

化 信息基金

198, 359

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2025

se women who have con-

with Clement and the rest of my coworkers whose names are in the book of life. 4 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! 5 Let your graciousness 5 be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Don't worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses^z all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. aa introducery arred planers, with adenses

Additionant to Summitable "

tended for the gospel at my side, along

"REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS: THE JOY OF JESUS | PHILIPPIANS 4:4-7" THOMAS WALKENHORST

ret de Basel, " malbantararet de gauste "

One of the trademark characteristics of Christians is expressing joy. Joy is described as "a feeling of great pleasure and happiness." Non-believers might ask a Christian, "why are you so happy all the time? Why does it seem like nothing bothers you?"

A related word, "rejoice" is often used in Scripture or sung in our praise. This is perhaps a more accurate term for how we should live our

Christian lives: to "feel or show great joy or delight". I prefer this phrase, because it's not just sitting with joy and holding onto it: you are physically displaying your inward delight.

Lutherans can sometimes get a bad rap for being stodgy, cold, grumpy... are we rejoicing in the Lord always? Every day — all the time? I can say that I have not. I'm guessing that you have also had days when you did not feel like rejoicing.

- When you are sick longer than you wanted to be, or the diagnosis is unclear
- When work becomes taxing or difficult
- When you're at odds with your spouse or having a tough time with your children
- When you lose a family member or a loved one

We are all guilty. It is tough to rejoice during difficult times. But Paul in Philippians wrote that we should rejoice always... was Paul delusional? He even wrote this portion of Scripture under house arrest awaiting a trial. To have this idea while filled with unknowing and anxiety... is this just wishful thinking?

No – we CAN and are commanded to rejoice in the Lords ALWAYS!

God has taken our sin – forgiven us – and our sin is as far away from us as the East is from the West. That is worthy of rejoicing!

The Lord is always with us (Matt. 28:20). He is always near to us (Psalm 34:18). He has gone through the same trials we have and understands us (Heb. 4:15). Can we rejoice over that? Yes!

The final verse of this section says "And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 4:7) Paul doesn't write that the peace might do these things, or hopefully keep your hearts and minds — he writes that it will. That's a promise! Throughout all of the difficulties of life that we lose understanding, peace will keep us in Christ Jesus. We can certainly rejoice for that!

So - how can we display our joy to others?

- Trust in God when you are ill and look to Him for strength.
- Work as though you are serving the Lord (Col. 3:23-24).
- · Show the love of Jesus to your spouse and family.
- · Comfort those in times of loss by sharing God's Word

Making your joy evident in your life can draw others to rejoice in Jesus with you. When you're at church, make your joy evident in your speaking and singing around members and visitors. In public, be positive and upbeat to friends and strangers. Rejoice in the Lord — always!

THOMAS WALKENHORST DIRECTOR OF WORSHIP MINISTRY



IN THIS ISSUE

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER	. 4
CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY	. 5
OUTH MINISTRY AT ST. PAUL	. 7
UTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLITES	. 8
'RASH N' TREASURE	
OVE INC	. 9
EED MY STARVING CHILDREN	
CELEBRATE RECOVERY	11
HANK YOUS & OTHER NEWS	12
ULY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES	13
INANCIAL REPORT	15



EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

CHRISTINA ZEUNER, DIRECTOR PRESCHOOL@STPAULFALLS.COM

The children attending Child Care this summer have thoroughly enjoyed spending much of their day outside—exploring center activities, playing on the playground, splashing in the pools, and working in the garden. As August draws to a close, our summer fun will wrap up, and we will welcome new families and children to the center for Child Care, Preschool, and 4K.

We will be hosting an Open House on Thursday, August 21st, from 6:00–7:00 PM for anyone still considering enrollment. There are still openings in the afternoon Preschool class and one spot available in the 4K class.

Meet the Teacher Night is for all currently enrolled children and will take place on Tuesday, August 26th, from 5:15–7:30 PM. Families can sign up for a time to drop off school supplies, explore the classroom, and meet the teachers.

The 2025–2026 school year will begin on September 2nd for Preschool and September 3rd for the 4K class. We are looking forward to another year filled with learning, growth, and God's many blessings!



CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

SAVANNAH HENN, DIRECTOR SAVANNAHH@STPAULFALLS.COM

Vacation Bible School

At the time the newsletter was published, we were wrapping up our Vacation Bible School. Please look for a recap of VBS in the September issue of the Newsletter.

Sunday School/AWANA

Registration for both Sunday School and AWANA is now open! The deadline to register is August 19 so we can ensure that materials are prepped and teachers are prepared.

Sunday School planning is underway for this fall! We invite all children from 3K through 5th grade to sign up. Sunday School takes place during the 9:30 a.m. service. Children are dismissed partway through the service to their classrooms for an age-specific learning opportunity.

The registration link is available on the main page of our website and under the Sunday School & AWANA tab.

AWANA meets on Wednesday evenings from 6:00–7:30 p.m. for students in Kindergarten through 5th grade. The program includes both small group and large group time, with an emphasis on memorizing Bible verses and building faith foundations.

To help our fall kickoff run smoothly, we need your help: register students by August 19 so we can prepare supplies, leaders, and assistants. Volunteer to serve! We're looking for helpers in all areas of AWANA. High school students through adults are encouraged to prayerfully consider serving on Wednesday nights.

Backpack Blessings - Sunday, August 17 | 9:30AM service

All students are welcome and encouraged to bring their backpacks to church on Sunday, Aug. 17. We will have a special prayer and blessing for your school year. We will also have sweet treats and backpack tags for all our young worshippers to pick up in the back of church.

3rd Graders receive Bibles - Sunday, August 24 | 9:30AM service

This is a special time for our 3rd graders as they receive their very own Bible to bring with them to church, Sunday School, and AWANA. We pray that these Bibles are read together as a family and relationships are deepened through the power of the Gospel.





Camp Luther

In October, St. Paul will be heading up to Camp Luther (Three Lakes, WI) to do a weekend of service. Camp Luther is an LCMS camp that serves over a 1,000 people each year. Families are welcome to come up and serve alongside St. Paul and other Lutheran churches October 17-19.

We will be doing various service projects to better the camp. Children 6-11 years old must attend with an adult. Children ages 12 and up can attend alone, with supervision under youth leaders. If interested, please see Savannah or Nicole to sign a letter of intent or get more information. Deadline to sign up is Sept 28.

Upcoming Family Events

Please come and join us Sunday August 17 6-7:30 at River Park for Children, Youth, and Family Kickball! We will be serving dinner and then will gather for a game of Kickball. This event is FREE and we hope that you will join us! Please bring a dish to pass for potluck dinner.





YOUTH MINISTRY

NICOLE DOLLEVOET, DIRECTOR NICOLED@STPAULFALLS.COM

Confirmation Plans Underway

Plans are starting to come together for Confirmation this fall. Please keep our Confirmation ministry in your prayers, including all of our students, mentors, and leaders. Registration is now open—parents, please check for the registration link. Mark your calendars: our Kick-Off Night will be held on August 27.

I am currently looking for adult mentors and high school helpers. If you're interested in learning more about Confirmation or how you can serve in this important ministry, please give me a call at the Church Office.



A full report from the LCMS Youth Gathering will be shared throughout the month of August at the Ministry House (located behind the church). Thank you to our congregation for your ongoing support of our youth and the trips they are able to take because of your generosity!

Home Visits for 6th Graders

One of my favorite parts of ministry is doing home visits! I'm excited to connect with our new 6th graders as they enter confirmation this fall. If we haven't scheduled your home visit yet, now is a great time to do so!

District Youth Event - August 10

We're heading to Brookfield on August 10 for a District Youth Event! It's always a joy to join with Lutheran youth from across southern Wisconsin. To sign up, please see Nicole.

High School Youth – Get Involved!

Now is a great time to get plugged in! High school students are encouraged to sign up to help with Sunday School, AWANA, the Youth Praise Team, or to help with Audio-Visual technology. How is God calling you to use your gifts?

Sunday, Aug 10 4-8pm



Immanuel Lutheran-Brookfield, WI









LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLITES

MATTHEW TSCHUDY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A new school year means new beginnings. As we look ahead to the first day of school (August 20th!), we are excited to welcome two new teachers to our staff, our community, and our ministry!

Elizabeth Henschen will be teaching freshmen and sophomore English classes, as well as taking on the school yearbook. She graduated from Concordia University Nebraska in May with a degree in secondary education, an emphasis in English Language Arts, and a Lutheran Teacher's Diploma. Elizabeth got married this summer. Her husband, Micah, is pursuing a degree in physical therapy at Concordia University Wisconsin. They will be residing in Sheboygan. In her spare time, Elizabeth enjoys reading, baking, and traveling.

Christ-centered education has been an essential part of Elizabeth's life. She attended Sioux Falls Lutheran from preschool through 12th grade, and she spent two summers as a counselor at a Christian English camp in Austria. Her father is a pastor in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and her mom is the kitchen manager at Sioux Falls Lutheran. She has two brothers studying education at CUNE and a younger sister who is starting high school. Elizabeth is excited to get to know the students at LHS and help them discover how they can serve others with their God-given gifts.

Nathan Pennekamp will be joining our staff to teach AP Calculus, Pre-calculus, Statistics, Transitions to College Math, and Algebra. He is also a recent graduate of Concordia University Nebraska with deep roots in Lutheran education. Nathan attended Concordia Lutheran High School in Fort Wayne, Indiana, where his father is an administrator. His mother works in family ministries at Emmanuel Lutheran in Fort Wayne. Nathan is their only son, with a set of twin older sisters and two younger sisters.

Nathan enjoys outdoor activities, particularly golf, running, and yard games. He also loves playing cards and spending time with family and friends. He is looking forward to all that Sheboygan has to offer, including the strong Lutheran community, river fishing, and the beach.

We are grateful that these two new graduates have accepted their Calls to Sheboygan Lutheran High. Please join us in praying for Elizabeth and Nathan as they embark on their teaching ministries and put down roots in Sheboygan!



READING THE PRINTED COPY? VISIT -- WWW.LUTHERANHIGH.COM/PUBLICATIONS

Get the full publication here

TRASH AND TREASURE

TNT: A Grateful Farewell After 36 Years

After 36 wonderful years, the Trash and Treasure (TNT) sales have come to a close. Thanks to the generous support of our congregation, community, and staff, Friends Club raised over \$200,000 through these events.

Proceeds supported both local and church mission projects, with frequent gifts to:

St. Paul Early Childhood Center

The Gathering Place

Christmas Blessings

LOVE, INC.

While there are no TNT events planned for the foreseeable future, we're not saying never! In the meantime, consider supporting local resale shops like Neat Repeats, a proud supporter of Sheboygan Lutheran High.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers, donors, and vendors who made these events so impactful. A special note of appreciation goes to Jerry and Lorrie Wilson and their family for their years of tireless dedication—and those unforgettable skits.

Thank you all for your support.

Goodbye for now-but not forever.

LOVE INC

BONNIE JONES, MINISTRY LEADER

Love INC is holding COPE (Cost of Poverty Experience) Training. COPE is a tool that will help your team:

- Deepen their understanding of the realities of poverty in America.
- · Improve practices and approaches to better engage low income individuals and their families
- Build partnerships with the broader community to improve outcomes for low-income families.

This poverty simulation training is one way to learn about the issues that face our community and to encourage volunteerism. LoveINC will be holding this event Saturday, July 20 from 9am to noon at Bethany Church, 1315 Washington Ave., Sheboygan.

If you plan on attending please call and register at 920-783-6701.

We also sincerly thank you for your generous gifts to the Love Inc ministry; The personal care products, cleaning products, and dish & hand towels. These gifts will enable us to continue helping the needs of our community.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) - Volunteer Registration

THANK YOU to all who attended the Ducktona Pancake Breakfast. We couldn't do it without your support. We're less than three months away from our eleventh annual FMSC MobilePack event, happening October 9-11. We're looking for volunteers for the following dates/times:

- · Thursday, October 9th | 5:30 7:30pm
- Saturday, October 11th | 8:00 10:00am and 11:00am 1:00pm.

Contact Diana Shircel at stpaulfmsc@outlook.com to register.

Dine to Donate

Mark your calendar for Dine & Donate Night on Wednesday, August 13. Stop at River Park Family Restaurant in Sheboygan Falls from 6am - 2pm for a meal. A portion of the day's proceeds goes toward our mission.



Money Tubes

Money tubes are now available at the Welcome Center. This is a great opportunity to teach the act of giving to the little ones in your life! Drop a quarter in at each meal to help give others a meal.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY

JULIE JONES, MINISTRY LEADER

SAVE THE DATE

Sept. 18, 2025

Join the CR family for PRAISE IN THE PARK — Food, music, and family Everyone is welcome!

Everyone has issues and struggles in life.

Depression, Anxiety, Anger, Feelings of Unworthiness and Being Less Than, Paranoia, Perfectionism, Obsessive Thoughts, Co-Dependency, Loneliness, Control, Fear, Resentment, Addiction to Food, Drugs, Sex, Bad relationships, Unforgiveness, Money Issues, Emotional or Sexual Abuse, Pornography, Jealousy, Selfishness, Judgement of Others, Unfaithfulness, etc.

Only 2 out of 3 people attend CR for NON-addiction issues.

At Celebrate Recovery we CELEBRATE God's amazing healing and restoration!

Are you tired of carrying the pain from past hurts?

Are you willing to try a different approach to dealing with the pain in your life?

Are you ready to take that first step in your journey of recovery from life's difficulties?

God has a Plan and Purpose for your life!

You were never meant to walk this life journey alone...

Come join us at Celebrate Recovery!

Your forever family is waiting!

You are not alone!Celebrate Recovery follows a Christian 8 Principal / 12 Step process to heal from life's hurts, hang-ups, and habits!

BABYSITTING is available! Contact Julie for more information.

Entrance #4 - 300 Wing

Dinner: 6:00PM

Large Group: 6:30 - 7:30PM

Open Share Group (Gender Specific) 7:30 - 8:30PM

Fellowship: 8:30 - 9:00PM

No Sign-Up necessary!

The only requirement is confidentiality!

Everyone is Welcome!

We are waiting for you!

For additional information contact Julie J. @ 920-207-1397

THANK YOUS & OTHER NEWS

8:00 & 11:00 am Greeters Needed!

Do you usually attend the 8:00 or 11:00 service on Sundays in the fall? Can you share a "Hello" and a smile every few weeks? If so, please contact Karri in the Church Office to be added to the next Greeter Schedule!

Scholarships Available: Scholarships are available for Lutheran Education. Preschool thru High School Scholarship Forms are due August 31st. Please turn completed forms to the office.

A.I.M. Classes: Are you interested in learning more about the Faith & Ministry of St. Paul Lutheran Church? Our Membership Class called A.I.M. will be offered Wed. evenings from 6:00 - 7:30 PM beginning Sept 17. Upon completion of the course, those who would like to become a part of the mission and ministry of St. Paul will have the opportunity to become members of our church.

For more information, or to register to attend, contact Karri in the Church Office at 920-467-6449 or karrib@stpaulfalls.com.

Early Childhood Center: We're excited to welcome new and returning families to St. Paul Early Childhood Center! Please join us for the following:

Open House

Preschool, 4K & Child Care

Thursday, August 21 | 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Come explore our classrooms, meet staff, and learn more about enrolling. This is a great opportunity for families still considering St. Paul for the upcoming school year!

Meet the Teacher Night

Tuesday, August 26 | 5:15-7:30 p.m.

For all currently enrolled families—drop off school supplies, explore your child's classroom, and meet the teachers before the first day!

We look forward to seeing you there!

Ladies Auxilary: Thank you all you wonderful people for the gifts to Mary's Room. Neat Repeats \$1 sale sure helped in our donations.

Senior Citizen Bible Breakfasts: Tuesdays are for BREAKFAST! Senior citizens, you are invited to join us in the LHS atrium for a Bible study led by Executive Director, Matt Tschudy, a delicious hot breakfast, and Christian fellowship. Kindly RSVP to Carmen Dolson at dolson@lutheranhigh.com or (920) 452-3323 so we can have the coffee flowing!

The dates for the Bible study are as follows:

- · September 16
- · October 21
- · November 18
- · December 16

GriefShare: Are you grieving the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend? GriefShare is a weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life after loss. Led by people who have experienced grief themselves, each session offers care, understanding, and practical help for the days ahead.

Tuesdays | 6:00–8:00 PM Beginning September 9, 2024 Room 112 – St. Paul Lutheran Church

You don't have to go through grief alone. We're here to walk with you.

Job Openings: To help streamline efficancy, we now have a "Employment" page on our website. Our current openings are as follows:

Choir Accompanist

We're seeking a piano player to accompany our Adult Choir (Tuesdays 6:30–8:00 PM, August–May), including services on Sundays and festivals. Part-time (~8 hrs/week, paid).

Nursery Helpers

Great with little ones? We need two workers (age 14+) to assist in our nursery on Sunday mornings (9 AM–12 PM), starting in September. Paid positions.

For full job descriptions and to apply, visit our Employment page at https://stpaulfalls.com/resources/employment/ or contact the Church Office.

JULY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Children's Ministry Update: Savannah shared her plans for AWANA, Sunday School and Family events for the upcoming school year. She gave a brief update on VBS. She is looking to hire replacement staff for the nursery. Savannah will be completing her final course for her DCM Certificate in August, at which point the congregation will extend her Divine Call.

Associate Pastor Ministry Update: Pastor Adam gave a brief update on all the things he is working on which include the standard pastoral functions, along with Small Groups, Bereavement Ministry, Celebrate Recovery, Night to Shine and The Gathering Place. He has scheduled visits with the ECC as well. His orientation has gone well, he had lots of one-on-one meetings with staff and congregation members.

June Fiscal Year End: The church ended the year with a deficit of \$22,224. In March we were anticipating a deficit of over \$80,000. The Congregation responded to need! The Gathering Place ended the year with an unusual deficit. They will have a price increase in July, which will help things for the upcoming year. A comparison of previous fiscal year ends was shared.

2025-26 Home Mission and Mission Partner Scrip Allocations: The Church Council approved support. It was noted that The Upper Room will be closing, so they were removed from the allocation.

Home Mission 2025-26 Support

- · Anchor of Hope \$500
- Feed My Starving Children \$1,000
- · Camp Luther \$500
- · Helping Kids \$500
- · Hispanic Ministry \$9,000
- · Love, Inc \$4,000
- Lutheran Education Scholarships \$9,500
- · Morning Meditations \$1,200
- · Project Video \$1,000
- · Rebuilding Together \$3,500
- The Production Farm \$1,000
- · Guatemala Mission Trip \$1,500
- · Youth Mission Trips \$3,000

Mission Partner Scrip 2025-26 Support

- · FMSC \$500
- · Guatemala Mission Trip \$500
- Youth Mission Trips \$1,500
- · LCMS Missionaries Rev Ross & Kris Shaver (Dominican Republic) \$1,000
- · Hispanic Ministry \$1,500

HVAC Controls: Chad Berke spoke with Aldag Honold to ensure the control upgrade was appropriate and includes moisture pucks. The Council approved the upgrade not to exceed \$8,500.

Parking Lot Medians: Following the parking lot upgrade, the recommendation was to make the medians very low to allow for water to run through them. Unfortunately the only thing we are able to grow is weeds. The Council would like to have a "serve day" the first Saturday in November, inviting Congregation Members to till up the medians, add topsoil and plant grass.

Elder Team Update: Pr Kyle's sermon series plans were reviewed through Thanksgiving 2026. Membership was also discussed.

Senior Pastor Update: Pr Kyle shared the quarterly membership report. He is working on contacting regular worship attenders that suddenly stop attending to see if he can assist in any way. Red Letter Challenge will be returning for Lent. This was cut short in 2020 due to Covid. The Rooted Series will be done in Fall 2026, which is something Pr Adam has recommended. AIM is scheduled to begin again in Fall.

Columbarium Thank You: Donna Felch extended a thank you to John Rische and Stefanie Trakel for working on the Columbarium project. Small electrical and plumbing portions still need to be completed. The landscaping will be done in mid-September. The flag will remain at full staff flag at all times.

National Youth Gathering Thank You: Michelle Zuengler shared the amazing impact of the National Youth Gathering on the kids that attended as well as herself. She thanked everyone for their support and prayers.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Fii		Report - Ju								
Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025 Financial Results- Fiscal Year End Actual, Budget & Variance										
riidilcidi r	:	12 Months ded 6-30-25 Actual	1	12 Months Ended 6-30-25 Budget		Variance from Budget (Short)/Over				
General Offerings	\$	1,270,595	\$	1,346,962	\$	(76,367)				
Other Income	\$	52,061	\$	52,200	\$	(139)				
Mission Offerings	\$	80,978	\$	94,000	\$	(13,022)				
Total Income	\$	1,403,634	\$	1,493,162	\$	(89,528)				
Operating Expenses	\$	1,344,880	\$	1,399,162	\$	(54,282)				
Mission Support	\$	80,978	\$	94,000	\$	(13,022)				
Total Expense	\$	1,425,858	\$	1,493,162	\$	(67,304)				
Suplus (Deficit) Total	\$	(22,224)	\$	(0)	\$	(22,224)				

Ca						
	Monthly Activity Increase (Decrease)		Balance at Month End			
Capital Improvement Fund	\$	7,505	\$	353,499		
Membership Report					!	
Baptized Members	354	Confirmed Members		1,495	Total Members	1,8

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

730 County Rd. PPP Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085

Phone: 920-467-6449 Fax: 920-467-4239 NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SHEBOYGAN FALLS, WI
PERMIT NO. 28

Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Friday: Closed

Website: <u>www.stpaulfalls.com</u>



Pastors

Kyle Backhaus, Senior Pastor **Adam Wolfe**, Associate Pastor **Tom Gudmundson**, Pastor Emeritus **Donald Hasse**, Pastor Emeritus

Worship Schedule

Thusday: 6:30 PM Sunday: 8:00 AM & 9:30 AM

The Gathering Place & Memory Matters

920-627-6847 The Gathering Place Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Memory Matters Thursday: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Children & Youth

(During the school year)
Sunday School: 9:30 AM service
AWANA Wed Night: 6:00 PM
Confirmation Wed Night: 6:00 PM
Youth Group Sunday Night: 5:30 PM



Tom Splittgerber, Congregation President Jeff Berg, Congregation Vice President John Rische, Head Elder Donna Felch, Treasurer

Early Childhood Center

ECC Phone: 920-467-6733 3 year-old Class (during school year) Tuesday & Thursday: 9:00 - 11:30 AM or 12:30 - 3:00 PM

4K Class

(During school year) Monday, Wednesday, & Friday: 8:30 - 11:30 AM

Child Care

Monday through Friday: 7:00 AM - 5:30 PM Ages 2 ½ - 5 years — call for drop-ins

Wee Care Nursery

During Sunday Service, 9:15-10:45 AM







FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA