

# The Masthead

## Monthly Newsletter

*"Equip, Support, Serve and Witness Where God Calls Us!"*



Church Office: 248-541-0613 & School Office: 248-546-6555

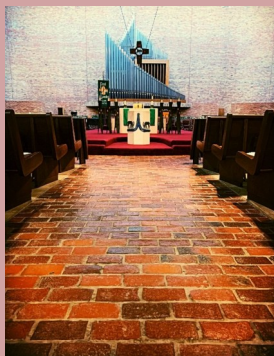
**October 2025**

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MR. GREGORY PAUL  
MUSIC MINISTER/TEACHER



### Ein Feste Burg

This month we celebrate the Reformation and the hymn long associated with the Reformation is "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God," LSB 656. This hymn and its tune were written and composed by Martin Luther. Luther wrote the text as a rough paraphrase of Psalm 46, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble . . ." It's a rough paraphrase because Luther has such a strong desire to proclaim the Gospel, he adds in bits of the New Testament throughout hymn. In general the hymn depicts the battle between the devil and Christ with of course, Christ the victor.

There are two settings of this hymn in LSB. Hymn 656 uses Luther's original rhythmic tune (that's the one we sing here at St. Paul) and 657 uses a straight quarter note beat (non rhythmic "Isometric" tune) which was used by J.S. Bach in his choral settings. That tune is more popular in the rest of Christendom.

Apparently in the century following its introduction, when the hymn was sung unaccompanied in the acoustically live cathedrals, the singing would naturally slow down, eventually getting so slow that the rhythmic vitality was lost. A movement in nineteenth century Germany, strongly supported by C.F. W. Walther (first president of the LC-MS) brought back the rhythmic version where it grew in popularity among the LC-MS Lutheran Churches. The rhythmic version didn't gain much traction among other Christian denominations until the 1970s.

The hymn is traditionally used on Reformation, but is the Hymn of the Day for the First Sunday in Lent. That usage goes all the way back to early Lutheranism (1545), one year before Luther's death, where it was placed to review Jesus' triumph over Satan at His temptation in the wilderness. Sing this hymn with vigor.

A mighty fortress is our God, A trusty shield and weapon;  
He helps us free from ev'ry need That hath us now o'ertaken.  
The old evil foe Now means deadly woe;  
Deep guile and great might Are his dread arms in fight;  
On earth is not his equal.

With might of ours can naught be done, Soon were our loss effected;  
But for us fights the Valiant One, Whom God Himself elected.  
Ask ye, Who is this? Jesus Christ it is. Of Sabaoth Lord,  
And there's none other God;  
He holds the field forever.

Though devils all the world should fill, All eager to devour us.  
We tremble not, we fear no ill, They shall not overpower us.  
This world's prince may still Scowl fierce as he will,  
He can harm us none, He's judged; the deed is done;  
One little word can fell him.

The Word they still shall let remain Nor any thanks have for it;  
He's by our side upon the plain With His good gifts and Spirit.  
And take they our life, Goods, fame, child, and wife,  
Let these all be gone, Our vict'ry has been won;  
The Kingdom ours remaineth.

Greg Paul, Minister of Music



# Vestry Update

From our Vestry Vice President: Updates on OHHT Project and Upcoming November Vestry elections

## Our House His Throne Construction Project

We're grateful to report that all Our House His Throne construction projects are now complete -finishing ahead of schedule and under budget! The gym windows look great, the structural repairs along the south church walls have stopped the wall separation problem, brickwork around the windows has been reconstructed to solve those structural problems, the office area was reconfigured for better use, and the most visible change—the beautiful new Welcome Center—now welcomes all. Thank you to everyone who supported and continues to give to the OHHT campaign. We are still short of our fundraising goal, so please consider additional gifts to help avoid borrowing funds.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to our vestry members in person or by email – [sprovestry@gmail.com](mailto:sprovestry@gmail.com).



## Vestry Elections—Coming in November

Looking ahead, Vestry elections will be held in November. Two members are completing their terms, and we need nominations for replacements. The Vestry (seven members total) sets policy and direction for our church and school. To be nominated, candidates must have been communicant members of St. Paul for at least two years. Elected members serve three-year terms. One open position will be Financial Secretary, and the other is a member-at-large position. If you are interested in serving or nominating someone, please contact Pastor Andrzejewski, Steve Carpenter, or Art Steiber.

## FINANCE

Weekly contribution needed based on approved 2025/26 budget: **\$13,700**

Weekly Contributions Received in September:

**8/31 \$25,587**

**9/7 \$15,409**

**9/14 \$11,078**

**9/21 \$9,481**

## ELECTRONIC GIVING

St. Paul offers a convenient electronic giving option to help you keep up with your intended offerings. Please enroll on our website [www.stpaulroyaloak.org](http://www.stpaulroyaloak.org)—or QR code below. For ques-



tions, contact Sue in the church office.

## 2025 Vestry Members:

Chris Schultz—President

Art Steiber—Vice President

Rachel Harris—Secretary

Marshall Mackinder

Jeff Szerdi

Steve Carpenter

Brian Hermann—Financial Secretary

Pastor Andrzejewski

Chris Francik—School Principal

Please email [sprovestry@gmail.com](mailto:sprovestry@gmail.com) if you'd like to reach out to our vestry members.

## Meet the Staff

Every month we will feature a different staff member! This month we are introducing our new 3-year-old Preschool Lead Teacher—**Charlyn (Char) Fuchs**



**Tell us about your family:** My daughter, Nova and I live in Ferndale with my parents, Sam and Tom. I have two older brothers, Jeremy and Justin, and they each have a daughter as well! My grandma, Bev, and uncle, Mike, also live close by and have been members at St. Paul for many years.

**Tell us about your background:** I have attended St. Paul for as long as I can remember. My brothers and I were all baptized and confirmed here, and Nova was baptized and will be confirmed here as well!

**Tell us something interesting or unique about you:** A fun fact about me is that I collect strange toys in the way some people collect memories. Wind-up animals with crooked faces, dolls that seem to have secret lives, plastic oddities rescued from dusty corners of forgotten antique stores; each one finds a place in my little museum of wonder. They're playful and bizarre, yet there's something quietly mysterious about them, as if their chipped paint and odd shapes are clues to stories no one quite remembers.

**What do you love most about your job:** One of my favorite parts of working at SPRO is experiencing the "firsts" that quickly become favorites. I love the joy of sharing a Bible story or singing a fun Bible song for the very first time with our 3-year-olds and then having the kids ask for it again every single day that week. It's such a special reminder of how eager and excited even our littlest learners are to hear and grow in God's Word!

**Thank you, Char, for loving & teaching our littlest students and sharing Jesus with them everyday!**



Many, many thanks to all members who make our church AMAZING! Specifically, we'd like to acknowledge the individuals who have helped in the following areas recently (you know who you are!):

\*Volunteers who have spent many hours reorganizing and cleaning the church nursery

\*Volunteer who painted the church nursery

\*Volunteers who faithfully work & serve in our food pantry

If there is an area that you'd love to help with at SPRO, please reach out!

THANK  
YOU!

### HEY PASTOR...

( A short Q&A column answering common faith or Bible questions)

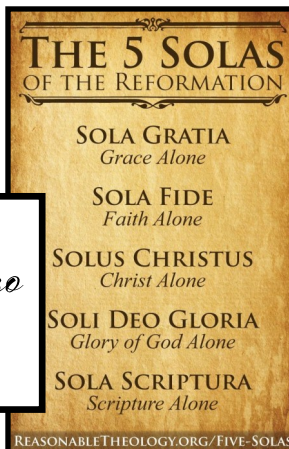
Q: Why do we stand for the reading of the Gospel?

A: We stand because the Gospel is the very words and deeds of Jesus Christ. Think of it like a king entering the room—you rise out of respect. When the Gospel is read in worship, it's not just a story from long ago; it is Christ Himself speaking to us today. Standing reminds us that His Word is living, active, and deserves our full attention and reverence.

Have a question you'd like answered?

Email Sue at [office@stpaulroyaloak.org](mailto:office@stpaulroyaloak.org)

*Luther's Lingo*  
for October





## COMING SOON...

### Royal Oak Spooktacular is coming soon!

**When:** Sunday, October 19th 1-3pm

**What:** St Paul will be reaching out to and engaging with our community by setting up trunks for trick-or-treating all afternoon.

**What we need:** CANDY, CANDY & MORE CANDY—a box will be located in the Welcome Center for donations.

**What else we need:** YOUR TRUNK and someone there to hand out candy from it. Please consider signing up—also located in the Welcome Center by the donation box.



### St Paul Royal Oak Annual Rally Day is happening THIS MONTH!

**Plan to join us Sunday October 26th. We will have ONE SERVICE at 9:30am.**

**During the service, District Superintendent of Schools, Travis Grulke, will present the school's accreditation certificate to our congregation.**

**Afterwards, there will be FOOD, ANIMALS, GAMES, & LOTS TO CELEBRATE!**

**Please plan to join us.**



### SPRO Spirit Wear is HERE!

Please consider purchasing and supporting our ministry by wearing our logos out and about! Order forms are located in the Welcome Center by the Church office. If you have any questions about the product or payment, please reach out to Julie Hansen in the school office—[jhansen@stpaulroyaloak.org](mailto:jhansen@stpaulroyaloak.org) 248-546-6555

Orders are due by October 10th.

### UPDATE: SMALL GROUPS COMING SOON! THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS SHOWN AN INTEREST IN SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY!

St. Paul congregational leadership will be forming small groups for the purpose of fellowship and Biblical learning in the congregation. If you completed the survey or communicated an interest in joining a small group, you should have already received an email. If you would like more information, please reach out to Pastor A or Principal Francik.

### BIBLE CLASS OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday Bible Class @ 9:30am w/Pastor Andrzejewski (lounge)

Sunday School will be returning soon—STAY TUNED!

#### Weekday/Saturday Bible Classes

Mondays 9:00am Women's Bible Class (Sept-May) (lounge) Contact Lee Ann Millinger or Rita McClatchey  
Wednesdays 10:00am Pastor Andrzejewski (lounge) (Sept-May)  
Thursdays 8:00am Men's Breakfast at The Avenue Restaurant (Woodward, N of 13 mile)  
3rd Saturday, 7:30am Contact Mike Rasmussen Men's Breakfast/Bible Study, (Sept-May) (lounge) Contact Chuck Brewer

Who doesn't love Trivia Nights? Certainly no one in our congregation! We are hosting a Quiz Night on Friday, October 24 from 7-9pm in the Lounge. Please form your own team with up to 8 members and come ready to think!! It helps to have a range of ages and experiences on your team. We will have ten rounds of ten questions each in a variety of categories. Instead of charging \$10 per person, we will ask for free will donations to sponsor the 5th-6th grade class trip for outdoor education and the 7th-8th grade trip to Washington DC. Please be as generous as you can. The middle schoolers will also be selling backed goods, snacks & drinks. Please bring check or cash! Any questions, ask Chris Schultz at [chrisschultz.723@gmail.com](mailto:chrisschultz.723@gmail.com).



### Monthly Bible Readings

LCMS Series C

Week	Festival	First Reading	Psalms	Epistle	Gospel
Oct. 5	17th Sunday after Pentecost	Hab. 1:1-4; 2:1-4	Psalms 62	2 Tim. 1:1-14	Luke 17:1-10
Oct. 12	18th Sunday after Pentecost	Ruth 1:1-19a	Psalms 111	2 Tim. 2:1-13	Luke 17:11-19
Oct. 19	19th Sunday after Pentecost	Gen. 32:22-30	Psalms 121	2 Tim. 3:14-4:5	Luke 18:1-8
Oct. 26	Reformation Day	Rev. 14:6-7	Psalms 46	Rom. 3:19-28	Matt. 11:12-19

# SCHOOL MINISTRY



## St. Paul Lutheran School

100+ Years of God's Grace

### Our Mission

*"Equip, Support, Serve and Witness  
Where God Calls Us!"*

### Statement of Purpose

St. Paul Lutheran School equips children for a life of service with a foundation of academic, physical, spiritual, and social maturity centered around Christ Jesus.



*Mrs. Blyth Mackinder, Preschool Director*

**Ecclesiastes 3:1 There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the Heavens.**

It is the season for a new school year and it is up and running. We are over a month into it and already there are many, many changes. The weather, the daylight, the seasons are all signs of God's changes in motion.

In the world of early childhood education, we work with a child in their season of change, whatever it is. For a young child, the first and biggest change or transition is being away from their parents. Parents are often troubled by the tears and tantrums at morning drop off. We do our best to reassure them the upsetting behavior ends very quickly after they leave. This information is sometimes received well and sometimes it is not.

The same type of reassuring, loving care is offered to us by Jesus. He sets the gold standard for what type of love and care we should provide to preschoolers. Not only do we do our best to show them love, but we also teach them about His love. While these seasons of life is often difficult, stressful, and emotional we can take comfort in know Jesus is always there for us whenever we need Him. All we need to do is open our hearts to Him in prayer. "Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so..."

So, parents take heart knowing this difficult season of life you may be in with your child is fleeting, and it will change like the weather. It is all part of God's miraculous design!



## Attention all parents!

**Need an adult night out? Drop your kids (ages 3-4th grade—must be potty trained) off with us on Saturday, October 11th at 6pm and support the Middle School Class trips in 2026 to Washington DC! Just don't forget to pick them back up by 10pm! St. Paul staff, parents, and older students will be providing the babysitting. Just don't forget to pick the kids back up by 10pm! Please review all the information in the QR code and consider signing up for this babysitting service.**



## Apple Pie Sale

**Coming in Mid-October**

**Our middle school students will be making homemade apple pies and preselling them in October & delivering in November before the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Sales will take place during the second half of October. Don't miss out on a delicious pie! See the weekly News & Notes for more details soon!**



## PTL Happenings in October and Beyond:

Our **Evergreen Sale** is coming up this October for the Holiday Season! Delivery is typically on the Sunday after Thanksgiving at the school. The PTL will keep items at the school for those who cannot pick items up on 11/30 - if needed. Stay tuned as we will be having our students share the order forms and pictures of products before and after church services in October. Items to purchase include wreaths, Poinsettias, porch pots, door charms, garland, etc. There is also a gift card option!

It is also time to start thinking about donations for our **School Christmas Shop**. We need many donated, handmade items for the children to shop for at the annual Christmas Shop in December. Please reach out to Julie Hansen, School Administrative Assistant if you have any questions. (248)546-6555/school@stpaulroyaloak.org

## School Calendar

October 1-6	No school—Fall Break
October 11	Babysitting Night—Fundraiser
October 24	1/2 Day—End of 1st Quarter

October 24  
October 26

Quiz Night—Trivia Fundraiser  
RALLY DAY & School Accreditation  
Certificate Presentation at our 9:30am church service

# Church Notes

## Directory

### Church Office

Pastor Jakob Andrzejewski  
(cell) 734-644-0059

revjski@stpaulroyaloak.org

Office # 248-541-0613

office@stpaulroyaloak.org

Sue Francik—Office Manager

502-381-3597

Greg Paul—Director of Music

248-765-0316

### School Office

248-546-6555

school@stpaulroyaloak.org

Chris Francik

502-381-3643

### Facebook:

www.facebook.com/

stpaulroyaloak

**Web:** www.stpaulroyaloak.org

### Livestream:

www.stpaulroyaloak.org/live



### Community Food Pantry Monthly:

1st Thursday (drive thru) 11am-1pm  
and

2nd & 4th Mondays (walk-in) 9am-12pm

Community Food Pantry is always accepting food donations.

If you have any questions or would like to assist, please reach out to:

Lee Ann Miillinger (248)417-9526

Cathy Greener (248)953-1567

Barb Stefan (248)219-7469

Thank you for supporting our community!

## Prayers

### Prayers for our Homebound

Margaret Kuhlmann

Irma Pope

Don Storck

Jeanette Till

### Prayers for Military

Mark Bowdich

Paul Bowdich

Trevor Guilmette

Alex Keppler

Brooke Keppler

Brandon Newton

Tirzah VanDamme

Jason Zuniga

Gabrielle Zuniga

To Add/Remove a prayer, please email the office at office@stpaulroyaloak.org.

## MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

### St. Paul School

In memory of **Donna Brewer:**

Mila Jackson

In memory of **Jerry Supnick:**

Mila Jackson

In memory of **Jeff Rinkus:**

Mila Jackson

### St. Paul Church

In memory of **Donna Brewer:**

Beverly Limbaugh

In memory of **Jerry Supnick:**

Jim & Karen Charnawskas

Clara Lichtenberg

Richard Baker

In memory of **Norbert Andrzejewski:**

Clara Lichtenberg

Jim & Karen Charnawskas

In memory of **Jeff Rinkus:**

Barb Strick

Clara Lichtenberg

Jim & Karen Charnawskas

**GIFTS—Donate to the church by giving a memorial or honorarium by using the card located in the lobby. This is a two part card, one to go with the gift to the church and the other to be mailed to the family. Contact the church office with any questions regarding this. Thank you.**

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

### TIMES:

Traditional 8:15am

Sunday Bible Class 9:30am

Traditional 11am

## CHURCH OFFICE

### HOURS

Monday-Thursday 8am-4pm

Friday 9am-3pm

## OFFICIAL ACTS

### Funeral

Jeff Rinkus—Sept. 10, 2025

## Livestream Info:

Our livestream is available on our very own You Tube channel at [www.stpaulroyaloak.org/live](http://www.stpaulroyaloak.org/live).

You can also access our bulletins on our website at

[www.stpaulroyaloak.org/news-and-notes/](http://www.stpaulroyaloak.org/news-and-notes/). Be sure to check

out our #5thStreet Gospel video clips and share it!



## Serving us in Worship in October

**October Altar Guild**—Kathleen Prunkner & Betsy Newton

**October Ushers—8:15**—Roger Pierce, David Owens, various elders

**October Ushers—11**—Jeff Gowman, Brian Charlton & Dave Hemming

**10/5/25:**

Counters

8:15—Libby Walker & Chay Smith

11—Kathy Eifert & Andre Sanislo

Readers

8:15—Drew Haselton

11—Chris Francik

Elders

8:15—Kevin Calhoun & Bryan Harris

11—Mike Rasmussen

**10/12/25:**

Counters

8:15—Libby Walker & Emily Bashore

11—Julie Hansen & Rick Thomas

Readers

8:15—Naomi Hutcheson

11—Dawn Heins

Elders

8:15—Chuck Brewer

11—Kevin Calhoun & Mike Rasmussen

**10/19/25:**

Counters

8:15—Randy Walker, Ben Schultz & Carol Zimnie

11am—Meredith Sanislo & Amie Szerdi

Readers

8:15—David Newton

11am—Rita McClatchey

Elders

8:15—Brian Hermann & Jim Schultz

11—Mike Babycz

**10/26/25: REFORMATION—ONE SERVICE**

Counters

9:30—Carrie Smith & Chris Francik

Readers

9:30—Kevin Calhoun

Elders

9:30—Mike Babycz

## ALTAR FLOWERS & RED ETERNAL LIGHT (candle)

You can order flowers for our altar in honor or memory of a loved one or for a special occasion. Sign-up details are located to the left of our new Welcome Center on the board. All bouquets may be ordered for \$25 each & candles for \$10 each. Fill out an envelope and make a check out to St. Paul.



# October Birthdays

1-Oct	Kelly Burch
2-Oct	Dennis Wozniak Jeanne Valdes
3-Oct	Henry Miller
4-Oct	Terri Brockmiller Steven Baker Zoei Keck
6-Oct	Timothy Ulrich
8-Oct	Kevin Calhoun
9-Oct	Nancy Pyykkonen Rachel Andrzejewski Esther Bowdich
10-Oct	Darlene Baker
11-Oct	Anthony Valdes Viktor Sagan Molly Newell
12-Oct	Brett Hansen
13-Oct	Gerald Thiem
15-Oct	Kristin Sharp Ben Francik

17-Oct	Peter Walsh David Newton
19-Oct	Cheryl Beyerlein
20-Oct	Blyth Mackinder
21-Oct	Kenneth Ruszkowski
22-Oct	Andrew Keeble
24-Oct	Gayle Carpenter Anne Sagan
25-Oct	Mark Costakes Jennifer Louwers Jeremy Newell Ellie Ohngren Ellie Meagher Garrett Sanislo
26-Oct	Sarah Hillenbrand
28-Oct	Chase Burgess
29-Oct	Jesus' Miramontes
30-Oct	Garel Rice Rick Kilbourn
31-Oct	Dennis Walker Debbie Hill Jaxtyn Jarvey



If we've missed listing your birthday, please contact the church office 248-541-0613

# October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>28</p> <p>08:15 AM Worship</p> <p>09:45 AM Bible Class &amp; Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 AM Worship (C)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>09:00 AM Trustees Women's Bible Class</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>1</p> <p>10:00 AM Bible Class</p> <p>No School - Fall Break/Teacher Conference</p>	<p>2</p> <p>No School</p> <p>08:00 AM Men's Breakfast</p> <p>11:00 AM Drive Thru Food Pantry</p> <p>07:00 PM Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>08:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>3</p> <p>No School</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5</p> <p>08:15 AM Worship (C)</p> <p>09:45 AM Bible Class &amp; Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 AM Worship</p>	<p>6</p> <p>No School—Fall Break</p> <p>09:00 AM Trustees Women's Bible Class</p> <p>7pm—Elders meeting</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>08:30 AM Chapel</p> <p>10:00 AM Bible Class</p>	<p>9</p> <p>08:00 AM Men's Breakfast</p> <p>07:00 PM Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>08:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:00 PM Babysitting Night—Middle School Trip Fundraiser</p>
<p>12</p> <p>08:15 AM Worship</p> <p>09:45 AM Bible Class &amp; Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 AM Worship (C)</p> <p>12pm—Carpenter Lounge Rental</p>	<p>13</p> <p>09:00 AM Trustees Walk-in Food Pantry Women's Bible Class</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>08:30 AM Chapel</p> <p>10:00 AM Bible Class</p>	<p>16</p> <p>08:00 AM Men's Breakfast</p> <p>07:00 PM Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>08:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>07:30 AM Men's Saturday Breakfast</p> <p>10:00 AM Public School Confirmation</p>
<p>19</p> <p>08:15 AM Worship (C)</p> <p>09:45 AM Bible Class &amp; Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 AM Worship</p> <p>1-3PM—Truck/Treat—RO Spooktacular</p>	<p>20</p> <p>09:00 AM Trustees Women's Bible Class</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>08:30 AM Chapel</p> <p>10:00 AM Bible Class</p>	<p>23</p> <p>08:00 AM Men's Breakfast</p> <p>07:00 PM Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>08:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>24</p> <p>12:00 AM School - Half Day/End of First Quarter</p> <p>7PM—Quiz Night—Trivia Fundraiser</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>08:30 AM Bible Class &amp; Sunday School</p> <p>09:30 AM Reformation Worship &amp; Rally (C)</p> <p>*SPRO School Accreditation Presentation</p>	<p>27</p> <p>09:00 AM Trustees Walk-in Food Pantry Women's Bible Class</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>08:30 AM Chapel</p> <p>10:00 AM Bible Class</p>	<p>30</p> <p>08:00 AM Men's Breakfast</p> <p>07:00 PM Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>08:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>1</p>