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ST PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

November the first is All Saints Day, the day the Church sets aside to remember and give thanks to God for the faithful who have died in the faith, the invisible church triumphant that parallels into perfection what our church militant still struggles with this side of heaven. In the old, Scandinavian Lutheran Church, communion rails were shaped in a half-circle. The image was intentional. In the Sanctus in the communion liturgy, we pray that “with angels, and archangels, and all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your name, singing Holy, Holy, Holy…” That half-circle represented the Church on earth. The unseen half-circle that extended into sacred time and space represented the Church in heaven. It reminded the communicant that those gathered at the rail were communing with Jesus and all those who have previously knelt at that rail and rails across Christendom.

I love All Saints Day with its solemn joy. While I usually transfer the Day to the Sunday closest, this year it lands on a Sunday. In the liturgy for All Saints, I will read the names of our thirteen brothers and sisters in Christ who have died since November 1, 2025. Then, following a series of passages from Scripture that affirm our hope (!!!) in the resurrection I’ll pray petitions that conclude:

And, finally, we remember those who have no one to remember them; those who died in infancy; the miscarried, the aborted, and the stillborn; and those martyred for the sake of Christ.

Every year, that paragraph catches in my throat. I think of those people, the unnamed, the unremembered, the unknown, and I grieve at how our society treats the least. I've stood in paupers’ cemeteries filled with graves, many with blank spaces for names on cheap, plastic markers - a far cry from the celebrated Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Washington DC. No one stands vigil over these people. No one lays wreaths or flowers. No one visits. No one pays any attention, besides the lawn maintenance crew, because no one cares. "Gone...and forgotten."

That paragraph also includes the stillborn, miscarried and aborted, and that’s where my voice usually breaks along with my heart. I think of a baby I buried a couple years ago, stillborn just days before his scheduled arrival via Cesarean. Sadly, something happened, some medical fluke, that at that late of date, his life ceased. His tombstone has one singular date, his birth-day sadly also his death-day. I look forward to meeting him when Jesus returns.

In 2025, even after the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade, 1,126,000 babies were aborted. To put that into perspective, 1,316,000 people died from heart and cancer, combined. I think of those little, unnamed babies, life stripped from them before they even had the chance to be the blessing God created them to be. Lord, have mercy.

I think of our own two children who didn't live far into pregnancy, children unknown except to my wife and me, the few people whom we told, and God. I remember using the phrase that Laura was "barely pregnant," as if that made it barely real, barely a loss, barely a death, trying to ease our sense of loss. Was he going to be a handsome son or was she going to be a beautiful daughter? Would my birth defects reappear? Would one write the next great American novel or entertain dozens by mastering the harmonica? Could one have followed in his mother's footsteps to be a teacher? Could one have paved the way for siblings to be in marketing, engineering or a sailor?

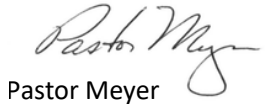
We'll never know. Not this side of heaven, anyway. As a dad, I wrestle with these memories. To be fair, they were so small that when Laura miscarried, there was no baby bump, no pre-natal shopping expeditions, no name chosen. Still, there was a baby, unplanned and unexpected, but nevertheless a child - my child, our child. Death robbed us of diapers and late-night feedings and robbed the child of God's gifts in Baptism.

As a pastor, I wrestle with that. Faith is a gift of God, through Word and Water. Satan's curse robbed the children of the baptismal grace of God. Could they hear the Word we read to him or her? All I can do now is all I could do then: commend the child, who never got to experience the joy and wonder of being part of the family of God, let alone our little family, to the God who gave him or her to us. The Lord gave; the Lord took away. Blessed be the name of the Lord.

I pray for the day to come, that blessed Day of the Lord, the Yom Yahweh, when Christ returns and the faithful are raised to be with Him into eternity. I pray that on that day, in some way that we don't fully yet know, I will meet my unborn son or daughter (or sons or daughters) and hear their voices, and I'll again see my Mom and Dad, and together with all those who have gone before, we'll celebrate the Lamb's eternal victory over sin, death and the grave. On that day, I'll laugh and dance (maybe, in the resurrection, I'll be able to do the Boot Scoot Boogie, because I sure can't now...) and chant, "Oh, grave, where is thy sting?" Sorrow and sighing will be gone, along with the tears that wash my cheeks as I write.

I know that this is sentimental, theological drivel, but pardon it for just a moment because I am feeling sentimentally drivelous. Maybe, just maybe, I'll hear a voice from among the sea of the faithful say something like, "Hey, Dad? It's me...we never got to really meet before, but, man, is it great to see you."
As we get into what is often called "the holiday season," I encourage you to plan to make our seasonal services part of your calendar. Join us for Thanksgiving Eve service, and make plans for the midweek Advent services, too. Believe it or not, we'll soon be decorating for Christmas in our homes. The sanctuary will be Christmissified (as my daughter says) as well, with tree, lights, and other accoutrements. Before you know it, it will be time for the school and Sunday school programs and then our celebration of Christ's birth.

Until next month, I pray a blessed All Saints to you, dear reader.



Pastor Meyer

LWML
Lutheran Women in Mission

* LWML BAKE SALE NOVEMBER 22nd *

CIRCLE MEETINGS

Chancel Circle
Meets at 6:00 PM on Monday, November 9th
2907 Chelsea Court

Community Service Circle
Meets at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, November 3rd
2018 Lantern Lane

Service Circle
Meets at 1:00 PM on Wednesday, November 4th
Church Basement

Visiting Circle
Meets at 12:30 PM on Wednesday, November 4th
Library

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.



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



LWML Bake Sale

Sunday, December 20th

A variety of baked goods and holiday favorites will be available for purchase.

All proceeds from the bake sales go towards Christmas gifts for charaties.





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

Mark Your Calendar



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

3005 Forrestridge Pl

Balance & Strength

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

There will be **NO SAMS Luncheons** in the months of **November & December** for the Holiday Season



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

3005 Forrestridge

THANKSGIVING & ADVENT WORSHIP

Join us as we gather in thanksgiving and begin the season of Advent.

Thanksgiving Eve Service
Wednesday, November 25 • 6:30 PM

First Advent Service
Wednesday, December 2 • 6:30 PM

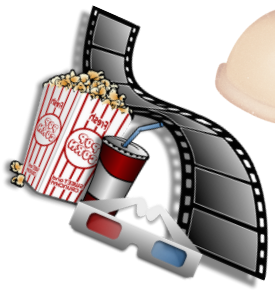
We look forward to worshiping with you and your family.





Men's Breakfast & Bible Study

Meet's every **Friday 7:00 AM** at Boomerang Diner 721 S. Oakwood Rd.



On **Sunday, November 29** at **5:00** in the church basement our movie is called
"A SONG FOR THE SEASON"



We have just celebrated with family and friends for the wonderful life we have. Now we move into the Christmas season to continue our thankfulness in preparation for the Lord's birth. To save a school from closure, Cal Peterson must close all unessential classes and programs, including a music program that is the heart of a community. His determination to do the right thing is tested when he has to fire the program's beloved music teacher, with whom he's fallen in love. Join us for a free evening of popcorn and go s to od family films, suitable for the whole family.

School News





UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Veterans Parade — Saturday, November 7**
- **Children's Veteran's Day Program — after chapel, Wednesday, November 11 at 9 AM**
- **Thanksgiving Break — November 23–27**

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 bookeeping
- 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

Happy Birthday November

2nd Sierra Streck
3rd Kelly Crowl
3rd Gerry Heidrich
3rd Gerald Nolte
4th Charles Wyant
5th Juanita Campbell
5th Bob Goodwin
5th Gary Jasonious
5th Diane Kendall
6th Jennifer Biggers
7th Nathan Overstreet
8th Marjorie Chandler
10th Ed Fulk
12th Phyilis Blaser
13th Caroline Cowan
13th Kirk Stocker
14th Andrea Bushman
5th Justin Biggers
15th Ray Mueller
16th Amberlee Fleischmann
17th Brenda Braley
18th Mike Melton
19th Carole Wade
20th Shirley Sanders
21st Diane Loesch
21st Deloris Theimer
22nd Gaylen Stegeman
24th Noah Holle
24th Sonny Otipoby
25th Lorie Legere
26th Amanda Fuxa
27th Cameron Hartfiel
28th Ricky Sohl
29th Dean Walton

Birthday Card Shower for Deloris Theimer

Please help us celebrate **Deloris Theimer's 95th** birthday on **November 21** with a birthday card shower! Let's fill her mailbox with cards, prayers, and warm wishes as she marks this special milestone.

Cards may be sent to:

Deloris Theimer
The Commons, Rm 3013
3706 King Street
Enid, OK 73703

HAPPY Anniversary

24th Gene & Cathy Breitenkamp

November 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 All Saints Day Communion **9:00AM** Worship *Daylight Savings Ends	2 **9:45AM** Dominoes **10:00AM** Finance Board	3 **11:00AM** B&S **1:00PM** Pinochle **5:30PM** PTL **7:00PM** Community Service Circle	4 NO Ladies' Bible Study **9:00AM** Worship **12:30PM** Visiting Circle **1:00 PM** Service Circle	5 **11:00AM** Balance &Strength	6 **7:00AM** Men's Breakfast	7 Veterans Day Parade
8 **9:00AM** Worship	9 **10:00AM** Finance Board **6:00PM** Chancel Circle	10 **11:00AM** Balance &Strength **7:00PM** Elders Meeting	11 **9:00AM** Chapel Vet Program **9:30/6:30** Final Ladies' Bible Study	12 **11:00AM** Balance &Strength	13 **7:00AM** Men's Breakfast	14
15 Communion **9:00AM** Worship **11:30-1:30** Chili Cook-off	16 **9:45AM** Dominoes **10:00AM** Finance Board **Dine-Out Night McAllisters**	17 **11:00AM** Balance &Strength **1:00PM** Pinochle	18 **9:00AM** Chapel	19 **11:00AM** Balance &Strength **5:00PM** School Board **7:00PM** ChurchCouncil	20 **7:00AM** Men's Breakfast	21
22 **9:00AM** Worship Last Sunday of the Year	23 **10:00AM** Finance Board	24 **11:00AM** Balance &Strength	25 **6:30PM** Thanksgiving Eve Service	26 **11:00AM** Balance &Strength	27 **7:00AM** Men's Breakfast	28 Decorating Christmas Tree
29 **9:00AM** Worship **5:00PM** Family Movie Night	30					

----------Thanksgiving Break----------

November Worship Service Duties

DATE	LESSONS	HYMNS	ACOLYTE	LIVESTREAM	SOUND	READERS	ELDER	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	USHERS	GREETERS	CHILDREN'S SERMON	NURSERY
Sun. Nov. 1, 2026 All Saints Day	Revelation 7:(2-8) 9-17 Psalm 149 1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-2	670, 677, 673, 680, 671, 672, 677	Paul Dunbar	Paul Fisher	Brian Hinrichs	Jonathan Becker	Paul Dunbar & Ron Young	Paul Dunbar & Ron Young	G. Breitenkamp, G. Hollrah, R. Mueller, Richard Burdick	Lacie Heitfeld & Kathy Wuerflein	Pastor Meyer	Veta Wheeler
Sun. Nov. 8, 2026 Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost	Amos 5:18-24 Psalm 70 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Matthew 25:1-3	593, 515, 663	James Wuerflein	Zach Wyant	Adola Stocker	Jonathan Becker	Gene Breitenkamp		Gene Breitenkamp, Gene Hollrah, Ray Mueller,Jere Courter	Kris Young & Carla Burdick	Pastor Meyer	Cindy Fischaber
Sun. Nov. 15, 2026 Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost	Zephaniah 1:7-16 Psalm 90:1-12 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Matthew 25:14-30	804, 781, 531, 730, 806, 854, 801	Jonathan Becker	Paul Fisher	Gerald Nolte	Jonathan Becker	Jonathan Becker & Paul Dunbar	Jonathan Becker & Paul Dunbar	Gene Breitenkamp, Bill White, James Wurflein, Richard Burdick	Barbara Kroll & Teresa Peyton	Stephen Wiederkehr	Kathy Wuerflein
Sun. Nov. 22, 2026 Last Sunday of the Church Year	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 Psalm 95:1-7a 1 Corinthians 15:20-28 Matthew 25:31-46	905, 851, 686	James Wuerflein	Zach Wyant	Layton Heitfeld	Jonathan Becker	Gene Breitenkamp		Gene Breitenkamp, Jere Courter, Chris Burdick, James Wuerflein	Martha Gabriel & Adola Stocker	Kathy Wuerflein	Biggers Family
Wed. Nov. 25, 2026 Thanksgiving Eve	Deuteronomy 8:1-10 Psalm 67 Philippians 4:6-20 or 1 Timothy 2:1-4 Luke 17:11-19	790, 895, 894, 893, 892, 806, 785	Paul Dunbar	Paul Fisher	Gerald Nolte	Jonathan Becker	Jonathan Becker & Paul Dunbar	Jonathan Becker & Paul Dunbar	G. Breitenkamp, G. Hollrah, R. Mueller, Richard Burdick			
Sun. Nov. 29, 2026 First Sunday in Advent	Isaiah 64:1-9 Psalm 80:1-7 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 11:1-10 Mark 13:24-37	332, 341, 348	Gene Hollrah	Zach Wyant	Gerald Nolte	Jonathan Becker	Gene Breitenkamp		Gene Breitenkamp, Gene Hollrah, Ray Mueller,Jere Courter	Rhonda Fox & Sally Dunbar	TBD	Hinrichs Family
Wed. Dec. 2, 2026 Advent			James Wuerflein	Paul Fisher	Gerald Nolte	TBD	Gene Breitenkamp		Gene Breitenkamp, Bill White, James Wurflein, Richard Burdick			