



# St. Paul's Messenger

A monthly newsletter for friends and family

**November 2024**

*St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 321 N. Park Avenue, Medford, WI 54451*

*Phone: 715-748-4909*

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Council President's Message	1
Message from Barb Krug (SAM)	2
Mobile Food Pantry	2
Worship Assistants	3
Birthdays & Anniversaries	3
Ladies Lunch Bunch	3
Sunday School	4
Choir	4
Needles for Needs	5
Council Minutes	5-6
Meditation Moment	6
Treasurer's Report	7
Contact Information	8
Calendar	9

## EVENTS

- Nov. 3 All Saints Sunday
- Nov. 13 *Greatest Christmas Pageant Ever* Movie  
Church Council
- Nov. 17 Confirmation Skit
- Nov. 20 Ladies Lunch Bunch  
Newsletter Deadline
- Nov. 27 Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service
- Nov. 28 Thanksgiving Day

## Attendance

October 6	81
October 13	97
October 20	91
October 27	72

The November newsletter is sponsored by Cathy Retzer.

## A Message from Council President Val Bach

As I write this month's message, it is the Monday after I led worship at St. Paul's. My sermon message was about Jesus' words to James and John about what it means to be a leader; how the best way to lead is to serve others with humility.

These words resonate with me even more now that I am retired; because, very little of the extra time I have available in these past weeks has been spent on my own personal "to-do" items. And, no, I still haven't cleaned my walk-in closet (I'm saving that for a rainy or cold-weather day; after all, I have the rest of my life for that, right?)

I've been able to focus on helping my children out more with my grand-children which in turn, results in making more memories with them. I've been able to help my mom and my in-laws with little tasks they aren't able to do anymore. I am able to play a hand or two more of pinochle, which my in-laws value more than any work I would do for them. Bringing them pleasure makes my day just as much as it does theirs. My extra time has also given me the opportunity to reflect on how I might be able to add more meaning to my life by giving some of my time and effort to others who might benefit from something I can do.

Throughout the years I missed many funerals that I would have liked to attend because of my job. I know first-hand how much it means to those mourning the loss of a loved one to see and feel the love and support from others during such difficult times. I'm making it my goal to reach out more with a card or a phone call or a message on Facebook or better yet, express my condolences with a hug in person.

Another of my goals is to join the choir at St. Paul's (I even showed up at church Sunday at 8:00 a.m., thinking that the choir would be there, only to find out they meet the second and last Sunday of each month). Now, I just have to remember that. I MUST use my reminder option on my phone!

If you are looking for ways to serve others, there are many opportunities at St. Paul's. Volunteering can truly be rewarding. Just reach out to anyone of the Council members or people currently involved in the various groups of St. Paul's if you'd like to make a difference and feel the rewards of volunteering and serving others. We welcome everyone!

And speaking of leaders, St. Paul's is truly blessed with some great ones in Barb Krug, Pastor Bob, and Pastor Nancy, who continue to provide us with inspiration and spiritual guidance. Barb works a crazy number of hours, but makes it her priority to serve the congregations of Our Saviour's and St. Paul's, even after putting in relentless hours to fulfill all of her other responsibilities. And Pastor Bob and Pastor Nancy, who both supposedly retired a while ago, continue to

(Council President message continued)

bless us by leading worship at least once a month. How lucky are we to have such amazing leaders, leaders who inspire by serving others and are truly humble as they do so. Thank you to each one of you! You are truly appreciated.

My message to each of you is to go and serve; lead with humility. And remember...God's Work, Our Hands.

### A Message from Barb Krug (SAM)

WOW – when people say time flies faster as you get older, they weren't kidding. Look at the calendar. It's November already! What beautiful weather we've had getting here though.

We have been blessed in both congregations with growth in our Sunday School and Confirmation classes, teachers to guide them, and parents to support them. Creating the curriculum for Our Saviour's Sunday School has been amazing. This week's lesson was just completed with the theme of the 10 Commandments. I'm not sure why, but this lesson really excited me. There were so many ideas to work with to keep the kids active and involved. The lesson included the Left-Right story game from Exodus. As the story is read, the children pass around an item when the word left or right is said in the direction of the word. Our family has played this game with various stories, usually at Christmas time with white elephant gifts. Oh my, Christmas! Some people are already thinking about and decorating for it. I just brought out my Halloween decorations and we still have Thanksgiving to enjoy. Time keeps moving faster and faster though.

What are you doing with your time? Do you slow down long enough to enjoy all that our Lord has created? Did you stop and smell the lilacs when they bloomed in September and October? Did you take a few moments to watch as the eagles flew over your head checking out their domain? Did you enjoy time with your family? Did you give thanks for all the blessings you have received?

I can honestly say that I did all of those things recently. No matter how busy life becomes, one should always give thanks to our creator. We haven't achieved anything that is more important than giving thanks to the one who helps us achieve them! It's not always easy to remember that as we try to tackle LIFE. We sometimes lose track of why we are even doing things. Remember, God walks along side of you each and every step of the day. Glance over and see Him. Chat with Him. Feel His embrace. Take time, my friends, take time to cherish this life that you have been given. This life and the life after that Jesus Christ has made possible for us.

God's blessings,  
Barb Krug - SAM

### Mobile Food Pantry

**The Mobile Food Pantry served 94 households on October 17 , 2024.**

43 individuals ages 0-17  
82 individuals ages 18-59  
90 individuals ages 60+  
215 total number of individuals  
1st visit in 2024: 24 individuals

**The next Mobile Food Pantry  
will be on Thursday,  
November 21.**

Volunteers meet at 1:00 p.m.  
Distribution begins at 4:00 p.m.

Feed My People delivered 5307 pounds of the following food: squash, cabbage, peppers, watermelon, cheese, chicken, peanut butter, bread, bakery, baked beans, apples, bananas, juice, potatoes, milk, yogurt, and oatmeal.

If you would like to help sponsor the food pantry, simply make out your check to

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church** and include "food pantry" in the memo line.

Business and individual sponsors are welcome.



Thank you to *Bob Whetstone* for sponsoring the October Mobile Food Pantry and to the many volunteers that came to help distribute the food.



## Sunday School

Sunday School students have been very busy learning about Joseph's life and how he helped the Pharaoh learn the meanings of his crazy dreams. The children realized that they don't have to be scared as Jesus is always with us even when we can't physically see him. Before the business of the holidays approach, we hope to learn about Baby Moses. Then our focus will be getting ready for our Christmas program, so mark your calendars for December 15th!!!

Sunday School Coordinators,  
Heidi Haynes and Kathy Hackbarth



On Wednesday, November 13, at 4:15 p.m., the School and Confirmation classes from Our Saviour's and St. Paul's are invited to attend a showing of **The Best Christmas Pageant Ever**. The cost will be \$10.00, which includes the ticket, a small popcorn, and a small drink for anyone who attends. The buses will get the children to the theater from school. The bus company would just need to know who is planning on riding the bus. Parents: you will need to pick up your child at the theater after the show at approximately 6:00 p.m.



There will be a **Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service** at the Medford Methodist Church. The service will be on Wednesday, November 27, at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome.

### Looking ahead to the Christmas Season . . .

**Advent services** will be held at St. Paul's on Wednesday, December 4, December 11, and December 18. The services will begin at 5:30 p.m., and will average approximately 30 minutes in length. Please join us.

#### Christmas Eve Service Times

2:00 p.m. St. Paul's  
4:00 p.m. Our Saviour's  
6:00 p.m. St. Paul's



#### Christmas Pageant December 8

We will be having a Christmas Pageant this year. It will be held Sunday, December 8, at St. Paul's as a joint service with Our Saviour's. That Sunday, there will be a short church service, the pageant, and then a potluck to follow.

We are still looking for a few more participants. Please contact Dawn Harder at dawnharder65@gmail.com or text her at 715-965-1487 if you are interested.



Choir rehearsals will be on the  
following Sundays at 8:00 a.m.  
November 10 and November 24.

Please contact the church office if  
your contact information has  
changed.



Phone: 715-748-4909  
Email: stpaulslutheranmedford@gmail.com

### **Needles for Needs**

We had a very successful season of quilt making again this year, having made 258 Lutheran World Relief Quilts, which we displayed in the church for our annual quilt blessing on September 22. We brought all the quilts to the Ingathering in Wausau on October 5, where they were loaded onto a semi and brought to the Minneapolis Warehouse. From there they may be distributed overseas or within the US. Our annual "Adopt a quilt" fundraiser during the blessing yielded \$342, which will ship 136 of the quilts. We had funds earmarked from previous years that will cover the cost for the remaining quilts. THANK YOU to all who donated - it is appreciated!!

We are still taking donations of flat cotton & cotton/poly blend sheets to use for backs for the quilts. At this time, we are preparing to assemble quilts for homeless veterans, but we need your help! We are looking for a few more individuals to help us sew denim tops for the homeless vet quilts. After Wanda's passing, we are feeling the uncertainty of being able to complete many of these quilts - she completed over 200 tops every year for this ministry.

We realize that coming to our weekly Tuesday meetings is not feasible for everyone, and sometimes working from home would be a little more convenient. We have a couple of jobs that may appeal to those of you who would like to help from home. Do you like to sew scrappy quilt tops? We would be happy to package up some bags of scraps for you to turn into tops for our LWR ministry. We recently had 3 or 4 separate donations of many scraps. Is sewing bigger pieces more appealing to you? We have 2 larger boxes of sheet trimmings that need to be turned into 66x86" backs for our quilts. We also have many bags of denim jeans that have to be cut apart and into useable pieces for our homeless vet quilts. ANY help would be appreciated, and we hope you'll join us!!

We would also like to take a moment to thank our anonymous donor for their generous donation toward our batting fund - we wouldn't be able to purchase all the batting we need for the quilts without their support. We are so blessed to have the donations from all of you - we truly couldn't do this ministry without you!!

God's Work, Our Hands.  
Tonya Albers

### **Church Council Meeting Wednesday, October 9, 2024**

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President, Val Bach. Members present were Val Bach, Marie Koerner, Leon Gasek, Dan Higgins, Dave Hraby, Tony Studinger, Carrie Zirngible and Gail Heurung. Unable to attend was Heidi Haynes. Guests present were Nancy Jones and SAM Barb Krug. Barb led the group in an opening prayer.

A motion was made to approve the agenda for this meeting by Leon, seconded by Dan, motion carried. A motion was made by Dave, seconded by Kathy to accept the minutes from the previous meeting with the following changes:

There was a motion by Kathy, seconded by Marie to find someone to cap the toilet in the older part of the church by the Pastor's old study. Motion carried.

There was a motion by Tony, seconded by Dave to have Justin help us obtain a new audio mixer and get us pricing on the microphones. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Marie, seconded by Gail, to accept the presented Treasurer's Report. Motion carried. Discussion regarding reminding the congregation about the need to continue to keep our giving up – even though we are not paying a pastor at this time, we need to continue to show that should a pastor become available, we would be able to support one. Val is preaching on Oct. 20 and will address it in church.

Nothing new from the Financial Recording Secretary.

Barb discussed the resolutions from the Synod Assembly. Pastor Randy met with Barb and Val and did a review of how things are going with Barb and our churches. Pastor Nancy communicated she would commit thru mid-year next year at this time.

The Worship Team will be meeting shortly – asked for consideration from the council regarding Advent and Christmas. Val, Barb and Tony will be leading the Advent Services on December 4, 11 and 18. The services will be at 5:30. Christmas Eve services will follow the same schedule as last year. 2:00 at St. Paul's, 4:00 at Our Saviour's and 6:00 at St. Paul's. Motion by Gail, seconded by Dave to go with this schedule. Motion carried.

(Council minutes continued.)

Sunday School has gotten more volunteers.

Right now, there are 14 students in confirmation. Leon advised that there may be some need for assistance coming up. We do not have an adult bible study at this time.

Joint council met. No 5th Sunday joint service. December 8th will be a joint service followed by the Christmas Pageant being planned and potluck lunch. March 30, 2025, will be at St. Paul's, June 29th will be hosted by Our Saviour's but held at the Holway Town Hall with Breaking Chains musical group conducting the service, August 31st will be St. Paul's and November 30th will be at Our Saviour's.

Nancy says we are on the list to have the toilet done.

Motion by Tony, seconded by Carrie, to have Nancy order the Sound mixer and a dual microphone at a cost not to exceed \$900. Motion carried.

The joint newsletter will begin with the January newsletters, after the annual meeting information is handled.

Nancy had the church phone looked at and TDS hard wired the phones to eliminate the issues we have been having with static.

The September benevolence payment was completed.

Reminder that Our Saviour's has their anniversary dinner at the Stetsonville Hall on Sunday. This is a fundraiser by the women of the church. All are welcome.

**New business:**

A discussion about helping with hurricane relief. A motion by Gail, seconded by Marie to collect money for the month until Thanksgiving.... with the church matching up to \$1000. Motion carried.

Reminder from Val that outgoing council members if not planning to remain on the council should be looking for their replacements so we are not waiting until the last minute.

Nancy asked about the renewal that is due for St. Paul's and Our Saviour's on the Sunday and Seasons subscriptions. Motion by Leon, seconded by Tony to combine the subscriptions and pay through the joint account and divide accordingly. Motion carried.

Motion made by Marie, seconded by Gail to adjourn. The next meeting is set for November 13th at 6:00.

The council closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

**A Meditation Moment**

Courtesy of the Kuse Farm Museum and Nature Preserve webpage

<http://www.kusemuseum-naturepreserve.org>



Boxelder "Ashleaf Maple" "Manitoba Maple" (Acer negundo)

Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command! Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! Psalm 148:7-9

This fast-growing tree in the maple family can reach a height of thirty to sixty feet. It has pinnately compound leaves with three to seven leaflets that are pointed at the ends. In fall, the leaves turn brown or yellow and fall from the tree. The bark is light gray and has narrow furrows and deep ridges. Male and female flowers come in spring and are on separate trees. Seeds may hang on the tree until winter. Birds such as Evening Grosbeaks come in flocks and eat the seeds in winter. Some people do not like to plant the female or seed bearing Boxelder trees because in fall they often attract hundreds of orange and black Boxelder bugs. The bugs do not damage the trees or bite or hurt people, but sometimes they become a nuisance when many of them gather on the sides of buildings looking for winter shelter.

Dear Lord,

Help us to give praise to you for all that you have created. In your name we pray, Amen.

@Dr. Hildegard Kuse and Dr. Loretta Kuse

## TREASURER'S REPORT

	2024		2023		YTD % of Change
	September	YTD	September	YTD	
General Giving	8,399	82,569	8,233	89,739	-8.0%
Mortgage Giving	1,345	13,869	2,055	17,890	-22.5%
<b>Total Giving</b>	<b>9,744</b>	<b>96,438</b>	<b>10,288</b>	<b>107,629</b>	<b>-10.4%</b>
General Expenses	5,125	66,652	3,801	53,718	24.1%
Mortgage Expense	2,782	25,038	2,782	25,038	0.0%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>7,907</b>	<b>91,690</b>	<b>6,583</b>	<b>78,756</b>	<b>16.4%</b>
<b>Net Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$1,837</b>	<b>\$4,748</b>	<b>\$3,705</b>	<b>\$28,873</b>	
Designated Giving	3,391	37,671	3,067	128,353	-70.7%
Designated Expenses	3,963	68,711	9,043	111,562	-38.4%
Net Designated Income	(572)	(31,040)	(5,975)	16,791	
Interest Income	\$150	1,306		-	
Net Combined Income (Deficit)	\$1,415	(\$24,986)	(\$2,271)	\$45,664	

<b>Bank Accounts - As of:</b>	<b>9/30/24 YTD Change</b>		<b>Comments</b>
<u>Fund in SPOS Joint Checking</u>	\$1,000	\$1,000	
<u>General Checking</u>	\$160,970	\$4,579	\$136,186
<u>Designated Funds in Checking</u>		\$0	
Building Maintenance	0	(\$31,176)	37,678
Comfort Quilts	726	\$0	516
Community Benevolence Fund	116	\$0	
Designated Memorials	4,953	\$0	3,298
Fair Trade Sales	566	\$279	673
Mortgage Fund	0	\$0	0
Thrivent Choice	1,151	\$819	332
Mobile Food Pantry	8,583	(\$812)	5,386
Sunday School	912	(\$165)	1,102
Youth Group	11,532	\$84	11,417
<b>Total Funds in Checking</b>	<b>\$190,510</b>	<b>(\$25,393)</b>	<b>\$196,590</b>
<u>Other Accounts</u>			
Events/Fund Raiser Acct	3,350	(677)	3,332
Needs for Needs Acct	2,342	(376)	2,112
Scrip Acct	7,990	(636)	4,964
<b>Total Other Accounts</b>	<b>\$13,682</b>	<b>-\$1,688</b>	<b>\$10,408</b>
<b>Total - All Accounts</b>	<b>\$204,192</b>	<b>-\$27,081</b>	<b>\$206,997</b>
Mortgage Balance	\$11,469	-\$51,187	\$79,849

### St. Paul's Giving Options

Mail your check to St. Paul's Lutheran Church,  
321 N. Park Ave., Medford, WI 54451

Simply Giving contributions are deducted from your  
checking or savings account.

Giving via St. Paul's Website



SCRIP cards make great gifts for weddings, graduations, or other special occasions. A portion of each gift card purchase enables St. Paul's to do ministry. Check at the SCRIP counter on Sunday morning or call the office and

## ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

321 North Park Avenue, Medford, WI 54451

### Mission Statement:

Saved and strengthened by Christ, we proclaim God's love through worship, education, and service to our congregation, community, and the world.

### Contact Information

Nancy Jones (Parish Administrator)		
Office phone: 715-748-4909		Office email: <a href="mailto:stpaulslutheranmedford@gmail.com">stpaulslutheranmedford@gmail.com</a>
Barb Krug (SAM) (for pastoral emergencies)		<a href="mailto:barbkrug@charter.net">barbkrug@charter.net</a>
Phone: 715-965-5696		
Pastor Bob Giese (for pastoral emergencies)		<a href="mailto:rjgiese@gmail.com">rjgiese@gmail.com</a>
Phone: 847-899-7122		
Pastor Nancy Amacher (for pastoral emergencies)		<a href="mailto:revnia10@gmail.com">revnia10@gmail.com</a>
Phone: 715-223-5316		
Pastor Elizabeth Biers (for pastoral emergencies)		<a href="mailto:pastor@oneinchristlutherans.com">pastor@oneinchristlutherans.com</a>
Phone: 715-255-0013		
Tina Dassow (Treasurer)		<a href="mailto:tinadassow@gmail.com">tinadassow@gmail.com</a>

### Church Council

Val Bach (President)	715-965-2358	<a href="mailto:brushbach@yahoo.com">brushbach@yahoo.com</a>
Leon Gasek (Vice President)	715-785-7434	<a href="mailto:kimgasek@tds.net">kimgasek@tds.net</a>
Heidi Haynes	715-965-6154	<a href="mailto:heidi_haynes@yahoo.com">heidi_haynes@yahoo.com</a>
Kathy Hackbarth	715-965-2407	<a href="mailto:kathyhackbarth@gmail.com">kathyhackbarth@gmail.com</a>
Gail Heurung (Secretary)	715-316-2788	<a href="mailto:gheurung@gmail.com">gheurung@gmail.com</a>
Dan Higgins	715-748-5529	<a href="mailto:higginsd1948@gmail.com">higginsd1948@gmail.com</a>
Dave Hraby	715-965-3150	<a href="mailto:davidlhraby@gmail.com">davidlhraby@gmail.com</a>
Marie Koerner (Financial Secretary)	715-965-6328	<a href="mailto:4-koerners@charter.net">4-koerners@charter.net</a>
Tony Schumacher	715-581-9488	<a href="mailto:anthonytylerschumacher@gmail.com">anthonytylerschumacher@gmail.com</a>
Carrie Zirngible	715-493-1696	<a href="mailto:cczirn@gmail.com">cczirn@gmail.com</a>

### Additional Information

<b>Sunday Service:</b>	9:15 a.m.
<b>Sunday School</b>	9:15 a.m. (during school year)
<b>Office Hours</b>	Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
<b>Facebook:</b>	StPaulsMedford
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.stpaulsmedford.org">www.stpaulsmedford.org</a>
<b>Our Saviour's</b>	8:00 a.m.
Every 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday – 9:00 a.m. joint worship to be hosted on a rotating basis between Our Saviour's and St. Paul's. Our next joint service is scheduled for <b>Sunday, December 8, 2024.</b>	



Please read the prayer list in the weekly service. If there is someone that needs to be added or removed from the prayer list, please contact the church office at **715-748-4909** or send an email to: [stpaulslutheranmedford@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulslutheranmedford@gmail.com)



# St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Phone: 715-748-4909

Email: [stpaulslutheranmedford@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulslutheranmedford@gmail.com)

## November 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> 6:00 p.m. AA Meeting	<b>2</b>
<b>3 All Saints Day</b> 9:15 a.m. Worship / Communion / Sunday School  	<b>4</b> 6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts	<b>5</b> 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs  6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts	<b>6</b> 4:00 p.m. Confirmation	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 6:00 p.m. AA Meeting	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 8:00 a.m. Choir 9:15 a.m. Worship / Communion / Sunday School	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs	<b>13</b> 4:15 p.m. <i>Greatest                      Christmas                      Pageant Ever</i> – Confirmation & Sunday School  6:00 p.m. Church Council	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 6:00 p.m. AA Meeting	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 9:15 a.m. Worship / Communion Sunday School  Confirmation Skit	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs  6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts	<b>20</b> 11:15 a.m. Ladies Lunch Bunch  4:00 p.m. Confirmation  Newsletter Deadline	<b>21</b> 1:00-5:00 p.m. Mobile Food Pantry	<b>22</b> 6:00 p.m. AA Meeting	<b>23</b>
<b>24 Christ the King</b> 8:00 a.m. Choir 9:15 a.m. Worship / Communion / Sunday School  6:00 p.m. Suicide Support Group	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 9:00 a.m. Needles for Needs	<b>27</b> No Confirmation  7:00 p.m. Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service Medford UMC	<b>28</b> <b>Thanksgiving</b>	<b>29</b> 6:00 p.m. AA Meeting	<b>30</b>

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
321 North Park Avenue  
Medford, WI 54451-1420

*Dated Material*  
*Return Service Requested*

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Medford, WI  
54451  
Permit No. 92



## St. Paul's Messenger

A monthly newsletter for friends and family

**November 2024**

*St. Paul's Lutheran Church*  
321 N. Park Avenue,  
Medford, WI 54451

*Parish Office: 715-748-4909*  
*Email: [stpaulslutheranmedford@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulslutheranmedford@gmail.com)*  
*Sunday Service: 9:15 a.m.*  
*Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. (during school year)*

*Facebook: [StPaulsMedford](https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsMedford)*  
*Website: [www.stpaulsmedford.org](http://www.stpaulsmedford.org)*

