



St. Paul's

"Epistles"

October 2025

Volume 41 No. 11

He who is righteous by faith shall live. Romans 1:17

Martin Luther desperately wanted to please God and find favor in His sight. He wanted to be holy and righteous and worthy of the salvation offered to us Christ. He wanted this so much that instead of becoming a lawyer like his father wanted, he became a monk. He thought that in the monastery he would find a truly holy life which would be satisfactory and would quench his thirst for righteousness before God. While he was there, he would deprive himself of sleep to keep praying. He would fast so diligently that his health suffered severely. He would try to beat his body into submission in order to gain some kind of progress toward pleasing God so that his conscience would no longer be burdened by his sins.



It didn't work. The more Luther tried to please God and be found righteous in God's sight, the more it seemed to be impossible. This caused Luther tremendous anguish. But as he kept studying and praying and, in particular, when Luther was pouring over Romans 1:16-17, he realized that the righteousness that he sought was never going to be a result of his striving for it but that it is a gift given. That, indeed, God Himself, through faith in the Good News that Jesus is the Savior, counts, reckons, or declares a person righteous. Justified before God. This was a moment of awakening and great joy for Luther. That God gives freely by His grace to people who do not have a righteousness of their own, the righteousness that Jesus has accomplished - and He gives it to them by faith, not their own works - brought Luther the peace he was searching for.

When Luther discovered that, he said the gates of heaven were thrown open for him. Salvation coming from a righteousness not properly his own but given to him through faith in the work of Jesus' righteousness. The standard that Luther could never meet, Jesus has met for us and grants it as a gift! This rightly shifted the focus from human works to divine grace and ultimately began what would be known as the Reformation.

We thank God for revealing to Luther the truth of salvation and the Bible's teaching of it. It had always been there but it had been clouded over by many different teachings. Luther was bold to make the truth known. He wanted others to share in the joy of being freed from thinking they must earn their way to heaven or for them to be steered away from the total satisfaction for sins made by Jesus.

From our Church's confession of the faith: Augsburg Confession, Article IV

Also, they [our churches] teach that men cannot be justified before God by their own strength, merits, or works, but are freely justified for Christ's sake, through faith, when they believe that they are received into favor, and that their sins are forgiven for Christ's sake, who, by His death, has made satisfaction for our sins. This faith God imputes for righteousness in His sight. Rom. 3 and 4. (AC IV)

Happy Reformation,

Pastor Suggitt



September 23rd, 2025

Dear Members of St. Paul Lutheran Church,

I pray this letter finds you well! Thank you all very much for choosing to adopt myself and my family for our final year of seminary. I cannot express to you enough just how much this generous gesture means to all of us. The final year of seminary can be difficult as students eagerly anticipate receiving a call to labor in the Lord's vineyard and families readjust back into life at the seminary after getting a taste of life in a congregation. As we anticipate the year ahead, we are extremely grateful for your ongoing prayers and support.

Because I have yet to meet you all in person, I thought I'd send this letter sharing a little bit about myself and my family. I was baptized as an infant at Faith Lutheran Church in Troy, MI, and attended there until I went off to college. I began to aspire to the Office of the Ministry right around the end of my sophomore year/beginning of my junior year of high school, after spending a few years volunteering in various capacities at my home congregation. I helped lead Vacation Bible School, led small groups for elementary kids in Sunday School, and was a middle school youth leader. Additionally, I engaged with some other Lutherans in a Facebook group that gave me some theology reading recommendations. I've always enjoyed reading, and after reading my first couple theology books such as *God at*

Work: Your Vocation in All of Life by Gene Edward Veith, and *Has American Christianity Failed?* by Bryan Wolfmueller, I was hooked. It was these two things, along with some encouragement from my pastors and youth leaders that pushed me to pursue the pastoral ministry. After graduating high school, I attended Concordia University River Forest (now Chicago) and entered the Pre-Seminary program, majoring in Philosophy and Theological Languages. It was at CUC that I was exposed to the historic Lutheran liturgy for the first time beyond the few times I had gone to my grandma's church as a youth. I was immediately struck by the beauty, stability, and strength of our confession expressed in the liturgy, a conviction that only grew as I attended Apostles' Lutheran in Melrose Park, IL and eventually St. John Lutheran, Wheaton, IL. I was greatly blessed with wonderful pastors at both these congregations along with a great campus pastor, Jeffrey Leininger. I also had many wonderful theology greatly enjoyed my time at the seminary and am looking forward to not only the excitement that fourth year brings but also further exploring my theological professors that contributed to my formation. So far, I've interests. My current interests include: liturgics, American Lutheran history, and homiletics with an emphasis on the history of the theory of Lutheran preaching.

At CUC, I also met my wonderful wife, Rachel. We met during my freshman year and her sophomore year through Concordia Youth Ministry, a program where students would get together on various teams for devotions and games in anticipation of running lock-ins at various Illinois churches. Rachel changed her majors a few times, eventually settling on Business Intelligence and Analytics. We were engaged in July of 2021, married in June of 2022, and moved to Fort Wayne that summer so I could start seminary in Fall of 2022. She currently works as a Marketing Data Analyst at

Essex Brownell, a Fort Wayne-based manufacturing and industrial supply company, specializing in magnet wire and various motors. More than that though, Rachel has always told me that her main dream and aspiration in life is to be a wife and mom. It has been a joy for me to see her grow into those vocations. She also plays the cello which is a welcome treat around our house and occasionally in church.

While I served my vicarage at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Columbus, Ohio, we were blessed to welcome our first child, Eleanor Marie. She has been a bundle of joy for us this past year, and we greatly enjoy watching her grow and discover the world around her. She's just started walking a little bit, though not quite consistently. We have a feeling she'll be zooming around pretty soon! We can't wait to see just how she grows and develops this next year.

Thank you all again for your decision to support us this year. We are thankful for your faithfulness to God's Word and desire to promote the continued preaching of the Gospel to all nations. Please know that you are in our prayers as well. If you ever have any specific prayer requests please don't hesitate to reach out! Sometime this year we would love to visit you and meet you in person! Until then, may God continue to bless and keep you!

Peace and Blessings in Christ,

Noah Dunsmore
(248) 212-8149
3517 Redbird Trail, Fort Wayne, IN 46835
Nfdunsmore@gmail.co



EXPLANATION OF LUTHER'S SEAL

The black cross in the center reminds us that Jesus died to take the punishment for our sins. The red heart reminds us of the love God has for us in sending Jesus to be our Savior. The red of the heart is the color of the blood of Christ, shed for us and for our salvation. The white rose helps us remember the work of the Holy Spirit, who makes us pure and holy in God's sight by bringing us to faith in Jesus and by helping us to live our lives for him. The sky-blue background pictures the joy of the new life God gives to all who believe and trust in him. Finally, the golden ring outlining the seal reminds us of our eternal inheritance—a home in heaven where we will enjoy complete joy and happiness in our Savior's presence.

LIFE QUOTE

God creates, redeems, and calls all human beings as His own precious treasures from fertilization to forever, regardless of ages, appearances, abilities, or impairments. The Gospel of Jesus Christ invites us to an honest humility and an enthusiastic hope that receive each one as gift and privilege!

*A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life •
lutheransforlife.org*



Don Fibrantz Satchell's Christian Foster Care Home 2662 E. Caro Road Caro, MI 48723	Peggy Kelly 6282 Pine Street Cass City, MI 48726 (989) 872-5086
Wilma Kovach 2700 Knotter Road Owendale, MI 48754 (989) 678-4439	Bonnie Nowaczyk 7305 Main Street Owendale, MI 48754 (989) 553-4286 or (989) 678-4286
Dennis & Linda Schweitzer 2875 Shebeon Road Sebewaing, MI 48759 (989) 883-9197	Jeannine Ziehm c/o Jennifer Scott 5318 Indian Trail Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Dear members of St. Paul,

Thank you for your cards, phone calls, best wishes, and most of all your prayers as I recuperate from heart-related issues and medical procedures. Your care and concern are appreciated.

Blessings,

Sheryl Wenskay



NewsLetter DEADLine

The deadline for articles for the November issue of St. Paul's "Epistle" is Sunday, October 26, 2025. Email them to Sandy at salcido.sandy8@gmail.com or place them in the newsletter mailbox at the top of the stairs.

Thanks for keeping the congregation informed about what's going at St. Paul.

The Lutheran Hour is heard locally on WLEW Bad Axe at 11:10 a.m. Sundays and WSAM 1440 Saginaw at 8:30 a.m. Sundays. OR listen to it anytime anywhere on the Lutheran hour APP on your phone. Download the Lutheran Hour Devotions app and click on Lutheran hour sermons. You can also find the Lutheran hour sermons on the Lutheran hour website at lhm.org. You can also dial 1-800-944-3450 and you will get the recorded instructions. Hit 3 then 1 and the whole Lutheran hour sermon will play just like you are receiving a phone call.



Our Sunday School year is off to a wonderful start! We recently enjoyed a fun and successful field trip to **Kohl's Farm**, where the children decorated hay bales and explored the corn maze together. It was such a joy to see their smiles and fellowship throughout the day.

Looking ahead, we are preparing for the **church bazaar**. Next Sunday, after worship, we will not have regular Sunday School classes. Instead, the children and helpers will be peeling radishes to make horseradish—a long-standing tradition at St. Paul.

To support the bazaar, we are also asking families to sign up to make cookies for our **Sunday School Cookie Walk**. This is always a favorite part of the bazaar, and your help ensures its success!

Our new curriculum has been a blessing, helping students connect the sermon to the lessons in meaningful ways. Each week, Pastor begins with *"What is in the Box?"*—a fun and thoughtful preview of the day's lesson—before classes begin after church.

Thank you for faithfully bringing your children each Sunday. Together, we continue to grow in God's Word and share His love as a church family.



Special Shout Out to some of our sponsors for the bazaar:

- Michigan Sugar Company – a supply of white, brown, and powdered sugar for canning and baked goods
- Sherwood On The Hill – ice to keep our cold stuff cold
- Jerald Ignash, Pigeon One Stop Shop – 20# of bologna for our ground bologna sandwiches
- Member Thrivent grants

Thanks to these generous businesses and many member donations, our expenses are lower, which helps our profits to be higher. The higher our profits, the greater our community outreach! So thank you, thank you, thank you!

St. Paul's "Epistles" is published monthly by St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, 7292 Kilmanagh Road, Pigeon, MI, 48755.

Pastor: Rev. Christopher Suggitt

Church & Office Phone: (989) 453-2271

Pastor Suggitt's Cell Phone: (989) 551-3976

Church Email: lvspaul40@gmail.com

Secretary's Email: salcido.sandy8@gmail.com

Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Youth Catechism: 1:30 p.m.

Adult Instruction: 3:00 p.m.



The regular monthly meeting of St. Paul Ladies Aid was called to order by President Ruth Fluegge on Sunday, September 14, 2025, immediately following our worship service.

The devotion for the day was from the *Portals of Prayer* entitled "Survey the Wondrous". Jesus suffered an agonizing death on the cross so we can rejoice with Him in heaven without any more pain. He was dishonored on the cross to wipe away our shame so we could rise to Him in glory. He transformed the cross but by it, also us.

The Mission Statement of St. Paul Lutheran Ladies Aid Society was recited by all. Eleven ladies answered roll call.

Old Business:

St. Paul's 2025 Congregational Bazaar was the topic of discussion.

1. Take N Bakes are produced in the church kitchen and must remain on premises until sold.
 - a. In 2024 we made 30 regular pot pies and 11 individual ones. All were sold. In 2025 we will make 50 regular size and 24 individual ones. Cost will be fixed after everything is purchased for them.
 - b. In 2024 we made 24 large lasagnas (\$16) and 21 small ones (\$10). In 2025 we will make 25 large ones and 25 small ones. The cost will also be determined once produced.
 - c. In 2024 we made 6 large mac & cheeses (\$14) and 21 small ones (\$7). In 2025 we will do the same. Cost will be determined after production.
2. Lots of freezer space is needed for Take N Bakes as well as the pies that will be baked right before the bazaar.

Wendy Tabar and Ruth Fluegge said they had freezer space. We will ask around to find more space if needed because we are doing more Take N Bakes.

3. Cookie Walk was discussed. It was deemed necessary to increase the price of cookies this year - \$7/dozen; \$4.50/half dozen. All cookies will be put together including specialty cookies.
4. Donation sheets will be posted on September 21st for desserts, pies for pie station and the Cookie Walk.
5. A number of people have asked if we will serve Chicken Salad sandwiches this year. Discussion was held and we will offer them in 2025.
6. Discussion was held on how to order and fill soup orders to try to make it less complicated. We decided: **Church members who want to order quarts of soup in larger quantities must fill out a pre-order form on the Sunday before the bazaar.**

The meeting closed with singing the Doxology and reciting the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Salcido, Secretary

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St. Paul Ladies Aid Society Mission Statement

To aid the church in the task of winning and keeping souls

To serve in the interest and for the welfare of the church

To foster mutual love and Christian fellowship

To promote the work of Christian charity

ST. PAUL
CONGREGATIONAL BAZAAR
Saturday, October 18, 2025
10:00 a.m.

UPDATE ON BAZAAR:

Bazaar Set Up is Sunday, October 12th. We need lots of help to move racks, boxes, containers, gift baskets, etc. We will have some coffee and snacks for anyone who comes to help. It shouldn't take long if we have lots of helpers.

Luncheon prep days are October 16th and 17th. Most of the help needed is October 16th. Let Brandy Gunsell know if you can help either day.

Final setup is Friday, October 17th from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. Cookies, pies, baked goods, crafts can be dropped off Friday evening before 7:00 p.m. or by 8:00 a.m. on Saturday of bazaar.

If you still have canned goods for the bazaar, please bring them to the church. They are being stored in one of the Sunday School rooms. If you have extra fresh produce (apples, potatoes, squash, etc.), we can sell those too.

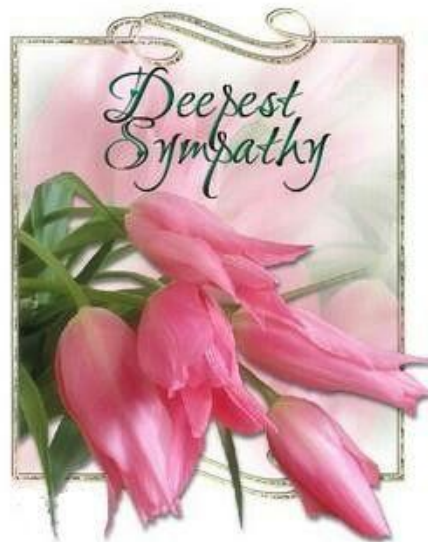
People come from miles and miles just to buy our home-baked goodies. The more bakers, the more to sell, the more profits, the more community giving we are able to do! Cookies for the Cookie Walk should be brought in large containers and marked for COOKIE WALK and placed on racks in that section. Pies for luncheon can be baked in real pans. Please put your name on them, label them with type of pie, and mark the pies for LUNCHEON, then place them in janitors' room on racks. Pies for Pie Sale should be baked in disposable pans, as you will not get them back. We have aluminum tins and plastic clamshells for your use. Please mark these pies with TYPE OF PIE and place them on racks in pie station area. Baked goods for bake sale should be packaged to sell.

**PRIVATE
CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

From the Small Catechism: Confession
What is confession?

Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

Private, or individual, confession and absolution is available by appointment with Pastor Suggitt. You may call him at 989.551.3976 to set up a time.



The Lord gives and the Lord takes away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

On September 29, 2025, Janet Sue Truemner, fell asleep in Jesus. She was given Christian burial from St. Paul on September 3, 2025.

Please keep Janet's family and friends in your thoughts and prayers, wishing them peace, courage, and treasured memories now and forevermore.

IN HIS SERVICE

ELDERS

October 5 – Matt Reibling & Ken Haley
October 12 – Joe Salcido & Robert Haag
October 19 – Josh Sprague & Ron Tabar
October 26 – Matt Reibling & Ken Haley

GREETERS

October 5 – Rob & Amy Haag and Family
October 12 – Rich & Ruth Fluegge
October 19 – Warren & Jan Stoeckle
October 26 – Jeramy & Melissa Deming
and Family

TITHE COUNTERS

October 12 - Patti Reinhardt & Kari Ricker
October 26 – Jyl Shope & Chris Gettel

ALTAR GUILD & ALTAR FLOWERS

Paula Fluegge	989-598-2453
Ruth Fluegge	989-598-4156

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

October	1	Mike & Mindy Zmierski
	2	Richard & Kim Krohn
	7	Scott & Karen Gaeth
	22	Jeremy & Rebecca Wright
	24	Dean & Julie Kreh

BIRTHDAYS

October 02	Matthew Gaeth
03	Jason Reinhardt
04	Shelby Carlisle Jayce Sears
05	Brenden Ricker
06	Lancin Provost
07	Liz Reehl
09	Kim Dorland Kris Gilbert Hope Gilbert
10	Alan Kumaus Kaitlyn Reehl
11	Chuck Dorland Dean Kreh Sara Reinhardt
12	Kathleen Kovach McKenzie Flannery
13	Brad Renn
16	Herschel Adams Sawyer Ondrajka Sailor Ondrajka
17	Branden Albrecht Shirley Fritz Jodi Reinhardt Laura Dubs
18	Diane Wildman Lynette Ziehm Wyatt Romzek
19	James David Gilbert
21	Holly Byrnes Marc Reinhardt
22	Ace Albrecht Sylas Albrecht Maeson Kady
23	Kari Osantoski
24	Warren Stoeckle
25	Ron Dubs
26	Deb Leinweber
27	Margaret Timmons
28	Madalyn Adams Faye Errer Sheila Truemner Sheryl Wenskay
30	Erika Schember Josh Schember
31	Faith Suggitt

October

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			1	2	3	4
			6:30 PM Bible Study			
5 8:30 AM Service 9:30 AM SS /Coffee Hour Horseradish Peeling 1:30 PM Catechism	6 6:00 PM Choir Pastor @ conference	7 6:15 PM Elders 7:00 PM Council Pastor @ conference	8 Pastor @ conference	9	10	11
12 8:30 AM Service 9:30 AM SS /Coffee Hou 1:30 PM Catechism 7:00 PM Youth Bible Study	13 6:00 PM Choir	14	15	16	17	18 10:00 AM Congregational BAZAAR
19 8:30 AM Service 9:30 AM SS /Coffee Hour Voter's Mtg. 1:30 PM Catechism	20 6:00 PM Choir	21	22	23	24	25
26 8:30 AM Service Reformation Observed 9:30 AM SS /Coffee Hour 1:30 PM Catechism	27 6:00 PM Choir	28	29 6:30 PM Bible Study	30	31 Reformation Day	

2025

St. Paul's "Epistles"



*St. Paul Evangelical
Lutheran Church*

7292 Kilmanagh Rd.

Pigeon, MI 48755



Reformation Day
OCTOBER 31ST