

# The Epistle

## Pay It Forward



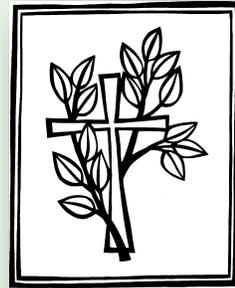
Pay It Forward. What thoughts do these words bring to your mind? Perhaps you have seen the movie *Pay It Forward*. The movie is about a teacher who

gives his class an assignment: look at the world around you and fix what you don't like. One student's idea: the recipient of a kindness must pay this kindness forward to 3 people who then must pay this kindness forward to 3 more people, etc.

God has been so good and kind to St. Paul Lutheran Church. It is now time for our members to "Pay It Forward" by passing this kindness on to others. How do we do this? First, the kindness must be something that really helps people. Second, the kindness is passed on to others without expecting anything in return. Third, what a wonderful way for St. Paul to: "look at the world and fix what we don't like."

This is where you, the congregation, come in. You received the proposed budget from the Council in August along with a pie chart and narrative budget articulating how this budget will allow us to fulfill God's

*(Continued on page 2)*



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

From Pastor.....	3
Fall Classes.....	4, 5
Celebrations.....	5
Dorcas Circle.....	8
St. John's Meals.....	8
Prayer Requests....	12
Ministry Schedule	13

## Valley Inter-faith Item of the Month

Please bring **paper towels** during September to donate to Valley Interfaith Community Resource Center.

Thank you!

## Pay It Forward

*(Continued from page 1)*

mission for St. Paul in 2018. This month you will receive an Estimate of Giving Card via e-mail and U.S. mail. Filling out and returning your Estimate of Giving Card provides Church Council with an idea of what monies will be available to continue St. Paul's many ministries in spreading God's word. Through your giving St. Paul has provided and will continue to provide many activities for the congregation and the community which will pass on God's love and mercy.

*God has been so good and kind to St. Paul Lutheran Church. It is now time for our members to "Pay It Forward" by passing this kindness on to others.*



How does "Pay It Forward" relate to our tithing? Just think what could happen if 3 people increased their tithe and then 3 more people increased their tithe, and eventually the entire congregation increased their tithe. Imagine what great things St. Paul could do to spread God's word to others in the community and around the world with the increase in giving!!

Can just one person make an impact on the lives of others? YES! How? By "Paying It Forward" through supporting St. Paul Lutheran Church with your tithing. Please prayerfully consider helping St. Paul to "Pay It Forward" as you fill out your Estimate of Giving Card and return the Card either by mail or bring it with you to worship on Stewardship Sunday, September 24th.

God be with you.

Carole Replogle

## Mini-Series:

### 5 BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES OF MONEY

Last month, we began this series by learning the meaning of “stewardship:” we own nothing—we are caretakers of what God has entrusted to us. This month, we dig deeper into Scripture and God’s Word of life for us about money.

#### Principle #2: God will provide.

It is not an exaggeration to say that one of the takeaways from almost every story in the Bible is that God will provide—God will give us everything that we need. God provides a son for Abraham and Sarah, just like he promised. God provides Moses to lead the Hebrews out of slavery in Egypt, just like he promised.

*God will provide* is the whole point of manna in the wilderness (Read Exodus 16). After the Hebrews leave Egypt, they grumble about food. God provided the manna (a white, flakey edible substance like bread) each day. The people gathered the manna each day, and they were not allowed to store it over night or it would rot. The point was to teach the people that they could trust God for daily bread.

When the Israelites were failing to keep God’s law, God provided prophets to get them back on track, just like he promised. God provides Jesus Christ to rescue all people from sin, death, the devil, and suffering, just like he promised. God the Son provides enough food for 5,000 people with just five loaves and two fish. God the Son provides healing for the blind, sick, and crippled, just like he promised. Jesus says, “Do not worry about your life” (Mt. 6:25-34; Lk. 12:24-34) because God will provide! God provides his Holy Spirit to the Apostles to equip them to build the church, just like he promised.

Do you see the pattern throughout all of Scripture?

*(Continued on page 6)*



#### Rally Day is Sept. 10!

To celebrate the kickoff of the new Sunday School year, please join us September 10 at 9 am for breakfast, games, and fun.

Kids will meet their Sunday School teachers and the Christian Education Committee will present the plan for the year.

This year there will be two Sunday School classes for children: one class for ages 3-7 and one class for ages 8-11; and one class for junior/senior high school students. Thanks to all of our volunteer teachers who have given their time, effort, and love to make this happen!

## New Bible Study Series: The Small Catechism

A “catechism” is a summary of Christian teachings, usually in the form of a small booklet and organized in a series of questions and answers. After visiting congregations in Germany, Martin Luther was appalled to learn that the average person and the pastors themselves knew little to nothing about the teachings of the Christian faith. In 1529, he wrote the Small Catechism to be used as a tool by parents and pastors to teach core teachings of the Christian faith. Pastor Emily will be leading a Bible Study series on the Small Catechism this fall. If you are hungry to learn the

*(Continued on page 5)*



Would you like to see the new Martin Luther movie, but were unable to go to the theater showing? The movie is being rebroadcast on PBS several times this month.

### **Showtimes:**

Tuesday, Sept. 12, 8 pm  
CET (Channel 48.1) and  
ThinkTV (Channel 16.1)

Tuesday, Sept 12, 8 pm  
ThinkTV (16.1)

Weds., Sept. 13, 8 pm  
ThinkTV Again (16.2)

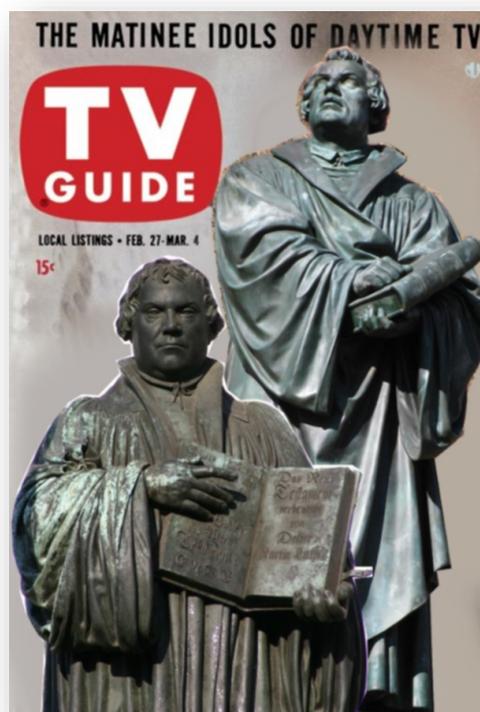
Friday, Sept. 15, 1 pm  
ThinkTV Again (16.2)

Saturday, Sept. 16, 8 am  
ThinkTV Again (16.2)

Sunday, Sept. 17, 8 pm  
ThinkTV Ohio (16.4)

Tuesday, Sept. 19, 6 pm  
ThinkTV Ohio (16.4)

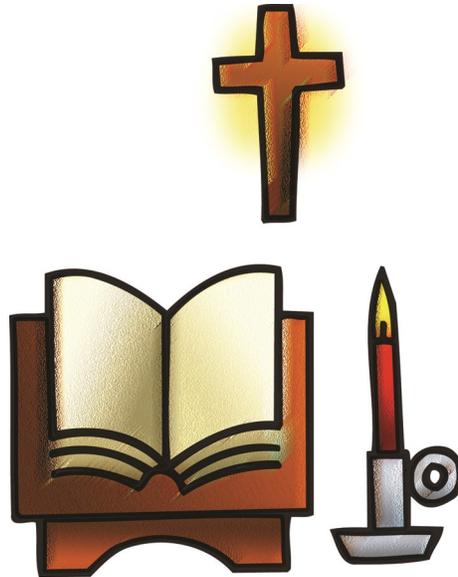
*Please check your TV guide in case showtimes have changed since printing.*



# Adult Forums Beginning This Fall

## SEPTEMBER: THE REFORMATION

While children and young adults meet for Sunday School and Bible Study Sunday mornings at 9:00 am, Pastor Emily will lead Adult Forums from September-May so that we might grow in faith, too. The first series is on the Reformation to prepare ourselves spiritually for the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation on October 29th. Come to learn the history behind Martin Luther and the Reformation, why the Reformation changed the world, and how the Reformation applies to our church and your life. September 17, 24, Oct. 15, 22, and 29 at 9:00 am in the Narthex.



*(Continued from page 4)*

central teachings of the Christian faith and Lutheran doctrine, then this study is for you! Even if you have studied the Catechism before in Sunday School or Confirmation, you will learn new things. Come to grow in your faith! *If you already have a copy, bring it. If you want a new copy, sign up on the Sign-Up board in the narthex by September 3.* Free copies will be available in print to borrow or to download to your smart phone. September 17- November 19: Sundays @ 12:15 pm in the Fellowship Hall, Tuesdays @ 11:15 am in the Narthex, Thursdays @ 7:00 pm in the Narthex. We will not meet on September 24, October 1, or October 29 due to other events.

## Celebrations in September



- |   |                              |           |                                    |
|---|------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| 2 | Kim Coulehan                 | 11        | Hailie Fuller,<br>Carole Replogle  |
| 5 | Susan Bardes                 | 14        | Paul Pieper                        |
| 9 | Lee Erbeck, Olivia<br>Hedges | 16        | John Cathcart                      |
|   |                              | <b>19</b> | <b>Jim &amp; Loretta<br/>Forst</b> |
|   |                              | 21        | Rita Edwards                       |
|   |                              | 25        | Chrissy Harris                     |
|   |                              | 30        | John Kerlin                        |

National Youth  
Gathering:  
Commit by  
Sept. 13

Every three years,  
30,000 high school  
youth and their  
adult leaders from  
across the Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America

## Mini-Series: 5 Biblical Principles of Money

*(Continued from page 3)*

*God provides, just like he promised.* This principle is true for the Old Testament and the New. It is true for whole communities and for individuals. It is true for biblical characters and for you.

Perhaps your parents, grandparents, or other Christians you know have said this to you a time or two. The tricky thing is that we often feel mixed emotions

Testify to yourself, “God will provide.”



gather for a week  
of faith formation  
known as the ELCA  
Youth Gathering.  
Through days  
spent in interactive  
learning, worship,  
Bible study, service  
and fellowship,  
young people grow

*(Continued on page 7)*

when we hear it: there is a sting of doubt that says “Maybe for you, but what if God doesn’t for me?” and there is a longing for this promise to be true. It is often said in times of difficulty, which is both why it’s hard to believe and why we need to believe it. Saying it transforms the moment: saying “God will provide” reminds our hearts and others not to be afraid because God will take care of us. When we invoke this promise, God overcomes our fear and replaces it with hope. The next time you are worried about your bank account, investments, grocery bill, or retirement, try claiming God’s promise for yourself. Testify to yourself, “God will provide” and watch how God sets you free from fear—because he will and he will provide, just like he promised.

### Principle #3: Wealth is a spiritual predicament.

Scripture warns us that money is a spiritual issue because it has the power to jeopardize our relationship

*(Continued on page 7)*

# Mini-Series:

## 5 Biblical Principles of Money

*(Continued from page 6)*

with God. Scripture refers to the “love of money” because money is intoxicating and we desire it! We desire it more than God. Money leads us astray: it invites us to place our trust in it rather than in God (1 Tim. 6:10), to acquire it for security rather than depend on God (Lk. 12:13-21), to hoard it for ourselves rather than share it with others (Mt. 19:21; Lk. 12:33), and yet we never reach a point where we feel we have enough (Ecclesiastes 5:10). For all these reasons, money leads us away from God’s will and purpose for our lives and for the world. That is why Jesus puts so much time and energy in the Gospels teaching us about the dangers of money. There’s no way around it—it is impossible to love money and God (Mt. 6:24; Lk. 16:13). The fact of the matter is this: Scripture warns us to be on guard with money so that we don’t give it the place in our hearts that should belong to God alone (Mt. 6:21).

If we take these two principles seriously and live them out, then the question for us is: How will I speak/act/make decisions/treat others/treat myself/use God’s money today because God is trustworthy?

Our prayer is: “Lord set me free from my love of money and help me to trust in you alone.”

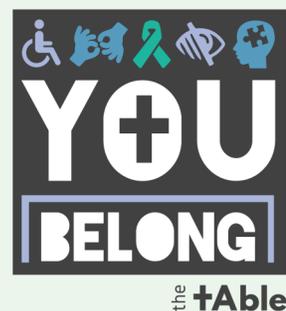
In Christ,

Pastor Emily Beckering



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in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives. Check it out at <http://www.elca.org/YouthGathering>.



Youth who are in 8th-12th grade as of this September (2017) may attend next summer. An adult from St. Paul’s will go with our youth and we will travel with Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Loveland. The event is June 27-July 1, 2018. If you are interested in attending this event, you must confirm with Pastor Emily by September 13.

## Community Meals at St. Paul This Fall



St. John's UCC, around the corner on Jefferson Ave., is undergoing kitchen renovations this fall. While their kitchen is out of service, they'll be hosting their weekly Community Meal on Thursday evenings in our fellowship hall.

We will probably need some volunteers from St. Paul to help out with knowledge of our building and where things are in the kitchen. St. John's is still finalizing their plans for exactly what they will need—please stay tuned for volunteer opportunities later this month.

## OWLS



In honor of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, we have seen documentaries of the life of Martin Luther. Now, on **Wednesday, Sept. 27**, we will be viewing *Martin Luther*, a dramatization of his life. After the film, there will be a brief discussion led by Carroll Mayhugh.

We plan to meet at church at 11:30 a.m., and eat lunch at Lucy's. If our group is large, we may order takeout from Lucy's and eat at the church. If you do not plan to lunch with us, be at the church by 12:15 p.m. The activity is open to all, so please feel welcome to join us. Sign up on the bulletin board if you plan to attend.

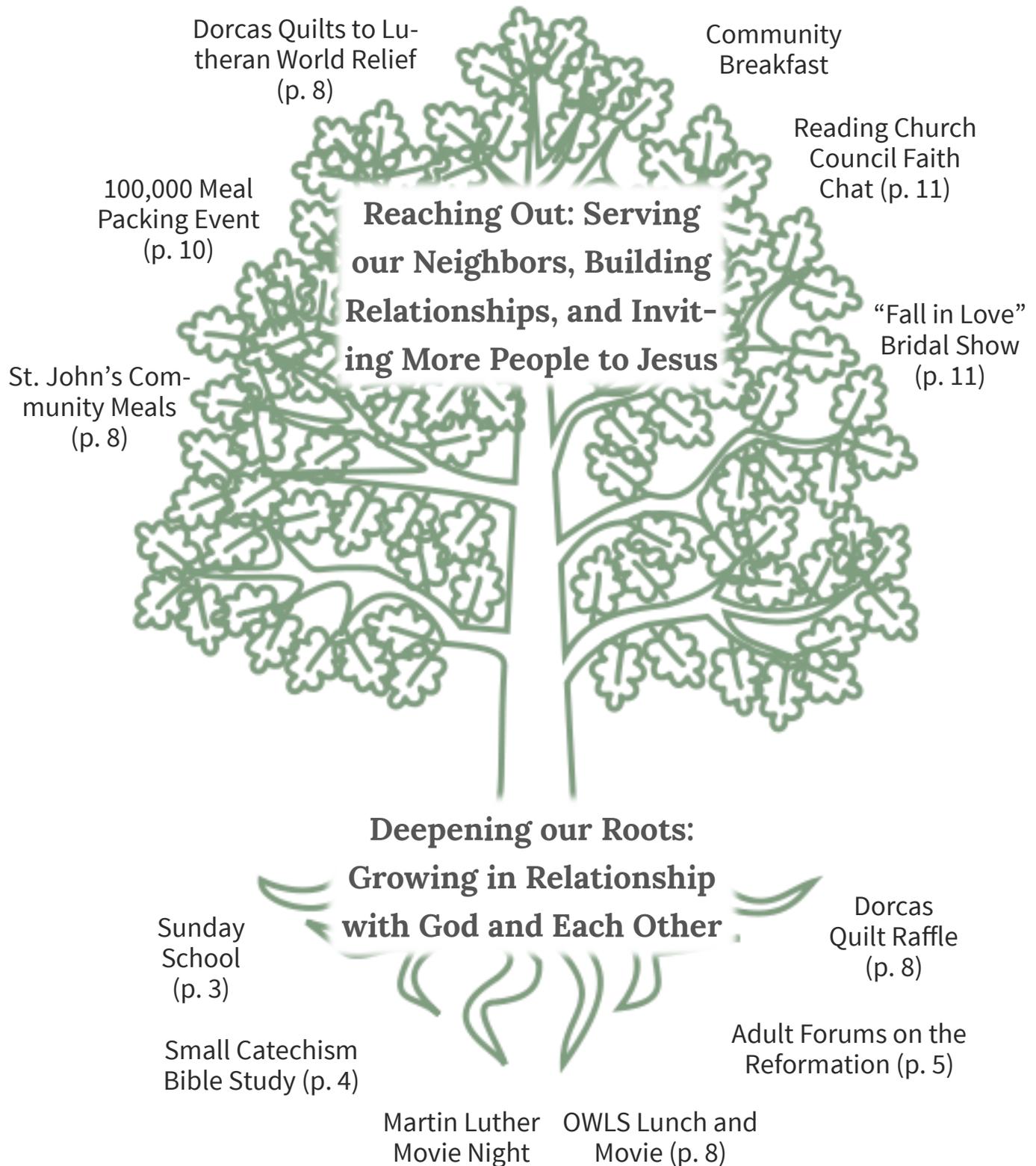
## Dorcas Circle

The ladies will meet twice in September. **On Wednesday, Sept. 6**, we will have a "Tie the Knot" party. All the ladies will be knotting many quilts that still need to be knotted. On Wednesday, Sept. 20, our team will complete the last of the quilts for our shipment to Lutheran World Relief.

On Sunday, September 24, all quilts will be displayed in the sanctuary and will receive the congregation's prayers of blessings. It is fitting that the blessing will happen on Stewardship Sunday, since the quilts are an offering of love, time, talent, and resources to care for neighbors.

There will be a **QUILT RAFFLE** to cover the costs of shipping the quilts overseas. Tickets will be sold in the narthex on Sundays during the month of September—\$4 per ticket or 3 tickets for \$10—one winning ticket per family. The drawing will be held after the service on Sunday, October 1, and the winners may select their quilts from the display. Later that week we will pack the quilts for shipment to LWR.

# Sowing, Reaping, Rebirth, and Joy this Month





# God's work. Our hands.

The Cincinnati Conference of ELCA Congregations  
in partnership with  
Northern Kentucky Hunger Relief

**100,000 Meal Packing Event**

at

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
7701 Kenwood Road  
Cincinnati, OH 45236

**Friday, September 15, 2017, 6:30 p.m.—9:30 p.m.**

**Saturday, September 16, 2017, 9:00 a.m.—noon**

**Saturday, September 16, 2017, 12:30 p.m.—3:30 p.m.**

Volunteer for one or more sessions on the sign-up genius  
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b054eacaa29a31-100000>

All ages welcome (5-95 years old) as we use Our Hands to  
do God's Work of feeding the hungry.

Funding for this event is partially provided by a domestic  
hunger grant from the ELCA.

Contact: Pastor Henry Zorn, 513-474-4938 or  
[pastorzorn@lcresurrection.org](mailto:pastorzorn@lcresurrection.org)

## “Fall In Love” Bridal Show Sept. 14

Please consider helping welcome visitors to the “Fall In Love” Bridal Show on the evening of Thursday, Sept. 14, beginning at 5 pm. St. Paul will have a booth at the event itself, and visitors to the event will also be using our parking lot. We’d like to greet them and give them some info about weddings at St. Paul! There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. This is an excellent opportunity for our congregation to form relationships with young couples.

## Reading Church Council Faith Chat Sept. 10

Members of the Reading Church Council will gather at Mt. Notre Dame on Sept. 10 after worship for a potluck lunch and an ecumenical chat about the significance of Holy Communion. St. Paul has been chosen to bring desserts—please sign up in the narthex if you wish to bring something.

## September Sunday School Teaching Schedule

	Sept. 3	Sept. 10	Sept. 17	Sept. 24
<b>Ages 3-7</b>			Jane Erbeck, Jeni Cathcart	Jane Erbeck, Sarah Papin
<b>Ages 8-11</b>			Nancy Erbeck, Sarah Papin	Diana Hawkins, Steve Headley
<b>Jr./Sr. High</b>			Donald Harris, Kim Coulehan	Donald Harris, John Cathcart
<b>Nursery</b>		Jeni Cathcart, Maggie McDowell	Joyce McDowell, Linda Lawson	Bess Sturgill, Leandra Hawkins
<b>Activity Time</b>		Bess Sturgill	Penny Huber	Maggie McDowell

# Our Life Together

**For emergency pastoral care,** please call Pastor Emily Beckering, 513-760-5884.

**If you have requests for the Prayer Chain,** call Penny Huber, 513-931-6420. To remove people from the list, contact the office.

We pray for **Mary and her granddaughter Kyra** (friend of Paul Pieper); **Jim Barry** (Kathy Hirt's dad); **Berkeley** (Carol Curless's great-grandson); **Jimmy Bertheaud** (friend of the Portmanns); **Ethan Bronner; Merle Buck; Kathy Curless; Debbie, Steve, Jessica Davis** (friends of Holly Ford); **Julie Dietrich** (Ginny Pape's daughter); **Jeremy Doan** (Jean Winkle's grandson); **Jerry Doan** (Jean Winkle's son-in-law); **Rita Edwards; Bus Faulkner; Larry Faulkner** (Bus and Freda's son); **Justin Feldman** (Bess Sturgill's father); **Jim Forst; Bill Harris and Cheryl Harris** (relatives of Donald Harris); **Matthew Harrison** (Seals' neighbor); **David Hill; Les Helmich; Matt Huber** (Penny Huber's son); **Paul Johnson** (Paul Pieper's son-in-law); **Jay King** (son of Jamie King, who cleans the church); **Loretta Kombrink** (Marilyn Portmann's aunt); **Charlotte Langefeld; Barbara and Jack Moorhouse; Jean Nolte; David Oaks** (Bus Faulkner's son-in-law); **Ginny Pape; Ray Pape; Don Pflieger** (Kings' brother-in-law); **Faith Pirrmann; Nick Pirrmann; Sarah Rupert** (Carolyn Koehl's sister); **James Savory** (Jean Winkle's great-grandson); **Shawn Schnetzer** (Sturgills' cousin); **Scott** (Elinor

Schieman's grandson-in-law); **Jason Simpson** (Bus and Freda Faulkner's grand-nephew); **Scott Songer** (friend of Jean Winkle); **Crosley Spelman** (Spelmans' grandson); **Walter Sprenger** (Portmanns' friend); **Swafford family; Britney Jean Teems** (Jean Winkle's granddaughter); **Randy Thaman** (friend of Marie Calhoun); **Richard Thompson** (friend of Marie Calhoun); **Sherman and Mike Waddle; Mary Wagner; Jane Weatherford** (Donald Harris's mother); **Susan Winkle** (Jean Winkle's daughter-in-law).

We pray for those with ongoing health concerns who are unable to come to church every week: **Bernice Baglien, Dottie Bangert, Pat Edwards, Bus Faulkner, Mary Jane Flege, Ruth Jones, Carol Leonard, Jack and Barbara Moorhouse, Jean Nolte, Heather Segar, Edna Willet.**

We pray for our armed forces members: **Paul Cordes** (Elinor Schieman's grandson); **Jared Forst** (Jim and Loretta's grandson); **John Garbrecht** (Carolyn Koehl's nephew); **Beau Glenn** (Karen Koehl's son-in-law); **Kylie Hahn** (Gretta Hahn's granddaughter); **Donald Hosea** (Karen Koehl's son); **Andy Langefeld** (Nelson and Charlotte's grandson); **Jobeth Ramirez** (friend of Karen Koehl); **Joshua Rodriguez** (friend of Karen Koehl); **Trent Schwegman** (cousin to the Erbecks and Fords); **Dustin Silvey; Mack Thompson** (Freda and Bus Faulkner's grandson).

# Ministry Schedule

<p>Month-Long Ministries</p>	<p>Bulletins: Carole Replogle and Pat Coldiron Greeter: Chelsea King Altar Guild: Shirley Harbaugh, Linens &amp; Cleanup; Carole Replogle, Setup</p>
<p>September 3 13 Pentecost</p>	<p>Assisting Minister: Nancy Erbeck Lesson Reader: Shirley Lathrop Acolyte: Donny Cathcart</p>
<p>September 10 14 Pentecost</p>	<p>Assisting Minister: Donald Harris Lesson Reader: Cindy Mayhugh Acolyte: Jared Isaacs Communion Ministers: Chelsea King, Elinor Schieman</p>
<p>September 17 15 Pentecost</p>	<p>Assisting Minister: Leandra Hawkins Lesson Reader: Sherry Bronner Acolyte: Grant Lohmeier Communion Ministers: Ron &amp; Shirley Harbaugh, Carolyn Koehl</p>
<p>September 24 16 Pentecost</p>	<p>Assisting Minister: Doug Lohmeier Lesson Reader: Kathy Hirt Acolyte: Ian Cathcart Book Bearer: Matthew Lawson Communion Ministers: Elinor Schieman, Chelsea King</p>

St. Paul  
Lutheran Church

As a community of Christian believers, we are called by God to use the many gifts He has given us, within the church and the community, so others may come to know Him.

## Chancel Choir Begins Sept. 27

Choir rehearsals will begin on Wednesday evening, 27 September, at 7:00 pm.

Chancel Choir is open to everyone who has reached confirmation age. No prior experience is necessary. While ability to read music is certainly an asset, it is not a requirement: Christians have been learning to read music in church choirs for centuries.

To join the Chancel Choir, simply show up at a rehearsal. The rehearsal on 27 September will be held in the 2nd floor Music Office, since we need to pass out music folders and quite a bit of music. Most other rehearsals will be held in the sanctuary.

Fringe benefits include the fellowship of other choir members and a reserved seat close to the action!

St. Paul  
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PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE