

Volume 40 Issue 11

November, 2025

Pastor Stephen Zeller.....

PASTOR'S PAGE

Are You Ready?

So much is going on all around us all the time. What are we supposed to be ready for?

Well, as we look forward to November, we obviously have numerous holidays and celebrations to prepare for. Between Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year, and more, these few months always feel like a blur. The world around us is feeling more volatile and chaotic these days, so that makes the weight on our shoulders even heavier. And so many of us are carrying pain and burdens on our hearts and minds. How can we add one more thing?

Some of you might think that I'm jumping ahead here since Advent is known as the season of preparation for the birth of Jesus. During Advent we are frequently asked the question about being ready for Christ's arrival. We're still a month away, aren't we?

Well, yes. And no.

A long-held tradition in the church actually has Advent as a seven-week season rather than the four weeks we recognize now. If you listen to the readings in our worship services in November you will hear themes of preparing and getting ready. Specifically in November we hear about being ready for Jesus' return, while in December we hear about being ready for Jesus' first arrival into this world.

In our four-week Advent season, in the weeks of December leading up to Christmas, we're going to be hearing Bible stories that point to the theme of saying "yes." Throughout the story of the people of God, brave and faithful everyday people said yes to God time and time again.



And while that official theme really doesn't start until the end of November, all throughout this coming month we will be asked how we are living now, how we are answering God's call, in the hope of Christ's return to our world. We will be reminded that in this journey we are surrounded by the saints and supported by God through all of life's challenges.



IN THE CHURCH

NEWLYWEDS



Best wishes to Levi and Delaney (Gerken) Betts! They were united in marriage on Saturday, October 18th. God's blessings on your life

together as one.

NEWLYWEDS

Best wishes to Garrett and Tory (Viebrock) Goetz! They were united in marriage on Saturday, October 25th. God's blessings on your life together as one.



NEWLYWEDS



Best wishes to Matthew and Mariah (Ramirez)
Luetjen! They were united in marriage on Saturday, October 25th.

God's blessings on your life together as one.

NEW BABY

Congratulations to Colby and Hannah Schweitzer on the arrival of their son, Everett Randolph. He



was born on Friday, October 24th. Everett Randolph is the grandson of Chester and Norma Schlesselman.



FIRST COMMUNION

On Sunday, **October 27th** we rejoiced with three young

Christians who received their first Holy Communion. We pray that partaking of our Lord's body and blood will be a regular practice throughout the lives, of Lauren Jackson, Nora Mullins and Evan Randall. Congratulations!

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

On Saturday, November 1st and Sunday, November 2nd, we will be remembering those



who have joined the Church Triumphant. We will remember....

Laura Ruth Oelrichs......03.09.25
Paula Harms......09.22.25
And all those families and friends who have lost loved ones.

FIRST BIBLES



On Sunday, **November 9th** eight of our young people will receive their First Bibles from

our congregation. They are Preston Carver, Gracynn Elliott, Ainsely Kullman, Korbin Kyle, Cooper Loughery, Cooper Oelrichs, Mason Smith and Isaac Zeller.



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ANGEL TREE



THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

Due to low attendance in recent years, we will not be having an inperson worship service on Thanksgiving Eve. An online devotion will be shared on the church's Facebook page on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. You are encouraged to bring in donations for the Cole Camp Food Pantry throughout the month of November.

ANGEL TREE

Once again we are inviting members and friends of St. Paul's to support the Christmas for Kids program in Benton County as well as sharing gifts to our friends in local nursing homes and assisted care facilities. Here's how the tree will work this year:

*The Angel Tree will arrive in early November (gifts are distributed at the beginning of December so we have to start early). Each angel will list a grade level and gender along with some suggested items to purchase, but feel free to use your imagination or ask a child you know for

suggestions! Gifts should be in the \$15-25 range, are NOT to be wrapped, and need to be returned to church by November 30th.

*There will be boxes on the usher's stands and near the Angel Tree if you would like to make a financial contribution towards gifts that will fill in the gaps of the Christmas for Kids program.

*In early December, NEW angels will be added to the Angel Tree with gifts that will be given to the residents of Ambrose Park and our members at Good Samaritan. Those gift bags need to be brought to church by December 21st. Each angel lists an assortment of items that could be purchased for each person, and that gift should be wrapped.

As always, thank you for your care and support of our area residents this Christmas season!







COMING EVENTS

SATURDAY CASUAL SERVICE



Saturday worship begins at 5:30pm in the Chapel. There suals will be no service on the 3rd **Worship** Saturday of every month. Welcome!

JUNIOR LUTHERANS

Lutherans Junior Volunteering at the Cole Camp Food Pantry! It 🕵 will be on Saturday,

November 1st at 1:00pm. Bring vour families and come spend organizing some time and cleaning at the Cole Camp Food Pantry. We'll hear about how the pantry works and how the community is meeting a great need in town. Questions ask Pr. Kim.

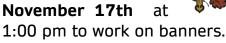
"ONE STITCH AT A TIME"



They will meet on Monday November 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th at 9:00am in the Gathering Space. Please, feel free to join them!

ESTHER CIRCLE

The Esther Circle will meet in the chapel on Monday.



SUNBEAM



The Sunbeam Committee will meet on Wednesday, November 26th 3:00pm.

CHRISTKINDLMARKET CAROLING

We have been invited to put together a group from St. Paul's who will wander around the



Tis the Season

Christkindlmarket singing Christmas carols. The event is on Friday evening, **December 5th**, in downtown Cole Camp. There will be a signup sheet on the bulletin board in the Link.

ADVENT DINNER



annual Advent Our Dinner will be held on Sunday, **December 7th**, after worship. This is a

time for us as a congregation to celebrate the start of the Advent season and share in a festive program. Everyone who can is asked to bring a dish to share, but the meat will be provided.

WINTERFEST

Mark your calendars for our second annual Winterfest on Friday evening, **December 19th**.







YOU CAN HELP

VOLUNTEERS

The Nominating Committee will soon be gathering to find those who are willing to serve the church in many different forms of leadership. Would you be willing to serve for a term? If so, please talk to the nominating committee, indicate this on your Offering Card in worship, or call the church office. Thank you for sharing your gifts with Christ's Church.

Council Member
Council Treasurer
Cemetery Trustee
Nomination Committee
Synod Assembly Delegate

Auditing Committee **Budget/Stewardship Committee Christmas Candy Committee** Christmas Program Committee Dinner Kitchen Committee Dinner Set-up Committee **Evangelism Committee** Financial Secretary Fish Fry Committee Funeral Ushers Junior Lutheran Sponsors Parish Education Committee **Property Management Committee** Staff Support Usher Worship & Music Committee

Cole Camp Fair
Float Committee
Fair Stand Committee
Food Buying Committee
Packing Committee
Set-Up Committee
Work Scheduling Committee



Other Areas of the Church Assisting Minister Communion Assistants Children's Sermon Reader







DETAILED TREASURER'S REPORT

Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual

BENEVOLENCE RECEIPTS		September	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget	Target %
ELCA		3,645.00	7,400. 00	(3,755.00)	49.26%	
World Hunger		1,925.92	2,000.00	(74.08)	96.3%	
Hope 5 one		3,476.25	5,000.00	(1,523.75)	69.53%	
CC Food Pantry		1,690.00	1,500.00	190.00	112.67%	
Seniors of North BC		740.00	-0-	740.00	100.0%	
Other		210.00	-0-	210.00	100.0%	
Total Benevolence		11,687.17	15,900.00	(4,212.83)	73.5%	
OFFERING						Note A
Home Purpose		146,603.38	223,913.00	(77,309.62)	65.47%	75.0%
Building Fund 5%		7,701.73	11,785.00	(4,083.27)	65.35%	75.0%
Total Offering		154,305.11	235,698.00	(81,392.89)	65.4%	
Building Use		1,683.00	2,750.00	(1,067.00)	61.2%	
Fair Stand, net	Note B	23,190.82	5,000.00	(18,190.82)	463.82%	
Float		952.00	800.00	152.00	119.0%	
Interest		11,786.40	-0-	11,786.40	100.0%	
Miscellaneous		25,843.92	-0-	25,843.92	100.0%	
Total Income		229,448.42	260,148.00	323,917.56	224.51%	
Expenses	Note C	584,065.56	260,148.00	294,259.05	213.11%	
Net Income		(354,617.14)	-0-	(354,617.14)		

Cash and Investment Balance - September 30, 2025

Home Purpose	Building	Memorial	Crisis	Little Blessings	Seminary
Note B & D		Note E		Note F	
81,520.96	54,415.55	20,282.56	3,007.30	102,194.90	8,888.22

More financial information on page 5.

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TREASURER, CONTINUED

Note A: As of September 30, 75% of the year has elapsed, however, offerings as a percent of budget are only 65.47%. This indicates that offerings are approximately \$21,000 short of budgeted amounts.

Note B: The "Food Stand, Net" revenue item and the Home Purpose cash balance will each be reduced by approximately \$15,000 in October for the remaining bills to be paid and for profits to be shared with the WELCA and Luther League.

Note C: Includes \$253,802.85 in roof replacement expenses and \$12,800 for parsonage window replacement (both of which were paid from insurance proceeds) and \$82,162.58 in property acquisition costs. Additionally, property/liability insurance premiums of \$44,789.90 were paid which is an increase of \$24,000 from 2024.

Note D: Includes \$2,809.93 of Communities of Calling Funds.

Note E: Includes restricted amounts of \$15,000 for Little Blessings and \$1,096.89 for Sunday School.

Note F: Includes \$101,208.86 in grant funds.

THANK YOU

Thank you, St. Paul's, for all the wonderful cards and gifts you shared with us during Pastor Appreciation month. We are always touched by your appreciation.



Thank you! ~Pastors Stephen & Kim

Thank you for all the prayers, calls, cards, texts & emails during my stay at the hospital & recuperation!

Gratefully appreciated! Randy

THRIVENT

For information on Choice Dollars visit Thrivent.com/choicedollars or call 1-800-847-4836 and say, "Thrivent Choice".

Donation to date: \$35, 198.00 thrivent

A special thank you to those who have already given their Thrivent Dollars to St. Paul's. This month is......Rodger & Theila Luetjen.





♦ Send a note......

NEEDS YOUR PRAYERS

Kris Barnes

(friend of Julie Cronin)

Jon Beckman

Deanna Browning

Joe Campbell

Scott Cash

Cliff Eckhoff

Debra Eichler

Ron Eickhoff

Joseph Fuelling

(nephew of Paul Fuelling)

Jerome Goosen

Adam Gumbel

(son of Jim & Kim Gumbel)

Karen Haase

(sister-in-law of Gene Beckman)

Larry Haase

(brother-in-law of Gene Beckman)

Kathy Harms

Gordon Ives

Greg Ives

Norene Ives

Kelly Jobe

(daughter of Dewey & Kay Jobe)

Jovce Jones

(sister of Connie Gerken)

Hazel Karstons

Susan Kyle

Marvin Logan

(brother of Gale Logan)

Kyle Luetjen

David Mobely

(brother-in-law of Randy Healan)

Jackie Ross

(sister of Randy Healan)

Kylie Simon

Bredlee & Jessica Stillfield

(friends of Melisa Balke)

Carmilla Swaim & husband (friends of Debbie Eckhoff)

Nathan Vanderlinden

Judie VonHolten



Nursing Home

Vern Dean Bohling (Ambrose Park #4)
Marie Viebrock (GSCC #203)

Plane Viebrock (03cc #203)

Florence VonHolten (GSCC#207)



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WOMEN OF THE ELCA

Minutes of the ELCA Women's meeting on October 1, 2025.

Meeting was called to order by President, Janice Gerken. Minutes were reviewed. There was no treasurer's report.

A thank you from the Seniors of North Benton County was shared.

Ruth Ann Kreisel reported 98 quilts, 62 for Lutheran World Relief and 23 in the cedar chest. Milton and Jeannette VonHolten made 80 for Child Safe.

Sharel Wienberg made a motion to pay for shipping cost of World Relief items. Jeannette VonHolten seconded and motion carried.

Ruth Ann Kreisel made a motion to give \$200 for travel expenses to Papua New Guinea. Glenalee Dillon seconded and motion carried.

Glenalee Dillon made a motion to elect Jancie Gerken as president and Rhonda Schlesselman as treasurer by acclamation. Ruth Ann Kreisel seconded and motion carried.

Ruth Ann Kreisel, Amy Brown and Lauren Brown will get Christmas gifts for shut-ins and care family residents.

Glenalee Dillon made a motion to give cookies and cinnamon rolls for resident/staff. Erin Oelrichs and Tonya Nelson will be asked to provide them. Jeannette VonHolten seconded and motion carried.

Sharel Wienberg made a motion to give the free will offering from the Annual Meeting to Pre-School. Ruth Ann Kreisel seconded and motion carried.

Meeting adjourned, Lois Viebrock, secretary





ADVENT CALENDARS

Advent is just around the corner! Advent is a season of waiting and preparing for the birth of Jesus Christ. Many people use calendars or other methods to help countdown to Christmas. Over the past few years we have been experimenting with some fun ways to do those calendars. Based on interest over the past couple years, this year we will be doing FOUR different calendars:

Kids Candy Craft Beer Wine Hot Tea Bags



Everyone who participates will be asked to answer one question, with the answers being compiled into an Advent Devotional booklet for each of us to use throughout Advent. How it works: if you take part in the hot tea bag or kid's candy calendar, you bring in 24 of the SAME item, individually wrapped, and in return you will receive 24 different items one for each day of Advent in December. For the beer calendar, bring in TWO DIFFERENT 12-packs of beer. If you take part in the wine calendar, you are asked to bring in 4 of the SAME bottles of wine (regular sized, ~\$8-14 range) and you will get to choose 4 different bottles in return one for each week of Advent. Because we need an exact count of who is participating, you must sign up to participate on the bulletin board in the link or by contacting Janice or Pastor Stephen. You will then receive more information and the question that needs to be answered. Your items must be dropped off by **November 16**th at the Church Office or Parsonage Garage. There is always room in these calendars so please feel free to invite a friend to participate. Please speak with Pastor Stephen if you have any questions.



2026

Triennal

Gathering

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MILITARY

MILITARY

Capt. Ashlie Colston
(daughter of Jon Beckman)

Rank E3 Jensen Hamilton

(son of Matt & Isabel Hamilton and grandson of Judie VonHolten)

Whiteman Airforce Base

Private Braydn Hood

(grandson of Connie Gerken)

National Guard

MSgt. Jason Ostberg (son-in-law of Suzanne Lutjen) 15319 Proteus Street

Lt. Col. Ron Poe 1780 Cedar Lane Sedalia, MO 65301

San Antonio, TX 78245

SSG Nick Smith Whiteman Airforce Base

Major Joseph Strathman 1084 Strada Cristallo Henderson, NV 89011



AN INVITATION TO ALL WOMEN OF ST. PAUL'S

The 2026 Triennial Gathering for the Women of the ELCA will be held in Des Moines, Iowa - July 16-19. This is an opportunity for *all women* to pause in their busyness and become immersed in worship, praise, and prayer with your faith sisters from across the nation. The theme of the Gathering is "I am worthy".

This is the first national Gathering being held so close by (less than 6 hours drive time). Two hotels have blocks of rooms for our women short walk to within a the convention center. Workshops are available each afternoon covering a variety of topics pertinent to women in today's society. In addition, there will be a Friday morning Bible Study, opportunities. auilting servant a exhibit, and two silent auctions.

The Gathering opens on Thursday evening with worship (July 16) and with worship Sunday closes on (July 19). There is morning information regarding the Gathering on a table in the Gathering Space. Also, there is a scholarship application for first time Gathering attendees, which, if funds allow, will cover your registration. If you are unable to attend for the full three days, there are one-day options available.

Questions?? See Janice...





♦ A Time To Celebrate.....

SPECIAL OCCASIONS

BIRTHDAY	/ \$.	BAPTISMS	1
11/1	Lexi Goyette	11/1	Kinnley Kyle
11/1	Mac Harms	11/1	Brian Randall
11/1	Wanda Viebrock	11/1	Steve Hamilton
11/1		11/3	Miranda Gerken
11/1	Linda Wagner Adrienn Dieckman	11/4	Vivian Crawford
11/2		11/4	Emily Kullman
	Angela Viebrock	11/5	Julie Cronin Water
11/3	Mia Hiatt	11/5	Kyle Oelrichs
11/3	Dara Osoego	11/6	Norma Schlesselman
11/5	Chris Kappleman	11/8	Sherry Charbonneau
11/6	Mary Haluptzok	11/8	Logan Hughes
11/6	Matthew Hamilton	11/12	Grady Rice
11/6	Sharel Wienberg	11/12	Nicole Rice
11/7	Brian Randall	11/12	Katelyn Schlesselman
11/7	Kolton Smith	11/13	Laura Akin
11/9	Tiffinay Nash	11/13	Ryan Akin
11/9	Glen Webb	11/13	Logan Jackson
11/12	Macy Luetjen	11/13	Joyce Schlesselmann
11/13	Victoria Gerken	11/15	Colleen Baker
11/14	Pamela Eckhoff	11/15	Katie Jackson
11/14	Anthony Kreisel	11/15	Macy Luetjen
11/15	Konway Kruep	11/16	Dee Rehmer
11/16	Randy Schlesselman	11/16	Glen Webb
11/17	Jarrett Prince	11/17 11/17	Susan Kyle Caleb Schlesselmann
11/18	Marcy Cash	11/17	Mac Harms
11/21	Stephanie Randall	11/19	Grant Kullman
11/21	Cooper Rice	11/21	Lynn Schear
11/22	Reganne Thomas	11/22	Shirley Newman
11/23	Theila Luetjen	11/22	Hannah Schweitzer
11/24	Cathy Bailey	11/22	Sharel Wienberg
11/24	Nova Harris	11/23	Ronald Oelrichs
11/24	Charlotte Zeller	11/25	Matthew Hamilton
11/25	Jeff Elliott	11/25	Noah Kelly
11/25	Rachel Wienberg	11/25	Linda Oelrichs
11/26	Arlene Schlesselman	11/27	Melisa Balke
11/27	Alyssa Fowler	11/27	Mindy Fox
11/27	Fred Goosen	11/27	Chris Kappleman
11/27	Jason Heimsoth	11/28	Wayne Oelrichs
11/28	Chris Balke		-
11/30	Jacob Fowler		





SPECIAL OCCASIONS

ANNIAF	(SARIES:	
11/5	Lenny & Kathy Gerken	49
11/7	Rocky & Diana Goyette	11
11/8	Phil & Mary Haluptzok	23
11/14	Frank & Ruth Ann Kreisel	55
11/29	Milton & Jeannette VonHolton	61







Fall back! DON'T FORGET TO **CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS**

Pastor Stephen Zeller

St. Paul's Lutheran Church 205 West Jefferson Street

P.O. Box 250

Cole Camp, MO 65325

660 - 668 - 3537 (church office)

660 - 668 - 0881

(Pr. Stephen's home)

301 - 787 - 7993

(Pr. Stephen's cell)

Office Hours:

8:30am - 3:00pm Tuesday Wednesday 8:30am - 3:00pm 8:30am - 12:00pm Thursday Friday 8:30am - 12:00pm

StephenPZeller@gmail.com Email: office@stpauls.me Website: www.stpauls.me









Susan Goosen, Church Council Secretary

COUNCIL MINUTES

Congregational Council Minutes Wednesday, September 10, 2025

PASTOR'S REPORT

Upcoming Events

Sept 14: Sunday School &

Confirmation Begins

Sept. 21: Senior Sunday



Oct. 15 - 16

CSS Fall Theological Conference

Breakfast at R-1: Some of the remaining funds from the Communities of Calling were used to provide breakfast to the teachers and staff at Cole Camp R-1 School. As always they were very appreciative.

Insurance: Norma met with an adjuster/risk manager from our new insurance company for them to look around the building. Things that needed to be taken care of were the fire extinguishers; Bud's Fire Extinguisher Service met with Pastor and inspected all

Worship Attendance (in person):

Aug 16: xx Aug 17: 121 Aug 23: 11 Aug 24: 133

Aug 30: 16 Aug 31:98

(Labor Day Weekend)
Sept 6: xx Sept 7: 72

(Cole Camp Fair)

extinguishers. Many were updated and one was added. Pastor also added 4 smoke detectors.

Float Work: An incredible float was created by Janice Gerken, Rhonda Schlesselman and Debbie Eckhoff who contributed a lot of time and work. Dennis Balke did an immense amount of work fabrication the frame for our Little Blue Truck. There are too many who helped to name them all. A big thanks goes our to all who helped in all areas of the fair.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

<u>Evangelism:</u> Discussion at the last meeting was about connection with HOPE5one about a possible presentation before a church service.

<u>Parish Education</u>: Sunday School and Confirmation will begin on September 14th.

Property:

Cross is back and still needs glass, should be up soon.

Siding and addition to shed is still on hold.

continued on page 13......



continued from page 12.....

COUNCIL CONTINUED

Propane Tanks will be moved this weekend. Will discontinue ordering from AA for now. Looking into pre-buy.

Elevete removal will need the state inspector to give instructions on proper removal.

Worship: Met and discussed upcoming services.

OLD BUSINESS

Cemetery repair is still pending.

Daycare committee will meet this week to discuss wages and enrollment.

Church secretary position is still open.

NEW BUSINESS

Constitution committee will be meeting in September.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment was at 7:41pm with the Lord's Prayer.



Pastor: Stephen Zeller 660-668-0881

Editor: Shirley Logan 660-668-3507

Church Office: 660-668-3537

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Jake Jackson, ·····	·····President
Justin Tinney, ·····	······Vice-President /Evangelism
Krista Poe, ·····	·····Treasurer/Stewardship
Susan Goosen, ······	····· Secretary
Melinda Strathman, ·····	·····Worship & Music
Hannah Schweitzer, ·····	
Josh Jackson,·····	····· Property
Kelly Viebrock,	······Property
Roy Wagner, ·····	····· Property
Stephen Zeller,	·····Pastor





St. Pauls Sunbeam **

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church 205 West Jefferson Street P.O. Box 250 Cole Camp, Missouri 65325

Phone: 660-668-3537
Website: www.stpauls.me
E-mail: office@stpauls.me

St. Paul's Mission Statement
"BEING TRANSFORMED BY GOD'S
GRACE TO LOVE AND SERVE."

Sunday, November 2, 2025

All Saints Day Holy Communion at the Altar

Sunday, November 9, 2025

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost Holy Communion by Stations First Bibles

Sunday, November 16, 2025

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost Holy Communion by Stations

Sunday, November 23, 2025

Christ the King Holy Communion by Stations

Sunday, November 30, 2025

First Sunday of Advent Holy Communion by Stations NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
ZIP + 4
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
COLE CAMP, MISSOURI 65325
PERMIT NO. 4

Address Service Requested

Come! Worship at St. Paul's

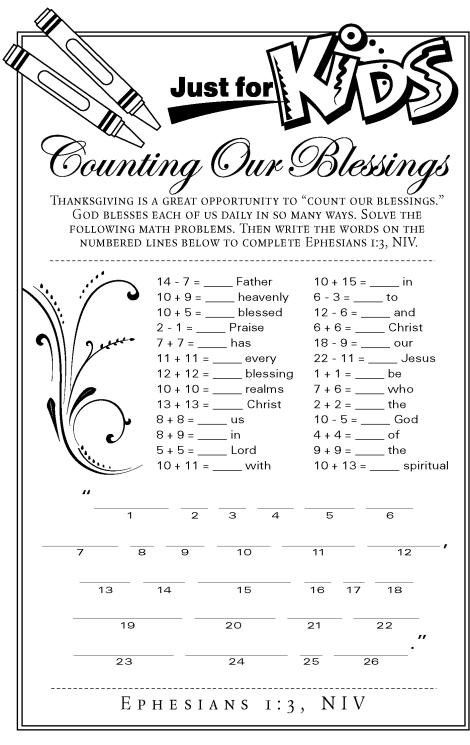
Every Saturday Evening
5:30 P.M. - Casual Worship
+ + + + + +
Every Sunday Morning
10:00 A.M. - Worship

You can also find our worship services online, or call us to receive a DVD copy:

www.facebook.com/StPaulsColeCamp www.youtube.com/StPaulsColeCamp



NOVEMBER ACTIVITY PAGE



Answer: "Praise be to the God and Pather of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ."



Celebrate the season of gratitude by creating a colorful Thankful decoration.

What you need:

- Construction paper in a variety of fall colors
- Pencil, marker, or crayons
- Yarn, ribbon, or raffia
- Scissors
- Hole punch
- Spray bottle filled with water
- Real leaves (Optional)
- Wooden or plastic beads, ocereal with holes (Cheerios, Froot Loops, etc.), or any dried pasta with a hole (Optional)

What you do:

- 1. Draw or trace leaf shapes onto construction paper.
- Lay the paper flat and spray with water until the paper is completely wet.
- 3. Crumple the wet paper into balls.
- 4. Open the paper and let the sheets dry flat.
- 5. When dry, cut out each leaf.
- 6. On each leaf, write the name of one person or thing you're thankful for.
- 7. Punch a hole in each leaf.
- 8. Lace the leaves, beads, cereal, and pasta onto the yarn, ribbon, or raffia.
- 9. Tie the ends and hang your garland.



