



Welcome Home!

Saint Paul's Lutheran church

November 2025 Newsletter



Thanksgiving Feast

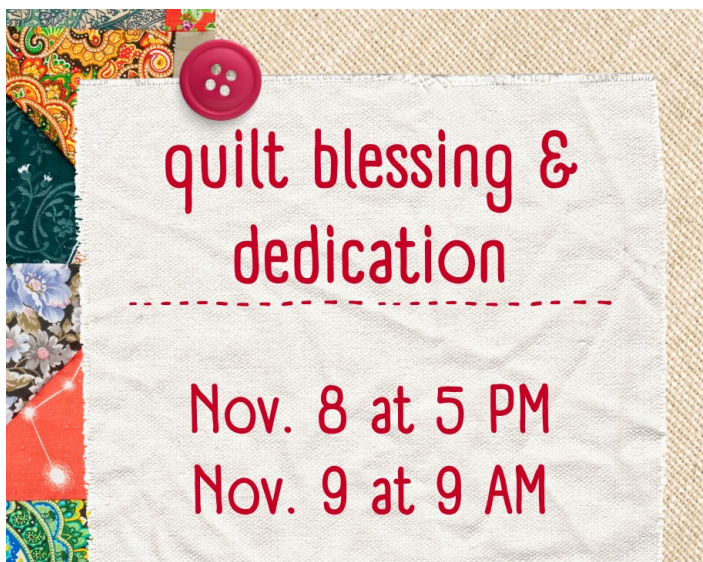
Join us for our Thanksgiving Feast celebration on Sunday, November 16 at Presque Isle State Park's Rotary Pavilion. Worship begins at 11 AM and our feast at 12:15 PM. Pavilion has accessible parking & restrooms. Be sure to bring your own place setting(s).

Sign up in the entryway of St. Paul's or contact the church office at Office@stpaulserie.org or 814-833-1761, ext. 100.

Please note, because of the 11 AM worship at Presque Isle, there will be no regular 9 AM Sunday worship at St. Paul's.



Quilt Blessing & Dedication



Join us for our quilt blessing & dedication on November 8 & 9 at both worship services. You will find the latest batch of quilts adorning the sanctuary at St. Paul's. Many thanks to our talented ecumenical Patchwork of Love quilters & knitters!

Advent Decorating Party

Please join us for Advent Decorating Party on Sunday, November 23 at 10:15 AM in the sanctuary of St. Paul's. Many hands make light work & we will have sweet treats to fuel our work!



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

3108 Sterrettania Road

Erie, PA 16506-2658

www.stpaulserie.org

Saturday Worship Service, 5 PM

Sunday Worship Service, 9 AM

All Sunday worship videos are livestreamed at

www.facebook.com/stpaulserie

and available at

www.youtube.com/user/stpaulslutheranerie.

Wednesday Scripture Study, 9 AM



Office Hours:

Mon-Thu 9 AM-3 PM

814-833-1761

office@stpaulserie.org

I Think It's About Time

As human being, we obsess about time. For instance, we worry about a lack of time: "Come on! We're going to be late!" "But my appointment was ten minutes ago." "They're down to the final two minutes of the game." "How long will this take?"

On the other hand, we also are very wasteful with our time. "You have been sitting in front of that TV for hours." "I'll get to that tomorrow."

Time is a commodity that cannot be possessed but can be experienced. Time can be used to your benefit if you choose to take advantage of it. Time is valuable, but yet it cannot be bought. What is time worth to you? Think about the following statements a friend sent me.

- ⇒ To realize the value of ONE YEAR, ask a student who has failed a grade.
- ⇒ To realize the value of ONE MONTH, ask a mother who has given birth to a premature baby.
- ⇒ To realize the value of ONE WEEK, ask an editor of a weekly newspaper.
- ⇒ To realize the value of ONE DAY, ask a daily wage laborer who has kids to feed.
- ⇒ To realize the value of ONE HOUR, ask the lovers who are waiting to meet.
- ⇒ To realize the value of ONE MINUTE, ask a person who has missed the train.
- ⇒ To realize the value of ONE SECOND, ask a person who has avoided an accident.
- ⇒ To realize the value of ONE MILLISECOND, ask the person who has won a silver medal in the Olympics.

The third chapter of the Bible book Ecclesiastes tells us that there is a time for everything. What time is it for you? No matter what your answer, treasure every moment that you have, because time is a gift from God.

-Pastor Erik Young



Pastor Erik

Pastor Erik Young

814-833-1761, ext. 103

Pastor@stpaulserie.org

Pastor's Office Hours: Mon-Wed 9 AM-1 PM



Community Care Ministries

50th Erie County CROP Hunger Walk

It was a beautiful day for the 50th CROP Walk, but a little warm for those long sleeved shirts. Ruthy May was the star of the walk for finishing her 50th walk, being interviewed by Church World Service, our local news, and giving the sendoff at the starting line. We won't have the totals until the December Newsletter, but Carol Davis and Michael Wright led in gathering sponsors. Thank you to all the wonderful walkers, sponsors, and our youth for supporting local agencies, disaster relief, and self-sustaining help for our neighbors who are hurting.

Food Pantry

In September, we helped 16 households (58 people) with one household being new. We appreciate all of the items that the congregation has donated! For the month of November, we could use the following:

- Canned corn
- Cranberry sauce
- Evaporated milk
- Single pack napkins (100 or less)

Drop off all items in the entryway of St. Paul's.

Be sure to check out the new ramp in the hallway between Clare-Wolfe Lounge & the food pantry! Thanks to Ron Till for the installation. In the next few months, many of our food pantry volunteers head south. We could use someone who has a truck or is willing to help load & unload the food we order from Second Harvest. Interested? Contact us at FoodPantry@stpaulserie.org.

Patchwork of Love Quilting & Knitting Ministry

Join our Patchwork of Love team of quilters & knitters! We meet on Tuesdays from 9-11 AM in Clare-Wolfe Lounge.



November Food Pantry Wish List



@stpaulserie

- Canned corn
- Cranberry sauce
- Evaporated milk
- Single pack napkins (100 or less)

Drop off all items in the entryway of St. Paul's.

Patchwork of Love
Tuesdays @ 9 am
CLARE-WOLFE LOUNGE

@stpaulserie

Congregational Care Ministries

Congregational Sympathy

Congregational sympathy is shared with the family & friends of **Karen Zech Nuber**, longtime member of St. Paul's, who passed away September 25, 2025.

Congregational Prayers

Please keep our brothers & sisters in Christ in your daily prayers: **Richard Davies, Liz & Ted Davis, Dan DeCoursey, Debi Firment, Wayne Gardner, Charlotte Haggerty, Ron Kaffka, Phyllis Kennedy, Jessica Kidd, Judy Matthews, Becke Moniot, Terry Moyer, Laurie Sanders, Sue Snyder, Al Swab, Russ Wiest, Michael Wright, Christie Young, & Gary**. Pray for those who are dealing with cancer, financial hardships, & facing illness or surgery.

Continue to pray for those who are homebound or in nursing homes: **Ann Anderson, Vince Balinski, Debi Firment, Noni Gardner, Dottie Johnson, & Sandy Pamin**. Wrap your hearts around those who are alone, broken-hearted, grieving, or anxious.

Bless our teachers everywhere & pray for St. Paul's **Children's Church, Child Development Center, & Preschool teachers**.

We continue to pray for those who are close to us who serve in the military, including their families: **Dylan Green**, as well as friends of St. Paul's— **Samuel Arthur, Luke Goodwin, Brennan Madara, Natalie Ramish-Long, Benjamin Sperring, Brody Swab, Jordan Swab, Christopher Tinsman, Allison Ward, & Zachary Zehner**.

We keep our college students in prayer as they study and prepare for their future vocations: **Corinne Bechtold, Megan Bechtold, Sophie Beilharz, Stella Beilharz, Andrew Collins, Jacob Gross, Sebastien Jones, Xavier Jones, Drew Kwiatkowski, Ethan Leopold, Ellie Schau, & Hannah Schmidt**.

Anniversaries

Nov 7– Donna & Dan Crotty

Nov 27– Chuck & Sherry Bechtold

Birthdays

Nov 1– Jaxon Ditzler

Nov 2– Richard McGarvie

Nov 4– Jeannie Curtis

Nov 6– Claire Grant

Nov 8– Dennis Renz

Nov 9– Aubrey Nair

Nov 10– Louise Berger

Nov 11– John Damico

Nov 13– Richard Hetrick

Nov 14– Michael Wright

Nov 16– Sophie Beilharz, Karen Marzka, Allie Wakley

Nov 17– Teddy Buchanan

Nov 18– Don Buzzard, Reid Cunningham, Kevin Kuric

Nov 19– Corinne Bechtold, Gerry Bender, Liz Parry

Nov 20– Lucas Hines, Bev Loomis, Ellie Schau, Marsha Walker

Nov 21– Gayle Elmer

Nov 22– Matt Scheuering

Nov 23– Dan DeCoursey, Cheryl Till

Nov 24– Elijah Kidd, Willow Kidd

Nov 26– Zach Chiapa

Nov 28– Lila Kaiser

Nov 29– Max Reitz

Nov 30– Cindi Bokulich, Thomas Kidd, Sharon Lore, Addison Rainbow

Baptism

We welcome **River Austin**, son of Austin & Kelsie

Flanigan, into the body of Christ on November 29, 2025.



Congregational Thank You Notes

Thank you for the monthly service material from St. Paul's Lutheran. I really enjoy the scripture readings.

Marianne Tonjes

Dear St. Paul's,

Thank you very much for my bible. I really appreciate it and look forward to reading it!

Thanks again!- Leighton Scheuering



Thank you to all the volunteers who helped work on the gardens and property on October 11! Those who volunteered were: Karen Marzka, Dave & Jan Schlabach, Kevin & Beth Kuric, Bob Curtis, Joanne Erikson, John Erikson, Frank Young, Pastor Erik, & Cindy Dohanac. We accomplished a lot in that short time. Please think about volunteering in the garden & property next year. We definitely can use some strong arms & backs!!!

Congregational Fellowship

Breakfast Group

Breakfast Group meets on Monday, November 3 at 8:30 AM at Perkins at 4403 Peach St. in Erie. All are welcome & responsible for their own meals.



Well-Watered Disciples Men's Fellowship Group

Well-Watered Disciples meets next on Thursday, November 20 at 6 PM at TBA.



Ministry Board Meeting

St. Paul's next quarterly Ministry Board Meeting is on Monday, November 3 at 6:30 PM in the gym. All ministry team members, leaders, & Council members should plan on attending. This is your opportunity to share & plan with all the other ministries at St. Paul's!



Attendance & Finances

By The Numbers:	September 2025
Avg. Saturday Attendance	19 in-person
Avg. Sunday Attendance	88 in-person 15 online views
September Income	\$35,532
September Expenses	\$34,434
September Difference	\$1,098
September Budget Income	\$40,680
September Budget Expenses	\$30,574
September Budget Difference	\$10,106
Year-to-Date Income	\$247,375
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$291,773
Year-to-Date Difference	-\$44,398
Year-to-Date Budget Income	\$257,375
Year-to-Date Budget Expenses	\$283,101
Year-to-Date Budget Difference	-\$25,726
2025 Total Budget Income	\$348,607
2025 Total Budget Expenses	\$374,512
2025 Total Budget Difference	-\$25,905

Faith Formation

Children's Ministry with Bridget

Children's Church is open to all children in pre-K through grade 5. We could still use more volunteer teachers! Please sign up on the bulletin board in the entryway of St. Paul's.

Questions? Contact Bridget at CDCAssistant@stpaulserie.org.

Confirmation Youth Group with Pastor Erik

Please join us every Monday from 6-7:30 PM for youth group! We will gather for fun & games, Bible & faith studies, & solid hang out time.



Worship Ministries

Psalm 100:1 says "Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing." This verse highlights the importance of music and singing as integral parts of worshipping God, a tradition that has been carried forward from the church's beginning.

From the earliest days of the church, singing has been at the heart of faith, with early Christians gathering to sing hymns and psalms as expressions of prayer. As Christianity evolved, choirs became central to worship, with monks chanting in stone chapels and choirs leading hymns in diverse languages and styles. While the music has changed, the purpose has not: to draw us closer to God through beauty, unity, and praise.

In our church today, the choir is not simply performing for the congregation – they are worship leaders. Through their voices, they help all of us find a deeper connection with God. Every anthem, every harmony, every quiet moment of preparation is an act of devotion. Their ministry reminds us that worship is something we do together – with heart, mind, and voice.

In a fast-moving world, the choir invites us to pause and listen deeply. Their music reminds us that worship is not only spoken or read but sung – lifted up and shared. It's a living prayer that carries the faith of our community week after week.

When you next hear the choir, consider how their voices, rehearsed diligently, contribute to a collective worship experience that transcends individual efforts. And if you've ever felt that tug to sing, perhaps it's the Spirit inviting you to join in. After all, the choir has always been, and will always be, one of the church's most beautiful ways to pray.



Submitted by Andrew Rainbow.

Preschool Ministries

Preschool loves November! It's all about family and giving this month. Also this month, we will be doing kids yoga and having a food drive November 18-25 to support St. Paul's Food Pantry.

During lessons we will be talking to the kids about family, friends, and the many blessings they have. Pre-K will be having a Thanksgiving lunch on Monday, November 24 with their parents or grandparents as we celebrate being with family and loved ones. Parents' Night Out for preschool families is scheduled for Saturday, November 15 from 6-9 PM in the gym.

We hope everyone has an amazing Thanksgiving! Questions? Contact Melissa Collins at PSDirector@stpaulserie.org or 814-833-1761, ext. 115.



Christmas Cookie Trays



Soon the holidays will be upon us; time to think about baking cookies! Let's bring some Christmas cheer to those in need by sharing some of our delicious cookies. Last year, we delivered 67 cookie trays!

Please help us by donating cookies, assembling trays, or delivering the cookie trays. We will be working on the cookie trays for the Giving Tree on Saturday, December 20. The remaining trays will be assembled & delivered on Sunday, December 21. Signups in the entryway of St. Paul's by the end of November.

If you know of anyone who would benefit from receiving a cookie tray, contact Terry Moyer or Ruth Moyer at CookieTrays@stpaulserie.org or 814-833-1761, ext. 336. Terry & Ruth can also be reached in person before or after Sunday morning worship.

November Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 All Saints Day 5:00pm Worship
2 All Saints Sunday Daylight-Saving Time Ends 8:15am Choir Rehearsal 9:00am Children's Church 9:00am Worship 10:30am Coffee Hour	3 8:30am Breakfast Group 9:45am Children's Chapel 6:00pm Confirmation Youth Group 6:30pm Ministry Board Meeting	4 7:00am Election Day 9:00am Patchwork of Love Quilting Ministry	5 9:00am Scripture Study 10:00am Staff Meeting 8:00pm Basketball	6 8:00pm Basketball	7 7:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous Marble Group	8 5:00pm Quilt Blessing & Dedication 5:00pm Worship
9 8:15am Choir Rehearsal 9:00am Children's Church 9:00am Quilt Blessing & Dedication 9:00am Worship 10:15am Erie Lutheran Conference Survey Forum: What's Next?	10 <i>Martin Luther's Birthday</i> 9:45am Children's Chapel 1:45pm Children's Chapel 6:00pm Confirmation Youth Group 6:30pm Worship Team Meeting	11 <i>Church Office Closed</i> Veterans Day 9:00am Patchwork of Love Quilting Ministry 6:15pm Girl Scout Troop Meeting	12 9:00am Scripture Study 8:00pm Basketball	13 8:00pm Basketball	14 7:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous Marble Group	15 <i>Newsletter Articles Due</i> 5:00pm Worship 6:00pm Preschool Parents' Night Out
16 11:00am Thanksgiving Worship & Feast	17 9:45am Children's Chapel 6:00pm Confirmation Youth Group	18 9:00am Patchwork of Love Quilting Ministry 6:15pm Girl Scout Troop Meeting	19 9:00am Scripture Study 8:00pm Basketball	20 4:00pm Food Pantry Distribution 8:00pm Basketball	21 7:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous Marble Group	22 5:00pm Worship
23 8:15am Choir Rehearsal 9:00am Children's Church 9:00am Worship 10:15am Advent Decorating Party	24 9:45am Children's Chapel 11:00am Preschool Pre-K Thanksgiving Lunch 1:45pm Children's Chapel 6:00pm Confirmation Youth Group	25 9:00am Patchwork of Love Quilting Ministry 6:15pm Girl Scout Troop Meeting	26 <i>Church Office Closed</i> 9:00am Scripture Study 8:00pm Basketball	27 <i>Church Office Closed</i> Thanksgiving Day	28 7:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous Marble Group	29 5:00pm Hubbard Baptism 5:00pm Worship
30 Advent 8:15am Choir Rehearsal 9:00am Children's Church 9:00am Worship						

Worship Assistants

Date	Event	Ushers	Assist Minister/Reader
Nov 2	All Saints	Wright Team	Erich Zech
Nov 9	22 Pentecost	Zech/Chiapa Team	Karen McKenna
Nov 16	Thanksgiving Feast	Curtis Team	Larry Kessler
Nov 23	Christ the King	Gardner/Marzka Team	TBD
Nov 30	1 Advent	Wright Team	TBD

