



St. Paul's Monthly Messenger

September, 2025

Pastor's Notes:

About Angels

The church celebrates the feast of St. Michael and All Angels on September 29. Angels are a topic of great interest to many people both inside and outside of the church. There are many stories about angels and have been from centuries, from the apocryphal *Book of Enoch* to John Milton's *Paradise Lost* to the 1940s Christmas film classic *It's a Wonderful Life* to the 90s TV show *Touched By an Angel*.

The Bible warns us directly to beware of things which may appear to be angels. Not everything that is or claims to be an angel is good. St. Paul says that we must watch for false teachers because Satan himself appears as an angel of light (2 Corinthians 11:14), and that even if an angel from heaven preaches a different gospel, he should be accursed (Galatians 1:8). The founders of several false religions, including Islam and Mormonism, claim their doctrine came from direct revelation of an angel. What does the Bible say about angels?

The Bible describes angels as the greatest invisible creatures of God. They are not personified forces or imaginary, but real personal being. Angels were created sometime during the first week of creation, as Genesis 2:1 says, "the heavens and earth were created, and all the host of them." During creation week, God filled the heavens with angels as He filled the earth. Like everything God has made, they were created "very good" (Genesis 1:31), but sometime before the Fall of man some angels sinned. Now there are two kinds of angels, good and evil.

The good angels are holy spirits living in eternal bliss with God (Hebrews 1:14; Matthew 25:31; Matthew 18:10). All angels are spiritual and do not have bodies, like God, but, unlike God, they are created. Sometimes angels appear to have visible, human forms (Genesis 19:1; 2 Kings 6:16-17; Luke 1:28-30). Angels do not have bodies and therefore do not reproduce (Matthew 22:30), but they are always referred to as male in scripture. Angels are of great number and great power (Luke 2:18; Daniel 7:10; Psalm 103:20). Many times, scripture talks about multitudes of them. Though they are powerful (2 Kings 19:35), they are not almighty, omnipresent, or omniscient. The Bible talks about classes or orders of angels, like cherubim, seraphim, archangels, thrones, dominions, and principalities, but we don't have much more information on how those related to one another. We know the names of a few angels like Gabriel (Luke 1:19) and Michael (Daniel 10:13).

They are called "angels" because they are God's messengers – the word "angel" means "messenger." They praise God, carry out His commands, and serve Christians, especially children. (Psalm 103:20-21; Hebrews 1:14; Psalm 91:11-12). Angels praise God for his works, especially salvation of sinners (Luke 15:10). Angels carry out God's commands like Gabriel being sent to the virgin Mary (Luke 1:26), the angel at the tomb of Jesus at His resurrection (Matthew 28:2-7), and the angels who ministered to Jesus in his suffering (Matthew 4:11; Luke 22:43). Angels protect and serve Christians, such as Peter, Daniel, and Paul, and Christ tells us that especially children have angels who always see the face of the Father. At the end, angels take our souls to heaven. We should be comforted by the angels

that God sets as a strong guard around us, remembering prayers like Luther's evening prayer "Let your holy angel be with me" and many evening hymns.

Evil angels, or devils, are spirits who were created holy, but sinned and are forever rejected by God (2 Peter 2:4). Like good angels, they are personal beings who really exist. There is no redemption for them, like with man. For now they roam the earth by God's permission (Job 1:7) but will one day be cast into everlasting fire (Matthew 25:41). Evil angels are cunning, powerful and of great number (Ephesians 6:12; Mark 5:9). They are enemies of man and God and endeavor to destroy the works of God (John 8:44; 1 Peter 5:8-9). They usually work by deceit and temptation. Christ is far more powerful than all of them, and has delivered us from the power of the devil, so we can resist him in faith and overcome them with the Word of God.



The St. Paul's coffee booth at the Dellwood Park Car Show on August 17

Pastor with some members at the St. Paul's booth at the Lockport Police CommUNITY event at East High School on August 2.



NEWS AND NOTES

Lunch with Pastor: The next Lunch with Pastor will be held on Tuesday, September 9 at 11 am at George's Restaurant in Lockport.

Manna: Order forms are available on Sunday, September 7, orders with payment are due on September 10 and orders can be picked up on September 17.

September Mission Offering: AbleLight (formerly Bethseda Lutheran Communities)

SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER/OUTREACH: Mark your calendar the Spaghetti Dinner is Nov. 2, 12-5pm at the Lockport American Legion! **We need members to keep contacting their favorite local businesses for raffle prize donations.** We request all donations be at church by Oct. 19th or earlier.

Sign-up sheets are now in the narthex for helping with the Spaghetti Dinner. We need volunteers to help serve the food, sell tickets at the door, staff the baked goods table and of course bakers to make all the delicious items. Please consider signing up for 1 or more shifts.

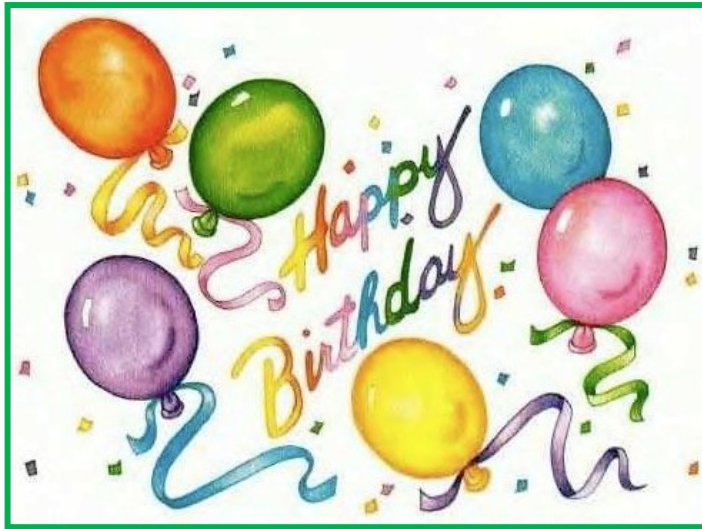
Many hands make light work.

Don't forget to purchase your Spaghetti Dinner tickets. Invite friends, family, neighbors and coworkers. Tickets will be on sale during fellowship and at Wheels in the Field. Any questions see Linda Sanfilippo, Karen Rohder or Teresa Martin.

Wheels in the Field: Cruise-in, Rummage and Bake Sale will be held on Sat., Sept. 13th 9 am- 4 pm. Drop off dates are Tues., Sept. 9th and Wed., Sept 10th 9 am-3 pm and Thur., Sept. 11th noon to 6 pm. Other dates are available for drop offs with prior arrangement with Laura or the church office.

The bake sale needs as many baked goods/homemade treats as possible. If baking is not your thing please consider items like rice cereal treats, puppy chow, or Chex mix!

Hannah Guild: Hannah Guild is a group of women who serve the church by preparing and cleaning the elements and vessels for the Lord's Supper every week. We are looking for more women who would like to help with this important task. You would be serving with a team of 2 or 3 women about once a month. If you are interested please talk to Pastor or a Hannah Guild member.



Jimmie Johnson	September 1
Kathryn Mueller	September 3
Sophia Land	September 5
Danielle Jimenez	September 7
Hudson Mueller	September 7
Derrick Jimenez	September 8
Sarah Barmann	September 10
Tina McSherry	September 11
David Saxon	September 11
Isaiah Zavala	September 11
Joseph Novak	September 12
Tonyia Murdaugh	September 15
George Robinson	September 18
Carl Michaelson	September 21
Marianne Lillie	September 30

Happy Baptismal Birthday

Deanna Smulterowicz	September 2
Olivia Gerk	September 3
Mackenzie Panka	September 4
Richard Bellas	September 5
Jocelyn Gerk	September 5
Chris Kantelberg	September 7
Stephanie Fox	September 10
Brandon Sheldon	September 20
Sara Chaney	September 28



Joel & Denise Pilz	September 2, 1972
Michael & Deanna Smulterowicz	September 2, 1978
Ron & Marlene Barmann	September 6, 1986
David & Rita Saxon	September 23, 1972



September, 2025
at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Lockport

815.838.1832
www.stpaulslockport.org
spchoff@gmail.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED	2 8 am Morning Prayer 7 pm Elders meeting	3 8 am Morning Prayer 8:30 am Pvt. Conf./Abs.	4 8 am Morning Prayer	5	6
7 Rally Day-Christian Education Sunday 9 am Divine Worship 10:15 am Fellowship 10:40 am Adult bible class/Sunday School Manna order forms are available	8 8 am Morning Prayer	9 8 am Morning Prayer 11 am Lunch with Pastor 9 am-3 pm Rummage Sale Drop off	10 8 am Morning Prayer 8:30 am Pvt. Conf./Abs. 9 am-3 pm Rummage Sale Drop off	11 9 am Circuit meeting at Lockport Noon-6 pm Rummage Sale Drop off	12	13 9 am—4 pm Rummage Sale
14 Holy Cross Sunday 9 am Divine Worship 10:15 am Fellowship 10:40 am Sunday School Congregation meeting Manna orders w/payment are due	15 8 am Morning Prayer	16 8 am Morning Prayer	17 11 am NICL	18 8 am Morning Prayer	19	20 9 am Trustee meeting 9 am Long Range Planning Meeting
21 Feast of St. Matthew 9 am Divine Worship 10:15 am Fellowship 10:40 am Adult bible class/Sunday School Manna orders ready for pickup	22 Pastor at South	23 Region Pastor's Conference	24	25 8 am Morning Prayer	26	27
28 15th Sunday after Trinity 9 am Divine Worship 10:15 am Fellowship 10:40 am Adult bible class/Sunday School	29 8 am Morning Prayer	30 8 am Morning Prayer	Oct. 1 8 am Morning Prayer 8:30 am Pvt. Conf./Abs.	Oct. 2 8 am Morning Prayer	Oct. 3	



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

1500 S. Briggs Street, Lockport, Illinois

Office phone: 815-838-1832 - Email: spchoff@gmail.com

Pastor's phone: 847-971-0848

Email: pastor.antonetti@gmail.com

Website: www.stpaulslockport.org