



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

127 Cherry Rd. NE, Massillon, OH 44646

330 832-7409

November 2025 Newsletter

The Bridge

Connecting Church with Home



The original version of this newsletter is a full-color email that has clickable links. To see that version, click on *2025 November Bridge* on the front page of our church website: stpaulsmassillon.org.

Additional photos are often in the original version. To subscribe to the email, contact the church office: officeadmin@stpaulsmassillon.org.

All Saints Day: Surrounded by a Great Cloud of Witnesses



“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.”
—Ecclesiastes 3:1

Dear Friends in Christ

November brings with it a change of seasons. The air grows crisp, the days shorten, and leaves fall to the ground like memories gently settling in our hearts. In the rhythm of the church year, November also begins with a celebration that reminds us who we are, and whose we are: **All Saints Day**.

On November 1st, and often the Sunday that follows, Christians around the world pause to remember the saints — not just the famous names in stained glass, but all those ordinary, faithful people who have gone before us in Christ. We remember grandparents whose love shaped our childhood, friends whose laughter still echoes in our minds, mentors who showed us what grace looks like, and church members who now rejoice in the light of God’s eternal presence.

All Saints Day reminds us that **the church is bigger than what we see on Sunday morning**. We are part of a communion — a living, eternal community that stretches across time and space. Those who have died in the faith are not gone from us; they are joined with us in Christ, who conquered death and opened the way to everlasting life. Hebrews speaks of a “great cloud of witnesses” cheering us on as we continue the race of faith. What a beautiful picture: those whom we love but see no longer are not simply

memories — they are companions in the kingdom of God, celebrating each step we take toward love, justice, kindness, and mercy.

All Saints Day is a time to give thanks:

- For lives that pointed us to Jesus
- For grace stronger than death
- For the promise that nothing can separate us from the love of God

It's also a day of hope. In a world where loss and grief are real, this celebration lifts our eyes to the resurrection promise — that our story does not end in the grave. Christ is making all things new.

So as we light candles, name our beloved dead, and sing songs of faith, may we feel that great cloud surrounding us. And may we remember that one day, by God's grace, we too will join that communion — saints among saints — in the joy of God's eternal feast.

Blessings in Christ,
Pastor Mark

Upcoming Events

The [church calendar](#) is always available on every page of the church [website](#) on the right side, along with the church address, phone number, email address, and Youtube link for the online services. The online calendar contains the most up-to-date listing of events.

Sunday: **Worship** 10:00 am

Weekly events

Sunday School after church service, 11:30 am

Wednesday Snip-N-Stitch, 9:00 am

Thursday Bible Studies, 10:00 am

Thursday Chair Yoga following Bible Study, 11:00 am

Monthly events

Tuesday, November 4, **Worship and Music Committee (1st Tuesday of month)**

Thursday, November 6, 6 pm: **Friendship Circle. (1st Thursday of month)**

Tuesday, November 11, 7 pm: **Church Council (2nd Tuesday of month)**

Friday, November 14, 4:30-6:00 pm: **Community Meal and Clothes Closet
(2nd Friday of month)**

Tuesday, November 18, 6 pm: **Finance Committee (3rd Tuesday of month)** *Special events*

Special Events

St. Jacob's Euchre Night: Saturday, November 8, 5:30-9:00

Cathedral Concert featuring OPUS 216: Sunday, November 9, 4 pm

Christmas Cookie Orders due November 16. Pick up day is November 23.

Madrigal Feast: Sunday, November 30, 4 pm.

Daylight Savings Time Reminder



Adult Sunday School Class

After Sunday Worship: 11:30 am, second floor of Parish Hall

If we live by the Spirit, let us be guided by the Spirit. (Galatians 5:25)

Our study of the Holy Spirit continues as we consider the fruit of the Spirit. This is the evidence of our lives: that we truly belong to Jesus Christ and are directed and empowered by the Spirit to show. Please join us as we gather at 11:30 each Sunday morning on the top floor of Parish Hall. An elevator is available for easy access.

Thursday Morning Bible Study

Beginning November 6th, 10:00 am

Enough Revised Edition: Discovering Joy through Simplicity and Generosity

Money has great power in our lives. Used wisely, it is one key to accomplishing our goals, providing for our needs, and fulfilling our life purpose. In recent years, many of us ignored the wisdom of the past when it came to managing and spending our money. Credit card debt soared, savings rates plummeted, and our home equity became something to be tapped into and spent rather than a source of security in retirement. We felt an insatiable desire for more. And we found ourselves spending tomorrow's money today in order to have what we hoped would satisfy. The result of all of this was not greater happiness and satisfaction, but greater stress and anxiety.

Enough is an invitation to rediscover the Bible's wisdom when it comes to prudent financial practices. In these pages are found the keys to experiencing contentment, overcoming fear, and discovering joy through simplicity and generosity. This book could change your life, by changing your relationship with money.

Church Council Highlights

Report from October 14

- Pastor reported that Dave Dourm is at St. Luke's for rehab.
 - Confirmation will take place on Reformation Sunday, October 26. That will be a day of great rejoicing as we welcome Ethan and Jarrett Deuble!
 - Pastor is at work on planning the midweek Advent services among the area Lutheran churches.
 - Property reported that the upper parking lot is complete and that the company will be striping many of the back lot rows.
 - The boiler is installed for the most part with two items still to be brought in. Once those parts are installed, the new boiler will be ready to warm our cold days. A tentative estimate of \$125,00 was given for future needed heating and cooling for the parish building.
 - We will continue to collect items for the Christmas bags through November.
 - Pastor and Jim Johnson will be meeting with people from St. Mary's to discuss their continued use of our parking lot and also to discuss snow removal and taking care of our newly paved lot.
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Respectfully shared,

Kathryn Myers
President, Church Council

Financial Report

Income and Expense Summary			
Fiscal Year 2025-2026, Month Ending August 2025			
August		YTD	
Income	\$ 20,048	Income	\$ 42,047
Endowment Withdrawal	\$ 2,083.00	Endowment Withdrawal	\$ 8,783
Expenses	\$ 23,492	Expenses	\$ 48,687
Surplus or (Deficit)	\$ (1,361)	Surplus or (Deficit)	\$ 2,143

Income and Expense Summary			
Fiscal Year 2025-2026, Month Ending September 2025			
September		YTD	
Income	\$ 24,749	Income	\$ 66,796
Endowment Withdrawal	\$ 2,083	Endowment Withdrawal	\$ 10,866
Expenses	\$ 24,441	Expenses	\$ 73,128
Surplus or (Deficit)	\$ 2,391	Surplus or (Deficit)	\$ 4,534

Financial Notes:

There are some tax law changes that effect charitable contributions. Starting in 2026, taxpayers who don't itemize can deduct up to \$1,000 in charitable contributions or up to \$2,000 for married couples who file jointly. If you don't itemize and want to take advantage of this tax break, consider making your 2025 yearend donations in January 2026 instead.

Meanwhile, taxpayers who itemize on their tax returns and deduct charitable contributions will be subject to a new limit on the amount they can deduct. The maximum amount of cash gifts donors can deduct will remain at 60% of adjusted gross income. However, the deduction will be limited to the amount of charitable contributions that exceed 0.5% of AGI. To avoid the new floor, itemizers may want to make their 2026 contributions in 2025.

Dan Farrar, Treasurer

Confirmation

On Sunday, October 26, Reformation Sunday, we celebrated the confirmation of Ethan and Jerrett Deuble.

They shared their confirmation verses with us:

Ethan Deuble

Philippians 4:13. *I can do all things through him who strengthens me.*

Jerrett Deuble

1 Peter 4:10 *Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.*



Pastor Mark with his two confirmands. They have met faithfully for three years for catechism in preparation for confirmation

Music on Reformation Sunday



Camarada Brass enhanced our service, adding power and majesty to our hymns.

Jeff Huston-Trumpet I
Chris Hall-Trumpet II
Phil Tryon-French Horn
Josh Devore-Trombone
Jonathon Stuck-Tuba

Cathedral Concert: Baldwin Wallace

Over 110 people were able to enjoy the magnificent concert from the Baldwin Wallace Men's Chorus on afternoon of October 26.



Pianist Michelle Massouh Makhlouf is recognized by the director, the chorus, and the congregation.

Upcoming Cathedral Concert: November 9 at 4 pm

OPUS 216: "Classically Trained, Unbound by Genre"

Information about OPUS 216 from their [website](#):

Founded in 2012 by violinist Ariel Clayton Karas, OPUS 216 has appeared in every major venue in northeast Ohio, from special events at the Cleveland Museum of Art and the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, to public and private events at Quicken Loans Arena, Progressive Field, Holden Arboretum, Cleveland History Center, Cleveland Botanical Gardens, Cleveland Museum of Natural History, and special events for the Cleveland Cavaliers, the Pro Football Hall of Fame, among others.

Trained at top-tier conservatories like the world-renowned Cleveland Institute of Music, Manhattan School of Music, Juilliard and others, our musicians make Cleveland their home for its vibrancy, professional development opportunities, arts and culture. When they aren't performing events with OPUS 216, ensemble musicians perform nationally and internationally, from Lincoln Center in New York City, to subbing with major orchestras, such as the Chicago Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony, Cleveland Orchestra, Atlanta Symphony, and others. Ensemble musicians have performed onstage across the country with everyone from John Legend to Michael Buble, Brian Wilson, Andrea Bocelli, and more.

Equally versed in classical and non-classical styles, OPUS 216 has created a niche experience for high-level performances that can cover any genre, from classical to French café jazz, Top 40, hip hop, South American jazz, Irish fiddle, original music, and improvisation.



The combo was very well received at last year's concert.

Fellowship Committee: Successful Road Rally and Upcoming Christmas Caroling

Report from the Fellowship Committee:

What a fun time we had on the "Road Rally" on **October 18th**. Our theme was the Ohio & Erie Canalway celebrating the 200 anniversary of the beginning of canal. We ended up at Lock 15 Brewery.

Make plans to join us as we visit our members and friends who are unable to attend services on **December 6** for Christmas caroling. We will meet at the church at 2:00 pm and divide into groups. After caroling, we will return to the church for a chicken dinner and share stories about caroling to these special members. Sign up in the lounge so we can make sure we have enough food.

Parking Lot Has a New Look



The resurfacing adds even more beauty to our church.

Be mindful of the arrows, though. The traffic pattern is slightly different.

Landscaping Work Completed



Many volunteers showed up to help with the landscaping. Thanks again to Jarrett Deuble, whose Eagle Project was to landscape the new east entrance to the sanctuary.

Friendship Circle

Report from Kim Oberlin:

Our October Friendship Circle had a festive Halloween vibe with a visit from none other than Hildebrand the witch! Carol Stoner and Deb Hannum were our hostesses for the evening. The food and desserts were yummy, and they even had little gifts for us!

Our guest speaker, Norm Mast from Ohio Hospice, gave a very informative talk about hospice care.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, November 6th at 6:00. As always . . . all ladies are welcome!



October Community Meal Report

In October, our volunteers served 90 people!

They had Swiss steak with gravy and mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, and homemade applesauce provided by Eric and Carla Myers.

Thank you to everyone who donates to this cause every month; it is so desperately needed in our community. We truly appreciate you, one and all.

The Community Meal/Clothes Closet is open to everyone in the community on the second Friday of every month.

Please reach out to Kim with questions.

Blessings and Peace,

phone link: [Kim Oberlin](tel:)

email link: [Kim Oberlin](mailto:)

Clothes Closet Report: Fall and Winter Needs

- This month we had approximately 60 shoppers.
- Many of our sections are now completely depleted. We are in dire need of warm bedding items.
- We continue to need men's and boy's winter coats, boots, shoes, sweatpants and sweatshirts.

The Clothes Closet has been very busy as people are preparing for winter weather. We need winter coats for men, women, and children.



We were blessed with 7 students from Central Catholic High School. Their work ethic was amazing as they worked 3 nonstop hours sorting and hanging up clothes. Students are always good helpers, and we welcome all helpers at the Clothes Closet.

Your donations are so crucial to this outreach ministry, and we thank you greatly for your generosity.

Please call Cindy Lash, Tracie Schmolt, or Carol Stoner for additional information.

Scholarship Committee Announcement

It's time to apply for or renew scholarship applications for the 2026 spring semester. All renewal applications are sent via email to the recipients from the previous semester. New applicants can request an application starting November 1 by emailing Lynda Klein at gllklein@sssnet.com for the application.

DEADLINE to be considered for the scholarship is November 30, 2025. Scholarship recipients will then be voted upon by the Scholarship Committee. Recipients will be notified, and rewards will be sent via postal mail to the address on the application within the month of December.

Christmas Cookies from the Kitchen Angels



**God's Kitchen Angels
are making
homemade cut-out
Christmas cookies**

- \$10/Dozen
- Orders Due November 16th.
- Orders may be dropped off in offering plate, the office or you can call/text
 - ✓ Barb Palmer @ 330.244.1602
 - or
 - ✓ Sue Ambrosic @ 330.844.7648.
- Pick-up date is November 23rd

God's Kitchen Angels are making homemade cut-out Christmas cookies. They are \$10/dozen and must be ordered by November 16th, 2025.

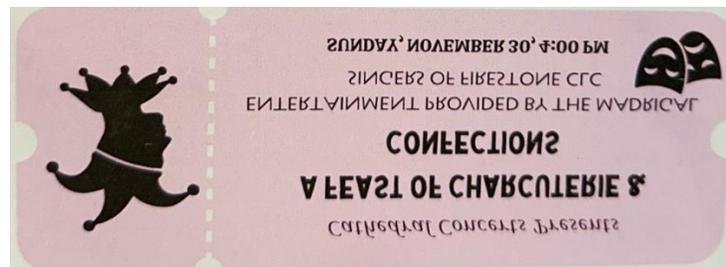
Pick-up date is November 23rd, 2025.

Poinsettia Orders Due November 15



Order and payment may be placed in the offering plate or mailed or delivered to the church office.

Firestone Madrigal Singers



On Sunday, November 30, the Firestone CLC Madrigal Singers will visit our morning service. Then, later that afternoon, starting at 4:00, they will present a full entertainment. We will share a light meal of charcuterie and dessert in the Parish Hall.

\$20 for adults, \$10 for children 10 and under.



The Madrigal Singers from last year's church service.

Christmas Collections Continuing

COLLECTING NONPERISHABLES

Welfare and Social Committee will collect nonperishable food and miscellaneous items for our Community Meal families for Christmas. These items will be distributed at our Community Meal on Friday, December 12.

We will begin collecting in October. Please place your donations in the box located at the side entrance of the church.

If you have questions, please contact Barb Palmer at 330-244-1602

October 19	Tea and coffee
October 26	Peanut butter and jelly
November 2	Canned soups and pork n beans
November 9	Cereal and mixes (cake, brownies, muffins)
November 16	Canned fruits and vegetables
November 23	Spaghetti sauce, pasta, instant potatoes
November 30	Paper products (paper towels, toilet paper)
December 7	Bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrush

Thank you for your generosity!

Barb Palmer

Salvation Army Gift Tags

Message from Barb Palmer:

The Welfare and Social Action Committee will be distributing gift tags for the Salvation Army "Christmas Assistance" program. Tags will be available beginning on **Sunday, November 23**. Unwrapped gifts will be collected at the church on **December 7**.

All gifts are set up in the Salvation Army, and parents come in to pick what they want from each category. Even if a tag has a special wanted item, that item will be set out for everyone to choose from, so you basically can buy anything you want.

This can't be any easier... get a tag, buy a toy, turn it in unwrapped! Parents get to enjoy the feeling of picking out items for their children, children get Christmas gifts, and the gift giver feels so good helping children. It's a **WIN WIN WIN!**

Community Candlelight Walk

Mark your calendars for the Community Candlelight Walk:
December 7, 5-7 pm.

There will be continuous music from our adult choir, bell choir, and vocal and instrumental soloists.

Prayer List Update

Cindy Lash, Judy Hall, Kathy Watts, Bonnie & Dave Dourm, Nancy Lint, Tom Fry, Carol Sargent, Kenneth & Jean Dexter, Anna Langenfeld, Matthew Cottle, Arthur Barrett, Olivia Harrington, Darlene Lewis, Cindy Nash, Karen & Paul Daily, Rick Theiss, Richard Green.

Flowers for the Altar for 2025

Please text Sue Ambrosic at 330-844-7648 if you would like to have the Altar or Throne flowers for 2025.

The cost of Altar flowers is \$40 per Sunday; the Throne flowers are \$28. Please contact Patty Carmola if you have any questions at 330-832-9405. You will be billed directly by *Carmola's Flowers* in Massillon.

November Birthdays

Favorite Bible or hymn verses: Every month we invite those celebrating birthdays to share their favorite verses. Be ready to send in yours!

Nov 1--Bryan Corban	Nov 12--Mary Martin	Nov 20--Richard Longworth
Nov 2--Darrell Books	Nov 12--Craig Maurer	Nov 20--Lindsay Mays
Nov 4--Jennifer Johnson	Nov 14--Lynda Klein	Nov 22--Corey Larson
Nov 5--Russell Poling	Nov 15--Judith Allman	Nov 23--D. Richard Getz
Nov 6--Phyllis Staver	Nov 16--Paul White	Nov 23--Dennis Morgan
Nov 8--Chase Duplain	Nov 18--Amanda Gray	Nov 24--JuDee Reed
Nov 9--Daniel Hepler	Nov 18--Jack Norton	Nov 26--Debra Stevens
Nov 11--Jonathan Litman	Nov 19--Kim Oberlin	Nov 27--Mathew Blaine
Nov 12--Miho Kobayashi		

Has your birthday or anniversary been missing from the published lists? If so, please contact the office so we can add it to our database. Thank you!

November Wedding Anniversaries

We celebrate with this couples and congratulate them on another milestone in their lives together!

Nov 7--Jack & Marilyn Norton

Thank You Note

Dear friends of St. Paul's,

I want to sincerely thank everyone for your thoughts, prayers, and cards during my hospital stay. It meant a lot to me. I am also very appreciative for the visits from Pastor Mark. Thank you, St. Paul's.

Sincerely,
Dick Cordes

New Assisted Hearing Devices Available

Four assisted listening devices are available at the sound system table in the back of the sanctuary at the beginning of worship. Please see Jim Johnson or John Stanko if you need assistance with these devices.

You can also use your smartphone to access the system. Go to your app store and download the **WaveCAST** app. Then connect to the sanctuary Wi-Fi:

Network: sound media

Password: Sound127

Once connected to the Wi-Fi, open the WaveCAST app and tap on **St. Paul's** to access the worship service. If you need help, please see Jim or John.



St. Paul's Phone App

Find the "My Church" by Pushpay app in the App store on your phone or computer. It is a free download.

Open the app and search for St. Paul's by typing STPLC APP. Then click on the St. Paul's logo.

To take advantage of all the app's features, you must create an account. Get notifications and reminders of upcoming events, access our live stream worship and worship bulletins, send prayer requests, see the church calendar, and give electronically

Serving During the Month of November

If you are interested in serving for a future month, click on the contact person's email link.

ASSISTING MINISTER

Contact [Karl Kalk](#)

11/2 Veronica Kreemer
11/9 Sue Reid
11/16 Kathryn Myers
11/23 Scott Larson
11/30 David Stoner

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Contact [Kathryn Myers](#)

11/2 Brady Rupp & Sue Reid
11/9 Dwight Butler & Jim Johnson
11/16 Jackie Pritchett & Gary Collard
11/23 Shane Jackson & Barb Palmer
11/30 Lynda Klein & Greg Klein

GREETERS

Contact [Karl Kalk](#)

11/2 Sue Ambrosic
11/9 Gary Collard
11/16 Rob Pritchett
11/23 Craig Maurer
11/30 Jack & Marilyn Norton

SACRISTANS

Contact [Kathryn Myers](#)

Barb Palmer and Brooke Duplain

LAY LECTOR

Contact [Karl Kalk](#)

Patricia Long

USHERS

Contact [Dick Longworth](#)

Chuck Gesen
Dick Longworth
Chuck Richards
Mike Skelly

Committee Members

EVANGELISM

Kathryn Myers, Chair

Amy Burkett,
Sue Ambrosic
Gayle Jackson
Becky Johnson
Cindy Lash
Deidra Monastra

FINANCE

Dan Farrar, Chair

Shane Jackson
Greg Klein
John Liebermann
Patty Long
Brady Rupp
Tracie Schmolt
John Stanko

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Greg Klein, Chair

Carol Butler
Dwight Butler
Abigail Haake
Karl Kalk
Patty Long
Kathryn Myers
Kim Oberlin

STAFF SUPPORT

Greg Klein, Chair

Jennifer Nelson
Maurer
Jackie Pritchett
Elizabeth Schehl

WELFARE AND SOCIAL ACTION

Barb Palmer, Chair

Christine Bates
Judy Fichter
Lynda Klein
Deidra Monastra
Kathryn Myers
Kim Oberlin
JuDee Reed
David Stoner
LaShell Williamson

PARISH FELLOWSHIP

Sue Reid, Chair

Sue Ambrosic
Gary Collard
Becky Johnson
Loren Veigel

MISSION ENDOWMENT

Craig Maurer, Chair

Sue Ambrosic
Karl Kalk
Lynda Klein
Phyllis Staver

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Jim Johnson, Chair

Joe Hepler
John Liebermann
Dennis Morgan, Liaison
for Chair
Paul Mutchler
John Stanko

SCHOLARSHIP

Lynda Klein, Chair

Amy Burkett
John Liebermann
Lisa Skelly

YOUTH AND PARISH EDUCATION

Jackie Pritchett, Chair

Scott Larson
Deidra Monastra
Sue Reid

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

We are a community of believers called together to be the Body of Christ for the sake of our families, community and our world. We invite you to join us for worship on Sunday mornings as we celebrate God's redeeming and freeing grace in Jesus Christ our Lord.



The Reverend Mark Kreemer officiating.



ELCA Vision: A world experiencing the difference God's grace and love in Christ make for all people and creation.