



# The Messenger

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL (WELS), GREEN BAY

November, 2024

## Lord, When Your Glory I Shall See

— Pastor Jon Zabell

The day is coming when the Lord Jesus will return in glory. How should we feel about that? If believers in Scripture are any indication, we should be terrified. From Moses at the burning bush, to Isaiah's vision of God's throne room, to Peter, James, and John's experience on the Mount of Transfiguration, believers in God, when faced with the glory of God, are shaken to the core. They fall to the ground in fear. They make themselves small. They hide.

They hide from God's glorious goodness, because they are not gloriously good. Neither are we. How much of your life is driven by the desire to hide? From the time you came into this world until now, how many excuses have you come up with, either out loud or in your own mind? How many people have you blamed for something so that you could live with yourself? How many good things have you tried to use as cover for something less than good? If you're like me, it's too many to count. We all sin, and we all feel this urge to hide, and if we've been hiding already now, what makes us think we'll be any less likely to want to hide when we see Jesus returning in glory on the Last Day? But then there will be no places left to hide. As the writer to the Hebrews said: *Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account* (4:13).

There is only one way that being close to God's glory can be anything other than completely and utterly terrifying. A Lutheran pastor named Paul Gerhardt wrote a hymn called: *A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth*. It tells of how Jesus, the Lamb of God, goes to his own slaughter without complaining, willingly bearing the sins of the whole world (John 1:29).

Apart from Jesus, even the glorious goodness of heaven would be a place of terror for sinners like us. But Jesus has covered our sin with his sinlessness. When we are in heaven, the blood of Jesus will be our royal robe, and the righteousness of Jesus will be our crown. Think what this means. It means that you will stand before your holy and glorious God without a single guilty fear, not one. You will have absolutely nothing to hide. The whole Christian church, which includes you, will stand beside Jesus with all the joy of a bride standing next to her groom on her wedding day.

The last stanza of Gerhardt's hymn lays this all out in beautiful poetry, and it is a message so glorious and wonderful that one WELS pastor thought it deserved to stand alone, with music to match. And so we have this single-stanza hymn written by Gerhardt, composed by Pastor Kurt



Eggert, where sinners like us get to sing about the moment when we will first stand before God's presence, forgiven in Jesus, and say, *I need not hide me*. Review the hymn next time you're in church; it's number 884, *Lord, When Your Glory I Shall See*.

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# The Messenger

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## President's Message

Our three-year *Tell the Next Generation* program officially kicked off just a few weeks ago on Sunday, October 13. If you attended one of our informational meetings ahead of that Sunday, thank you! We shared a lot about what is going in our new Ministry Center, our finances, and our aspirations for Phase 2. First and foremost, our emphasis remains firmly on *telling* others about our Lord and Savior. Our new building provides us more space to invite our friends and neighbors inside. We truly see opportunities in the heart of Green Bay to connect with families now and into the future. It is our mission to tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord. There is such a need to lift people up, to share our faith, to give them hope that only God can provide.

The Lord continues to hear our prayers and move our hearts to financially support his work here at St. Paul. Since our kickoff Sunday, six pledges have been made that total about \$220,000 over the next three years. While six is a modest start, the dollars pledged are not. Praise the Lord for moving these members to give so generously. If you have not yet made your pledge, may these six members inspire you to prayerfully consider the many blessings you have received from our Lord and now move you to offer your pledge of support over the next three years. Pledge sheets and envelopes are available in the narthex and in the office. Please keep in mind that your offerings to *Tell the Next Generation* should be above and beyond your offerings that support our daily operations.

The first step in our financial plan for *Tell the Next Generation* is that all of us contribute enough each month to pay our mortgage. \$25,000 is a considerable number, but divided among 200 regular giving units, offerings of \$5, \$10, \$25, or higher each week add up quickly. Through the summer months, gifts directly to our mortgage have ranged from \$7,000 to \$12,000 each month. October increased to over \$15,000. The Lord always provides. We all are blessed in different ways, with different abilities to offer financial support. Every gift from every person matters and is needed for this three year program. Thank you and may God continue to bless our St. Paul family.

For more information, regular updates, and an opportunity to offer online pledges and gifts, visit us at [www.stpaulgreenbay.com/tell](http://www.stpaulgreenbay.com/tell). Also, don't miss the wall display near the main entrance of our new ministry center.



# November, 2024

## November's Worship Theme: *Live Like You'll Live Forever*

"Live each day like it's your last." You have probably heard that advice. It sounds wise—an encouragement to take advantage of the time you have. However, that advice is completely backwards. Because the reality is, thanks to Jesus, we have an unending amount of time. Let that sink in. *Really* think about it. Jesus has given you the gift of eternal life. You are going to live forever.

If you really thought it was your last day, that belief would shape how you lived that day. In this series, let us consider how the gift of eternal life shapes how we live each day. Live like you'll live forever!



### Worship Themes for November:

**November 3** — All Saints Day: Live Knowing Life Only Gets Better

**November 10** — Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost: Live a Life of Startling Generosity

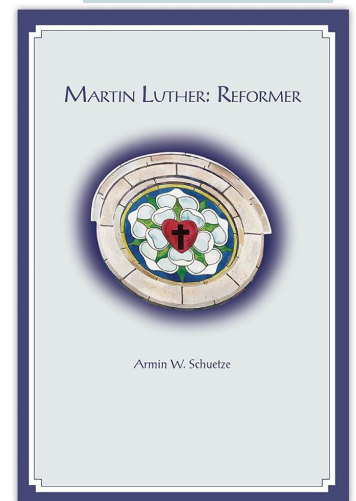
**November 17** — Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost: Live Free from the Fear of Judgment

**November 24** — Last Sunday of the Church Year: Live with Your Eyes on the Skies

## St. Paul Book of the Month — *Martin Luther: Reformer* by Armin W. Schuetze

It's good for us to remember what it means to be Lutheran. This month's recommended book can help. Many excellent books have been written on the life and teachings of Martin Luther. Consider reading *Martin Luther: Reformer* for a few reasons. First, though the author provides helpful biographical dates and information, much more space is dedicated to key issues Luther faced - issues we still face today, and how God's Word became a rallying point for him and others. Second, a study of Reformation history is in some way a study of what's going on in each of our hearts: the weight of a heavy conscience, the peace of a conscience cleansed in Christ. Finally, the book is an easy read. At just 117 pages, anyone can get a good handle on Martin Luther's life and teachings. It's not that we Lutherans are stuck in the life and times of a 16th century theologian. No, we are clinging to the promise that has been tucked away in the heart of God from all eternity: one Savior for a world of sinners. Whatever else makes Lutheranism distinct is connected to this gospel. We are saved by Scripture alone, by grace alone, by faith alone, in Christ alone. This gospel is the message we Lutherans need, and whether they know it or not, our world is hungry for it, too.

— Pastor Jon Zabell



**November Bible Study: *Why Worship?*** A person can read God's Word alone, so why worship? Group Bible study is a great way to dig into Scriptures, so then, why worship? The better we understand the purpose of worship, the more we learn to love what happens each time we gather. Join us in the fellowship hall Sundays, 9:15 a.m.

# The Messenger

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## School News

— Principal Stephen Miller

Our FVL theme for the year, 'Rejoice in the Lord Always!', is more than just a phrase. In November, we are reminded to rejoice in all circumstances, regardless of life's ups and downs. We know that God has a plan for each of us and that his plan is perfect. As the Apostle Paul wrote in 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

In October, we enjoyed several opportunities to explore God's creation with field trips to Woodland Dunes and Berryland Pumpkins. Our 1st through 4th graders also attended a performance of *Alice in Wonderland* at Fox Valley Lutheran High School. Additionally, we welcomed our moms and other primary female caregivers on October 16, for a special morning of muffins and a look inside our classrooms.

November brings a season of transition for our athletics program as we move from volleyball and soccer to basketball and cheer. We're excited to offer both girls' and boys' basketball teams and are still looking for a few assistant coaches to join us. This year, we're fortunate to have a full coaching staff, with teams competing at every level. If you're available, we'd love for you to join us at a home game—the first is on November 18. You can find all game dates and times on our school calendar [here](#).



Muffins with Moms Day  
(above)

1st and 2nd Grade Field  
Trip (below)

## WELSSA Accreditation Update

— Mrs. Gretchen Plitzuweit

St Paul Lutheran School completed their third WELSSA Accreditation cycle last month. "WELSSA School Accreditation (WELSSA) is a process in which the school evaluates its current educational practices and seeks sound methods to build on its strengths and determine new ways to grow and strengthen the educational ministry of the school for the benefit of the students and parents to the glory of God." You can read more about the process at this [link](#).

Each cycle culminates in a visiting team being on site for three days to verify the school's self-study. The visiting team then provides commendations and recommendations for the school to use as they create and/or adjust their ministry plan for the next five years. Our team of five educators visited from October 6-9.

St Paul fully met 96% of the 310 sub-standards required. This is a fantastic result and is evidence of how much God is blessing the ministry of St Paul! The visiting team provided many commendations, but we would like to highlight two for all of you, as they are the cornerstone of St. Paul School's ministry. The first commendation was that there was no doubt by any member of the visiting team that Jesus is the center of everything we do. They read about it in our documentation. They saw and heard it all day long, every day they were here. They witnessed it in every classroom between teachers and students and among the students themselves. Jesus is obviously the center of St. Paul's ministry. To God alone be the glory!



Continued on page 6



## LWMS News

**LWMS Paperland Circuit Fall Rally** was held on Saturday morning, October 12, at St. Matthew, Appleton, with Eternal Love, Appleton as co-hosts. There were 190 people in attendance. The theme was: "SHARING LOVE TO SHARE JESUS". Gary, Manager of Operations, and Beth Evans, CAMM former Head Nurse, presented a history along with a slide presentation of the Central Africa Medical Mission (CAMM) as it is today. Mission offerings from the congregations totaled \$12,900.95, which will be distributed to Vicars in Mission Settings and New World Mission Fields. The offering for the day was \$3,519 with another \$79 donated to CAMM from the book, "Let Us Do Good" Spiritual Growth Table sale. An additional offering of \$555 was donated to CAMM. After expenses, \$3515.11 will go to CAMM. The LWMS Paperland Circuit Secretary's report is linked in the October 31 St. Paul E-News.

**LWMS 2025 Convention Busing opportunities:** The LWMS Paperland and Beaver Dam Circuits are offering bus transportation to the LWMS 2025 Convention in Tulsa, OK. Details for this bus are on the LWMS table, located in the school hallway, outside of the narthex. A link to the information is also in the St. Paul E-News from September 26. Tom's Christian Tours will have a bus going to the Convention. If you are interested in taking this bus to the Convention, call (262.408.5518) or email via their website ([www.tomschristiantours.com](http://www.tomschristiantours.com)), to be added to the waiting list. You are not committed to take the bus if you are on the waiting list, but this helps to determine if multiple buses are needed and the pricing of the bus.

**Planning way ahead,** our congregation will host the LWMS Paperland Circuit 2025 Fall Rally. The last time we hosted an LWMS Paperland Circuit Rally was in 2016. Hosting a Rally is a

big effort, so we will be looking for lots of volunteers. More details to come as the date approaches.

### **SAVE THE DATES:**

- LWMS Paperland Circuit 2025 Spring Rally, April 5<sup>th</sup>, at Martin Luther, Neenah. Grace, Neenah will co-host.
- LWMS 2025 62nd Annual LWMS Convention, June 26-29, 2025. Hosted by Mid-America Circuit in Tulsa, OK. More details and registration information will be available in January 2025.
- LWMS Paperland Circuit 2025 Fall Rally, October 11, at St. Paul, Green Bay.

May GOD continue to bless the efforts of our Missionaries and the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS).

Lisa Koenig  
LWMS Reporter  
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920-469-1758



**The November Ladies Aid** meeting is Tuesday, November 5, 1:00 p.m., in the Ministry Center Conference Room (outside the new elevator). Rev. Jim Mattek will present "Tell the Next Generation" plans. All ladies of our congregation are invited to attend.

# The Messenger

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## **WELSSA Accreditation Update** — *continued from page 4*

The second commendation flows from the first. Since Jesus is our motivation in all we do, we have implemented a very intentional and purposeful framework to develop the same mindset in our students and families. All we do, both academically and behaviorally, is in grateful response to what our Savior has done for us. Members of the visiting team have already contacted our school leaders to learn more about this framework and ask for assistance in guiding their ministries to start developing it in their own schools. Again, to God alone be the glory! We love sharing what we do with others. We encourage you to experience St. Paul for yourself! Please come visit and talk to our school leaders to learn more about how God is using St. Paul to achieve His mission.

**Fellowship Breakfast:** All are welcome to hang out with other St. Paul friends at the monthly Fellowship Breakfast, held on the second Tuesday of each month at the Village Grille on Hoffman Road in Allouez (801 Hoffman Rd.). Please join us on November 12, 8:30 a.m.



## **Martin Luther College Updates**

— *Lois Reineck: St. Paul MLC liaison*

- Current enrollment at our WELS College of Ministry, Martin Luther College (MLC), is 614 undergraduates, representing 27 states and 6 countries. There are 461 students in the Education Division, which includes teachers and staff ministers. There are 153 men in the Pre-seminary Division training to be our future pastors. This makes for a busy campus! In addition, 1,017 students are in the Continuing Ed/Graduate Studies taking classes virtually.
- MLC has a strategic plan and capital campaign called *Pursuing Excellence Under the Cross*. As a result of donations made to this plan, MLC graduates have had to borrow less money to pay for their education for the last six years. This is truly a blessing!
- If you know any young men that are interested in becoming a Pastor, Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary (WLS) in Mequon, Wisconsin, offers two Focus on Ministry opportunities this year. The dates for them to visit the Seminary are November 17-18, 2024 or February 23-24, 2025.
- The MLC football team had an exciting Homecoming game against Minnesota Morris when Rees Roecker (*Pilgrim-Menomonee Falls WI*) scored a touchdown with only five seconds remaining to give the Knights the 21-14 win.
- MLC Forum presents *Fiddler on the Roof* on November 8-10. For more information and to order tickets, visit [mlc-wels.edu/forum](http://mlc-wels.edu/forum) or call (507) 233-9114.
- Please continue to pray for our St. Paul members at MLC, Meg Zabell and Matthew Nelson. Pray also for the Lord to send more future workers for His Kingdom and consider supporting them with your gifts. For more information visit [mlc-wels.edu](http://mlc-wels.edu).



St. Paul Lutheran Church exists to celebrate our freedom from sin, death, and hell through Jesus Christ; to nurture our church family with God's Word for lives of service to Him; and joyfully to share the good news of salvation with the world around us.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL (WELS)

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## News from WELS Missions

— from the WELS Missions Update Newsletter—Fall 2024

### New Missionary to Africa Assisting in Outreach:

Mr. Jake Vilhauer, a Martin Luther College graduate, was assigned as a missionary to Africa in May 2024. He and his wife Maddie have started their ministry in France, attending a three-month immersion course in the French language (pictured right), followed by an additional three months in Douala, Cameroon, using the French language. They will then permanently relocate to Lusaka, Zambia, to begin work with the One Africa Team, focusing on French-speaking contacts in places like Cameroon and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Missionary Vilhauer will serve on the One Africa Team outreach team, assisting in the work of reaching out to new contacts and developing relationships with potential new gospel outreach partners. He will also teach classes and serve as a counselor for students in the TELL Network and serve as an advisor to the One Africa Team in educational matters, especially with church partners who operate or want to start elementary and secondary schools.



### Missionaries Begin Work in Australia:

Two missionaries from the Asia One Team, previously based in Chiang Mai, Thailand, have relocated to begin outreach based in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia. Missionaries Matt Doebler (far right) and Peter Janke (back left) and their families arrived in August 2024. The purpose of this relocation is two-fold – reaching out, in conjunction with two of WELS' partner churches, to the native Australian population with the gospel and expanding outreach to a large Chinese population that has immigrated to the area. Members from WELS' sister church in Hong Kong who immigrated have already started gathering family and friends around the gospel message. Both missionaries remain on the Asia One Team as they continue their work with contacts throughout Asia. Stay up to date on progress at [wels.net/asia](http://wels.net/asia).



### New Native American Outreach:

Rev. Nathan Wagenknecht accepted the call to coordinate outreach to the Native American tribes in the Four Corners area of Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, and Colorado. Missionary Wagenknecht is being tasked with developing a new model for Native American outreach, working closely with native Apache members who want to reach out to friends and family members from other tribes with the pure gospel message. He is working closely with Missionary John Holtz, who leads the Discipleship arm of the Native Christians Network and is training Apache WELS members for service and outreach through the Apache Christian Training School (ACTS) program. He is also developing existing opportunities previously identified through Christ the Rock in Farmington, N.M., and expanding digital outreach efforts.



# November 2024

# ST. PAUL SAN PABLO

## LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 9:30-10:30 AM – JAMM	2
3 8:00 AM – Communion Service 9:15 AM – Bible Hour 10:30 AM – Communion Service 11:45 AM – Sunday Catechism Class	4 6:30 PM – Communion Service	5 1:00 PM – Ladies Aid 6:30 PM – ESL Class  Parent-Teacher Conferences	6 6:00 AM – Breakfast Bible Study 9:00 AM – Women’s Bible Study  6:00 PM – Evangelism Committee Meeting 6:30 PM – Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM – Prayer at the Close of Day 7th and 8th Grades Sing	7 9:00 AM – Bible Study 6:30 PM – ESL Class  Parent-Teacher Conferences	8 4:00-5:00 PM – Food Pantry Distribution	9
10 8:00 AM – Service 1st and 2nd Grades Sing 9:15 AM – Bible Hour 10:30 AM – Service 11:45 AM – Sunday Catechism Class	11 6:30 PM –Service 6:00 PM – PTO Meeting	12 8:30 AM – Fellowship Breakfast 5:30 PM – Tech Committee 6:00 PM -- Stewardship Committee 6:30 PM – ESL Class 6:30 PM – Board of Christian Education 7:00 PM – Board for Member Care	13 6:00 AM – Breakfast Bible Study 9:00 AM – Women’s Bible Study 6:30 PM – Choir Rehearsal	14 9:00 AM – Bible Study 6:30 PM – ESL Class 7:00 PM – Women’s Group at Captain’s Walk Winery	15	16
17 8:00 AM – Communion Service Grades 3K-5K sing 9:15 AM – Bible Hour 10:30 AM – Communion Service 11:45 AM – Sunday Catechism Class	18 6:30 PM – Communion Service	19 6:30 PM – ESL Class 6:30 PM – Church Council Meeting	20 6:00 AM – Breakfast Bible Study 9:00 AM – Women’s Bible Study 6:30 PM – Choir Rehearsal	21 9:00 AM – Bible Study 6:30 PM – ESL Class 7:00 PM – Men of St. Paul Bible Study Group	22	23
24 8:00 AM –Service 9:15 AM – Bible Hour 10:30 AM –Service 11:45 AM – Sunday Catechism Class	25 6:30 PM –Service	26 2:00 PM – Early School Dismissal 6:30 PM – ESL Class	27 6:00 AM – Breakfast Bible Study 9:00 AM – Women’s Bible Study 6:30 PM – Thanksgiving Worship	28 9:00 AM – Thanksgiving Worship	29	30
 <p>Thanksgiving Break — No School</p>						