemoration Days are examples of those in whom the saving work of Jesus Christ has been made manifest to the glory of His holy name and to the praise of His grace and mercy.

MITES MAY BE RETURNED in the Large Mite Box in the Narthex. Additional Mite Boxes for personal use are also available.

NOVEMBER 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 8:00 am Divine Worship 9:15am 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 High School Youth Group	2 5:30 pm Lord's Cupboard Drive-Thru	3 6:00 pm LWML 6:30 pm SPLCO YA Bible Study 6:30 pm Daniel Bible Study	4 6:30 pm Lutheran Basics 6:30 pm The Entrusted Life	5 5:30 pm Sisters in Service 6:30 pm Church Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm Praise Team Rehearsal	6	7 8:00 am Women of Joy Bible Study 9:00 am Final Victory Funeral Planning Workshop 5:00 pm Divine Worship
8 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 Middle School Youth Group 7:00 pm High School Youth Group	9	10 5:30 pm Board of Operations Mtg. 6:00 pm Board of Elders Mtg.	11 6:30 pm Lutheran Basics 6:30 pm The Entrusted Life	12 6:30 pm Church Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm Praise Team Rehearsal	13	14 7:30 am Journeymen 9:00 am Packing Thanksgiving Food Bags 5:00 pm Divine Worship
15 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 Thanksgiving Food Bags 5:00 pm Reformation Tap Society 7:00 pm High School Youth Group	16 5:30 pm Lord's Cupboard Drive-Thru & Meal	17 6:30 pm Daniel Bible Study	18 6:30 pm Lutheran Basics 6:30 pm The Entrusted Life 7:30 pm Deer Hunter's Worship Service	19 1:00 pm New Member Sponsor Cmte Mtg 6:30 pm Church Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm Praise Team Rehearsal	20	21 8:00 am Women of Joy Bible Study 5:00 pm Divine Worship
22 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 Middle School Youth Group 7:00 pm High School Youth Group	23 **NO SCHOOL**	24 **NO SCHOOL** 6:30 pm Daniel Bible Study 7:30 pm Praise Team Rehearsal	25 **NO SCHOOL** 6:30 pm Thanksgiving Worship	26 **NO SCHOOL/OFFICE CLOSED** 9:00 am Thanksgiving Worship	27 **NO SCHOOL/OFFICE CLOSED**	28 7:30 am Journeymen 2:00 pm German Christmas Service 5:00 pm Divine Worship
29 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 7:00 pm High School Youth Group	30					

EVENING PRAYER SERVICE

at

HISTORIC TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

1049 N. 9th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Friday, November 6
at 6:30 PM

featuring

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

from Milwaukee area Lutheran schools

Guest conductor, Dr. Sam Eatherton

as part of the

NURTURING CHILDREN THROUGH WORSHIP AND PRAYER INITIATIVE



Presiding Minister:
Rev. M. D. Peters

Preacher:
Rev. Peter C. Bender

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Baptism
Arthur Joseph, son of Colin & Leah Murdy

Adult Confirmation
Matthew Hopkins

Transferred to another LCMS Church
Henry Lennington – Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, Omaha, NE

Transferred from another LCMS Church
Makayla (Wilbur) Mueller – Divine Redeemer Lutheran Church, Hartland, WI

Deaths
Marilyn Runyard
Stanley Kuehl

Baptized 2054 Confirmed 1261

Sisters IN SERVICE
Serving St. Paul's since 1886

Awww....the month of November makes you think of Thanksgiving and getting ready for your Thanksgiving gathering. But then after Thanksgiving comes Advent and the celebration of Christ's birth on Christmas! In preparation for one of the children's favorite Christmas activities here at St. Paul's, Sisters in Service will be putting on their Christmas elves hats to help get items ready for the "Children's Christmas Shop" at our next meeting on Thursday, November 5th, at 5:30pm. So please join us that day for a fun evening of being Christmas elves! And as always, we'd love it if you would bring a friend.

Oh, and we don't want to forget our veterans and active duty military members in November. We will be collecting items from the "Support our Troops Wish List". So, don't forget to bring any items you have to donate to the meeting. We look forward to seeing all of you on November 5th!



Final Victory Funeral Planning Workshop

Pastor Schockman will be leading our annual funeral planning workshop on Saturday, November 7th, from 9:00am to 12:00pm. If you are interested in signing up, please contact Heather in the church office at heather@splco.org or 262.567.5001.

THANKSGIVING FOOD BAGS



Lord's Cupboard food pantry will be packing our Thanksgiving food bags on Saturday, November 14th, at 9am. Please join us! Please plan for 1½ hours. Families are welcome! We will be packing 175 food bags. We are requesting donations of the food and/or money to purchase the food needed for these bags and for the gift cards for our guests to purchase their own turkey. Approximate cost needed is $8,300. Monetary donations can be done online https://splco.org/ to the Lord's Cupboard (scroll down on the donation page to Lord's Cupboard) or put a check in an envelope marked Lord's Cupboard, including donations of gift cards ($15 to MetroMarket or ALDI) and put it in the offering plate or drop it off to the church office.

- cranberry (cans) qty-175
- Jell-O-any flavor qty-175
- fruit cocktail (cans) qty-175
- mushroom soup (cans) qty-175
- green beans (cans) qty-350
- mashed potatoes-bags or boxes-350
- gravy packets-350
- stuffing (boxes)-175

And we always need paper grocery bags!

Please put these food items and paper bags in the container across from the elevator, outside of the Fellowship Hall by November 9th. Contact Mary with any questions at mary@splco.org or 414.333.3421

Also, please let your family, friends and neighbors know if they need a little extra help, Lord's Cupboard is here. We do not have any residency or income requirements.

There are forms on the bulletin board for anyone needing a Thanksgiving food bag and/or Christmas gifts for children under 18.

Thank you so much for your donations and your prayers for our neighbors in need and our hard working, faithful volunteers!

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Marsha Hanson
November 5th

James Braatz
Barb Hentz
George Wisser
November 6th

Darryl Wickersham
November 8th

John Lindemann
November 11th

Dona Thurow
November 14th

Chuck Laabs
Joanne Reimer
November 16th

Brenda Gibbons
Joan Emery
November 17th

Jim Fait
November 20th

Jim Duggan
Michael Majewski
November 22nd

David Corrie
Marilyn Sherman
November 23rd

Marlene Steinberg
November 25th

Linda Leidel
November 26th

Dan Maynard
Tim Rades
November 28th

Roger Fisher
November 29th

Mary Kummrow
November 30th

For our members 70+ years

✝

MEMORIALS

Karen Meyer	$50.00
Robert Buchholtz	$250.00
Daniel T. Faltersack	$25.00



German Language Christmas Service
On Saturday, November 28th, St. Paul's will be holding the German language Christmas Service this year at 2pm. Please come join us!



ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)
210 E. Pleasant Street
Oconomowoc, WI 53066-3050
262-567-5001

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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 DeWitt 262.567.5001 x214
Principal - Jill George 262.567.5001 x213
Website: www.splco.org

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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

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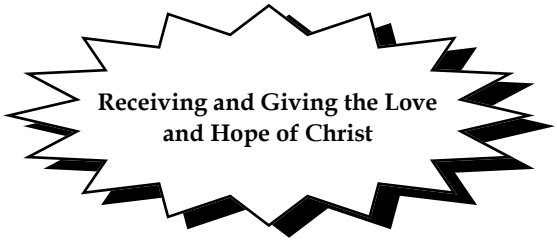
Newsletter deadline for articles, announcements and features is the **2nd Wednesday** of the month

PLEASE ADVISE THE CHURCH OFFICE OF ANY ADDRESS CHANGES

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

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November's Hymn of the Month: *O Church Arise (Arise Shine)*

This is a relatively recent hymn, written in 2016. Keith Getty and Stuart Townend (the team behind "In Christ Alone") set out to write a hymn that reflected and took inspiration from Martin Luther's style of hymn writing.

The hymn starts with a clear theme of spiritual warfare, but ours is not an ordinary battle. "We know the outcome is secure." Our ultimate enemy, the devil, has already been defeated by Christ our Captain. While on earth we are called to "love the captive soul" with the sword of God's Word that "makes the wounded whole."

The hymn continues with the tension of the "now and not yet" of the Christian life. Jesus has defeated our enemies, but we continue in this life. We still run the race of faith, getting strength from the Spirit, remembering those who have gone before us, as we long for the day when we all stand together with Christ in glory.