



From the Desk of Pastor Meyer

It's that time of the year when ghosts, goblins and witches make their annual appearances while cauldrons of green, steaming, mysterious liquids boil, boil, toil and trouble. You've seen it in cartoons and movies: the common phrase used by those creepy ghouls when putting the finishing touch on their witches' brew is "Hocus pocus!" It implies something mysterious is happening, that there are unseen forces at play doing some kind of extraordinary act, changing forms and substances into a new, powerful potion or stew.



Do you know where "Hocus Pocus" comes from? It's not the movies. Given its conventional use, its background is most unusual. Believe it or not, it comes from the Church - specifically from a misunderstanding and misinterpretation of the Words of Institution spoken by Jesus on Maundy Thursday when first sanctifying the Lord's Supper.

Travel back in time with me to the Middle Ages. The liturgy of the church - the regular structure of words spoken in the worship service - was all done in Latin. The people of the congregation were largely uneducated and unfamiliar with anything in Latin much beyond the name of God: "Patri, et Filii, et Spiritus Sancti." For unschooled laymen, understanding what the priests were saying in the Latin Mass was nearly impossible.

Too, the laity was taught that in the celebration of the Lord's Supper, something mystical and mysterious was happening. As the priest spoke the words of Jesus, Catholics taught that the elemental bread and wine were transubstantiated - changed substances - into the sacramental body and blood of Jesus. What great power was in those few dozen words!

For the sake of space, I'll not print the whole Latin Verba, just the key phrase, This is My body: "Hoc est corpus meum." Priests often held the bread and wine aloft while consecrating, adding physical motion to the words by making the sign of the cross over the vessels. To uneducated people, it wasn't much more than holy hand waving while mumbling the "special" words.

It became a perfect storm: lack of Latin comprehension, a mystical interpretation of the consecration, and relatively poor priestly vocal projection (I don't think they were taught elocution or vocal projection) and the poor laypeople were left as confused as could be, understanding neither the words nor the action. All they knew is that when the priest said these words and waved his hands about, something mystical - magical - happened.

Thus, was born the phrase, describing something magical and mystical as "hocus pocus," an attempt to interpret and understand the action that was happening at the altar in the words and actions of the priest.

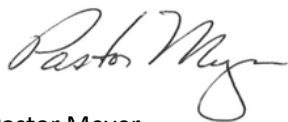
This kind of confusion was but one of the reasons Martin Luther wanted to get the Bible, in a known and understood language, in the hands of the people. He wanted them to be able to read and understand for themselves the Good News of Jesus, not merely relying on what they heard – or thought they heard – in the worship service.

Subject change... Starting on Sunday, October 25, in the adult Sunday school class, we'll spend several weeks talking about death and dying. While I realize that sounds like a downer of a topic, the last few months have reminded me that not everyone knows and understands what happens after a loved one passes away.

Sunday, October 25, Mrs. Suzanne Gray, the owner of Anderson-Burris Funeral Home, will be with us for Bible class. This is neither a sales pitch nor an endorsement. I have asked her, as a fellow Lutheran Christian who has a keen insight into the industry, to give us some things you need to know when conducting business at a funeral home. She'll take you behind the curtains, so to speak, and speak frankly about rules, regulations, policies and procedures. Then, over the following weeks, we'll talk openly about death and dying, from the myths of culture to the truths of Scripture. We'll conclude by walking through the funeral rite (service) to help explain why we do these things in a funeral service. I do understand that for some of us, this is a raw topic. But, unless Jesus returns first – which is always possible! – this is something we will all have to face.

So, back to my theme for this month, when you have your trunk or treat display set up in the church parking lot on Halloween Evening, make sure you practice your Latin so you can impress all the neighborhood kids with your command of the Latin liturgy. Or, just give them an extra Hersheys or Reeses and remind them God's love is even sweeter than that.

Pax vobiscum, which is Latin for "Peace be with you,"



Pastor Meyer



LWML

Lutheran Women in Mission

October is Mite month! LWML Sunday is October 11th

CIRCLE MEETINGS

Chancel Circle

Meets at 6:00 PM on Monday, October 12th

2506 Sleepy Hollow Drr.

Community Service Circle

Meets at 7:00 PM, on Tuesday, October 6th

2018 Lantern Lane

Service Circle

Meets at 1:00 PM on Wednesday, October 7th

Church Basement

Visiting Circle

Meets at 12:30 PM on Wednesday, October 7th

Library

The next General Meeting is Monday, October 26, 2026 at 6:00 PM in the church basement. All are welcome to attend our meetings.



We'd like to thank everyone who donates to the mites for our mission projects!

Through **January 2027**, the LWML will be collecting new or gently used shoes. The donation box will be in the narthex. Please tie the pair together with their ties. If not a shoe with ties, bind the shoes together with string or a rubber band.

We cannot accept ice skates or roller blades.



COMING UP

The LWML Bake Sales

- Sunday, November 22nd
- Sunday, December 20th



Chancel Circle welcomes the gift of flowers

Living flowers and plants are a beautiful way to honor our Lord and enrich our time together in worship.

If you feel called to place flowers on the altar, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please contact the church office at

(580) 234-6646



Thank you for helping us recycle HP and Canon ink cartridges! Please save your original box to pack the used cartridges OR use a Ziplock bag. Also, we continue to collect the special Commemorative postage stamps. For a complete list of items to collect, go to www.oklwml.org





Dominoes Group
meets the 1st and 3rd
Mondays of each
month at 9:45AM
3005 Forrestridge Pl



Men's Breakfast &
Bible Study
Meet's every Friday
7:00 AM at
Boomerang Diner 721
S. Oakwood Rd.



TRUNK OR TREAT
OCTOBER 31ST
4 PM - 6 PM
ST. PAUL'S PARKING LOT



Mark Your Calendar

Balance & Strength

Meet in the Music Room every
Tuesday & Thursday at 11:00 AM

SAMS Luncheon
October 28th at
12:30 PM



Ladies Bible Study
Wednesdays, 9:30AM or 6:30PM
Begins August 26th, 2026
St. Paul's Library
Questions? Contact Adola Stocker
at (210) 385-1272

ATTENTION
NO Ladies' Bible Study
Wednesday, November 4th
Final Ladies' Bible Study
Wednesday, November 11th



Pinochle Group
meets the 1st and 3rd
Tuesdays of each
month at 1:00PM
3005 Forrestridge



Holy Communion will not
be celebrated on
Sunday, October 18.
Instead, we will celebrate
Communion on Sunday,
October 25, in
observance of
Reformation Sunday.



Some folks may be celebrating Halloween, but others
of us will be viewing **"BEN WAGNER"** on **Sunday**
October 25, in the church basement at **5:00 pm.**

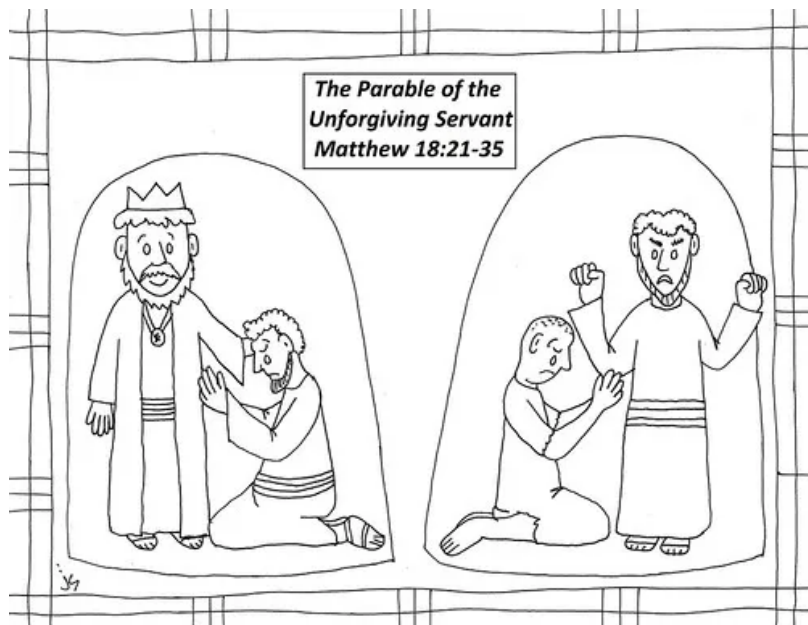
"You can do it, Be," says young regina to Ben as he struggles across a log over a fast-flowing river. "I know you can." And he can—much to his own surprise. His already shaky confidence took a nose dive after moving to a new town. But that somehow changed when he met the mysterious Regina. With her encouragement, Ben can do difficult things with ease. So much that he wonders if the rumors are true about Regina and the others who live up by the lake: Could they really be causing strange things to happen? As Ben learns the truth about Regina, he finds a friend who truly believes in him. If only Ben's father could his Ben's dad could feel the same way. Instead, his dad is working to create a major development that would pave right over Regina's home. This bewitchingly clever story reminds us that life's "magic" comes from believing in yourself enough to act on what's really most important. Join us for a free evening of popcorn and good family films, suitable for the whole family.

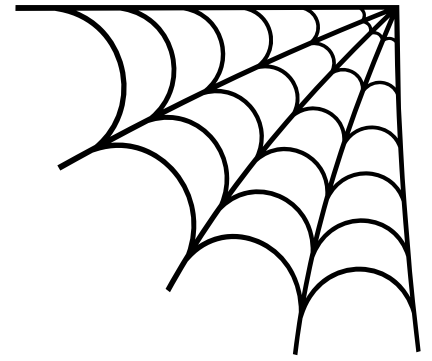
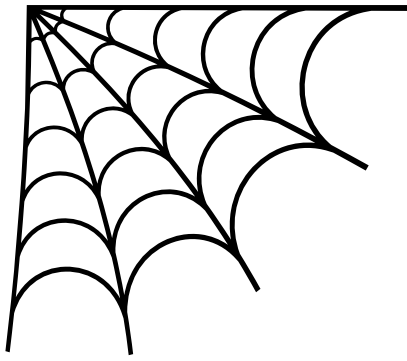


SMS—Sunday Morning Special.

Oh no, not another abbreviation! As you know the Children's Ministry Team discontinued Sunday School. Temporarily, I hope, but we don't want to forget about our children. We keep trying to provide opportunities for them to continue to hear the Word of God. For that reason, we have recruited six teams of Bible Study leaders to lead six lessons throughout the year on the **2nd Sunday** of every other month starting **October 11**. This experience will start promptly at 10:15 a.m., immediately after church, and conclude at 11:15 am. These lessons will be a 1-hour VBS experience. And parents, you don't need to drive away and then come back. You can spend an hour with Pastor Meyer in Bible Study in the basement. He presents a great time of discussion on the readings for the day.

To all children ages 3 to grade 4 and your friends. To all the parents, grandparents, uncles, and aunts and friends with children of that age. The Children's Ministry team is offering their first Sunday Morning Special "**The Ungrateful Servant**". This is a VBS type of event that will be held in the school gym **October 11th 10:15-11:15**. Hope to see you there!





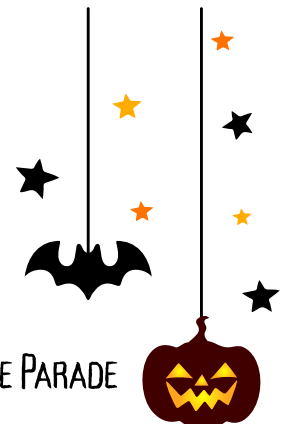
**Kid's Church Program
October 11th**



**Dine-Out Night
October 13th**



HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARTIES & COSTUME PARADE



GET READY FOR SOME SPOOKTACULAR FUN! OUR HALLOWEEN PARTIES WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, IN THE INDIVIDUAL CLASSROOMS. PARENTS, PLEASE CHECK WITH YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER FOR THE SPECIFIC PARTY TIME AND ANY ADDITIONAL DETAILS. EVERYONE IS INVITED TO ENJOY OUR PARADE OF COSTUMES! BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIRS, FIND A GOOD SPOT, AND COME CHEER ON ALL OF OUR LITTLE GHOSTS, SUPERHEROES, PRINCESSES, AND OTHER COSTUMED CHARACTERS AS THEY PARADE BY! BEGINS AT 3:00PM



Mrs. Cripe's 2nd graders are lending a helping hand to the **ESPCA** by collecting much-needed donations through **October 14**. To wrap up their collection, the students will visit the shelter and spend some special time **reading to the animals**. Check out the flyer for information on how you can help!



PET FOOD & SUPPLIES DRIVE

BENEFITING THE

ESPCA

**BRING YOUR DONATIONS TO
THE ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL OFFICE**

Blankets

Bleach

Canned Cat Food

Canned Chicken

Cat Food (Adult & Kitten)

Dish Soap (Dawn Blue)

Dishwasher Soap or Pods

Distilled Water

Dog Food (Adult & Puppy)

Dog Shampoo

Dry Erase Markers

Dryer Sheets

Fabulosso

Hand Sanitizer

Hand Soap

Harness - Walk Your Dog
with Love Harness

Heavy Duty Outside Hose

Kitty Litter

Leads and Leashes

Laundry Detergent (Liquid)

Martingale Collars M/L

Paper Towels

Pedialyte

Pill Pockets

Pill Poppers

Poo Bags

Puppy Pads/Potty Pads

Pumpkin (Canned Plain)

Quick Oats (Plain)

Robitussin

Rubbing Alcohol

Sardines (Tinned in Water)

Toilet Tissue

Towels

Toys (Cats & Dogs)

Trash Bags

Treats (Training & Soft)

Vienna Sausages

Waist Packs

White Vinegar

JOIN OUR TEAM AND GROW WITH US

WE'RE HIRING

BUSINESS MANAGER

St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School is hiring a Business Manager to handle our day-to-day bookkeeping, office operations, facility oversight, and HR.

Job Description

- Oversee day-to-day bookkeeping, payroll, AP/AR, and budgeting
- Direct church and school office operations
- Provide support for school bookkeeping
- Handle employee onboarding, HR records, and legal compliance

Requirements

- Experience in bookkeeping/accounting & office management
- QuickBooks proficiency & strong organizational skills
- Ability to work independently with high integrity & discretion

APPLY NOW AT
PASTOR@STPAULSENID.COM



October

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

1st John Smithson
2nd Jett LaBrue
4th Courtney Campbell
7th Danielle Wyant
9th Cindy Fischaber
13th Zachary Durheim
13th Todd Goodwin
13th Cindy Krey
14th Ralph Kroll
15th Scott Holtzen

17th Krystal Fisher
20th Marya Rapp
21st Harlan Ragoss
22nd Dena Felton
23rd Troy Allen
24th Blake Holtzen
24th Casey LaBrue
28th Timothy Dorsch
28th Rick Lunday
28th Christine Hollrah



HAPPY
Anniversary



5th Paul & Sally Dunbar
8th Milburn & Fran Kroll
8th Byron & Marya Rapp
14th Mavick & Ginger Courter
15th Ron & Kris Young
23rd Todd & Shelley Goodwin



October 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Bible Book Club 8:30 AM Balance&Strength 11:00 AM Bible Book Club 7:00 PM	2 Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 7:00 AM	3
4 Communion Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM	5 Dominoes 9:45 AM Finance Board 10:00 AM	6 Balance&Strength 11:00 AM Pinochle 1:00 PM Community Service Circle 7:00 PM	7 Ladies' Bible 9:30 AM Visiting Circle 12:30 PM Service Circle 1:00 PM Ladies' Bible 6:30 PM	8 Bible Book Club 8:30 AM Balance&Strength 11:00 AM Bible Book Club 7:00 PM	9 Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 7:00 AM	10
11 LWML Sunday Worship 9:00 AM Kid's Sing Sunday School 10:15 AM	12 Finance Board 10:00 AM Chancel Circle 6:00 PM	13 Balance&Strength 11:00 AM  Dine-Out	14 Chapel 9:00 AM Ladies' Bible 9:30 AM Ladies' Bible 6:30 PM	15 Bible Book Club 8:30 AM Balance&Strength 11:00 AM Bible Book Club 7:00 PM	16 Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 7:00 AM Fall Break No School	17
18 Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM	19 Dominoes 9:45 AM Finance Board 10:00 AM Fall Break No School	20 Balance&Strength 11:00 AM Pinochle 1:00 PM	21 Awards Chapel 9:00 AM Ladies' Bible 9:30 AM Ladies' Bible 6:30 PM	22 Bible Book Club 8:30 AM Balance&Strength 11:00 AM School Board 5:00 PM Bible Book Club 7:00 PM	23 Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 7:00 AM Parent/Teacher Meetings No School	24
25 Reformation Sunday Communion Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Family Movie Night 5:00 PM	26 Finance Board 10:00 AM	27 Balance&Strength 11:00 AM	28 Chapel 9:00 AM Ladies' Bible 9:30 AM Ladies' Bible 6:30 PM	29 Bible Book Club 8:30 AM Balance&Strength 11:00 AM Bible Book Club 7:00 PM	30 Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 7:00 AM	31  TRUNK TREAT 4PM - 6PM

October Worship Service Duties

DATE	LESSONS	HYMNS	ACOLYTE	LIVESTREAM	SOUND	READERS	ELDER	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	USHERS	GREETERS	CHILDREN'S SERMON	NURSERY
Sun. Oct. 4, 2026 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 5:1-7 Psalm 80:7-19 Philippians 3:4b-14 Matthew 21:33-46	525, 691 [606, 634, 651, 650], 643	Paul Dunbar	Zach Wyant	Brian Hinrichs	Paul Dunbar	Rick Lunday & Paul Dunbar	Rick Lunday & Paul Dunbar	G. Breitenkamp, G. Hollrah, R. Mueller, Richard Burdick	Teresa Peyton & Martha Gabriel	Pastor Meyer	Kathy Wuerflein
Sun. Oct. 11, 2026 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 45:1-7 Psalm 96:1-9 (10-13) Thessalonians 1:1-10 Matthew 22:15-22	803, 633, 919	Gene Hollrah	Zach Wyant	Gerald Nolte	Paul Dunbar	Gene Breitenkamp		Gene Breitenkamp, G. Hollrah, Ray Mueller	Adola Stocker & Rhonda Fox	Carolyn LaBrue	Cindy Fischhaber
Sun. Oct. 18, 2026 Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 35:5-8 Psalm 147:1-11 2 Timothy 4:5-18 Luke 10:1-9	940, 829, 979	James Wuerflein	Paul Fisher	Gerald Nolte	Paul Dunbar	Gene Breitenkamp		Gene Breitenkamp, Bill White, James Wurflein, Richard Burdick	Sally Dunbar & Pam Wiederkehr	Martha Gabriel	The Biggers Family
Sun. Oct. 25, 2026 Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost Reformation	Leviticus 19:1-2, 5-18 Psalm 1 Thessalonians 2:1-13 Matthew 22:34-46	947, 657 [644, 566, 669, 664] 794	Jonathan Becker	Zach Wyant	Layton Heifeld	Paul Dunbar	Jonathan Becker & Ron Young	Jonathan Becker & Ron Young	Gene Breitenkamp, Jere Courter, Chris Burdick, Chris Bauer	Laura Burdick & Brenda Bralcy	Teresa Peyton	Lorie Legere
Sun. Nov. 1, 2026 All Saints' Day	Revelation 7:(2-8) 9-17 Psalm 149 1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12	670, 677v, 1-4[673, 680, 671 (Tune: 803), 672] 677v, 5-8	Paul Dunbar	Paul Fisher	Brian Hinrichs	TBA	Paul Dunbar & Ron Young	Paul Dunbar & Ron Young	G. Breitenkamp, G. Hollrah, R. Mueller, Richard Burdick	TBA	Pastor Meyer	TBA