



The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with you.

Joshua 3:7

Let me start by saying it is both helpful and dangerous to compare ourselves to Biblical characters. Let me also say that I am not comparing myself to Moses and Pastor Darren to his assistant Joshua.

Except in this one way. Like Moses, I lead during a period of transition. It was nowhere near as long as the Children of Israel wandered in the desert. It was twenty-five months, not forty years, but it was a time of transition, just the same. Like the Children of Israel, we were moving toward a goal. The calling of your next permanent Pastor. There were some significant milestones along the way. The milestones include the cottage meetings where we, as a congregation, evaluated the faith community. The start of using our multimedia system for our worship service. Important missional events, including our trips to Feed My Starving Children and Community Night Out. The hard work that the call committee put into the search process. We tweaked our mission statement. We restarted several traditions and programs, including our summer worship —Tuesdays in the Chapel, passing the peace, and Sunday morning greeters. It has been a joy leading you through this time of transition. You are a great congregation.

Now, with Pastor Darren, like Joshua and the Children of Israel, you enter upon a new field of Ministry. My prayer and hope is that it is a fruitful and exciting time. A time where you live out your Mission statement: Remember God's Promises, Live Our Faith, Serve Our Neighbor. If the book of Joshua is any guide, you will have your successes, and you will have your doubts and struggles, but know that the Lord walks with you and with your Pastor.

At the end of the book of Joshua, Joshua gathers all the tribes of Israel and asks them to choose whom they will serve: the idols they have encountered during their travels or the Lord. He then says, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. I encourage you to make the same commitment with your Pastor, "as for us and our Church, we will serve the Lord."

You will continue to be in my prayers.

Be Hope-filled, Stay Strong, and God Bless,

Pastor Carl

A Farewell Coffee Talk
For Pastor Carl will be
following Worship on Sunday,
November 16th.

**St Paul Lutheran Church
Council Minutes
October 8, 2025**

The meeting was called to order by Jake Marz at 7:47 pm

Members Present: Jake Marz, Angel Rummel, Kathy Pederson, Paul Muske, Kelly Sargent, Andy Renner, Katie Mueller, Pastor Carl Billings, (Tiffany Trapp, Jeremy Dove, and Jo Schwartz from the Call Committee)

Absent: Kim Graff, Sarah Groebner, Randy Wendt, Anita Jensen

Opening Prayer: Pastor Carl

Consent Agenda -- M/S/P by Kelly Sargent and Paul Muske

Secretary's Report – Approved

Financial Statement – Approved

Parish Ed Report –Approved

Pastor's Report -- Approved

OLD BUSINESS:

Call Committee Report:

*The Congregational Vote to call Pastor Darren Olson passed. The Call is contingent upon certification from LCMC and passing a background check

Building & Grounds:

*Sanctuary Ceiling – unsure if Bisbee come to look at the ceiling and access it.

*Tree Stump Removal & New Trees – Tabled

German Super Recap: \$4,820.09 served around 400

NEW BUSINESS:

Thanksgiving Baskets: M/S/P Paul/Angel to continue Thanksgiving Baskets, \$2,547 in fund and will get a Thrivent Grant.

College Baskets: -- M/S/P Kathy/Paul to continue College Baskets, \$91 in fund and will get a Thrivent Grant.

Snow Removal: Will college quotes

Pastor Carl: Last Sunday will be November 16th

Holiday Services:

*Thanksgiving Eve: November 26 at 7:00 p.m. followed by pie and dessert social

*Children's Christmas Program: December 14 at 10:00 a.m. M/S/P Kelly/Andy

*Christmas Eve: December 24th at 6:00 p.m. M/S/P Paul/Angel

Closing Prayer: -- The Lord's Prayer

Adjourned: -- 9:12 PM

Submitted by Katie Mueller, Parish Coordinator

2025 Church Council

Jacob Marz - Chair	
Kim Graff - Secretary	Kelly Sargent - Treasure
Randy Wendt	Paul Muske
Kathy Pederson	Angel Rummel
Sarah Groebner	Andy Renner

St Paul Attendance		
9/28 9am - 95	10/4 9am - 104	10/12 9am - 127
10/19 9 am - 76	10/26 9am - 94	

Budget Recap Year-To-Date (01/01/25 to 10/24/25)			
Total Funds for Budget	\$156,880.38	Total Operating Funds	\$184,880.38
Memorial Loan	+\$28,000.00		
	\$184,880.38		
Budget	-\$192,180.66	Operating Exp.	-\$192,748.99
Difference	(\$7,300.28)	Difference	(\$10,868.61)

Thrivent Financial—As always, St. Paul Lutheran Church is grateful for your consideration when you make charitable giving plans. If you are a Thrivent Financial member eligible to direct Choice DollarsSM, we ask you to consider St. Paul Lutheran as you help direct Thrivent Financials charitable funds.

No Memorials Given 9/24/2025 - 10/24/2025		
In Memory:	Given by:	Designated for:

Notice: Please update your phone numbers and/or email address with the church office!
 Several of the numbers we have are disconnected and we need to know how to get a hold of you!
 You can leave a note in the box outside of Katie's office, call or email the church office at 507-723-5880 or stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com. We appreciate you keeping us updated!

Our worship services are live broadcast on YouTube! Just subscribe to our YouTube Channel by going to www.youtube.com and searching for St Paul Lutheran Church, Springfield, MN, or simply scan the QR Code with your smartphone. Be sure to subscribe so you will be notified when we go live!



Please pray for...the family and friends of Doug Schiller, Jerome Kettner, Doug Rositzke; all those serving in the military, at home and abroad: Jesse Kettner, Cylee Graff, Shane Clemon, Ethan Langseth, and Emily Wendt.

Prayer Chain –If you have a prayer concern you would like passed along, please call Jan Severson (723-6358) or the church office (723-5880). Please specify if you want the concern on (1) the Prayer Chain and/or (2) included in Sunday morning prayers which will be included for **two** Sundays unless otherwise specified.

<p>Deadlines: Sunday Bulletin: Wednesday by 10 am. Epistle: 20th of each month. Please call or email the church office with additions or changes for the bulletins or Epistle. stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com</p>

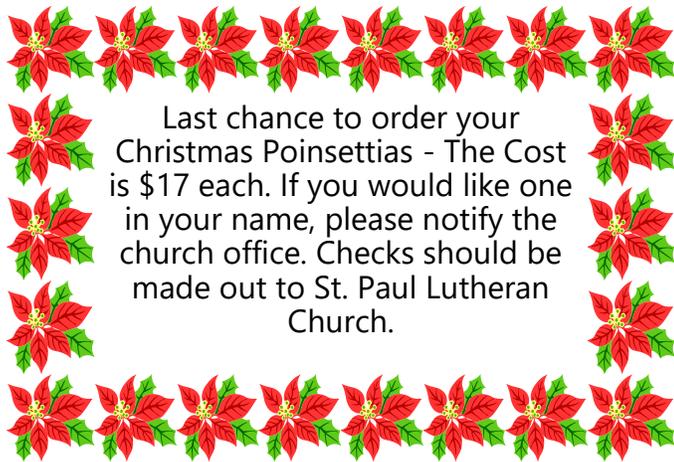
Special Services & Events at St. Paul's

Wednesday, November 26 @ 7:00 p.m.
Thanksgiving Eve Worship, followed by pie/
dessert social - Bring a dessert to share!

Sunday, December 7 @ 7:00 p.m.
SWMN Men's Chorus Christmas Concert
*Watch for more information to come.

Sunday, December 14 @ 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School Children's Christmas Program

Wednesday, December 24 @ 6:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Worship



Last chance to order your
Christmas Poinsettias - The Cost
is \$17 each. If you would like one
in your name, please notify the
church office. Checks should be
made out to St. Paul Lutheran
Church.

Help us keep our Church Directory up to
date! We would like to get updated
pictures of each member family for the
directory.
If you have a nice family photo you would
like to use instead, you can email a copy
to Katie at stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com
at any time.

CHURCH GREETERS WANTED!

We are bringing back church greeters! This
was something that went away during the
covid pandemic, and we are excited to
bring it back!

If you would like to be a greeter, you can
sign up in the Narthex, Fellowship Hall or
let Katie know by either phone 507-723-
5880 or email
stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com

Like in the past, greeters will be on a
rotation. We need two people per service
that will greet people as they enter church.

THANKSGIVING CHEER BASKETS

Deadline to sign up is Monday, November 10th at noon. Late requests will not be accepted.

If you know of a family who is in need or could use the thoughtful gift of receiving a full Thanksgiving meal,
please call the church office at 507-723-5880 or fill out the below form and return it to the church office.

We need to know their address, phone number, how many people are in the family.

Help will be needed to package and deliver the boxes, please let Katie know if you can help.

DONATIONS ARE APPRECIATED AND NEED TO BE IN THE CHURCH KITCHEN BY NOVEMBER 10TH AT NOON.

Items you can donate: *Boxed Stuffing, canned green beans or corn, canned cranberries, canned turkey gravy, disposable roaster pans, jars of pickles, boxes of instant mashed potatoes, frozen Cool Whip, frozen Pumpkin Pie, apples and oranges. (Please put pies and Cool Whip in the Freezer)*

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Springfield, MN

THANKSGIVING CHEER BASKETS

Please send a Thanksgiving Cheer Basket to

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Adults _____ Children under 10 _____ Children under 18 _____

We need to know their address, phone number, how many people are in the family.

I would like to:

_____ donate/buy _____ for the baskets. Name & Phone: _____

_____ help put baskets together. _____ help deliver baskets.

November 2025

* Indicates Choir Singing.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
St. Paul Lutheran Church, 303 N Cass Ave, Springfield, MN 56087 Church Telephone: 507-723-5880 www.splcspringfield.org stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com						
2 9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:00 Sunday School 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast	3	4 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	5 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 6:15-7:15 Confirmation 7:00 p.m. Parish Education Meeting 7:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	6	7 Office Closed	8
9 * 9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:00 Sunday School 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast	10	11 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	12 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 6:15-7:15 Confirmation 7:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 7:45 p.m. Council Meeting	13	14 Office Closed	15
16 9:00 Worship 10:00 Farewell for Pastor Carl 10:00 Sunday School	17	18 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	19 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 6:15-7:15 Confirmation 7:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	20	21 Office Closed	22
23 9:00 Worship 10:00 Pack & Deliver Thanksgiving Baskets Coffee Talk 10:00 Sunday School 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast	24	25 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	26 10:00 Ch. 8 Broadcast 6:15-7:15 Confirmation * 7:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve Worship followed by pie - dessert social	27 Office Closed Happy Thanksgiving	28 Office Closed	29
30 9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee Talk 10:00 Sunday School 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast						

* Indicates Choir Singing.

Worship Service Helpers

Date	Sound & Video	Projection	Reader	Greeters	Acolyte	Usher	Organist
11/2	Mueller Family	Mueller Family	Jeanette Pidde	Kevin & Jo Schwartz	Rylyn Marz Adalyn Marz	Team 2	Jeff Krueger
*11/9	Paul Muske Jonah Pidde	Jordan Pidde	Brittany Cook	Kurt & Mary Glaeseman	Allie Jensen Abigail Shaw	Team 3	Jeff Krueger
11/16	Groebner Boys	Groebner Boys	Paul Muske	Roger & Kelly Sargent	Gavin Brown Lily Groebner	Team 4	Jo Schwartz
11/23	Dove Family	Dove Family	Daniel Kettner	Paul & Jo Muske	Wyatt Dove Gavin Dove	Team 1	Jo Schwartz
Wed *11/26	Trevor Krebs	Mueller Family	Jordan Pidde	Mike & Crissy Rogotzke	Hunter Jeppesen Madisen Schumacher	Team 2	Jo Schwartz
11/30	Tim Vogel	Jacobs Girls	Jo Muske	Bill & Mel Vogel	Jonah Pidde Lorelei Pidde	Team 3	Jeff Krueger

November Altar Guild

Elsie Groebner
Sue Hendrickson
Jordyn Plaster

Usher Teams

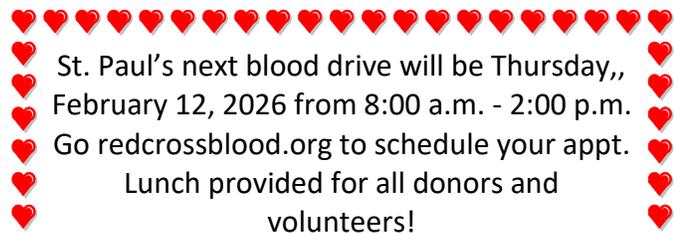
- 1 - Don Bloemke, John Marz, Jake Marz, Paul Meidl
- 2 - Doug Gatzlaff, Dave Bittler, Andy Renner
- 3 - Doug Schiller, Russell Rogotzke, Mark Buerkle, Jeremy Dove
- 4 - Tim Vogel, Scott Vogel, Bill Vogel

November Birthdays!

- 
- 1 - Cassie Krebs, Barry Hoecherl
 - 2 - Michael Graff, Troy Hagert
 - 4 - Tyson Meidl
 - 5 - Bentley Borth
 - 7 - Xandar Asmus
 - 9 - Abigail Shaw
 - 10 - Shane Clemon
 - 11 - Kendra Rummel
 - 12 - Krystal Plaster
 - 16 - Russell Rogotzke, Craig Valentin,
Kaitlyn Wendt
 - 18 - Jan Kettner
 - 19 - Claire Krebs, Tiffany Trapp
 - 20 - Gerritt Meidl, Amber Borth
 - 21 - Dave Bittler, Kelly Sargent,
Shay Kieper
 - 22 - Casandra Graff, Lucas Jensen
 - 23 - Lydia Vogel
 - 27 - Jerome Kettner, Ben Jeppesen
 - 29 - Ken Renner
 - 30 - Hudson Lund, Skyler Gewerth

November Anniversaries!

- 
- 3 - Richard & Lois Zihlke - 63 years
 - 11 - Ben & Ashley Henning - 2 years
 - 13 - Mark & Michelle Buerkle - 26 years
 - 19 - Brian & Malorie Kral - 14 years
 - 23 - Jacob & Marlayna Gatzlaff - 6 years



St. Paul's next blood drive will be Thursday,,
February 12, 2026 from 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Go redcrossblood.org to schedule your appt.
Lunch provided for all donors and
volunteers!



**American
Red Cross**

**Two volunteers are needed to help with the
blood drive. Contact Katie.**

ATTENTION STUDENTS GRADES 7-12

Here is the link to join the Luther League group- which is open to all 7-12th graders.
<https://band.us/n/a4aeAbL5H8Nak>

Upcoming activities they have planned include:
November:

- *Pack college care packages followed by an activity with a bonfire or hayride.
- * Fundraiser- yard work/leaf raking for "hire" Free Will donation to have leaves raked and hauled away. Contact the church office with your name and address if you would like to participate!

December:

- *Bake Sale following the Christmas Program on Sunday, December 14th.
- *Christmas Caroling at St Johns and the Maples.

Spring of 2026 - Quake Youth Retreat.

Our fundraising is to help cover the costs of our monthly meeting supper and activities, as well as lodging and food for Quake. Looking further ahead, we would like to complete a mission trip at some point.

Contact Shawna Jacobs for more information .

Parish Ed is looking into starting a 3 year old Sunday school class.
They will need someone to teach the class. Parents would need to attend with their children.
Interested families should reach out to someone from Parish Ed.

NATIVITY PAGEANT

The 39th Annual Nativity Pageant will be held Saturday, December 13 and Sunday, December 14 at 6:00 p.m. on the east parking lot of the Springfield Area Community Center.

S.A.N.T.A. is looking for shepherds, a First Mary, Elizabeth, Scribes and a Slave. If you are interested in any of those cast positions, please contact Lori Milbrath at 507-276-8504.

Set-up for the Pageant will be Saturday, December 6 at 9 a.m. at the Community Center. Each church is to provide at least 2 people to help with the set-up. The set will be taken down following the pageant, at 8 p.m., on Sunday, December 14. Would like the same volunteers for set-up to help with take down. Contact Nick Dauer or your church rep if you can help.

Two people are needed to help dress characters on Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings, December 12, 13 and 14 from each church. Friday will be the dress rehearsal at 5:00 p.m. Contact Lucy Potter at 507-227-7325 if you can help with dressing.

Pageant walk-thru and costume fitting will be on Sunday, December 7 at 1 p.m. at the Community Center. And Monday, December 8. All cast members need to attend at least one walk thru.

The Nativity Choir will be directed by Jeff Krueger. All singers, 7th grade and up, are invited to sing. Rehearsals are Sunday, November 30 and Monday, December 8 at 7 p.m. at the Community Center. Robes and music will be available.

S.A.N.T.A. COOKIE FUNDRAISER

*Please bring your donations of cookies, breads and candy, etc. to the Community Center Thursday, December 11 from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. or Friday, December 12 before 9:00 a.m.

*We need two workers from each church Thursday evening, December 11 at the Community Center. We will start packaging and pricing at 7:00 p.m. (no earlier) and work until done.

SANTA COOKIE SALE AND LUNCHEON

The S.A.N.T.A. Cookie Sale and Luncheon Friday, December 12 at the Springfield Community Center. The Cookie Sale is 11:00 a.m. until sold out. The Luncheon is 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Each church is asked to provide two volunteers to help with the luncheon. Let Jeff Krueger know if you can help with the luncheon.

The Cookie Sale and Luncheon is the only fundraiser that the S.A.N.T.A. group does to help sustain the pageant, now in its 39th year. Funds raised help to stage the production free-of-charge every year.

**St. Paul Lutheran
Church, LCMC**
303 N Cass Avenue
Springfield, MN 56087

Postmaster: Dated material
Please Deliver Promptly
Address Service Requested

Calendar Highlights - November 2025

16 - Pastor Carl's Last Day
23 - Pack and Deliver Thanksgiving Baskets
26 - Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Phone: 507-723-5880

www.splcspringfield.org

Office Hours

Pastor Carl Billings carlbillings@me.com

Monday & Tuesday 9-11 a.m.

Parish Coordinator: [Katie Mueller](#)

Monday-Thursday 8:00 am-noon

stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com

Financial Secretary: [Anita Jensen](#)

Fin_secretary@newulmtel.net

Housekeeping: Mary Jo Simonson

Maintenance: Al Groebner

St. Paul EPISTLE is a publication of St. Paul Lutheran Church. It is published monthly to keep members and friends informed of programs and ministries of the church.

Articles may be submitted for publication subject to content.

Sunday Schedule:

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:00 a.m. Sunday School (September-May)

10:00 a.m. Coffee Talk



**Give
Today!**



Springfield Area Food Shelf hours
Tuesday 5:00pm – 7:00pm
Thursday 9:30am – 11:30am
625 N Jackson Ave - Springfield, MN 56087
(Springfield Clinic Lower Level)
507-723-3663 (FOOD)