



# *Spirit of St. Paul*

St. Paul Lutheran Church, East Lansing, MI

**November 2023**

Hello Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It has been unusually warm lately as we prepare ourselves for winter. Experts are predicting El Nino will give us a mild winter with temperatures above normal and precipitation below normal. We will see the accuracy of these predictions. Regardless, it's that time of year again. The end of October was Reformation Sunday. When Martin Luther read Roman 1:17 <sup>17</sup> "For in it the righteousness of God is revealed through faith for faith, as it is written, "The one who is righteous will live by faith." his torment ended as he realized the righteousness that God in his grace was making available to those who would receive it passively, not those who would achieve it actively, but that would receive it by faith, and by which a person could be reconciled to a holy and righteous God. This led to the Reformation.

Then we celebrate All Saints Sunday on November 5<sup>th</sup> where we remember the Saints who have gone before us. Please feel free to bring a photo and light a candle in remembrance of a loved one. Advent is coming on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and there will be mid-week gatherings at 6pm on 12/6, 12/13, and 12/20/23 at 6pm. We will bring food to share during these gatherings. There will be a Children's Christmas program on December 17<sup>th</sup> during worship, Thanks Bev J. and Kristin H. for teaching Sunday School and putting on the performance. Christmas Eve is 12/24 and we will have one worship service of Lessons and Carols for the 10:00am worship.

Jon K continues to lead Bible Study on Sunday morning at 9:00am, and Mary B. has a Gather Bible Study with sack lunch on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 11:00am. Thank you Jon K. and Mary M. for leading these sessions. October 10<sup>th</sup> was commitment Sunday and most commitments were received. The first analysis is positive and Chuck N. will have more to say about this at the Annual meeting when the budget is presented. Thank you, Chuck, for coordinating this and doing the Temple Talk at worship. We resumed the Red Cross Blood Drive on October 20<sup>th</sup> and will continue this moving forward. Thanks to Jim C. for coordinating this. MSU musicians will have a concert at 11:45am on Sunday November 5<sup>th</sup> with Elene K. coordinating and performing. There is a free will offering for this concert. We will have a potluck after worship that day to precede the concert.

## **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.

We are still looking for volunteers for the food pantry to unload the truck one Monday a month and either Wednesday or Thursday to distribute the food. Thank you to all who work tirelessly to bring food to the hungry. Let Bev J know if you are able to help in any way. Also, Worship Helpers, the sign-up sheet has many open spaces for folks to assist. If something looks like something you might want to do, I can work with you and show you what that entails so you can be comfortable doing it.

I look forward to working with each of you as we carry out God's mission to the world and continue to feed people in the community.

Blessings,

Pr. Carl

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**Social Outreach & Ministry**



*St. Paul Pantry*

### **Food Pantry Report for November 2023 Newsletter**

A total of 178 clients were served in September 2023, which meant 51 families were helped. So far since January 1, 2023, we have served 1315 clients which means 406 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 September 25, 5658.3 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 September, we received 380.4 pounds of food. We are very grateful for these donations.

The garden has been cleared out until next spring. Thank you to all the garden volunteers and members of the congregation who have donated from their gardens this summer. The clients loved the fresh produce.

The Food Pantry is currently seeking volunteers who might be able to assist on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday morning of each month to unload the Food Bank Delivery. We generally meet around 8:30-8:45 a.m. and are finished by 10:00 a.m., depending on the number of volunteers that we have. We are also looking for volunteers who could work at pantry distribution on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday evenings of the month or the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday afternoons. Anyone who is interested in helping can contact Bev Johnson or Tracy Collins.



During November 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   CRANBERRY SAUCE   SALT  
CAKE AND BROWNIE MIXES   CRACKERS   RICE   STUFFING MIX  
LAUNDRY DETERGENT   HAND SOAP   DISH SOAP   BODY LOTION

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### 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.



# Interfaith Gathering of Solidarity and Hope



NOVEMBER 16, 2023

7 P.M.

EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1315 ABBOT RD, EAST LANSING

Sponsored by the Interfaith Clergy Association of Greater Lansing

During the service, offerings will be taken of supportive letters to our Jewish and Muslim neighbors as well as financial gifts to help with increased security costs of Jewish and Muslim houses of worship in our community.

## Dates to Remember:

- † **Wednesday, November 1** - Food Pantry Distribution @ 5:30pm
- † **Sunday, November 5** - Adult Bible Study @ 9am, Worship @ 10am (In person and on Zoom), Potluck after worship, MSU Concert @ 11:45am
- † **Thursday, November 9** - Food Pantry Distribution @ 1pm
- † **Sunday, November 12** - Adult Bible Study @ 9am, Worship @ 10am (In person and on Zoom)
- † **Monday, November 13** - Worship Committee meeting @ 6:30pm
- † **Wednesday, November 15** – Women’s Bible Study @ 11am, Food Pantry Distribution @ 5:30pm
- † **Thursday, November 16** - Council meeting @ 7pm, Interfaith Gathering of Solidarity & Hope at Eastminster Presbyterian Church East Lansing @ 7pm
- † **Sunday, November 19** - Adult Bible Study @ 9am, Worship @ 10am (In person and on Zoom)
- † **Tuesday, November 21** - Food Pantry Distribution @ 1pm
- † **Sunday, November 26** - Adult Bible Study @ 9am, Worship @ 10am (In person and on Zoom)

## November Birthday Celebrations

11/12 - Rick K  
11/16 - Maggie L  
11/20 - Marty L  
11/21 - Char S  
11/27 - Garrett K  
11/29 - Paul C



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

## November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Food Pantry 5:30-7	2	3	4
5 Adult Bible Study 9am <b>Worship</b> MSU Concert	6	7	8	9 Food Pantry 1-4	10	11
12 Adult Bible Study 9am <b>Worship</b>	13 Worship Committee meeting 6:30pm	14	15 Women's Bible Study 11am Food Pantry 5:30-7	16 Council meeting 7pm Interfaith Gathering @ 7pm	17	18
19 Adult Bible Study 9am <b>Worship</b>	20 <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	21 Food Pantry 1-4	22	23	24	25
26 Adult Bible Study 9am <b>Worship</b>	27	28	29	30		



**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.**