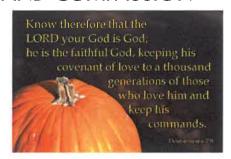
October 2025

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: Christmas Bazaar



Phone: 989-356-1658

www.stpaul.org

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



October 2025

Special points of interest:

- "He knew that he would be ridiculed if seen in a tree, but those things didn't matter. His heart told him that what he was looking for would be found in Jesus."
- "Look for people who may be up a tree; those who have great wealth and those who are poor. Share with them the promise of Jesus so that they may know salvation in their home."

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St. Paul Epistle

Salvation

We are inspired by the

words found in the story of Zacchaeus (Mark Chapter 9). Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collec-

tor, and rich. When I hear this story, I consider the story of a wealthy industrialist who jumped from a ten-story building leaving behind only a note. The note stated, "I am worth ten million dollars as men judge things, but I am so poor in spirit that I cannot live any longer. Something is terribly wrong in the world." Zacchaeus had the same thought as he went looking for Jesus. Wealth was not his answer - Something was terribly wrong. When the crowd sees the rich, they think that they must be happy, because they have everything that they desire.

vour house. Zacchaeus was rich and he was small of stature. So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was to pass that way. This wealthy man was looking for something else, another life or to connect in the world.

Today, change your mind

and let salvation come to

He knew that he would be ridiculed if seen in a tree,

> but those things ter. His heart told him that

what he was looking for would be found in Jesus.

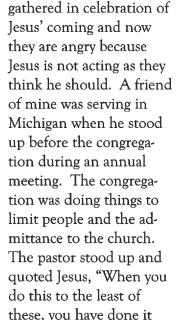
A farmer fell on hard times several years ago and he was having a difficult time finding his way. He thought that God had for-

saken him, so he stopped going to worship and he stop spending time with friends. His crops failed and he became even more depressed. The farmer became so desperate for food that one day that he grabbed his son of five and he went to the fields of the farmer adjacent to his land. tion was doing things to This neighbor was a Godly man and would help but the needy farmer refused to The pastor stood up and ask. The farmer stood beside the rich field full of grain and decided to act upon the desire of his heart. Steal some of the crop...some corn and some pumpkins. There was a tree line that separated the land and when the farmer and his son were about to act upon the desire, the

farmer looked right, left and in front and back. As he was about to step off his little boy said, "Daddy, didn't mat- you didn't look up." Salva-

> Jesus looks up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down: for I must stay at your house today." So he made haste

> > and came down, and received him joyfully. The crowd was



Zacchaeus' life was immortalized in a song that

unto me." A leader in the

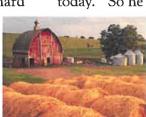
congregation stood up and

said, "That is what Jesus

that." What do you be-

lieve today?

said, but we don't believe



Salvation Continued

children are taught even today. The song reflects how salvation in Jesus can change people for the better. In the month of October we celebrate the beauty of God's creation during this time of transition. The leaves will change color and the wind will start to cool. People will dress differently to meet the chal-

lenges of the weather, and they may stay at home more frequently. Look for people who may be up a tree; those who have great wealth and those who are poor. Share with them the promise of Jesus so that they may know salvation in their home.

In October, we will also have our annual meeting, and we will address the important issues facing our congregation. As we meet our dynamic challenges and ministry needs associated with this season of the church, I hope you will continue to pray for me, the church staff and the church council. Brothers and sisters in Christ rejoice, let the salvation of God always be found here. 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.



St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church's Christmas Bazaar started in 1974 and is still going strong. This

annual event is enjoyed by the church and the community. The amount of planning and time is tremendous. But there are a lot of talented people at St. Paul. Crafters, those that can jam, fruit, veggies, baked goods, sewing knitting, crocheting and all sorts of things.

I've been involved for many years; I started in the dining room serving the luncheon. After several years (downstairs) I was asked to work upstairs



have been in charge of the baked goods area. We sell pies, cakes, cookies, sweet breads, candy, caramel corn. You name it, we probably will have it.

There have been changes over the years, but the

same people, plus new ones come back year after year. They look for-

ward to the bazaar every year. I'm very proud of St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church's Christmas Bazaar. The congregation is generous with their time and talents. There are very few churches that still have a bazaar with canned goods, baked goods, raffles and craft items, plus a lunch.

The reason people come and celebrate with us is because of the people of God at St. Paul. The people in Alpena (and the surrounding area) can tell

how much we love God, our church and how much we enjoy helping the community.
Submitted by

Val Urban Council Vice President



St. Paul Epistle

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Nena's Notes

Preparation for unexpected emergencies is my theme song in my head for October. In September Linda Collins and Judy Beyer updated the first aid kits in the building so everything is in good working order. Every month Mike and Linda Collins do a test on the two Defibrillators in the building to ensure they are in good working order. We had our annual inspection of the fire

extinguishers and the fire suppression system in the kitchen stove hood to confirm they are in proper working condition.

Rest assured that we are ready for unforeseen emergencies.

In next month's newsletter we will include reminders of where the Fire Extinguishers, First Aid Kits, and Defibrillators are in the building. Look at the list and next time you are in the building see how many you can find so you are prepared if an emergency arises in the building.

How is your spiritual life set for those unforeseen emergencies? Have you been spending time in prayer and studying scripture, so you are prepared and strengthen in God's promises, so when those unexpected life circumstances present themselves, you are prepared with God's strength and hope to meet the challenges. Please set your heart to be prepared.



Upcoming Retreats

Single's Retreat

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

SINGLES MINISTRY

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 fellowship 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 commu-

nity and fellowship for Women. Ages 18 - 100 are invited to discover God's his faithfulness in your faith re journey.

Adam's Advice Hub (AHH)

The world we live in right now is

being shaped every day by the media. The distance between sender and receiver shrinks as our devices give us access to instant messaging in the form of

texts, audio, and video. With new ways to be able to communicate, comes new ways to communicate our ideas. Writing was a form of communication that people would take the time to articulate a message properly. On the internet, message boards, comment sections, instant messages, texts, etc. communication is now hastily scripted and haphazardly posted as if the message won't be online forever. Media literacy is now a requirement to understand and think critically about the media we consume to help us recognize good information from bad information.

Proverbs 4:23 tells us, "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it." Being mindful of the media we consume protects

us from messages that distort God's truth or lead us into fear, anger, or division. An understanding of media literacy can help our communities. Misleading information can sow division in

families, churches, and neighborhoods. Media literacy helps us pause, check facts, and respond with grace rather than react hastily. As Christians, we are called to be "salt and light" (Matthew 5:13-16). When we practice careful discernment in how we share and respond to media, we reflect Christ's wisdom and truth to others.

Here are some practical Steps Toward Media Literacy that we can take as Christians:

- 1. Pause before sharing: ask, "Is this accurate? Is it kind? Is it helpful?"
- 2. Consider the source: who created this message, and why?

- 3. Compare with Scripture: does this content align with the values of God's Word?
- 4. Pray for wisdom: James 1:5 reminds us that God gives wisdom generously to those who ask.

Media can be a powerful tool for good, connecting us with resources, inspiration, and each other. But like any tool, it

> must be used wisely. By practicing media

literacy, we not only protect ourselves from harm but also bear witness to

Christ in how we engage with the world around us.



My jump start for October is to offer a simple and sincere "thank you" to all the wonder-



ful servant leaders we have in the church office. They all do/did a wonderful job, and their service is truly

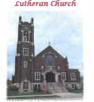
invaluable. As I went on vacation last month, I was able to rest easy in the fact that the bulletins would be placed in the correct area; readings put in binders for the assisting ministers; cards mailed, phones answered, etc. We have volunteers in the office Monday - Friday mornings, each

overseeing a variety of tasks. jumpstart You are sure to hear their friendly voices, if you call

> before noon, and they will happily help you out.

We have a "Dynamic Ministry Opportunities" brochure (designed by one of our talented volunteers), located in the fover, which has a comprehensive list of the ministries you may get involved in here at St. Paul. Check it out and

St. Paul Evangelical

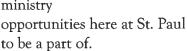


Dynamic Ministry



call the office to get plugged in.

There are so many ministry



If you have any questions, you may contact me via email (jackie@stpaul.org) or call me at the church office (989) 356-1658.













Our Servant leaders of the month of September are very special, and they inspire the church to greater heights. We celebrate with Jeff Dameworth, Cheryl Rosbeck and Jazlyn Dameworth. They received a coin to celebrate this special moment.



Blessing of the Animals

God has blessed some of us with companions that cannot speak, and yet they love and offer us 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.



Stephen Ministry

The Stephen Ministry team continues to give compassionate care to those in our community circumstances. Please

keep these Stephen Minister in your prayers as the continue their ministry at St Paul. The Stephen going through difficult life Leaders will begin training new Stephen Ministers

this fall. Please keep those joining the team in your prayers for God's Guidance during this decision time.



Thank You

The season for worship on the beach and our fireside chats is over.

Thanks to everyone who were a part of this dynamic ministry. Please

be part of the various retreats throughout the year

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Christmas Bazaar

November 8th, 2025 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

The time is drawing near for this much antici-

pated event held here at St. Paul in the multipurpose room. Final plans are under way for the

Christmas Bazaar as we prepare for this wonderful time of fellowship, memories, and, of course, shopping!

The luncheon menu includes turkey noodle casserole, cranberry salad, rolls, and a delicious dessert. Tickets are \$14.00 and children under 5 will be free. The luncheon will

be held from 11:00 a.m.— 1:00 p.m. and will be a continuous service.

There will once again be our "Chinese Raffle" where there will be a wide array of

hristmas Bazaar quality items for you to select from and to buy tickets for a chance to win.
So far, we have

a \$100 gas card, raised planter stand, camp crate, a Hardanger piece, a pork bundle, homemade Christmas tree skirt, kids wooden table and chairs, kids basket, bird feeder, and painted windows.

Our project this year will be sealing the outside of our building to make it waterproof. We have not decided on our tithe for this year yet, if you have any ideas pass them along.

All of your items can be dropped off Friday, November 7th, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. If you need help with pricing, there will be some eager women ready to help you out.

Our final planning meeting will be held on Monday, October 6th at 5:30 p.m. in the Lounge. Come join us or call if you can help out that day or in preparation for the Christmas Bazaar.

Chairman: Esther Kindt 989-471-2274

Vice Chair: Andrea Dutcher 989-354-3651

Secretary: Lori Dziesinski 989-464-7112

Treasurer: Kendra LaHaie 989-657-3875





A Stroll through the Tombstones

On the 19th of October at 6:00 p.m. Pastor John will lead a Stroll through the Tombstones at Ever-

green Cemetery. The stroll will last for about an hour.

Please come with stories 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 and for more information concerning this ministry opportunity. Saints at St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church.

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.



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Ministry Highlight - Christmas Bazaar

The vision of having an annual Bazaar at St. Paul all started about 50 years ago, with the ideas and projected goals of the 3 women's groups (The Miriam, Esther, and Lois Circles) that were part of W.E.L.C.A. (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America). Their mission was/is to mobilize women to act on their faith in Jesus Christ. Over the years the Miriam, Esther and Lois circles dissolved, but some of these dedicated women remained faithful concerning this annual event!

The Christmas Bazaar has to date raised over \$200,000. In and through the efforts of the people of God at St. Paul the Christmas Bazaar financially raised proceeds used for renovations inside and outside of the church building. The people involved saw the need to honor God so the vision of

tithing was implemented, giving 10% of the monies

raised to

local charities. When our membership declined drastically in 2010, the leadership of the Christmas Bazaar implemented actions to support our General Fund, helping the congregation during many difficult years.

Throughout the years the Christmas Bazaar ministry received matching funds from Lutheran Brotherhood, AAL, and Thrivent Financial. We are also blessed each year when members step up to

help make this event such a tremendous success.

We have considered the church Bazaar one of the Biggest

"OUTREACHES" we sponsor, because of the number of members and shoppers who come to support and feel the spirit moving in and throughout St. Paul.

Submitted by Esther Kindt

Scouting America Troop 92 News

Scouting America Troop 92 invites you to a Breakfast Fundraiser at St. Paul Lutheran Church on



Sunday, October 19 and Sunday, December 21, 2025 from 8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Free Will Offering. All you can eat plus take-out option!

Thanksgiving Fund Raiser

Scouting America Troop 92 is doing a *Take and Bake* Thanksgiving Pie Fundraiser.

Apple Pies—\$20

Orders and payments are taken October 19-November 1. The Pick-up day is November 16th from 3:00—5:00 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

If you have any questions please contact Scoutmaster Steve Donajkowski at 989-255-6521.



October Birthdays



October 1
Thomas Jones
Liz Smith
Chris Stephens
October 2
Cory McConnell
Nicola Przykuck

Nicole Przykucki October 3

Gary Chabot Sam Krey October 4

Mollie Girard Jacci Dehring Kara Laub

Dane Werth

October 5
Gya Clark
October 6

Tena Peterson

October 7

Robert Burton Sawyer Hein Gayle Marshall David Schneider October 11

Maelynn Saddler

October 12 Kendra Shupert

Kendra Shupert
October 13

Mary Jo Beck Gloria Gunderson Jim Anderson

October 14

Alex Gonzales Ann Przykucki

October 15

Alan Courtney

Trunk or Treat

The community Trunk or Treat event will be held downtown behind City Hall on Friday, October Juliet Kieliszewski

October 16
Susan Krey
Chris Lombardo
Brody Misiak

October 17

Jonathon Sawyer Amy Truth

October 18

Cody Sumerix Deborah Werner

October 19

Laycie Paquette Evan Peterson

October 20

Robert Christou Bonnie Duby Caroline Robertson

Connie Sims
October 21

Thomas Bates

October 23

Dorothy Carr Paul Kieliszewski Adam Schmidt

October 25

Susan Moggie Lynette Schellie

October 26

Ivan Sumerix
October 27

Ann Hardesty Beatrice Henning Linda Snyder

Nora Stephens
October 29

Sandra Christopherson

Lucas Hale
October 30

Iris Arthur

October 31

Joyce Hayka
James Sherwood
Laurie Stafford

24th from 5:30—7:30 p.m. We will be participating in this event again this year. We are accepting donations of candy. You may drop

them off at the church. If you have any questions or would like to help call the church office 989-356-1658.

October Anniversaries

October 2

Jerry & Bonnie Gougeon Tim & Barb Smith Phil & Rachael Techel

October 3

Jamie & Kelly Girard

October 4

Philip & Amy Wickstrom

October 11

Dane & Kori Werth

October 12

Robert & Judy Hand

October 15

Travis & LeeAnn

Niedbala

October 16
Tom and Barb Bates

October 19

Paul & Juliet Kieliszewski

October 21

Larry & Julie Hasse

October 28

Sam & Susan Krey

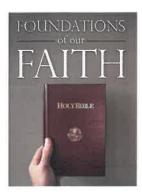
October 29

John & Sylvia Werner

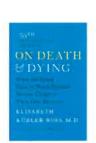


"I found him whom my soul loves." Solomon 3:4





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





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"

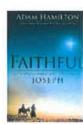
November 12th at 6:00 p.m. A meal is provided and discussion throughout - All are invited.

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



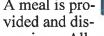
Pastor John – Bible Study – A Long Obedience in the Same Direction - Eugene Peterson

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-



cussion - All are invited.

FEBRUARY VIDEO ED-**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



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.



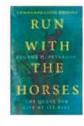
MAY VIDEO EDUCA-TIONAL EXPERIENCE

"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 HORSES Quest for Life at Its Best"-Eugene Peter-

son

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



Shemaiah Gonzalez

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Sharing Life, Living Christ's Love





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 breakfast is free!

"The Forget Me Nots" (Women 70 and older) will visit Knaebe's Apple Farm on Wednesday, October 1. We will meet in the church parking lot

at 11:00. Please let Ann know if you are interested in going, if you would be willing to drive, or would like a ride (989-590-2055). Last year our group enjoyed the visit to Knaebe's. We had pizza and a beverage for lunch and then visited the gift shop to browse. Some purchased cider, apples and donuts. Hope you can join us for an enjoyable fall outing.

"The Soul Sisters"

(Women 50-70) The Soul Sisters will meet soon. Please watch your bulletin and Facebook for details.

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.



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.

BoB (Band of Brothers) will meet soon. Please watch your bulletin and Facebook for details.



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



Singles

(Singles At St. Paul) are

meeting the first Thursday of every month (October 2nd)

at 5:30 p.m. in Pastor

a short time of will travel to a local business.

restaurant, etc. for some

John's office. We will have time of relaxed conver-

sation. Please come study and then we and be part of this new ministry and invite your friends. It is open to

singles from 18-100.





The Dynamic Duo Ministry (Couples Focused Small group events) will meet each quarter to have fun together as couples. Mark your cal-

endars for our Couple's Events throughout the year.

Friday October 17th, 2025 - The Leisurely Olympics

Friday February 13th, 2026 - Couples retreat

May 29th, 2026 -Scavenger Hunt

August 21st, 2026 - Beer Tasting tour

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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

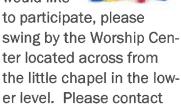
allowing parents to worship. The children will meet for about 40 minutes and then return to the 10:30 a.m. service for the final song. Please share this opportunity with your friends and family.

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 un-

der 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



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



October Service Activity

The October Service Activity is Ella White Elementary School. Items needed:

Sweatpants/leggings sizes6-14 ♦ Underwear - sizes 6-14

Tennis Shoes - all kid sizes

 Snacks for students (any type of prepackaged snack item is beneficial)

Please leave items on the altar. Thank you for your generosity.

Celebration

Help us CELEBRATE with Stacy and Jacob as they welcome their new little one in October. St. Paul would like to show-

er them with diapers.
Please drop your gifts off
to Miss Nena's office.
Thanks!



Welcome New Members

We celebrated with Mary and Alan Courtney as they became new members of our congregation August 17th in the 10:30 service. Please keep them in your prayers and welcome them.





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.

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.



Fellowship

Fellowship Saturday Night service at 5:30 meets at 4:30 for drinks and baked goods until 5:20.

fellowship
"Essential for Growth"

Fellowship for the 9:00 Ser-

vice and the 10:30 service will occur inbetween the service time. Come and share your life with the peo-

your life with the people with whom you worship.

This ministry is a celebration and I ask that you help by lead-

ing a fellow-

ship time.

Volunteer to host a coffee hour

The Adventure Club—Fall Romp

The Adventure Club will meet for a Fall Romp on Sunday, October 19th for some Fun Fall Activities at the Johnson Camp, located at 10606 Indian



Reserve Road. There will be pumpkin carving, wagon rides, and yummy snacks. If you have any questions call the church office at 989-356-1658. Please RSVP by October

15th, which will help us with planning. We hope to see you there!



Pastoral Acts

Tamara Ann Suszek joined our Lord in eternity August 15, 2025. A memorial service was held on August 23, 2025 at Bannan Funeral Home.

Annette Marie Wade joined our Lord in eternity September 17, 2025. A graveside service was held on September 23 at Evergreen Cemetery.

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

Memorials



Annette Wade Pastor John Shipman

Mabel Townsend
Gerald & Ann Hardesty
Kendra Shupert
Carol Kindt
Pastor John Shipman

An additional donation was given in honor of Addison Male, on her baptism, by Pastor John Shipman.

T-Shirt/Friendship Weekend



T-Shirt Weekend/Friendship weekend/God's work our Hands week-

end - 6th and the 7th of September. Thanks to everyone who participated in this event



OCTOBER SERVICE SCHEDULE Page 13						
Date & Service	Assisting Ministers	Lectors	Ushers	Fellowship Volunteer	Children's Church and Little's Worship Workers	
OCTOBER 4 & 5					10:30	
5:30 p.m.	Iris Arthur	Iris Arthur	Bruce Anschuetz	Sue Robb	Children's Church:	
9:00 a.m.	Shirley Jones	Phil Wickstrom	Dennis Dziesinski Tim Moggie Barb Szczesniak Ryan Panknin	Sandra Christopher son Zully Dameworth	Karen Wekwert, Amy DeRosia, Sue Robb <i>Little's Worship:</i> Jesse & Jessica O'Neil	
10:30 a.m.			Karen Wekwert			
OCTOBER 11 & 12						
5:30 p.m.	Carol Kindt	Carol Kindt	John and Linda Snyder	Joan Smolinski	Children's Church: Joanne Huggler, Rita	
9:00 a.m.	Barb Szczesniak	Barb Szczesniak	Jesse & Jessica O'Neil Roy Wekwert Dennis Dziesinski	Joanne Huggler Rita Chase	Chase, Nena Shipman, Jean Johnson Little's Worship: Danielle McDonald & Youth Group, Cathy K.	
10:30 a.m.			Janet Freeman			
OCTOBER 18 & 19						
5:30 p.m.	Dawn Grzeskowiak	Dawn Grzeskowiak	Dennis & Sherry McDonald	Patti Byce Myra Gapske	Children's Church: Ashley MacKay Bonnie Duby, Sue Robb	
9:00 a.m.	Scott Parkham	Cheri Fletcher	Cathy Kieliszewski Paul Kieliszewski Ryan Panknin Owen Werth	Carla Steinke	Cathy Kieliszewski Little's Worship: Andrea Dutcher & Evie & Meya Bicker	
10:30 a.m.			Carla Steinke			
OCTOBER 25 & 26						
5:30 p.m.	Phil Wickstrom	Gail Atkins	Michael Yakes & Dawn Grzeskowiak	Anita Laub	Children's Church: Jesse & Jessica O'Neil Nena Shipman	
9:00 a.m.	Dawm Grzeskowiak	Shirley Jones	Kathy Burton Tim Moggie Roy Wekwert Dennis Dziesinski	Janice Boboltz	Kathy Burton Little's Worship: Joanne Huggler & Rita Chase	
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.

<u>Altar Care for the month of October</u> – Karen Hamann and Sue Robb.





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.

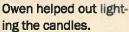




St. Paul Epistle Page 17



Beautiful day for a stroll through the tombstones. Spoke about the saints who went before us. Names that are lost in time to us and others that remain in our community.



T-Shirt/Friendship weekend services were truly a blessing. Thanks to everyone who participated.

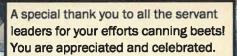


Fireside chats - good people of God gathered in celebration.



The Trust and Endowment Fund gathered this evening to consider support for our community, our nation, our world and the ELCA.

Debbie McNiel made these special bouquets of artificial flowers. Please thank her for her beautiful work. Killian loved the one in the multipurpose



The S@SP (Singles at St Paul) came out in force to learn, share stories, build community and welcome new people. Rose, Linda and John joined us tonight. Come and join the faithful conversation.

Celebrated with the people of God at St Paul as we helped pack up food for the "Feed The Kids Ministry." We packed 272 meals for children in our community.



Had a sacred visit with Dorothy Carr and she is moving to Turning Brook. Her room number is 208 and she would love for you to stop by and visit. They are at it again and I am celebrating these servant leaders. Dennis and Jimmy are really making an impact.

The Choir met and they were celebrating the promise of God in song. A huge shout out to Marvis and Marty for all they are doing to help our music ministry sing.

Rob was helping the Rusty Petunia clear a space and he received this gift. He donated it to the church for our holiday parade.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH JULY 22, 2025

Present: Scott Brooks, Bernie Wagner, Jessica O'Neil, Cathy Kieliszewski, Val Urban, Donna Kensa, Andrea Dutcher, Danielle McDonald, Phil Wickstrom, Scott Parkham, and Pastor John Shipman

Secretary's Report: On a motion by Scott Brooks seconded by Cathy Kieliszewski the secretary's minutes were approved with one correction; Val Urban was present at the June 17, 2025 meeting and Scott Parkham was absent. Motion carried.

Treasurer Reports: Motion by Scott Brooks seconded by Val Urban the treasurer reports were approved. Motion carried.

Committee Reports & Employee Reports: Motion by Val Urban seconded by Scott Brooks that the reports be approved. Motion carried.

Old Business:

- 1. No change on associate pastor.
- 2. Fund raiser for the sealant of the church is set for September 12, 2025. Val Urban asked that the council take an active role by either bowling or volunteering their time. An email will be sent to all council members to remind them of the bowling as there will not be a meeting in August.

Congregational comments and correspondence were reviewed.

New Business:

- 1. Motion by Scott Parkham, seconded by Danielle McDonald that the events of the church be approved with a date change 5/2/2026 for the Women's tea. Motion carried.
- 2. Andrea Dutcher is up for August article from a council member. Please note that all reports for the newsletter by council members needs to be in by the 15th of the month.
- 3. On a motion by Scott Brooks seconded by Val Urban to approve Bernie Wagner to establish a relationship with HPC Credit Union as depositor for the church per the agreed/presented solution. Motion carried with one abstention.

- 4. Pastor and Nena will do a planning retreat August 4-7. Andrea Dutcher addressed whether the renewal of marriage vows might be done on a different day instead of Mother's Day. Pastor Shipman stated he does it that day as there is a higher attendance. Donna Kensa stated that there are many women in the congregation without spouses and feel it takes away from Mother's Day.
- 5. It was decided to not hold an August Council meeting with the next council meeting taking place on September 16, 2025. Also, all council members are to have their committee budgets in to Bernie by the first week of September so she can prepare a church budget.

Motion by Scott Brooks, seconded by Danielle McDonald that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting September 16, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Kensa

Pastor John's Ministry Report – August 2025

In the Gospel of Mark 13:28 it states, "Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near." These profound words reflect the understanding of summer and that we are called to learn about Jesus in each season. We celebrated with Justin and Samantha as they joined together in holy matrimony, and we also remembered the lives of Matthew and Dennis and their impact in the world. St. Paul is now doing Business as St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church of Alpena; we celebrated the 4th of July with a float in the parade, and we picked up trash in support of our outreach program in association with MDOT. We honored Evan with a scholarship, and we loved the children in our community in and through our Vacation Bible School program; We welcomed the Au Sable Hygiene Pop Up closet and the Foster Closet Photo shoot/fund raiser for the first time and their presence inspired others. 70 people gathered for a church picnic, and many stayed to swim, share stories, and enjoy life. Nena and I had a vacation and Jared and Danielle led worship in my absence. Dorothy Carr came out of retirement to share some of her life and inspire the people of St. Paul. Let us learn in every season the message of hope found in Jesus.

Notes for council: July 2025

- 1. New Member Sandra Pawley
- 2. Baptism Nora Stevens
- 3. Baptism Tallulah Stevens
- 4. Funeral Irma Genschaw
- 5. Funeral Wayne Bobolz
- 6. Committal Service Doug Hayka
- 7. Head Usher Roy Wekwert
- 8. Graduation/Awarding Scholarships
- 9. Water Heater change
- 10. Fly Fishing Class/Fish Fry

Notes for council: August 2025

- 1. Wedding Justin and Samantha Timm
- 2. Funeral Dennis Diemond
- 3. Funeral Matthew Lewandowski
- 4. Funeral Prep Kim Muszynski/Frieda Pinkert
- 5. Work with Jared and Danielle for leading worship
- 6. New Member meetings
- 7. 4th of July Parade
- 8. Outreach to the NM Veterans Coalition
- 9. Kitchen Refrigerator
- 10. AuSable Pop Up Hygiene Closet

- 11. New Members Meal
- 12. Chamber of Commerce
- 13. Worship on the Beach/Fireside Chats
- 14. Bedrock Contracting helping the church
- 15. Sunrise Conference gathering in Cheboygan
- 16. Adventure Club Arzo Park
- 17. Scouting America breakfast/Cub Scout event
- 18. Bible/Book Studies
- 19. St. Paul Honored @ Alpena Board Commissioners
- 20. Rummage Sale
- 11. VBS
- 12. Highway Trash Pickup
- 13. Worship on the Beach/Fireside Chats
- 14. Scholarship awarded to Evan McDonald
- 15. DBA process
- 16. Adventure Club Church Picnic
- 17. Dorothy Carr Fridays
- 18. Stephen Ministry celebration-meal
- 19. Foster Closet photo event
- 20. Visitation/Community Outreach

Ministry Issues	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Jun</u>	<u>Jul</u>
Counseling	47	47	80	27	58	50
Visitation	75	199	171	165	256	145
Synod Issues	6	7	34	40	8	4
Worship Services	12	20	15	12	19	13
Ecumenical	12	18	20	3	5	3
Meetings	135	127	122	83	120	126
Classes	1	11	10	3	22	3
Small Group Events	30	30	24	16	48	32
Miles traveled	611	625	529	1396	882	760
Vacation days	0	0	10	3	0	6
Worship #s 2023	156	170	191	156	141	138
Worship #s 2024	181	238	148	155	163	154
Worship #s 2025	153	186	227	159	184	152
FB/Youtube sermon ave	560	424	521	391	318	353

Pastor John's Ministry Report – September 2025

In Ezekiel 38:7 we read, "Be prepared, and prepare yourself, you and all your companies that are assembled about you, and be a guard for them. This call to be prepared was answered in the month of August. Nena and I traveled to a planning summit to map out the entire years of events. More leaders did the same, adding calendar events projected to enable St. Paul to proclaim the Gospel with less overlap/conflict. We celebrated with Jacob, Stacy and Franny as they were baptized, and Chance, Cooper, Alan and Mary as they joined our congregation. We honored God and the lives of Kim, Frieda and Tamara and their faithful journeys. I celebrated with the people at the fair, rejoicing in what was accomplished and the joy of community; We honored Billyjoe and Joel as they renewed their vows and we welcome Father Roney (Episcopal Priest) and his family to Alpena; We said good-bye to Mollie as she moved to Grand Rapids; Scouting America Team hosted their second breakfast; The Dynamic Duo joined in celebration of wine tasting and building a faithful community. I visited many congregational members and community partners as summer was waning. Brothers and sisters now is the time to prepared for our future in Christ and the message he proclaims.

Notes for council: August 2025

- 1. Wedding Justin and Samantha Timm
- 2. Funeral Dennis Diemond
- 3. Funeral Matthew Lewandowski
- 4. Funeral Prep Kim Muszynski/Frieda Pinkert
- 5. Work with Jared and Danielle for leading worship
- 6. New Member meetings
- 7. 4th of July Parade
- 8. Outreach to the NM Veterans Coalition
- 9. Kitchen Refrigerator
- 10. AuSable Pop Up Hygiene Closet

Notes for council: September 2025

- 1. Baptism Jacob Plamondon
- 2. Baptism Stacy Lukitsch
- 3. Baptism Franny Lukitsch
- 4. New Members Chance and Cooper Lukitsch
- 5. New Member Alan Courtney
- 6. New Member Mary Courtney
- 7. Funeral Kim Muszynski
- 8. Funeral Frieda Pinkert
- 9. Funeral Tamara Suszek
- 10. Kitchen Cooler replacement

- 11. VBS
- 12. Highway Trash Pickup
- 13. Worship on the Beach/Fireside Chats
- 14. Scholarship awarded to Evan McDonald
- 15. DBA process
- 16. Adventure Club Church Picnic
- 17. Dorothy Carr Fridays
- 18. Stephen Ministry celebration-meal
- 19. Foster Closet photo event
- 20. Visitation/Community Outreach
- 11. Renewal of Vows BJ and Joel Foster
- 12. Dynamic Duo Wine event
- 13. Worship on the Beach/Fireside Chats
- 14. Fun at the County Fair
- 15. Welcomed Father Roney and family
- 16. Worshipped with Congregation from Ohio
- 17. Scouting America Breakfast
- 18. Celebrating Mollie Skiba as she moved
- 19. Planning Retreat
- 20. Visitation/Community Outreach

Ministry Issues	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Apr</u>	May	<u>Jun</u>	<u>Jul</u>	Aug
Counseling	47	80	27	58	50	44
Visitation	199	171	165	256	145	250
Synod Issues	7	34	40	8	4	5
Worship Services	20	15	12	19	13	22
Ecumenical	18	20	3	5	3	10
Meetings	127	122	83	120	126	146
Classes	11	10	3	22	3	3
Small Group Events	30	24	16	48	32	23
Miles traveled	625	529	1396	882	760	1545
Vacation days	0	10	3	0	6	0
Worship #s 2023	170	191	156	141	138	133
Worship #s 2024	238	148	155	163	154	165
Worship #s 2025	186	227	159	184	152	155
FB/Youtube sermon ave	424	521	391	318	353	415

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED







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