



Spirit of St. Paul

St. Paul Lutheran Church, East Lansing, MI

October 2023

Hello Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I understand it is never about me but I wanted to share what has been happening. Last month was a rough month and I did not write a letter for the Newsletter. Now, even though things seem out of sync, life goes on. First of all, I would like to share with you I am retiring from the Court next February. I have put this off and when anyone asks (especially Mary) over the last 10 years when I will retire my response has been soon. Now it is time after working two jobs and I am excited about the future. Mary and I are envisioning how we will now live our lives.

Last month was a busy month. We had another successful fish fry, installed Kristin and Bev as Sunday School teachers, Jon is leading Bible Study on Sunday morning, and Mary has a Gather Bible Study on the 2nd Wednesday at 11:00am. Thanks to all that use their incredible gifts and passion for these. Also, many were trained on using the AED, the MSU musicians' concert is scheduled for 11:45 am on November 5th and a Red Cross Blood Drive is scheduled October 20th. One item to address is to find additional volunteers for the Food Pantry to allow a few people to take a break. October 10th is Commitment Sunday and everyone should have received a commitment slip in the mail.

Last month personally was a time to grieve and deal with a death in the family and a funeral for someone only a few years older. Mourning continues...but we realize this is part of life. Grief is the cost of love. It has been made easier by all the kind words, cards and gifts including a tree planted in the National Forest and quilt from the St. Paul quilting group. My focus throughout has been to trust in God. Our source of hope is God in Christ. This is our source of hope and I am comforted by Paul's letter to the Romans, in

Romans 5:1-2, 8-11

1Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.... 8But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. 9Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. 10For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having

Guiding Principles

We are a people who:

- ✿ Listen for God's Call
- ✿ Believe and Trust in God's Call
- ✿ Answer God's Call
- ✿ Support each other in times of joy and sorrow
- ✿ Live out our faith in prayer and service
- ✿ Share food with the hungry
- ✿ Believe the gospel is for all, not just Christians.

been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. 11But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Because of our belief in Christ we are open to God's unconditional grace and will be held blameless to God because of what Christ has done for us. This is the type of good news to pass on and to invite others to hear on Sunday.

Blessings,

Pr. Carl

Social Outreach & Ministry

Food Pantry Report for September 2023 Newsletter



St. Paul Pantry

Food Pantry Report for October 2023 Newsletter

A total of 150 clients were served in August 2023, which meant 45 families were helped. So far since January 1, 2023, we have served 1137 clients which means 355 families have been helped. We could not have accomplished this without the support of our congregation and the dedicated volunteers who work at the Food Pantry.

Between January 26, 2023, and August 25, 5377.15 pounds of food was donated for the Food Pantry from members of the congregation, as well as outside donors from the community. During the month of August, we received 520.8 pounds of food. We are very grateful for these donations.

The Food Pantry Garden has continued producing an abundance of produce in the past few weeks. Thank you to all the garden volunteers and members of the congregation who have donated from their gardens this summer. The clients love the fresh produce.

The Food Pantry is seeking volunteers who might be able to assist on the 3rd Monday morning of each month to unload the Food Bank Delivery from Greater Lansing Food Bank. We generally meet around 8:30 a.m. and are finished by 10:00 a.m., depending on the number of volunteers that we have.

We are also continuing to seek volunteers who could work at pantry distribution on Wednesday evenings and on Thursday afternoon pantry days, as several of our current volunteers are unable to work at the current time. Anyone who is interested in helping can contact Bev Johnson or Tracy Collins.

During September the Food Pantry is continuing to request donations of the following items, which are currently in short supply or unavailable from the Greater Lansing Food Bank:



During October the Food Pantry is continuing to request donations of the following items, which are currently in short supply or unavailable from the Greater Lansing Food Bank:

TOMATO PASTE TOMATO SAUCE KETCHUP MUSTARD
SALT MACARONI & CHEESE DINNERS SALAD DRESSING
CAKE AND BROWNIE MIXES CRACKERS CEREAL
LAUNDRY DETERGENT HAND SOAP DISH SOAP BODY LOTION

Upcoming Events

We are looking to start our choir back up beginning this fall! All who are interested in signing up or learning to sing should contact Elene or Kathy Griffin as soon as possible. Be on the lookout for more information.



Look for the volunteer sign up form in the narthex!

We are looking for...

- Reader
- Assistant Minister
- Communion Set up/Clean up
- Power Point Master
- Acolyte
- Greeter

Look for the signup sheet after Sunday service.





We are having a Blood Drive on October 20th, from 11am – 5pm.

Dates to Remember:

- **Sunday, October 1** - Adult Bible Study @ 9am, Worship @ 10am (In person and on Zoom)
- **Monday, October 2** - Worship Committee meeting @ 6:30pm
- **Wednesday, October 4** - Food Pantry Distribution @ 5:30pm
- **Sunday, October 8** - Adult Bible Study @ 9am, Worship @ 10am (In person and on Zoom)
- **Thursday, October 12** - Food Pantry Distribution @ 1pm
- **Sunday, October 15** - Adult Bible Study @ 9am, Worship @ 10am (In person and on Zoom)
- **Wednesday, October 18** - Food Pantry Distribution @ 5:30pm
- **Thursday, October 19** - Council meeting @ 7pm
- **Friday, October 20** – Blood Drive, 11-5pm
- **Sunday, October 22** - Adult Bible Study @ 9am, Worship @ 10am (In person and on Zoom)
- **Thursday, October 26** - Food Pantry Distribution @ 1pm
- **Sunday, October 29** - Adult Bible Study @ 9am, Worship @ 10am (In person and on Zoom)

October Birthday Celebrations

- 10/02 – Kassy L
- 10/07 – Pat S
- 10/10 – Grant B
- 10/13 – Maryann L
- 10/14 – Stacy T
- 10/19 – Ethan C, Rachel J
- 10/21 – Chuck N
- 10/25 – Kristin H, Daniel N
- 10/27 – Mary B
- 10/30 – James Cl



*if you were accidentally omitted, please contact the church via voicemail or email.

October 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Adult Bible Study 9am Worship	2 Worship Committee meeting 6:30pm	3	4 Food Pantry 5:30-7	5	6	7
8 Adult Bible Study 9am Worship	9	10	11	12 Food Pantry 1-4	13	14
15 Adult Bible Study 9am Worship	16	17	18 Food Pantry 5:30-7	19 Council meeting 7pm	20 Blood Drive 11-5pm	21
22 Adult Bible Study 9am Worship	23 Newsletter Deadline	24	25	26 Food Pantry 1-4	27	28
29 Adult Bible Study 9am Worship	30	31				



St. Paul Lutheran Church

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Our Purpose: Feeding God's people both inside and outside while listening to what the people need.