



St. Paul News

St. Paul Lutheran Church

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NOVEMBER

2024

What am I thankful for as a Pastor in 2024?

By Pastor Neil Wehmas

I give thanks first and foremost for the wonders that our God has and continues to do. If anyone every needs help in being thankful, read the articles of the creed in Luther's Small Catechism.

Consider the first article...God has made me and you. Therefore, I give thanks for eyes to see, so I don't walk into things. Eyes to see the grandeur of his creation. He has given ears to hear beautiful words of speech and music. He has given tongues to sing, express our needs and desires. He has given clothing, food, our houses, the things that go into building our cars, televisions, computers, and so much more. He has given us the intellect to design and use these things. He has given us each others. Sure our relationships can at times be quite strained, but in these relationships we experience love and companionship. It has been well documented the damage that complete isolation has upon the mind and even our immune systems.

I realize that not all of us have good in some of these gifts. A person may be blind or deaf. A person may have lost a mother or father, or had abusive parents. Even then there are still other gifts, if one were to pay attention and look around.

Then we look at the second article of the creed. Yes, God has given us many good things. But the Ten Commandments shows the abundance of our sin. It shows that we come far short of the glory of God. It tells us that those who break God's law, is deserving of eternal death. So, the second article the creed shows us hope. It shows us Jesus. Jesus who is indeed true God was born of the Virgin Mary and he became man.

Wow. Think about that. God! The one who created the Earth and everything in it, became human like me and like you. Why? For what purpose? It was to be hated. It was in order to be humiliated, to be tortured, and to suffer death by crucifixion. He did all of this for me and for you. For you see, our God is a just God. His justice and his wrath was poured upon Jesus, that you and I may be spared.

Yes, indeed Jesus purchase and won you and me not with silver or gold, but with his innocent suffering and death and his blood shed on the cross. For this I give thanks. I give thanks that he didn't stay dead, but he rose from the dead and prior to ascending to heaven sent forth his disciples to proclaim the Gospel to the world.

I give thanks for missionaries around the world who preach Jesus to those who need to hear it. I give thanks to the missionaries that went to Finland and made it possible for my grandparents to know Jesus. I give thanks for my dad and mom who made sure I was baptized and catechized in the Christian faith. I give thanks that they made sure that I was confirmed and faithfully received the Lord's Supper throughout high school.

The third article of the creed tells us that I cannot by my own reason or strength come to know Jesus as Lord. Scripture tells us that our sinful nature is so great that

none of us would willingly follow Jesus, out of hatred for him. Therefore, on the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit descended upon the crowd and empowered men and women to follow Jesus and confess Him as Lord.

I give thanks for the Holy Spirit. That he works through utterly ordinary water, combined with God's word and promise to forgive our sins, cloth us in righteousness, and save us, I give thanks or this thing called baptism. I give thanks that I received this gift on September 12th, 1982.

I give thanks that through ordinary bread and wine, he gives us his very body and blood, a mystery so profound. I give thanks that in the Lord's Supper, in this Holy Communion, I am forgiven of my sins. I am given strength to walk through this not always easy world. I am even given the opportunity to dine with all the company of heaven who are in the presence of Jesus at all times.

I give thanks for the many pastors in my life. From the pastor that baptized me to Pastor Linderman who confirmed me to Pastor Baldwin who ordained me to the many professors of Concordia Wisconsin and Concordia Seminary. I give thanks for how God formed me through their labors. I give thanks for Pastor Schornhorst who supervised me during Vicarage. I give thanks for Pastor Gaunt who supervised me at me Field Work Church in Seminary. I give thanks for Pastor Salcido who was an excellent co-servant at St. Paul for seven years. I give thanks for all of my fellow pastors in the ministry.

I give thanks that God has granted me the incredible privilege to preach the Gospel to you. To baptize many in our congregation, both young and old. I give thanks that I get give the Lord's Supper to you. I give thanks for the privilege to be part of your lives in weddings, confirmations, and yes, even funerals. Every death is sad and tragic, but I rejoice in the hope of the resurrection, and give thanks for the opportunity to speak that hope unto you and your families.

I give thanks for our council members: Presidents (past and present), Vice-President, elders, various boards, I give thanks for your time and work. I give thanks for the wonderful musicians of our congregation. Organists, praise band and praise team, those who work the computers and sound system, I give thanks. I give thanks for those who serve as ushers and readers and help serve communion.

I give thanks for the incredible service of the LWML and all of our youth. I give thanks for being part of the journey of each youth. Of course, I give thanks for Diane and all that she does for this congregation, and all the ways that she helps me serve this congregation better.

I realize this is long, and I know there are those that I likely left out. However, I hope that this gives you cause and ideas as to what you might be thankful for. I pray that thankful hearts would lead all of us to serve. It would lead our hearts to be the reason that someone else may be thankful. We do this, not so we would be thanked, but for the simple privilege of helping others.

So, we donate our times. We donate our talents. We donate our treasures. We give and serve and pray and worship out of gratitude and thankfulness for our Savior. Indeed in the midst of it all. We give thanks for the one who creates and sustains us. We give thanks for the one who redeemed us by His blood. We give thanks for the one who sanctifies us through word and sacrament. We give thanks for and look forward to the resurrection of the body on the last day. Until that day, to God be all glory, and may His glory shine through us. In Jesus' name. Amen.



USHERS THIS MONTH

For the month of November

9:00AM

5:00PM Marge & Kelly



COMMUNITY BASKET DONATIONS for NOVEMBER: soups, stews, crackers, etc., place your donation in the shopping cart in the Narthex or hallway. All items are appreciated as well, as they can always use donations. The Community Basket is open on Thursdays (except 3rd Thursday), from 2:30-5:30PM. **Mobile Food Pantry: Odebolt Community Center, on Thursday, November 21 from 4:30-5:30PM**

FREE WILL OFFERING FOR THANKSGIVING MEAT CERTIFICATES for Mid Sioux, we will pass the plate the first couple Sunday's in November during the announcement time. We will have a container in the Narthex for donations as well.

VOTERS' MEETING

2024 Budget, Apply for Vicar, etc.
Sunday, November 17th @10:30am



ANNUAL PIE SOCIAL

Hosted by the Elders of St. Paul
After the Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service at 7:30PM

If you would like to donate a pie a sign up sheet is available at the church or call the Church Office, 364-2918 and we can put you on the list.



ADVENT BEGINS ON December 4
Hymn sing at 6:15PM and Advent Worship at 6:30PM

**WATCH FOR MORE INFO ON UPCOMING
 ADVENT MEALS**

December 4 will be served by the Board of Human Care
December 11
December 18



Cross Explorations & Catechism Classes
3rd – 5th Grades

Class Time is 4:00-5:00PM

They can walk up after right after school
 There will be snack time

If they need to stay til 5:15PM to wait for a sibling,
 an adult will be present with them

6th, 7th & 8th Grades

Class Time is 4:00-5:15PM

On Early Out school day's it will be from

1:30-2:30PM 3rd – 5th grades

1:30-2:45PM 6th-8th grades



10:15AM-11:15AM

4yr old Preschool – 2nd Grade in Nursery upstairs

3rd & 4th Grade in same classroom as last year on lower level

5th & 6th Grade in same classroom as last year on lower level

7th & 8th Grades are to attend Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall

9th -12th Grades in Youth Room

SIGN UP SHEET to provide pies for the Thanksgiving Eve Pie Social after the Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service on **Wednesday, November 27**. Sign up sheet on the Welcome Center.

BAKE SALE FUNDRAISER put on by a group of ladies from St. Paul. Drop off will be Monday, Nov. 25 from 3:00-6:00PM at the Gathering Place, 412 Second St., **the Bake Sale will be Tuesday, Nov. 26 from 8:30AM- ??** **A SIGN-UP SHEET** is available on the table in Narthex for you to sign up to provide baked goods for this bake sale.

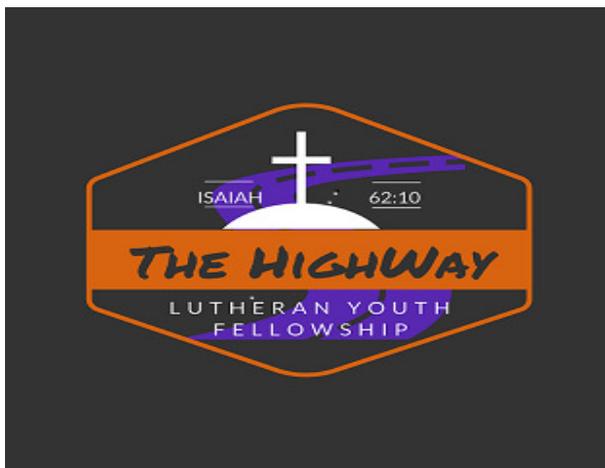
CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM will be on **Sunday, December 8th** during the Worship Service.

JR High and SR High Youth Pancake and Sausage Breakfast



**1st Sunday's of the month – except for December it will be
December 8th (following the Children's Christmas Service)
SERVING FOLLOWING WORSHIP SERVICE**

**FREE WILL OFFERING
FUNDRAISER
FOR
YOUTH ACTIVITIES,
YEARLY GATHERINGS AND NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING**



**The HighWay Sr High Youth (9th-12th)
Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 7PM**



**The MidWay Jr High Youth (6th-8th)
Meets 2nd Wednesday of month 5:15-6:15PM**



UPDATING INFORMATION: we always ask to update our records with any new addresses, even if its been within 6 months – year, any changes in phone numbers, etc.to make sure we have all correct information of birthdates and anniversaries. Also if you would not like your birthday or anniversary publicized in the weekly bulletin or the monthly newsletter please let the church office know. stpaulidagrove@gmail.com or 712-364-2918

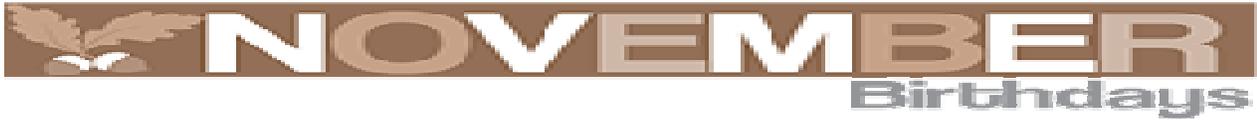
MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS AND CALENDAR are always available to be picked up at the church in the narthex. If you would like to view online our website is www.stpaulig.org If you would like it emailed to you please contact the church office, email us or fill out the “update our information form” Copies of the form to update information is available on the Welcome center and can be placed in the wooden offering box

HOSPITALIZATION REMINDER : if you are admitted to any hospital please let us know or have a family member or a friend let Pastor Neil or the church office know, so we know you are there to visit, or would just want prayers from Pastor.



WANT TO BE A BELL PLAYER??

Bell season has begun! New ringers are always welcome, and our group would love to grow. Please consider learning a new talent or sharing your existing musical talent with the group. Our rehearsals are on Monday evenings from 6:30-7:30 pm in the church sanctuary. If you are interested in joining, have questions, or would like to give ringing a try, please call or text Trisha at 712-830-4089.



NOVEMBER Birthdays

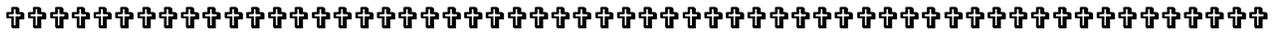
Nov. 2 Mary Lageschulte
 Nov. 3 Ann Sears
 Nov. 4 Maia Montgomery
 Katie Riessen
 Nov. 5 Dawson Hinkeldey
 Madison Hinkeldey
 Nov. 6 Bob Bowen
 Peggy Hanson
 Kevin Krager
 Nov. 9 Paul Cates
 Lorna Steenbock
 Nov. 10 Kim Bleckwehl
 Nov. 11 Robert Uhl
 Nov. 13 Kim Carnine
 Nov. 15 Gemma Arbegast
 Nov. 16 Anne Thornhill
 Karen Wiertsema
 Nov. 17 Danika Hinkeldey

Marlene Schneider
 Dorla Schuett
 Nov. 18 Justin Ausborn
 Nov. 19 Courtney Ackerman
 Jacob Zimmerman
 Nov. 20 Lenny Boysen
 Dean Hammer
 Nov. 21 Charles Bell
 Nov. 22 Ryan Godbersen
 Terry Lovett
 Jeff Miesner
 Nov. 25 Ross Ladwig
 Nov. 26 Ricee Hoaglund
 Chris Miller-West
 Nov. 27 Sam Jamison
 Nov. 30 Nicole Knop



NOVEMBER Anniversaries

November 1 Ray & Barb Kacmarynski
 November 9 Brent & Kayla Rohlk
 November 12 Jack and Linda Ausborn
 Harold & Margaret Greenwald
 November 26 Kyler & Makenna Lewis
 November 27 Dennis & Sallie Miesner



In awe of everyday joys

Maybe you've heard of making micro-resolutions for the new year. Similarly, health experts recommend becoming aware of — and thankful for — micro-joys we experience and encounter.

In *The Power of Awe*, Jake Eagle and Michael Amster describe the benefits of taking several brief A.W.E. breaks throughout the day:

- **A** is for Attention, as you focus on something that amazes you or seems valuable.
- **W** is for Waiting, as you pause to take a deep breath.
- **E** is for Exhaling, as you breathe out and feel joy and gratitude.

This simple practice reveals how profound the "ordinary" can be, thanks to the generosity of our extraordinary God.

Holiday Porch Pots & Centerpieces



When: Sunday, November 24, 2024

(2 sessions: 1:00 to 3:00 and 3:00 to 5:00 PM)

Where: The Depot at Moorehead Park



What: **Bring your own pot with dirt or foam.** Please keep your pot under 13" across to allow greens for everyone. Greens, twigs, bows, and pinecones will be provided, but feel free to bring any of your own décor to fancy up your holiday pot. We will have a few smaller pots, smaller foam for those containers available for centerpieces.

Cost is \$25 for Porch Pots \$15 for Centerpieces

**sign up is requested (to prepare supplies) & indicate
which one you would be interested in doing**

All proceeds will go towards the Sr High LYF for future gatherings and activities

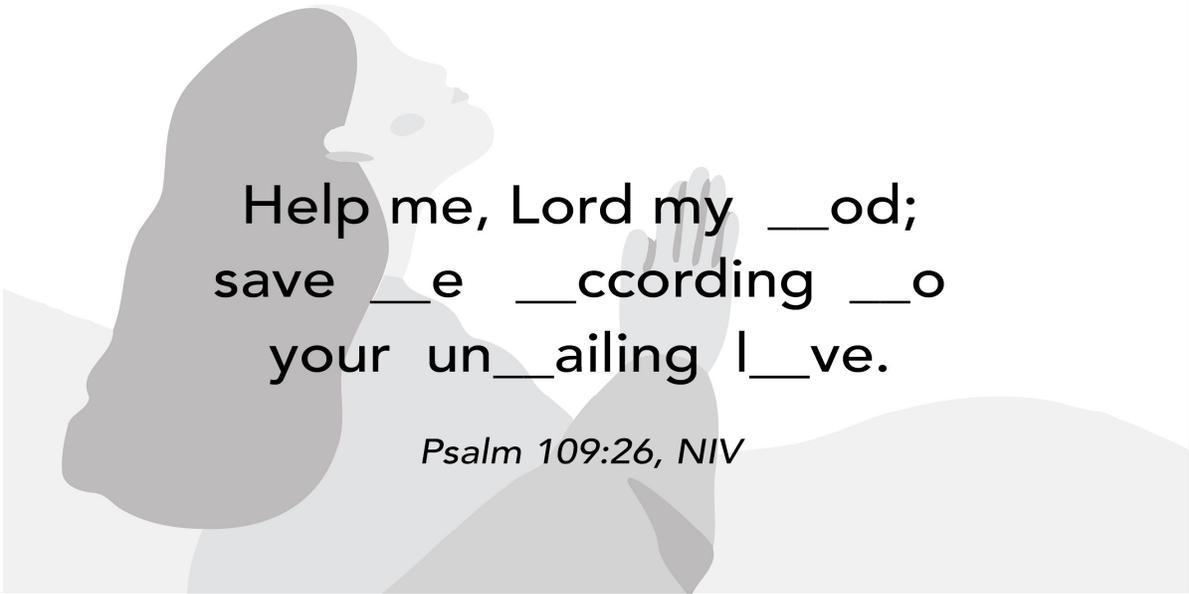


BECAUSE OF WHO GOD IS

Thanks to who God is, we can talk to him in prayer.

Directions: Unscramble the descriptions of God, using the Bible references as clues. Then write the circled letters below to complete Psalm 109:26, NIV

Psalm 145:8	SGAICURO	<input type="checkbox"/> _ _ _ _ _
Job 36:5	HGIYMT	<input type="checkbox"/> _ _ _ _ _
Psalm 90:2	LTAVREENISG	_ _ _ _ _ <input type="checkbox"/> _ _ _ _ _
2 Peter 3:9	INETTPA	_ _ _ _ _ <input type="checkbox"/> _
1 Thessalonians 5:24	FUFHIATL	<input type="checkbox"/> _ _ _ _ _
Isaiah 40:25	OYHL	_ <input type="checkbox"/> _ _



Help me, Lord my __od;
 save __e __ccording __o
 your un__ailing l__ve.

Psalm 109:26, NIV

Answers: gracious, mighty, everlasting, patient, faithful, holy; Help me, Lord my God; save me according to your unfailing love; Psalm 109:26, NIV