



The Word “E-edition”

The Newsletter of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

For All The Saints

Volume 2025, Issue X

October 2025

As we near the end of the Christian Church Year we will begin to consider biblical texts that present a picture of the “end times” or “the last things.” Some call the last season of the year, “Saints-tide” because of its proximity to All Saint’s Day and the association of the joy of the believer in relation to Jesus’ final return.

Truly, when considering the final return of Jesus, there are many ideas! I’d like to use the space below to share the historic Lutheran position on the return of Christ and to offer you comfort as you consider this dearly longed for day!

Chiliasm = Thousand Years?

This term comes from the Greek for “thousand.” In our day it is rendered “millennium.” The idea of the “thousand years” comes from Revelation 20:1-7 describing a period of time when the people of God reign with Christ. Christians ultimately have different understandings of this “thousand years” because they read Revelation from a different perspective. While some read Revelation “literally” in a “linear” manner, historic Lutherans read Revelation according to what we call the “historical grammatical” rendering of the text. That is to say, we should read it according to its intention. We must remember, there are 39 books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the New Testament and they are not all written by the same

person, in the same manner for the same reason. One thing that we learn right away when reading the book of Revelation chapter 1 is that it is called a “revelation,” “prophecy” and “vision.” Much of what John is to “write” is what he “saw.” Much of what John “saw” was presented to him in symbolical terms.



A scene from Revelation: Adoration of the Mystic Lamb, Ghent Altarpiece by Jan Van Eyck, 1432

Pre-millennialism—This way of viewing the text sees Rev. 20 presenting a literal 1,000 years in which the believer reigns on earth with Christ before the end.

Post-millennialism— This way of viewing the text sees Rev. 20 presenting a literal 1,000 years in which the Church will be in a flourishing or dominating position, during which time the Gospel will spread over the whole world.

Within each of these teachings comes additional teachings or ideas. What do the people do when Christ reigns on earth? Good question! Whatever the case, millennialism has developed other ideas such as “The Rapture,” “Dispensationalism,” and certain

thoughts about the physical nation “Israel.”

A-Millennialism— Historic Lutheranism is a-millennial in its approach to Revelation 20. That is to say, it does not teach a literal 1,000 years, but rather, understands the 1,000 years as a figurative number of completeness depicting the reign of Christ in and with those who believe in Him. This reign of Christ began at his birth and will be fully revealed at His second coming. Thus, the clear readings of Jesus’ own words in the Gospels are maintained and believers in Christ eagerly look forward to His second coming, confessing week after week, “I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.” (Nicene Creed)

Way back in the Reformation years there was confusion on this topic. Amazingly enough, this was one point on which the Lutherans and Catholics had full agreement! Today we want to be encouraged by the clear words of Scripture and allow the clearer texts to interpret the less clear texts. When we do this we will be left with comfort and hope in Jesus, who has promised us not to hope for an earthly kingdom, but to lift up our eyes and keep our mind on things above, looking forward to a heavenly one. Even so Lord Jesus, come quickly!

+Pastor Sherrill

2nd Annual Oktober-Fun-Fest & Picnic Highlights

What a wonderful Saturday afternoon, September 27th turned out to be for St. Paul's Lutheran Early Childhood Center's 2nd Annual Oktober-Fun-Fest and Picnic. Between 200 and 225 people attended Oktober-Fun-Fest. A great time was held by all. We look forward to seeing you again at the 3rd Annual Oktober-Fun-Fest tentatively set for Saturday, September 26, 2026. Below are just a few of the hundreds of pictures taken. To see more of the pictures along with videos from Oktober-Fun-Fest, please visit, St. Paul's Lutheran Early Childhood Center's Social Media pages

SPLECC website: <https://splecc.org/>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsCB>
X (formerly Twitter): https://x.com/splecc_cb



St. Paul's Lutheran Early Childhood Center
1500 N 16th Street, Co Bluffs, Iowa 51501
Ph. 712-322-3294 – www.splecc.org - [Facebook](#)



Scan the QR code to visit St. Paul's Lutheran Early Childhood Center website for more information.



St. Paul's Lutheran Early Childhood Center —October News



^^^This past month students have enjoyed keeping busy here at SPLECC. Pictures above our PS3 & 4 year old classes got to experience making both apple juice and grape juice with "Miss Glenda".

<<< Ellie helped collect a bountiful harvest from the garden our Pre-school children started in the spring. Kiarra and Aella enjoy experiences of the season.

<<< Hadley and Amaryllis expressing joy in their friendship. Twins Ellie and Graham enjoying each others company in the infant room.

vvv Students enjoying a visit from the CB Librarian.

Solid Deo Gloria!



2025-2026 Pipe Organ Dedicatory Series September 14th Organ Recital

On Sunday, September 14, 2025, St. Paul's hosted the first of three Pipe Organ Dedicatory Series Recital, with Timothy Schreiber as organist. Over 90 guests were in attendance to listen and participate in the recital. Pastor Sherrill opened the recital with an introduction/invocation and blessing of St. Paul's Pipe Organ. Tim Schreiber then opened with a prelude, before speaking to the audience about the organ of old and the organ of new along with giving reasoning behind the selections he chose for this evenings recital. The audience joined in singing several hymns throughout the recital. The recital completed with a closing prayer and announcements. Pastor Sherrill recognized Bedient Pipe Organ, President Ryan Luckey, who was in attendance, for his Company's dedication in designing and restoring St. Paul's Organ to serve the Church for the next one hundred years. Pastor also gave thanks to the St. Paul's Organ Committee for all their years of service to starting and completing the project. After the recital a reception was held in the Church Undercroft with everyone discussing how wonderful the organ sounded. The Pipe Organ Dedicatory Series will continue again on January 18, 2026, at 4pm, when Kantor Reverend Timothy Frank will be the organist. The Dedicatory Series will conclude on Sunday, April 19, 2026, at 4pm with Kantor Kevin Hildebrand. We look forward to seeing you at the next Dedicatory Recital.

If you would like to listen to the September 14th recital, you may go to St. Paul's YouTube page at the following link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UiUwa-3FMa8>

The program for the September 14th recital maybe viewed here: https://stpaulscouncilbluffs.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/14_SEP_25_Organ_Recital-I.pdf



Important Upcoming Dates

October

- October 5, 2025 Sunday
2pm Council Bluffs Life Chain
- 5:30pm IDW Council Bluffs Circuit
 Convocation Meeting &
 Dinner
- October 26, 2025 Sunday
12:15pm Reformation Potluck Dinner

November

- November 23, 2025 Sunday
12:15pm Thanksgiving Harvest Meal
- November 24, 2025 Monday
7pm Concordia Vocal Jazz
 Ensemble @ IWCC
- November 26, 2025 Wednesday
7pm Thanksgiving Eve Service

December

- December 3, 2025 Wednesday
5pm Christ Academy
6:30pm Advent Worship Service
- December 5, 2025 Friday
6:30pm Music Conservatory Recital
 & Reception
- December 6, 2025 Saturday
10:30am Music Conservatory Recital
 & Reception
- December 7, 2025 Sunday
2:30pm Music Conservatory Recital
 & Reception



Hymn of the Season For All the Saints LSB 677



1 For all the saints who from their labors rest,
 2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
 3 Oh, may Thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,
 4 Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine!



Who Thee by faith before the world confessed, Thy
 Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
 Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old And
 We feeblely struggle, they in glory shine; Yet



name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
 Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
 win with them the victor's crown of gold!
 all are one in Thee, for all are Thine.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

- 5 And when the fight is fierce, the warfare long,
 Steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
 And hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 6 The golden evening brightens in the west;
 Soon, soon to faithful warriors cometh rest;
 Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 7 But, lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day:
 The saints triumphant rise in bright array;
 The King of Glory passes on His way.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
- △ 8 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's far-
 thest coast,
 Through gates of pearl streams in the countless
 host,
 Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

Text: William W. How, 1823-97, alt.
 Tune: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958
 Text and tune: Public domain

The hymn “For All the **Saints**” gives thanks for God’s faithful-
 ness to His believers who have died in the faith. The word **saint**
 literally means “holy one” or “one set apart.” As such, it describes
 all of us who believe in Jesus, made holy through Him. For exam-
 ple, St. Paul often addresses his recipients as “**saints**,” such as in
 Romans 1:7 “To all those in Rome who are loved by God and
 called to be **saints**: Grace to you and peace from God our Father
 and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Article 24 of the Apology of the Augsburg Confession reminds
 us of the reasons why we remember those **saints** who have died.
 1) Thanksgiving: the saints are examples of God’s mercy, for
 which we give thanks to Him; 2) Strengthening of our faith: when
 we see how God worked His grace in their lives, we are encour-
 aged in our faith. 3) Imitation: we imitate their faith and their vir-
 tues.

A custom that we observe at St. Paul’s on All **Saints’** Day
 (November 1) is the remembrance of those **saints** of our congre-
 gation who have gone to heaven in the last year. These **saints**
 include those listed below. Thanks be to God for His **saints** who
 rest from their labors!

- January 6 - Karen Brandenburg
- June 2 - Gertrud Rossbund
- July 15 - Rev. James Tews
- August 17 - Robert Wege

St. Paul’s Lutheran Music Conservatory —October News

September has been a busy month for St. Paul’s Music Conservatory. We welcomed two new instructors Mr. Micah Fusselman (Strings), and Mrs. Annika Buckley (Piano). Instructors are also learning a new online scheduling software. During September, the Music Conservatory welcomed back 72 students for the 2025—2026 calendar year. Several of the Music Conservatory students were asked if they would share their musical gifts at the 2nd annual Oktober-Fun-Fest & Picnic. Below are a few pictures of the students at Oktober-Fun-Fest.

If you would like to learn how to play a string instrument or learn how to play the piano, there are a few openings available in Mr. Fusselman’s Strings Studio, and Mrs. Buckley’s Piano Studio. Please contact Timothy Frank to see about speaking with Micah or Annika.



**THANK YOU
DANIEL FRANK (KEYBOARD)
&
JAMES VILLARREAL (ACCORDION)
FOR SHOWCASING YOUR MUSICAL GIFTS AT
OKTOBER-FUN-FEST**

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY, NEBRASKA



Vocal Jazz Choir
KURT VON KAMPEN, DIRECTOR

**Concordia University, Seward, NE,
Vocal Jazz Choir to perform at
IWCC Performing Arts Center
Monday, November 24th, @ 7pm.**

Hosted by St. Paul’s Music Conservatory

Look for more information in the November
Newsletter, Bulletins, and Social Media Posts.



**St. Paul’s
Music Conservatory**
Where Music Serves



The Word - St. Paul's Mission - David's Harp + Adopted Missionaries



Deaconess Sandra Rhein visits St. Paul's on September 18th

St. Paul's adopted Missionary Deaconess Sandra Rhein, LCMS Sacred Music Educator in the Asia Pacific Region, joined the St. Paul's 3rd Thursday of the Month Women's Bible Study Group. Sandra presented several videos, and pictures, discussing current events going on in the Asia Region. What a blessed time. Thank you again Sandra for stopping in to visit with your adopted Congregational Family here at St. Paul's.



A Productive September: Pr. Frank at Mission Central, The Sticklers return and Pr. Sherrill at St. Paul Austin, Texas

David's Harp work was indeed happening during the month of September! On September 11-12 Pastor Frank, Pastor Sherrill and Samuel Frank flew with Trey Stickler to his family's home in Tuscon, Arizona in order to help bring their household back to Iowa. As you know, Trey is serving as full-time Director of Operations for David's Harp and Nicole, his wife, is now serving as part-time Administrative Assistant. Pastor Frank and I believe we have our best meetings when we are traveling somewhere together! Trey and Nicole are helping David's Harp so much! In the David's Harp/St. Paul's relationship, any David's Harp work can now take place in the upstairs office near the organ chambers.



On Saturday, September 20th Pastor Frank traveled to Mission Central to present, along with Sandra Rhein, to the Iowa District West Annual Fall LWML Retreat. The LWML continues to be a group that understands the work of David's Harp which is accentuated by the fact that many within the LWML are organists, choir directors, choir members, or instrumentalists. They understand our need for church musicians!

Finally, I traveled to Austin, Texas to another St. Paul, on September 24-26 to speak at the Texas Lutheran Musician and Pastor Conference. St. Paul is the home of a David's Harp conservatory called, "St. Paul Fine Arts Academy." There I gave two presentations and preached for a Matins service. It was a joy to be with Jonathan Mueller, whom we worked with to start this Academy as well as seminary classmate, Rev. Bryan Wolfmueller.



Throughout all of these endeavors it is a great blessing to be able to work with other Christians in our churches for the sake of encouragement, support and growth. God help us continue!

Scan the QR code to visit David's Harp website for more information.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church Statistics September 2025 St. Paul's Dashboard

September 2025 Attendance 8:00	458
September 2025 Attendance 10:45	336
September 2025 Attendance Seasonal Services	101
September 2025 Total In-Person Attendance	895
September 2025 Sunday Facebook Views	1,566
September 2025 Sunday YouTube Views	276
September 2025 Seasonal Facebook Views	1,082
September 2025 Seasonal YouTube Views	80
September 2025 Total Online Views	3,004
Total September 2025	3,899

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

239 Frank St
Council Bluffs, IA 51503

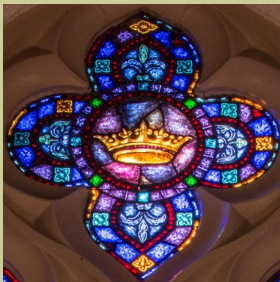
Phone: 712-322-4729
E-mail:
splccboffice@splccb.org

We're on the web
stpaulscouncilbluffs.org



St. Paul's Congregation
by the numbers

YouTube Subscribers	205
Facebook Followers	1,000+
Instagram Followers	12
X Followers	5
Congregation Members	560
Households	253



St. Paul's Lutheran Early
Childhood Center
by the numbers

Students	42
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St. Paul's Lutheran Church September Income &

St. Paul's	September 2025	2025 Year to Date
Total Income	\$ 41,561.54	\$ 387,770.74
Total Expenses	\$ 48,421.82	\$ 414,026.89
Income Less Expense	\$ 6,860.28	\$ 26,256.15

St. Paul's Music Conservatory September Income & Expense*

St. Paul's MC	September 2025	2025 Year to Date
Total Income	\$ 3,011.50	\$ 36,741.87
Total Expenses	\$ 1,485.50	\$ 40,738.96
Income Less Expense	\$ 1,526.00	\$ 3,997.09



St. Paul's Lutheran Early Childhood Center September Income & Expense*

SPLECC	September 2025	2025 Year to Date
Total Income	\$ 19,106.85	\$ 358,565.96
Total Expenses	\$ 27,517.25	\$ 391,850.81
Income Less Expense	\$ 8,410.40	\$ 33,284.85

* This is a snapshot of the income and expense report to as of 02-OCT-2025.

October 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 8a Divine Service 9:30a Education Hour 10:45a Divine Service	29 6p Bell Choir Rehearsal	30 9p Chapel @ SPL ECC 5p Christ Academy	1 9a Chapel @ SPL ECC 9:15a Parish & ECC Admin Meeting	2 9a Chapel @ SPL ECC 9:15a Parish & ECC Admin Meeting	3 4p Meis - True Wedding Rehearsal 9a Women's Bible Study 10a Men's Bible Study 2p Meis - True Wedding	4 9a Women's Bible Study 10a Men's Bible Study
5 8a Divine Service 9:30a Education Hour 10:45a Divine Service 2p Council Bluffs Life Chain 5:30p Council Bluffs Circuit Convocation Meetr	6 6p Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:10p High School Choir Practice	7 6a Men's Bible Study 6p Elder's Meeting 9a Circuit Pastors Meeting 9a Chapel @ SPL ECC 5p Christ Academy	8 9a Chapel @ SPL ECC 6:30p Council Meeting	9 9a Chapel @ SPL ECC	10 4p Meis - True Wedding Rehearsal	11 9a Women's Bible Study 10a Men's Bible Study
12 8a Divine Service 9:30a Education Hour 10:45a Divine Service	13 6p Bell Choir Rehearsal	14 9a Chapel @ SPL ECC 5p Christ Academy	15 9a Chapel @ SPL ECC 9:15a Parish & ECC Admin Meeting 11:30a Women's Bible Study	16 9a Chapel @ SPL ECC	17 9a LWML Faith Lutheran Adel, Des Moines west 10a Men's Bible Study	18 9a LWML Faith Lutheran Adel, Des Moines west 10a Men's Bible Study
19 8a Divine Service 9:30a Education Hour 10:45a Divine Service	20 6p Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:10p High School Choir & Festival Choir Comb!	21 9a Chapel @ SPL ECC 5p Christ Academy	22 Newsletter Articles Due 9a Chapel @ SPL ECC	23 9a Chapel @ SPL ECC	24 9a Women's Bible Study 10a Men's Bible Study	25 9a Women's Bible Study 10a Men's Bible Study
26 8a Divine Service 9:30a Education Hour 10:45a Divine Service 12:30p Reformation Dinner	27 6p Bell Choir Rehearsal	28 9a Chapel @ SPL ECC 5p Christ Academy	29 9a Chapel @ SPL ECC	30 9a Chapel @ SPL ECC	31 9a Women's Bible Study 10a Men's Bible Study	1 9a Women's Bible Study 10a Men's Bible Study
2 8a Divine Service 9:30a Education Hour 10:45a Divine Service	3 6p Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:10p High School Choir Practice	4 6a Men's Bible Study 6p Elder's Meeting 9a Chapel @ SPL ECC 5p Christ Academy	5 9a Chapel @ SPL ECC 9:15a Parish & ECC Admin Meeting	6 9a Chapel @ SPL ECC	7 SPL ECC Closed for Training	8 9a Women's Bible Study 10a Men's Bible Study

Historic  Christ - Centered  For You

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 239 Frank Street, Co Bluffs, Iowa 51503 – 712-322-4729 – www.stpaulscouncilbluffs.org - Facebook - YouTube
 St. Paul's Lutheran Early Childhood Center, 1500 N 16th Street, Co Bluffs, Iowa 51501 – 712-322-3294 – www.splecc.org - Facebook
 St. Paul's Music Conservatory, 239 Frank St, Co Bluffs, Iowa 51503 – 712-322-4729 - www.stpaulsmusicconservatory.org - Facebook

Oktober Recipe of the Month Sauerkraut

Continuing with the Oktoberfest or Oktober-"Fun"-Fest it is time to start canning all of that cabbage in your kitchen gardens to make sauerkraut, that will be consumed during the week leading up to Ash Wednesday during Shrovetide. A few St. Paul's members still make homemade sauerkraut, so we may need to have a taste competition at a Christ Academy dinner in early 2026. Below is a simple recipe from All The Household for sauerkraut. Let us know if you try the recipe. Enjoy.

Sauerkraut

Sauerkraut is the product of lacto-fermented cabbage. That is, adding salt to this vegetable allows the proliferation of beneficial bacteria found on the cabbage while staving off harmful bacteria and mold. Lactic acid ferments are a traditional food from all around the world, but we receive the name for this food, sauerkraut, from the German word for "sour cabbage."

Ingredients

1 medium head of cabbage

1 tablespoon salt (2 tsp per pound of cabbage)

Caraway seed (optional)



Instructions

1. Take your cabbage and peel back the outer leaves. Save one clean, large leaf for later.
2. Thinly slice the cabbage into strips, cutting around the dense inner core, which can be discarded.
3. Place the sliced cabbage in a bowl, add salt, and begin working it with your hands to incorporate the salt. After a minute, begin squeezing the cabbage to extract the water until the cabbage becomes limp.
4. Stuff the cabbage into a clean glass jar and top with the remaining water at the bottom of the bowl.
5. Take the cabbage leaf that was set aside, cut into a circle a little larger than the circumference of the jar, and place it inside to ensure that all of the cabbage pieces are submerged under the water to prevent molding.
6. Let sit undisturbed for 4-5 days and up to two weeks on the countertop until it reaches the desired taste. The shorter the time period, the saltier the sauerkraut will be, and the longer it ferments, the tangier it will be. Ferment to your liking by taking a clean fork to taste test, trying to disturb the ferment as little as possible.

Once the desired taste is achieved, keep in the refrigerator for up to six months.

St. Paul's Member News & Notes

A Letter from Jonathan Schulz

Dear members of St. Paul's,



Jonathan Schulz (2nd from right), during the first day of CTSFW 180th academic year

Thank you all so much for your prayers and support during my time at seminary! As my first week of classes at Concordia Seminary in Fort Wayne comes to a close, I thought I would write to all of you and let you know what life is like out here. All the way from Indiana, I would like to reiterate that it was such a blessing to teach in the conservatory and participate in the life your church over the course of the last year! The joy and love of Christ which I saw and experienced at St. Paul's still inspires me. I pray all of you are well, and that Christ would continue to bless and preserve you in the true faith and in love toward all people.

Thanks be to God, I am pleased to say that Greek classes and reading groups at the seminary thus far have been going very well! It has been a blessing to study the New Testament in its original language with other young men who desire to serve in the church. In addition, during my time here, I have already had the privilege of playing the organ for several services at Kramer Chapel! Next week, I am also looking forward to starting rehearsals with the Kantorei choral ensemble (I will be singing the Bass I part)! Music is one of God's greatest gifts, and it has been a blessing to share that gift with others alongside and in support of the proclamation of God's Word both in Council Bluffs and now at the seminary.

For those of you who may not already have it, my email address is jeschulz@outlook.com! If you are ever in the Fort Wayne area, please feel free to stop by the seminary campus! Otherwise, please reach out at any time if you would like to hear more about what is going on out here! I appreciate your prayers as well. Thanks again for everything, and God's richest blessings to you all!

In Christ,
Jonathan Schulz

We see you Lucas



Lucas Smith, carrying in the crown for the homecoming king during homecoming festivities at Lewis Central - September 2025.

Lewis Central Community School District held its annual 2025 homecoming court during September. Look who was spotted in the procession, St. Paul's member Lucas Smith, (son of Jesse & Ashley Smith, Grandson of Jeff & Ronda Thomas).

If you have news and notes of St. Paul's members that you would like to share with the congregation, please email them to the Church Office at splccboffice@splccb.org, and we will include in upcoming newsletters



Thank You

To everyone who attended



St. Paul's



Second Annual



Oktober Fun-Fest

We look forward to seeing you again in 2026. Thank you again!

