

St. Paul News

St. Paul Lutheran Church
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NOVEMBER **2026**

God's Harvest to Come
By Pastor Neil Wehmas

The church calendar has often moved with the seasons of fall, winter, and spring in the northern hemisphere. It is a parallel that indeed helps to emphasize the teachings of scripture. During the season of Advent/Christmas, the world gets darker and colder but the lights and candles of the season reminds us of Jesus as the light of the world who gives us hope in darkness.

Similarly, the end of the church year moves alongside the harvest time. Throughout this great state of Iowa, we see combines and tractors busy at work harvesting corn and soybeans and other crops. We pray for our farmers. We give thanks to God for our farmers. And we pray and give thanks for the harvest he brings us.

However, the season of November begins with All Saints' Day. All Saints' Day calls upon us to remember those who have died as a consequence of their Christian faith. It also calls upon us to remember all of those who have died in the faith.

The month of November moves on from there to hearing Jesus' parables and teachings of his return on the last day. These teachings of Jesus carry messages of hope, and also messages of warning.

When Jesus returns, when the end of this age arrives, we are tempted to become afraid. There is some reason for this. The Bible tells us that those days will be of great difficulty and turmoil. How can one look forward to *that*?

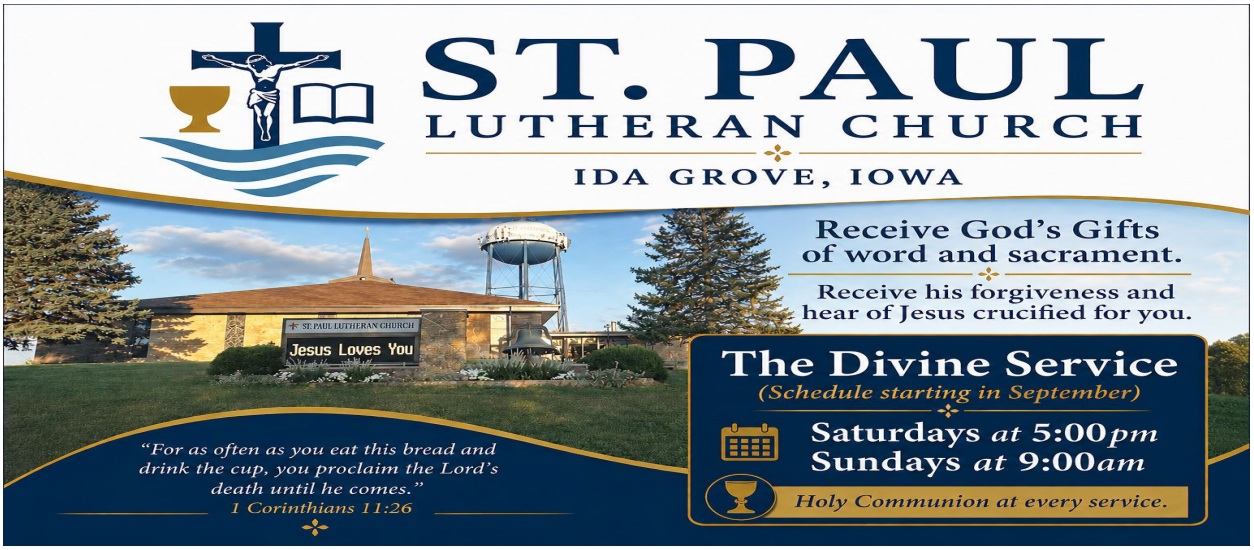
However, scripture tells us to lift up our heads. For as you witness the burdens and anguishes of this life, know that your redemption: Christ Our Lord is near. Rest in this approaching hope and joy.

For when Christ comes, he comes to bring about God's great harvest. This of course is not a harvest of corn or wheat or potatoes or soybeans. No, this is a harvest of bodies and souls. As our bodies are sown into the ground, like a seed. As it lays their resting, fast asleep, it awaits this harvest with great joy.

For our Jesus, our good shepherd, the resurrection and the life, will speak your name. He will tell you it is time to awake. And just as a plant filled with fruits emerges from a sown seed, at the speaking of Jesus' voice, our bodies too will emerge. We will emerge not as we once were, but as a new and glorified body.

What a day that shall be. As we are harvested and physically risen from the grave to never die again. Free from pain and hunger and thirst and tears. We will be joined with the multitudes who have died before and after us. Our parents, grandparents, siblings, close friends, and others beyond counting will be standing with us before our God upon his throne.

I do not know when this day shall come. What I do know is that Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father and this inexpressible joy, apart from Jesus. Those who have rejected Christ shall be cast into the fire. Therefore, we have a task before us. We must proclaim the love of Christ to our neighbors.
We are to practice love, mercy, and kindness to our fellow Christians. How shall anyone hear, unless someone tells them? So, may we ever speak of God's goodness until the great harvest that is to come. To God be all Glory. Amen.



NO PANCAKES IN NOVEMBER DUE TO THE YOUTH RUMMAGE SALE. PLEASE JOIN US AGAIN on Sunday, December 6 following the Worship Service and let the JR HIGH & SR HIGH YOUTH serve you pancakes in the fellowship hall Free Will Offering

ST. PAUL YOUTH will be having a Rummage Sale in the Fellowship Hall on November 6 from 2-7pm, November 7 from 8-1pm and after church on Nov. 8 from 10:30-11:30am.

SHARA OSIRO, OUR MISSIONARY TO AFRICA FROM MISSION CENTRAL is coming to visit here at St. Paul on Sunday, Nov. 8th during the Worship Service and will be available during the Fellowship hall after.

VOTERS' MEETING for 2027 BUDGET APPROVAL, among other Agenda items, will be on Sunday, November 15 at 10:30AM, in the Fellowship Hall.



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.



FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT is November 29
ADVENT WORSHIP begins on Wednesday, December 2, services will be at 7:00PM with
Hymn sing at 6:45PM

WATCH FOR MORE INFO ON UPCOMING ADVENT MEALS
December 2 will be served by F*r*i*e*n*d*s group
December 9 will be served by Board of Human Care
December 16 Jr High Youth

Upcoming dates:
Christmas Eve Worship 2:00PM and 6:00PM
Christmas Day Worship 9:00AM (please note time change)
Saturday December 26 Worship 5:00PM
Sunday December 27 Worship 9:00AM
***No Sunday School, Middle School, High School**
***No Bible Study**
New Year's Eve Worship 6:00PM



Sunday School 10:30-11:30 AM
Children ages 4 yr old Preschool-5th grade
Preschool-1st grade room upstairs hallway by south windows to the left -- middle classroom in that hallway
2nd & 3rd room downstairs to the left - middle classroom
4th & 5th room downstairs to the right
6th-8th - Middle School Youth Room downstairs southwest corner
9th-12th - High School Youth Room downstairs southeast corner

WE ARE STARTING TO PRACTICE MUSIC, DURING SUNDAY SCHOOL MUSIC TIME FOR THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM, that will be on Sunday, December 13 during the Worship Service

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL on Sunday, November 29

WEDNESDAY CROSS EXPLORATIONS & CATECHISM CLASSES ON WEDNESDAYS (MIDWEEK CLASSES) for grades 3rd - 8th 5:30-6:30PM.
(just a reminder when there is an early out class is still at 5:30PM)
There will be no snack time, when kids arrive they will go directly to class when they come at 5:30PM ***Parents of 7th & 8th graders please check email for sign up genius for schedule to sign up when you can help.**
REMINDER if there is NO School or School gets dismissed early due to weather, there will be NO CLASS that day.

NO WEDNESDAY CLASS OR CATECHISM ON Wednesday, November 25







2026 MONTHLY SCRIPTURE READING CALENDAR – NOVEMBER is on the Welcome Center for you to pick up. It is also included in this newsletter on the back of the monthly calendar also available on our Website under the Calendar tab. As well as our Facebook page.



COMMUNITY BASKET DONATIONS FOR NOVEMBER: Soups, stews, crackers, etc. Place your donation in the shopping cart in the Narthex or the clear tote on coat rack by front door. **Any 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 ****They can always use canned vegetables, canned fruits & canned soups. ESPECIALLY CEREAL. Also note: they can use outdated items that are within a year of expiration. Mobile Food Pantry will be at the Odebolt Community Center on Wednesday, November 4 from 4:30-5:30PM .** Its helpful to bring a laundry basket or container for your food items.

Giving Thanks for All Things

It's easy to list the blessings in life: good health, family, a satisfying career, a comfortable home. We might even be thankful for things others take for granted such as freedom and clean drinking water, reliable transportation and food enough to eat. Then there are the little things, such as gardens, sunrises, pets and coffee.But what about life's storms or unanswered prayers? Should we be thankful for these? Loss and hardship remind us of our dependence on God. He uses trials to draw us closer to him, to show us that He is our rock and refuge. In misfortune and grief, we discover God's comfort and strength. Should we not, then, be thankful for the storms, too?

LUTHERAN FAMILY SERVICE: Chalenged to find a mental health or marriage counselor who aligns with your Christian beliefs? Look no further! Lutheran Family Service has offices in Ida Grove and Carroll, as well as reserved appointment times via telehealth. Lynnette Aschinger, LISW, is anchored in Christian values and provides services in these locations. She brings more than 29 years of post-licensure experience and 38 years of total experience in the social work field, all within this general service area. This depth of experience allows for the continuity of care you desire. To inquire or schedule an appointment, please call 712-276-9000. She looks forward to meeting you!

SOME OF YOUR OPTIONS FOR BIBLE STUDIES

WEDNESDAY EARLY MORNINGS BIBLE STUDY meets at **7:00AM** at Zimmy's

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS BIBLE STUDY, led by Pastor Neil and meets at 9:30AM on Wednesdays in the Conference Room

WOMEN'S EVENING BIBLE STUDY on 1ST AND 3RD Wednesdays on the month at 6:30PM ** and meet in the Conference Room. The evening study will be doing Everlasting, Peaks, Valleys & Grace in the Psalms *by Christina Hergenrader.* We will meet on Wednesday, November 4 and November 18 and we will be done with our book and take a break during Advent and will resume with a new Book/Bible Study in January.

WOMEN'S DAYTIME BIBLE STUDY is on the 2nd & 3rd Thursdays at 1:00PM in the Conference Room. The Daytime study will be doing the book/ Bible study My Peace, I Leave You. We will meet on Thursday, November 12 and November 19.



NEW BIBLE STUDY, READING THE BIBLE AND THE LUTHERAN CONFESSIONS WITH PASTOR NEIL, Thursdays at 7:00PM, will be every Thursday and on **the 4th Thursday of the month he will be going through the Book of Concord**. It is not necessary to have the Book of Concord to join in this Bible Study as it will only be used on the 4th Thursday. if you would want to purchase one, we can order for you, let Pastor or the church office know, or there is a free download for the Book of Concord https://bookofconcord.cph.org/ **This Bible Study is open to anyone and any age.**

SUNDAY MORNINGS BIBLE STUDY we have started video Bible study series, called "Stuff they didn't teach me in Sunday School".
We will not meet on Sunday, Nov. 8 due to Shara joining us during Fellowship time. We also will not meet on Sunday, Nov. 15 due to the Voters' Meeting (2027 Budget approval) and not meet on Sunday, Nov. 29. Thank you for your understanding for these dates

If you are wanting a Pastor led Bible Study we encourage you we to come to Wednesday morning Bible Study at 9:30AM-10:30AM with Pastor Neil or to his Thursday evening Bible Study at 7:00PM in the Fellowship Hall.

LWML LADIES BIBLE STUDY NOVEMBER

RUTH (2) will meet on **November 5** and will meet for lunch at noon and have Bible study at 1:00PM at the church in the Old Conference Room. Ellen will be BSL.

LOIS (3) will meet on **November 5** in the downstairs Conference Room at 1:30PM. Mary will be hostess and Judy S. will be BSL.

EUNICE (10) will meet on **Wednesday, November 4 at** Willowdale Assisted Living, Battle Creek at 2:00PM. Karen F. will be hostess and Karen F will be BSL.

JOHANNA(12) will **meet November 5 we will meet for lunch & Bible Study at Zimmy's at 12:30PM.** Cecile will be BSL.

NO LWML BIBLE STUDY LEADER'S MEETING IN NOVEMBER

LWML GROUPS / CIRCLES as you see the groups listed above all meet during the day.
If you are interested in a day time circle/Bible study group but the current days or times don't work for your schedule please reach out to Shar, Nancy or the church office and we can help get you started. If you are interested in a night time circle because you work or you just prefer evening time, again please let us know and we can help get you started.
Our LWML Quarterly which includes the 3 monthly Bible Studies that we do each quarter, so the new Quarterly is on the table in the hallway by the Old Conference Room / bulletin boards, and it is for October, November, December. They are generally pretty short Bible Studies and also on the table is a Leaders Guide/help that goes along with each monthly Bible Study for you to help with the discussion of answers. You are welcome to meet here at the church or in your homes, whichever you prefer

THE LARGE LWML MITE BOX that is on the table in the narthex will be highlighted and along with the Mission Mite of the month, on the second Sunday of each month. For NOVEMBER Support Rev. Roberto and Katie Weber LCMS Missionaries to the Dominican Republic, North America | $10,000 About This Mission Grant Rev. Roberto and Katie Weber are serving the Lord as career missionaries through the LCMS in the Dominican Republic. Rev. Weber assists in the training of pastors, evangelists, and deaconesses at the Concordia del Raformador Seminary in the Dominican Republic. Besides teaching at the seminary, he serves as pastor at the mission station in Santiago. In Latin America, the Lutheran Church is growing so fast that pastors and deaconesses cannot be trained quickly enough to meet the need. The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. The missionaries in the Dominican Republic continue to raise up laborers from all over Latin America to go back to their countries and communities to share the Gospel, plant new Lutheran congregations, and show mercy care to all. The seminary is currently training 47 pastoral candidates from 12 Latin American countries. This grant will support the work of Rev. Roberto and Katie Weber.

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THANKSGIVING WORD SEARCH



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DINNER
TURKEY
THANKS
NOVEMBER
AUTUMN
LEAVES
FAMILY
PILGRIMS
STUFFING
FALL
PARADE
TRADITION
CRANBERRY
FRIENDS
GRAVY
GATHER