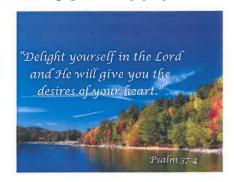
September 2025

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

CREATES AND SHARES GOD'S LOVE AND COMPASSION

727 South Second Avenue
Alpena, Michigan 49707

A Stephen Ministry Congregation



2025 Theme: Lord Lead Us in Faith

Monthly Ministry Highlight:
Harvest Dinner



Phone: 989-356-1658

www.stpaul.org

Facebook Page: St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church - Alpena YouTube: St. Paul Lutheran Church, Alpena, Michigan

September 2025

Special points of interest:

- "Turn to the Lord for wisdom, courage as you walk in faith."
- "Each journey requires preparation. beginning with prayer. "
- "You are fighting for your children, grandchildren, the community and the church. The battle belongs to the Lord."

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St. Paul Epistle

The Battle Belongs to the Lord

People of God at St. Paul In second Chronicles 20:15b it is written. "This is what the Lord says to you: 'Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God's. As we see the changes from summer to autumn, as the children return to school, as we look in the mirror and see more gray or less hair, as we watch the news and see all of the struggles in the world, it is my prayer that you will remember these words, "The Battle Belongs to the Lord."

The people of Israel were in battle and listened to the giant Goliath for 40 days. The giant laughed at them, taunted them and spoke ill of God. On day 41, David, a young man, stood before a giant proclaiming a message that should be proclaimed in all situations. The battle belongs to the Lord. David is remembered for his courage and the faith he had in God as he destroyed his enemy. Turn to the Lord for wisdom, courage as you walk in faith.

Each journey requires

preparation, beginning with prayer. As the battles rage, I ask you to put on the whole armor of God. as defined by Paul in his letter to Ephesus 6:14-18, "Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled

around your waist, with the the possibilities. I quesbreastplate of righteousness in place, 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. The Armor will protect you and help you stand their lives on the line to for others as you live out your faithful lives.

Each day I walk our dogs faithfully. A Coonhound and a Great Dane. named Annabelle and Buffy, respectfully. Last week, as I walked along the shore of the lake, two ducks came out of nowhere, waddling quickly as

thev excited my animals. My dogs were enraptured by the ducks... barking, pulling on their leashes, wagging their tails in anticipation of



tioned, "Why did the ducks present themselves in this way? Why didn't they fly away? What are they trying to accomplish?" Then I glanced to the side of the road from whence they came and saw their ducklings hidden in a bush. The ducks knew that their battle was for their survival, and the survival of their offspring and they were willing to put ensure their safety.

The safety of people in battle happened most profoundly in war time scenarios in my lifetime. In Kabul, Afghanistan, I went from safe places to unsecured places to other safe places almost everyday. Travel in war zones

The Battle Belongs to the Lord Continued

meant that I would put on my battle rattle (helmet, flak vest with Kevlar plates, gloves, uniform and proper identification) and that I would be met by security personnel at each gate, dressed in the same fashion, knowing the dangers that were prevalent. Six months into my deployment, a security guard came out of the safe area dressed in a tank top and some shorts. His lack of preparation and complacency put everyone at risk. In the event of his death, injury, or evasion, the whole team would have had to mobilize to help, risking their lives because of his ignorance and lack of vision. I spoke with the General about my concerns and he took actions to ensure proper procedures and attire were strictly followed because he knew, as I did, that "complacency kills."

People grow comfortable and/or they can lose

their willingness to fight. Today you will meet giants in the land which will require faithful preparation. Put on the whole armor of God and pray away your doubts. Remember your faithful journey is not for you alone. You are fighting for your children, grandchildren, the community and the church. The battle belongs to the Lord. Be great and help others be greater

- Pastor John



CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Jessica O'Neil - President (Education) Val Urban - Vice-President (Stewardship) Donna Kensa - Secretary (Property) Bernadine Wagner -Treasurer Andrea Dutcher (Personnel) Scott Brooks (Outreach) Cathy Kieliszewski (Worship) Danielle McDonald (Small Group Ministry - Women) Scott Parkham (Property) Phil Wickstrom (Small Group Ministry - Men)

Their area of responsibility is in parentheses.

Church Council monthly reports are available in the office.

CHURCH COUNCIL

The Harvest Dinner at

St. Paul has been an ongoing event and tradition for as long as I can remember. It has evolved from a

family-style dinner with bowls of food placed on each table to a buffet line to accommodate the number of people who attend. The Harvest Dinner Ministry demonstrates what the people of St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church are all about. Andrea Dutcher and I plan the dinner, but it is so much more than that that makes this minis-

try a success each year.

The key to our success is that the congregation and the community unite to show how fellowship,

spending time with family, and meeting new people display God's promise. The members of the Harvest Dinner Ministry Team work hard preparing for

the annual event expending their time, energy and money and they always come through. It is my hope that all the members of St. Paul will come and enjoy a great dinner and also participate in some part of this outreach ministry. In supporting the Harvest Dinner, we in turn support the community through the proceeds from this outreach ministry.

The dinner is on September 25, 2025, so please

mark your calendar now and remember to get your tickets early.

Submitted by Donna Kensa



St. Paul Epistle

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Nena's Notes

Just a few notes on what is happening in my corner of the office. Planning in every organization is the key to success. During the Planning Sumit activities were

planned for the remainder of this year, through September of 2026 (Bible Studies, Movie nights,

Couples Group Activities, Singles, etc.). Look on the St. Paul App's calendar to see upcoming events for the year, mark them on your calendar so you do not miss a ministry opportunity you would like to attend. If you are a Group Leader, please contact the office with the dates for your upcoming activities, fill out your "Building Use Forms," so we can obtain Church Council approval for your

amazing events.
This information
is essential so
everyone will
know the time
and place, allow-

ing other members of the church to plan around or plan to attend.

St. Paul is having our annual congregational meeting on Sunday October 19th, so please plan to attend. Group Leaders remember to send me a brief annual report to share with the congregation concerning all the wonderful ministry you have done this past year. Reports are due on Sept 3rd so they can be assembled and printed for the congregation to read ahead of the meeting.

Lastly, thank you to all the leaders, snack and supply providers, parents, and children who attended the Adventure Club "Splash into God's Word" Vacation Bible School. There was much joy and love shared during the week. Thank you all for making it an amazing week!

Jackie's Jump Start

For September, my jump start is a look back - to give you a little bit of my history here at jumpstart St. Paul Lutheran Church. In September of 1995 (yes - 30 years ago!!!) I applied for the position of part-time secretary. At that time, I had three little ones at home and lived just a few blocks away and felt that this position might be a great fit. Carol Weigandt, the full-time office secretary at that time, gave me certain items to design and format on the computer, and then I interviewed with Pastor Ron Bessert. He offered

me the position, and I ea-

gerly accepted it and start-

ed working at the church.

The staff here at that time, in addition to Pastor Bessert and Carol were Marvis McNeil - organist,

Sandy Sims - director of music, and Ruth Robb – housekeeping. Pastor Daniel Deutsch was called as an associate pastor just a month later, and eight

months later Carol retired, and Linda Connon took her position. Linda and I enthusiastically worked together in the church office for

22 years, until she retired.

During my time here at St. Paul, so far, I have had the privilege of working with eight pastors and three vicars/interns. They were/ are all incredibly gifted people to work with and I have learned valuable things from every single person. In addition to collaborating with great people, I get to interact with all the super people of St. Paul church family and all the wonderful volunteers who give of their time and tal-

> ents. It is wonderful to work and do ministry in this church and our community with all you at St. Paul Lu-

theran Church. I am looking forward, enthusiastically, to see what God will do through us in the coming years!

Adam's Advice Hub (AHH)



When Facebook began in 2004, it was a simple way for people, mostly college students, to connect. Over the years, it grew into

a vast space where families, churches, and communities could share news, photos, and encouragement. Churches like St. Paul began using it for livestream worship, prayer requests, and event invitations.

But today, what we see on Facebook is shaped by algorithms that decide which posts appear, often based on

voices are heard. Bots and scam ads add to the mix, spreading false information or trying to trick users. Even in small towns like Alpena.

Algorithms

local businesses use Facebook groups to target ads to specific communities, creating a "closed net" of content. All of this makes digital outreach harder. Many new people whose,

algorithms push them in different directions, may never see St. Paul's posts at all unless we "boost" them with paid ads.

The internet is largely unregulated, so it's safe to assume any post could be misleading until proven otherwise. For the safest, most reliable way to stay in touch with St. Paul. visit www.stpaul.org or email me at media@stpaul.org to set up an appointment.



A Salute to our Veterans

past clicks and likes. This can create

"echo chambers" where only similar



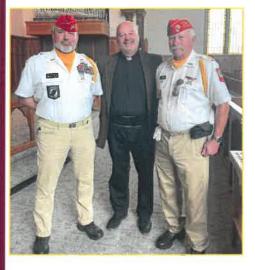
Salute to Veterans will happen on September 6th from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Zoo's Tasty

Eatz will park their food truck in our parking lot and there they will provide a meal for all our veterans in celebration of their service and sacrifice. You are invited to come and share in

the festivities and offer your thanks for their verv special people.



August Servant Leaders



The ERNEST G. SHREEVES VFW Post 2496 Honor Guard/Funeral Detail was present at two funerals (July 27 & 28) honoring the lives of Dennis and Matthew. Their efforts in honoring our fallen heroes are to be commended. I named them the servant leaders of the month. Please keep them in your prayers.





Kayaking



The Soul Sisters will be kayaking two more times this season, on Tuesday, September 9th and 23rd at 5:30 p.m. at Sytek Park. All ladies are invited to join us!

Fall Fresh Up Event



Fall into service at the Fall Fresh Up Event at St. Paul on Saturday, Sept. 20th 9:00 - noon. We will be

working to make the inside of the building sparkle for our fall events. Please join us for fellowship, service, and a free lunch. Hope to see you all.



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"Strikes" Spark Compassion

Fundraiser for:

St Paul Ev. Lutheran Church, 727 S. Second Avenue, Alpena, MI

Date: Friday, September 12, 2025

Time: Registration begins at 5:30 p.m., Bowling begins at 6:30 p.m.

Place: Thunder Bowl Lanes (24 lanes available)

Questions: Call Church Office at 989-356-1658 or Val at 989-916-5560

Cost

\$60 for a 4-person team (includes 1 pizza and a pitcher of pop)

* Prize to individual for most additional funds raised.

Other ways to support fundraiser:

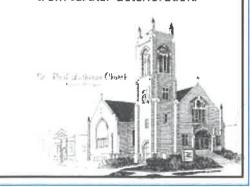
\$75 Lane Sponsor - Your name will be recognized above a lane.

\$100 Event Sponsor - Your business name will be recognized during the event.

Chinese Raffle and 50-50 during the event.



St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church of Alpena needs to raise \$60,000 to preserve the 100-year old brick exterior of the church from further deterioration.



"And let us consider
how to stir up
one another to love
and good works."
Hebrews 10:24

Adopt-A-Highway



Do you like to be outdoors, enjoy a leisurely stroll, enjoy fellowship with other servant leaders? Please join us for our next Highway Pickup as we help restore beauty to our community, Sunday September 28th. We will

ADOPT-A-

HIGHWAY

meet

at the

church at noon to view a video before heading out.

All are welcome!!!

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Bishop Elect

Please lift up in prayer the new bishop, Rev. Yehiel Curry who was elected July 30, 2025 to serve a sixyear term as presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). The election took place during the 2025 ELCA Churchwide Assembly that was held in Phoenix Arizona.





Installation of Bishop-Elect

The Rev. Julie Schneider-Thomas will be installed as bishop of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod on Saturday,

September 13, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Grand Rapids (2700 Fulton Street E). All are welcome to attend and

are invited to wear something red. Please keep our new bishop in your prayers.

Make a Joyful Noise!

Choir rehearsals will be starting up again on Thursday, September 4, at 4:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. We would love to have some new members added this year.



If you love to sing,

please consider joining us. The ability to read music is not required. If you are interested but the time or day of the week doesn't work for you, we can be flexible. Please contact Marty Cantleberry at 989-354-5504.



Christmas Bazaar

The Christmas Bazaar ladies met recently to plan for our church's upcoming event.

There were several women and one man jumping right in to get all of our ducks in a row for this BIG ANNUAL Fund Raiser.

The date has been set for November 8th, 10:00 - 2:00 p.m.

We did decide on a project for this year. We are donating this year's proceeds towards the building sealant. Monies leftover from last year purchased a new commercial refrigerator for the kitchen.

Our luncheon will be the same this year-Turkey Noodle Casserole, cranberry salad, and a yummy parfait for dessert. Continuous serving 11:00-1:00

These people are all in charge of one or more areas, if you would like to help, please speak to anyone of these members.

Andrea Dutcher, Barb Szczesniak, Kathy Burton, Kendra LaHaie, Lori Dziesinski, Sue Robb, Joanne Huggler, Juliet Kieliszewski, Donna Kensa, Joan Smolinski, Val Urban, Julie Specht, Gayle Zbytowski, Susan Moggie, Scott Brooks, and Esther Kindt.

If you are doing any canning this year, please remember to can a few extra for the church!! Later on we will be reminding you of all the baked goods we sell every year.

Next Meeting Monday, September 8th @ 5:30. See you then!!

Questions : Call Esther Kindt 989-471-2274





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Small Groups - Women



be at JJ's, on Weddays at 7:30 a.m.
Remember the fire breakfast is free!

The Breakfast Belles

meet each week at JJ's.
All women are invited to be at JJ's, on Wednesdays at 7:30 a.m.
Remember the first

"The Forget Me
Nots" (Women 70 and
older) will next meet for a
picnic lunch and conversation on Tuesday,
September 9th at noon

Small Group - Men

The Men of St. Paul and friends are still meeting at JJ's at 7:00 a.m. on Thursdays. Come and be part of this gospel expression.

There will also be a

at the church picnic grounds. Please bring a lunch and beverage and join us for food, fellowship, and enjoyment of the out-of-doors. Hope to see you there. If you have any questions or need a ride, please call Ann at 989-590-2055.

"The Soul Sisters" (Women 50-70) The Soul Sisters are kayaking on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in the month in September at 5:30 p.m. So,

Men's Night on

Wednesday, September 17th at 6:30 p.m. Join us for food, fun and fellowship!

BoB (Band of Brothers) are going to an Alpena High



they will meet on September 9th and 23rd at Sytek Park, by Bagley Street Bridge. All women are invited to join us. If you have any questions, please call Sue Robb at 989-590-7611.

SALT Sisters Adoring Light and Truth (Women 18-45) will meet soon. Please watch your bulletin and Facebook for more details.

Come and be inspired, share your ideas and be open to God's possibilities.

School football game on September 19th against Cadillac. This is a home game and we will meet at the gate at 6:30 p.m. – Game time is 7:00 p.m. Come and be part of this dynamic Men's Ministry.





Singles at St. Paul are meeting the first Thursday of the month. So, in September we will meet on September 4th at 5:30 p.m. in Pastor

John's office. We will have a short time of study and then we will travel to a local business, restaurant, etc. for some time of relaxed conversation. Please come and be part of this ministry and invite your friends. It is open to all singles from 18—100.

Dynamic Duo-Couples



The Dynamic Dou Ministry (Couples Focused Small group events) will meet each quarter to have fun together as couples. Mark your calendars for our Couple's Events throughout the year.

Friday October 24th, 2025 - The Leisurely Olympics

Friday February 13th, 2026 - Couples retreat May 29th, 2026 -

May 29th, 2026 -Scavenger Hunt

August 21st, 2026 -Beer Tasting tour



September Anniversaries







"He who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the Lord. Proverbs 18:22

The Adventure Club



The Adventure Club will meet on Sunday, September 21st for a Fishing Frenzy at Paxton Quarry, from 1:00—3:00 p.m. Bring your own fishing gear and extras for others, if you have some.

Come and be part of this fun experience.



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The month of September our Ministry Highlight is the Harvest Dinner. This is an annual dinner which unites the congregation and community in fellowship, meeting new people and spending time with family, displaying God's promise.

Harvest Dinner

The Harvest Dinner will be held on Thursday, September 25th. The doors open at 4:30 p.m. pie for desand serving begins at 5:00 p.m.

The menu is: homemade meatballs, pork roast, sausage and sauerkraut, squash, mashed potatoes and gravy, green bean

casserole. cucumbers and cream. rolls/butter,

sert and a beverage. You won't want to miss this fantastic meal! Tickets are available at the church office (cash/check only). If you wish to purchase tickets with a



credit/debit card use the QR code below.

Prices are: Adult \$15, Children (10

& under) \$7, and under 5 - free.

If you have any questions please call the



church office at 989-356-1658. Thank you.



Hope Shores Alliance

Hope Shores Alliance is an agency in Alpena that helps in our

community, supporting of people who have experienced violence in their homes or lives. St. Paul Luther-

an has opened our

doors to be a drop off point for this organization (on the third floor).

Thanks to everyone who is part of this important ministry.

Kitchen Krew Meeting

The Kitchen Krew will be 10:00 a.m. in the Dinmeeting on Wednesday, September 10th at

ing Room. Please mark your calendars and we

will see vou then.



Home Visits

Pastor John would like to visit with you in your home. He has visited many people already and now he wants you to call the office and schedule a time for him to come to your house.

The visit is usually no more than an hour. This is a special time to talk about whatever is upon your heart and mind. Our administrative assistants have Pastor John's calendar and they will

work with you to find a time. Pastor John will meet with you in the afternoon or early evening as well. Pastor John looks forward to time together with you.



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Worship on the Beach

We will celebrate Worship on the Beach one more time this season at our beach property. Join us on September 27th at 7:00 p.m. This service will proclaim the gospel and celebrate the promises of God outdoors. You are

invited to bring a friend, a beverage of choice, a lawn chair, snacks and a joyful spirit. Saturday night service will continue at 5:30 p.m. We will carpool from the church and travel to the beach property at 6:30 p.m. The service and time of fellowship will last from

7:00-9:00 p.m. If there is rain, we will reschedule. If you would like to help in this process, please speak with Pastor John. We hope you will take part in this worship experience.





our home, 1921 Long Rapids Road, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. Come and celebrate with us. Food, drinks, laughter and sharing stories will be provided. If you would like to bring a dish to pass we would celebrate this gift.



A Stroll through the Tombstones

On the 7th of September at 6:00 p.m. Pastor John will lead a Stroll through the Tombstones at Evergreen Cemetery. The stroll will last for about an hour. Please come with sto-

ries to share about loved ones, stories about Alpena and how others shaped our history. This is a time of joy, remembrance, celebration and blessing. Please sign up if you plan to attend or

call the office for more information concerning this ministry opportunity.



Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministers are congregation members trained to provide one-to-one care for others experiencing a difficult time in life, i.e., grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or relocation, etc. Stephen Ministers receives 50 hours of education/

training from Stephen Leaders. Once trained, a Stephen Minister is matched with a care receiver and this care paradigm is defined by these two individuals involved, usually meeting one hour a week. Stephen Ministers work with our Stephen Leaders and other Stephen Ministers for on-going support throughout this ministry, participating in peer supervision and continuing education. Stephen Ministers are not counselors, and all communication is kept confidential.



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Children's Church and Little's Worship Center

During the Contemporary, 10:30 a.m. service we have Children's Church (another name for Sunday School). Parents and children are invited to the 10:30 a.m. service and after a prayer and a song, the children will go with Miss Nena and the Children's Church Team for Children's Church. This learning opportunity is a time of learning, celebration, and fun while

allowing parents to worship. The children will meet for about 40 minutes and then return to the 10:30 a.m. service for the final song. Please share this opportunity with your friends and family.

St Paul "Little's Worship Center" is also open during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. This Worship Center is available for our

Little Ones under 3 years of age, where they can experience God's love through our Servant Leader's care and compassion.

If you have small ones that would like



to participate, please swing by the Worship Center located across from the little chapel in the lower level. Please contact

> the office if you are interested in helping to care for these small ones.





CIA (Christians in Action) will be starting up Sunday, September 7th during the 10:30 service. We will meet

each week on the 3rd floor in the youth room. All teens 6th - 12th grades are invited to attend.

"Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. 1 Peter 4:10

Kid's Korner

Annabelle (Shirley Jone's granddaughter) said, "Do you remember me?" and then she said, "Would you like a gift?" She shared her artwork and then I met her and Shirley at the county Fair. Her enthusiasm and joy are a celebration. Please keep all of the young people in your prayers, that they might live faithful lives.



The Adventure Club - Thank You

The Adventure Club at Starlite Beach Pavilion "Splash into God's Word" VBS



program was a wonderful success. Thank you to everyone who made this time a celebration.



Seek and Find - Thank You

Thank you to everyone who participated in this ministry. I really enjoy the connection with

God's people at the county Fair, both within and without our congregation.



Stitches of Joy

"Stitches of Joy" will meet next on September 18th at 10:00 a.m. at Sandy Dee's Ouilt Shop. We meet on the third Thursday of each month to sew projects that will be



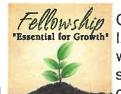
distributed throughout the community in honor of Joy

"Shirley" Brooks. Joy's faith and generosity was witnessed throughout our

church and we want to continue that gift. We create things such as bags, blankets, pillowcases for those in need. If you have any questions, please contact Karen at 989-464-0204.

Fellowship

The fellowship for the 5:30 p.m. Saturday night service meets at 4:30 p.m. for drinks and baked goods until 5:20 p.m. The fellowship for the 9:00 a.m. service and the 10:30 a.m. service will occur inbetween the service times.



Come and share your "Essential for Growth" life with the people with whom you worship. This ministry is celebration.

> Praying that some people will answer the call to host Fellowship once a month. This ministry involves making coffee, setting out water

and tea, along with cookies/ pastries. It also is followed by clean up at the end of the 5:30 p.m. service and the 10:30 a.m. service. Please let Pastor or Nena know if

you would like to be a part of this much needed ministry of our church.



Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars! Our annual congregational meeting will take place on Sunday. October 19th, after the 9:00 a.m. service. Plan now to join us.

The deadline to logether get your financial budget and annual report into the church office is September 3rd. Please note: There will be

only one service (Sunday 9:00 a.m.) that weekend. Packets will be available in the Narthex

2 weeks prior to the meeting, one per family please. Please review them ahead of time. Thank you.

Pastoral Acts

Matthew Lewandowski joined our Lord in eternity January 8, 2025. His Memorial Service was held July 28, 2025.

Dennis Diemond joined our Lord in eternity July 23, 2025. His funeral service was held at McWilliams Funeral Home on July 27, 2025.

Kim Muszynski joined our Lord in eternity July 13, 2025. His memorial service was held at Bannan Funeral Home on August 2, 2025.

Frieda Pinkert joined our Lord in eternity July 29, 2025. Her funeral service was held on August 5, 2025 at Bannan Funeral Home.

Mabel Townsend joined our Lord in eternity August 6, 2025. A memorial service will be held at St. Paul Lutheran Church on Saturday, September 13, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. with a luncheon following.

Thank you to the following people for their donation in memory of:

Memorials

Matthew Lewandowski Pastor John Shipman

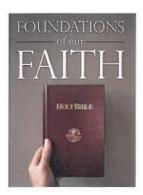
Dennis Diemond Dolores Sumerix Susan Robb June Sylvester Pastor John Shipman

Kim Muszynski Pastor John Shipman

Frieda Pinkert Pastor John Shipman Pamela Quinn John Maloney Sally Barney

George Curtis Ken & Pam Werth

Tamara Suszek Pastor John Shipman Page 13 St. Paul Epistle



"I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon vou." Psalm 32:8

ON DEATH & DYING KUSSARETH KÜRLER ROSS, M. D



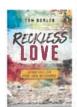
Adult Education Opportunities

Pastor John and Miss Nena planned for adult education opportunities in 2025-2026; Bible studies and book studies to inspire your faith walk throughout the coming school year. Each class will last for six weeks (or less) and the class length will be 1 hour. Pastor John's class will meet on Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. and Miss Nena's class will meet on the same day (Wednesday) at 5:30 p.m. The class size will determine where the class will meet. Please call the office so we know how to plan/books to order. Sign up for one or all these opportunities to grow in faith.

Autumn Educational Opportunities September 17th - October 22nd, 2025

Pastor John – On Death and Dying – (Revisited) by Elizabeth Kubler -Ross

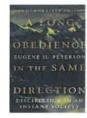
Miss Nena -"Reckless Love: Jesus' Call to Love our Neighbor"



NOVEMBER VID-**EO EDUCATION-**AL EXPERIENCE

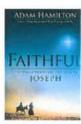
"Overcomer" November 12th at 6:00 p.m. A meal is provided and discussion throughout - All are invited.

Advent Educational Opportunities December 3rd. December 17th, 2025



Pastor John – Bible Study – A Long Obedience in the Same Direction – Eugene Peterson

Miss Nena -Bible Study "Faithful -Christmas Through Joseph's Eyes"



JANUARY VIDEO EDU-CATIONAL EXPERI-**ENCE**

"Unsung Hero" January 7th at 6:00 p.m. A meal is pro-

vided and dis-

cussion - All are invited.

UCATIONAL EXPERI-ENCE

"Ordinary Angels"



February 4th at 6:00 p.m. A meal is provided and discussion – All are invited.

Lenten Educational Opportunities (6 Weeks) February 19th – March 25th

some Britishness PSALMS

Pastor John -"Psalms, Prayers of the Heart," by Eugene Peterson



Miss Nena Bible Study -"Life Source. Prayers for Lent"

APRIL VIDEO EDUCA-TIONAL EXPERIENCE

"The Passion" April 3rd at 7:00 p.m. A meal is provided and discussion – All are invited.



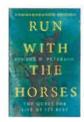
MAY VIDEO EDUCA-TIONAL EXPERIENCE

"Sound of Hope, The

Story of Possum Trot" May 6th at 6:00 p.m. A meal is provided and discussion -All are invited.



Summer Educational Opportunities (4/6 Weeks) June 3rd – 24th



Pastor John Bible Study "Run with the Horses: The Ouest for Life at Its Best" -Eugene Peter-

son

Miss Nena Study -"Undaunted Joy-The Revolutionary Act of Cultivating Delight" by



Shemaiah Gonzalez

FEBRUARY VIDEO ED-

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Upcoming Retreats

Single's Retreat

Singles Retreat is set for October 10th at 6:00 p.m. Come explore the vision of "Being Single and having Faith, Hope and Love in a Digital

Age." The event will take place at 1921 Long Rapids Road and there is no cost associated with this event. We will explore God's promises for community and fel-

lowship for single Christians. Ages 18 - 100 are invited to

discover God's faithfulness in your faith journey.



Men's Retreat

Mark your calendars for our next Men's Retreat on November 7th - our theme is "Being a Man and having



Faith, Hope and Love in a Digital Age." The event will take place at 1921 Long Rapids Road at 6:00 p.m. and there is no cost associated

with this event. We will explore God's promises for community and fellowship for men. Ages 18 - 100 are invited to discover God's faithfulness in your faith journey.

Women's Retreat

Mark your calendars for our next Women's Retreat on Friday, January 23rd - our theme is "Being a Woman and having Faith, Hope and Love in a Digital Age."

The event will take place at 1921 Long Rapids

Road at 6:00 p.m. and there is no cost associated with this event. We will

explore God's promises for community and fel-

> lowship for Women. Ages 18 -100 are invited to discover God's faithfulness in

your faith journey.



Fall Gathering for Women of the ELCA

WHO: Women of the ELCA STAY AT: Courtyard Bat-

WHAT: Fall Gathering

WHEN: Friday. September 26, 7:00-8:30 p.m. and Saturday, September 27,

9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

WHERE: St. Peter Lutheran Church, 1079 Riverside Dr., Battle Creek, MI tle Creek, 12891 Haper

Vil. Dr., 1-269-979-2900... Tell them you are with the WELCA group to get a reduced rate.

REGISTER: Call either Barbara Marquette at 269-832-0276 or St. Peter Lutheran Church at 269-963-4170.

You are cordially invited to join us at St. Peter Lutheran Church in Battle Creek for the Fall Gathering. Our outreach will be the Women's Co-op who have been in Battle Creek for 20 years, and are in need of kitchen items. At this fall gathering we are also having a quilt raffle to benefit the scholarship fund. Hope to see you there!



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September Service Activity

The September Service Activity is Lincoln Elementary School.

Items needed:

- Washable Markers
- **Colored Pencils**

- #2 Pencils
- Paper
- 2 pocket folders
- Dry Erase Markers
- Glue Sticks
- Kleenex

Disinfecting Wipes Please leave your donations on the altar.

Thank you for your generosity.



Feeding Kids Ministry

We will be packing food for the Feeding Kids Ministry on Monday, September 15th, at the

old Sunset School, 1421 Hobbs Drive. Please call Sherry McDonald if you are willing to help or have any

questions, at 989-356-9600.

Dinner on a Doorknob



Dinner on a Doorknob will be back on schedule September 23rd! This ministry occurs on the fourth Tuesday of the month from September through May. We look forward to serving members from our congregation and

our community at large as an ecumenical ministry when we apply our mission statement to the needs of the people. Our mission statement is as follows:

Continuing God's work with our hands...Dinner on a Doorknob is an ecumeni-

cal ministry which provides a simple nourishing meal to those finding themselves in an extenuating or a joyful situation. In doing so, we celebrate, comfort, & share God's love in support of each other.

Blessing of the Animals



us with companions that cannot speak, and yet they love and offer us

God has blessed some of comfort. Pastor John will offer a blessing on your pet from 10:00-12:00 on Saturday, October 4th at

the church building. You do not need to be a member of the church in order to take part in this blessing event.

Yoga

Everyone is invited to join days. Chair Yoga us for Yoga classes. We meet weekly on Thurs-

meets at 3:00 p.m. and Yoga



101 meets at 5:00 p.m. Come join us.

God's Work. Our Hands.



Sunday, September 7, is when congregations of the ELCA will join together for our annual day of service, "God's work. Our hands."

Participating in service projects is one way to celebrate who we are as the ELCA-one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

Be sure to save the date and check ELCA.org/ DayOfService for updated resources...

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T—Shirt Weekend



T-Shirt Weekend/

Friendship weekend/ God's work our Hands weekend - 6th and the 7th of September. Wear your favorite T-Shirt and invite a friend.



Confirmation

Jeremiah 29:11 states, "For I know the plans I have for you." Confirmation is the rite at which a baptized person, especially one baptized as an infant, affirms



admitted as a full member of the Church. Classes begin in September. Please contact

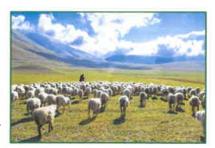
Pastor John if you/your child will be attending this year. Classes are and is for 7th and 8th graders. but special allowances can be made to accommodate other students.

Exploring Possibilities

St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church is an amazing place of growth and opportunity. Three sons and a daughter of St. Paul are exploring the possibility of serving as

a Pastor in the ELCA. Scott, Phil, Jared and Danielle ask for your prayers as they continue their journey into God's future. We rejoice that Jared and

Danielle had the opportunity to lead worship. If you are interested/feel called to serve in this capacity, please speak with Pastor John.



Ray of Sonshine

Do you have a few minutes to brighten someone else's day? Do you have a desire to share God's love? Please consider being part of the "Ray

of Sonshine Ministry" team. We send out encouraging notes, make phone calls or a personal visit to those

in need of fellowship/ connection. Please contact the office to become part of this important ministry.

Men's Night

Join us for the next Men's Night which will be held



on Wednesday, September 17th at 6:30

p.m. All men are welcome! Come on out for a fun night of food and fellowship.

Holiday Parade

We are looking for a team to help with the Holiday parade in

November. Please contact the church office if you would like to be

part of this ministry vision/outreach.



SEPTEMBER SERVICE SCHEDULE					Page 17
Date & Service	Assisting Ministers	Lectors	Ushers	Fellowship Volunteer	Children's Church and Little's Worship Workers
SEPTEMBER 6 & 7					10:30
5:30 p.m.	Dawn Grzeskowiak	Dawn Grzeskowiak	Dennis & Sherry McDonald	Sue Robb	Children's Church: Karen Wekwert, Dawn Grzeskowiak, Sue Robb Little's Worship: Andrea Dutcher Evie & Mia Bicker
9:00 a.m.	Barb Szczesniak	Barb Szczesniak	Dennis Dziesinski Ryan Panknin Jeff Ciupka Cathy Kieliszewski	Janice Boboltz	
10:30 a.m.			Karen Wekwert		
SEPTEMBER 13 & 14					
5:30 p.m.	Carol Kindt	Gail Atkins	Dawn Grzeskowiak Michael Yakes	Joan Smolinski	Children's Church: Joanne Huggler, Rita Chase, Nena Shipman, Jean Johnson Little's Worship: Danielle McDonald & Youth Group, Cathy K.
9:00 a.m.	Scott Parkham	Cathy Kieliszewski	Jesse & Jessica O'Neil Kathy Burton Paul Kieliszewski	Joanne Huggler Rita Chase	
10:30 a.m.			Janet Freeman		
SEPTEMBER 20 & 21					
5:30 p.m.	Iris Arthur	Myra Gapske	Tim & Barb Smith	Patti Byce Myra Gapske	Children's Church: Ashley MacKay Kathy Burton Cathy Kieliszewski Nena Shipman Little's Worship: Joanne Huggler Rita Chase
9:00 a.m.	Phil Wickstrom	Danielle McDonald	Cathy Kieliszewski Roy Wekwert Ryan Panknin Owen Werth	Janice Boboltz	
10:30 a.m.			Carla Steinke		
SEPTEMBER 27 & 28					
5:30 p.m.	Carol Kindt	Sue Keyes	John & Linda Snyder	Anita Laub	Children's Church: Jesse & Jessica O'Neil Nena Shipman Bonnie Duby Little's Worship: Ophelia Steinke Ashley MacKay
9:00 a.m.	Dawn Grzeskowiak	Shirley Jones	Jeff Ciupka Richard Miller Paul Kieliszewski Dennis Dziesinski	Janice Boboltz	
10:30 a.m.			Saydee Cline		

We are looking for Assisting Ministers and Lectors, Acolytes and Ushers for our worship services. If you are interested in serving at either service, please contact the church office at (989) 356-1658.

Altar Care for the month of September – Ginger Bohlen and Carol Kindt





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I had a wonderful time visiting with members recently and sharing sacred moments. Please continue to pray for them as they grow in strength and courage.



cross from above the Mirre Street entrance due to a concern for safety. Please give them a huge shout out.

efforts with the bathrooms at the picnic grounds. Please give them a shout out of thanks.

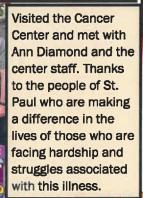
everyone to participate in at least one learning opportunity. Thank them for their leadership and vision.

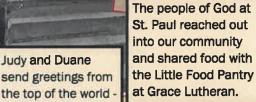


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Now it's a party with Dorothy. She is now in the Library of Congress.





Rickie Kindt was helped by his grandchildren in making wooden crosse for the church. Jamie helped sanding down the crosses and Silvi helped by tracing the crosses.



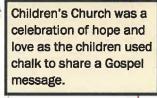
The S@SP (Singles at St. Paul) gathered this evening to share stories about relationships and

Nord Kapp, Norway.

build communi-

Met with the Presbyterian

Pastor, Bill Rayment to dis-



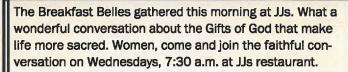
Thanks to Dolores and Karen and the Diemond Family for the blessing/gift of the keyboard and the table.

mamumumam



Love this photograph. Can you guess the names of the won-derful couple pictured here?

The Ecumenical Clergy gathering happened and we had a discussion about the Gospel for this coming week. We also welcomed our new Episcopal, Priest Matthew Roney.



St. Paul Lutheran Church 727 S. Second Ave. Alpena, Michigan 49707

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



2025





ST. PAUL EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

727 S. SECOND AVE. ALPENA, MICHIGAN (OFFICE) (989) 356-1658

SATURDAY EVENING TRADITIONAL WORSHIP AT 5:30 p.m. SUNDAY LITURGICAL WORSHIP AT 9:00 a.m. SUNDAY CONTEMPORARY SERVICE AT 10:30 a.m.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - FRIDAY \diamond 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. E-MAIL ADDRESSES

pastor@stpaul.org

Pastor John Shipman (989) 884-2084

nena@stpaul.org (920) 279-9657 jackie@stpaul.org (989) 356-1658 www.stpaul.org media@stpaul.org (989) 356-1658