

CONTINUING GOD'S MISSION
50 YEARS OF SERVICE
1956 - 2006

November 2006



St. Paul's Lutheran

MESSENGER



Phone: 952-938-4683

Email: stpauls@saintpaulslutheran.org

Fax: 952-938-1141

Website: www.saintpaulslutheran.org

Bob Bjornlund, *Pastor* Linda Dundas, *Secretary*

Cindi Paulsen, *Music Director*



THANKS LIVING

Try *Thanks Living* in the month of November and watch the frowns melt away. In just 30 days you will see the difference.

***Sunday, November 5 – All Saints Sunday**

We gather to give thanks for God's work in humanity to create a servant people

***In the weeks of November 6 and 13**

"We offer with joy and thanksgiving what God has first given us – ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of God's gracious love" in support of Christ's work through St. Paul's

***Wednesday, November 22 – Interfaith Worship**

We gather thankfully with our faith neighbors

***Thursday, November 23 – USA Thanksgiving Day**

We gather with family, friends and how about including a new person or two, to give thanks for another abundant harvest and loving relationships. How wonderfully and generously God sustains us.

***Sunday, November 26 – Christ The King**

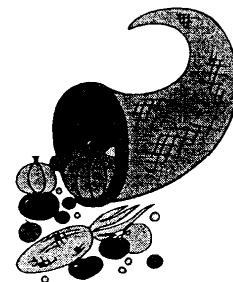
We give thanks for another church year blessed by God's love, forgiveness and hope in Christ.

Thanks Living, give it an intentional 30 day trial this month. It will be a life changer. Thanks for your continuing partnership in Christ.

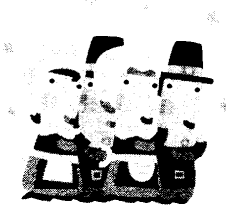
Blessings,

Pastor B

YOU ARE INVITED
Interfaith Worship
Eve of Thanksgiving
November 22, 2006 – 7:30 PM



Bet Shalom Congregation, Hopkins United Methodist,
Mizpah United Church of Christ, and St. Paul's Lutheran **at Bet Shalom**
Combined Choirs
Speaker – Rev. Steve Thom of Mizpah
Offering – for community needs



Council News

St. Paul's Council meets on the second Tuesday of each month. Meetings usually last two hours or less. Congregation members are

welcome to attend and/or submit items for the agenda by contacting one of the Council members.

Summary of October 10 meeting:

- 1) The Council approved the transition planning process proposed by the Transition Planning Team. This process got off to an excellent start on October 11 with a presentation and discussion led by Minnetonka Mayor Janis Callison. Listening and Learning soup suppers will continue each Wednesday evening from 6-7:30 pm through November 1. After completion of the soup suppers, a series of cottage meetings will be held the weeks of November 6 and November 13 so members can discuss what they've learned and what they believe it means for the future of St. Paul's. All members are encouraged to participate in the soup suppers and cottage meetings.
- 2) The Council approved funding for installation of DSL cabling to address several phone and electronic communication problems that have impeded communications.
- 3) Pastor led the Council in a review and discussion of policy and practice at St. Paul's with regard to scheduling and conducting weddings.

Directory Updates

SAAL, Greg & Lisa
8757 Deer Path
Eden Prairie MN 55344-7402

SIFTAR, Chris & Tessa
7542 North State Hwy 16
Fredericksburg TX 78624-7038



Stewardship Update

October 15, 2006

After a pretty strong summer of giving, we stumbled a bit in September. For most of the year our receipts have been

about even with our expenses, but in September we were almost \$5,000 short. The actual numbers for the month were:

Receipts \$4,975 under expenses for month.
Receipts \$4,809 under expenses year to date.
Receipts \$4,987 under budget year to date.

Our expenses for the year continue to be close to what was planned, we are just \$492 over budget year to date. We now show an \$8,257 deficit in our current fund (operating fund). From a historic perspective, in 2005 we received \$3,052 more than we spent in the last three months. We are hoping for another strong finish to the year.

Thanks for your strong response for new worship books. We received \$1,294 in September and an additional \$1,057 so far in October, a total of \$2,351. This will just about cover the cost of the books.

Cottage meetings are in the process of being scheduled for the first couple weeks of November. Discussion will focus on St. Paul's future and transition plans. Our Stewardship program and ministry needs will also be shared at that time. Look for more information via mail and the phone in the next several weeks.

If you have any questions on this report, please give me a call at 952 474-8372. If you have any questions on your current or capital giving, please contact our Financial Secretary, Ray Olson at 952 938-8612.

Thanks.

Eric Campbell
Treasurer

St. Paul's congregation is pleased to send you this newsletter. However, if you prefer not to receive it, please call the church office at 952-938-4683.

REMINDER: December newsletter items are due in the office Wednesday, November 15.

~ Put Your Money, Values Where Mouth Is ~

Issue Number Eighty, September Eleventh, Two Thousand and Six

Nathan Dugan

Every Thursday, for the past 16 weeks, I have walked four blocks to a store in our neighborhood to pick up another box of delectable surprises.

The surprises? Some of the freshest, tastiest and most ethically grown produce in the upper Midwest. It's fresh because it's grown two hours from our home. It's tasty because it's picked less than 24 hours before it's on our kitchen table, and it's ethical because it's organic.

So, why is a financial guy talking about the produce I buy? Because the decision to participate in this unique program is deeply rooted in our values (Susan's and mine) and the choices we make with our money.

The program we have been participating in is a CSA or Community Supported Agriculture. In short, we purchased a share of produce for the summer from Featherstone Farm in Rushford, Minn. (www.featherstonefarm.com). For the very reasonable price of \$350, we receive 26 weeks of produce -- everything from heirloom tomatoes, bok choy, Yukon gold potatoes, raspberries to a variety of melons.

In addition to the weekly box of fresh produce, we also receive a newsletter with recipe ideas and information on lesser-known vegetables, and updates on crops, farm projects, and activities.

Not only has the produce found it's way in to several dishes this summer, but it has also given us the opportunity to share the story of our CSA participation with friends and family who are curious about the program.

The decision to sign on was easy. It fits perfectly with the other choices we make with our money. That is -- buy from people whose values align with ours.

Too often in America, we buy food (in this case produce) without thinking about where it comes from, what methods were used to grow it or if someone was paid a fair wage for producing it.

A few weeks ago we got a chance to meet Jack and Rhys, the two gentlemen who run Featherstone Farm. They were in our neighborhood hosting a potluck for local CSA participants.

I asked them why they do what they do. After all, not only it is physically demanding work, but they are 100 percent weather dependent. Jack, a Yale graduate, said "Because this is what I am most passionate about -- connecting people like you to healthier more ethical food options."

The next time you are buying produce, use this easy checklist to make sure your values are part of the buying decision.

1. I am familiar with the growing methods (yes or no).
2. I know that the person picking them was paid a fair wage (yes or no).
3. I know how far the produce traveled (think impact on the environment) to reach my home (yes or no).

American's spend nearly \$480 billion at the supermarket each year.

Source: *Food Marketing Institute*



Are you ready for Christmas?

Order your Holiday decorations through St. Paul's and help us raise money for ELCA Missions.

What's available?

- Sprays
- Swags
- Wreaths
- Garland
- Crosses
- Candy Canes
- Mantel Centerpieces

Cut off for ordering is **November 10th**. Delivery will be December 1st. Look for more information on the church entrance table soon or contact Ryan Foss at 952-401-8044.



ICA Foodshelf *Intercongregation Communities Association*

Many of you are aware of the problem of homelessness and inadequate low-income housing. On **Saturday, November 11th**, the start of **ICA Housing Awareness Week**, John Kokesh, longtime ICA volunteer, will start his sleep-out in a tent in effort to raise awareness and funds. Help get John out of the tent by sending your check to ICA, 3909 Williston Road, Minnetonka 55345 or use your credit card by visiting our website www.icafoodshelf.org.

Be sure to join us **Monday, November 13th**, at the **Old Log Theatre** in Excelsior for ICA's Housing Awareness Week Kickoff and Benefit Concert featuring **The Whitesidewalls Rock 'n Roll Revue**. Chili supper 5:30 – 7:30 PM, Concert 8:00 – 10:00 PM. \$25 tax deductible donation. Tickets make Great Gifts and are available in the church office, or call ICA at 952-938-0729 to order, or use your credit card by visiting our website www.icafoodshelf.org. **God will surely bless you for your generous spirit. Thank you.**



ICA Holiday Program Needs You!

Volunteers are needed for ICA'S Holiday Food Program. Last year ICA distributed 500 turkeys and special holiday food packs at Thanksgiving, and another 500 for the December holidays. **ICA needs volunteers to help give out Thanksgiving food** Thursday and Friday, November 16 – 17 between 10:00 am and 7:00 pm **and December holiday food** Tuesday thru Thursday, December 12 – 14 between 10:00 am and 7:00 pm. If you are able to assist for any amount of time on any of these days, please contact Sheryl at ICA (952-938-0729). This is a great activity for individuals as well as groups! **Thanks for your continued support of ICA!**



Cell Phone Collection

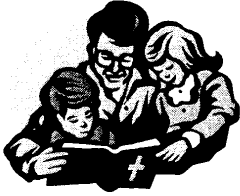
Please donate your old cell phone to benefit St. Paul's. We will receive funds from Recycling Alliance for each donated phone. Please drop off your old cell phones in the church office on top of the mailboxes.

THANK YOUs

Received by St. Paul's

- From ICA for the generous donation of 25 lbs of food.
- From Sojourner Project for morning day camp/retreat activities.

Thanks to those at St. Paul's who submit articles for the newsletter each month and help keep us all informed.



Take the Opportunity to "Talk Jesus" with St. Paul's Kids

During the Children's Sabbath worship service in October, the congregation presented three-year old Riley S. with his very first Bible. You could tell by the way Riley stood in front of the congregation with his parents and siblings flanking him that he knew something important and very special was happening in his church that directly involved him. As the worship service continued, I glanced over and saw Riley avidly looking through the pages of his Bible. He was entirely engrossed in its contents.

In our Little Lambs group following the worship service, Deb Campbell led parents and their infants and toddlers in a prayer. Kristi Gay and her mom helped Kristi's one-and-a-half-year old twins, Casey and Nathan, do a *clap* as they folded their hands to pray followed by a special hand motion when they said, "Amen." It was a fun way to get the kids involved in prayer.

Later that night, as I was giving my two-year old son Kristian a bath, my cross necklace was dangling over the edge of the tub. Kristian took the cross in his hand and said, "that's for Jesus" which he followed by saying, "Jesus loves you, and Nana and Bumpa and Kristian and Sawyer and Daddy..." I can't tell you how deeply struck I was at the profoundness of that moment and the childlike simplicity and trust with which Kristian made those statements.

What strikes me about all these events is that kids, starting with even the smallest infants, can be encouraged to be engaged in their faith. The encouragement can be prayerful or playful. It can be formal, as with Riley's Bible presentation, or impromptu, like Kristian grabbing my cross when he's in the bathtub. Young children absorb information like sponges. **Let's take the opportunity to "talk Jesus" with all St. Paul's kids, and encourage them to absorb the fact that Jesus loves them and died for them.** Ask Riley what his favorite Bible story is and why. See if his answer provides any new insights into your own faith. Come up with your own special hand

motions that you do when you pray with your kids or grandkids. Sing "Jesus loves me" with Kristian and listen to how he changes the words. Take the opportunity over the next few months to experience a childlike faith, completely trusting in Jesus' love for you and God's saving grace.

~Lisa Foss
Children's Ministry

November Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 Wanda Nelson
- 3 Sarah Eckhert
- 4 John Riggle
- 10 Chris Siftar
- 11 Ron Falk
- 11 Tod Winsor
- 12 Rebecca Tollefson
- 13 Debbie Anderson
- 14 Matt Laisy
- 16 Paul Tollefson
- 18 Jim Uden
- 23 Bill Schwitzer
- 23 Joshua Schmitz
- 27 Shirlee Waltz
- 28 Megan Wolfe

Anniversaries

- 15 Mike & Beth Mikulay
- 17 Craig & Vicki Smith
- 28 Darcie Rodman & Chuck Rudolph

Farewell and Godspeed

Yvonne Olson has transferred to Bethel Lutheran Church in Bemidji, Minnesota. Thank you Yvonne for the many years of love and support!



**ST. PAUL'S 50TH
ANNIVERSARY
GRAND FINALE'
IS COMING
SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 9**

For several years, St. Paul's has had a very well attended social event – “**The Progressive Dinner**”. The evening begins with everyone gathering at one house for appetizers. The large group then divides into small groups that travel to one of several hosting houses for the main course. Later, everyone reunites for dessert at the last house.

This event is for all adults – couples and singles alike. All contribute to the dinner as a host or a “host helper” so the work involved is minimal. Hosts are always needed, particularly for the main course. Host houses have 5-6 people up to as many as will fit around your table. Rides can be arranged for people who don't wish to drive. Plan to bring along visiting relatives and friends or neighbors that may become potential members of St. Paul's. Look for sign-up information and Sunday announcements later this month.

Everyone, mark your calendar and plan to attend. Come to help celebrate the wonderful and joyful 50 years of life at St. Paul's!

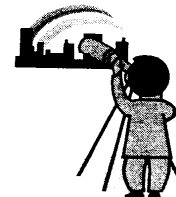


SPECIAL THANKS TO

- ❖ Eric Campbell and helpers who removed the torn banner from the south side of the building and replaced the high east roof flood lamps,
- ❖ All who purchased the new *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* books and leader resources for St. Paul's,
- ❖ Ruth Thompson for the gift of a tree for St. Paul's grounds to honor the faith and life of Clifton Thompson,
- ❖ Handy People Darold Hanson, Roger Ramsden, and John Riggle for extensive window refinishing, winterizing of building and outdoor access cover work,
- ❖ Connie Hessevick, Jenni MacNaughton, Cindi Paulsen, Jean and Ray Olson, Laura Eggert for attending the “*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*” introduction workshop and to Ruth and Bernie Johnson, Marilyn Woods, and Phil Eckhert for attending the “Energizing For Evangelizing – Turning the Corner 101” workshop,
- ❖ Maxine Rieman for weekly cleaning
- ❖ All who have helped with the Wednesday soup suppers,
- ❖ Regina Johnson and all who participated in the five course Harvest Dinner,
- ❖ Marilyn Woods for work on the Sunday Forums,
- ❖ Connie Hessevick and her support of the Crop Walk,
- ❖ Children's Ministry for organizing the Children's Sabbath.

LOOKING AHEAD

- ◆ December 10 – Advent Lessons and Carols led by St. Paul's choir
- ◆ December 17 – Christmas Worship led by Sunday School
- ◆ December 24 – Candlelight Eve of Christmas Holy Communion
- ◆ January 6, 2007 – 12th Night Bonfire, Season of Epiphany begins
- ◆ January 21, 2007 – Winter Congregation meeting
- ◆ February 21, 2007 – Ash Wednesday, Lent begins
- ◆ April 8, 2007 – Easter Day, the 50 days of the Easter season begin
- ◆ May 6, 2007 – Confirmation Day, Affirmation of Baptism
- ◆ May 27, 2007 – Day of Pentecost
- ◆ June 17 to 22, 2007 – Tri-congregation Vacation Bible School



Sunday Bible Readings

November 5 – All Saints Sunday

Isaiah 25:6 – 9
Psalm 24
Revelation 21:1 – 6a
John 11:32 – 44

November 12 – 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 17:8 – 16
Psalm 146
Hebrews 9:24 – 28
Mark 12:38 – 44

November 19 – 24th Sunday after Pentecost

Daniel 12:1 – 3
Psalm 16
Hebrews 10:11 – 14 [15-18] 19 – 25
Mark 13:1 – 8

November 26 – Christ the King

Daniel 7:9 – 10, 13 – 14
Psalm 93
Revelation 1:4b – 8
John 18:33 – 37

Sunday 10:50 am Forums

Come and share faith and life with your Brothers and Sisters in Christ at St. Paul's. All are welcome to presentations and discussions.

November 5 – World Hunger, Poverty and Disease

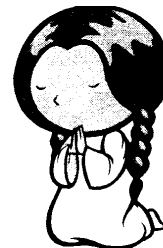
November 12 – "Living in a Time of Terrorism"

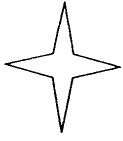
November 19 – "The Donation of Organs, Tissues, and Whole Blood."

November 26 – ELCA Mosaic
"Holy Communion"

God of Love – Hear our Prayer

- ✚ That peace and hope would be experienced in our homes, schools, communities and the world of nations,
- ✚ that Christ's church would be faithful in witnessing daily the generous and merciful love of God,
- ✚ with thanksgiving for the safe return from Iraq of Karl Paulsen Bischoff,
- ✚ for Marion Helmer, Laura Crossley, Virginia Rustad, Ken Smith, child Logan, Linda Dundas, Gert Nelson, Oscar Henderson, Laurel Severson, Carole Humphrys, Duane Esterly, Pastor Michael Edwins, and Dori Engelhardt,
- ✚ for confirmation ministry youth – Nora Bonner, Sara Eckhert, Maggie Schmitz, Michael Smith, Sammi Anderson, Jack Powers, Laura Crossley, Emma Peaslee, Dylan Streater, and Woanda Paye,
- ✚ for neighbor faith communities Bet Shalom Congregation, Hopkins United Methodist Congregation, and Mizpah United Church of Christ.
- ✚ that as we take time to offer thanksgiving with family and friends, we would also be intentional in bringing thanksgiving to our neighbors in need,
- ✚ with thanksgiving at the Baptism of Amelia June Lewis, daughter of Angela and Deron Lewis,
- ✚ for those in prison and all who are on the edges of society who are easily forgotten,
- ✚ for the unemployed and the underemployed,
- ✚ for the people and ministry of St. Paul's.





WORSHIP MATTERS

The job of greeters does not end when the worship service begins. Following the service, greeters might be especially alert to the presence of visitors and make it their job to seek out those visiting, share informally with them, introduce them to others in the area, and make sure they have signed the guest book, including their address. Pastors and staff members are grateful when greeters take the time to introduce visitors to them. It goes without saying that every visitor should leave the church knowing and feeling that their presence was valued. (*Ushers and Greeters*, pp. 15–16)

Sundays and Seasons 2006

PRAYER and BIBLE STUDY SUPPORT AVAILABLE

- † St. Paul's Prayer Line is activated by calling the coordinator, Maxine Rieman at 952-238-8516, cell 763-807-7682, or calling the church office when she cannot be reached.
- † *Grace Matters* ELCA radio ministry, Sundays at 6:30 am KSTP 1500 AM and 10:30 pm WFMP 107.1 FM.
- † Prayer resources are available at www.elca.org/prayer.
- † *Christ in Our Home* devotional booklets are available in the library.
- † *Daily Discipleship* is an ELCA online Bible study based on the lectionary and online at www.elca.org/evangelism/dailydiscipleship.

Tuesday Grief Support Group

West Metro Grief Support Coalition invites all persons experiencing grief due to a death. Grief support groups offer hope and healing through education, listening, sharing, prayer and fellowship.

Tuesdays 4:30 – 6:30pm
Westwood Lutheran Church
9001 Cedar Lake Road
St. Louis Park, MN 55426
(952) 545-5623

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SPEAKER</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
November 7	Clarita Knapp	Personal Story
November 14	Cinda Columb, M.A.	Transformational Grief
November 21	Brenda DeMotte MSW, LICSW	The Holidays and Your Grief
November 28	Roberta Woods	I'm Angry

For more information, please call the coalition coordinator
Darcie Rodman at 763-546-4404

November Acolytes
 11/5 Woanda Paye
 11/12 Sammi Anderson
 11/19 Jack Powers
 11/26 Nora Bonner

November Greeters
 11/5 Darla Gilbertson
 11/12 Lois Bell
 11/19 Darla Gilbertson
 11/26 Lorraine Smith

November Nursery
 11/5
 11/12 Jenni MacNaughton
 11/19
 11/26

November Money Counter – Mary Hromatka

November Announcements & Lock-up – Katie & Eric Campbell

November Service Team

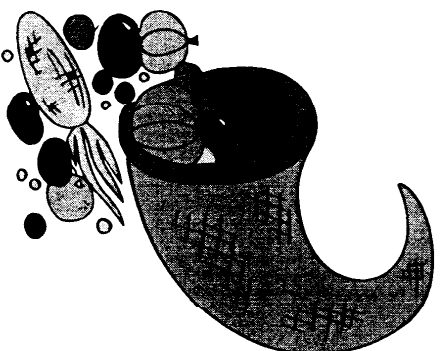
Anderson – Doug, Terri, Michelle,
 Cory & Samantha
 Bell – Lois
 Burdick – Glyde
 Crossley – Chris, Mary Jo, Laura &
 Claire
 Eggert – Laura
 Erickson – Muriel
 Falk – Ron
 Gay – Jim, Kristi, Casey & Nathan
 Hanning – Elsie
 Hanson – Darold, Diane
 Hessevick – Connie
 Hoyhyta – Carol
 Jacobson – Vince, Kris
 Johnson – Regina
 Lindquist – Rey, Lois
 MacNaughton – Jenni
 Madson – John, Annette
 Olson – Ray, Jean
 Streater – Kim, Anne, Cassidy,
 Dyan & John
 Thompson – Ruth
 Uden – Jim, Nancy
 Wolfe – Bill, Barb
 Woods – Marilyn

December Service Team

Bjornlund – Bob, Nancy
 Campbell – Eric, Deb, Katie &
 Kristen
 Carpenter – Marshall, Carolyn
 Dahl – Floyd
 Falk – John, Grace
 Foster – Howard
 Helmer – Julius, Marion
 MacNaughton – Nancy
 McGee – Linda, Mary, Tom
 Mikulay – Mike, Beth, Rebecca,
 Kate & Laura
 Nelson – Steve, Wanda & Alex
 Peterson – Mary Kay
 Powers – Tom, Kathy, Dustin,
 Lindsey, Nicholas & Jack
 Ramsden – Roger
 Rudolph/Rodman – Chuck,
 Darcie, Peter
 Rustad – Virginia
 Saal – Greg, Lisa, Nicolas,
 Alexander & Marissa
 Schmitz – Matt Shari, Maggie,
 Heidi, Kelsey & Riley
 Skrogstad – Will, Dawn, Joshua
 Smith – Craig, Vicki
 Tarr – Koko, Sam,
 Saymanil & Laykpeawon,

Florkime & Woanda Paye
 Tuttle – John, Marcia
 Werner – Dick, Cindy, Bryce &
 Bradley
 Wilde – Irma

Happy Thanksgiving



The monthly "Service Team Sign-up" calendar is posted on the office door for your convenience.
 Please check it weekly for remaining opportunities.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church
 13207 Lake Street Extension
 Minnetonka, MN 55305

Non-Profit Org.
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 Hopkins, MN 55343

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Please deliver within 5 days
 of November 1, 2006**



LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING!!!!



Sunday, November 5
Sunday, November 12
Sunday, November 19
Sunday, November 26

All Saint's Day, Food Shelf Sunday
 Bring a Guest Sunday
 Little Lambs
 Christ the King Sunday

Monday, November 6, 20
Monday, November 13
Monday, November 13

9:30 am – Handy People, Cottage meetings this week
 5:30 pm – ICA Housing Awareness Kickoff Chili supper & concert,
 Cottage meetings this week

Tuesdays, all
Tuesday, November 7
Tuesday, November 14

10:00 am – Text Study
 Election Day
 7:00 pm – Council

Wednesday, November 1
Wednesday, November 1
Wednesday, November 8, 15, 29
Wednesday, November 15
Wednesday, November 22

6:00 – 7:30 pm Soup Supper
 6:30 – 8:30 pm – Mpls Synod-wide Celebration of Confirmation
 5:30 – 7:30 pm – Confirmation Ministry at Oak Knoll
 11:30 am – Befrienders, Newsletter info due
 7:30 pm – Interfaith worship at Bet Shalom

Thursday, November 16
Thursday, November 23

9:00 am – Ministerium at Gethsemane, 6:30 pm – Our Saviour's
Thanksgiving Day, Office closed

Friday, November 24

Office closed, 11:00 am – Meals on Wheels

Saturday, November 11

8:30 am – Men's monthly breakfast at Hopkins Perkins