



St Paul Lutheran

VALLEY CITY, OHIO

1377 Lester Road, Valley City, OH 44280
330-483-3883 www.spvc.org

SEPTEMBER 2023

2023 LCMS NATIONAL CONVENTION REPORT

From July 29 – August 3, delegates from across the Synod met in Milwaukee for the triennial national convention of the LCMS. More than one thousand delegates, elected from the Circuits of the Synod, including one pastoral and one lay delegate, met in worship and study, and to receive reports, conduct elections, and consider resolutions. It was a busy and productive week and we can give thanks to God for the work of the delegates and leadership of our Synod.

If you'd like all the details of what was done at the convention, visit LCMS.org and follow the links to the convention news. What follows here is a summary of my experiences as well as excerpts from articles published by the LCMS "Reporter." Copies of the Reporter are regularly available around the church. Issues of the Lutheran Witness are also available each month. Please, help yourself.

Elections

The Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, having received 52.32% of the votes cast, was reelected as president of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) for a fifth term of office, which runs from 2023 to 2026. The incumbent vice-presidents were all reelected including first vice-president, Rev. Peter Lange and the regional vice presidents.

Over the week the convention held elections for dozens of positions throughout the synod including the boards of regents for the universities and seminaries, boards of directors for the Synod and other Synod entities such as CPH and LCEF, and various commissions such as the Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR).

Church Fellowship

We rejoiced to recognize full church fellowship with five new international church bodies: Evangelical Lutheran Church of South Sudan/Sudan (ELCSS/S) and the Evangelical Lutheran Mission Diocese of Finland (ELMDF), the Lutheran Church of Uganda (LCU) and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ukraine (ELCU). The convention also recognized the Ceylon Evangelical Lutheran Church (CELC) in Sri Lanka as a self-governing, full partner church of the LCMS.

Unfortunately, we also had to recognize the broken fellowship with the Japan Lutheran Church (JLC) after years of talks and their continued acceptance of the ordination of women as pastors and open communion. After voting to recognize the broken fellowship, we were led in prayer not only for the return of the JLC to biblical doctrine and practice, but also that the LCMS be ready gratefully and joyously to reestablish fellowship with the JLC should they so return.

Communion and Worship Practices

The Synod voted to re-affirm the LCMS' historic position regarding close(d) Communion. President Harrison offered a brief explanation for the practice of closed Communion.

“First ... we really are concerned that people who receive the Sacrament are Christians. None of us wants to, as Paul says, give the Sacrament to somebody for their detriment,” he said, referencing St. Paul’s teaching in 1 Corinthians 11.

Second, Harrison also mentioned the repeated injunction of Scripture for complete unity in doctrine and teaching. Finally, he explained pastoral discretion. The LCMS has always acknowledged that pastors have discretion to make certain allowances based on circumstances. But Harrison also warned against the abuse of such practice: “Printing in your bulletin ‘If you believe in the real presence, y’all come’ is not pastoral discretion.”

The Council of Presidents (or “COP”, made up of all the district presidents), the Office of the President, and the CTCR will also be developing a process to discuss and evaluate the use of technology in the church, in particular such things as “virtual” worship, online Bible studies, online membership, and the like.

Human Sexuality

Resolution 5-11 reaffirmed the Synod’s position on marriage and human sexuality, particularly that God created mankind as male and female, He instituted marriage to be an indissoluble union between man and woman, that Scripture reserves all sexual activity for the martial union between man and woman and prohibits all sexual activity between persons of the same sex. The resolution urges all “pastors to preach and teach God’s counsel regarding the biblical design for marriage and sexuality with courage, as well as to exercise compassionate pastoral care to those struggling with sexual sin and misunderstanding.”

Structure and Administration

I had the privilege of working on Floor Committee 9, Structure and Administration. Our resolutions dealt with a number of bylaw changes and updates. I’m most pleased with our work in simplifying the process for electing delegates for the Synod National Convention. A number of quirks made it a bit of a frustrating process and we were able to streamline things.

Against Racism

The Convention passed a number of resolutions related to cultural issues. Regarding racism, 11-02A condemns racism in every form and acknowledges that certain organizations, political movements and ideologies—such as Black Lives Matter (BLM); Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI); and Critical Race Theory (CRT)—include controversial aspects that espouse unbiblical teachings. It also condemns other movements such as White Supremacy, White Nationalism, and Nazism that divide people on the basis of race. Previously the Synod has spoken against racism 36 times in convention just since 1956 and did so again in Milwaukee.

Abortion and Fetal Tissue in Medicine

Floor Committee 11 addressed abortion and the use of fetal tissue in vaccines. Res. 11-04 asks the Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR), in consultation with LCMS Life Ministry, to address the issue of abortion especially in relation to the use of aborted fetal tissues in vaccinations. “Res. 11-04 is not intended to comment on any vaccine in particular, but instead highlight the need for more guidance from the Synod,” said the Rev. Michael Schuermann, FC 11 secretary.

Mandatory Registration of Women for the Draft

While not currently necessary, it seems possible that in the near future women may be compelled to register to be drafted into the armed forces such as men currently are. The resolution passed does not speak against the voluntary participation of women in the military but provides a means for LCMS women to conscientiously object to mandatory participation.

Government Interference in Worship Practices

Resolution 11-05 asserted that the state does not have God-given authority to direct the church’s liturgical and sacramental life. It affirmed that “gathering together in person to receive God’s gifts in Word and Sacrament is essential for the health and well-being of God’s people.”

Concordia University System and Concordia University Texas

In the last two years, two Concordia University campuses closed: Portland, Oregon and Bronxville, New York. The Convention gave thanks to God for the work of these institutions over the years and voiced support for their alumni and communities.

The Synod passed a new structure of oversight for the Concordia Universities. The presidents of five Concordia University schools (Nebraska, Chicago, California, Wisconsin/Ann Arbor, and St. Paul) all endorsed the changes and the institutions had been closely involved with their development. This was the culmination of work required by a 2019 resolution.

Concordia University Texas (CTX) has been host to a complex series of events beginning in November, 2022 when their Board of Regents voted to disassociate from the LCMS and filed for reincorporation in the state of Texas. In these new articles of incorporation, they eliminated any mention of the

relationship between the LCMS and the University, in particular the Synod's role in theological oversight of their Lutheran identity.

The Synod bylaws and original governing documents of CTX recognize that CTX is a steward of the Synod's university and that the Synod plays a role in electing members of the Board of Regents and the process for selecting a President. CTX has rejected these as infringements to their independent governance.

The Convention passed Resolution 7-03, "To Call Concordia University Texas Leadership to Repentance." During the discussion, CTX President and CEO, Dr. Don Christian was allowed to address the convention body. He outlined the actions of the CTX Board of Regents but also asserted that the CTX Board remains the sole governing body of the school. It was pointed out to the delegates that this assertion is at the heart of the dispute and breaks from the rules of governance from the Synod. At the heart of the resolution is not just the call to repentance but the sincere desire for repentance and reconciliation with the members of the CTX Board and return to a healthy relationship with the Synod.

Reports and Rejoicing

Throughout the week the delegates received greetings and updates from various LCMS entities such as Concordia Publishing House, the LWML and LLL, and international missionaries. Each day was punctuated by scripture, worship, prayer, and song from voices around the globe. God is truly doing great things through the faithful witness of the LCMS by way of the congregations, schools, members, and workers. It was a blessing to be involved in the convention and I give thanks to God that St. Paul is united with such a faithful body of fellow believers.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rev. R. Zielinski".

Pastor Zielinski

FROM THE PASTORAL ASSISTANT'S DESK

Brothers & Sisters of the Lord,

I am extremely grateful that you all have chosen to put your trust in me to assist Pastor Zielinski in carrying out the ministries of the church. It is a great honor to be allowed to serve the members of St. Paul.

One of my biggest responsibilities will be working with our youth. I consider this a very high calling of service, as statistics show that nearly 70% of youth stop attending church after they graduate from high school. Less than half of those who leave will return. Discipling our young men and women as they move from confirmation and into the world is extremely important.

In September we will begin holding bi-weekly Youth Group activities at the church from 6:30-8:00 PM. Each gathering will include time for fellowship, devotional study, and team building activities. Our goal will be to engage our 6-12 grade students with their faith, developing them as leaders in our congregation and in the community so that they are better equipped to carry out their role in fulfilling the Great Commission of the Church.

Other opportunities to help mature the faith of our young people are also in the works. On September 13th there will be an informational meeting to learn about an organization called Trail Life USA. Trail Life is a Christ-centered, boy-focused mentoring program that engages boys in service & outdoor adventure to develop godly & courageous leaders. It is very similar in structure to the Boy Scouts but was founded on biblical principles of male leadership and Christian family values. Myself, Pastor Zielinski and the Elders have been discussing establishing a Trail Life troop as a long term ministry of St. Paul, not only to disciple the fathers and sons in our congregation, but as part of evangelizing to our community. The initial program is targeted to boys in grades K-5, but there are continued opportunities to grow throughout the high school years.

Please keep these things in prayer as we move forward. If you have children or grandchildren in these age ranges, please consider attending the information meeting or encouraging them to get involved in these programs.

I'm looking forward to serving our congregation and helping develop our youth.
~ Rev. Streeper

THRIVENT FINANCIAL: TROUBLING ENDORSEMENTS

Beloved of the Lord at St. Paul,

This past June was marked as “Pride Month” by those supportive of a sexual ethic condemned by God’s Word. This also included the financial organization, Thrivent. Many of you have asked me about Thrivent, wondering what is going on, and wondering what to do now that Thrivent is supporting a sinful lifestyle.

For decades, Lutherans have trusted Thrivent and its predecessor organizations, Aid Association for Lutherans (AAL) and Lutheran Brotherhood (LB) for financial products such as life insurance and investments. About twenty years ago, AAL and LB merged to form “Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.” Over time that name changed to just “Thrivent.” The Lutheran identity and confession of faith that joined investors together slowly decayed into little more than a generic Christian identity and now finally, into a culturally corrupt, false confession of Christianity that is celebrating a sinful sexual ethic. It seems that they have now worn out the long-suffering patience of faithful members.

The investing and financial products marketplace can be a challenging place to maintain a Christian witness. Nearly every secular company is going to have some aspect of their business with which Christians may take issue. It would be an impossible task to only do business with those who share our Christian worldview. There may be times when a pronounced and public act of a business makes it clear that we do not want to do business with them, and that is a choice we are free to make as Christians.

In the case of Thrivent, we do not simply have a secular company going along with the cultural flow promoting something sinful. In this case, we have a company doing so while also claiming to be a “Christian” organization. Therein lies a unique hypocrisy. If a secular company does something secular, it is of no surprise and not out of character. However, when a company founded on the notion of being a “Christian Fraternal Organization” does something contrary to God’s Word, there must be a call for repentance and return to God’s Word.

Are you invested with Thrivent or hold Thrivent products? I have no financial advice for you. I’m your pastor not an investment advisor. Are you



concerned about having investments supporting Thrivent's priorities? Then perhaps you should explore other options for where to manage your investments. Some of you may have products that simply cannot be moved to another firm (eg. life insurance). Don't let your conscience be burdened by something you don't really have control over. Maybe move what you can and be content with that. As you do so, make sure you let Thrivent know exactly why you're moving your investments. Perhaps they will listen to God's Word.

As for money received by St. Paul or other organizations from Thrivent, there are two different avenues: Thrivent Choice Dollars and Action Team Grants. Thrivent is required to distribute a portion of their profits as a "fraternal organization." They were established to support Lutheran Churches and so must continue to distribute funds to churches and other charitable organizations.

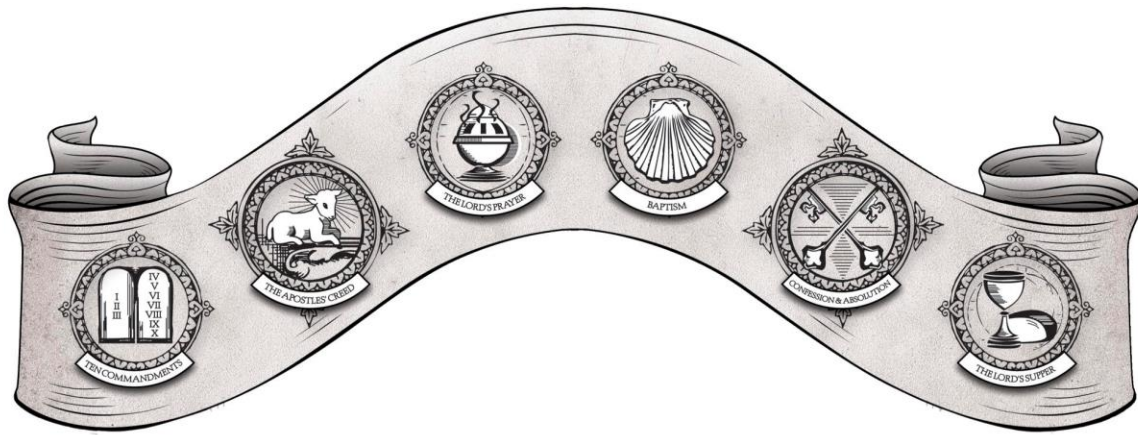
Thrivent Choice Dollars is the program where some of the charitable dollars can be directed according to the wishes of individual investors. If you have products with Thrivent, you will be able to direct some of their charitable giving in proportion to the value of your products. Greater holdings means more to direct. If these funds are not directed by you or other investors, they will revert to the Thrivent Board of Directors to still be given away as they decide instead of you.

If you continue to hold products with Thrivent and are able to direct some of their charitable giving, I encourage you to do so, even here to St. Paul. Why not redeem these funds for good purposes that support your faith rather than leave them in the hands of Thrivent which has shown itself not to share your priorities?

Action Team Grants are another way Thrivent directs their charitable dollars. Members of Thrivent can apply for grants of \$250 for particular projects and events. If Thrivent were to require grant recipients to promote Thrivent as a condition of receiving the grant, I would not be in favor of using them. However, it currently does not seem to be the case that we would have to promote Thrivent in order to receive the grant. So, once again, it's an opportunity to redeem dollars for good purposes rather than leave them to the Thrivent Board for use.

Based on Thrivent's public endorsement of a lifestyle and sexual ethic that is clearly contrary to God's Word, I cannot recommend them nor do I want to promote their products to God's people whom I serve. I hope that someday they would repent and we could once again be served by them as a fraternal partner. May God grant it.

Pastor Zielinski



CONFIRMATION 2023 - 2024

Monday, September 11, 6:00pm: Orientation with Students and Parents

Classes begin Monday, September 18, 6:00pm - 7:30pm

All students in grades 7 & 8 are invited to join

Contact Pastor Zielinski with any questions:

pastor@spvc.org or call/text: 440-458-0189

September 2023

	SERVICE	September 3 SUNDAY	September 10 SUNDAY	September 17 SUNDAY	September 24 SUNDAY
		Communion	Communion	Communion	Communion
ELDER	8am	Steve Kato	Tim Wadle / Chris Duran	Chris Duran	Tim Wadle/Steve Kato
	10:30am	Jim Jackson	Jim Jackson/Sam Jakabcic	Sam Jakabcic	Jim Jackson/Sam Jakabcic
USHERS	8am	Mark Gordon	Jim Sherry	Mark Gordon	Dave Hesketh
	10:30am	Jay Moser	Erich Gottl	Brian Dearth	Joe Bennet
GREETERS	8am	Heinrich & Irmgard Cordes	Elder	David & Mackenzie Duran	Elder
	10:30am	Rich & Jenny Proeschel	Elder	Barb Pijor	Elder
ELDER INFO	Stephen Kato 330-242-7183	Tim Wadle 216-214-7109	Jim Jackson 330-391-6393	Sam Jakabcic 216-789-1076	Chris Duran 216-577-5164



Family, Friends & Fellowship
Food * Biergarten * Live Music * Kids' Activities
Pastor Dunk Tank * Carnival Games
Cornhole Tournament

Saturday, September 9, 2023
Noon – 10:00 PM

At the Memphis Picnic Area in the Metroparks in Brooklyn, OH
LutheranOktoberfest.com

Admission:

Seniors (60+): \$5.00
Adults (21-59): \$10.00 (ID Required)
Youth (11-20): \$5.00
Children (10 and under): FREE

Presented By:

Lutheran Churches of Northeast Ohio
Hofbräuhaus Cleveland



HOFBRÄUHAUS
CLEVELAND



YOU'RE INVITED!

LWML SUNDAY

October 8, 2023

12:00 PM

Want to know more about what LWML does?
We would love for you to join us for a lady-only
luncheon and information display.



Glory to God in the Highest



We are thrilled to announce our second annual Ohio March for Life, on October 6, 2023, in partnership once again with the Center for Christian Virtue! We need you, your friends, and your neighbors marching for life now more than ever in Ohio.

On the ballot this November, Ohioans will be voting on whether to enshrine a dangerous and radical abortion agenda into their state constitution—one that could outlaw basic health and safety protections for women, eliminate parental notification and consent laws that protect minor girls, and allow painful abortions up until the moment of birth.

We need thousands of Ohio pro-lifers to march boldly for life this October, educating their fellow Ohioans about this misleadingly-named constitutional amendment—"Right to Reproductive Freedom with Protections for Health and Safety"—that would virtually erase any existing or future protections for expectant mothers and unborn children in Ohio.

It has never been more important to take a stand for the lives of unborn babies, their mothers, and families in Ohio than this year. We ask YOU to spread the word to all your friends, neighbors, and family to mark their calendars to be a voice for the voiceless in Columbus on October 6th.

We will be meeting at 11:00 AM for the Rally at the Capitol followed by the Ohio March for Life at 12:00 PM.

For more details or to RSVP please see our website at:
<https://p2a.co/XdMTG1x>

PRAYER CHAIN on FLOCKNOTE

If you have a Prayer Request, Praise or Update please visit:
www.spvc.org > Prayer ... or... send an email to: prayer@spvc.org

IN-PERSON WORSHIP

Join us Sunday Mornings:
8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

CHURCH ONLINE

at spvc.org

Online services are available to view LIVE at 8:00 AM on Sundays, or on-demand. Visit www.spvc.org - For the most recent service (when active) on the homepage is a viewer for the livestream. Bulletins are available via the link. Select the bulletin for the date of the service you are watching. Livestreams will typically be at normal service times.

RECYCLE WORSHIP BULLETINS

You're encouraged to take home your worship bulletins (use the scriptures, hymns and prayers for your own devotions!). Please use the blue recycle tub that's located in the hallway as you leave the sanctuary to place **ONLY the bulletins (including Large Print as we do recycle the black combs) and the unused attendance slips.** Thank you.

GOOD STEWARDSHIP

Please take a moment to collect your Worship folders, filled out or blank attendance slips, used tissues, and any other items left in the pews after leaving Worship Services. Thank you kindly!

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Gentle Reminder:

As the time for the Worship Service approaches, those around you may be preparing for Worship through silent prayer. Please be courteous to them by being mindful of the volume of your conversations. Thank you and may the Lord bless your worship of Him.

IN-PERSON SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

Join in on Sunday mornings between services at 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. If you are viewing from home, watch live or on-demand just like our worship services (YouTube, Facebook, or www.spvc.org).

ST. PAUL YOUTH GROUP

We will begin on Wednesday, September 6th and go every other Wednesday starting on Wednesday at 6:30 PM for grades 6-12 in the Fellowship Hall.

Questions? Contact Pastor Chris Streeper at: 330-441-0502

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Another summer has flown by, and Sunday School will be starting soon. Our first day will be Sunday, September 10th. We are in need of more teachers! Anyone willing to help out, please contact myself or Pastor Zielinski!

Barbara Pijor at: 440-213-5963 (texting is fine) or by email at bpijor@gmail.com

WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAY

8am & 10:30am

In-Person Worship, or on
Livestream / On-Demand at:
spvc.org

9:15am

In-Person Bible Class; or on
Livestream / On-Demand at:
spvc.org

9:15am

In-Person Sunday School

12-2pm

Private Communion Available
here at St. Paul Church

MONDAY

6-7:30pm

Confirmation Class

TUESDAY

5-7pm

Private Communion Available
here at St. Paul Church

WEDNESDAY

10-11:30am

In-Person Bible Study; or on
Livestream / On-Demand at: spvc.org

WEDNESDAY

6:30-8pm

Youth Group

TRAIL LIFE USA

Please see the display at the Welcome Center for this outreach geared for families with boys in K-5th grade. This is a Christian ecumenical alternative to the Boy Scouts. To learn more, please join us on Wednesday, September 13th at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall for an information meeting. Questions? Contact Pastor Streeper at 330-441-0502.

MEETINGS

LWML

Next Meeting:
Tuesday, October 3rd
9:30 AM

BIBLE STUDY RESUMES

Wednesday, September 6th
10:00 AM

ELDERS

Tuesday, September 12th
7:00 PM

QUILTERS

Wednesday, September 13th
11:30 AM

TRAIL LIFE USA

Wednesday, September 13th
7:00 PM

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Tuesday, September 19th
7:00 PM

QUILTERS

Quilters enjoyed the summer off and will meet again on Wednesday, September 13th at 11:30 AM.

Now that we have three sewing machines, we hope to “move along faster” on our projects. Join us for fellowship and a few stitches in the basement kitchen!

COMING UP IN **OCTOBER**

Duran / Richter Wedding
LWML Sunday: October 8th
Day Light Savings

TRUSTEE WORKBENCH

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please contact:
Adam Criswell at: adamcriswell007@gmail.com

BABY BOTTLE MINISTRY

We will continue the Baby Bottle Project is for the Oaks Family Care Center in Brunswick, OH. We thank you for what you have already turned in. At present, there is no "return by" date, so, you may return your filled bottles whenever you are able to bring them to church. Your participation in this project is greatly appreciated.

DVD PLAYERS AVAILABLE

Self-contained DVD players/screens are still available if you or someone you know is unable to stream the service, is temporarily hospitalized or isolated, or has a TV setup that makes watching DVD's challenging (cable boxes and input switching can be a real pain!). Contact the church office if this would be a benefit. Special thanks to a generous donor who has made these possible.

PULL TAB MINISTRY

YES! we are collecting tabs all year round. Thanks to you these will benefit families at Ronald McDonald House. You may drop off your tabs in the bin that is located on the shelf next to Pastor's Office. For questions, contact Len Maver at: 440-781-9009

USED EYEGLASS MINISTRY

We have restarted the gently used Eyeglass Ministry. Cassie Bremke will be taking donations of the gently used eyeglasses to the local Lions Club. If you have any donations, please place it on the bookshelf located next to Pastor's Office. Thank you.

WIGGLE BAGS

Please help yourself to these goody bags that hold activities that kids may engage and participate in worship service. Hopefully this will help alleviate stress for parents who are worried about their child making it through the whole service, but more importantly, they help teach kids that "big church" is for them too. Please take a moment to collect all the contents of the Wiggle Bags and return it to the "Used Wiggle Bag" plastic bin after the Worship Service. We are grateful to Sandy Turner and Jean Wadle who are keeping up providing clean Wiggle Bags each week. Your donated supplies may be given directly to Sandy Turner or the church office. Thank you.

LWML

MISSION STATEMENT

*"As Lutheran Women in Mission,
we joyfully proclaim Christ,
support missions and equip women
to honor God by serving others."*

Autumn Service Activities and social gatherings of St. Paul's LWML:

LWML SUNDAY: October 8th, 2023

- A display of services and outreach ministry of LWML will be on display in the fellowship hall.
- A salad luncheon for all ladies will follow the 10:30am service.
- Invitations will be handed out by September 10th and a sign-up sheet will be at the welcome center.
- Service project at the luncheon: We will make cards of encouragement and thanks for our firefighters and EMTs.

LUTHERAN MEN'S MINISTRY: We will be collecting scarves, hats & gloves for veterans at Lutheran Men's Ministries October - November 5th. Please place in the box in the Narthex. Thank you.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, October 3rd at 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. It will be a business meeting and setup for LWML Sunday.

OFFICERS FOR 2023

Treasurer.....Len Maver
Corresponding Secretary.....Margit Gery
Recording Secretary.....Diane Johnson
Chaplin.....Kathy Fargo

The "Leader for the meetings" will be rotated throughout the year.

HOME VISITS

Book your visit with Pastor Zielinski, or, visit: www.spvc.org and click "Book with Pastor Zielinski" to see available times, or by contacting the Parish Administrator, Christine Cox at 330-483-3883.

VALLEY CITY FOOD PANTRY

If you or someone you know needs food assistance, please contact LifeSpring Food Pantry at 330.328.3091. The monthly drive through food pantry is the third Saturday of the month from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM at 1638 Lester Road, Valley City, OH. www.valleycity.org

FELLOWSHIP HALL USAGE & RENTAL

To schedule your event please contact Christine Cox, our Parish Administrator at 330.483.3883 or, email at: christine.cox@spvc.org

Once your event is approved, a Fellowship Hall Rental Form will be placed in your church mailbox or emailed to you.

Please complete it and return the form along with your fee remittance to the church office. Thank you.

ST. PAUL PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Christine Cox
christine.cox@spvc.org
330-483-3883

OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 9:30am - 1:30pm

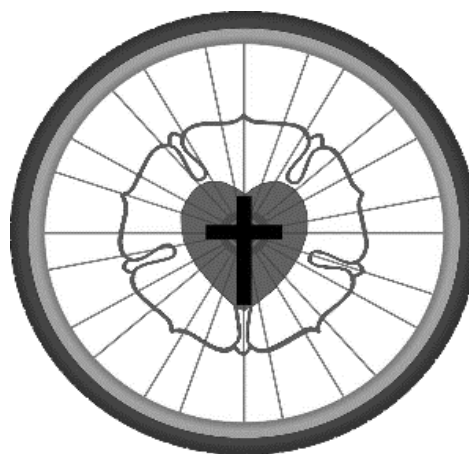
Tuesday: Off

Wednesday: 9:30am - 3:00pm
(10am-11:30am for Bible Study)

Thursday: 9:30am - 1:30pm

Friday: Off

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CYCLING FRIENDS



This is a fun way to have fellowship and focus on wellness out in God's nature.

Hope to see you join us!

For ride and more information about this please contact Walter Dill Jr. or visit:

facebook.com/groups/lutherancyclingfriends

COMMUNION OPPORTUNITIES

Pastor is providing individual communion opportunities.

1. Check the posted times for “walk-in” communion below.
2. Scheduling an appointment with Pastor at church or in your home.

“Walk-In” times at Church:

- Sundays, 12 – 2:00 PM
- Tuesdays, 5 – 7:00 PM

Scheduling an appointment for communion at church or in your home:

To schedule a time other than the walk-in times:

- Call Pastor 440-458-0189
- Visit www.spvc.org and click “Book with Pastor” to see available times for appointments.

TITHES & OFFERINGS

As our Lord provides for us and we return to Him a portion of His generosity. You have several ways to continue contributing:

1. In-person Worship on Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 AM
2. Mail your contributions to the church.
3. Talk to your bank about "bill-pay" options. They can likely send a check directly to the church on a scheduled basis.
4. Visit www.spvc.org and click on “Give Online” - you’ll be taken to our secure online giving site where you can make a one-time or on-going contribution.

*Each one must give as he has decided in his heart,
not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
2 Corinthians 9:7 (ESV)*

OUR VERY SPECIAL MEMBERS

JESSE, Erika

*Avenue at Strongsville Care
18936 Pearl Road, Room #152
Strongsville, OH 44136
440-870-2600*

NIKEL, Marion

*Brunswick Pointe Transitional Care
4355 Laurel Road, Room #211
Brunswick, OH 44212
330-741-8000*

PETCHLER, Joyce

*5236 Creekside, Unit E-18
Brunswick, OH 44212
216-387-8056*

RAUHAUS, Marilynn

*The Avenue
699 Eat Smith Road
Medina, OH, 44256
330-416-8441*

SCHULTZ, Bill

*6988 Spieth Road
Medina, OH 44256
330-421-2050*

SILK, Dorothy

*Kemper House
10890 Prospect Road, Room #226-B
Strongsville, OH 44149
440-8461100*

TIBBITTS, Don

*7160 Abilene Drive
Payton, CO 80831
330-225-4767*

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**BURGESS, Rev. Jeff & Bailey**

*St. Paul Lutheran Church  
7701 East M-36  
Whitmore Lake, MI 48189*

*6905 Cheddar Valley Drive  
Brighton, MI 48116*

### **BUVINGHAUSEN, Rev. Garrett & Emilia**

*Resurrection Lutheran Church  
2215 N. Llano St. Fredericksburg, TX 78624*

### **MONDAY, Dakota (Doug)**

*6600 N. Clinton St.  
Fort Wayne, IN 46825*

### **FORBES, Connor E.**

*(Adopted Seminary Student from Concordia  
Seminary, Saint Louis, MO)  
Campus  
P.O. 801 Seminary Pl.  
Saint Louis, MO 63105-3196*

### **CLARK, David & Megan**

*(Adopted Seminary Student from Concordia  
Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN)  
6600 North Clinton Street, Box 123  
Fort Wayne, IN 46825  
304-482-9131*

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2023 ST. PAUL OFFICERS & KEY PEOPLE

Updated 9-2023

PASTOR.....Rev. Philip Zielinski
440.458.0189.....pastor.zielinski@spvc.org

PASTORAL ASSISTANT.....Rev. Chris Streeper
330.441.0502.....chris.streeper@spvc.org

EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

President.....Dean Bremke
216.316.0810
deanbremke@gmail.com
Secretary.....Art Heyse
440.816.9944
Treasurer Elect.....Michele Gatt
330.723.5608
mlgatt@zoominternet.net
Treasurer Assistant.....Chuck Toth
440.227.4239
charles.toth@spvc.org
Financial Secretary.....Hannah Criswell
419.388.3135
hcc296@gmail.com

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR.....Christine Cox
330.483.3883.....christine.cox@spvc.org

DVD MINISTRY

Art Heyse.....440.816.9944
Diane Peters (copying).....440.452.5105
Judy Scaife.....330.723.7756

IT COMMITTEE

Chris Duran.....330.577.5164
Art Heyse.....440.570.2682
John Willkom.....330.321.3746

LWML

President.....Rotating
Recording Secretary.....Diane Johnson
Treasurer.....Len Maver
Chaplin.....Kathy Fargo
Corresponding Secretary.....Margit Gery

BOARD OF ELDERS

Steve Kato (Head).....330.220.3723
skato@parker.com
Chris Duran.....216-577-5164
Jim Jackson.....330.391.6393
Sam Jakabcic.....216.789.1076
Tim Wadle.....216.214.7109

MUSIC MINISTRY

Choir: Sarah Moser.....440.453.0180
Handbells: Nicole Spry.....330.391.1753
Organists:
Hannah Criswell.....419.388.3135
Audrey Harris.....815.762.2442
Marlene Shook.....330.483.4830

ALTAR GUILD

Dianne Holland (scheduler).....330.410.8428
James & Jeanette Rafter.....440.926.1007
Susan Willkom.....330.723.7137
Carole Zwingelburg.....330.725.1054

BAPTISMAL BANNERS Tammy Rhodes....440.476.0684

CARD MINISTRY...Joyce Ellenberger & Carol Hesketh

CHRISTIAN NURTURE Barb Pijor.....440.213.5963

CUSTODIAN Liz (Rob) Zacharias.....330.461.0840

DINNERS Beth Bremke.....440.669.3180

ENDOWMENT FUND.....VACANT

EVANGELISM Dave Hesketh.....330.410.6150

FELLOWSHIP HALL RENTAL Christine Cox....330.483.3883

FUNERAL MEALS Sandy Turner.....330.620.6579

PRAYER CHAIN Flocknote/Emails....Christine Cox

SECURITY SYSTEM: (Safe Harbor Security & Fire)
Dean Bremke.....216.316.0810

SEXTON Jason Ehrman.....330.421.6759

WELLNESS BOARD Beth Bremke....440.669.3180

WIGGLE BAGS.....Sandy Turner & Jean Wadle

BOARD OF SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent.....VACANT
Nursery Roll.....Barb Pijor
Preschool & Kindergarten.....Jessica Ehrman
Gail Jackson
1st, 2nd, & 3rd Grade.....Jennifer Herbert
4th, 5th, & 6th Grade.....Beth Bremke
7th - 12th Grade.....Helen Schoolcraft
Sarah Wade
Adult Study.....Pastor Zielinski
Music.....Alice Tyrpak

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Adam Criswell (Head).....330.418.7470
Kyle Bremke.....440.309.0227
Jason Ehrman.....330.421.6759
Bill Steingass (6 months here).....330.350.2505

ST. PAUL HELPING HANDS

“SMALL TASK MINISTRY”

ARE YOU IN NEED OF A HELPING HAND?

Use this list to see who is available on the day of the week you need and reach out to them to set things up.

BEREA

Tammy Rhodes

Cell: 440-476-0684

Email: tarhodes1982@hotmail.com

Available: Saturday & Sunday all day, Monday through Friday after 6pm

BRUNSWICK

Dave & Carol Hesketh

Cell: 330-410-6150

Available: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday

Paula Pietch

Cell: 440-897-4847

Email: grasshopper48@gmail.com

Available: Tuesday, Friday, Saturday

Jean Wadle

Cell: 216-387-0271

Available: Various times

Tim Wadle

Cell: 216-214-7109

Email: twads47@yahoo.com

Available: Any

LAGRANGE

Branko Djordjevic

Cell: 440-655-3749

Available: Any

Charlie Djordjevic

Cell: 440-655-3729

Available: Any

LITCHFIELD

Sandy Turner

Cell: 330-592-9405

Email: slturn71@gmail.com

Available: Any

2023 SEPTEMBER CHURCH EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
Worship & Bible Studies found on Livestream and/or OnDemand at: spvc.org						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<u>LWML</u> Collecting Mites <u>8:00 & 10:30am</u> Sunday Worship <u>9:15am</u> Bible Class <u>12-2pm</u> Walk-In Communion		<u>NO</u> LWML <u>5-7pm</u> Walk-In Communion	<u>10am</u> Bible Study Resumes <u>6:30-8pm</u> Youth Group			<u>12-10pm</u> Lutheran Oktober Fest
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<u>8:00 & 10:30am</u> Sunday Worship <u>9:15am</u> Bible Class <u>9:15am</u> Sunday School Resumes <u>12-2pm</u> Walk-In Communion	<u>6-7:30pm</u> Confirmation Class	<u>5-7pm</u> Walk-In Communion <u>7pm</u> Elder Meeting	<u>10am</u> Bible Study <u>11:30am</u> Quilters <u>7pm</u> Trail Life USA Meeting			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<u>8:00 & 10:30am</u> Sunday Worship <u>9:15am</u> Bible Class <u>9:15am</u> Sunday School <u>12-2pm</u> Walk-In Communion	<u>6-7:30pm</u> Confirmation Class	<u>5-7pm</u> Walk-In Communion <u>7pm</u> Executive Meeting	<u>10am</u> Bible Study <u>6:30-8pm</u> Youth Group			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<u>8:00 & 10:30am</u> Sunday Worship <u>9:15am</u> Bible Class <u>9:15am</u> Sunday School <u>12-2pm</u> Walk-In Communion	<u>6-7:30pm</u> Confirmation Class	<u>5-7pm</u> Walk-In Communion	<u>10am</u> Bible Study			

2023 SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARIES

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
					Cindy Ruhrkraut	Layla Zimmerman Gil & Joyce Haury (62)
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Denice Horton	Mark & Lynn Gordon (12)		Kathy Fargo Meghan Smith	Joyce Willson	Paul Bosela	Nicole Gatt Rachael Gatt
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Tom & Cathy Keller (40)	Dave Hesketh Miranda Pflaum			Dave & Megan Willkom (4)	Faye Denman John Willkom Tim & Bonnie Keller (44)	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Lorena Zielinski	Greg & Alice Tyrpak (41)	Rick Pflaum			Art Heyse	Christine Cox Larry Mitchell
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Barb Pijor Dorothy Silk	Dave & Jenny Knopf (47)	Cathy Keller	Noreen Fischer Rev. Dennis & Susan Murawski (48)		Jiebing Bennett Diane Johnson	Abigail Bennett

2023 SEPTEMBER BAPTISMS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
					Scott Leu	Liz Kato
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Julia Blakely Erin Heyse Lauren Heyse	Dean Bremke	Heinrich Cordes Judy Scaife	Rochelle Hibler	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Adam Criswell	Caroline Knopf	Bill Schultz	Declan Herbert Delaney Herbert		Marilynn Rauhaus	Ray Meilander
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Rev. Philip Zielinski	Gino Schnurr		Greg Shook			David Ross Cindy Ruhrkraut
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Gretalyn Beck Guynelle Beck			Henry Kacher Jean Wadle Lenore Winterstein	Evan Hawke	