ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
314 FOURTH AVE NE
WASECA, MN 56093

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Jesus Loves

September 2025

Luke 17:18–19 – "[Jesus answered,] 'Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?' And he said to him, 'Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well.'" Faith and thanksgiving go together. How could they not go together? Our Lord gave Himself for us and we trust Him and His every Word. Once we have this faith, we want to say thank you — it's only natural. And thus, our stewardship is a natural part of the Christian faith. We thank the Lord with our gifts which enable the church to reach more people with the Good News of Christ.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH - (MISSOURI SYNOD)

314 - 4th Ave NE, Waseca, MN 56093
Church Office Hours (Mon-Fri): 9am-1pm

Phone: (507) 835-2647
Email: stpaulwa@hickorytech.net

Mission Statement
"Empowered by God's Word, we joyfully share the Love of Jesus with all people."

Vision Statement
"We will be a vibrant, welcoming church serving the needs of our members, community, and missions by partnering with other churches and organizations while preaching and teaching the inspired Word of God and our Savior Jesus Christ."

SUNDAY MORNINGS (SEPTEMBER THRU MAY):

- **Divine Service w/Holy Communion**:
  - 9:00 a.m. (also Facebook Live; and Radio 1170 AM/106.3 FM)
- **Adult Bible Study** at 10:30 a.m.
- **Sunday School** at 10:15am

Pastor: Rev. Michael J. Grannis
Mobile Phone: 952-686-3046
Email: revgrannis@gmail.com

@stpaulwaseca

www.stpaulwaseca.org

Mark your Calendars for these upcoming event

Will resume on **September 7th at 10:15 with RALLY SUNDAY**! There will be a breakfast in the Upstairs Parish Hall following service to kick off the first day back. We will then go downstairs to the Old Parish Hall for games and music!! We look forward to seeing everyone back at Sunday School!!

We are excited to welcome back our **HOT BEEF COMMERCIAL DRIVE THRU'S!**
Friday September 12th, 2025 from 5p-6:30pm. Please stop by, we appreciate your continued support.

Women's Bible Study will meet on Wednesdays, September 3rd and 17th from 9:30 to 10:45.

OCTOBERFEST comes to St Paul Lutheran Church on October 4th, 2025 from 12-8pm with live bands, fun and fellowship.

Confirmation begins: Wednesday September 3rd @ 3:30pm followed by a light meal and youth group. See you all soon!!

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Pastor's Note:

You may have noticed that the black attendance books at the end of the pews have a new statement regarding Holy Communion. I submit it to you this month as part of my Pastor's note, and encourage you to read it and take it to heart. As Christians we want to speak the truth in love, and do all things in love, flowing from the love which we have first been shown in Christ Jesus our Savior. I encourage you to come to me with any questions you may have about the "biblical, historic, loving practice of 'Closed Communion.'" I also encourage you all to grow in your Christian practice of preparing yourself for the right reception of Holy Communion. Some guides are given in the final section "**Preparing for Holy Communion**."

Regarding Holy Communion at St. Paul Lutheran Church

We participate in the biblical, historic, loving practice of "Closed Communion." **We do this out of love and concern for you.** We want to make sure that those who take this holy meal receive it as a blessing and not to their harm (1 Corinthians 11:26-30 *see below*). Those who come forward to take communion are making a public profession of faith that they are united with our congregation and are in full agreement with the teachings and confession of St. Paul Lutheran Church and of our church body, the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (LCMS). **Visitors who are in fellowship with the LCMS are asked to speak with our Pastor before communing with us.**

What is the Sacrament of the Altar (Lord's Supper, Holy Communion, Eucharist)?

- ✠ We believe, teach, and confess in accordance with Holy Scripture that the Sacrament of the Altar is a precious gift from God, in which Christ gives us His true body and blood (in, with, and under the bread and wine) for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith.
- ✠ The Bible teaches that the Sacrament may also be spiritually harmful when misused. *"For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died."* 1 Corinthians 11:26-30
- ✠ The Lord's Supper is a testimony of our unity in the Faith. *"And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."* Acts 2:42.
- ✠ **We ask that only those who have been instructed and are in fellowship with the LCMS come with a contrite heart to the Lord's Table to receive His gifts in faith.**

Preparing for Holy Communion:

- ✠ Prayers are located in the front cover of the hymnal. To aid in self-examination review and pray through the 10 Commandments (pg. 321), Confession (pg. 326), the Sacrament of the Altar (326) and/or Christian questions with their Answers (pg. 329-330).
- ✠ The Chalice and individual cups are offered on both sides. For anyone with alcohol concerns, diluted cups are located in the center of the tray. If you have gluten concerns please speak with the pastor or an elder prior to service.

(Pastor's Note continued...)

As indicated above, it is important for us to prepare to receive the gifts of Christ's body and blood in the Sacrament of the Altar. Besides self-examination, another wonderful way to help in your preparation to receive God's gifts (especially if you are weighed down with a guilty conscience) is to come to me (your Pastor) for private confession and absolution.

You may be wondering what that looks like. Well, it will likely begin with you letting me know that you would like to meet with me. You can reach out to me directly via my cell number (952) 686-3046. We will schedule a time for you to meet with me. We will gather in the sanctuary, and I will give you a little time for personal preparation as I prepare to receive your confession. I will then invite you to join me at the altar rail. We will read a Psalm of repentance together. We will pray together. I will lead you through private confession and I will apply the Gospel of Christ to your guilty conscience. I will likely speak some words of Pastoral council or comfort to you. We will read through a Psalm of thanksgiving together, and I will send you off in the peace of the Lord.

That's what private confession and absolution looks like with me. It really isn't too scary. I have never had anyone tell me that they wished they wouldn't have come. On the contrary, everyone has expressed thanksgiving and relief in the Gospel of forgiveness.

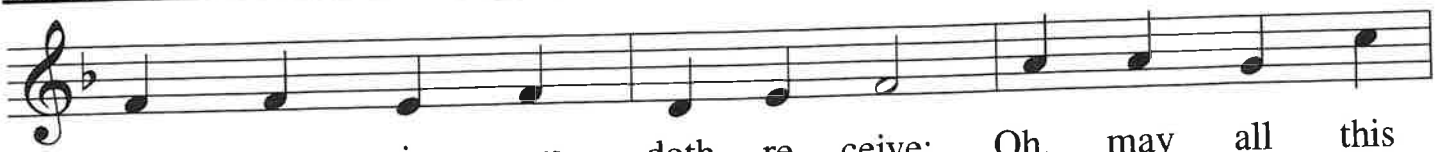
I must admit, it has been a while since I have gone to "my pastor" for private confession, though there have been many times that I have desired to go. Yes, even pastors need a pastor. I have been blessed to have a few pastors serve as my private confessor over my 15 years of ministry. They have applied the healing balm of the Gospel to my own sins. They have strengthened me to live as the baptized child of God that I am (as husband, father, Pastor, friend and neighbor). When I have been overwhelmed with grief over my sins, or stress from my own frailty, these men have cast Christ as a life preserver to me.

I pray that the Lord would work His Word and Spirit in all of our lives more and more, so that we would avail ourselves of all of the gifts He has to offer us in Christ, including the gift of private confession and absolution. Living Forever, Now,

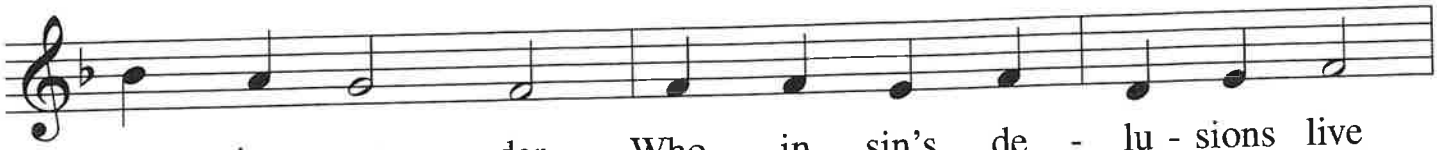
Pastor Grannis

Hymn of the Month for September: Jesus Sinners Doth Receive

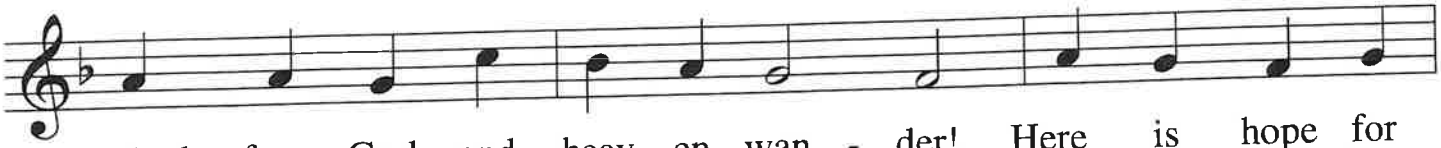
LSB 609



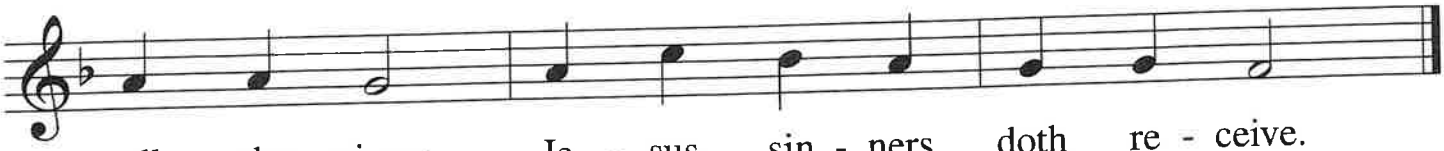
1 Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive; Oh, may all this
2 We de - serve but grief and shame, Yet His words, rich
3 Sheep that from the fold did stray No true shep - herd
4 I, a sin - ner, come to Thee With a pen - i -



say - ing pon - der Who in sin's de - lu - sions live
grace re - veal - ing, Par - don, peace, and life pro - claim;
e'er for - sak - eth; Wea - ry souls that lost their way
tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, mer - cy show to me;



And from God and heav - en wan - der! Here is hope for
Here our ills have per - fect heal - ing. Firm - ly in these
Christ, the Shep - herd, gent - ly tak - eth In His arms that
Grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these words my



all who grieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
words be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
they may live: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
soul re - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.

5 Oh, how blest it is to know:
Were as scarlet my transgression,
It shall be as white as snow
By Thy blood and bitter passion;
For these words I now believe:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

6 Now my conscience is at peace;
From the Law I stand acquitted.
Christ hath purchased my release
And my ev'ry sin remitted.
Naught remains my soul to grieve:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

7 Jesus sinners doth receive;
Also I have been forgiven;
And when I this earth must leave,
I shall find an open heaven.
Dying, still to Him I cleave:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756 Tune: Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch, 1699, Darmstadt Text and tune: Public domain

Background:

This hymn was written by pastor and prolific theological writer Erdmann Neumeister (1671-1756). Neumeister served as the Pastor of St. James's Church in Hamburg, Germany for roughly 41 years (1715-1756). Among other notable works, Neumeister penned as many as 722 original hymns, many of which he wrote to correspond with the assigned Sunday readings. He would often close out his sermons with one of his original hymns, which had been written for the particular Sunday. Such was the case on the Third Sunday after Trinity in the year 1718 when he debuted *Jesus Sinners Doth Receive* (*Jesus nimmt die Sunder an*). The Gospel lesson for that Sunday was Luke 15:1-10, which contains the parable of the lost sheep and is reflected at various points throughout the hymn.

Text Study

We find this hymn in the "Confession and Absolution" section of our hymnal. The words of this hymn apply the Gospel promise of the forgiveness of sins in Jesus' name to the guilty and terrified conscience of the repentant soul. Besides referencing Luke 15, this hymn draws on several passages of Scripture to bring the true peace and assurance of salvation that only faith in Christ provides.

The opening line (and refrain) of this hymn is pure Gospel: *Jesus Sinners Doth Receive*. Ironically, this Gospel promise is drawn from the grumbling accusation of the Scribes and Pharisees in Luke 15:2 who complained, "*This man receives sinners, and eats with them!*" In verse one, we are all invited to "ponder" this saying in the light of the "delusion" of our own sin and wandering from Christ. Our sinful wandering is indeed delusional, for it presumes that there is something good and worth pursuing apart from Christ and His heavenly kingdom reign in our daily lives. Faced with the grievousness of our sins, we are given the true hope of the Gospel: *Jesus sinners doth receive.*

We are surrounded by messages in ads and promotions that proclaim "You're worth it!...(or)...You deserve it!" Contrary to those prideful ego boosts, God's Word reveals the truth, which flies in the face of those messages and leads us to confess what we rightly ought to confess: namely, that according to our sins "We deserve but grief and shame." This is what the Law of God reveals to us: we are sinners who are hopelessly lost in our sin if left to our own devices. As the remedy for our grief and shame, God's speaks to us another Word – a rich and gracious truth: *Jesus sinners doth receive!* This is the Word of "pardon, peace and life" which gives "perfect healing." Therefore, we are encouraged to believe firmly in these words.

Verse three really leans into the lost sheep parable of Luke 15. Again, we are assured that whether we are like the sheep that wandered from the fold or somehow

simply lost our way, we have Christ as our Shepherd. He does not forsake (abandon) us, nor will He abuse us for our wandering. Rather, He gently takes us up in His arms so that we may live with Him, the One who receives sinners.

Emboldened by this Gospel promise, we move into a first person singular confession: "I, a sinner, come to Thee with a penitent confession." We come to God trusting not on account of our own worthiness. Rather, we plead for God to show us mercy on account of Christ Jesus our Savior. But our prayers don't stop there; we ask for God to grant the remission of all our sins. This is a prayer for God to not simply give forgiveness to us on Christ's account (justification), but that sin would have less and less of a hold on us. Like cancer when it is in remission, the prayer for the remission of sins asks that there would be less and less evidence of the disease of sin in our daily lives (sanctification). But no sooner do we ask for God to grant us to be more holy, than we turn back to the relief which can be found only in the Gospel that, "Jesus sinners doth receive."

Verses five and six speak of the blessing and the peace that our troubled consciences know in light of the Gospel. No matter how great our transgressions (no matter how unworthy we are to be in the presence of God and His eternal kingdom), Christ's worthiness is infinitely greater! He has purchased the price of our release from death and hell. The stains of our sins are fully blotted out when the cleansing power of His blood is applied to us. We can trust in "these words," no longer grieving over our otherwise hopeless fate, because "Jesus sinners doth receive."

So in the final verse we summarize the outcome of this Good News. Again it is powerfully proclaimed in the first person singular, "I have been forgiven; And when I [must leave this earth] I shall find an open heaven." So, clinging to Christ (His worthiness, His atoning blood, His Shepherding care) I trust in the promise that "Jesus sinners doth receive."

Bible Reading Schedule

When Christ commissioned the Apostles to evangelize the world, He said that they should make disciples in all nations by means of baptizing and by teaching them everything He had commanded them to teach (Matthew 28:18-20). As the education programs of the church and state gear up again, note how God's Word speaks about teaching in our Bible Reading Schedule this month (Ezekiel 44:23; Daniel 1:4; Luke 11:1; 12:12). God's Word teaches a Christian life-style different from the sinful life-style of the world (Daniel 3 & 6). A Christian life-style is one of hearing God's Word, confessing one's sins to God, and believing that for the sake of Christ we will be forgiven (Daniel 9:1-19; Psalm 111). It is a life lived knowing that by God's grace in Christ one will rise from death to eternal life in heaven. (Ezekiel 37; Revelation 21-22)

SEPTEMBER:

1. Ezekiel 15,16; Psalm 70: Revelation 6
2. Ezekiel 17,18,19; Rev. 7
3. Ezekiel 20,21; Psalm 111; Revelation 8
4. Ezekiel 22,23,24; Rev. 9
5. Ezekiel 25,26,27,28; Rev. 10
6. Ezekiel 29,30,31,32; Rev. 11
7. II Kings 25; II Chron. 36; Jeremiah 40,41; Revelation 12
8. Jeremiah 42,43,44; Psalm 48; Revelation 13
9. Lamentations 1,2; Obadiah; Revelation 14
10. Lamentations 3,4,5; Rev. 15
11. Daniel 1,2; Psalm 87; Rev. 16
12. Daniel 3,4; Psalm 81; Rev. 17
13. Ezekiel 33,34,35; Rev. 18
14. Ezekiel 36,37; Psalm 110; Revelation 19
15. Ezekiel 38,39; Psalm 145; Revelation 20
16. Ezekiel 40,41; Psalm 128; Revelation 21
17. Ezekiel 42,43,44; Rev. 22
18. Ezekiel 45,46; Luke 1
19. Ezekiel 47,48; Luke 2
20. Daniel 5,6; Psalm 130; Luke 3
21. Daniel 7,8; Psalm 137; Luke 4
22. Daniel 9,10; Psalm 123; Luke 5
23. Daniel 11,12; Luke 6
24. Ezra 1; Psalm 84,85; Luke 7
25. Ezra 2,3; Luke 8
26. Ezra 4; Psalm 113,127; Luke 9
27. Haggai 1,2; Psalm 129; Luke 10
28. Zechariah 1,2,3; Luke 11
29. Zechariah 4,5,6; Luke 12
30. Zechariah 7,8,9; Luke 13

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

Please arrange a replacemnt if you can not acolyte at the service assigned to you. Please notify the church office at 507-835-2647 when you have changed with another acolyte. Please arrive to the church 20 minutes before the service begins, as the candles are to be lit 10 minutes before the service.

DATE:	ACOLYTE	ACOLYTE	GREETER
Sept. 7	Owen Arndt	Griffin Arndt	Eliana Grannis
Sept. 14	Kameron Kunkel	Roc Dalgamoni	Arianna Vasser
Sept 21	Hayden Allen		Charolette Ross
Sept 28	Tyler Ryan	Griffin Arndt	Eliana Grannis

#29ERS

Will meet September 24th at 11:30 am at El Molino's. Everyone is welcome to come.

Birthdays This Month

(Please note: If your name is not listed; we do not have your birthdate in our church records. Please contact the church office and we will update our records. Thank you!)

Name	Birthday			
Abel Hanks	September 1st		Randy Baumgard	September 20th
Terry Roemhildt	September 1st		Amanda Duval	September 20th
Alex Ross	September 1st		Kina Grannis	September 20th
Katherine Claybaugh	September 2nd		Tovin Grannis	September 21st
Michelle Hammer	September 2nd		Nicole Thompson	September 21st
Linda Peterson	September 3rd		Owen Arndt	September 23rd
Maddyx Fogal	September 4th		Leena Flogstad	September 24th
Mary Wyffels	September 5th		Trent Flom	September 26th
Lois Roemhildt	September 6th		Elizabeth Manthe	September 26th
Brenten Hanks	September 7th		Audric Neseth	September 27th
Thomas Roemhildt	September 8th		Carol Preuss	September 27th
Eliana Grannis	September 10th		Pamela Gentle	September 28th
Annette Rosenthal	September 11th		Gary Hein	September 28th
Joseph Schumacher	September 11th		Sara Roemhildt	September 28th
Roger Rucker	September 13th		Mitchell Vangen	September 28th
Cayde Duval	September 15th		Edward Klinger	September 29th
Avery Gaul	September 15th		Amalia Paulson	September 29th
Daniel Nelson	September 16th		Mark Weiske	September 29th
Christine Worke	September 16th		Steven Flogstad	September 230th
Jessica Guggisberg	September 17th			
Gail Kennedy	September 17th			
Sarah Arnold	September 19th			
Jane Lau	September 19th			

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS:

Sunday School Resumes on Sunday September 7th, 2025

Bring your child(ren) to hear and know the greatest true love story! We begin at 10:15am, immediately following Fellowship time in the Parish Hall.
Ages 3 through 8th grade begin with classes and Bible stories, crafts and activities, and will close with music in the old parish hall. Small group and special events are planned! Students are released to their parents at 11:15am, you can pick them up in the Old Parish Hall.
Contact Aimee Hill or the Board of Education to get involved in this rewarding ministry. Church office phone 507-835-2647 or email stpaulwaseca@gmail.com.

Pack a Box!
Operation Christmas Child Shoebox

School supplies make great additions to the shoeboxes. (Please remember: No liquids, pastes, glue, putty, gels, dough or slime of any kind. No candy or gum. Also, no toy guns or military items. Newly excluded is bar soap – we will not be including bar soap of any kind.) Small toys and games, trinkets, jewelry, cups/water bottles and craft/school supplies are perfect items for ages 2-14, for both boys and girls Items may be brought to church anytime; we will store them for packing shoeboxes in November. All items must fit into a medium-sized shoebox. Monetary donations to the Sunday School account are needed to cover the $10 shipping fee per box; it takes $2000 to ship 200 boxes. Thank you for donations.

Pray for the workers delivering the boxes and for the children receiving the shoeboxes around the world. We pray the Holy Spirit uses these gifts in amazing ways to share salvation found only in Jesus.

Questions about Operation Christmas Child? Please contact Jen LaCroix or Aimee Hill. We appreciate your partnership in this outreach ministry!

Suggested needs for Boys and Girls ages 2-14:
Monetary donations for $10 shipping per box
Toothbrushes (no toothpaste) – need 70 more
~~Washcloths~~ – THANK YOU Cotta Guild!
~~Paper of all sizes, lined or unlined, spiral bound or not bound~~ – THANK YOU!
Coloring books – need 30 more
Pens in black, red, blue – need 400 more
~~Pencils~~ – THANK YOU! There are plenty pencils. We truly do not need any more.
Colored pencils and Markers – need 25 more sets of each
Crayons – need 25 more
Erasers, Dry watercolor paint sets, Small student scissors – need lots
~~Small pencil sharpeners~~ – THANK YOU! There are plenty
Combs, Brushes, Hair accessories, Necklaces, Rings – need lots
Small cars/trucks – need lots
Cups or Water bottles – need 90 – sometimes cups are .25 each at Walmart
Jump ropes, Marbles, Jacks, Outdoor activities, Balls of all sizes – need lots
Playing cards, Small games – need lots
Solar calculators, Sunglasses, Band-Aids – need lots
Socks, Purses/Bags, Small backpacks, Flip flops/Sandals – need lots
Plain T-Shirts sizes of youth medium and large, adult small/medium – need 70
~~Wow! Toys for BOYS larger cars/trucks~~ – THANK YOU!
~~Wow! Toys for Girls~~ – THANK YOU!
Wow! Toys for Teens – need lots - anything your young teen children/grandchildren like, they would like too!

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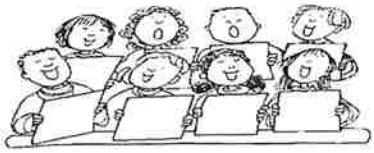

Anyone 9th grade to 100 who loves to sing and is interested in being part of the St Paul Lutheran Church Senior Choir in 2024-2025, please meet in the Fellowship Hall by the piano on **Wednesday September 10th, 2025 at 7pm**. If you have any questions, please contact Kelli Lenz.

The Board of Stewardship is hoping to increase St Paul Lutheran Church's donation to the Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center. The Food Shelf served 589 households in July alone (which was 1,212 individuals that lived in those households). The total pounds of food that went home with these households was 18,289 pounds. You can see that the need is great - and each month so far in 2024 the numbers have increased. Any donations are greatly appreciated as it's hard to keep up with the need!

If you have too much produce in your garden, the Neighborhood Service Center is always looking for fresh vegetables (or fruits) as that is very hard to keep stocked! No need to call - just drop off at the Food Shelf Monday - Friday 9-12 and 1-4 (closed from 12-1 for restocking).

Below is a list of items that can be place in the church donation boxes and the Board of Stewardship will deliver to the Food Shelf. Please prayerfully consider donating a few items for this community service.

Ramen noodles	Spaghetti sauce	Canned fruit (any kind)
Crackers	Granola bars	Canned vegetables (any kind)
Salad dressings	Mayonnaise	Hamburger/tuna helper
Roni pasta	Flour and sugar	Cake mix & frosting
Tuna	Pasta noodles	Cereal
Peanut butter	Jelly	Instant mashed potatoes
Ketchup	Mustard	Tomato sauce
Applesauce	Mac and cheese	Spam

Please remember to mark on your offering envelope if you wish to give to any area of the church besides the general fund. Some options are: Church Improvements, Caring fund, Scholarships, Mission Trips, Memorial Fund, Pastors Discretionary Fund or the Organ Repair Fund.

COTTA GUILD NEWS:

Lutheran Women in Mission

August Cotta Guild Meeting:

Meeting called to order by Judy. Barb Denn did devotions. Judy read minutes from July and Linda gave the Treasurer report. Thank you for those who helped at Sunday Fellowship and the funeral.

Purchased washcloths and soap for the shoe boxes. Must return soap as it can no longer be shipped because it is considered hazardous.

Cookies will be served on 9/14 coffee hour. Rhonda, Cindy and Judie will bring cookies, Linda S will do Gluten Free. Haren and Barb will help serve.

Birthdays—Lois Spies.

Barb and Rhonda will water flower bed the week of 8/25 and 8/31.

Lord's Prayer was given. Meeting was adjourned

Next meeting is 9/11 at 1pm. Barb's circle will be serving. We will sing at colony Court on Sept 10th at 6pm. Choir is invited to come with us.

LWML will be putting out a mite box on the 2nd Sunday of each month to collect mites for missions' projects. Thank you for your support on this project.

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Are you in need of transportation to appointments or to the store??

Are you able to drive someone to an appointment or to the store?? If you fit into either of these categories, please call the church office so, we can help you coordinate a driver.

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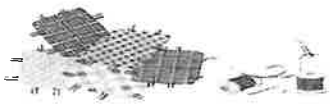
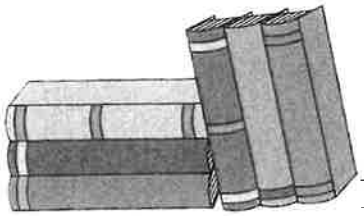
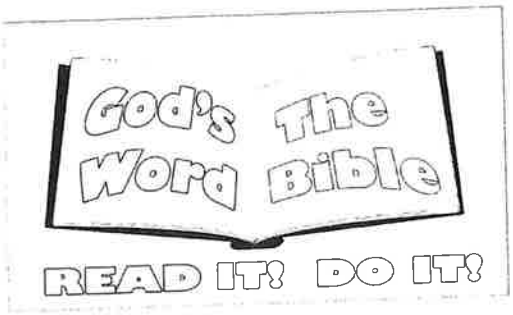


The Quilters will begin meeting again on **Tuesday** **September 2nd, 2025 at 1pm.** If you have the time and talent to share, or wish to learn how to quilt with a group of wonderful, fun loving individuals please contact Donna Hildebrandt. Everyone is welcome!!



Remember to stop and check out library. Find a book to take home, or pull up a chair and relax with a cup of coffee !!!



Our Prayer Team: continues to meet on Monday mornings from 10a-11 am to pray for what God is doing here at St. Paul Lutheran, for those with health concerns, and for all matters on our hearts. **You're welcome to join us!**

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Will meet on September 3rd and 17th at 9:30 am! Everyone is welcome to join us.

BIBLE BREAKFAST: Meets every Thursday at 6:00 am at Jonnie Beans

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: Meets every Sunday morning at 10:30 am in the Parish Hall

YOUTH GROUP: Begins Wednesday September 3rd following Confirmation at 5pm

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Every Sunday morning starting September 7th at 10:15 am

FAMOUS WORDS FROM OUR CHURCH PRESIDENT:

"

The children had all been photographed, and the teacher was trying to persuade them each to buy a copy of the group picture. "Just think how nice it will be to look at it when you are all grown up and say, 'There's Jennifer; she's a lawyer', or 'that's Michael, he's a doctor.'" A small voice at the back of the room rang out, "and there's the teacher; she's dead."

Women's LWML Conference Rally

Saturday, September 27, 2025

Registration at 9:00 a.m. ($15)

followed by brunch

Zion Lutheran Church, 924 Bridge Ave., Albert Lea (I-90 exit 157, across and south from fair grounds)

Special Speaker is Rev. Dr. Joshua Hollmann speaking on:

"Small Church Strategies for Church Outreach"

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches" (Matthew 13:31-32).

Like the mustard seed in Jesus' parable, small churches have big effects for God's kingdom. This presentation will provide positive ways small churches can purposely pursue Christian outreach.

Gifts from the Heart.....

Financial help for St. John Lutheran School, Wykoff, MN K - 8th grade. Checks payable to LWML Austin Zone.

FYI: ***Men, you're welcome to come to this.***

ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSION TRIP

HOT BEEF COMMERCIAL DATES

2025-2026

August 15th, 2025
September 12th, 2025
October 4th, 2025 --- OCTOBERFEST
October 17th, 2025
November 14th, 2025
December 12th, 2025

January 16th, 2026
February 20th, 2026
March 20th, 2026
April 17th, 2026
May 15th, 2026
June 19th, 2026
July 24th, 2026
August 14th, 2026
September 18th, 2026
October 16th, 2026
November 13th, 2026
December 11th, 2026

WHAT: Rally Sunday and Third Grade Bibles

WHEN: September 7th, 2025

WHERE: *Third Grade Bibles will be handed out during Sunday Service

*Rally Sunday Kick off Breakfast will be in the upstairs parish hall following service

Free will offerings will go to the Youth Mission Trip Team

Hot Beef Commercials & Pie

Youth Mission Trip Fundraiser

St. Paul Lutheran Church

When: **Friday, September 12th, 2025**
5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

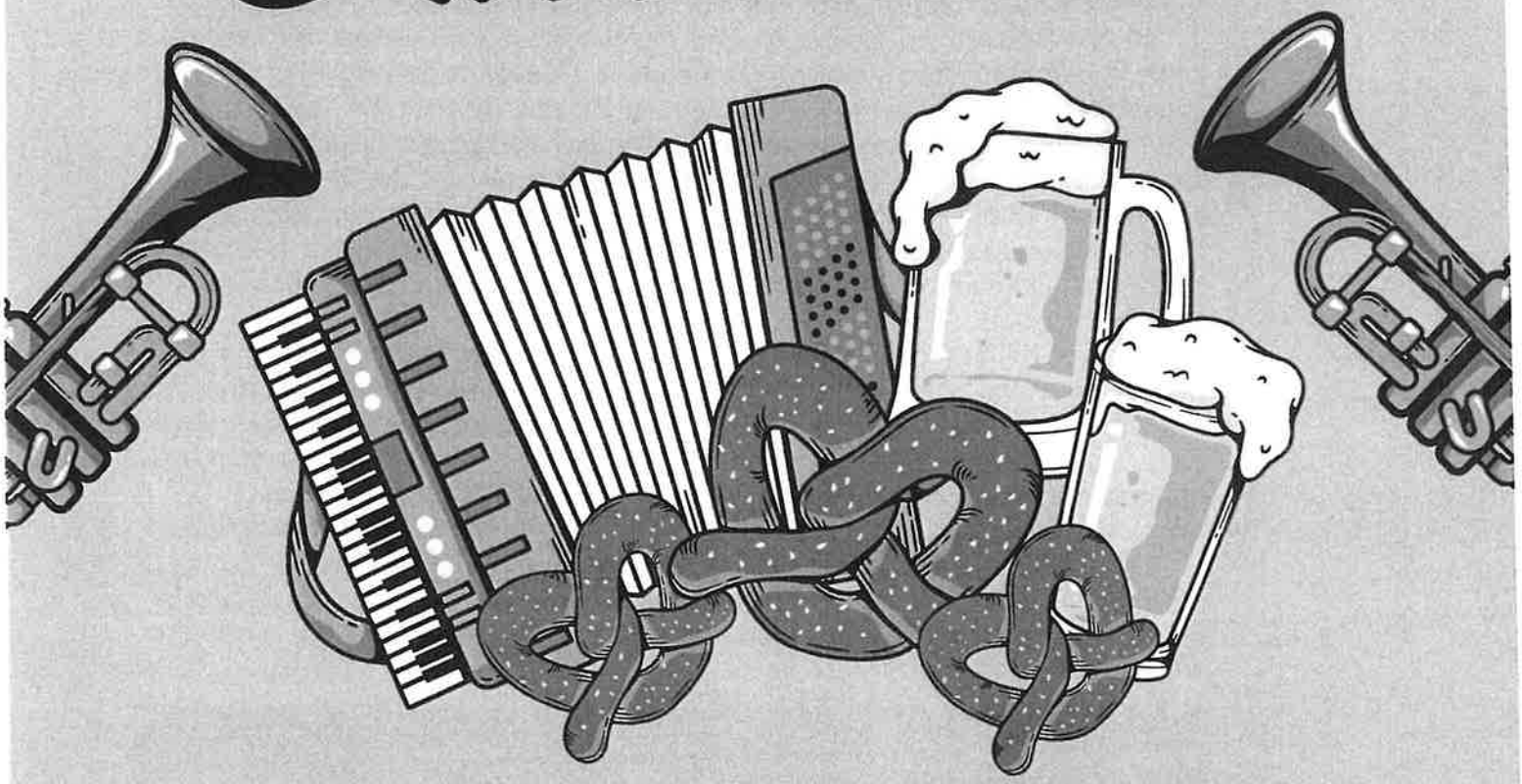
Where: **St. Paul Lutheran Church**
314 – 4th Ave NE
Waseca, Minnesota

Menu: **Hot Beef Commercials**
Homemade Pies

Cost: **$10.00 per hot beef commercial**
$2.00 per slice of pie

ST. PAUL LUTHERN CHURCH

Oktoberfest



OCTOBER 4TH | 313 3RD AVE NE
WASECA, MN | 12PM- 8PM

12PM BEAN BAG TOURNAMENT ($40 PER TEAM)
3PM HAMMERSCHLAGEN / STEINHOLDING COMPETITION ($5 PER PERSON)
1PM-4PM LIVE MUSIC FROM LOS TEQUILEROS
4PM-7:30PM LIVE MUSIC FROM MARV AND KAAT
12PM-8PM FOOD, REFRESHMENTS, & BOUNCY HOUSE

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE MISSION TRIP AND HIGHER THINGS

Creation Museum/Ark Encounter Trip

December 31, 2025—January 3, 2026

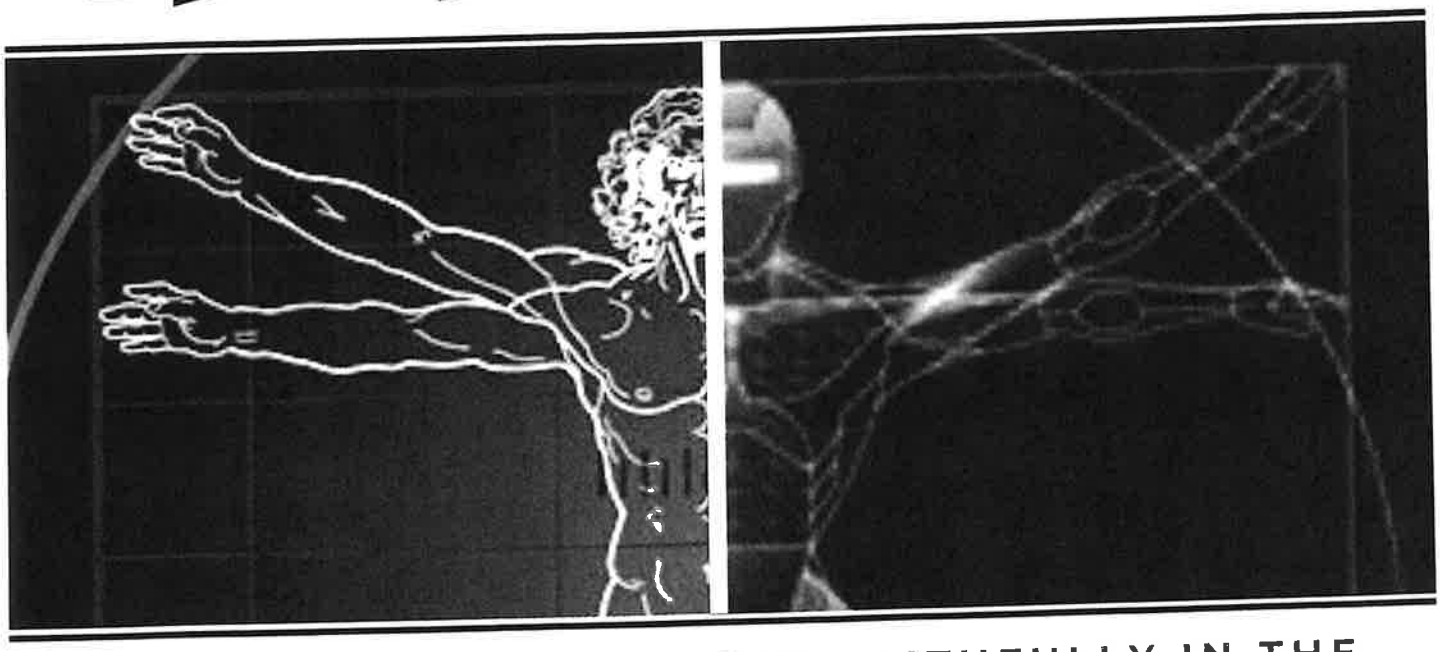
Pastor Jason Wolter of Trinity Lutheran Church in Janesville has organized a trip to the Creation Museum in Petersburg, Kentucky and to the Ark Encounter in nearby Williamstown, Kentucky. A 55 passenger coach bus (with reclining seats, a bathroom, and storage underneath) will leave the parking lot of Trinity, Janesville at 8am on Wednesday, December 31, and arrive at the hotel around 10pm that night. The bus will make various stops along the way for food, restrooms, and to stretch your legs. The tour group will visit the Creation Museum and the Ark Encounter on Thursday, January 1 and Friday, January 2. Each night will include a fabulous light show. The bus will leave from the hotel to return home at 8am on Saturday, January 3, arriving at the Trinity, Janesville parking lot around 10pm.

The cost of the trip will be less than $600 per person, assuming double occupancy in the hotel rooms and depending on the final number of people who sign up. The deadline to sign up is the end of August, with half of the cost due in early September. That cost includes travel to and from Kentucky in a coach bus, hotel rooms, and entrance to both parks. A hot breakfast is provided each morning at the hotel. Costs not included are lunches, dinners, and souvenirs.

If you are interested, please talk to Pastor Wolter (402-335-7518, pastorwolter@trinityjanesville.com) as soon as possible. All payments should be made to Trinity Lutheran Church, with "Ark" in the memo. This trip is open to anyone and everyone.

2025 Youth Apologetics Day

CHRIST, MAN,
-- AND --
MACHINE

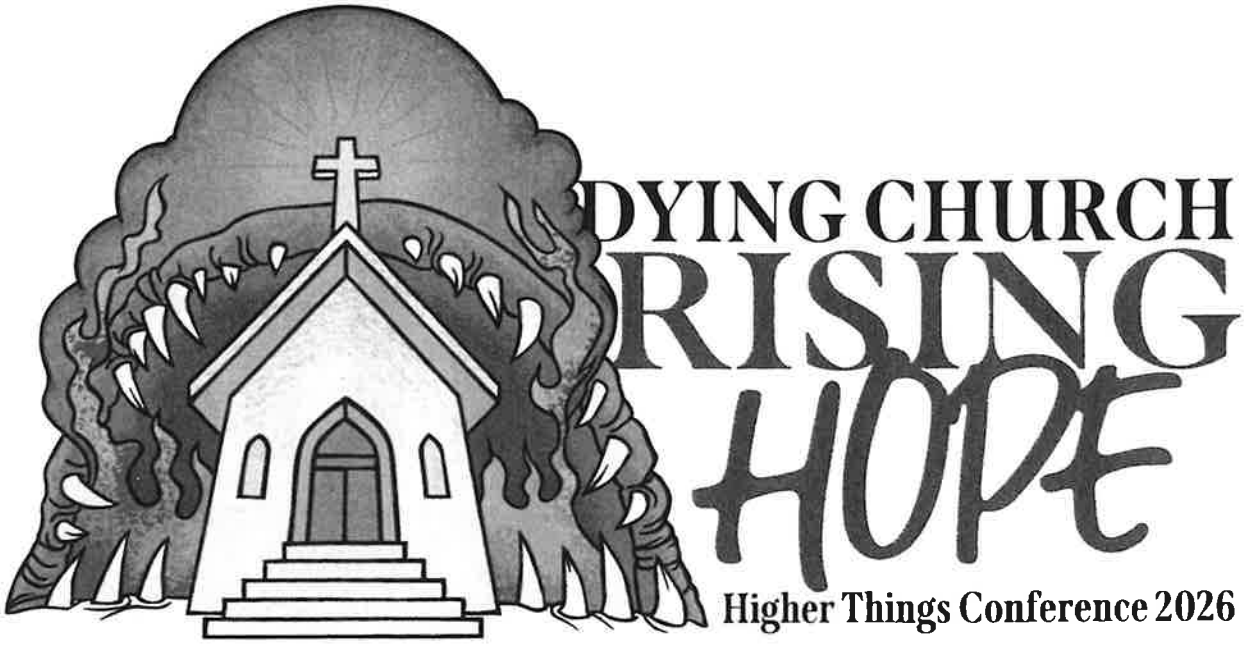


APOLOGETICS FOR LIVING FAITHFULLY IN THE AGE OF AI, TRANSHUMANISM, & DIGITAL DEVICES

9 AM – 2 PM SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th at
BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN IN MORRISTOWN, MN

LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED – PLEASE REGISTER at
PASTORWESLIEODOM@GMAIL.COM or (507) 685-4338
REGISTRATION IS FREE, BUT DONATIONS WILL BE HAPPILY ACCEPTED!

Joshua Pauling has been writing, speaking, and living intentionally in relation to these topics for many years. He is co-author of *Are We All Cyborgs Now? Reclaiming Our Humanity from the Machine*, and author of *Education's End*. He is vicar at All Saints Lutheran Church (LCMS) in Charlotte, NC. He has been a frequent guest on *Issues, Etc.* and has made appearances on many other podcasts including being interviewed by Bryan Wolfmueller and Carl Trueman. He is a classical educator, furnituremaker, and worked in public education as a high school history teacher and coach for thirteen years. He has written for *Classical Lutheran Education Journal*, *LOGIA*, *Lutheran Witness*, *Modern Reformation*, *Public Discourse*, *Salvo*, and *Touchstone*.



Washington University

St. Louis, MO

June 23-26, 2026

Washington University

St. Louis, MO

June 30-July 3, 2026

Colorado State University

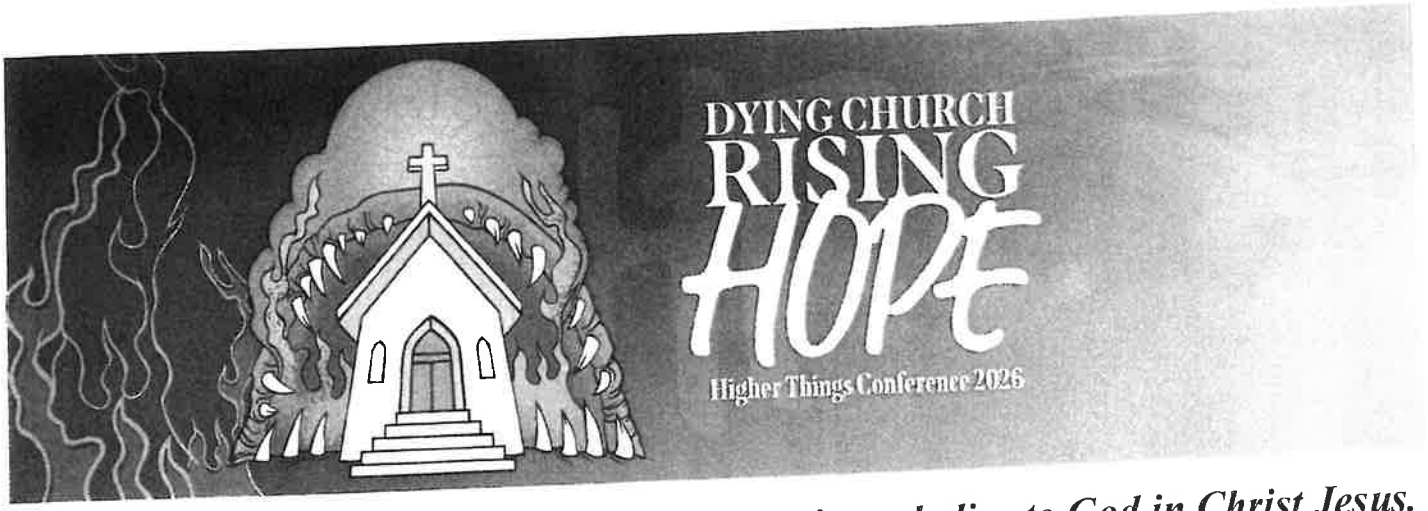
Fort Collins, CO

July 14-17, 2026

Dying Church Rising Hope

2026 HIGHER THINGS CONFERENCES

SO YOU ALSO MUST CONSIDER YOURSELVES DEAD TO SIN AND ALIVE TO GOD IN CHRIST JESUS.
(ROMANS 6:11)



So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. Romans 6:11

"The Church is dying." It's a constant refrain sung by both a culture departed from virtue and those who whisper "remember when" to each other amidst crumbling spires, dwindling numbers, and struggling institutions. It's hard not to feel alone…frustrated at the hypocrisy…scared of the future. It's a trick of the devil.

Satan paints a picture of an ideal church (full to capacity) that is free from the sinners who actually need what's offered there. Or he smears it as a place filled with hypocrites doing terrible things while pointing fingers elsewhere to hide their dark deeds. All the while he is leading a culture that counts us as wise when we follow along. In short, he wants a church that sees no need for Christ or His cross.

You'll catch sight of it when you realize that every whispered "remember when" is about attendance, culture, and the trappings of power and safety instead of the day the faithful were scattered, the crowds yelled "crucify", and the sun was darkened as the Christ cried out *it is finished*. Remember when Jesus saved you?

Christ builds His Church at the gates of hell, and hell will not prevail against it. We focus more on the gates than the God of Jacob, who is our Mighty Fortress. Repent. Rejoice. Rest. Be still. Know who your God is. Know that the Church is marked by being near to Jesus, not far from your fears.

Then realize that some of this stuff is supposed to die. Pride should die. Idolatry should die. Lust for power should die. Every trapping of a theology of glory should die. And so should you, united with Christ in your baptism. *"For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his."* Good. So also you must consider yourself dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. Look around. The Word is preached faithfully. The Sacraments are rightly administered. This is how it's supposed to be. Dying to sin…Rising each day to new life in Christ.

Dying Church…Rising Hope.

June 23rd-26th, 2026 ~ Washington University, St. Louis, MO

Registration Information Coming October 1st

September 2025

St. Paul Lutheran Church – Waseca

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1. **NO Prayer Team today** **OFFICE CLOSED** **LABOR DAY**	**2.** **QUILTERS 1:00pm** **6:00 pm Elders** **4:00pm Stewardship**	3. **9:30am** Women's Bible study 7pm Evang. & Trustee **3:30p – 5p Confirmation** **5p-7pm Youth Group**	4. 6:00 am Bible study @ Johnnie Bean	**5.**	**6.**
7. 9:00 am Divine Service 10:15 am Bible Study **10:15 am RALLY SUNDAY meal**	**8.** 10 am **Prayer Team** **12:30 Board of Ed**	**9.** **QUILTERS 1:00pm**	**10.** 3:30p – 5p Confirmation 5p-7pm Youth Group **7pm Senior Choir**	**11.** 6:00 am Bible study @ Johnnie Bean 1:00 pm Cotta Guild 6:30-8pm: SS teachers Bible Study	**12.** **5P-6:30P Hot Beef Commercial drive thru**	**13.**
14. 9:00 am Divine Service 10:15 am Bible Study 10:15 am Sunday School	**15.** 10:00 am Prayer Team 6:00 pm NSC Board **News Letter Articles Due**	**16.** **QUILTERS 1:00pm** **2pm – Colony Court** **3pm – Foxdale**	**17.** **9:30am Women's Bible Study** 3:30p – 5p Confirmation 5p-7pm Youth Group 7pm Senior Choir	**18.** 6:00 am Bible study @ Johnnie Bean **3:30pm – Colony Court member service**	**19..**	**20.** **Waseca Classic Parade 12 pm**
21. 9:00 am Divine Service 10:15 am Bible Study 10:15 am Sunday School	**22.** 10:00 am Prayer Team	**23.** **QUILTERS 1:00pm**	**24.** 11:30 29er's @ El Molino **3:30p – 5p Confirmation** **5p-7pm Youth Group** 7pm Senior Choir	**25.** 6:00 am Bible Study @ Johnnie Bean	**26.**	**27.**
28. 9am Divine Service 10:15am Bible Study 10:15 am Sunday School	**29.** 10:00 am Prayer Team	**30.** **QUILTERS 1:00pm**				

www.stpaulwaseca.org