



# NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2024



## LONGING FOR THE GOSPEL

PASTOR KYLE BACKHAUS

What do you long for?

Is it a favorite food? How about time with your loved ones? Perhaps you long for a refreshing vacation or maybe for some nice fall weather!

Do you long for what advertisers put in front of you: a new vehicle, some new clothes, a recently approved medication that promises all the answer for your health, or some yummy fare from your favorite restaurant?

Do you long for relief from our broken world: peace among the nations, that our culture would magically change, solutions to hunger and poverty, or help for the ill and disenfranchised?

Peter talked about what the angels long for. As he described the Gospel preached by the prophets and empowered by the Holy Spirit, the apostle noted that there were "things into which angels long to look." (1 Peter 1:12)

Angels long to look into the Gospel- God's revelation of grace, the sending of His only Son who, because of God's unconditional love, gave His life for our sins on the cross, rose from the dead, and by His Spirit through Word and Sacrament, clothes us with His righteousness, all as a complete gift with no merit or worthiness on our part. Angels long to lean into this wonderous and incomparable work of the Almighty God for us fallen human beings, who

now have the privilege of being called, "Children of God."

The word used for longing in the Bible is *epithumeo*. It is the same word the Bible uses for "covet" or "lust." It is a strong word of desire. The word describes deep and extraordinary longing, and it helps to properly direct our longing.

As fallen sinners, our longing can so easily become misdirected. Misdirected longing can become selfish idolatry. Selfish idolatry may allow us to get our way, or to gain the world, or to feel good for a while, but in the process to lose our soul and to conceal the Gospel.

That's why the angels are on the right track. Jesus directed us to the one thing we all need, the one longing that leads to life. As Martha scrambled around to put her house for the Son of God, Jesus directed her to Mary, who sat at His feet listening to Him. Jesus said, "One thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her." (Luke 10:42) Mary longed for the Gospel. She longed for Jesus and His Word of life.

As summer is gone and fall is here, what are you longing for? Do you long to join us in worship, Thursdays at 6:30, Sundays at 8 or 9:30 AM? Do you long to get your kids involved in AWANA and Confirmation (starting Sept 4), or Sunday School and Youth Group (starting Sept 8)? Do you long to join us for Bible study this fall as we launch into the Chosen Video's on Tuesday Mornings (starting Sept 10). Do you long to join a small group when we kick off a church wide look at the Apostle's Creed in mid-September? I hope so!

Come and see - invite your friends! Join us as we long to taste and see the goodness of our Lord (Psalm 34:8). For when we gather around God's Word, when we receive His gifts, we receive life.

Questions for reflection: Read 1 Peter 1:1-13, How do these verses describe what the angels long to see?

What tends to get in the way of your setting your hope fully on God's grace (vs. 13)?

Prayer starter: Ask God to help you set your heart, hope, and action on first receiving and then living out the Good News of Jesus.

**KYLE BACKHAUS**  
SENIOR PASTOR



**SPECIAL NOTE:** Our Summer Worship Schedule has been extended through 2024 and potentially into 2025.

See the July Church Council Meeting for more information.

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# EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

**CHRISTINA ZEUNER, DIRECTOR**  
**PRESCHOOL@STPAULFALLS.COM**

Another school year has begun! The teachers and students are excited to be back and are getting to know each other.

The Early Childhood Center will be selling Seroogy's candy bars from September 19-Oct. 4. Candy bars come in 8 flavors (crisp, peanut butter, mint, almond, mocha, dark, Shock Rock and melt away) and are \$2.00 a bar. They can be purchased from students, the Early Childhood Center, or the church office. Funds raised will be used to add or replace toys and books as needed.

Thank you for your support of the Early Childhood Center. We are still collecting used or expired ink and HP toner cartridges (usually used in offices) and cell phones, iPods or iPads. These can be dropped off at the church's Giving Center. Most importantly, we ask for your prayers for the Early Childhood Center, its families, and teachers, as we learn more about Jesus everyday.

# CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

**SAVANNAH HENN, DIRECTOR**  
**SAVANNAHH@STPAULFALLS.COM**

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School begins Sunday, September 8 at the 9:30 service. We are very excited for the new school year and look forward to all that we will learn. This month our 3K-3rd graders will be learning about how Jesus is a friend forever. This unit reminds us from Day 4 of VBS from this past July. Our 4th and 5th graders will be in a unit about unlikely heroes.

## AWANA

AWANA begins Wednesday, September 4 from 6:00-7:30 in the Fellowship Hall. AWANA this year will be learning about different people in the Bible that God used in amazing ways. We will focus on Noah, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob this month.



Registration for AWANA and Sunday School is closed. If you would like to register your child, please contact Nicole Dollevoet.

## THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS

Special thank you to our AWANA and Sunday School Teachers who are dedicating their time and talents to Children's Ministry. We are blessed to have an awesome group of people with servant hearts.





## SAVANNAH MATERNITY LEAVE

Savannah will be on maternity leave September-mid October. If you have questions regarding Children's Ministry. Please see Nicole Dollevoet.

# YOUTH MINISTRY AT ST. PAUL

**NICOLE DOLLEVOET, DIRECTOR**  
[NICOLED@STPAULFALLS.COM](mailto:NICOLED@STPAULFALLS.COM)

Summer seems to fly by and here we are knee-deep in back-to-school activities! During the month of August, I had a great time doing 12 home visits as we welcome our new class of confirmation students. It is a blessing to be welcomed into homes and share with them what comes next in their faith walk. We have an amazing team of adult leaders that will be serving as mentors this coming school year. We thank them for their time and dedication to this ministry!



We enjoyed 2 very fun events for youth group in the month of August. We had our annual kick ball event which ended in a tie!



We then had 25 folks from St. Paul head to the South WI District youth event to join with over 260 people. It was a great time!



We are ready to kick off Youth Group again on Sunday nights starting September 8th. We have a lot of fun planned, so check out our website for all of the details. Our youth have a heart for service, and we are excited for a number of service opportunities as well this fall. The sign-up for FMSC can be found at the Welcome Center.

Confirmation groups and St Paul youth are encouraged to serve on Friday evening Oct 11th. We are excited to announce that we will be offering 2 big youth trips next summer. We have our awesome group of 33 heading to the 2025 Youth Gathering in New Orleans, and we will also have a group headed to serve Northern Wisconsin in June of 2025 on a mission trip.



We are in the midst of registering youth ages 6th grade through post-high school for this trip. Please see Nicole for a letter of intent which needs to be turned in with payment by the end of October for those that would like to attend. Fundraisers are already up and running and we look forward to the team in which God will be putting together!

We hit the ground running as school, fall programming, and many ministry opportunities kick off in September! Looks like I will be tipping my toe back in the realm of Children's Ministry as Savannah is gone on maternity leave. The best way to get a hold of me would be text or [email](#)!

## CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILY EVENTS

Did you ever want to serve with your family? We have a great opportunity to do just that this fall. We are headed to Camp Luther in Three Lakes, WI to serve a weekend at camp. More information can be found at the Welcome Center or by speaking to Nicole in the church office. There is a job for everyone in your family!

**St. Paul Children, Youth, & Family Service Weekend**  
CAMP LUTHER WI  
OCTOBER 18-20, 2024

Come and join us for a weekend of service, fellowship, and worship!

Please see Nicole if interested

The graphic features a teal background with a white zigzag pattern. It includes four small photos: a person kneeling in prayer, a person walking with a bag, a person standing in a wooded area, and a person carrying a large blue bag. A 'Camp Luther' logo with a tree is also present.

We are collecting addresses of our young adults (18-24) that are away from home. Care packages will be sent out in September so please contact Nicole with your address!

College addresses needed  
Mailings start mid-Sept  
Please get addresses to Nicole

The graphic shows a stack of books, a red apple on top, and a pencil holder with colorful pencils. The background is a dark chalkboard.

**TOM & JERRY'S MINI GOLF**  
CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILY EVENT  
Sept. 22 | 5 - 7 PM  
Bring the whole family out for evening of fun!  
Cost is \$5 per person for mini golf and supper!

The graphic features a background of colorful mini golf balls in a rack.

Children, Youth, and Family September event is set for Sept 22nd at Tom & Jerry's in Plymouth. Everyone is welcome to join us for a fun evening out on the course and then supper together. No need to sign up- we will see you there!



# THE GATHERING PLACE

**LEAH ZEHEL, DIRECTOR**  
**LEAHZ@STPAULFALLS.COM**

A huge thank you to everyone who came out and supported The Gathering Place Brat Fry and Car Show. It was a big success, and we were thrilled to see so many people come out and enjoy their evening with us! All proceeds go directly to our programming for our participants.





# LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLITES

## DEREK BULT, PRINCIPAL

“Time flies when you’re having fun.” This phrase has been used for centuries. It also could be used when describing Sheboygan Lutheran High School’s summer. The fun started right after Memorial Day when the school office underwent a major renovation, thanks to the generous support of donors for the 2024 Fund-a-Cause. Fresh paint was applied to the walls, an improved HVAC system installed, ceiling grid hoisted, flooring laid, and new cubicles equipped with electrical and network upgrades. The association office also had new carpet laid. If you have not seen the upgrades, you are cordially invited to see for yourself.

Fun was also had during the Crusader Summer Camp program. Over 680 kids experienced art, athletic, drama, and fitness camps. It was an awesome sight to see so many kids participating in these camps, knowing that many of them will one day be Crusaders.

The fun continued as we welcomed two new teachers to our staff. Mrs. Stephanie Schulz will be teaching Spanish this coming year. She is a 2009 graduate of SLHS. For the past eleven years, she taught Spanish at Racine Lutheran High School. She and her husband, Doug, have two sons.

Mrs. Sheryl Polster is returning to SLHS to teach math. She started as a substitute teacher and then was hired part-time to teach mathematics. She taught full-time at other school districts and then returned to SLHS to teach math during the 2017-2018 school year. Mrs. Polster states that she has a heart for ministry, teaching, and kids.

Our theme for the 2024-2025 school year is Endure. It is the shared theme for LCMS schools around the country as well as the theme for the National Youth Gathering that will be held in New Orleans next summer. Endure is drawn from the following scripture:

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.” Hebrews 12:1-3

In this passage, Christians are reminded to look back on past believers and learn from their lives of faith as a source of encouragement, especially the Old Testament since they had never seen Christ but only received a promise that a Savior would come. We are then urged to look forward to the race we are to run through this life, living a life of discipleship, and run with urgency and endurance, shunning the temptations of this world and laying aside the sins we commit so we can focus our eyes on Jesus. He has conquered all adversities and is the ultimate example of how we are to live our lives here on earth, until we are with Him for all eternity in heaven. We invite you to gather with us under this beautiful theme as we have fun while time flies this year.

Get the full publication here **HighLites**

READING THE PRINTED COPY? VISIT -- [WWW.LUTHERANHIGH.COM/PUBLICATIONS](http://WWW.LUTHERANHIGH.COM/PUBLICATIONS)

# LCMS HISPANIC MINISTRY

**REV. DAVID BLAS**

Greetings from The Hispanic Outreach members! The Lord continues His work doing great things through the Hispanic Ministry in Sheboygan County. Thanks be to God!

Operation Backpack 2024 Sponsored by The LCMS Sheboygan County Hispanic Outreach- For the past six years the community of Sheboygan and its surroundings has been served by the effort of the Hispanic Outreach and the sisters churches in Sheboygan lead by Rev. Blas. In these six years, more than 700 backpacks and school supplies have been distributed in the community. What a great joy and pleasure it has been for us to see many happy faces throughout the years.



This year, like always the event took place at "Iglesia Luterana El Buen Pastor" in Sheboygan on Saturday August 3rd. Thanks to the Lord the event was a successful one! We had a great event! We blessed so many families and kids. Thanks to the donations from our sister churches, their members, and community members, we had prepared 132 backpacks and school supplies to be distributed the day of the event, but so many people arrived that we had to work quickly to prepare 20 more backpacks with supplies. At the end of the day, thanks to everyone's effort and the volunteers, we served a total of 41 families and distributed 152 backpacks to the children of our community. Also, after the day of the event, we served two more families handing out eight more backpacks. Our total was 160 backpacks! Thanks be to God and to all the supporters!

If you want to be part of Operation Backpack 2024-2025, that will be on Saturday August 2nd, 2025. We are already collecting supplies. Please bring the school supplies to Good Shepherd in Sheboygan.

You can also send a donation with a memo: Operation Backpack, to Sheboygan County Hispanic Outreach  
730 County Rd PPP  
Sheboygan Falls, Wisconsin 53085.

For further info contact Rev David Blas 630-229-2455.

Thank you for reading this letter! Thank you for your continuing support for OUR Hispanic Ministry! Thank you for partnering with us. Please continue to pray for us! May God richly bless you!!! Looking forward to what the Lord has for us!

Serving Christ through His humble servant and yours,  
Rev. David Blas



# CELEBRATE RECOVERY

JULIE JONES, COORDINATOR

## Praise In The Park

*"Praise the Lord, all people on earth,  
praise His glory and might."  
1 Chronicles 16:28*



### Join us for:

- ✓ Praise Music by: ***Straight Street***
- ✓ Free Food and Beverages
- ✓ Family Friendly Fun



**Thursday, September 19**  
6:00PM – 8:00PM



**River Park – Large Shelter**

**201 Western Ave., Sheboygan Falls, WI**

Hosted By:



**Celebrate  
Recovery**  
A CHRIST CENTERED Recovery Program.





# THANK YOUS & OTHER NEWS

## A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Thank you to the congregation for supporting our Guatemala mission team. We spent 8 very full days supporting the kids at Casa Aleluya through interacting with them, improving their living and school spaces, and spending as much time with them as we could.



Our team took turns on an outreach with an amazing mission called Senderos de Luz and we poured a concrete floor for a family, delivered food and water filtration systems, and paid for two stoves to be installed and another floor to be poured (we ran out of time to physically do all the things we intended). We couldn't do all these things without your support. Thank you!



- The Guatemala Mission Team



**2024 FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN MOBILEPACK:** The eleventh Annual Feed My Starving Children MobilePack is quickly approaching with pack dates of October 10 – 12, 2024. Feed My Starving Children provides life-saving meals to people in more than 70 countries worldwide, truly turning Hunger into Hope.

As of this article's writing, we are still in need of volunteers to pack meals for both Saturday, October 12 shifts: 8:00 - 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.

Please email Diana Shircel at [stpaulfmsc@outlook.com](mailto:stpaulfmsc@outlook.com) to register.

Thank you to all who attended the Pancake Breakfast at church last month. Due to the Ducktona cancellation, we are finding ourselves with a surplus of ingredients. We'll be sponsoring another pancake breakfast from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. on September 15. The cost is \$6/person for cakes, eggs, and sausage. Or, you can enjoy all-you-can-eat pancakes only for \$5. Please join us!

This MobilePack at St. Paul is a testament to our mission statement as a church. "As Friends of God through Jesus, empowered by the Spirit, we are connecting people to Christ by sharing His love in word and action everywhere." God confirms this mission in Proverbs 22:9: 'Blessed are those who are generous because they feed the poor.' God bless the food we pack and those who so desperately need it.

THANK YOU for your continued support. We could not do it without you.

**36TH ANNUAL TRASH 'N TREASURE:** Check those basements, attics, garages and drawers for items in good, clean condition that you no longer need. We would love to turn your Trash into someone else's Treasure. St. Paul's Friends Club is sponsoring the 36th Rummage Sale on Sat. Sept 21, 9 AM – 3 PM. If you would like to be involved in Sheboygan County's largest rummage sale, this is your chance. There are all sorts of opportunities to serve, sign-up sheets will be available Aug 29- Sept 15 in the Gathering Area.

We will be featuring a Brat Fry: take-outs available. St Pauls Ladies Auxiliary is sponsoring a huge Bake Sale. There many good cooks in this congregation, and we hope everyone will share their talents by making some cookies, bars, pies, stollen, etc. Canned items such as jams and jellies are good sellers.

Drop off bakery sale items no later than Sat. Sept 21 at 8:30 AM.

NOTE: There are many items we cannot accept for the rummage sale.... Hazardous Waste/Chemicals, (Lawn Chemicals are accepted) Yard Waste/Brush, Tires, Car Batteries, Water Heaters, Cell Phones. Freon, Large Appliances, Computers/Printers,TVs, Concrete, Florescent Tubes, Wood or Metal. **We reserve the right to turn away any Restricted / Unsuitable Donations**

Mark Your Calendars!

**Set Up Tables and Supplies:**

Wed. Sept 18, 7:30 PM

**Drop Off Times:**

Thurs. Sept 19, 9AM – 8 PM Fri. Sept 20, 9AM – 4 PM

**Drop Off Locations**

Outdoor Items @ Rotunda/Grounds Furniture @ Rotunda

All other donations @ Garage Door

If you have any questions please call Lorrie Wilson, aka Trash Queen at 920 467 6880

**BIG SALE**

The Original  
**TRASH 'N TREASURE**

9am - 3pm

**HUGE INDOOR RUMMAGE SALE**

**Brat Fry & Bake Sale**

Cash or Local Checks Only ~ No Credit/Debit

**Saturday September 21, 2024**

**St. Paul Lutheran Church**  
730 CTH PPP - Sheboygan Falls

**1000's of Items!!!**

Household Goods, Furniture, Toys,  
Holiday Trimmings, Tools, Books,  
Crafts and More!!!

 Like & Follow Us On Facebook 

Proceeds Go To St. Paul Friends Mission Projects



**SUPPORT OUR WORSHIP MINISTRY AT ST PAUL:** School has resumed for most all our families, and we are resuming our ministries after a short summer! There are many ways to support what goes on here at St Paul Lutheran, and I oversee the ministries that help our services run smoothly and/or be enhanced with special music to glorify our Lord.

It's not too late to check out Adult Choir or Bell Choir! Choir would be glad to welcome a few new singers, and Bell Choir could still use 1-2 ringers to fill out their roster. Support, training, and encouragement will be provided for those interested!

We're always looking for musicians to support our Praise Team rosters. Many of our musicians serve frequently and it would be wonderful to have more rotation. We especially seek piano players, guitarists, drummers, and other instrumentalists.

The Youth Praise Team "This Side of Heaven" will be leading a handful of Contemporary Services throughout the year. The Team was primarily high school students in the past, but we have extended the group to middle schoolers who have musical gifts to glorify God in church.

Do you love to help others and talk with people? Ushering is a great way to help members and guests as they come to church. Ushers typically serve one service a month – join a team!

There are also behind-the-scenes teams that sustain our services, such as Altar Guild which prepares communion elements and changes paraments for the altar, and our Audio-Visual assistants that help during services.

For any of the above opportunities, email [thomasw@stpaulfalls.com](mailto:thomasw@stpaulfalls.com) to express your interest. He will connect with you and help you get started! God bless you as we move into our fall season here at church!

**YOUTH TRIP ENVELOPE FUNDRAISER:** Our annual envelope fundraiser is taking place in the back of church Sept 5-15th. Please see the display in the back of church. We thank the congregation as they continue to support the youth of St. Paul!



# FINANCIAL REPORT

<b>Financial Report - July 2024</b>			
<i>Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025</i>			
<b>Financial Results- Fiscal Year End Actual, Budget &amp; Variance</b>			
	<b>1 Month Ended 7-31-24 Actual</b>	<b>1 Month Ended 7-31-24 Budget</b>	<b>Variance from Budget (Short)/Over</b>
General Offerings	\$ 98,958	\$ 112,247	\$ (13,289)
Other Income	\$ 268	\$ 4,350	\$ (4,082)
Mission Offerings	\$ 6,165	\$ 7,833	\$ (1,668)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 105,391</b>	<b>\$ 124,430</b>	<b>\$ (19,039)</b>
Operating Expenses	\$ 120,583	\$ 133,025	\$ (12,442)
Mission Support	\$ 6,165	\$ 7,833	\$ (1,668)
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$ 114,418</b>	<b>\$ 125,192</b>	<b>\$ (10,774)</b>
<b>Suplus (Deficit) Total</b>	<b>\$ (9,027)</b>	<b>\$ (762)</b>	<b>\$ (8,265)</b>
<b>Capital Improvement Fund</b>			
	<b>Monthly Activity Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b>Balance at Month End</b>	
Capital Improvement Fund	\$ 9,530	\$ 331,056	
<b>Membership Report</b>			
Baptized Members*	403	Confirmed Members	1,721

## ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

730 County Rd. PPP  
Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085  
Phone: 920-467-6449  
Fax: 920-467-4239

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### Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM  
Friday: Closed  
Website: [www.stpaulfalls.com](http://www.stpaulfalls.com)



### Pastors

**Kyle Backhaus**, Senior Pastor  
**Tom Gudmundson**, Pastor Emeritus  
**Donald Hasse**, Pastor Emeritus

### Lay Leaders

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

### Worship Schedule

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

### The Gathering Place & Memory Matters

The Gathering Place: 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

### Early Childhood Center 3 year-old Class

ECC Phone: 920-467-6733  
(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



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