



NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2026



ROOTED: GROWING DEEPER IN CHRIST

PASTOR ADAM WOLFE

"Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving."
Colossians 2:6-7

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

There is something beautiful about fall in Wisconsin! The leaves begin to change, the temperatures cool, and the landscape around us reminds us that seasons are always changing. Before long, the brilliant colors will fade, and the leaves will fall to the ground. Yet beneath the

surface, something remains. The roots of the trees are still there, holding them firmly in place.

Fall is a fitting time to think about our own roots.

What are we rooted in? What holds us steady when life changes? Where do we turn when the storms come, when circumstances are uncertain, or when we simply feel spiritually dry? As Christians, the answer is not found in ourselves or in the things of this world. We are called to be rooted in Christ.

That is at the heart of our Rooted journey this fall at St.

Paul. Through our 10-week sermon series, daily devotions, and Small Groups, we are taking time to slow down and consider what it looks like to grow deeper in our relationship with Jesus. Rooted is not simply about learning more information. It is about allowing God to strengthen our faith, deepen our trust in Him, and shape the way we live each day.

Think about a tree for a moment. We may admire the leaves, the branches, and the fruit, but the health of the tree depends upon something we cannot see. Its roots are doing the important work beneath the surface. In much the same way,

much of what God is doing in our lives happens beneath the surface. Through His Word, prayer, worship, Christian community, and the work of the Holy Spirit, God is strengthening our faith even when we cannot always see the growth ourselves.

And perhaps that is something we especially need to remember in our own lives. We live in a world that constantly encourages us to grow outward: accomplish more, buy more, achieve more, and become more. But Jesus invites us to something deeper. He calls us to abide in Him. To know His Word. To receive His grace. To walk with His people. To serve others. To share the hope we have in Him.

As October unfolds, I encourage you to take advantage of the opportunities Rooted provides. Open your devotional each day. Come to worship each weekend. Spend time in God's Word. If you are part of a Rooted Small Group, make the most of that time together. And if you are not in a Small Group, know that you are still very much a part of this journey. There is no special requirement for being Rooted. Simply come, listen, pray, read, and allow God's Word to work in you.

Perhaps this fall can become more than simply another season on the calendar. Let it be a season of growing deeper. As the leaves around us change, our circumstances change, and another year continues to unfold, the invitation remains the same: be rooted in Christ.

The deeper our roots grow into Christ, the more firmly we can stand when life changes. As God strengthens us in faith through His Word, He also produces fruit in our lives as we serve our families, our neighbors, our community, and one another.

Rooted is ultimately about more than what happens within us. God roots and strengthens us in Christ so that He can work through us to love and serve others. As He grows us in faith, He equips us to live out who we are as a congregation: "Connecting People to Christ."

I look forward to continuing this Rooted journey together this fall and seeing how God will use His Word to strengthen our faith, deepen our relationships, and bear fruit as His people!

In Christ,

PASTOR ADAM WOLFE
ASSOCIATE PASTOR



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New Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM



Starting Monday, October 5.



WE NEED YOUR TRUNK

Sign Up Your Vehicle

Sunday, October 18
3:00 - 5:00 PM

Sign up your car, business, or ministry
to hand out candy and help make this
a night to remember!



SIGN UP



Deadline for
sign up is
October 12!

Expect
300 Kids



EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

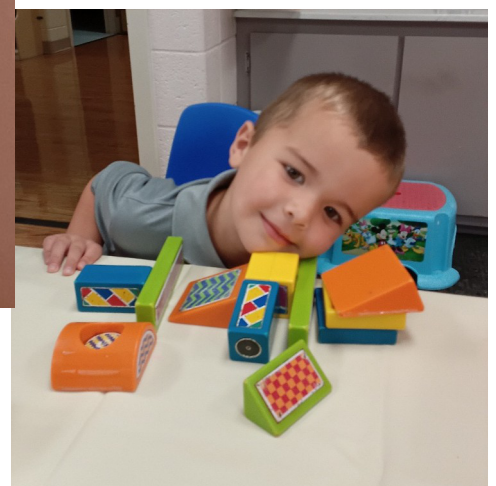
CHRISTINA ZEUNER, DIRECTOR
PRESCHOOL@STPAULFALLS.COM

We have had a great start to the new year at St. Paul Early Childhood Center. We have 10 children in 4K, 21 Preschoolers, and 22 children using Child Care at some point each week. The children and teachers have gotten to know each other and are having fun learning each day. The children are becoming familiar with school routines and beginning to make new friends.

The 4K class has already gone to Memorial Library to visit Miss Britt, the librarian. She also comes every month to the Early Childhood Center to read to the Preschool and Child Care classes. Mr. Walkenhorst visited the classrooms to introduce himself, play his guitar, and sing songs with the children. Pastor Adam tells the Bible story once a week in Child Care and once a month in Preschool and 4K. Everyone also attended their first Chapel day to worship God in a church setting.



We continue to collect used ink cartridges, HP toner, and old cell phones. These can be placed in the Early Childhood bin in the Giving Center. We receive money for the ink and phones which helps us purchase materials for the classrooms. We are also looking for Crystal Light containers and extra-large nuts and bolts.



CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

SAVANNAH HENN, DIRECTOR
SAVANNAHH@STPAULFALLS.COM



Sunday School

We are so excited that the school year is off to a great start! This month, we will be starting new units. Our 3K-3rd Grade students will be looking at stories where God shows His love to everyone. This includes the stories of The Shepherds Hear About Jesus' Birth, Jesus Befriends Zacchaeus, and Jesus Welcomes Children. Our 4th and 5th Grade students will be starting a unit titled "Jesus." They will be looking into the message, the ministry, and the man. We are staying very busy and look forward to digging deeper into God's Word.

AWANA

We are so excited to see returning friends and some new faces this year! Programming started last month and we will continue our lessons on Heroes of the Bible. This month we will learn about Gideon, Ruth, and Samuel. Our theme nights this month are Canned Food Night, Occupation Night, and USA Night. Reminder that there is no AWANA on October 21 as we have fall break.

AWANA Store

Throughout this month, we will be collecting items for our AWANA Store. Please see the graphic for items we are looking for. All items can be placed in the labeled bin at the Giving Center.

- Blankets (**NO** stuffed animals)
- Sports sets
- Water Bottles
- Bluetooth Speakers
- Tech accessories
- Gift Cards (\$5 value)

AWANA Store Donation

Collecting Newly Purchased items
during the month of **October** see
box at the Giving Center



- Pop Its (dimple toys, etc)
- Kid purses, bags
- Accessories (Headbands, earrings, etc.)
- Craft Kits
- Science Kits
- DIY Projects
- Art supplies



Upcoming Family Events

Come join us for Trunk or Treat on October 18 from 3:00-5:00 PM here in the St. Paul parking lot. All children are welcome to come trunk or treat. This event is free and all are invited to attend. Reminder to wear family-friendly costumes.



YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

NICOLE DOLLEVOET, DIRECTOR
NICOLED@STPAULFALLS.COM



Fall is here, and things are officially in full swing! It is so great to once again have our hallways filled with students on Wednesday and Sunday nights.

Confirmation has already been in session for a month! Students are wrapping up their first units, and Test #1 is just around the corner. It has been wonderful to see them settling into the year and growing in their faith.

Youth Group on Sunday nights is also off to a great start! We are exploring a new Bible study called Foundations, and we have been taking advantage of the

beautiful weather with outdoor volleyball and a scavenger hunt around Sheboygan Falls.

October is going to be a **busy month** of service! We will kick things off by putting together college care packages, then helping with our Trunk or Treat event, and finishing the month with a Family Mission Trip to Camp Luther. It should be an exciting—and meaningful—October!



Plans for our **2027 Youth Summer Mission Trip to Loveland, Colorado** are also in full swing! The registration deadline is the end of this month. **All students in 6th Grade and older are invited to participate.** We would love to have you join us as we serve and share God's love in Colorado!



MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT - MUSIC MINISTRY

This month we are shining a light on one of the most beautiful ways our congregation worships and serves together—our Music Ministries. From voices to bells to instruments, the talented individuals who fill our Worship Center with praise each week are a true gift to our congregation. We are so grateful for every person who uses their God-given talent to lead us in worship.

Adult Choir

A warm and welcoming group of voices comes together each week to glorify God and enrich our worship services through music. Whether you have sung in choirs your whole life or it has been a while since you last raised your voice in song—there is a place for you here!

The choir sings anthems that support the worship theme for the day, sharing the love of Jesus through music and helping "Connecting People to Christ." They typically sing for the 8:00 and 9:30 AM services on the 1st and 2nd Sundays of each month, with special music for Reformation, Christmas, Holy Week, and other Festival Sundays throughout the year. New members are always welcome!
Rehearsals: Tuesdays at 6:30 PM



Bell Choir

Looking for a fun and meaningful way to use your gifts for God? This joyful group makes a joyful noise to the Lord while having a wonderful time doing it—and they would love to have you ring alongside them!

The Bell Choir provides beautiful music during worship services and other special occasions throughout the year, adding a unique and uplifting dimension to our worship experience. No prior ringing experience is necessary, but experience with reading sheet music or being part of a music group is helpful. Most importantly, we seek members with willing hearts and a love for music!

Rehearsals: Tuesdays at 5:30 PM in the Worship Center



Praise Teams

Music is one of the most powerful ways we connect people to Christ—and our Praise Teams are always looking for passionate, Spirit-filled individuals to join them. Whether you are a seasoned musician or just stepping out in faith, there is a place for you here! St. Paul is blessed with several Praise Teams, each serving in a unique way:

Thursday Informal Praise Team — Led by a wonderful group of musicians and singers, this team leads our Thursday evening informal worship service. They gather to practice at 5:15 PM right before the 6:30 PM service. If Sundays are busy for you, this is a fantastic opportunity to share your gifts!

Celebration Praise Team — This energetic team leads worship on the 1st, 2nd, and 4th Sunday mornings for our Blended and Contemporary services. They gather Saturday mornings from 8:30-10:30 AM in the Worship Center to prepare their hearts and voices for Sunday.



MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT - MUSIC MINISTRY CONT.

Good Hope Road Praise Team — This dedicated team leads worship on the 3rd and 5th Sundays for our Blended and Contemporary services, also practicing Saturday mornings from 8:30-10:30 AM.

This Side of Heaven — Our youth Praise Team, made up of talented high school and middle school students who are excited about using their talents to lead worship. They practice on the 1st and 3rd Sundays after the 11:00 AM service.

Instrumentalists

Did you know that St. Paul welcomes instrumentalists to serve in worship throughout the year? Whether you play piano, acoustic or electric guitar, bass guitar, keyboard, drums, percussion, violin, cello, or other stringed instruments—there is a place for your gifts here. Instrumentalists enhance our worship services and provide special music throughout the church year, particularly during the Christmas and Easter seasons. The music they bless us with doesn't just enhance our worship...it is worship!



A Note of Gratitude

Each group highlighted this month is unique, but they all share the same calling: to use the gifts God has given them to point others toward Him. To every musician, singer, and volunteer who serves through music at St. Paul—thank you. What a gift you are to this congregation.

To learn more or to get involved with any of our Music Ministries, contact Thomas Walkenhorst at thomasw@stpaulfalls.com or visit stpaulfalls.com.

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

St. Paul has partnered with the Salvation Army to provide Christmas gifts to people in need this holiday season. There are multiple opportunities for St. Paul members to get involved this year!

Applications Being Accepted for Those in Need

This year St. Paul will again be partnering with the Salvation Army to provide Christmas gifts to families in need. The Salvation Army will be accepting applications October 1 - December 1. If you or a family you know is in need, please direct them to the Salvation Army website: <https://www.salvationarmyusa.org/>. The Salvation Army screens individuals by requiring documentation to prove financial need.

Volunteers Needed

We are looking for people with giving hearts who would like to help with our Christmas Blessings Ministry. There are over 40 different opportunities to volunteer, including shopping for gifts, helping distribute tags, delivering gifts, and handing out gifts. Sign-up sheets will be in the Gathering Area from October 22 - November 1. If you have any questions, please contact Stefanie in the Church Office. Thank you in advance for helping to bless the lives of those less fortunate during Christmas!

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

2026 Feed My Starving Children MobilePack is Here!

After many months of planning and fundraising, the 13th Annual Feed My Starving Children MobilePack is here, happening October 8 - 10, 2026. Feed My Starving Children provides life-saving meals to people in more than 70 countries worldwide, truly turning hunger into hope.

This MobilePack at St. Paul is a testament to our mission as a church. As Friends of God through Jesus, empowered by the Spirit, we are "Connecting People to Christ" by sharing His love in word and action everywhere. God confirms this mission in Proverbs 22:9: *"Blessed are those who are generous because they feed the poor."* God bless the food we pack and those who so desperately need it.

Thank you to all who have supported this life-changing mission—through monetary support, volunteerism, and prayer. We could not have done it without you.



GIVE THE GIFT OF SCRIP THIS CHRISTMAS!

Christmas shopping is here, and there is an easy way to check gifts off your list while supporting the missions of St. Paul Lutheran Church!

Through our SCRIP program, you can purchase gift cards from a wide variety of retailers. The best part? You receive the full value of the gift card you purchase. For example, purchase a \$100 Kwik Trip gift card, and you receive a \$100 gift card. The retailer sells the gift card to the church at a reduced price, and the difference goes directly toward supporting our missions.

Shop Online or Stop at the SCRIP Counter

You can shop online by entering our church's enrollment code and ordering right online, or visit our website at stpaulfalls.com/give/scrip/ to access the online shop through RaiseRight.

St. Paul Lutheran Church/Sheboygan Falls/WI

Enrollment Code: D2FBA85F4925

We keep many popular brands stocked in the drawer throughout the week. Special orders are placed on Sunday and generally arrive by Tuesday, or Thursday at the latest. During the Christmas season, we will place orders weekly as needed. Some weeks, no order will be placed because our drawer is already fully stocked.

Christmas special orders can be placed now through December 13. December 13 will be our last special order date with a guaranteed arrival before Christmas. Please remember that all special orders must be prepaid before they can be ordered.

Not sure which retailers are available? Check the current retailer list behind the SCRIP counter. If you see an "E," that means the gift card is available electronically only and is not available as a physical card.

Preschool Families — There's an Extra Benefit!

If you have a child attending St. Paul Lutheran Preschool, be sure to talk with the Preschool staff. They can help you arrange for the SCRIP benefit to be applied toward your child's education.

Don't Wait Until the Last Minute!

Skip driving from store to store looking for gift cards. Check online or stop by the SCRIP counter to see what's available. It is a convenient way to do your Christmas shopping while making every purchase count toward the mission work of our church.

If you have questions, please stop by the SCRIP counter or talk with Mary Kempf, SCRIP Coordinator.

Happy Christmas shopping—and thank you for supporting St. Paul Lutheran Church missions through SCRIP!

GUATEMALA MISSION TRIP

Guatemala Mission Trip Recap

The Guatemala Mission Team has safely returned from our 4th trip to Casa Aleluya. Our team of 30 experienced an incredible week of faith, service, and love at this children's home. Our hearts were ready to serve and we shared love, encouragement, and hope with these beautiful children through daily interaction with each and every child. We hosted activities after school including Bingo, a building project, tie-dye, S'mores, and so much more. While the kids were at school, we worked on our building projects. We remodeled a dorm by moving and rebuilding some walls and jackhammering out concrete in a bathroom. Others on our team sanded and painted 40 bunk beds and several storage armoires.

Outside of Casa, we served nearby with our local Guatemalan friend Hilmar. He knows these communities and which families are in need. We prayed for each family we met, and they were so thankful for the small blessings we could offer them. Over three days, we delivered food to 15 families (enough to last a family for two weeks) and water filtration systems to 10 families. These give families access to safe drinking water for up to two years. We built two corrugated-metal homes with a concrete floor for two families in need. We gave each family a Spanish Bible. The dad of one of the families we prayed for was battling leukemia and because of malnutrition he was also in liver failure. His wife was helping him with peritoneal dialysis twice per day using the dirty water they had available. We provided a water filtration system and two weeks of food. His wife shared that she had been praying for access to clean water for months and was so thankful for this blessing.



"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others." — 1 Peter 4:10



It is so heart-warming to see this in action with our team. For example, one team member, Adrienne, enjoys cooking, so she—with the help of Michelle, Lisa, and Kim—cooked three meals a day for our team. Heather, Aiden, and Jim speak fluent Spanish and translated for the rest of us who tried to fumble along. Matt, Larry, and Jeff were very good at discerning what the leadership at Casa wanted us to work on while organizing the group to get it done. Piper had her guitar and led a sing-along with the younger girls' dorm. Avery, Noble, Lanyon, Wyatt, Max, and Timmy were our muscle, making the possibility of building a home in a day a reality. The rest of us used our talent of demonstrating God's love in any small action we could—helping the team stay organized, painting a bed, saying a prayer, washing dishes, doing whatever needed to be done without being asked.

Every meal provided, every filter installed, every nail hammered, every Bible shared, and every child embraced and prayed for was a reminder that small acts of love can make a lasting impact. We are all so grateful for the opportunity to serve alongside one another and to be the hands and feet of Jesus in Guatemala. Thank you to everyone who prayed, supported, and helped make this mission a reality for 15 young adults and 15 more seasoned adults. Every one of us was blessed in different ways by this opportunity.

If you are interested in supporting this ongoing mission, check out our Betterworld donation site by visiting the missions page at stpaulfalls.com/ministries/missions-ministry/#guatemala-mission. Among other things, you can choose to donate a Bible, food to a widow, or a home to a family. We will send you a picture of your donation being delivered on our next trip in 2028!

LUTHERAN WOMEN MISSIONARY LEAGUE (LWML)

Zone 8 LWML FALL RALLY



WHERE & WHEN

St Paul Lutheran- Fellowship Hall
730 County Hwy PPP, Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085

Thursday, October 29th
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Food and Fellowship to start at 6:00.
Program will begin at 6:20pm

All are welcome to attend.
You do not need to be an LWML member

GIFTS FROM THE HEART

Dignity for Daughters is a designated non profit organization created to provide Sexual and Reproductive Health education and reusable menstrual health kits to students attending secondary schools of the Iringa Tanzania area.

Gifts From the Heart Items:
List will be provided at a later date.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Moua Vang

Hmong Ministry is led by Rev. Moua Vang at Benediction Lutheran in Milwaukee. He came to the United States from Thailand in 1992. He graduated from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis and was installed as a pastor of Benediction in 2012.

Hmong worship is conducted on Sunday morning at 11:30 am. It is preceded by a weekly Bible class at 10:30 am. Occasionally we conduct a Hmong Summer Program in which we teach Hmong culture and language to the Hmong youth. We have active ESL and GED classes, which many of our Hmong neighbors take advantage of to improve their English and receive their high school diploma.

Don Hougard

In 1997 Pastor Hougard began a German ministry along with Pastor Eberhard Klatt in which we offer monthly German services. We also have a weekly radio program called, Evangelische Andacht

WHAT IS LWML

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) is an official auxiliary of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Since 1942, the LWML has focused on affirming each woman's relationship with Christ, encouraging and equipping women to live out their Christian lives in active mission ministries and to support global missions.

Mission Statement

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

*God of All
Nations* !

AUGUST CONGREGATION MEETING MINUTES

August 31, 2026 Congregation Meeting Minutes

July 2026 Treasurer's Report: Donna Felch presented the financial reports. One month into the year we have a deficit of \$58,669. This is primarily due to a three pay period month, along with lower offerings in the summer. Giving is ahead of last year, but behind budget. Dedicated accounts were reviewed and are strong. As a reminder, these are earmarked for specific things and cannot be used for the operating budget. Donna also reviewed the Capital Improvement 5-year plan, which has a balance of \$351,875.

Fellowship Hall Condenser: Chad Berke explained that one of the two compressors in the Fellowship Hall is no longer working. Due to the age of the system, the entire condenser unit needs to be replaced. Two quotes were sought and Shaus Mechanical from Manitowoc was selected. This is the same vendor that replaced the Worship Center condenser earlier this year. The Congregation approved this replacement, not to exceed \$60,000 to be paid from the Capital Improvement Fund.

Security Facility Improvements: Stefanie Trakel shared that throughout the county there is now a Church Security Network that brings local churches together to discuss and learn about ways to keep their churches safer. Violent acts are rare, so the Council is looking at finding a balance. Churches are a target because we have known schedules, lesser police presence, and are a welcoming environment that is often unprepared for threats. The most common cause is domestic disputes. Among church shootings, 97% are in Christian churches and 22% occur in rural towns. In the last 23 years there have been six shootings in Wisconsin where at least one person was killed, including La Crosse, Oconto, Brookfield, Milwaukee, Oak Creek, and Kenosha—both large and small towns.

The Council requested the Sheriff's Department to do a walk-through of our building. The top recommendation was to lock our doors once worship begins, which we started doing earlier this summer. They also went through our medical procedures, AEDs, and recommended a LifeVac (device for choking) which we now have in our kitchen. Both fire and tornado plans have been recently reviewed with ushers.

Bollards were recommended for our entrances, primarily for unintentional events. The glass doors throughout the building are not recommended, as the glass can be broken to gain access. Steel doors or doors with steel in the glass are preferred. Finally, security cameras are recommended. In the past couple of months, Stefanie has received four requests for camera footage. Upon reviewing these recommendations, the Council moved forward on several of the recommendations, again trying to balance the risk with the cost.

A Congregation member cautioned that we not go overboard with security, as incidents are rare.

Bollards: John Rische shared that two concrete posts will be installed at each of the following entrances: main, rotunda, and Entrance 3. He shared a picture and the locations with the Congregation. These will not be in the driving area, just the walkways, to prevent cars from hitting the building either intentionally or unintentionally. There have been instances in the area of people hitting buildings due to a medical issue or mixing up the gas and brake. This will be an unintrusive way to keep people safer.

AUGUST CONGREGATION MEETING MINUTES CONT.

Main Entrance Replacement: Our main entrance is 32 years old. This includes the four doors and the window panes above them. They are rusted, leaking, and in need of repair. The Council used this as an opportunity to also improve security by placing crosses in the glass. A picture was shown. The new entrance will be aluminum, which if properly cared for, should have a longer lifetime. Two quotes were sought and Falls Glass was selected. The new doors will still have a removable mullion. The Congregation approved this replacement, not to exceed \$45,000 to be paid from the Capital Improvement Fund.

Security Cameras: Our current cameras no longer work as they are very old technology. The police recommended coverage on exterior doors, the parking lot, and interior primary entrances. We have had recent incidents where cameras would have been helpful, including a parking lot accident, bathroom vandalism, an individual trying to get into the building, and an ATV/snowmobile driving recklessly throughout the property. Two quotes were sought and Pros4Tech, a local trusted vendor, was chosen. They currently do all of our IT work as well. This will be server-based with no annual license. A map of the camera coverage was shared.

Discussion was held. It was suggested we include a camera for the Columbarium, which we will look into. We decided not to place cameras on the light poles as the cost was extreme. A policy was suggested in terms of when, who, and how video footage will be released. The playground will also be recorded, so we will talk with our Director to see if releases are needed by parents. The cameras will have a battery backup and 30 days or more of storage, which is the recommendation of the police and vendor. If there is a need for footage, that section of film can be saved and downloaded to be kept permanently if needed. The Congregation approved this replacement, not to exceed \$36,000 to be paid from the Capital Improvement Fund.

Congregation Question Submissions:

Will the 11:00 AM service be continued or evaluated on an annual basis?

This is evaluated annually. We do need the service because of the size of our congregation. We have 70-100 people that typically attend the 11:00 AM service. If that service were removed, those attending would most likely attend the 9:30 AM service. Once Sunday School is back in session, that service is very full and does not have the ability to comfortably absorb the extra people. In addition, there is no room for growth.

How are we growing as a congregation?

Pr. Kyle has been cleaning up the membership, removing individuals that we have no contact information for or that no longer attend, so membership is decreasing. We do have 30-50 people joining through A.I.M. Classes each year. Our average worship attendance over the past four years has gone up by about 200 people. We are not back to pre-COVID attendance, but we are getting closer. We have several new ministries that have started recently, including VBS which had 99 kids this past summer, Table of Grace which kicks off this fall, and a new podcast that will be launched in January with Bible studies and daily devotions. Our YouTube Ministry also has a much wider reach than people realize, with an average of 140 people viewing it weekly.

AUGUST COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

August 31, 2026 Council Meeting Minutes

Children & Family Ministry Update: Savannah reviewed the AWANA and Sunday School kickoff. She is again planning a Birthday Party for Jesus. VBS was a huge success with 99 kids. Family events for the upcoming year are planned, along with a Family Mission Trip to Camp Luther in October. The nursery is having some staff changes as a couple of staff members are now in college.

Associate Pastor Ministry Update: Pr. Adam shared many of the things he has been working on over the past several months. His current focus is on Rooted and working with Small Groups. He also spends time in the ECC and The Gathering Place regularly, along with leading Chapel at various other churches and schools. He is keeping very busy!

Senior Pastor Update: Pr. Kyle gave ministry highlights. The Gathering Place Car Show was a huge success. He is working on rebranding and relaunching the podcast in January, to include sermons and daily devotions. Fall activities are all kicking off now.

Pr. Kyle shared a graph of membership over the past four years, which has significantly decreased due to the membership clean-up project. The graph compared that to worship attendance, which has increased significantly during that time. It seems our members are now more committed to worship. The worship attendance numbers do include non-members.

Undesignated Gift Discussion: Tom Splittgerber suggested the possibility of setting up a subaccount within the Endowment Account where money could be set aside for the future. This could be used for a parking lot, capital items, or even to help with budget shortfalls. Discussion was held.

Council Support: Pr. Kyle will do some brainstorming with the Director Team to see if this will be helpful and report back.

Walk-In Item - Parking Lot Striping: The parking lot needs to be restriped. Stefanie will obtain a quote.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Report - August 2026			
Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027			
Financial Results- Fiscal Year End Actual, Budget & Variance			
	2 Months Ended 8-31-26 Actual	2 Months Ended 8-31-26 Budget	Variance from Budget (Short)/Over
General Offerings	\$ 213,773	\$ 251,501	\$ (37,728)
Other Income	\$ 1,733	\$ 2,619	\$ (886)
Mission Offerings	\$ 13,353	\$ 12,333	\$ 1,020
Total Income	\$ 228,859	\$ 266,453	\$ (37,594)
Operating Expenses	\$ 283,691	\$ 265,852	\$ 17,838
Mission Support	\$ 13,353	\$ 12,333	\$ 1,020
Total Expense	\$ 297,044	\$ 278,186	\$ 18,858
Suplus (Deficit) from Operations	\$ (68,185)	\$ (11,733)	\$ (56,452)

Capital Improvement Fund		
	Monthly Activity Increase (Decrease)	Balance at Month End
Capital Improvement Fund	\$ 10,734	\$ 356,921

Membership Report				
Baptized Members	306	Confirmed Members	1,461	Total Members 1,767

OTHER NEWS & THANK YOUS

Mission Trip Fundraiser - Thank you to everyone who participated in our Youth Mission Trip Envelope Fundraiser! We are incredibly blessed to have a congregation that supports our youth and their desire to serve others. Please pray for our youth, leaders, and mission team as plans come together for another incredible opportunity to serve God!

40 Days for Life - Sign up for vigil hours to pray outside Planned Parenthood in Sheboygan now through November 1. Signs will be provided—all we do is show up and pray, and let God change hearts and minds. Visit 40daysforlife.com/sheboygan or contact Germaine at 920-918-2310 or Gina at 920-917-9324.

Thank You - to my church family for the prayers, cards, and meal during these difficult times following the loss of my brother and recent surgeries. The meal was wonderful and we are so grateful for your love and support - Fay Risse

Thank You from Safe Harbor - Thank you to our St. Paul congregation for the generous donation to Safe Harbor of Sheboygan County. Your support is making an immediate and meaningful difference, providing individuals and families in our community with safety, stability, and hope. Thank you for being such a strong community partner!

PB&J Drive — Thank You! - St. Paul participated in The Family Radio Station's PB&J Drive, and the results were incredible! Together, 9,447 lbs of peanut butter and jelly were collected—enough to make PB&J sandwiches to feed everyone at sold-out American Family Field, Lambeau Field, and Fiserv Forum events, with 2,000 sandwiches left over! Thank you for helping support Wisconsin families in need!

LOVE INC

Living Out Love Dinner, Auction & Ministry Celebration

Please join us for the annual Living Out Love Dinner, Auction, and Ministry Celebration!

Saturday, October 17

5:30-8:30 PM

Pine Hills Country Club, Sheboygan

This year's theme, "A Seat at the Table," reflects a simple but powerful truth: every person deserves a place at the table—a place to be seen, heard, valued, and encouraged. And each of us can play a part in building hope. The evening includes a delicious Grand Buffet, raffles and auctions, and a program that highlights the stories of our neighbors and volunteers. A new highlight of this year's celebration is a Dessert Draft—a sweet new addition featuring our Sweetest Servants, local pastors who will be serving up some truly tempting desserts. Come ready for a little fun, fellowship, and something sweet!

Your support makes an impact. Every ticket, sponsorship, and in-kind gift helps Love INC continue connecting people with resources, relationships, and opportunities that bring hope and help to our community. For more information or to order tickets, visit loveincsheboygancounty.org or call 920-783-6701.



HISPANIC OUTREACH MINISTRY

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We give thanks to the Lord for the joy of welcoming Mario into our church family following his completion of our Adult Confirmation Class.

Over the course of his study, Mario spent time in Holy Scripture and the teachings of the Christian faith as confessed in the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. We rejoice that, by God's grace, he has been brought into the fellowship of our congregation and will continue to receive the gifts Christ gives His Church through His Word and Sacraments.

It is a great blessing to see the Lord working through His Word and gathering His people together here at El Buen Pastor. Please join us in welcoming Mario and in giving thanks to God for His gracious work in his life. We pray that the Lord will continue to strengthen Mario in the faith and keep him steadfast in Christ.

"And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ." — Philippians 1:6



Stories like Mario's are possible because people like you choose to walk alongside us. Through your prayers, encouragement, and financial support, you help us continue the work God has given us: preaching the Good News of Jesus Christ and making His Word and Sacraments available to our Hispanic community.

We are deeply grateful to everyone who has faithfully supported this mission. Your generosity is not simply helping a ministry—it is helping us share Christ with people who need to hear the Gospel. If you are already supporting the Hispanic Outreach, thank you for walking with us. And if you have not yet joined those who support this work, we invite you to prayerfully consider becoming a partner in the Gospel.

Together, we rejoice in what the Lord is doing and look forward to seeing how He will continue to work through His Word.

In Christ,
Rev. David Blas



LCMS
SHEBOYGAN COUNTY
HISPANIC OUTREACH

LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

Christian Education Within Reach

At Sheboygan Lutheran High School, our goal is simple: we exist to prepare young people for a life of Christian leadership, academic excellence, and faithful service. Walk through our doors on any given day and you will see vibrant young adults discovering their gifts, growing in faith, and building lifelong friendships.

We believe every family who deeply desires a Christ-centered education for their high schooler should have a seat at our table. Yet we know that for many hardworking parents, tuition can feel like an overwhelming hurdle. That is why we partner with the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP), which enables eligible students to receive a tuition voucher. Today, 48% of our student body attends Sheboygan Lutheran with the support of this program, making the desire to attend our high school a reality.

If you or someone you know is considering Sheboygan Lutheran, here is how this partnership can help bring a faith-filled education within reach:

- **Open to Local Families:** The WPCP program is available to Wisconsin residents living outside the Milwaukee and Racine school districts.
- **Support for Hardworking Homes:** Qualification is based on family income (at or below 220% of the federal poverty line, adjusted for household size—contact us for these income limits). It is designed specifically to assist families who simply need a helping hand to make high school tuition manageable.
- **A Natural Time to Join:** While students can enter at early grade levels (4K, 5K, and 1st Grade), 9th Grade is also a key entry point, offering a smooth, fresh transition into our academic and spiritual community right as high school begins. Additionally, high school students currently enrolled in a public school or homeschool who transfer here are also eligible.
- **Room for Everyone:** Because there is currently no statewide cap on enrollment, qualified families don't have to compete for a spot.
- **Stability for Your Child's Entire High School Journey:** Once your student qualifies, that support stays with them all four years. You won't have to re-qualify financially each year—just confirm your continued enrollment during the annual WPCP renewal window.

If your family doesn't qualify for the WPCP, please know that your path to Sheboygan Lutheran doesn't end there. We are deeply blessed by faithful donors and supporters who make significant financial aid available to tuition-paying families. In fact, 82% of our tuition-paying families receive financial aid to help cover the cost of tuition. We consider it a true privilege to steward these resources so that financial concerns never stand between a student and a Christ-centered education.

Education is deeply personal, and every family deserves to choose the path where their child will truly thrive. We are immensely grateful for every tool and blessing that allows us to keep our doors open to students who want to learn, grow, and serve here.

Have questions about whether your family qualifies for the WPCP or our internal financial aid? We would love to start a conversation with you and talk through the options as we gear up for 2027-2028 enrollment!

For Him,

Matthew Tschudy, Executive Director
tschudy@lutheranhigh.com

Heidi Krueger, Admissions Director
krueger@lutheranhigh.com

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
730 County Rd. PPP
Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085
Phone: 920-467-6449
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Church Office Hours
Monday - Thursday: 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Friday: Closed



Pastors

Kyle Backhaus, Senior Pastor
Adam Wolfe, Associate Pastor
Tom Gudmundson, Pastor Emeritus
Donald Hasse, Pastor Emeritus

Lay Leaders

Tom Splittgerber, Congregation President
Jeff Berg, Congregation Vice President
John Rische, Head Elder
Donna Felch, Treasurer

Worship Schedule

Thursday: 6:30 PM
Sunday: 8:00 AM | 9:30 AM | 11:00 AM

The Gathering Place & Memory Matters
920-627-6847

The Gathering Place
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Sheboygan Falls
Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Sheboygan
Wednesday: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Memory Matters
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Sheboygan Falls
Thursday: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Children & Youth
(during the school year)

Sunday School: 9:30 AM service
AWANA Wednesday Night: 6:00 PM
Confirmation Wednesday Night: 6:00 PM
Youth Group Sunday Night: 5:30 PM

Early Childhood Center

ECC Phone: 920-467-6733
3 year-old Class
(during school year)
Tuesday & Thursday:
9:00 - 11:30 AM or 12:30 - 3:00 PM

4K Class
(during school year)
Monday, Wednesday, & Friday:
8:30 - 11:30 AM

Child Care
Monday through Friday:
7:00 AM - 5:30 PM
Ages 2 ½ - 5 years – call for drop-ins

Wee Care Nursery
Sunday Services, 9:15 - 12:00 PM

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SOCIAL MEDIA

