

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
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THE EPISTLE

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Pastor's Column

Hello, my friends,

As I type this, I am listening to the rain outside and reflecting on the reality that we are now in the Autumn season. I like Autumn, but I must admit my head is still in the summer months, and I am not looking forward to the time change when imminent darkness seems to descend. However, soon, there will be Halloween lights, and the lights of Christmas will usher in the true light of this world.

The changing of seasons, especially the transition into autumn, often brings a sense of reflection and introspection. As the days grow shorter and the air becomes crisper, we are reminded of the cyclical nature of life and the beauty in change. Autumn, with its falling leaves and harvest time, symbolises letting go of the old and preparing for the new. It's a time to appreciate the abundance we've been given and to prepare for the quieter, more introspective winter months.

In the Old Testament reading this Sunday, we journey with the Israelites in the desert; we see a different kind of transition and reflection. The Israelites, wandering in the desert, struggle with their circumstances. They long for the comforts of Egypt despite their hardships there and express dissatisfaction with the manna provided by God. This passage highlights human nature's tendency to romanticise the past and resist change, even when it leads to growth and freedom.

Moses, burdened by the people's complaints, turns to God in frustration. He feels overwhelmed by the responsibility placed upon him and questions his ability to lead. God's response is to share the burden, demonstrating the importance of community and shared leadership in times of transition.

I think we have all felt like Moses at one time or another. We are overwhelmed by the changes around us as we balance the demands of our lives and those in it. Sometimes, it can feel that our best efforts are not appreciated, that we are not good enough. It is in those times that God shares our burdens, and we are reminded that we do not accomplish on our own. The Israelites, in the desert, fell into a trap. They got caught up in the changing uncertainties of their surroundings instead of realising what they had and who was with them. In these moments of change and uncertainty it is only natural that we would look to the past and glorify it for our comfort. Reflecting on these themes, we can draw parallels to our own lives. Just as the Israelites struggled with change and longed for the past, we, too, can find it challenging to embrace the new seasons in our lives. We can look to change as a new way of experiencing or we can resist and regret the changes.

However, we are not alone. The story of the Israelites also teaches us the value of seeking support and sharing our burdens with others. As we move into autumn, let us remember to appreciate the present, seek help when needed, and trust in the process of change and growth.

God's blessing,

Pastor Nic

CALL COMMITTEE

The Call committee has completed its task. After interviews and deliberations the committee unanimously agreed to inform the Bishop's office of our "Primary Candidate". Then that was presented to our church council. The council now needs to schedule a "Meet and Greet" for that candidate to meet the congregation before having a Congregational meeting. That meeting has to be announced with a minimum 30 day notice to ratify the call recommendation and the compensation package. Then the Primary Candidate could accept the call and give notice to their current employer.

Respectfully submitted,

John, Call Committee Chairperson

LATEST NEWS FROM BC SYNOD OFFICE

Please continue to hold Bishop Kathy in your prayers.

Bishop Kathy Martin underwent heart surgery on July 24th. She is now at home and receiving outpatient care while gaining strength. All call processes are on hold until the bishop has returned to work. The next step rests with the bishop contacting the candidate, and we are not sure when that will happen.

Worship Schedule

Sunday, October 6th – Pastor Nic Alexandre

Sunday, October 13th – Pastor Clifford Reinhardt

Sunday, October 20th – Corinne Love

Sunday, October 27th – Pastor Clifford Reinhardt

Council Corner

Hello Good people of St. Pauls Lutheran



Thank you for trusting in the Lord and knowing we will be stronger in our efforts made as a congregation rather than as individuals.

Praise God for leading us on this journey,
Praise God for planting in our hearts what is truly important and Praise God for encouraging us even when times are difficult.

There is no life without change.
I am reminded this autumn though the leaves on the trees change and fall the core stays solid.

Hebrews 13:8 "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever."

When everything else shifts and changes, you and I are still standing on a solid, unchanging foundation.

Please reach out to church council anytime and always! Exciting things are taking place.

The Lord is our solid foundation. Amen.

Tonya
Church Council



There has been a recent change within Church Council as Charrise Millan has stepped down as Financial Secretary.

For the balance of the year, I will assume those duties.

Gary, Treasurer & Financial Secretary

Evangelical Lutheran Women (ELW)
October 2024

Upcoming Events!

Next Meeting

Come and join us at our next business meeting on Saturday, October 5 at 10:00 am. We plan to meet at Helen's home so if you need directions or a ride, please give Linda a call.

The following is from a book called 600 Blessings and Prayers:

A Pentecost Thanksgiving

Thank you

For blue and green:

Rippling and raging, scouring and roaring
In gales of the Spirit, winds of change.

Thank you

For red and yellow:

Sparkling and blazing, leaping and alighting
In tongues of fire, torches of courage.

Thank you

For white and silver:

Quieting and consoling, inspiring and
Soaring
In dove of peace, messenger of hope.

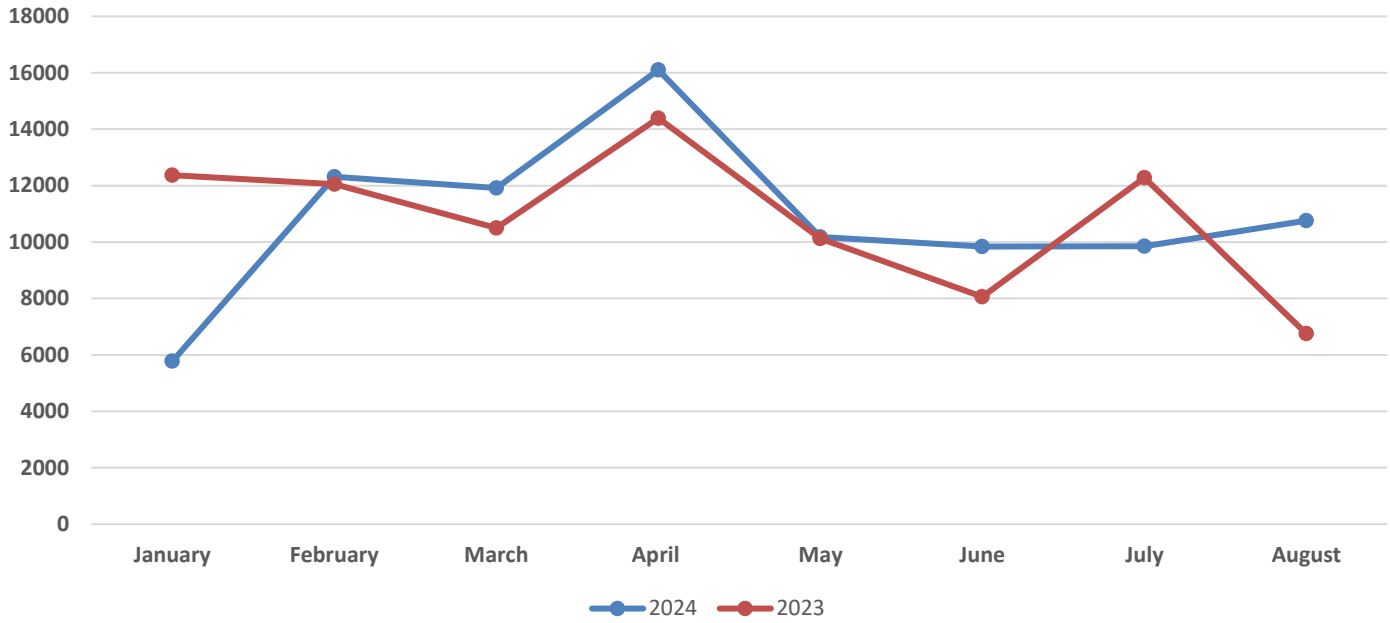
Thank you for all these colors

Of love and longing,
Wildness and wisdom,
Challenge and compassion.

So color our lives by your mighty Spirit,

That we change
Find courage,
Radiate hope,
For this is thanksgiving
More precious than words.

General/Offertory Contributions



Thank You!

for your excellent financial support of our parish.



Gary
Treasurer & Financial Secretary

THANKSGIVING DISPLAY THANKS BE TO GOD FOR OUR MANY BLESSINGS!

A tradition here at St. Paul's is to put together a Thanksgiving display highlighting gifts of the harvest – fruits, vegetables, plants, flowers.

In addition, we like to give thanks by donating items for the Friends in Need Food Bank. When we think of the many blessings in our lives, let us not forget those who are struggling.

We welcome your donations.

The Altar Guild will be putting the display together on Saturday, October 12 from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

You are free to take your display items home after the Thanksgiving service.

If you have any questions, please talk to Linda.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING



ALTAR GUILD

Information about the Church Year - Part 9.

The Season after Pentecost:

We continue in the Season after Pentecost - a season of spiritual growth. This is the longest season of the Church Year and will last until Reformation Sunday in October.

Reformation Day

Reformation Day is fixed on October 31, but may be observed on the Sunday preceding that date. This year we will observe Reformation on Sunday, October 27. Reformation Day is the Anniversary of Luther's posting of his Ninety-Five Theses in Wittenberg, Germany, in 1517. The paraments will change to red for this Sunday.

All Saints' Day

November 1 commemorates all the baptized people of God who have died in the faith. This year we will recognize it on Sunday, November 3 and the paraments will change to white.

Linda
(Altar Guild Coordinator)

Give
Thanks
to the
LORD

