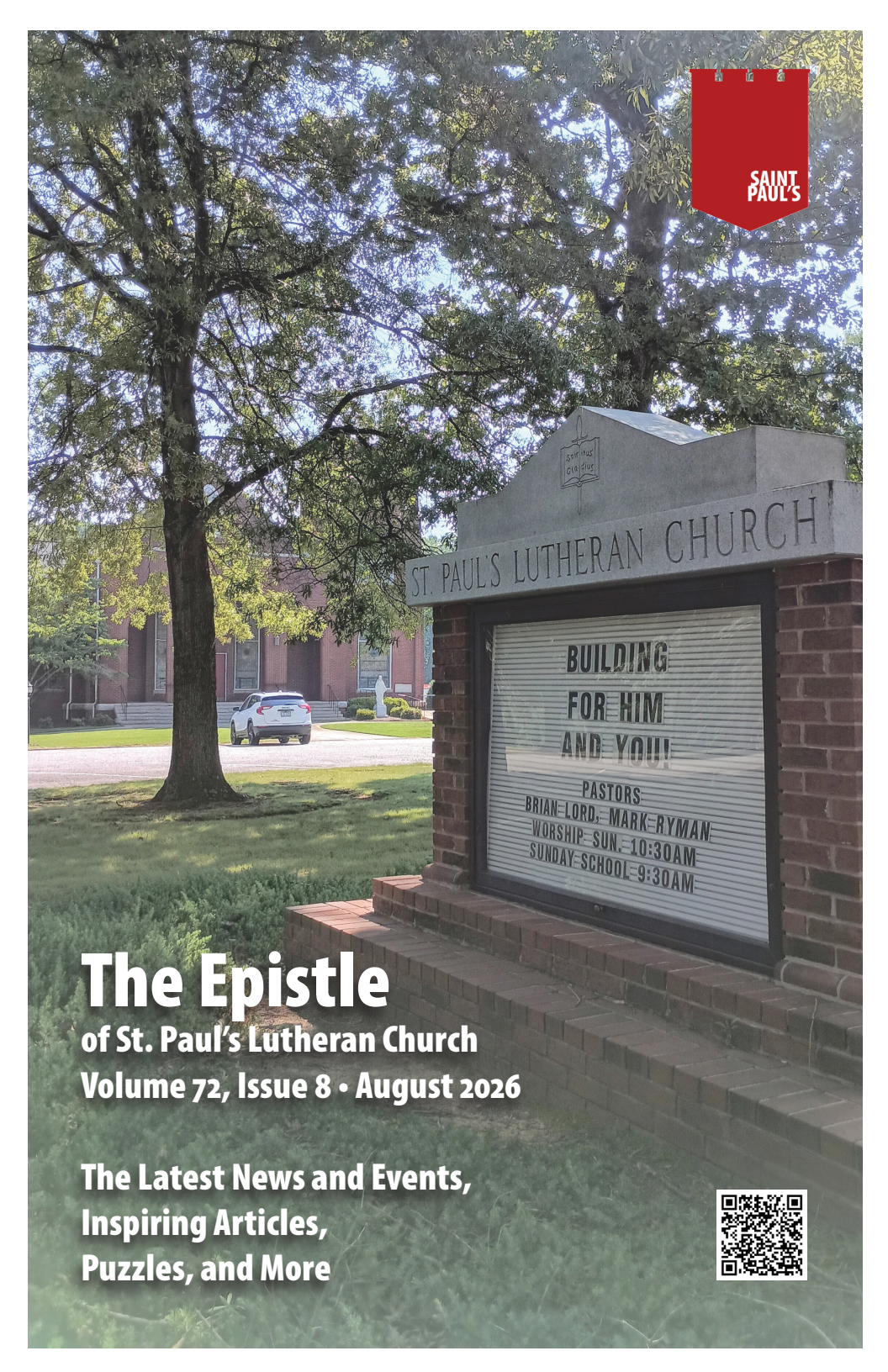




SAINT
PAUL'S

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

**BUILDING
FOR HIM
AND YOU!**

PASTORS

BRIAN LORD; MARK RYMAN

WORSHIP SUN. 10:30AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM

The Epistle

of St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Volume 72, Issue 8 • August 2026

**The Latest News and Events,
Inspiring Articles,
Puzzles, and More**



Moving Forward Together: How We Are Serving You in This New Season

“To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven” (Ecclesiastes 3:1)

These timeless words from Ecclesiastes remind us that every shift in our lives is held within God’s perfect timing and purpose. It has been such a joy walking through this particular season over the past two months as Pastor Ryman and I began our new roles together.

We are both overflowing with gratitude for your constant prayers, encouragement, and the beautiful grace you’ve shown us during this transition. You might have noticed our Sunday mornings looking a little different lately, a change that reflects this new chapter as I step into preaching more frequently while Pastor Mark continues to share the word at a cadence of his choosing.

While change can sometimes feel like stepping into the unknown, these seasons also bring incredible growth and promise. Pastor Ryman has been prayerfully preparing for this moment since I first joined you as your associate pastor nearly two years ago. By defining our paths early on, he has ensured a smooth transition that keeps our shared focus exactly where it belongs: on the ministry and the people we love.

It is so encouraging to remember that our journey together actually began with a similar transition two years ago when you called me here as your associate pastor! Just as we navigated that change with hope, we can move forward today with even greater confidence. This shift is simply the next step in our collective devotion to seeing our church family thrive for years to come.

Throughout my time serving as your associate and completing my ordination requirements, Pastor Ryman has been a dedicated mentor. I am deeply thankful for the gift of his guidance and the strong foundation he has built here over the last six years. Under his caring example, we have grown into a partnership of Word and Sacrament that we are excited to continue.

So, what does this beautiful new chapter look like for our congregation? In many ways, it will feel familiar as we continue to serve you with the same heart, with a gentle shift in our primary

focus.

As your Associate, Pastor Ryman will continue the vital ministry of visiting those who are homebound and in nursing homes, ensuring our whole family feels connected. I will be visiting our members in the hospital.

Pastor Ryman will also continue to bless us from the pulpit at least one Sunday a month, while I preach more frequently, and we will both continue to share the joy of leading our midweek services during Advent, Lent, and our two services on Easter, dividing those responsibilities during those occasions. You will see me continue to preach and lead worship almost every Sunday, including Autumn Care and Vespers. Leading services also includes our occasional presiding over baptisms, weddings, and funerals.

I look forward to the privilege of leading our teaching ministry, specifically our Tuesday Bible Study gatherings, new-member classes, and the sacred milestones of First Communion and Confirmation. Pastor Ryman has graciously allowed me to use the content he produces as we work our way through the Bible.

Most importantly, we remain a team. We will continue to support one another during absences or illness to ensure our ministry remains steady. We look forward to this future with optimistic hearts, knowing that our shared journey is a testimony to God's faithfulness and our enduring commitment to St. Paul's.

Pastor Brian Lord



RHM Food for Thought Backpack Schedule

The Food for Thought Backpack program **will resume August 13th at Rowan Helping Ministries**. Our scheduled day is the second Thursday of the month from **10:00am until 11:00am**. We will have reminders on the church calendar. We have eleven volunteers signed up to help so far. **We could use a few more volunteers**. If you are interested, contact Susan Bernhardt.

Calendar of Events for August

Sundays

- Sunday School at 9:30am each Sunday
- Worship service at 10:30am each Sunday
- Vespers each Sunday evening at 6pm in the parsonage
- August 2 – Recognition of new members, 10:30am
- August 2 – Grace Ridenhour Circle, pulpit side transept, Noon
- August 2 – Bernhardt reunion, Christiana Lutheran, 12pm
- August 2 – Autumn Care worship service, 2pm
- August 2 – Youth and Family Committee, 2pm
- August 9 – Kathy Ketchie Circle, pulpit side transept, Noon
- August 9 – Christian Education Committee, 2pm
- August 9 – Worship & Music Committee, 3pm
- August 16 – Autumn Care worship service, 2pm
- August 30 – Rally Day; all are encouraged to bring a friend to Sunday School at 9:30am, and to worship with us at 10:30am

Monday–Friday

- 8:30am–Morning prayer in the counting room.
Look for “Daily Word” on our website.

Mondays

- August 3 – Bingo at Trinity Living Center, 1pm
- August 3 – Facility Accessibility committee meeting, 6:30pm
- August 3 – Hama Lingle Circle, 7pm at the church
- August 10 – Melissa Lura Circle, 6pm
- August 10 – Finance Committee, 6:30pm
- August 10 – Outreach Committee, 6:30pm
- August 17 – September newsletter articles due this week
- August 17 – Council meeting, S. Salisbury Fire Dept., 6:30pm

Tuesdays

- Bible Study Classes, 10am and 6pm each Tuesday
- August 11 – Bonnie Bost Circle, 7pm
- August 18 – Staff meeting, 5pm

Wednesdays

- Adult Choir practice, 6:30pm each Wednesday
- August 12 – Classical Conversations home school starts and meets 8:30am–3:00pm each Wednesday
- August 12 – Ellen Bumgarner Circle, 10am
- August 26 – Fun Bunch Lunch, 11:30am

Thursdays

- Rowan Smart Start, 10am–Noon, each week
- August 13 – RHM Food for Thought, 10am
- August 20 – Friendship Club, 11am, Romano's Restaurant
- August 27 – Homeschool dance class, 4pm

Fridays

- August 14 – Youth & Family, Cannon Ballers Game, 7pm

Rally Sunday

Rally Sunday is August 30th. Some of the younger students may move to another class as they advance to the next school grade. Some will receive new Bibles. We encourage everyone to come to Sunday School to learn and enjoy good fellowship.

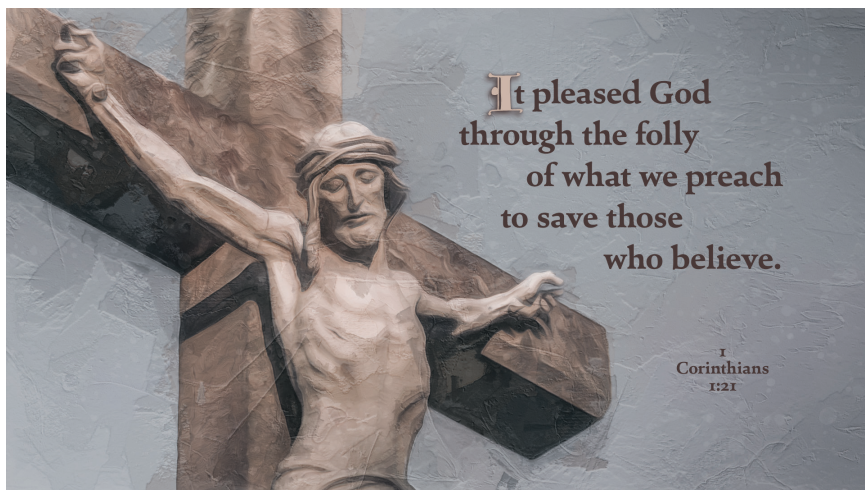
Friendship Club

The Friendship Club will meet on **August 20 at 10:30am**, in the church parking lot to carpool to Romano's Restaurant. The address is 1510 West Innes Street, Salisbury, if you prefer to go directly to the restaurant. They open at 11:00am. We will be seated together. Please contact Helen if you plan to attend. Hope to see you there for good food and fellowship.

Helen Gordon (704) 636-5002

Where there is love, there is God.

1 John 4:12



Lessons in the Lutheran Confessions, by Rev. Mark Ryman

From the Word: For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. (1 Corinthians 1:21)

How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?" So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. (Romans 10:14-17)

From the Lutheran Confessions: The Small Catechism, The Third Commandment

Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.

What does this mean?

Answer: We should fear and love God so that we do not despise

his Word and the preaching of it, but acknowledge it as holy, and gladly hear and learn it.

Pulling It Together: “God’s Word is the treasure that makes everything holy. Through it, all the saints have been made holy. God’s Word, at whatever time it is taught, preached, heard, read, or pondered, hallows there and then the person, the day, the work—not because of the external act but on account of the Word that makes us all saints” (Martin Luther, *The Large Catechism*).

It is the Word of God received in faith that makes one holy. The preaching of that Word is vital, whether it is a lector reading the Word aloud, a pastor proclaiming it from a pulpit, or the Holy Spirit speaking through a printed Bible or app. To be sure, the Spirit must be involved in that preaching. Inasmuch, we see that there are two things central to gospel preaching: God’s Word and God’s Spirit. Saving faith will not happen without both. You may read the Bible under the power of your own reason all day long and gain nothing without the Spirit providing faith and understanding. You may listen to preaching Sunday after Sunday, and hear nothing salvific without the work of the Holy Spirit.

This is why we are to honor the Word and its preaching. Through the holy Word of God, God makes holy those who believe—whether on Saturday or Sunday or any other day of the week.

Faith comes through the proclaimed word of Christ Jesus, the message of the gospel. It is the good news because salvation comes by no other name (John 14:6). Jesus Christ is the way to the Father (Ephesians 2:18). So, we should remember the one day above all others each week when this good news may be heard, and pray that by our holy example, others will come and hear the gospel proclaimed by a preacher of one sort or another, hear it, believe, and be saved. In this example, we see that the day is observed, not only for ourselves, but for others.

Prayer: Bring me to a love of your Word, Lord. Amen.

Did You Know?

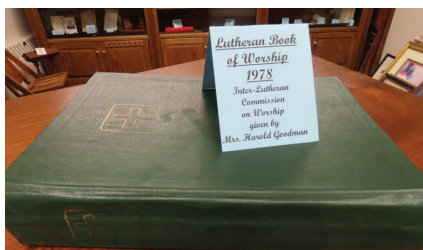
History of St. Paul's 1979–1980

During the year 1979, St. Paul's decided to enter the Internship Program with a seminarian being placed in a congregation by the Synod, with the approval of the Pastor and the congregation. (The Associate Pastor position that Pastor Brian Lord served filled the requirement of internship needed for his ordination.)

Our first intern was James Kinsler from Pomaria, SC, who served a very successful year at our church. The second intern didn't work out as well. His stay at our church lasted only five months and the project was dropped after that time.

In 1979, the church took on a new project, a Pictorial Directory. The directory would be one of the projects included in the celebration of the 150th Anniversary to be celebrated in the year 1980. Olan Mills Company was chosen to handle the project.

St. Paul's purchased enough copies of the Lutheran Book of Worship for the entire congregation. They were used for the first time on December 2, 1979.



During the year, St. Paul's gave monetary contributions plus donated blankets and children's kits to the World Hunger appeal; helped with finances, clothing, and workers at RCCM; participated in the Dial Help Program; and provided two full time volunteers and several other members who worked with patients at the Lutheran Home.

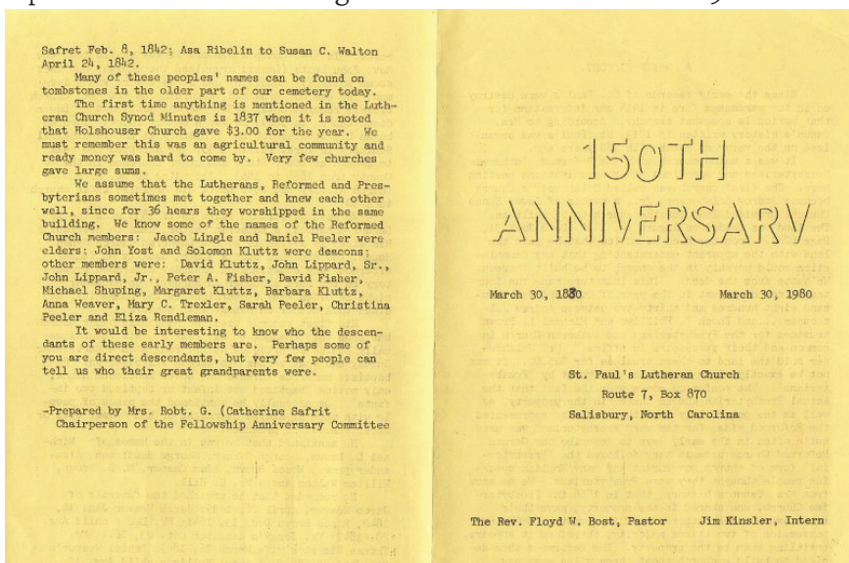
In 1979, 45 members of our church participated in the ten-mile CROP WALK and raised \$1,299 for World Hunger—an amount valued at more than \$6,000 in today's world!

The biggest event in 1980, of course, was the celebration of the 150th anniversary of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. A picture of the bulletin that was used on Sunday, March 30th is among those shown.



Martha and Jim Kinsler

On June 7th, 1980, a dinner commemorating the event was enjoyed by members, former members and friends. People were asked to dress in period costumes and bring food as it was served in the 1830's.



Bulletin from March 30, 1980, celebrating 150 years of St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Improvements to the church during the year were the repainting of the fellowship hall, replacement of the stage curtains by the Women of the Church, and the purchase of seventy-nine storm windows from McDaniel Awning & Manufacturing Company, was authorized. The church also approved support of the East Rowan Bible Class teacher and sent money to sponsor a Chaplain at *Boy Scout Camp John J. Barnhardt*, during the summer.

In 1980, the church had 891 baptized members, 687 confirmed members, 459 communing members, 305 average regular attendance, and 491 communing/confirmed members.



Crystal and Paul Canup



Carolyn and Bob Cress



Mita and Jeff Powlas
with daughter, Ashley



Harley and Mae Canup



Harley Canup
and Bessie Julian



Ruth and Cecil Bernhardt

Council Highlights

Council — met July 20, at the South Salisbury Fire Department. Our next meeting will be August 17.

We finalized the inactive member list. Five members were contacted one final time via phone call to try to encourage them to attend and worship with us. Four of the five have chosen not to return and therefore removed. One plans to attend soon, so we are waiting to see how this person follows through. One additional member was removed at their request.

We discussed increasing the two scholarships (Sadie and Hollie Ritchie; AND Brown-Heilig). We are going to pray about this and vote at the August meeting.

Christian Education Committee — schedule for the remaining year: Rally Sunday, August 30; Confirmation begins September 9; Christmas play, December 13 (dress rehearsal, December 12).

Worship & Music Committee — met June 14 (no meeting in July); received prices on a few adjustable organist benches. We have been using hymnals to adjust the height when we need a fill-in organist. The cost is going to be \$5,000.00. Council voted to order the bench. The McBride fund and Thrivent Dollars will be used to pay for the bench.

The committee members are looking into additional robes for acolytes and crucifers, or to alter some of the existing robes. They are still working on this issue. Next meeting, August 9, at 3pm.

Property Committee — received all the permits for a new well to be drilled at the parsonage; hope to start drilling by the end of July or first of August. Providing the service will be B. M. Wright Well and Pump Service. Property Brothers are doing clean-up work to help keep the cost as low as possible.

The church and parsonage insurance policy has been reviewed, and it is recommended to the church council that we switch companies. Turns out this was not as simple as just switching. This is still ongoing; we are speaking to both Church Mutual and Fisher/Greene Agency (Erie Insurance).

Requirements for both are changing and we are checking into these requirements. We will update everyone as soon as possible. Weekly chores continue every Monday. January – June they have put in 784 hours.

St. Paul's Facility & Accessibility Improvement Committee (FAIC)

Construction continues with completion of the retaining walls and the beginning of the block work for the new corridor connection at the back of the church. New brick is being laid, carefully tying into the existing brickwork on the exterior of what was previously the conference room. This is completing the connection between the new corridor and the new Lobby area.

The immediate goal is to get these areas dried in so that the work will not be entirely weather dependent. The rough-in plumbing for the basement bathrooms is complete, and we are moving forward with making these functioning. Once the basement bathrooms are functional, demo will begin in the kitchen and education building bathrooms.

Changes to the basement administrative offices will also begin as the basement bathrooms are made functional. We are working with the staff to ensure there is minimal disruption to their typical day as possible. Pam may be set up in a temporary workspace that will be equipped with a temporary phone and internet line.

Thank you again for your patience and prayers through this process. We remain excited and hopeful in bringing the church into a new era of accessibility that will benefit our current and future members for many years to come. (Josh Canup FAIC chair)

Outreach Committee — did not meet in July but they continue to work with Food for Thought, Pack-a-thon for America, and shut-in cards. Next meeting, August 10, at 6:30 pm

Finance Committee — met July 13. For the month of June expenses exceeded income by \$11,955.00. We have exceeded expenses over income for the year by \$52,232.00.

Youth & Family Committee — schedule for coming months:

August 14 – Cannon Ballers game

September 11 – Clean up for homecoming at 6pm

October 30 – Trunk or Treat 3–7pm

November 13 – Camping under the stars at the church.

December 11 – Christmas play practice

December 13 – Youth Christmas play, 4pm

We are also looking into starting a church garden.

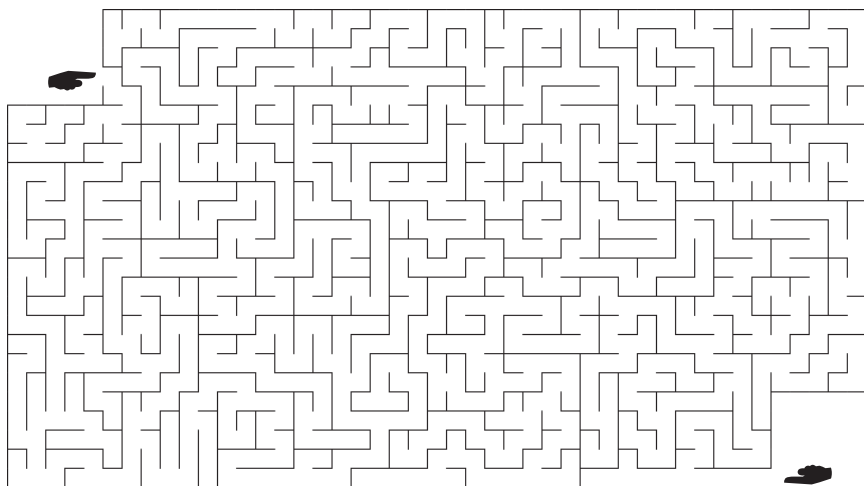
If you are not involved with the youth, you are missing a lot of fun! Come check it out.

Tech Committee

This is a new committee with Matt Holland, John Canup, Lee Aldridge and Kolya Baker. They are looking into our office computer, phone and internet needs.

Capital Building Fund

As of June 30th, we have received \$2,414,262.20, which so far is \$485,737.80 short of our \$2.9 million goal. During the month of June, we as a congregation gave \$13,771.88 toward our goal. We earned \$5,290.60 in interest thanks to the work our Finance Committee is doing. As said in every newsletter, **we still need to keep giving!**



Thank you

Thank you so much for considering and awarding me with the Brown Heilig Scholarship it means so much to me that you would consider me for this wonderful opportunity to grow and develop into my life outside of high school.

Love,
Andrew Baker

I would like to thank each of you for your prayers, visits, cards, and phone calls during my recent illness. I am so very blessed to be a part of such loving and caring church family.

God bless,
Jean Deal

Thank you for awarding me the Blanche and Hubert A. Ritchie Scholarship. I am so appreciative to receive this gift as I further my education at N. C. State. Thank you for your continued love, support, and prayer. I am so blessed to be a part of this wonderful church family.

Love,
Lindsey Whisnant

Words are not enough to express the love and joy that my St Paul's family has given me throughout the years, especially at my 90th Birthday Celebration. I am humbled to receive such outpouring of love, thoughtfulness and hugs. I have been blessed to have God's help and guidance throughout my life. I cherish the continuous support from each of you. Thank you!

With gratitude and love,
Sybil Athey

We would like to thank everyone for all the kind expressions of sympathy in the passing of my brother & Harold's brother-in-law. God was with my brother as with all of us who believe.

Louise & Harold Eller

Thank you for the prayers and encouragement from everyone while recovering from my recent neck surgery. Especially Pastor Ryman, Pastor Lord, the Friendship Club, and “keep your chin up,” Alice. It is a blessing to be a part of the St. Paul’s family.

God Bless,
Dan Dolan

Rex and I would like to thank everyone who has reached out to us with cards, texts, calls, food, visits, and the memorials made to the church during the past several weeks surrounding the death of his dad Bud Phelps. We appreciate each and every one of them.

In Christian love,
Rex and Lisa Phelps



Bible Studies and Prayer

Tuesday Bible studies (10:00am and 6:00pm) are working through the Bible with Pastor Lord. They are beginning the book of Deuteronomy this month. Each student receives a commentary written by Pastor Ryman, as well as crossword and word search puzzles that go with the readings. By the end of this Bible study, you will have a couple of notebooks filled with commentary, puzzles, and your notes.

If you come for the morning class, your belly will also get filled. A group of 10–12 go out to eat afterwards—usually at Jobangles (as Helen Gordon says).

Morning Prayer (8:30–9:00am weekdays) is a time of reading and discussing the Daily Word and praying through our church prayer needs and as God leads us in the Word. The daily readings may be found on each Sunday’s worship page at <https://StPaulsLutheran.Church/worship-services>

August 2026

Birthdays, Anniversaries (M/M) and Daily Prayer (**)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
2	3 Donna Johnson M/M Becky and Chris Sebastian	4 Tim Free
**Josh, Danielle, Hila, Clara, Lela, Nora, Julia, and Lydia Canup	**Elijah and Hailey Canup	**Michael, Heather, and Alexander Canup
9 Pamela Cottingham Tricia Clark	10 Shiela Barringer Gary Gaskey Gay Newsome	11
**Will and Karen Charles	**Savannah Charles	**Cori Charles
16 Bonnie Bernhardt Donna Lyerly M/M Jennifer and Lee Aldridge	17	18 Crystal Canup Daniel Tarbox
**John Cornelison	**Pamela Cottingham	**Matthew, Dani, Cyrilla, and Ceylah Cottingham
23 Sydney Lewis	24 Quinn Burnett Paul Canup M/M Susan and Ben Bernhardt	25 Russ Restivo
**Keith, Summer, and Lylla Deal	**Tim and Karen Deal	
30 Elizabeth Baker	31	**Barbara Deese
**Brian Earnhardt	**Mary Lee and James Earnhardt	

Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed.

James 5:16

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Clara Canup Edward Niedens Greg Wilhelm **Carolyn and John Canup
5 Candice Goodman Doris Hilliard Oliver Newsome Otto Newsome Susie Page **Cheryl Casper	6 Brian Goodman M/M Abby and Chad Walker **Tonya and Nathan Catledge	7 Matt Holland Seth Holland Franda Raymer **Lisa and Amaya Cerda	8 Kim Cress Nancy Powell **Edna Chapman
12 Keith Deal Alan Lyerly Abby Wilhelm **David Chilson	13 Ryan Friel Lauren Ziegler **Connie Christman	14 **Larry and Tricia Clark	15 Susan Faggart M/M Maranda and Bradley Girdler M/M Karen and Will Charles **Wayne and Jaudon Cline
19 Jessica Brooks Katie Lyerly Megan Plummer Emily Reeder M/M Gina and Allen Burnett M/M Jaudon and Wayne Cline M/M Libby and Russell Bingham **Kim and Teresa Cress	20 Sandy Canup Lindsay Lowman **Susan Cruz	21 **Alice Davis	22 Bob Barringer Drake Johnson **Jimmie and Jean Deal
26 John Brock **Jan and Dan Dolan	27 *Jamie and Sheridan Drew	28 Ryleigh Mull Kimberly Pepper **Jenny Earnhardt	29 Bishop Goodman Lisa Powlas M/M Nicole and Glen Amos M/M Shiela and Bob Barringer M/M Betty and Edward Niedens **Lisa Earnhardt

**Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks
in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in
Christ Jesus for you.**

¹ Thessalonians 5:16—18

St. Paul's Women Events

The Lutheran Women circles will not be able to have a bazaar this year. In order to help raise some funds for projects, we have proposed several smaller events.

The women of the Melissa Lura Circle will again make **chicken pies in September**. We will be selling them ahead of time. Two sizes will be available. Prices are \$8.00 for a small pie and \$25.00 for a large pie. Sign-up sheets will be out for orders on September 7th and 14th. Your pie orders will be available around the end of September.

The circles will put together some **raffle baskets** as we have done in the past for the bazaar. We will have them ready in October to sell tickets after church and during Trunk or Treat. The drawing will be November 7th at the Old Timey Stew.

Start looking around your house to donate items to have a **yard sale (NO CLOTHING)**. We will incorporate a baked goods and canned goods sale. The tentative date is November 7th, which is the same day as the Old Timey Stew. **We do not have a place to store these items at the church**, so for now just start looking at what you can donate. Items will need to be brought in that morning. We will also have our raffle baskets out at the yard sale so tickets may be sold.

In December we will have **DIY Christmas Cookie Boxes** for sale. They will have Christmas cut-out cookies in the box along with icing and sprinkles to decorate. These would make nice Christmas presents. More on these projects in the coming months, so be sure to read your newsletters for more information each month!

Bingo at Trinity Living Center

St Paul's Lutheran Women will be going to **Trinity Living Center on August 3rd, at 1:00pm, to play Bingo**. The clients always enjoy having people to talk to and interact with, especially children. We also assist some of them with Bingo. Trinity Living Center is at **1416 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. S.**, in Salisbury. Please consider coming out for some fun and fellowship. We would love to have you.

Missions

*More about all of our missionaries may be found at:
<https://stpaulslutheran.church/missionaries>*

Thank you for your gift of \$292.06 in June and \$270.08 in July to the ministry of Samaritan's Purse. Your gifts and prayers make it possible for us to provide relief in Jesus' name to those who are hurting here at home and around the world. As we share the gospel, we would appreciate your prayers. God bless you.

Sincerely,
Franklin Graham
President

Thank you for the donation of \$417.24 to Organ Lutheran Church Pantry & Outreach Program. We appreciate your support. Your contribution has made such a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

Linda Austin, Director

Thank you for your generous donation of \$125 to Lutheran Military Veterans and Families Ministries. Please know that your contribution is helping our military veterans, military contractors, and their family members receive direct care and support through the programs our ministry has to offer. Despite the many challenges that we are called upon to address, such as rising suicide rates among our military and their family members, it is reassuring to know that we have your prayers and support. As a ministry that provides free services, we look forward to bringing God's unconditional love, healing and comfort to those we serve.

Together in His Service,
CH Leslie Haines
Executive Director

Thank you for your recent \$292.06 contribution to Focus on the Family. It's encouraging to know that you're standing with us. Thanks again for your partnership. Blessings!

Sincerely,
Jim Daly, President

Friends in Christ, thank you for your gift of \$2,229.00! Marion Medical Mission (MMM) will use 100% of your donation as designated. The 2026 well goal is 4,000 wells. These wells will provide an estimated 400,000 of the extreme poor (an estimated 240,000 children) with a sustainable source of safe drinking water. Only through your donations and God's blessings can this be done. A Marion Medical Mission well can be built in the most remote areas. It is a well that the extreme poor know how to maintain and can afford to maintain. Safe drinking water brings life to these villages. It means healthier people who can work longer in their fields, producing more food, resulting in less starvation.



You are needed! Please help us tell this extraordinary story. Churches, Sunday School classes, small groups, families, and individuals are the strength and heart of Marion Medical Mission. If you know of anyone who would be interested, please share the miracle of MMM. Our role in this partnership is to continue providing the necessary financial resources.

Thank you for being part of the solution. The glory of God is shining brightly on this well program. Our efforts will continue until every village has a sustainable source of safe drinking water. When we pray, we move our feet!

Uchindami Kwa Chiuta
"Glory Be to God"
Tom Logan, President



Message of Salvation

Find the 29 bold words from Romans 10:8–17 ESV.

J D H S H T H R C Z H O L B K
I H E T C E N O I D Q B O E E
M K U S A R N E E C G E R E E
A O R R I F I V S O H Y D Z R
M D D K E A A P S H O E X P G
N R Q S D S R P T C T D S R H
E O S U A L E I S U M N L O A
T W F C E L A N H S R H U C I
T G O O D F W B A W R E F L A
I O P O N H A B M T E R I A S
R J U S T I F I E D G J T I I
W N O I T C N I T S I D U M M
E V E I L E B B R H H E A R T
K E U B E S T O W I N G E J A
F E G N I H C A E R P K B J K

But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your **mouth** and in your **heart**” (that is, the word of **faith** that we **proclaim**); because, if you **confess** with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God **raised** him from the **dead**, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is **justified**, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the **Scripture** says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to **shame**.” For there is no **distinction** between **Jew** and **Greek**; for the same Lord is **Lord** of all, **bestowing** his **riches** on all who call on him. For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be **saved**.” How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to **believe** in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone **preaching**? And how are they to preach unless they are **sent**? As it is **written**, “How **beautiful** are the feet of those who preach the **good** news!” But they have not all **obeyed** the **gospel**. For **Isaiah** says, “Lord, who has believed what he has **heard** from us?” So **faith** comes from hearing, and hearing through the **word** of Christ.

Prayer Needs

- Shiela Barringer – cancer
- Perry Bernhardt – recovering from surgery
- Larry Clark – recovering from surgery
- W. A. Cline – health concerns (*brother of Wayne Cline*)
- Jean Deal – recovering at home
- Dan Dolan – recovering from surgery
- Mitch Drew – health concerns (*Jimmy Earnhardt's nephew*)
- Frank Giambastiani – health concerns (*Lisa Lord's father*)
- Autumn Hill – recovering from injury
- Doris Hilliard – health concerns
- Jerry Hilliard – health concerns
- Judi Honbarger – recovering from surgery
- Randy Johnson – recovering at home
- Sally Kruchkow – health concerns
(*Tiffany Holland's grandmother*)
- Tammy Leazer – health concerns
- Alesia Lewis – health concerns
- Sydney Lewis – upcoming procedure
- Alan Lyerly – recovering from surgery
- Dennis Martinez – Hospice (*friend of Lisa Lord*)
- Bob McCanless – health concerns
- Chloe Monroe – upcoming surgery
- Kay Moody – recovering from surgery
- Craig Parks – health concerns
- Kensley Phipps – health concerns
(*Gail & George Reese's grand-daughter*)
- Will Poplin – health concerns (*Ann Poplin's son*)
- Carroll Reese – health concerns (*George Reese's brother*)
- George Reese – health concerns
- Linda Shirley – health concerns
- Dick Smith – health concerns
- Kelly Smith – health concerns (*friend of Karen Charles*)
- Mary Stewart – cancer (*former member*)
- Pedro Vincenty – health concerns

- Robin Wastler – health concerns (*Gail & George Reese's daughter*)
- Scott Watson – health concerns
(*son of Larry and Leilani Watson*)
- Jayne Weinhofer – recovering from surgery
(*mother of Dani Cottingham*)
- Hugh Wilhelm – health concerns
- Kathy Wilhelm – health concerns
- Kenny Willis – health concerns (*brother of Gina Wilhelm*)

After a couple of months pass, we remove names from this list. They are only kept on the list if you update conditions through the church office.

Pray for Our Homebound and Long-Term Care

Bermuda Commons: Edna Chapman • *Terra Bella:* Della Jenkins

Trinity Oaks: Lottie Simpson, Allen Burnett

Home: Terry and Susan Beeker, Barbara Deese, Sonya Eller,
Shirley Hoosier, Ruth Julian, Susie Page, Melinda Redding,
Dottie Stancil, Jane Wilhelm

Mr. Stanley "Joe" Lynch, passed away on Monday, June 15, 2026.

Joe was the father of Sherry Barringer.

Please keep Mr. Lynch's family in your prayers.



Mr. George Lee "Bud" Phelps Jr. passed away Monday, June 29, 2026.

Bud was the father of Rex Phelps.

Please keep Mr. Phelps' family in your prayers.



The Faithful Trust

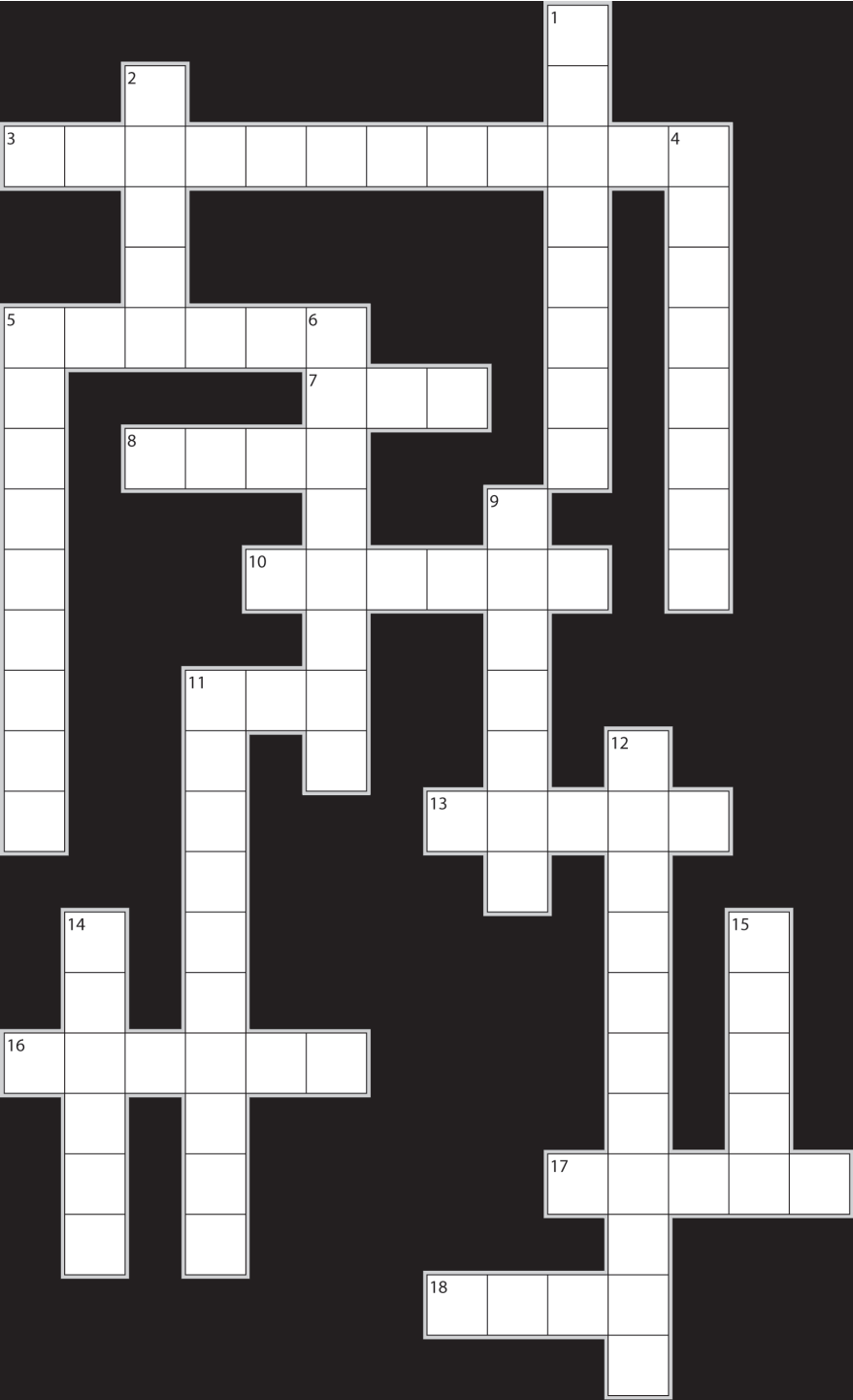
Solve this puzzle about Christian stewardship.

ACROSS

3. What quality is required above all else in a steward?
5. What are believers called to offer as living sacrifices?
7. What percentage of income constitutes a traditional tithe?
8. What did the poor widow put into the temple treasury?
10. What master cannot be served simultaneously with God?
11. Who is the ultimate owner of everything on earth?
13. What root of evil is linked to the desire for wealth?
16. Whose visual image was stamped on the coin Jesus used to teach about taxes?
17. According to Jesus, what follows your treasure?
18. What resource should believers redeem because the days are evil?

DOWN

1. God loves this kind of giver.
2. What did Barnabas sell to give money to the apostles?
4. Ananias and _____ died for lying about giving.
5. What kind of spiritual harvest comes from sowing generously?
6. What type of managers are Christians expected to be with God's gifts?
9. What standard does Malachi say people violate when they withhold tithes?
11. Which Macedonian trait did Paul praise despite their extreme poverty?
12. Who was Abraham's tithe given to after the battle?
14. Where should believers store up their primary treasures?
15. How did Jesus tell to sell everything and give to the poor?



Memorial Gifts

A gift was received in memory of **Becky Lyerly** and all of her work at St. Paul's for the Capital Building Fund from

Members of the Extension Club

A gift was received in memory of **Linda Beaver** for the Capital Building Fund from

Christine Maloney

A gift was received in memory of **Grady Earnhardt** for the Capital Building Fund from

Christine Maloney

A gift was received in memory of **Craig Honbarger** for the Capital Building Fund from

Christine Maloney

A gift was received in memory of **Mary Holland** for the Capital Building Fund from

Christine Maloney

A gift was received in memory of **Sharon McBride** for the Capital Building Fund from

Christine Maloney

Gifts were received in memory of **Steve Shuping** for the Capital Building Fund from

Dana and Crystal Bost

Karen and Tim Deal

Sarah Goodman

Judi and David Honbarger

Christine Maloney

Susan and Mark Ryman

Johnsie and Wayne Taylor

Gifts were received in memory of **Joe Lynch**, father of Sherry Barringer, for the Capital Building Fund, from

Ben and Susan Bernhardt

Crystal and Dana Bost

Helen Gordon

Bonnie and Wayne Hinson

Cindy and Frank Hinson

Susan and Mark Ryman

Gifts were received in memory of **George "Bud" Phelps**, father of Rex Phelps, for the Capital Building Fund, from

Ben and Susan Bernhardt

Crystal and Dana Bost

Tim and Karen Deal

Jenny Earnhardt

Helen Gordon

Bonnie and Wayne Hinson

Cindy and Frank Hinson

Judi and David Honbarger

Kay Moody

Franda Raymer

Susan and Mark Ryman

A gift was received in honor of **Lori and Perry Bernhardt's 50th anniversary** for the Capital Building fund from

Casey and Ciji Fisher,

Sutton and Stanton Fisher

A gift was received in honor of **Tony Heilig's 70th birthday** for the Capital Building Fund from

Delores Stanley

A gift was received in honor of **Alice Davis' birthday** for the Capital Building Fund from

Jerry Menster family

Gifts were received in honor of **Helen Gordon's birthday** for the Capital Building Fund from
Lee and Jennifer Aldridge
Travis and Cindy Alligood
Ben and Susan Bernhardt
Perry and Lori Bernhardt
Alice Davis
Karen and Tim Deal
Frank and Cindy Hinson
Sarah Goodman
Bonnie and Wayne Hinson
Mita Powlas
Susan and Mark Ryman
Jeanne and Tony Shaver
Ruth and Johnny Webb
Kenneth, Bethany, Lauren
and Lindsey Whisnant
Teresa Woods

Gifts were received in honor of **Sybil Athey's birthday** for the Capital Building Fund from
Cooper Aldridge
Lee and Jennifer Aldridge
Cindy and Travis Alligood
Ben and Susan Bernhardt
Perry and Lori Bernhardt
Susan Cruz
Alice Davis
Karen and Tim Deal
Helen Gordon
Bonnie and Wayne Hinson
Irene Miller
Susan and Mark Ryman
Teresa Woods

A gift was received in honor of **Cathy Stewart's birthday on August 4th** for the Capital Building Fund from
Mary Stewart

A gift was received in honor of **Bonnie Bernhardt's birthday on August 16th** for the Capital Building Fund from
Mary Stewart

A gift was received in honor of **Autumn Hill's birthday** for the Capital Building Fund from
Helen Gordon

A gift was received in honor of **Pastor Mark Ryman's birthday** for the Capital Building Fund from
Alice Davis

A gift was received in honor of **Lisa Lord's birthday** for the Capital Building Fund from
Helen Gordon

A gift was received in honor of **Pastor Ryman, Pastor Lord, and Pamela Cottingham** for the Capital Building Fund from
Dottie Stancil

A gift was received in honor of **Lauren Holland, Kara Burnett, and all VBS volunteers** for the Capital Building Fund from
Helen Gordon

A gift was received in honor of **Vaughn Lyerly** for the Capital Building Fund from
Susan and Mark Ryman

A gift was received in honor of **Brenda and Brian Maas** for the Capital Building Fund from
Susan and Mark Ryman

Offering

Online Giving is accessible at StPaulsLutheran.
Church/give. Scanning this QR code will take you
directly to the giving page. There is a minimal fee
for each transaction.



General Fund Giving and Expenditure Report June, 2026

Income for June	\$30,743.03
Expenditures for June	\$42,697.65
Net Income (income minus expenses)	\$-11,954.62
Income year to date	\$231,352.66
Expenditures year to date	\$283,584.68
Net Income YTD (Income minus expenses)	\$-52,232.02

The report above is provided to you for information as you plan your giving to St. Paul's. It includes income and expenditures for the General Fund only, which is for the ongoing budgeted operations of the church. This does not include special gifts made to dedicated funds or to the Capital Building Fund. In addition to our benevolences, our children collect a weekly spare-change mission offering. So, please bring your spare change to worship!

Go into all the world
and proclaim the gospel
to the whole creation.

— Mark 16:15 —

General Fund

For the month of June, our expenses were greater than our income by \$11,654.62. As a church family, we ask you to prayerfully consider ways to help.

Percentage Giving

Use this chart to help you decide what percentage of your annual income to give in offerings per week:

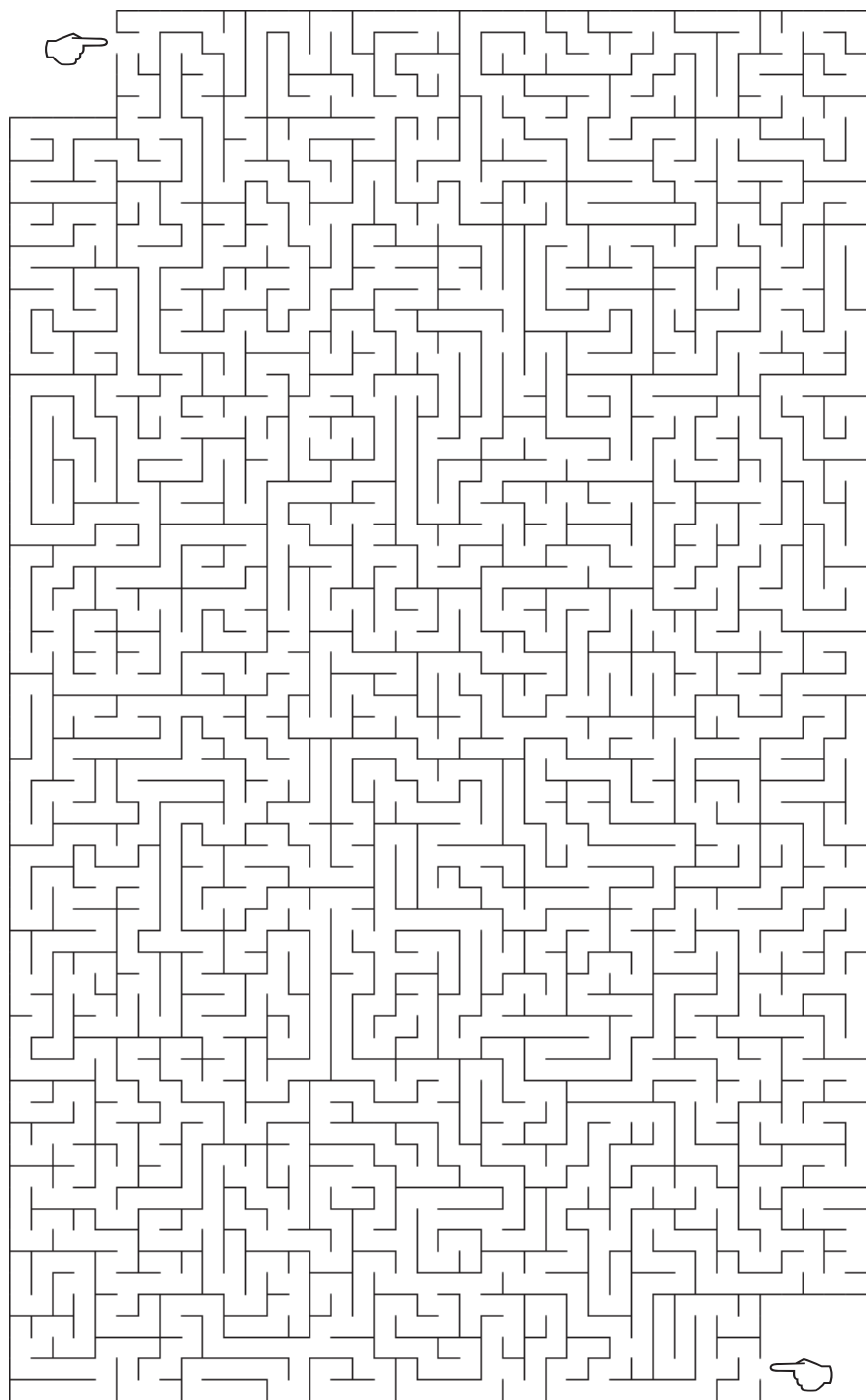
Annual Income	Weekly Giving (in Dollars)					
	12%	10%	8%	6%	4%	2%
\$5,200	12.00	10.00	8.00	6.00	4.00	2.00
\$6,500	15.00	12.50	10.00	7.50	5.00	2.50
\$7,800	18.00	15.00	12.00	9.00	6.00	3.00
\$9,100	21.00	17.50	14.00	10.50	7.00	3.50
\$10,400	24.00	20.00	16.00	12.00	8.00	4.00
\$11,700	27.00	22.50	18.00	13.50	9.00	4.50
\$13,000	30.00	25.00	20.00	15.00	10.00	5.00
\$14,300	33.00	27.50	22.00	16.50	11.00	5.50
\$15,600	36.00	30.00	24.00	18.00	12.00	6.00
\$18,200	42.00	35.00	28.00	21.00	14.00	7.00
\$20,800	48.00	40.00	32.00	24.00	16.00	8.00
\$23,400	54.00	45.00	36.00	27.00	18.00	9.00
\$26,000	60.00	50.00	40.00	30.00	20.00	10.00
\$28,600	66.00	55.00	44.00	33.00	22.00	11.00
\$31,200	72.00	60.00	48.00	36.00	24.00	12.00
\$36,400	84.00	70.00	56.00	42.00	28.00	14.00
\$41,600	96.00	80.00	64.00	48.00	32.00	16.00
\$46,800	108.00	90.00	72.00	54.00	36.00	18.00
\$52,000	120.00	100.00	80.00	60.00	40.00	20.00
\$65,000	150.00	125.00	100.00	75.00	50.00	25.00
\$78,000	180.00	150.00	120.00	90.00	60.00	30.00
\$91,000	210.00	175.00	140.00	105.00	70.00	35.00
\$104,000	240.00	200.00	160.00	120.00	80.00	40.00
\$117,000	270.00	225.00	180.00	135.00	90.00	45.00
\$130,000	300.00	250.00	200.00	150.00	100.00	50.00
\$150,000	346.00	288.00	231.00	173.00	115.00	58.00

Who Can Be Against Us?

Find the 29 bold words from Romans 8:31–39 ESV.

T S N I A G A J D Y D C U N P
N E V O L R F U L R I P C O E
E S T F E A U S D C O R Y I R
S Q G A M P U T I E E W A T S
E W E I R O X I D A A N S A E
R R N L I A H F T R G T R L C
P E A C E S P I S E O A H U U
W G A P R C O E L D I L D B T
X R J E S N T S S S E I E I I
G J W D I S T R E S S F D R O
C O N D E M N D G C J E R T N
P G N I D E C R E T N I A R U
D E P T H V S R E L U R G I Y
L G H S L A U G H T E R E D P
T U V R E G N A D T S I R H C

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be **against** us? He who did not **spare** his own Son but **gave** him up for us all, how will he not also with him **graciously** give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's **elect**? It is God who **justifies**. Who is to **condemn**? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was **raised**—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is **interceding** for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall **tribulation**, or **distress**, or **persecution**, or **famine**, or nakedness, or **danger**, or **sword**? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are **regarded** as sheep to be **slaughtered**." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither **death** nor **life**, nor **angels** nor **rulers**, nor things **present** nor things to come, nor **powers**, nor height nor **depth**, nor anything else in all **creation**, will be able to **separate** us from the **love** of God in **Christ** Jesus our **Lord**.





St. Paul's Lutheran Church

A family of faith sharing the gospel and love of Christ

Phone: 704-633-0922

Website: StPaulsLutheran.Church

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StPaulsLCMC

Wi-Fi: splcguest – pass: SavedbyGrace

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Friday 8:30 a.m. – 12 Noon

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Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)

St. Paul's newsletter, the "Monthly Epistle," is intended to keep everyone informed about happenings within the congregation that effect and contribute to our ministry together. In order to maximize reach and minimize cost, the preferred methods of distribution are by email, and posting on our St. Paul's website (www.StPaulsLutheran.Church). All members are encouraged to use the newsletter as a resource to help you consider how God is calling you to be involved in the life of his church. If you are unable to access the newsletter online, or would just like to have a printed copy to refer to, the most cost-effective way to receive it is to pick up a copy from the narthex or church office. We mail copies to those members whom we know don't have online access, or are shut-in. If you want to be added to our mailing or email list, please contact the church office.