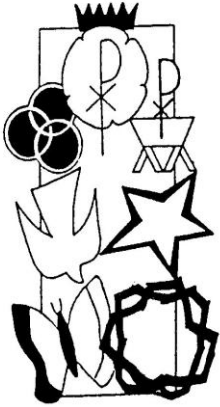


October 1, 2026

St. Paul Messenger

Volume 28, Issue 10

St. Paul Lutheran Church



FROM THE
PASTOR

Some statements about things that are untrue are only a game. Statements that hurt others or deny God's Word are not only hurtful, but they may affect our relationship with God. The Bible describes the devil as the father of lies. The devil would lie and tell us that it does not hurt someone to lie about them. The devil would have us believe the lie that it doesn't matter what we believe about faith and God.

Jesus comes in His Word and says: "I am the truth." Every word of the Bible is true. The story of salvation is true. The truth is that we are sinners and without God's action we would be lost forever. The truth is that Jesus came as God's only Son to be the Savior of the world. The truth is that Jesus lived the perfect life and was the perfect sacrifice for our sin. The truth is that Jesus died and rose again so that we might be with him forever. Jesus makes every promise of God true.

In October we remember the celebration of Reformation. On October 31, 1517 Martin Luther went to the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany and nailed 95 theses, or statements of truth, on the church door. The church of Martin Luther's time was telling the lie that people could buy forgiveness of sin and buy their way in heaven. Luther shared the Truth of God's Word that Jesus alone is the Truth that saves us. We are thankful that the Truth of Jesus has come to us and is taught and preached in our church.

PRAYER: Dear Jesus, that You for being the Truth and sharing Your Truth with us. Forgive us for the lies we have heard and the lies that we share. Help us to share Jesus as the Truth every day. Bless You church and through Your Spirit help us to always be Truthful. In Jesus' name. Amen.

A Servant for Jesus,
Pastor Kramer

ST. PAUL SHUT- INS

We keep in our prayers the following:

DELORES ATKINSON – LUTHERAN HOME

1036 S. Perry St. #207,
Napoleon, OH 43545

Birthday: **October 13**

MARCILLE KATON – LAKE OF MONCLOVA

6935 Monclova Rd. Room 222
Maumee, OH 43537

Birthday: **December 19**

LEVERN GERKEN – HOME

1201 County Road 05
Grand Rapids, OH 43522

Birthday: **October 2**

Remember our shut-ins with a note, card or a visit when appropriate



Preparing Communion for October is:

Ken & Deb Glanz

Providing Flowers:

Sarah Dowd



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS SCHEDULE

October 2026

<u>Date</u>	<u>Elder</u>	<u>Deacon</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
Oct. 4	Howard Kessler	Tom Mohler	Lee Sonnenberg
Oct. 11	Howard Kessler	Brian Baker	Ray Carpenter
Oct. 18	Howard Kessler	Mike Mann	Carl Gault
Oct. 25	Howard Kessler	Erv Sonnenberg	John Engler

October Greeters Selected

The Board of Evangelism has selected the greeters for October. Greeters are requested to greet for Sunday morning worship service. Greeters are asked to be on hand by 9:30 a.m. If there are handouts for that day, they will be labeled as such. Greeters should welcome all who come to worship, and request visitors to sign the Registration Book. If a person is unable to greet, please call Dan Seedorf at 419-265-2798, and he will see that a greeter is in place. A big "Thank You!" goes out to all who help to make our worshipers feel more welcome.

October Greeters are:

October 4:	The Harold Smith Family
October 11:	The Dave Busick Family
October 18:	The Lee Sonnenberg Family
October 25:	The John Engler Family

Stewardship August/September



<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>		<u>Communion</u>	<u>Offerings</u>
Aug 30	53		53	\$1610
Sept. 6	45		40	\$2,400
Sept. 13	50			\$1,337.75
Sept. 20	52		51	\$1,910
	<u>Total:</u>	<u>Average:</u>	<u>Communion Average:</u>	<u>Total Offerings:</u>
	200	50	48	\$7,257.75

Find us on Facebook!

Church Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/saintpaullutheranlibertycenteroh>

Preschool Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/st.paullutheranpreschoollibertycenter>



Music Department Getting Ready

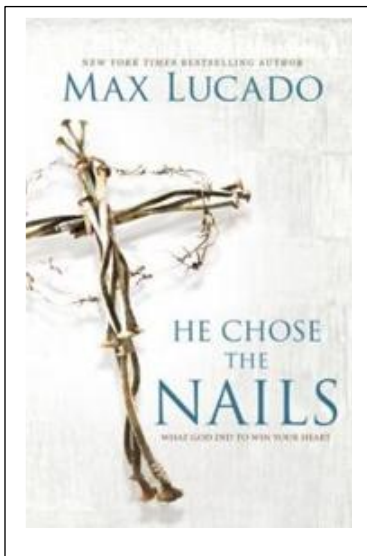
The Music Department of St. Paul Lutheran Church is getting ready to offer some wonderful opportunities to share our talent for the enhancement of our Divine Worship Services.

The Instrumental Ensemble will highlight LWML Service on Sunday, October 4, and our Reformation Observance on Sunday, October 25. Their rehearsals will be on Saturday mornings at 8:30.

The Senior Choir will sing for All Saints Day, Sunday, November 1. Rehearsals will begin Sunday, October 4 at 8:30 a.m.

In the meantime, we are preparing for our Advent midweek and Christmas Eve services. Anyone interested in playing handbells, please talk to John Swearingen or Dan Seedorf.

We praise God for richly blessing our congregation with the many musicians to offer their talents for His praise. If you are interested in any of the groups, join us as we begin rehearsing.



New Book in the Library

Linger on the Hill of Calvary. Rub a finger on the timber and press the nail into your hand. Taste the tinge of cheap wine and feel the scrape of a thorn on your brow. Touch the velvet dirt, moist with the blood of God. Allow the tools of torture to tell their story. Listen as they tell you what God did to win your heart.

BG Hockey Season Starting

It's time for us to get ready for BGSU hockey. We need 6 people for each game.

The hockey schedule (arrival time is two hours before game time):

Date	Opponent	Game Time
Saturday, Oct 3	Michigan	6:07 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 16	Niagara	7:07 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 17	Niagara	6:07 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 6	Bemidji State U	7:07 p.m.
Sat. Nov. 7	Bemidji State U	6:07 p.m.
Friday, November 20	Augustana	7:07 p.m.
Saturday, November 21	Augustana	6:07 p.m.
Friday, November 27	Maryville	7:07 p.m.
Saturday, November 28	Maryville	6:07 p.m.
Friday, December 11	Ferris State	7:07 p.m.
Saturday, December 12	Ferris State	6:07 p.m.
Friday, January 1	Denver	7:07 p.m.
Saturday, January 2	Denver	6:07 p.m.
Friday, January 8	Lake Superior State U.	7:07 p.m.
Saturday, January 9	Lake Superior State U.	6:07 p.m.
Friday, January 22	Minnesota State	7:07 p.m.
Saturday, January 23	Minnesota State	6:07 p.m.
Friday, February 5	Northern Michigan	7:07 p.m.
Saturday, February 6	Northern Michigan	6:07 p.m.
Friday, February 19	Michigan Tech	7:07 p.m.
Saturday, February 20	Michigan Tech	6:07 p.m.
PLAYOFFS begin Friday, March 5		

Upcoming Events

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday Morning Class is studying a video series on EXPLAINING ALL THE SCARY STUFF IN REVELATION. Join Reverend Ken Klaus, as he unravels the mysteries of the Bible's concluding book. Klaus examines the roots of the explosive and deadly conflict between Rome and the Church that led persecuted, imprisoned Christians to wonder if God had abandoned them. In this 4-part series you will learn basic rules to understand and interpret the difficult passages of Revelation. You will see how the distinctive writing style of apocalyptic literature, which gives the book dynamic power - comforted persecuted Christians.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: We are resuming LifeLight Bible classes at 10am and 7pm. The study will be on the book of Exodus. Learn how God delivered Moses from destruction and raised him up to lead the Children of Israel to be freed from the slavery of the Egyptians.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: On September 27 and October 11, we will have a Sunday school class. Children will be excused for Sunday school during the singing of the sermon hymn.

FUNERAL PREARRANGMENT SEMINAR: On Wednesday, September 30 at 7pm Bruce Sonnenberg, a member of our congregation, will give a presentation on making funeral prearrangements. You will be under no obligation to buy anything. This meeting will answer many of your questions about planning for your funeral. Please see Pastor Kramer if you have any questions.

LYF At St. John Lutheran Church Freedom ICE CREAM SOCIAL – The LYF will be hosting its annual Ice Cream Social on Sunday, September 27th, with serving from 10:30 AM–Noon in the Fellowship Hall. On the menu: chicken sandwiches, hot dogs, baked beans, chips, beverages, and, of course, ice cream! Freewill offering. Carryout will also be available. Proceeds help support our LYF meetings, activities, and future youth gatherings. Come enjoy lunch and ice cream while supporting the youth of our congregation!

Communion Schedule

We Are still looking for someone to prepare communion for February and March 2027. If you can help, please let the office know!

FROM THE BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP

It's in the Way that You Use It

Originally Published October 2023

Consider the humble baseball bat. It is a simple tool designed for complex tasks. The batter needs a tool that can consistently deliver force to a small ball which may be thrown at over 100 miles per hour, but which might also come slanting across the plate as a slow curve. For a game like this, the founders of baseball had to redesign the old cricket bat, which is more of a flat paddle. The tool had to fit the job.

But even a specially designed tool can be used for a different purpose. It turns out that some years ago in England, the home of cricket, baseball bats suddenly started selling like hotcakes. What were folks across the pond doing with all those baseball bats? Using them as clubs in riots!

A tool can be used, and it can be misused. It's all in the way that you use it.

The same is true with the things of God. The Second Commandment states that we should “not misuse the name of the Lord.” In the Small Catechism, Luther goes on to tell us exactly what this misuse is, as well as the proper use:

“We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.” (SC I)

The Lord has given us His name: He has placed it upon us in Holy Baptism and He has invited us to pray to Him as our Father. In this sense, the Lord's name is something for us to use. We should not misuse it ... and we should not fail to use it. The Pharisees of old were so afraid of misusing the name of God that they decided to simply never say the name of God (YHWH, Jehovah) at all! This non-use is just as bad as misuse. The Lord gives His gifts for our use.

A Christian steward is one who is called to use all of God's gifts for His purposes. This includes things like the Name of God, the Sacraments and the Word, and it also includes things like our family and friends, our talents and skills, our money and resources. Everything that God has given to you, He has given to you so that you may be blessed to use it for His kingdom.

It's all in the way that you use it!

St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church
St. Paul Lutheran Preschool
8074 County Road T
Liberty Center, OH 43532
Phone: (419) 533- 3041

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



The St. Paul Messenger



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Phone: 567-277-1339
Email: pastor@saintpaulc.org

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Liberty Center, Ohio 43532

Church & Preschool Office
419-533-3041

E-mail Addresses:
office@saintpaulc.org
preschool@saintpaulc.org

Website: www.saintpaulc.org

Divine Service
10:00 a.m. 1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays &
Festival Sundays

Matins & Morning Prayer,
Service of Prayer & Preaching
10:00 a.m. 2nd & 4th Sundays

Adult Bible Study & Sunday School
9:00 a.m. Every Sunday

WE WISH TO THANK THE FOLLOWING VOLUNTEERS FOR HELPING US TO ASSEMBLE THIS NEWSLETTER:
MARILYN SONNENBERG, LORETTA SEEDORF, DAN SEEDORF, KAREN BERGSTEDT

St. Paul Lutheran Church in Liberty Center has scheduled their famous...



“Soup & Pie Dinner fundraiser”

We would like to invite you and your family and friends to come and enjoy a delicious menu of...

ALL HOMEMADE:
Soups Sandwiches
Salad Bar Pies

A Free Will Offering will be appreciated!

Sunday, October 26th

Immediately after Worship (11:30 – until it’s gone or 1:30)
St. Paul Lutheran Church in Liberty Center
Corner of County Road T and Township Road 8





God will supply and provide.

Because He is your true source.
Not people.
Not your job.
Not your business,
Not even your giftedness.

Those are just mere channels of His blessings,
but they are not the Blessor.

Root yourself in the One True Source.
Provision does not depend on circumstances
but on a God who never runs dry.

Velvet

QUESTION: Why do bad things happen to good people? Does God cause bad things, or does he just let them happen? Does he punish or discipline? And what could be the purpose —such as when you lose your Mom at the age of 11 and she suffered so with cancer?

ANSWER: We live in a world permeated with sin. It's a sinful world. Because of that and since the devil is the prince of this world, as the Bible says, bad things happen to good people.

But consider this. A lot more good has happened to people who love God in Jesus than bad. Read Psalm 90 and 91. And consider how God can turn the bad things into good for those who love God (Romans 8:28).

God does no evil. Yes, He can cause and allow bad things to come to us, but always for our good. Scripture also gives witness to God punishing the wicked (Proverbs) and punishing individuals and even whole nations for evil (Egyptians, Israel for their wickedness and idolatry, etc.).

But when it comes to sin, we Christians know that God has punished Jesus in our place for our sins, and that we are not punished. God disciplines those whom He loves. Read Hebrews 12.

We know God is Good and Gracious and Loving in giving us the Way, the Truth and the Life for our salvation, our Savior Jesus. We know that He works all things for our good. And that must be the purpose in your and your mother's case, although it may be a bitter pill to swallow.

We must always turn to God in His Word and prayer for answers, never away from Him. Sometimes the answers He has are not evident right now, but later. It may even be in heaven that we see and understand His purposes.

CTSFW Student Adoption Program

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Liberty Center, OH we are happy to inform you that you are being assigned Jon Robert Burns in the Student Adoption Program at CTSFW.

We have notified your student, and they should be communicating with you soon. E-mail can do a lot to encourage regular communication.

We ask that you pray for your student as they will also be praying for you. We encourage students to communicate with their supporters at least quarterly to let you know how they are doing.

May God richly bless you as you support the furthering of God's Kingdom.