



welcome to st. paul lutheran church & school

Weekend of November 20th and 21th

Biblical Texts: Psalm 93; Isaiah 51:4-6; Jude 20-25; Mark 13:24-37;

Sermon: Pastor Matthew Kusch

Sermon Title: "Who Are You"

Sermon Texts: Mark 13:1-13

*Altar Flowers This Weekend are in memory of
Carla Teter from Carla's family.*

*Altar Flowers This Weekend are to honor the memory of
Marge Bachert's birthday on November 22nd from her family.*

"This Is My Body... This Is My Blood" – Those who take part in the Lord's Supper consume bread and wine. (1Corinthian 10:17; 11:27ff). But more than that, they also receive a miracle in the bread and wine, for therein Christ places His true Body and true Blood (1Corinthians 10:16). He gives them to us as His personal assurance of the forgiveness of our sins. ***It is the request of our congregation that anyone who wishes to commune with us share this faith.*** As His Body and Blood can be taken to one's own judgment (1Corinthians 11:29), St. Paul urges each communicant "examine yourself" before participating in the Meal. By His admonition, therefore, we in turn urge you to ask yourself:

1. Do I believe that I am a sinner, admit my sins, and am I truly sorry for them?
2. Do I believe that Jesus, by His death in my place, offers me forgiveness for all my sins?
3. Do I believe that I receive the Body and Blood of Jesus in, with, and under the bread and wine?
(Not merely symbolically present)
4. Will I, with a grateful heart, and in loving obedience, strive with the Spirit's help to change my sinful attitudes, habits, and actions so I may more fully live for my Savior?

If you need or desire to know more about Holy Communion, please talk to the pastor before communing. Follow the directions of the ushers when it is time to commune. During the serving of Holy Communion worshippers are encouraged to use the time for singing of hymns, for prayer, and for meditation.

Christmas Giving Tree 2021

Each Christmas season, St. Paul Lutheran Church and School is blessed to have the opportunity to provide Christmas gifts for those in the congregation and school who need assistance. This year we are limiting gifts to only children ages 0-18 years old. If you would like your children to receive gifts or know of a family in need of Christmas gifts for their children, please fill out the *Giving Tree Assistance Request Form* by the Christmas tree in the Narthex. Please place completed forms in the wrapped *Giving Tree Request Gift Box*, also located by the Christmas tree in the Narthex. **Requests will be accepted until December 10, 2021.** Gifts pick up information will follow. Giving Tree Tags for individuals will be placed on the Christmas Giving tree in the Narthex in time for Thanksgiving services. Gift donors and recipients are confidential and anonymous. Each tag includes the age and gender of the individual and 3-5 gift request items for that individual. You may take a tag and provide one to all items requested. Gift recipients understand that gifts are blessings provided at the giver's discretion. Please attach the tag to **unwrapped** gifts under the Christmas Giving Tree or to the church office by **December 14, 2021**. Gifts may be redistributed based on participation and need. If you are interested in sponsoring a family, please contact Lucy Silva at 630-449-2566 at lucydlcsilva@gmail.com or Nancy Morales at 630-401-6728 at lissetnancy@gmail.com by December 10, 2021.

St. Paul's Thanksgiving Office Hours

In observance of the Thanksgiving holiday the church office will be closed at noon on Wednesday, November 24th and will be back on Monday, November 29th.

Thank You From LWML

The ladies of the LWML want to say **THANK YOU** to St. Paul's church community. You helped us collect **\$267.67** for the Mite Boxes.

THERE WILL BE NO 9:30 SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY THIS WEEKEND!

Upcoming Events and News

LWML Lutheran Women Ministry League—November 30th

The Lutheran Women Ministry League (LWML) will be meeting **Tuesday, November 30th at 6:30 pm** in the Narthex. We will be discussing the upcoming St. Paul LWML elections. Our speaker for the November meeting will be Pastor Matthew Kusch. All St. Paul women are invited to come and join the LWML. Questions please call JoAnne Hanson at 630-624-9054 or Jean Gallegos 630-553-2001.

Christmas Trees Needed!

The K-8 Christmas program is in need of two identical Christmas trees at least 6 feet tall. If you are willing to donate, please contact:

Mrs. Price at lprice@stpaulaurora.org) or Miss Heinisch at cheinisch@stpaulaurora.org. Thank you!

2021 Cantata Joint Effort

The 2021 Cantata will be at St. Paul Saturday, **December 11th** at 5pm. St. Mark's Cantata will be Sunday, **December 12** at 8:30am. Please come and enjoy the Christmas Spirit with music.

Decorating the Church Sanctuary for Advent/Christmas —November 27th

Mark your calendar! Volunteers are needed! The decorating of the church sanctuary and putting up of the Christmas Tree will be held on **November 27th**. This is a very important job and requires people of all ages. For those of you not out of town for Thanksgiving, come join the tradition of setting up our huge tree, the nativity and other decorations. This is a family event. Come and have fun while we start celebrating the Birth of our Savior! Please go to the web page and sign up for volunteering. We will also have a sign-up sheets in the Narthex.

Holiday Greenery November — Pick-up November 30th

Get your Holiday Greenery! All orders will be delivered to the cemetery. Contact Omer Horton 630-947-3993 or Wanda Horton 63-947-4559. Order blanks available at the Narthex. All orders will be picked up at the Cemetery on Tuesday, **November 30th after 11 a.m.**

Hesed House — December 11th and 12th

Our next servant event will be December 11th and 12th. We'll be providing breakfast and bagged lunches to guests. If you'd like to help provide assistance to our vulnerable neighbors, please visit our sign up link: www.tinyurl.com/HHDec2021 We're requesting food items, toiletries, and also cleaning and laundry supplies. We'll pack lunches at church on Saturday the 11th and transport everything to Hesed House. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to this important ministry! HesedMinistry@stpaulaurora.org Louise DeWig, Buffy Stevens, Lucy Silva, & Trisha Knaub

Christmas Poinsettias — Deadline December 12th

Celebrate the birth of our Lord by purchasing a poinsettia to beautify the sanctuary. Poinsettias forms will be available at the Welcome Center. Complete the form and attach your payment, then put these in the box labeled "Christmas Poinsettias" located at the Welcome Center in the Narthex. Also, you can order on-line. Go to <https://stpaulaurora.churchcenter.com/giving>, and select POINSETTAS as your drop down selection. If you have questions, please call Gwen Dreyer 630-851-1777.

The deadline for ordering is Sunday, December 12th.

PTL December Dining Out Night — December 13th

Join us on Monday, **December 13th from 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm** at the Red Robin located in Oswego for our monthly dining out night. When ordering, please let the wait staff know that you're with our fundraiser, and we'll earn 20% on all orders! You may also support us with your online/to-go orders. Red Robin flyers will be available in the Narthex. We'll see you there!

Mark Your Calendars

Advent/Christmas Service Schedule

Advent services:	Wednesday 10 AM and 7 P
School Christmas Program:	December 15th and 16th at 6:30 PM
Christmas Eve Services::	Friday, December 24th
	Contemporary -4 PM
	Hispanic- 6 PM
	Contemporary - 7 PM
	Traditional - 11 PM
Christmas Day Service:	Saturday, December 25th
	Traditional - 10 AM
Christmas Sunday:	December 26th
	Bi-lingual -10 AM

Upcoming Events and News

Thank You To The St. Paul Community

Dear St. Paul Church and School,

Thank you so much for the past month of welcoming, gifts, food, and prayers. It has been a fantastic moving experience for Hailey, Daniel, and myself. You have made us feel at home here at church, made us feel welcomed into the community, and have been so kind and loving to us as we navigate this new area. Thank you to everyone who either made meals for us, gave us monetary help, and who helped guide us to places around town for some needed house repair services. Thank you to everyone who just asked how we are doing on a Sunday or in passing, and thank you to everyone who has come and introduced themselves to us. It has been a busy month here at St. Paul, culminating with the Reformation service on October 31st, and I am getting used to being your Lead Pastor and working with the wonderful staff of the church and the school. It has been my joy getting to know the kids as they learn more about Christ and grow in their education. I pray that God continues to bless us and as we continue to preach His Word, minister to His community, and grow in love toward one another as we continue to make disciples who make disciples here at St. Paul. **God's blessings, Pastor Matthew Kusch**

Great News! We are kicking off Small Groups again!

We are looking to collect information on Small Groups (names of leaders and members) that are currently/had been meeting and those individuals that are interested in possibly leading a small group. Small Group Informational & Training session will take place in January 2022(date TBA).

We are building a Bible Study Recourse Center and collecting bible studies to add to this.

Please email suggestions. Please email information to smallgroups@stpaulaurora.org

Job Openings at St. Paul

1. Coordinator for Missional Care and Connections (Community Outreach).

This position supports the daily life of ministry at St. Paul Lutheran Church and School. Activities include volunteer support and community outreach in coordination with the St. Paul Pastor(s). The Coordinator would also work to create a desired goal of our church environment in which to grow St. Paul's ministry "Making disciples who make disciples."

2. Social Media Coordinator.

The Social Media Coordinator will oversee the social strategy for St. Paul as a whole with a primary focus on growing St. Paul and its engagement within its local and digital communities. The Coordinator will work in collaboration with the St. Paul staff to develop social media strategies. In addition, the Coordinator will help implement the visual brand of St. Paul through our social channels and convey how God is moving in all ministries.

For a more detailed job descriptions and qualifications about the duties of these two Coordinators' positions please contact Joe Dunsey at the church office at jdunsey@stpaulaurora.org or call 630-896-3250 x 602.

Paving Our Future Fund—Total received to Date = \$313,240

Improvements Made to Date to be paid from Paving For the Future Fund:

3 HVAC (Heating and AC) Units replaced -	\$41,750
2 Industrial Sump Pumps replaced -	\$11,730
Repaving of Driveway and access road -	\$26,319
New Church Roof -	\$72,253
Parking Lot Re-paved -	\$140,253

Total Giving this past week ending: 11/14/2021
General Fund = \$17,058; Paving for the Future = \$0

	Attendance	Offerings	Fiscal YTD Offering	Budget Weekly	Budget YTD
Nov 13 - 14, 2021	229	\$17,058	\$295,835	\$16,400	\$328,000
Nov 14 - 15, 2020	145	\$14,259	\$262,375		

Ministry Connections

Bible Study Classes

Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Class

The Men's Tuesday Morning Bible Class is studying various bible readings. Please come and join this great bunch of gentlemen that meet every Tuesdays in the Youth Group Room at 8 a.m. all year round. For more information you can call Reva at the church office on a Tuesday or Thursday 630-896-3250.

Monday Morning Ladies Bible Class

We the Living Lights Monday morning Bible Class invite all ladies to come and join us. Our group will be studying the Book of Philippians. We meet every Monday Morning from 9-11 a.m. in the Conference Room. Bring your smiles, masks if needed, and a bible.

Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Class

The Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study is 9:00-11a.m. at Luigi's Pizza , 732 Prairie St, Aurora. The ladies are studying "**Jesus & Women**". If you have any questions please contact: Danna Grant (630) 277-8149.

Sunday Bible Study

Pastor Kusch's bible study on the Book of Daniel is being held in the Family Life Center (FLC) at 9:30 a.m.

Small Group Bible Study

Please contact Bob French at: smallgroups@stpaulaurora.org

Saturday: Traditional @ 5 p.m.

Sunday: Traditional @ 8a.m: Spanish @ 9:30 a.m.

Contemporary @ 11a.m.

85 S. Constitution Drive - Aurora, IL 60506

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