

◆ Pastor Stephen Zeller.....

PASTOR'S PAGE

A Bit of Tweaking... Or More

As I write this article there are a number of people who are nervously thinking about... the church fair stand. Everyone reading these words knows how major of an undertaking the fair stand is - similar to the fluffed flower float we construct and decorate each year! I know that the construction, staffing, operation, and deconstruction of the stand brings quite a bit of anxiety to many each year. But this year is throwing one more obstacle at us.

Due to the sidewalk construction in downtown Cole Camp - which was obviously much needed and does look nice - we will need to do a bit of tweaking to how the stand will get set up. Possibly a little, but probably a lot. Some might say this brings an exciting opportunity for updates. Others might say, "it is what it is." While still others might say that this might be one of the biggest headaches of this year's fair. We won't know until the tractor brings the parts of the stand downtown and parts start to get offloaded.

But this process makes me reflect on our life of faith.

St. Paul's has been serving cheeseburgers at the fair for as long as most of us can remember. This fair stand has existed for a long time. Some people can remember who constructed this particular stand and when, while others have known nothing else. The stand can be seen as simply a tool for a larger good, or it might be an untouchable icon of what this project represents.

For some of us, our faith has existed as long as we can remember and we know nothing else. For others, faith is new and still developing. But often the idea of "tweaking" it, even just a little bit, brings indescribable anxiety! "You want me to change WHAT??" But sometimes there are things that get in the way (like a new sidewalk) that cause us to reevaluate and shift *how*

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IN THE CHURCH

(Continued from page 1)

we've always done it. Which can be scary, but could also bring new opportunities and possibilities for growth. Maybe after you consider all of the options things can be left exactly how they've been, or maybe they need to change just a bit, or maybe our faith needs to be torn down completely and started again from scratch. The important thing, however, is taking the time to work through what our faith means and whether it still fits as it is and how it's setting us up for growth.

A new school year often means a chance for settling into new rhythms and trying new things, so maybe this is a good chance to think about how our faith is doing these days.

And here's hoping the stand goes up without a hitch! Thanks to everyone who will help out this year!

SATURDAY CASUAL SERVICE

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



"ONE STITCH AT A TIME"



The Sewing Group will meet every **Monday** at 9:00 am in the Luther League Room. All are welcome to join!

YOGA

There is a community Yoga class every **Monday** at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Search "Meditation Mondays" on Facebook for more information. All are Welcome to attend!



HEALTH CARE

The Benton County Health Department will be here every **Thursday** from 8:00am until 10:00am to assist you with your health care needs.



WORSHIP AND MUSIC



The Worship and Music Committee will meet on **September 16th** at 3:30 pm in the Meeting Room.

COUNCIL MEETING

The Church Council will meet on **September 16th** at 6:00 pm in the Meeting Room.





IN THE CHURCH

ESTHER CIRCLE



The Esther Circle will meet on Monday, **September 21st** at Sharel Wienberg's home at 7:00 p.m.

SUNBEAM

The Sunbeam Committee will meet on Wednesday, **September 23** at 2:00pm in the Gathering Space.



Sunday School & Confirmation

A new year of Christian Education begins here at St. Paul's on Sunday, **September 20**. Children in preschool through 6th grade will meet in the classrooms in the Fellowship Hall each Sunday at 9:00 am. Youth in 7th & 8th grade will meet with Pastor Stephen in the Meeting Room each week at 8:45 am. And the adult Sunday School class will meet in the Chapel each week at 9:00 am. We hope you'll take advantage of one of these classes so that you can continue to grow in your faith!



The Adult Sunday School Class will start the new Sunday School Year on Sunday, **September 20th**, at 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel. We will review what we learned about the Beatitudes last Spring and finish up that study. Even if you did not attend in the Spring, you are welcome to participate this year. Would love to fill the room up again this year. This group has some spirited discussion during our Bible Study! Not sure what the next Bible Study will be following the Beatitudes so stay tuned for that announcement. Hope you will plan to join us!

PARISH EDUCATION

There will be a parish education meeting on Tuesday, **September 1st**, at 7:00 pm in the Gathering Space.



THANK YOU!

SO MANY CLOTHES!

A HUGE thank you goes out to everyone who again helped with the Back to School Clothing Drive and Sale at the end of July and beginning of August. What began as a PMC project years ago has become a Church Alliance effort and has grown larger every single year. Volunteers were here and hard at work every single day during the week leading up to the Clothing Sale. We couldn't have done it without you! Thanks, also, to all who donated clothing or money towards undies and shoe vouchers. Finally, a huge word of thanks to Russ Oelrichs who continues to help coordinate and oversee this effort.



Fred John Kreisel would like to express his thanks for the money donation from St. Paul's Ice Cream Social. He told us how much it was appreciated! The outside of the house is pretty well done. They are working on the inside now. God bless each of you!

Fred John and Family

Our hearts broke when Jill got her wings. We were blessed to have been given such a special gift. The love and support we have felt from our family, friends, church family and community has been overwhelming. Our hearts are still broken, but thanks to you they are not shattered.

Love and Thanks,

Gale & Shirley

thrivent

Thank you to Janice Gerken and Jean Healan for your Thrivent donations! If you are a Thrivent member and haven't yet used one or either of your Action Grants for this year, please let us know and we can put them to use! Contact Pastor Stephen if you have an Action Grant available. Thanks!





YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTSW

JUNIOR LUTHERANS

We're going to bring back an experiment we did a few years ago. To utilize the gifts, ideas and interests of many parents, we're seeking volunteers to sign up for a month to plan and lead a Junior Lutheran youth event.



Once you claim a month, you pick the day and activity, and we'll do the advertising.

There's more information and a place to sign up on the Junior Lutheran Facebook page. Anyone from the congregation is welcome to sign up and help lead an activity for our youth!

ELCA YOUTH GATHERING

Can you "Imagine More" courage, joy, love, grace, welcome? That's the theme of the upcoming 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering: *Imagine More*. The Gathering will take place **June 28 - July 2, 2027**, in Minneapolis, MN. Youth who have completed 8th through 12th grades are invited to attend. We will have an informational meeting with a light lunch for youth and parents on Sunday, **October 4th** just after worship. Please RSVP to Anne Goosen if you can be there. If you are interested in attending the Youth Gathering, you and your family are encouraged to sign up for one or more shifts in the fair stand since the church shares a portion of the proceeds with the Luther League to support attending the gathering.



IN THE CHURCH

BIBLES AVAILABLE

In our worship life here at St. Paul's, we most often hear the scripture read from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) of the Bible. Recently that translation has been updated to the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition (NRSVue), which we are now hearing in worship. That also means the study bibles we were using in our Confirmation class were updated as well and they are no longer printing the older NRSV version. We purchased the new ones (NRSVue) this past year for our confirmation students, but have several of the old versions on hand and would like to find new homes for them. These are softcover Lutheran Study Bibles, NRSV, from Augsburg Fortress. They are a terrific resource with wonderful study notes and more included. New copies cost \$33 (\$45 for the hardcover). We have some copies that are slightly used and some brand new still in the wrapping. A donation would be appreciated (but not required) to go toward the purchase of new copies for next year's Confirmation class (maybe \$10, or whatever you are comfortable contributing). If you would like a copy of the old

version, please talk to Pastor Stephen.



IN THE CHURCH

Cole Camp Fair

Sign up Sheet: The Fair Stand Schedule is posted on the bulletin board in the Link. Online scheduling is also available. Thanks to all who have already signed up. Thank you!

Fair Stand: Because of the downtown sidewalk construction, we will be putting up the fair stand Sunday, **August 30th**, at 1:00 pm. We may or may not get the whole thing assembled that day because of needing to fit the stand into a new location, so some patient assistance will definitely be needed that day. Then stay tuned for any further help that will be needed. However, the stand will still be taken down on Sunday, **September 13th** at 1:00 pm.

Float: Float work continues on **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays** from about 5 pm - 8 pm, both in the Fellowship Hall Classrooms and outside in the Shed. Contact Rhonda Schlesselman or Janice Gerken with questions.

Fair Pies: Each family is asked to bring two fruit pies according to the following schedule, divided alphabetically by last names. There are pie tins available for your use in the Gathering Space.

Thursday, September 10th A - C

Friday, September 11th D - M

Saturday, September 12th N - Z

If you can provide a pie on Wednesday evening, please let Melinda Strathman or Glenalee Dillon know.

Cole Camp Fair Pies: It's that time of year again! If anyone would like to order pies we will be making pies and delivering as usual. The cost will be \$12.00 for fruit and \$13.00 for pecan. We will take orders thru **September 4**. Call/text Tammy Thompson at 660-287-0360 or mail check with order info (name to go on pie(s), which day you would like them delivered, and church name) to 26744 Seven Hills Road.



DETAILED TREASURER'S REPORT

Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual

	Actual Thru July 31	Annual Budget	Over (Under) Budget	% of Budget	Target %
Benevolence Receipts					Note A
ELCA	2,610.00	7,400.00	-4,790.00	35.27%	
World Hunger	1,607.87	2,000.00	-392.13	80.39%	
Hope 5 One	3,321.00	2,500.00	821.00	132.84%	
Little Blessings	3,071.00	2,500.00	571.00	122.84%	
CC Food Pantry Donations	1,376.46	1,500.00	-123.54	91.76%	
Seniors of North Benton County	100.00	-	100.00	100.0%	
Other	440.00	-	440.00	100.0%	
Total Benevolence Receipts	12,526.33	15,900.00	-3,373.67	78.78%	
Offering					
HP Offering	131,404.13	234,843.00	-103,438.87	55.95%	58.3%
Building Fund 5%	6,916.04	12,360.00	-5,443.96	55.96%	58.3%
Total Offering	138,320.17	247,203.00	-108,882.83	55.95%	
Building Use	1,325.00	2,750.00	-1,425.00	48.18%	
Gifts & Bequests	5,100.00	0.00	5,100.00	100.0%	
Fair Stand, net	-	5,000.00	-5,000.00	0.0%	
Float	-	800.00	-800.00	0.0%	
Interest	2,502.24	-	2,502.24	100.0%	
Miscellaneous	631.00	-	631.00	100.0%	
Total Income	160,404.74	271,653.00	-111,248.26	59.05%	
Expenses	170,915.58	271,653.00	-100,737.42	62.92%	Note B
Net Income	-10,510.84	0.00	-10,510.84		

Cash and Investment Balances - July 31, 2026

	Home Purpose	Building	Memorial	Crisis	Little Blessings	Seminary
	Note C		Note D		Note E	
Cash and Investment Balances	89,752.25	36,454.86	20,184.62	4,224.40	79,303.59	8,888.22

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TREASURER, CONTINUED

Note A: As of July 31, 2026, 58.3 % of the year has elapsed. Offerings as a percent of budget are 55.95 % which indicates we are \$5,800 short of budgeted amounts.

Note B: At July 31, 2026, expenses exceed income by \$10,510.84. This is primarily due to the down payment of \$31,500 for replacement of the elevator made during the month of July.

Note C: Includes \$643.96 of Communities of Calling Funds.

Note D: Includes restricted amounts of \$15,000 for Little Blessings and \$1,512.75 for Sunday School.

Note E: Includes \$74,334.89 in grant funds.

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Jake Jackson, ...	President
Justin Tinney, ...	Vice-President /Evangelism
Erin Oelrichs, ...	Treasurer/Stewardship
Susan Goosen, ...	Secretary
Melinda Strathman, ...	Worship & Music
Lynn Schear, ...	Parish Education
Roy Wagner, ...	Property
Greg Bredehoeft, ...	Property
Kelly Viebrock, ...	Property
Stephen Zeller, ...	Pastor





◆ Send a note.....◆

NEEDS YOUR PRAYERS

Dennis Balke
 Kris Barnes
 (friend of Julie Cronin)
 Jon Beckman
 Pam Bruns
 (cousin of Ruth Ann Kreisel)
 Joe Campbell
 Cliff Eckhoff
 Tom Ferguson
 Joseph Fuelling
 (nephew of Paul Fuelling)
 Merle Fuelling
 (brother of Paul Fuelling)
 Adam Gumbel
 (son of Jim & Kim Gumbel)
 Karen Haase
 (sister-in-law of Gene Beckman)
 Larry Haase
 (brother-in-law of Gene Beckman)
 Mary Haluptzok
 Kathy Harms
 Pat Higgins
 Ken Holland
 Tanner Huffman
 Gordon Ives
 Norene Ives

Joyce Jones
 (sister of Connie Gerken)
 Colin Kabler
 (brother of Alexis Smith)
 Hazel Karstons
 Richard Lee
 Marvin Logan
 (brother of Gale Logan)
 Kyle Luetjen
 Suzanne Lutjen
 David Mobely
 (brother-in-law of Randy Healan)
 Jackie Ross
 (sister of Randy Healan)
 Dan Sabala
 Kylie Simon
 Kevin Tatum
 Nathan Vanderlinden
 Wanda Viebrock



Nursing Home

Vern Dean Bohling (<i>Anew #4</i>)	Eugene Beckman (<i>GSCC #309</i>)
Shirley Cash (<i>Anew #18</i>)	Arlene Schlesselman (<i>GSCC #213</i>)
Larry & Judy Schlesselman (<i>GSCC #302</i>)	Florence VonHolten (<i>GSCC #207</i>)
Earl Bauer (<i>Windsor Nursing Home #47</i>)	Judie VonHolten (<i>GSCC #305</i>)





MILITARY

MILITARY

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

San Antonio, TX 78245

J. Phillips,

Navy Petty Officer E-4 MMN

(nephew of Katy Schlesselman)

Lt. Col. Ron Poe

1780 Cedar Lane

Sedalia, MO 65301

SSG Nick Smith

Whiteman Airforce Base

Major Joseph Strathman

1084 Strada Cristallo

Henderson, NV 89011



Pastor Stephen Zeller

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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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:

Tuesday 8:30am - 3:00pm

Wednesday 8:30am - 3:00pm

Thursday 8:30am - 12:00pm

Friday 8:30am - 12:00pm

StephenPZeller@gmail.com

Email: office@stpauls.me

Website: www.stpauls.me



◆ A Time To Celebrate.....◆

SPECIAL OCCASIONS



09/01 Jerry Balke
 09/03 Colt Bredehoeft
 09/04 Quentin Gates
 09/04 Debbie Mullies
 09/04 Edwyn Rehmer
 09/06 Colleen Baker
 09/06 Jennifer Yeager
 09/07 Heidi Daily
 09/08 Ron Poe
 09/08 Judie VonHolten
 09/09 Becky Burns
 09/10 Kenneth Holland
 09/10 Greg Ives
 09/10 Norene Ives
 09/11 Ronald Oelrichs
 09/13 Rodger Luetjen
 09/20 Allen Rehmer
 09/20 Katelyn Schlesselman
 09/21 Susan Rusk
 09/22 Russ Oelrichs
 09/22 Sabrina Rodewald
 09/23 Grant Kullman
 09/23 Eric Luetjen
 09/26 Blake Kreisel
 09/27 Emily Kyle
 09/27 Steve Triplett
 09/28 Noah Gerken
 09/28 Lauren Jackson
 09/28 Katie Jackson
 09/30 Logan Hamilton
 09/30 Chester Schlesselman



09/01 Claudia Moellmann
 09/02 Robert Tatum
 09/02 Lesa Warden
 09/03 Glenalee Dillon
 09/03 Jason Viebrock
 09/05 Damon Hall
 09/07 Steve Oelrichs
 09/10 Andrew Gerken
 09/10 Kenneth VonHolten
 09/12 Matthew Luetjen
 09/16 Sara Dunn
 09/20 Jerry Balke
 09/21 Dennis Brandes
 09/22 Benjamin Bergeson
 09/22 Dewey Jobe
 09/22 Judy Schlesselman
 09/22 Lane Smith
 09/23 Quentin Gates
 09/23 Jason Viebrock
 09/24 Camryn Schear
 09/25 Payne Bohling
 09/25 Scott Cash
 09/26 Logan Hamilton
 09/26 Creed Jackson
 09/27 Kale Kruep
 09/28 Ethan Goosen
 09/29 Norene Ives



SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Pastor:
Stephen Zeller
660-668-0881

Editor:
Lindsay Lee
660-668-3537

Church Office:
660-668-3537



09/02 Donald & Pamela Eckhoff (24)
09/03 Colby & Hannah Schweitzer (4)
09/05 Greg & Tina Ives (17)
09/07 Gary & Renee Weller (30)
09/14 Chad & Katy Schlesselman (12)
09/15 Marcus & Makenzi Harms (8)
09/15 Ron & Shirley Newman (47)
09/15 Cory & Nicole Rice (11)
09/17 Russell & Tammy Johnson (38)
09/18 Dalton & Angela Alcorn (5)
09/18 Steve Triplett & Tammy Heimsoth (4)
09/19 Jake & Sara Jackson (17)
09/23 Chad & Rebecca Balke (9)
09/24 Randa & Linda Oelrichs (50)
9/25 Matt & Ashley Hiatt (16)
09/28 Matt & Alexis Smith (13)
09/29 Jared & Li Shanna Bredehoeft (14)
09/30 Ben & Becky Burns (20)



◆ Susan Goosen, Church Council Secretary ◆

COUNCIL MINUTES

Congregational Council Meeting
July 8th, 2026

The Congregational Council of St. Paul's Lutheran Church met on Wednesday July 8th, 2026. Those present were Chairman Jake Jackson, Pastor Stephen Zeller, Lynn Schear, Erin Oelrichs, Greg Bredehoeft, Melinda Strathman, Susan Goosen and Kelly Viebrock via Zoom.

Call to Order: Chairman Jake Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:25.

Devotions: Pastor Stephen led the group in discussion on Article XVIII from the Augsburg Confession.

Minutes: Minutes of the June meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the report was made by Lynn and seconded by Melinda. Motion carried, report filed.

Financial report: Norma Schlesselman gave the financial report. A motion to approve the report was made Greg and seconded by Melinda. Motion

carried, report filed.

Pastor's report: Upcoming events:

- CCACA Community Fish Fry: June 11
- Mid-MO Bible Camp: July 12-16 (Pastor will be at the state park part of this time.)
- Vacation Bible School: July 20-26
- Clothing sorting in Fellowship Hall: June 27-31
- Back-to-School Clothing Sale: August 1

Vacation Dates:

- July 28
- August 18-19

Baptism and New Member: On Sunday, June 14, Jackson Decker was baptized here at St. Paul's, and his mom Lindsey Decker joined the membership.

Ice Cream Social: A huge word of thanks to the Ice Cream Social Committee and everyone who volunteered to help or provide a dessert. This year's format seemed to work great and was very well received by the community. Thank You!

Worship Attendance (in person):

June 13: xx	June 14: 130 (Decker Baptism)
June 20: 13	June 21: 106
June 27: 8	June 28: 133 (Ice Cream Social)
July 4: xx	July 5: 88

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COUNCIL CONTINUED

Committee Reports:

Congregational Ministry & Evangelism:

It will soon be time for New Church Directories. Janice has checked into a couple of different options. Council discussed the options and liked the one that Janice proposed, a small binder with a page for each church member/family. That page would include a picture and all the information that is usually included in our yearly directory. Pages could be changed /added or removed individually, so we would not need to redo whole directory as often. This option may not need a professional photographer as well.

Worship: The committee will continue to look for those who would be willing to fill in on the organ.

Budget/Stewardship: World Hunger Fish Fry benevolence offering came to \$1600.

Parish Education: VBS has 41 signed up for July 20-24. Mid-Mo Bible Camp starts July 11th.

Property:

Siding/addition on storage building: Still pending.

- Elevette: Committee is ready to schedule a time for the removal of the old elevette. After that it will be ready for

the enlargement of the space for the new elevette.

- Daycare: Melinda has done training with the staff on Communication with Parents. She has a second training in the future over Handling Behaviors.
- Sanctuary wall repairs: Coming soon.
- Sign replacement on the highway will be handled soon by Roy and Greg. Erin proposed that making signs for entrances (office, Sanctuary, Fellowship hall etc.) would be helpful for delivery and any guests visiting.

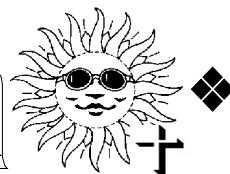
Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Kelly and seconded by Lynn. All approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Goosen
Church Council Secretary



St. Paul's Sunbeam



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NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
ZIP + 4

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PERMIT NO. 4

Address Service Requested

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

Sunday, September 6, 2026

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Communion at the Altar

Sunday, September 13, 2026

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Communion by Stations

Sunday, September 20, 2026

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Communion by Stations

Sunday, October 27, 2026

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Communion by Stations

Come! Worship at St. Paul's

First, Second, and Fourth
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



— Cole Camp, Missouri —