



# NEWSLETTER



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## Contact

Rev. Don McKillop, Vacancy Pastor  
 605-840-0554 (mobile)  
[prdomc5897@yahoo.com](mailto:prdomc5897@yahoo.com)

### \* OFFICE HOURS \*

St. Paul's, Tuesdays, 9–11:30 a.m.  
 Trinity, Wednesdays, 9–11:30 a.m.

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
 109 W State St., Plankinton SD 57368  
[www.stpaulplankinton.com](http://www.stpaulplankinton.com)  
 605-942-7364

**Elders** ..... Justin Everson  
 Curt Guindon  
 Mike Tuschen

**President** ..... Rodney Weber

**LWML President** ... Marlene Johnson

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
 304 S Johnston St., White Lake SD 57383  
[www.trinitywhitelake.com](http://www.trinitywhitelake.com)  
[facebook.com/trinitywhitelake](https://facebook.com/trinitywhitelake)  
 605-249-2333

**Elders** ..... David Bogenhagen  
 Dan Guericke  
 Scott Meier

**President** ..... Dean Suelflow

**LWML Presidents** ..... Diana Kieffer  
 Hope Circle  
 Brianna Bogenhagen  
 Ruth Circle



St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Trinity Lutheran Church are members of the South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

# November 2024



## Divine Worship Service Schedule for November

Divine Services at Trinity 8:30 a.m.  
 Divine Services at St. Paul's 10:30 a.m.

## Christian Education

**Bible Study** – Trinity, Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m.  
 St. Paul's, Thursdays, 10 p.m.

**Confirmation Classes** — St. Paul's, Tuesdays, 6 p.m.  
 Trinity, TBD

**St. Paul's Sunday School** — Sundays 9:30 a.m.

**Trinity Release-Time** — Wednesdays, 2:15 p.m.

**Trinity Wednesday School** — Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m.

**Trinity Quarterly Voters Meeting** — November 14, 2024, 7 p.m.

## Lutheran Women's Missionary League

**Trinity Hope Circle** – No meeting this month.

**Trinity Ruth Circle** – Wednesday, November 6, 2024, 6:30 p.m.

**St. Paul's Dorcas Circle** – Tuesday, November 12, 2024, 2 p.m.

## Serving the Lord's Church in NOVEMBER

### TRINITY

**Elder** David Bogenhagen

**Ushers** Ron Steffen  
 Dan Meier

**Acolyte** Brant Bogenhagen

**Altar** Janice Thiry

### ST. PAUL'S

**Elder** Curt Guindon

**Ushers** Justin Everson  
 Rodney Weber

**Acolyte** Karter Weber

**Altar** Deb Haak

### Greeters

11-03 Jerry & Sharon Boyd

11-10 Stan & Marlene Johnson

11-17 Ruth Merrill

11-24 Kieth & Cathy Albrecht

## Scripture Readings for Sundays in November

Nov 3 Revelation 7:9–17; 1 John 3:1–3; Matthew 5:1–12

Nov 10 1 Kings 17:8–16; Hebrews 9:24–28; Mark 12:38–44

Nov 17 Daniel 12:1–3; Hebrews 10:11–25; Mark 13:1–13

Nov 21 Deuteronomy 8:1–10; 1 Timothy 2:1–4; Luke 17:11–19

Nov 24 Isaiah 51:4–6; Jude 20–25; Mark 13:24–37

**Office Hours** — See Contact section on the left.

The **December 2024 newsletter** will be available on or after December 1, 2024. Articles are due Tuesday, November 26, 2024.

Please send newsletter/bulletin items to Nancy Bogenhagen at [trinitywlsd@gmail.com](mailto:trinitywlsd@gmail.com). **Weekly bulletin deadline is Thursday noon.** Please email me if you prefer your newsletter emailed to you. Thank you!



## Thankful for God's Word

The Reformation that we celebrate on October 31<sup>st</sup> reminds us of how we are saved by grace through faith in Jesus. We trust completely in Jesus and don't worry if we haven't done well enough to earn our way to heaven. Martin Luther taught the three "solas." "Sola Scriptura," "Sol Fides," and "Sola gratia." The Bible tells us how we are saved. We are saved by faith in Jesus. It is by God's grace, that is a free gift from God.

November reminds us to be thankful for the countless blessings that God gives to His people. Of course, Christians are thankful all year, but Thanksgiving Day is a reminder to be thankful. Some people don't think they have much for which to be thankful. For others, they have great blessings for which they are thankful. We are thankful for family, friends, and all we need for this life. Some people are thankful for all they were able to do this past year, and some would like to go back and undo some of the things they did.

Christians are especially thankful for God giving us His Word which shows us how we are saved for eternity. Without the promises of God's Word, we have nothing. Through Jesus we have been given all things. (Romans 8:31-34) The Apostle Paul in many of his letters to different churches, started by thanking God. He was thanking God while he was in prison for preaching the Gospel that Jesus had given him to preach. How could he be thankful while in prison? He was thankful because of what Jesus had done for him. He knew that the sufferings of this present time were nothing in comparison to the glory to be revealed in him in Heaven. (Romans 8:18) While in prison, Paul wrote to the Philippians, "I thank my God

every time I remember you." Think of how much better we have it today than how Paul was living. Yet our reason for being thankful is the same as Paul's reason. The Word of God is the source of comfort and joy for believers.

Henry Smith wrote a hymn called, "Give Thanks With a Thankful Heart." You have probably heard it. He wrote this at a difficult time in his life. He was having trouble finding work after graduating from college. He had a disease that eventually caused him to become blind. But then he learned that Jesus made himself poor so that others could become rich. (II Corinthians 8:9) All through that hymn he gave thanks to God for the gift of Jesus. He writes in that hymn that the blessings that God gives us are far greater than any troubles we might have in this life. Psalm 95:1-2 says, "Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before Him with thanksgiving and extol Him with music and song." And we can do that in our worship services in church.

As the Advent season comes closer, we are reminded to always be ready and waiting for Jesus' return to take believers to heaven.

How thankful we should be that God has brought us to faith in Jesus so that we know what awaits us in heaven, and that we can know that all things work together for those who love God, for those who are called according to His purpose, (Romans 8:28) And that we can worship and serve God in His church.

Pastor McKillop, vacancy pastor



## MAIN STREET LIVING NOVEMBER 2024

All programs are interpreted and closed-captioned for the hearing impaired. For more information visit:

[www.mainstreetliving.com](http://www.mainstreetliving.com)

**Broadcast on KDLT (NBC) channels 5.1 / 46.1**

### November 3, 2024

**10 a.m. “The Priceless Book”** Money and health troubles on the farm lead a father to God’s Word for comfort.

**10:30 a.m. Rev. Bret Bierman**, pastor at St. John, St. Paul and Trinity Lutheran Churches in Aberdeen, Stratford, and Mansfield, SD presents a message titled “Man Eyes.” The sermon is based on Mark 10:46–52.

### November 10, 2024

**10 a.m. “In Search of Dignity”** Two factory workers struggle to find meaning after they are replaced by machines.

**10:30 a.m. Rev. Ray Anderson**, pastor at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Leola, SD presents a message titled “So Near to the Kingdom.” The sermon is based on Mark 12:28–37.

### November 17, 2024

**10 a.m. “Which Way Grows the Vine”** A father struggles to accept the consequences of his actions and set an example for his son.

**10:30 a.m. Rev. Ray Greenseth**, pastor at Messiah, St. Paul and Zion Lutheran Churches in Murdo, Draper and Presho, SD presents a message titled “He’s Coming.” The sermon is based on Daniel 12:1–3.

### November 24, 2024

**10 a.m. Prescription TLC”** Injuries after a plane crash cause a couple to seek God for comfort and healing.

**10:30 a.m. Rev. Brady Finnern**, President of the Minnesota North District LCMS in Baxter, MN presents a message titled “We Will See.” This sermon is based on Mark 13:24–37.



## NOVEMBER 2024

Lori Haak, SP .....	Nov. 1
Kurt Fink, SP .....	Nov. 3
Justin Everson, SP .....	Nov. 5
<i>Ron &amp; Dona Steffen, TR .....</i>	<i>Nov. 7</i>
<i>Dean &amp; Susan Suelflow, TR .....</i>	<i>Nov. 7</i>
Larry Gerlach, SP .....	Nov. 8
Aalyah Contreras, TR .....	Nov. 8
Tyler Anthony, SP .....	Nov. 10
Whitney Hinker, TR .....	Nov. 11
Ryan Huff, SP .....	Nov. 13
Brittney Greene, SP .....	Nov. 13
Pam Hallman, TR .....	Nov. 14
Jeremy Haak, SP .....	Nov. 16
Robert Fink, SP .....	Nov. 17
Randa Vandenhoeck, TR .....	Nov. 17
Ben Bogenhagen, TR .....	Nov. 20
Curt Guindon, SP .....	Nov. 24
Chris Heismeyer, SP .....	Nov. 25
Jeanette Fink, SP .....	Nov. 27

## Christians are Encouraged to Pray, Vote According to God's Word



My fellow family members in Christ,

In 1986, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod passed a resolution “To Encourage Political Involvement of Individuals as a Christian Witness” (1986 Res. 2-19). It acknowledged the “growing ungodliness” in the nation, exhorted Christians to prayer and repentance, and urged “all Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregations to remind eligible members to register and to vote as a matter of good citizenship.”

It surely doesn't seem like the situation has improved in the last 38 years. Our society has devolved into greater wickedness, further entrenching the “right” to take the life of unborn children and advocating for any number of other “rights” to ungodly deeds.

As Lutherans, we look at this political mess and understand that God works in the world in two different ways: through the church (the “kingdom of the right hand”) and through the state (the “kingdom of the left hand”).

In the church, He works through the proclamation of the Word of God and the administration of the Sacraments to bring about the salvation of sinners. In the state, He works through the laws and the sword to curb wickedness and enable us to live in peace. As Christians, we live in both kingdoms, submitting in love to Christ and in obedience to the government, insofar as we are not commanded to violate our Lord's teaching (Rom. 13:1–7; Acts 5:29).

In the United States of America, we have the great privilege to help choose our leaders and direct them in their work. As God commanded the Israelites exiled in Babylon to pray for and to “seek the welfare of the city where” He had sent them (Jer. 29:7), so Christian citizens in the U.S. should seek the welfare of this country. We have a duty to pray for our leaders, and, where possible, elect and direct them in a godly course of action.

First, then, let me urge you to participate in this privilege. Vote. Pray for God's guidance and vote. Participate in the governing duty you have as a citizen of this country and as a fellow brother or sister in Christ.

Second, vote according to God's Word. You do not leave your beliefs behind you when you enter the voting booth. You may enter the booth by yourself, but you are not alone. The God who has redeemed you, who sanctifies you, who has made you in His image and is working to complete this work in you, enters that booth with you.

What does this mean? It means that when you vote, you must vote for the good of your neighbor. The LCMS does not align itself with any particular party or endorse any political candidate. But some things need to be said: Some issues have clear biblical mandates. We stand for the protection of life from conception to death. We stand for the protection of children from the predations of the LGBTQ+ agenda. As God's people, we seek to protect the right to freely exercise our beliefs and practices in this great country.

Many other issues are also on the table. Workers should be paid fairly. Citizens — across the board — should not be unfairly taxed. The government should wield the power of the sword fairly and for the good of all. We should consider these issues and make the decision that best serves our neighbor, first and foremost. And Jesus, our Good Samaritan, has something to say about serving your neighbor in need (Luke 10:25–37).

It is not a violation of Lutheran teaching on the Two Kingdoms to encourage Christians to this task of voting. God calls His people to be salt and light in the world (Matt. 5:13–14). In our time, this includes voting for the good of our neighbor.

Let me encourage you:

- If you are a pastor or church worker, discuss these matters with your congregational members this weekend. Help them understand that beyond the presidential election, a number of other issues on state ballots address deeply moral issues about which Scripture speaks.
- If you are a member of an LCMS church, encourage your fellow members to vote. It is a unique privilege to participate in one's own government and a blessed opportunity to serve your neighbor in need.
- And finally, pray. Add the prayer below to your personal prayers over the next few days and to your congregational prayer this weekend.

In Christ,

*Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison*, President  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

**Prayer.** Almighty God, Your wisdom created and upholds all things in heaven and on earth. You have placed me as a citizen in this nation, in which I am also given a vote and voice concerning its government. Give me discernment that I may exercise this civic duty as best I can for the benefit of our people now and in the future and in accordance with Your Word. Give wisdom not only to me and all other voters, but especially to the leaders who will be elected, that all foolish or wicked plans may come to no success, and that noble, fair and beneficial counsels be heeded and put into effect for the good of the country they serve. Spare us from harm, grant peace and security and let Your Gospel be preached unhindered in this nation, since You desire all to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## CHRISTMAS AID

Trinity Lutherans for Life, White Lake, would like to help families within our area this Christmas season by purchasing clothing, toys, diapers, or other needed items.\* If you would like to participate, we encourage you to fill out the form on Trinity's website, [trinitywhitelake.com/lutherans-for-life](http://trinitywhitelake.com/lutherans-for-life). Please return the form by Friday, **November 22, 2024**, to: Trinity Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 6, White Lake, SD 57383. For additional information, feel free to contact us at [trinitywhitelake@gmail.com](mailto:trinitywhitelake@gmail.com).

\* This project is being supported by a Thivent Action Team.

## Departed Saints of St. Paul's and Trinity

*November 2, 2023–November 1, 2024*

SP, David Merrill, July 30, 1940–December 28, 2023.

TR, Lowell (Bud) Smith, August 3, 1927–February 10, 2024.

TR, Edwin (Ed) Hartman, November 9, 1930–April 8, 2024.

TR, Richard Meier, January 13, 1932–July 23, 2024.

TR, Dennis Peters, May 6, 1953–September 5, 2024.





November 3 brings an end to Daylight Saving Time, yet another reminder that the cyclical march through the seasons continues on, whether we're ready for it or not. You don't need me to tell you that regardless of what our clocks say, each day still has the same twenty-four hours as the day before. But our "falling back" this month might prompt us to ask ourselves, "What would I do with extra time? What would I do if I was given an extra hour ... extra day ... extra year?"






Coincidentally, November also brings the Last Sunday of the Church Year (this year on November 24) when we consider the second coming of Christ. In the epistle appointed for that day, we hear from Saint Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians, "Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, 'There is peace and security,' then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape" (5:1-3).

If we're honest, we all realize our time on this earth is short. Nevertheless, we often try to convince ourselves that we have plenty of time. The eschatological event described in 1 Thessalonians is called the Last Day because with its arrival, time as we know it will cease. This world will be immediately destroyed, and every human being — both the living and the dead — will be called to stand before the judgment seat of God. There will be no second chances; no extensions to get your affairs in order; no grace period in which to amend your sinful life, or even one last breath in which to repent. Our sentencing will occur at the very instant of Christ's return. Therefore, it's necessary to heed the lesson Jesus teaches at the end of his parable of the wise and foolish virgins, "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour" (Matthew 25:13).

Such a warning might incite terror in one's heart. Indeed it should for most of the world but not for us Christians. Paul proceeds to tell the Thessalonians, "For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him" (vv. 9-10). Despite our sinfulness, our sentence on the day of judgment won't be one of condemnation. Christ was condemned in our place. On account of his sacrificial death, our verdict has been changed to not guilty. We fear neither death nor Jesus' return. Quite to the contrary, we eagerly pray, "Come, Lord Jesus!" We do this in confidence because for all who live and die in faith as we do, the Last Day will in fact be the first day of life with him in his new and never-ending creation.

May I then encourage you to spend a portion of your time in prayer? Pray that those who are lost in the darkness of this world would be brought to the light of Christ before it's too late. Pray that those who now confess Christ may remain steadfast in that confession until the end. And finally, thank the Lord for sending Christ into the world first to redeem the world and for promising to send him into the world again to bring it to eternal perfection.

Vicar Matthew Baker

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
<b>3</b>  All Saints' Day (Observed) <b>Divine Services</b> 8:30 a.m. Trinity 10:30 a.m. St. Paul's <b>Sunday School</b> 9:30 a.m. St. Paul's	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> <b>SP Catechism Class</b> 6 p.m.	<b>6</b> <b>TR Release-Time</b> 2:15 p.m. <b>TR Bible Class/ Wed. School</b> 5:30 p.m. <b>TR Ruth Circle</b> 6:30 p.m.	<b>7</b> <b>SP Bible Class</b> 10 a.m.	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>  Twenty-fifth Sunday Pentecost <b>Divine Services</b> 8:30 a.m. Trinity 10:30 a.m. St. Paul's <b>Sunday School</b> 9:30 a.m. St. Paul's	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> <b>SP Dorcas Circle</b> 2 p.m. <b>SP Catechism Class</b> 6 p.m.	<b>13</b> <b>TR Release-Time</b> 2:15 p.m. <b>TR Bible Class Wed. School</b> 5:30 p.m.	<b>14</b> <b>SP Bible Class</b> 10 a.m. <b>Trinity Voters Meeting</b> 7 p.m.	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b>  Twenty-sixth Sunday Pentecost <b>Divine Services</b> 8:30 a.m. Trinity 10:30 a.m. St. Paul's <b>Sunday School</b> 9:30 a.m. St. Paul's	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> <b>SP Catechism Class</b> 6 p.m.	<b>20</b> <b>TR Release-Time</b> 2:15 p.m. <b>TR Bible Class Wed. School</b> 5:30 p.m.	<b>21</b> <b>SP Bible Class</b> 10 a.m.	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b>  Last Sunday of the Church Year <b>Divine Services</b> 8:30 a.m. Trinity 10:30 a.m. St. Paul's <b>Sunday School</b> 9:30 a.m. St. Paul's	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> <b>SP Catechism Class</b> 6 p.m. <i>December newsletter articles due.</i>	<b>27</b> <b>Joint Thanksgiving Eve Service</b> 7 p.m. at St. Paul's	<b>28 Thanksgiving</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
					<i>Trinity LFL Christmas Aid forms due.</i>	