

EPIS⁺LE



*St. Paul's Lutheran
The Church On The Hill*

Volume 67 No. 9

September - 2023

Pastor's Message

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. Take to heart these words that I give you today. Repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you're at home or away, when you lie down or get up. Write them down, and tie them around your wrist, and wear them as headbands as a reminder. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates." Deuteronomy 6:5-9

The month of September brings about a lot of emotions for children, parents, and grandparents. It also brings out a lot of emotions for teachers, principals, bus drivers, cafeteria workers and custodians. Those emotions can run the gamut from the joy of teenagers being out of the house to tears of loss for the baby's first day of school. Teachers will be rushed and beleaguered preparing their syllabus and daily lessons to hand out and to spend their evenings correcting and grading. Teachers will have tears of anguish for the teenagers returning to class, and the joy of seeing new students eager to learn new things.

Regardless of the emotional impact, the most important objective is for the students to learn, and relearn so they will be prepared for the struggles of making their way in the world. As adults know, it isn't easy working, paying bills, dealing with bosses, and the constant worries and struggles the world places on us and eventually our children.

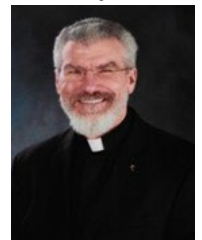
The verses from Deuteronomy above come from Moses who had just received the 10 Commandments on Mt. Sinai. Moses told them to the Hebrews who had left Egypt and were in the wilderness headed for the promised land.

God gave the teachings necessary for the people to survive a world that was filled with opposition and dangers. Without God's help they would not make it, and God helped them to follow a correct path with him so they would be safe.

Moses said, "You must follow exactly the path that the Lord your God has commanded you, so that you may live, and that it may go well with you, and that you may live long in the land that you are to possess."

These days our children must learn the skills necessary in school to survive in the world. They must also learn the word of God that he has commanded, so they may live, and it will go well with them, and they will live long in this land. It is up to you, and me, to teach them. Bring them to church and Sunday school.

Your servant in Christ Jesus,
Pastor David Viles



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Caroline Barker
- 2 Rory Tierney
- 3 Jamie Bunch
- 3 Connie Miller
- 4 Marie Scheperle
- 6 Karahlyne Olsen
- 7 Garrett Collins
- 7 Scott Soell
- 12 Desmond Pascoe
- 13 Cynthia Loesch
- 13 Anna Stubinger
- 14 Laura FrasherTuttle
- 14 Kinlee Richart
- 14 Gina Prosch
- 15 Ruth Stubinger
- 16 Scott Brandt
- 16 Cory Strobel
- 16 Jacklyn Wood
- 16 Wesley Hanks
- 17 Jacob Meller
- 24 Joan Stubinger
- 29 Clayton Meyer
- 30 Ashley Heidbreder
- 30 Irlee Linhardt
- 30 Paige Olsen

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Month/Day	Attendance Phys./Virtual	Offering
AUGUST 06	89 / 107	\$ 3,810.96
AUGUST 13	51 / 103	\$ 2,246.00
AUGUST 20	68 / 115	\$ 2,176.75
AUGUST 27	70 / 109	\$ 2,106.00

Additional Income:

Bob Collins Memorial: \$250.00 general fund and \$30.00 for the carpet fund.

St. Paul's Carpet Fund: Total of \$3,450.00.



Christ in Our Home devotion books for the fourth quarter are now available in the narthex in large or regular print.



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Ron & Shirley Loesch 1973 **50 YRS**
- 8 Ryan & AJ Ferrell 2018 **5 YRS**
- 10 Gary & Carol Elliott 1967
- 14 Mark & Misty Schroeder 2002
- 18 David & Patricia Russell 1976
- 27 Garrett & Kenzie Hager 2019
- 28 Cyrus & Kelsey Meller 2019

Continued prayers for:

Nancy Thompson, Royal & Evelyn Speidel, Ruth Strobel, Donna Viles, Julie Carel, Ladine Heidbreder, Linda Huff, and all we hold dear in our hearts.

Videos



Who am I? Who are You?

2 days ago · 110 views



Each week we have well over 100 views from our online folks watching the service.

But only a few that show us some love or a thumps up. We would love to hear from you. We would love for you to share God's Word with others.



We join our hearts in sympathy with the family of Leon Pistel, keeping them in our prayers for God's grace of comfort and peace.

Congregational Council Meeting, August 14, 2023

† The regular meeting of St. Paul's Church Council was called to order by President Zola Finch at 6 p.m. Present were Council members Kent Nelson, Delores Vlach, Dan Tschirgi, Kathy Meller, Stacy Bubach, Jana Thompson, and Frank Pascoe. Pastor David Viles was also present and began the meeting with a prayer and a devotion based on Psalm 145: 15-16.

† The President requested approval of the previous month's Council minutes. A motion to do this was offered by Kent Nelson, seconded by Dan Tschirgi. Before the vote, Council secretary Frank Pascoe announced to the Council an error in the previous month's minutes. The error, "The Insurance policy premium is increased by 4% each year", should be eliminated before the approval of the minutes. The corrected minutes were then approved by all.

† The church treasurer, Kay Pascoe, had prepared a summarized financial handout detailing July's balance in all accounts. The summary showed a total income for the month of \$16,252.17, which included a gift of \$750 to the Les Linsenhardt Memorial and Carpet Fund. Income also included \$500 for Parsonage offering and \$155.24 for reimbursed Parsonage utilities. The total of all accounts as of July 31 is \$305,110.02. The treasurer's report was approved upon a motion offered by Kent Nelson and seconded by Kathy Meller and approved by all.

† Pastor Viles presented his detailed monthly report to the Council. He requested no mileage reimbursement for July 1 – July 31. His report listed six meetings, including Worship and Music, Lion's Club, Lohman City Council, STARS, and Mutual Ministry. He had over eight visits and consultations with parishioners. His report showed two funerals, VBS, a baptism, the preparation of worship bulletins, and the preparation of the August Epistle. Pastor officiated at three communion services during July, in addition to three non-communion Sunday worship services.

President Finch then requested the various Council chairpersons to present their monthly reports:

Evangelism: Delores Vlach announced that "Family Day/Community Day" will be held on Sunday, September 10, following the worship service. Planning for this event will be held after worship on August 20. She would like some volunteers, if possible, to assist in the planning. It will be similar to the 2022 event, a potluck dinner, with games and activities before and after the meal. Delores thanked her fellow Council members for hosting the August 6 Fellowship hour, where a wonderful bounty of food was offered to all by the Council members. A special thanks was expressed to Donita Stubinger for the coffee and for her muffins.

Technology: Dan Tschirgi led the Council members in a discussion and evaluation of the new WisperNet Internet service. The various interruptions in service, caused by the frequent local storms in July and early August, were discussed. The recovery time to continue Internet service was discussed.

Worship & Music: Kathy Meller reported no committee meeting in July. Good reports of the July 2 community celebration were expressed by many. The flag displays and the decorations of the pews, done by Delores Vlach, were highly praised. The childrens' participation with the handbells was a delight. There was brief discussion of the future of the two ancient plaster angels currently in storage. Thanks were expressed to Cynthia Loesch for her interest in the restoration and display of these historic items. It is hoped they can be displayed by this coming October.

Parish Education: The reports on the Sunday School sessions and their attendance was positive. Our thanks to the teachers and parents were expressed.

Church Improvement: Kent Nelson reported activity regarding interest and planning for the church carpet restoration. Two bids have been received, and we are awaiting the third. The totals for each bid are somewhat variable, depending on how the church will participate in removal of the pews and other impediments to the installation. There was discussion of the sub-floor surfaces (some vinyl, some hardwood) and options for floorcovering. It is anticipated that a congregational approval meeting will be held after the final bids are received. We anticipate a written contract. The final color choice of the carpet is yet to be made. There followed discussion of the kitchen appliances – the sink and countertops- were entertained. The purchase of a new 8-burner stove with automatic pilot lighting is to be made soon. No Fall WorkDay date has been decided upon. Discussion of the church grounds and the need for weeding and spraying followed.

Stewardship & Finance: Stacy Bubach had no formal report. After discussion, Kent Nelson offered a motion to increase the church's insurance coverage for contents of the church building from \$300,000 to \$500,000 with an added cost of \$701.00 annually. The motion, seconded by Dan Tschirgi, was approved unanimously.

Mutual Ministry: Jana Thompson reported that her committee met on July 19, with five members present. Pleasure was expressed for the July 4th celebration (held on July 2). All were pleased especially with the large turnout. Continued satisfaction with the new internet service was expressed by those attending the meeting. Thanks were offered to those who helped at Vacation Bible School at Trinity Lutheran Church in Russellville. Members discussed the need for paper offering envelopes versus electronic offering. Paper envelopes will continue through 2023-2024 before a final decision is made. The group discussed and offered opinions regarding the kitchen refurbishment. The carpet installation was discussed. If and how we might celebrate our nation's founding on July 4th, 2026, was briefly discussed. This will be the 250th anniversary of the 1776 Declaration of Independence.

Old Business: The setting up and operation of a new VENMO for electronic offerings is planned. The address is to be: stpaulsvenmo@gmail.com. When and how it will be set up is still under discussion. It was suggested that Debbie Raithel, church secretary, will receive the notices of the offerings and will periodically report the amounts to the church treasurer. A cell phone set-up is needed and may be done via a Google number, which will link to the church's bank account. Finalization of this process is yet to come.

New Business: None

Stacy Bubach displayed large, attractive Mental Health Hotline posters, and asked if parishioners are interested in utilizing the posters, to contact her. Stacy also asked about the current status of our Blessing Box. Pastor reported that its use is dormant, due to the misuse by certain individuals in the community who have taken all its contents on frequent occasions.

The President declared the meeting adjourned upon a motion made by Stacy Bubach, seconded by Delores Vlach, and approved by all.

Respectfully submitted, Frank Pascoe, Council Secretary.

Choir News:

The choir has been on a break this summer. Plans are to resume this fall at some point. Anyone that enjoys singing is welcome to join us. The songs we sing are typically easy enough or familiar enough, that not much practice is needed. Practice usually takes place before church. The choir is also open to suggestions for songs to sing. When we get closer to a starting date (probably in October), an announcement will be made in the bulletin. We look forward to having singers join us as we share the joy of singing and enhancing the worship services here at St. Paul's church.

Back to School Supplies:

Thanks to all who contributed to the back to school buddy pack event. I am so proud to be the Pastor of St. Paul's on the Hill. You are true examples of followers of Christ.



Becky Hayden at Trinity Church.

Thank you all for working together to make the school supply collection and giveaway a huge success! Over 60 school age kids in our area were able to pick out a backpack and take it home with their school supplies in it! All of the extra items were taken to the elementary school and will be given out tonight at the open house and stored until a student needs some this school year. This is a big help for the kids, their families and their teachers! Thank you all! God is Good!

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
8618 Church Hill Drive, Lohman MO

**Wednesday
September 20, 2023
11:30 am - 12:30 pm**

Please bring:
Your photo ID and insurance card

Best Quality Vaccine

Cole County Health Department | 573-636-2181 | colehealth.org

Flu Shots:

Flu season is just around the corner! The CDC recommends everyone six months and older get an annual flu vaccine. Why is this important? Getting the flu shot prevents illnesses, medical visits, hospitalizations, and death, and is particularly important for people with chronic health conditions. Registered nurses from the Cole County Health Department will be at Saint Paul's on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, to administer flu shots, regular or high dose, 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM. All you need is your Medicare or other health insurance card. Invite your friends - stay for lunch and a program on "Exercise as Medicine" - or just come for the flu shot! What could be easier?! Please let Erika Gerth (erikagerth329@gmail.com) know of your interest.

Mobile Food Pantry: Audrey Bunch

Mobile Food Pantry was held August 8th on a sunny warm afternoon. Families served was 168 with 515 people in those families. Items given out were: hygiene products, fresh produce (apples, corn, peaches, pineapple, potatoes, watermelon), bread, cereal, eggs, juices, milk, frozen corn and miscellaneous frozen items. Thanks to all the volunteers that help with this community service. Volunteers from the Lohman Lions Club were Alberta and Gary Zumwalt, and from St. Paul's were Meredith Benne, Rosemary Heidbreder, and Dan Tschirgi. The next mobile food pantry will be September 12th.



Community Family Day

Sunday – September 10th

Hosted by St. Paul's Lutheran Church, ELCA
8618 Church Hill Drive, Lohman, MO.



Everything is FREE
Everyone is INVITED

*All are
Welcome*

*Games, events & fun begin at 10:15 a.m.
after our 9:00 a.m. Worship Service*



Potluck Dinner at 11:30 a.m.

Bring enough food for your family

(If you are unable to bring food, come enjoy what is already here. There will be plenty!)

Enjoy a day filled with Family Fun, Food, and a Wonderful Time.



**Turtle
Races**



**Lots of Donated
Bingo Prizes**

Corn Hole



**Face
Painting**



**Water
Balloons**

**Also: Balloon stomp,
Dog Tricks, Preschool
Arts & Crafts, Art Show,
and Hillbilly Golf**

STARS: Jeannette Fischer

Thirty STARS attended the August meeting and enjoyed a delicious lunch of tacos, taco salad and all the trimmings. Thanks to Audrey and Rosemary for purchasing all the ingredients and preparing the tacos and to Donita for making the salsa. Our program was presented by Sheryl Perrigo, owner of The Frame Shop located on West Edgewood, Jefferson City. She demonstrated proper methods of framing and shared examples of interesting possibilities of framed items. Our next meeting is scheduled for September 20 at which time flu shots will be administered by nurses from the Cole County Health Department and available from 11:30 to 12:30. We will enjoy a variety of casseroles for lunch and afterward Kay Benward, Physiologist from CRMC, will present a program on the importance of exercise and how it improves our health, safety, energy level and quality of life. We all need that. If you plan to attend, please make reservations with Rose Strobel a 782-4553 by Monday, September 18.

Freundschaft Gruppe: Jeannette Fischer

Our gruppe will resume meetings at 5:30 on Monday, September 11. Watch the bulletins for more information. If you plan to attend, please contact Jeannette Fischer at 782-4594 by Sunday evening, September 10th. Thank you.

Margaret Circle: Erika Gerth

St. Paul's Margaret Circle is comprised of eleven beautiful women who gather six times a year to share in fellowship, Bible study, and service. Our most recent meeting took place at St. Paul's on the first of August. Ruth Stubinger, our hostess of the evening, treated us to her special tacos, complete with all the trimmings, followed by delicious ice cream cake. Kay Pascoe led us in a Bible study entitled "What if God Wrote Your Bucket List? 52 Things You Don't Want to Miss". Written by Jay Payleitner, this little book formed the basis of a lively conversation about what our individual bucket lists might look like. Surely such things as: Love your neighbor; Fear not death; Recognize the majesty of God; and Live in the light of hope, might be included! Let one of us know if you'd like to have a copy of the complete list!

Margaret Circle became aware of The Samaritan Center's need for back-to-school clothes for little girls entering Kindergarten, and true to form, our wonderful congregation responded generously! We were able to deliver a large quantity of new and gently worn clothes, just right for little girls excited about the start of school, to the Center. Marilyn DeFeo, Executive Director, sends her gratitude to the members of St. Paul's on behalf of the happy recipients!

The Circle's next meeting will take place at St. Paul's on Tuesday, October 3rd at 6:30 PM. Marie Schepeler will host, and Helen Girard will lead us in the study of God's Holy Word. All women of St. Paul's, and their friends, are welcome!

WELCA: Marie Schepeler

All women of the ELCA are invited to attend the annual Mid-Missouri Fall Cluster Meeting on Saturday, September 16, 2023 beginning at 9:00 am with registration and refreshment. The meeting will be held at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Camdenton.

Bible Study will be given by Pastor Dan Freiburg from Our Savior's. The afternoon program will be presented by Julie Bird, Director of Student Services at Camdenton, on a program for homeless children. The In-Kind gifts will be given to Child Development for Lighthouse Daycare at Our Savior's in Camdenton. List follows: paper towels, markers, construction paper, paper plates for crafts, Zep toilet bowl cleaner, Lysol spray, pipe cleaners, and washable paints. In addition to a registration fee of \$5.00, there will be a basket to collect offerings for grants to attend Central States Convention, and an in-kind gifts offering basket. There will also be a raffle for the Synod Women's Educational Scholarship Fund. All checks should be made out to Our Savior's Women of the ELCA. Please let Marie know by September 8, if you plan to attend so we can let Our Savior's know how many will be attending from St. Paul's. We will carpool rides from St. Paul's Church parking lot.

Jr. Lutherans and Youth Group: Donita Stubinger

It was a humid cool afternoon on Sunday, August 13, but at 2:00 we had 13 children and their parents and grandparents show up for swimming at Chris and Liz Russell's home. The kids didn't even mind the sprinkles of rain, they said they were going to get wet anyway – so they jumped in and swam the whole time except when they were enjoying the delicious treats. Trish Russell provided cream puffs and fruit pizza, the cupcakes Misty Schroeder made, and the wonderful bar cookies Marie Scheperle brought. It was a fun afternoon and we certainly thank Chris and Liz for welcoming us into their home. Our next adventure will be to attend Family Day on Sunday, September 10 at St. Paul's Church. All are welcome, please bring your friends and come spend the day for lots of fun!

St. Paul's Chili Supper and Country Store 2023: Marlene Carlson

Our Annual Chili Supper and Country Store is fast approaching and hopefully those cooler breezes and a sunny day will be forecasted for Sunday, October 1st. Serving will begin at 3:30 p.m. and we are looking forward to a great turnout.

The Chili Supper Committee Members will begin handing out work assignments and donation requests in early September. If you cannot work or cannot bring your items, please let us know as soon as possible. That will make for a much easier day for everyone.

Also again we will be having a Country Store. Produce, canned items, handiwork and baked goods are always welcome. We look forward to a great assortment again this year. As always it takes everyone working together to make this event a success. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kathy Meller at 782-4788 or Marlene Carlson at 690-0117.

The St. Paul's Perpetual Cemetery Fund, Inc.: Roger Pennell

We will conduct the annual meeting on Sunday, September 17, 2023 at 1:00 PM. The meeting will be held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church's Friendship Hall, Lohman, MO.

Currently, the cemetery has two on-going improvement projects. The first project involves improving the landscaping in front of the columbarium. The redesign will include a new retaining wall that will allow for the display of Veteran's Administration memorial plaques honoring the military service of veterans inurned in the columbarium. Between the new wall and columbarium will be a landscape area for the display of floral arrangements for all who are inurned in the columbarium.

The second project involves a downhill extension of the present cemetery drive between the current developed section of the cemetery and the undeveloped section that lies south of the present fence line. This will allow for an easier access for visitors as well as funeral vehicles when the need arises. Hopefully, both projects will be completed by the end of October, 2023. Should you have any questions, feel free to contact any board member.



Calendar of Events and Schedules

- September 2nd**, Saturday: Basement Rental for Caroline Barker's Birthday
September 3rd, Sunday: Fellowship Coffee Hour in the basement following worship.
September 5th, Tuesday: Worship and Music Committee will meet in the basement at 9:00 am.
September 10th, Sunday: Children's Sunday school during worship after the Children's sermon.
September 10th, Sunday: FAMILY DAY at St. Paul's Church following Worship, bring your friends.
September 11th, Monday: Freundschaft Gruppe meeting at 5:30 p.m. in the basement.
September 11th, Monday: Church Council meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the youth room upstairs.
September 12th, Tuesday: Food Pantry Volunteers at Trinity Lutheran in Russellville at 1:15 p.m.
September 16th, Saturday: WELCA annual Mid-Missouri Fall Cluster Meeting 9AM. See article above
September 19th, Tuesday: Basement reserved for Lohman City Council meeting at 5:30 p.m.
September 20th, Wednesday: STARS will meet for lunch at 11:30 a.m. FLU SHOTS to follow.
September 20th, Wednesday: Mutual Ministry Meeting upstairs 6:30 p.m.
September 23rd, Saturday: Church Work Day, please come out at 8:00 am and help out.
September 25th, Monday: Epistle Deadline for News and Articles.

Bulletins are normally printed on Wednesdays.
 Pastor David normally plans Fridays as his day off.

Usher Schedule

Sept. - 03	Jana Thompson	Kent Nelson
Sept. - 10	Delores Vlach	Dan Tshirgi
Sept. - 17	Stacy Bubach	Frank Pascoe
Sept. - 24	Kent Nelson	Kathy Meller

Acolyte Schedule

Sept. - 03	Mattson Stoermer
Sept. - 10	Mackenzie Linnenbrink
Sept. - 17	Oliver Stoermer
Sept. - 24	Madeline Stubinger

Greeters Schedule

Sept. - 03	Harry Thompson	Jana Thompson
Sept. - 10	David Russell	Trish Russell
Sept. - 17	Donald Weber	Marie Scheperle
Sept. - 24	Jerry Koestner	Devin Koestner

Readers Schedule

Sept. - 03	Marie Scheperle
Sept. - 10	Bill Gerth
Sept. - 17	Frank Pascoe
Sept. - 24	Erika Gerth

Song Leader

Sept. - 03	Dan Tschirgi
Sept. - 10	Kathy Meller
Sept. - 17	Dan Tschirgi
Sept. - 24	Dan Tschirgi

Audio / Video Technician

Sept. - 03	Roger Pennell
Sept. - 10	Dan Tschirgi
Sept. - 17	Roger Pennell
Sept. - 24	Roger Pennell

Organist / Keyboard

Sept. - 03	Kathy Meller
Sept. - 10	Zola Finch
Sept. - 17	Zola Finch
Sept. - 24	Zola Finch

Communionware for the Month

Mark & Kathy Meller

Communion Assistants

Sept. - 10	Rosemary Heidbreder
Sept. - 24	Devin Koestner

Altar Flowers for the Month

Julie Nelson

Security

Sept. - 03	Harry Thompson
Sept. - 10	Gary Elliott
Sept. - 17	Kent Nelson
Sept. - 24	Devin Koestner

* Communion Days noted in Yellow