

# St. Paul Epistle



October 2023

# St. Paul Lutheran Church

## OUR VISION:

We are broken and blessed followers of Christ,  
providing a home for all who wander the weary road.

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Dubuque IA 52001

Office Hours: M-F, 9:15am-1:15pm



[stpauldbq.com](http://stpauldbq.com)

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## Weekly Services:

Saturday Worship: 5:30pm – Sunday Worship: 9:00am

Sunday School 10:30am – Bible Class 10:30am

## **DATES TO REMEMBER IN OCTOBER 2023**

Oct 3	Board of Elders Meeting 5:00pm
Oct 5	Confirmation Class 5:30pm - 7:00pm
Oct 7 & 8	LWML Weekend
Oct 9	Mission Circle Meeting 6:00pm
Oct 10	Board of Education Meeting 7:00pm at Pastor's house
Oct 12	Brown Bag Bible Study 12:00pm - 1:30pm
Oct 12	Confirmation Class 5:30pm - 7:00pm
Oct 19	Confirmation Class 5:30pm - 7:00pm
Oct 26	Brown Bag Bible Study 12:00pm - 1:30pm
Oct 26	Confirmation Class 5:30pm - 7:00pm
Oct 30	Golden Age Euchre Club 1:00pm

# Monsters

“For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. -Matthew 15:19

I like Halloween and one of my favorite guilty pleasures in October is watching scary movies. There, I said it! As a Lutheran pastor, I feel the unspoken expectation to ignore Halloween and focus on Reformation Day in October. Can we even celebrate Halloween as Christians?



*The World According to Jeff Goldblum. Image from IMDB.com*

Halloween actually has Christian roots. It is simply the day before All Saints' Day, known as "All Hallows Eve." All Saints Day is a day when the Church remembers the faithful who have died. Over the centuries and in different cultures, Halloween evolved into a day that also acknowledges the supernatural and the existence of evil spirits. In an article he wrote for 1517.org, Pastor Bror Erickson says, "Despite its roots or offshoots, Scripture is clear we have freedom when it comes to these things because our righteousness is found in Christ, not within our candy practices on October 31...Don't make Jesus into a cosmic killjoy. Parents have every right to monitor their kid's costumes and activity on a night like Halloween...However, as a pastor, I cringe when Jesus Christ is blamed as the killjoy. In other words, don't make Christ into the reason your kids can't do something that he neither commands nor forbids. In this way, Christianity is needlessly associated with a bunch of made-up rules, rather than the forgiveness of sins."

So celebrating Halloween is not inherently wrong. It can certainly be used as a fun way to connect with our neighbors where we might not otherwise have that opportunity. But what about the scary stuff? I probably don't speak for everyone, but many of us enjoy being frightened (at least in tame ways like watching movies, going to "haunted" attractions, or exploring a dark attic with flashlights.) In the series, "The World According to Jeff Goldblum," Goldblum explores the

human fascination with monsters and the thrill of being frightened. He makes an interesting observation: "Well, we may have discovered that monsters help us make sense of a scary world. What do you think about that? And maybe they make us stronger and braver. Maybe there's a monster in all of us."

I think he's onto something. Maybe we enjoy being scared by the monsters we invent because we control them. Fictional monsters are a way we can explain and domesticate our fears of real things. But it's the monster in all of us that is truly frightening. Jesus says the scariest things of all come out of the human heart (see above). Looking into the mirror of God's Law and seeing the seemingly uncontrollable monster inside us, we cry out with St. Paul, "*Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?*" (Romans 7:24). But be encouraged - our hearts may be monstrous but Scripture reminds us, "*Whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything.*" Christ came to redeem us. By taking our sins to the cross and rising from the grave, Jesus takes the fear out of death. And by the work of His Spirit in our lives, he is making our monstrous hearts into a beautiful new creation.

For no tricks and all treats, see you in church!



*Pastor Jon*



**WITNESS**

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## WOMEN OF ST. PAUL

We had our yearly planning kickoff and have some special events coming up. One is our annual Turkey Day on November 4th which is always a big hit. Another is our Friendship Tea on Saturday, April 13th. This is a great fellowship for our members and friends starting with a bible study, a fun mission project and lunch. Watch for more on this as the date gets closer. All women of St. Paul are welcome to come to meetings---we would love to see some new faces. We meet the 2nd Monday of each month at 6pm. We start with a bible study followed by a short business meeting usually lasting an hour. See you on October 9th at 6:00pm. God Bless! *Nancy Henry - Leader*



## MERCY



**FOOD PANTRY** - For the month of **October** we are collecting the following items for the Food Pantry:

*Hot Chocolate*  
*Shampoo*  
*Salt*

*Canned Fruit*  
*Coffee*  
*Soup*

*Paper Towels*  
*Pepper*  
*Jelly*

- **ST. JOHN'S OPEN CLOSET:** is now collecting snow boots, snow pants, and sweatpants in all sizes.



## LIFE TOGETHER

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### UPCOMING BIBLE STUDY TOPICS

- **Lutheranism 101** - For those interested in membership or anyone interested in reviewing the basic teachings of the Lutheran Christian faith please contact Pastor Crawford. Classes meet on an as - needed basis.
- **Sunday Adult Class** - Studying the books of Hosea, Joel & Amos. In October we will begin a study of Lutheran Worship.
- **Brown Bag Bible Study** - Brown Bag Bible Study will be on October 12<sup>th</sup> & October 26<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm bring a lunch. Coffee and dessert provided.

**PRAYER CHAIN:** Need "Links" for prayer chain - simple as phoning a friend to continue prayers. Please call 563-588-1076 ASAP! God Bless!  
*Karen Paar*

## PASTOR'S SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER

Days off - October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>

Our new office hours are Monday - Friday 9:15am - 1:15pm

## OFFICIAL ACTS – September 2023

**Baptisms:** None

**Junior Confirmation:** None

**Adult Confirmation:** None

**Weddings:** None

**Transfer In:** *Trevor & Kayla Budewitz*

**Transferred Out:** None

**Funeral/Memorial:** *Jerry Anderson*



**ALTER FLOWERS UPDATE:** We have a new florist, Dubuque Flower Co. due to our current florist White Florist going out of business. We are thankful for the years they supplied us with beautiful arrangements for our altar. I anticipate a smooth transition with price remaining at \$30 and having a stylist at the new location who has done work for us in the past. We will continue to use the glass containers as we did in the past, and ask you to return them ASAP to the church. The new flower chart for 2024 will be available in November in the fellowship hall. We ask that you pay at the time of sign up by cash or check made out to St Paul and earmarked "flowers" place it in the filled out flower envelope and put it in offering plate. We do have 5 open weekends remaining between October/November for 2023. Questions: Charlotte Tigges 563 599-2745.



**ALTAR GUILD!** There is currently a great need for altar guild helpers. If you are willing to help clean the communion vessels after services or polish metalware twice a year, please call the church office or send an email to the church secretary.

**NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER** info is due by **FRIDAY OCTOBER 20<sup>TH</sup>**

**RUTH CIRCLE:** We want to remind all our church members of the greeting cards we have for sale. The proceeds from the card sales go to cleaning the Pastor's vestments and purchasing the altar linen. We have the following boxes of cards available: Graduation, Confirmation, Birthday, Anniversary, Thinking of You, Get Well, Sympathy, Wedding, and Christmas. The next meeting will be Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am.

## BOARD MISSION AND MINISTRY

**Church photo directory:** The church photo directory is finished! THANK YOU to everyone that submitted photos and information and withstood our pestering during the process. And to everyone, thank you for your patience! Directories can be picked up at church (one copy per household), we just ask that you place a checkmark by your name on the sign-out sheet so that we can keep track of who's received one. We are already making corrections, so if you find errors in any of your personal information, please let us know so that we can enter the information correctly. We anticipate that we may be printing a separate insert with a few corrections. Stay tuned. For now, we encourage you to get to know your church family better through the directory. (Whose favorite vacation spot is Florence, Italy and whose favorite desert is rhubarb pie?)

**Food and fellowship:** Thank you to everyone who assisted with the parking lot cook-out on Sunday, September 10! We hope that those who attended enjoyed themselves. We were pleased that some neighbors joined us. We know that the cook-out took place on short notice and, to that end, we'd like to engage in some long-term planning for future outdoor events. We are in agreement with the feedback that we've received that events in the parking lot are a great way to meet our neighbors! However, as the weather cools and the days grow shorter, we hope we can still meet our neighbors for food and fellowship and recognize that an indoor setting might be preferred. Our midweek Advent meals would be another excellent opportunity to do this, and we'd like to help plan for and promote these meals within our neighborhood. We will be seeking church input on this on the best approach to this.

**Good neighbor fund:** Requests for assistance from our church via the Good Neighbor Fund continue to come in and we anticipate that there will be more before the end of the calendar year. As Pastor recently indicated at church, designated offerings to that fund will help us meet the needs of our church family and neighbors in their time of challenge.  
*Directors Jeff & Erin Huebschman*

# Notes + News from the Board of Christian Education

## Sunday School

Sundays | 10:30-11:30 am | age 3-8th grade



### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TEACHING TEAM

- **Sunday School** - Becky Clark (pre-K/K) and Kristie Fry (upper grades)
- **5th + 6th Grade Confirmation** - Brianna Fry and Trevor + Kayla Budewitz
- **7th + 8th Grade Confirmation** - Pastor Crawford and Sue Hass

If you are interested in being on a **sub list**, please contact Katy Crawford!



Celebrate with fun activities + snacks during the education hour (10:30-11:30)!

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- **Next meeting** | October 10 at 7 pm
- **Intergenerational Advent Event** | Morning of December 2
- **St. Paul Family Christmas Celebration Rehearsal** | Saturday, December 9 at 9 am
- **St. Paul Family Christmas Celebration** | Sunday, December 17 at 9 am (hot chocolate bar + cookies to follow)

If you have any questions or would like to be involved with the board of Christian education, connect with Katy Crawford (katy.munson@gmail.com, 815.876.6426)!



## WE REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED IN OCTOBER

Sandra (Sandy) Ranson

We have cleaned up the "memorial" list. We are only going back 10 years for the people who have died.

### PRAYER LIST FOR OCTOBER 2023

Mindful of the Father's great mercy shown to us in Jesus, we pray on behalf of those who are in need.

#### ***For those undergoing cancer treatment:***

Roger Riechmann (father of Teri Riechmann & Sheila Zasada)

Rae Ann Wegner (sister of Kim Weed)

Jayme Niemeier (nephew of Dave & Sue Krause)

Christa Wubben (daughter of Jerry & Jan Anderson)

Raymond Kruser (brother-in-law of Dave & Sue Krause)

Zeke Pergande (son of Dan & Doris Pergande)

Deana Miller (friend of Jerry & Jan Anderson)

Martha (godmother of Will Wehrspann)

Mark Geothschius (brother of A.J. Osterkamp)

Toni Jo Stelpflug (niece of Doris Pergande)

Tiffany Crowe (daughter of Jim & Marion Crowe)

Marlene Lenaburg (sister of Charlotte Tigges)

Connie Telschow (relative of Richard & Kim Weed)

Brittni Strege (niece to Richard & Kim Weed)

Jerry (family friend of Richard & Kim Weed)

Rhonda Kittle (sister-in-law to Greg Kittle)

Heidi Zimmer & Pat Zimmer her caregiver (friends of Misty Lutz)

Dan Pergande, Debra Spear, Richard Weed

#### ***For our members who are homebound:***

Laverne Ball (Ennoble Manor), Kathryn Moyer (Care Initiatives),

Nancy Clark, Jean Henningsen (Sunnycrest Manor), Doris Pergande,

Anne Prisk (Care Initiatives), Dusty Colby, Judy Pergande, Jayson

Eichman (Care Initiatives)

#### ***Additional Prayer Requests***

- Lori Ollendick (daughter of Charlotte Tigges)

- The Walker family

*\*Note: The "additional" section of the prayer list will be cleared at the beginning of each month. If you would like a name to remain on the list into the next month, please contact the church office and we would be happy to continue praying for your intention.*



# OCTOBER

## ANNIVERSARIES

2-Joe & Tammy Henry  
12-Brandon & Trista Zasada  
24-Kip & Tamra Weland

9-Eric & Diane Schultz  
22-Ray & Wendy Schickel



# BAPTISMS

1-Tatum Worden  
3-Ryan Weber  
5-Colt Key  
8-Sandi Heller  
10-Natasha Pergande  
13-Jim Crowe  
20-Dixie Hassler  
21-Charlotte Tigges  
28-Sara Hiris  
29-Jeff Zasada

2-Ray Schickel  
4-Dennis Fry  
5-Gage Mitchell  
9-Janet Smith  
12-Teona Bailey  
16-Charlotte Kelley  
21-Tammy Henry  
22-Elaine Rohde  
29-Cindy Hass  
30-Arlene Elliott

3-Barb Waugh  
4-Lisa Miller  
5-Dennis Waugh  
10-Joe Henry  
12-Na'zayhia Franklin  
16-William Kelley  
21-Teri Riechmann  
25-Annabelle Schaal  
29-Josie Wilant  
30-Toni Thumser



# OCTOBER

## BIRTHDAYS

1-Greg Kittle  
3-Cael Jorgensen  
6-Gage Mitchell  
8-Danny Thumser  
12-Elaine Rohde  
22-Alex Calonder  
28-Jon Barz

1-Charlotte Tigges  
4-Kaitlyn Miller  
7-Bryn Kittle  
9-Tammy Henry  
13-Ron Cathey  
23-Jon Lutz  
28-Erin Hassler

3-Kayla Budewitz  
5-Teri Riechmann  
7-Josie Wilant  
10-Lydia Weland  
13-Damaris Eichman  
25-Annette Purnhage



The Women of St. Paul will be hosting our annual Turkey Day on Saturday, November 4th from 8am to 12pm. We will have our famous turkey and dressing sandwiches to go, the bake sale and the rummage sale. Please bring down your rummage sale items and put in the old kitchen by November 1st. Remember **NO summer items** and **NO electronics**. We will start setting up rummage items on Wednesday, November 1st and the 2nd. There will be a sign up sheet for workers and for baked goods as well. The ladies pledged to donate the rummage sale money PLUS match up to \$1,000 to the organ fund so please come down and get some treasures, some lunch and baked goods. See you there.

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER 2023

	<b>Sat, Sept 30, 5:30pm</b>	<b>Sun, Oct 1, 9:00am</b>
<b>Head Usher:</b>	Dennis Fry	Mark Litka
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	N/A	N/A
<b>Organist:</b>	Dr. David Pitt	Dr. David Pitt
	<b>Sat, Oct 7, 5:30pm</b>	<b>Sun, Oct 8, 9:00am</b>
<b>Head Usher:</b>	Dennis Fry	Dave Kelley
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Kristie Fry	Janet Smith
<b>Organist:</b>	Dr. David Pitt	Dr. David Pitt
	<b>Sat, Oct 14, 5:30pm</b>	<b>Sun, Oct 15, 9:00am</b>
<b>Head Usher:</b>	Dennis Fry	Greg Kittle
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	N/A	Becky Clark
<b>Organist:</b>	Dr. David Pitt	Dr. David Pitt
	<b>Sat, Oct 21, 5:30pm</b>	<b>Sun, Oct 22, 9:00am</b>
<b>Head Usher:</b>	Jon Barz	Jon Lutz
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	N/A	Angela, A.J. Osterkamp
<b>Organist:</b>	Dr. David Pitt	Dr. David Pitt
	<b>Sat, Oct 28, 5:30pm</b>	<b>Sun, Oct 29, 9:00am</b>
<b>Head Usher:</b>	Dennis Fry	Jon Barz
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	N/A	Becky Clark
<b>Organist:</b>	TBD	TBD