

THE GOOD NEWS

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Fall 2019 Issue

1407 W. Church Road
Beecher, IL 60401
708-946-2050

Worship Service on
Sundays at 8:30 am

Sunday School on
Sundays at 10:00 am

IN THIS ISSUE:

Pastor's Message

Call Committee Update

Ladies Aid

Greeter Schedule

Usher Schedule

Birthdays and
Anniversaries

LWML

Oktoberfest

Farmer's Market/Trunk
or Treat

Outreach Efforts

Sunday School

Upcoming Events

Message from Pastor... *"...be content with what you have, for {God} has said, 'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.' Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." (Hebrews 13:5b, 8)*

Dear Friends in Christ,

Questions abound. The future is unknown. What will we be? Who is ever going to serve us? How long, O Lord? Can this go any faster? Such are the immediate reactions for many congregations that enter into vacancy. The word 'vacancy' frequently elicits a sense of loss, emptiness...and rightly so following the departure of a faithful servant of the Lord. But what about the flip-side response to vacancy in the grand scheme of things? Available, ready to be filled, anticipation? "Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart." Wait for the Lord. The Lord will provide.

With the passage from Hebrews, as we are instructed to be content, God tells us the reason we should be content: He does not change! Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. We have an unchanging God whose truth stands forever! God is right here. He is with us. He never left us.

St. Paul's will continue to lift up the cross of Jesus and explain to men and women everywhere that God has in Christ reconciled the world to Himself and all who believe in Him have forgiveness and life everlasting. This is God's unchanging truth in changing times. To quote District President Allan Buss from a recent pastor's conference: "The Lord is going to take care of His church. We are on the winning side!"

My friends, you are not alone. The Lord is at hand. Let us work together—fearing, loving and trusting in God above all things. Wait for the Lord as we trust His timing.

Blessings in Christ,
Pastor Cory Estby

Call Committee Update... The first step in the call process is to submit a survey to the District Office. The call committee worked hard on completing that survey and it has been submitted. We now wait for the District to approve review it so we can move to the next step of considering possible candidates. During this time, if there is a Pastor that you would like to be added to the call list, please fill out one of the forms that are in the back of church. Once completed please give it to Garry Hunte. Please provide this to Garry no later than October 7th, 2019. Huge thanks to the Call Committee for all the effort they put into the survey. Keep in your prayers that we can locate the perfect Shepherd for our congregation.



Ladies Aid Happenings...

Ladies Aid meets regularly September through May on the second Saturday of the month. We gather at noon and since we are all such good cooks, we take turns hosting lunch.

Our October meeting will be moved to October 19 due to a wedding at Church on October 12. At this meeting we will decide on our annual charitable Christmas Project. Also, our November meeting will be moved to November 16 due to the Thankful Market being held at Church on November 9.

Over the summer we completed the project of purchasing the new Mission Field signs, which have been placed by each driveway. This was done with memorial money we received in memory of Marlene Lynch.



This was something she always wanted to do and is a great tribute to her. THANKS to Bill Karczewski for installing the signs.



All ladies of the congregation are encouraged to participate in Ladies Aid. We are a very social group and we have a lot fun! We're stronger in numbers!!!



To contribute to the next newsletter, please provide information to Valerie Lynch by November 22, 2019. Winter Issue will be sent by November 30, 2019.

Greeter and Usher Schedule

October 6

Ushers: Stan Weishaar and Greg Ohlendorf

Greeters: Stein Family

October 13

Ushers: Stan Heimerl and Joe Burgess

Greeters: Don and Linda Fette

October 20

Ushers: Steve Stein and Fred Hoffmeyer

Greeters: Dana Woodruff and Sandra Kregel

October 27

Ushers: Terry Ryan and William Karczewski

Greeters: Burgess Family

November 3

Ushers: Doug Hackl and Jason Hackl

Greeters: Leonard and Marge Kregel

November 10

Ushers: Jim Meyer and Kenneth Meyer

Greeters: Karczewski Family

November 17

Ushers: Leroy Plagge and Tom Wiater

Greeters: Janet Wilke and Dorothy Willett

November 24 & Thanksgiving

Ushers: Steve Weishaar and Gary Hunte

Greeters: Dan and Karen Braun

Acolyte will be either: Kaylee Guynn or Parker Woodruff

We give thanks for everyone's service!

"Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing" (Psalms 100:2)

Birthdays

Oct. 1 – Jeff Bleyle
Oct. 4 – Rachel Fox
Oct. 7 – Kyle Wille,
Tammy Bleyle
Oct. 8 – Daniel Wilke
Oct. 10- Debra Hackl
Oct. 12-Megan Klomparen
Oct. 15-Brittany Johnson,
Emery Schwer
Oct. 18-Denise Langreder
Oct. 19-Dorothy Willett
Oct. 21-Linda Hoffmeyer,
Leonard Kregel
Oct. 23-Pam Hunte,
Jill Holzaepfel
Oct. 26-Dan Braun
Oct. 27-Mark Wille
Colin Schwer
Oct. 30-RaeAnn Barthel
Oct.31-Dorothy Stolzenbach
Nov. 9- Michael Harris
Nov. 14-Madelyn Shaefer
Nov. 15-Terry Ryan
Nov. 17-Lucille Tierney
Nov. 18-Steven Weishaar,
Stanley Weishaar
Nov. 22-Laura Schwer
Nov. 27-Sandra Kregel

Anniversaries

Oct. 14-Andy & Amanada
Runchey
Oct. 1- Tim & Mary Hannig
Oct. 6 -Stan & Cherie Heimerl
Nov. 10-Dan & Karen Braun
Nov. 23 –Don & Linda Fette

Please let Valerie Lynch know if your date is not listed and you would like it added to the list.

LWML...

In June four members attended the National LWML Convention in Mobile, Alabama. This was an amazing experience. We met many new people, made new friends, heard some outstanding speakers. Some of the speakers were previous Mission Grant recipients who told us how they used the funds they received. Some made you laugh while others brought you to tears. At the convention we elected a new President. We also voted to fund \$2.1 million in Mission Grants over the next two years. For more information go to www.lwml.org.



LWML SUNDAY IS OCTOBER 6. Join us for coffee and pastries in the vestry after church.



Oktoberfest...

On Sunday, September 15, St. Paul's hosted its 6th annual Oktoberfest. With the rain still falling when it was time to start cooking, the decision was made to serve in the church basement. Despite the chilly, rainy start, we served 220 meals consisting of brats, hot dogs or hamburgers with sides. As the day progressed, the weather got better, and guests began to drift outside to sit under the tent and enjoy the sunshine and improving weather. As in past years, St. Paul's parishioners collected from local sponsors or donated 50 raffle baskets. There were car care baskets, wine baskets, baskets geared towards the children, fall themed items, and a beautiful wooden picture of the church, hand carved by one of the former parishioners. We had 12 silent auction items, including Brookfield Zoo passes, Bears and Cubs autographed items, a John Deere pedal tractor, and tickets to a Cubs versus Cardinals game.

Our bean bag tournament had 7 teams this year. The winning team took home \$70. We would like to see that grow, but the weather this year was a challenge. We hope for better weather and a better turnout next year.

Despite being our 6th year, the Oktoberfest Committee decided to make some changes to grow the festival. Beer from local brewery, Evil Horse, was served. We also added bingo to our event. For a free-will donation, the bingo players had 15 games during which to win slices of our gift card pie. Each slice of pie contained a gift card valued between \$15 and \$25.

A sponsor list is posted at St. Paul's. Please be sure to patronize the business that supported St. Paul's.

Thanks to the Oktoberfest Committee, the volunteers, the donors and the attendees for making our event successful.

Farmers Market and Trunk or Treat...

Our Beecher **Farmers Market** has been a true success this year! The Village of Beecher graciously allowed us to move the Market to their parking lot. The new location has resulted in more vendors and customers. Since this is Church sponsored event and we distribute information about our Church, we are visible to more people. The hope is to attract the unchurched in the area. The Market is held on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month, June through October, and is open from 9am to 1pm. The last Market of the season will be October 26th, which is the same day as our **Trunk or Treat** event which will run from 11am to 1pm. Last year we had over 400 children in costume come through!



That's a lot of candy! We had some creative trunks as well! We will be serving hot dogs to the children and are working on games and activities.

As a spin-off to our regular Farmers Market, we will

be hosting a **Christmas Market**. This event will be held in our beautifully remodeled basement on November 9th from 9am to 1pm. There will be up to 20 vendors. The vendors will include most of our regular Market vendors who are excited to present their wares! Most items for purchase will be Christmas themed, can make good Christmas gifts. There will be a plethora of baked goods as well. ***Can't you just smell all the goodies now?*** Lunch will also be available for purchase.

Several of our members participate in the Markets.

Special thanks to Jessica Woodruff, the events founder, and her family who organized and facilitates the entire project. GREAT JOB!

Outreach...

"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation." (Mark 16:15)

The Evangelism committee has completed several events to reach those in our community that are unchurched and bring them to Word of God. School kits were handed out at the Farmers Market and the Lions Club festival. We've hosted two family movie nights. This newsletter is a result of one of our brain storming sessions. Soon we will be reaching out to our members that have gone astray. We will also be hosting a children's event during the holidays. ***If you have any ideas or suggestions please talk to Donna Fox, Valerie Lynch or Paul Weishaar.***

BE A LEADER and step out of your comfort zone, volunteer.

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope" (Jeremiah 29:11).

Sunday School...

Sunday School is off to a great start! The older grades are studying the Old Testament starting with The Creation. The curriculum being used allows the students to relate the stories to things in their lives or the world today. The students will also be working on various craft projects that tie into the lessons being learned. The younger grades are learning about Joseph and have crafts and activities planned for each lesson.

The Sunday School is preparing for our annual **Children's Christmas Eve Program** where the traditional telling of the nativity is played out through children dressed in character, narration, and song. This program draws people from all around the area. We need children ages 3 years and up to participate. Please call our church office and leave a message to sign up or for more information. (708)946-2050.



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Up Coming Events...

- October 12 is the wedding of Kelsey Hackl
- Ladies Aid will meet on October 19 at Noon. Lunch will be served
- Farmers Market will be held at Church on October 26 from 9am to 1pm
- Truck or Treat will be held on October 26 from 11am to 1pm. See Jessica Woodruff if you want to participate
- Voters meeting on October 27
- Christmas Market is November 9 in the basement from 9am to 1pm
- Ladies Aid will meet on November 16 at Noon. Lunch will be served
- The Spirit of Christmas Children's Workshop on Saturday, November 30 from 8am to 3p

Next Issue...

Will be sent out by December 1 and will include the holiday schedule, holiday events and tons more great stuff!

More Pictures from Oktoberfest... (photo credit-Jessica Woodruff)

