



St. Paul Epistle November 2025

The End of the Honeymoon

Every pastor knows that the first year of a new call is the “easiest.” Most people are on their best behavior as everyone gets to know each other, while others try to test the new pastor to see what kind of a leader they’ll be. By the end of the first year those that don’t like the new minister have left, and new people show up. Think of it like the honeymoon period in a new relationship—the new pastor can do no wrong! One of our seminary professors teaches that we shouldn’t change *anything* within the first year and preferably not for the first two or three!

Well... Reality is always different than in a classroom. As we approach the one-year mark of Pr. Riley and I starting at St. Paul and Immanuel, it is safe to say our honeymoon period is over. As congregations and as pastors we’ve seen a lot of change in 365 days. We have overcome challenges together as we figure out what it means to be “Two Churches, One Mission.” We’ve had great joys together, like the combined outdoor worship at Lowell Park and the continued success of St. Paul/Immanuel Youth programs working together. And we have said goodbye to friends and welcomed new people. All these are natural changes in ministry and at some level are expected.

A quick story on people leaving. My two favorite reasons I’ve heard are these: First, Pr. Riley and I are *too young*. This person didn’t like being “preached at by someone my grandchildren’s age.” Never mind the fact we’re seminary trained and have prior experience. Second, one person refuses to come back to church until I “get off the floor and preach from the pulpit!” I guess preaching from a music stand isn’t reverent enough. Ah, well!

Honeymoon or not, through it all we have remained church together, united in the ministry God has set before us and it is an honor and privilege to serve as co-pastors of St. Paul and Immanuel Lutheran Churches. There is much to look forward to in coming year, and we will face whatever challenges come our way as opportunities to best love God and love one another.

I will leave you with this quote from Pr. Mark Elsdon, a Presbyterian minister in Madison, WI. This is from his book, *We Aren’t Broke: Uncovering Hidden Resources for Mission and Ministry*. “...God has not declined. God’s love, God’s justice, God’s care for all of creation is as strong as it has always been. God is at work in the world right now with all of what we have and despite all of what we perceive to be missing. ... There is no better time for us to dream big and take some risks” (166).

In gratitude,
Pr. Anthony

Worship Assistants Serving in November

Saturday November 1 ~ at Immanuel
Saturday November 8 ~ Lester Hallquist
Saturday November 15 ~ at Immanuel
Saturday November 22 ~ Linda Patterson
Saturday November 29 ~ at Immanuel

Sunday November 2 ~ Sherry McCarter
Sunday November 9 ~ Patti Larsen
Sunday November 16 ~ Glen Hughes
Sunday November 23 ~ Marian Myers
Sunday November 30 ~ Joyce Craney

WELCA Coffee

Wednesday, November 12th 9:00 am

in the fellowship hall. All are welcome!

Enjoy hot coffee, inspiring fellowship, and a tasty breakfast!



Out and About has had very little attendance for the last few months so the decision has been made to no longer plan to gather for lunch each month. May all who have joined us over the years remember the many warm friendly lunches we shared. It was a great way to get to know one another better!
~ Blessings, Beverley Eykamp



*Let the peace that comes from
Christ rule in your hearts
and always be thankful.*

Colossians 3:15

**Watch the bulletin and
Gathering Area
Announcements for
information on ordering
Christmas Poinsettias.**





The LSSI Giving Tree will start
November 1.

There will be envelopes on the tree.

The Goodfellow gift giving will start
November 1 because the gifts need to
be taken to Goodfellows by
December 3. Please buy your gifts
early. There will be no cards on the
tree, but the boxes will still be around
the tree.



30 dozen cookies to benefit Rock River Hospice & Home at the Festival of Trees.

Please sign up in the Gathering Area with how many dozen cookies you will bake. Then bring your cookies to the church kitchen on Friday November 14th by 8:30 am so they can be delivered to Sterling by 9:00 am. Thank you for your help with this important project.

ADVENT BRIGHT, PIES JUST RIGHT! ADVENT LOGS AND PIE!



Sunday, November 23! Join us for a special fellowship-Sunday school hour in the fellowship hall! **ALL ages welcome!** Beginning at 9:30am students, parents, adults, **all generations** are invited to make and decorate your own Advent log to prepare for the season of Advent. These make great table center pieces or mantle toppers!

Next, stick around for **pie**, coffee, hot chocolate and fun conversation as we celebrate the blessings we have from God!

**THANKS BE
TO GOD!**

Pie also available after the worship service.
Thank you social ministry committee for the pie!
Thank you Christian education committee for the Advent logs!

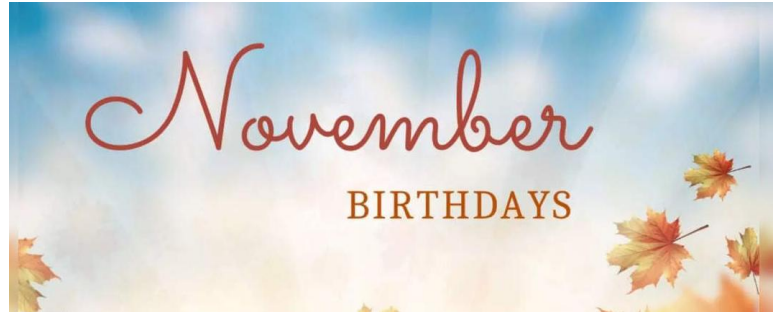


THE CHURCH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED

The Church Office
will be Closed
Tuesday, November 11th &
Thursday, November 27th.

We celebrate with those who have a November birthday.

2 Robert Mezo
6 Sarah Day, Sookie LeBlanc
7 Dorinda Dyche
8 Sandi Baar
9 Dennis Moore, Donald Sutton
15 Kelsie Day
16 Aaron Moats
17 Linda Patterson
19 Charles Zimmerman, Della Lou Weaver
22 Sharon Colglazier, Lori Swartz



St. Paul Lutheran Church,
We are deeply grateful for your generous support of our
Tools for Schools program. Your kindness is helping
ensure that every student starts the year prepared and
ready to learn! Thank you for investing in their future!
~ Tools for Schools

St. Paul & Immanuel Advent Tea Sunday, November 23rd 2:00 pm at St. Paul

It is a great time to relax, enjoy the company of
women, have a few treats and remember the real
reason for the season before the work begins.

Sign up in the Gathering Area by Sunday, November 16th.
If you'd like to help by making two dozen cookies or bars
for the Tea, there is a sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area.



Free Organ Concert by Ross Jallo



Sunday November 16th

2:00 PM

**St Paul Lutheran Church
421 N Peoria Ave.
Dixon, IL**

www.stpauldixon.com

Refreshments & Fellowship after the concert

YOUTH & FAMILY

ILC

NOVEMBER

SPLC



Scarecrow Festival!!!

Saturday, October 18...

Thank you Immanuel and St Paul youth for all your work at the Immanuel/St Paul booth!!



In this issue:

Page 1: October highlights

Page 2: Faith formation

Page 3: 2026 events

Page 4: November calendar



Thank you!

Thank you to the young people who volunteered for the Immanuel soup and chili dinner! Your work supports Dixon Buddy Bags and Immanuel youth ministries!



NOVEMBER CHILDREN'S OFFERING/CHANGE:

SPLC:

LSSI Holiday
Hope Chest



ILC:

Lutheran
World Relief



LUTHERAN
WORLD RELIEF

SPLC: Gerad Von Holten

Email: youth@stpauldixon.org
(815) 627-0898

ILC: Somar Bryson

Email: yfdirector@ilcdixon.org
(815) 440 7885



YOUTH AND FAMILY

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Nov 2 - Christ Hymn; Justified by Faith through Grace; Faith & Guidance
with Pastor Riley & Pastor Anthony

Nov 16 - Peter & Paul; Call of Saul & Special Event Day (organ concert)

★ ILC FAITH FORMATION KEY CHAINS ★

Beginning November 9th, we're excited to introduce Faith Formation Key Chains at ILC!

This new tradition is a fun and meaningful way to celebrate our students' spiritual journey. Each year, students will receive a bead to mark the completion of their Faith Formation class.

🎉 Bonus Beads!

Students who can recite their memory work will earn special beads to add to their key chain.

Over the years, these key chains will become a colorful and personal reminder of each child's faith journey and growth in Christ.

Let's grow in faith—one bead at a time!

SPLC CHRISTMAS SHOPPING FOR GOODFELLOWS

Sunday, November 9th after 10:45 am worship (11:45am) gather for **free** lunch in the fellowship hall, then Christmas shopping at Dixon Walmart for Goodfellows of Lee County. Supported by October Children's offering and Thrivent. We'll be done at St Paul by 2:00 PM. Parents/guardians needed for driving/helping!



CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

SPLC: Join us 10:45am Dec. 14th for the Children & youth-led Christmas worship service and program, "Christmas Hide and Seek."

ILC: Join us Dec. 21st for a full service presentation by the youth at ILC.



SUNDAY
School

NOVEMBER FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

AT IMMANUEL: 9AM

November at ILC is all about JESUS!!



AT ST PAUL: 9:30AM

St Paul Faith Lab - 9:30am,
Nov. 23, 9:30 - 10:30am
ADVENT LOGS AND PIE!

The whole family is invited to make their own Advent Log craft!
Nov. 30, 9:30am - Christmas program practice





YOUTH AND FAMILY



UPCOMING...

2026

MESSY CHURCH

Blessed are the messy, for they belong to God.

Snowtubing Time!!

January 11th, 2026
10:30am - 4:00pm

Snowstar
9500 126th St
W, Andalusia,
IL 61232



Only time it's appropriate to pray for snow

Just like our everyday lives, church can be messy. Kids and adults come to worship carrying a number of thoughts, feelings, and memories; and we all act and speak differently. We bring every part of who we are before God. And, God loves every part of us! Sometimes that looks messy at church! And, that's ok to God! God's just happy we show up. When we are distracted by messiness, remember, God is with us. *We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.* -Romans 8:28

"Messy is just another word for real."
— Amy Poehler

SPLC Spaghetti Dinner

4-7pm

February 25th, 2026



THANK YOU

...to all who supported the St Paul youth donut fundraiser. They youth made around \$400 for the youth Quake!



QUAKE

YOUTH ENCOUNTERING THE GOSPEL



Who: 6 - 12th graders
When: **FEBRUARY 13 - 15, 2026**
Where: Wilderness Resort
Wisconsin Dells

Register by
November 9!

Check with Gerad & Somar
for more details!

Lifest
JULY 9-12
Sharing LIFE Together
2026 • OSHKOSH



Tickets through Dec. 31st

Full Event

Adult - \$82.00

Youth - \$45.00

More Info at:

<https://lifest.com/lifest-oshkosh/tickets/>



ILC 🍄 November 🌰 SPLC

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2 Sunday school ILC: 9am Sunday school SPLC: 9:30am Confirmation 1-3pm @ St Paul	3 Immanuel (ILC) FtBY 3:30-5:30 pm	4	5	6	7	8
9 SS ILC: 9am Sunday school SPLC: 9:30am SPLC - Xmas shopping for Goodfellows 11:45am-2pm	10 Immanuel (ILC) FtBY 3:30-5:30 pm	11	12	13	14	15
16 SS ILC: 9am Sunday school SPLC: 9:30am Youth comm. 9:15am Confirmation & organ concert 1-3pm @ St Paul	17 Immanuel (ILC) FtBY 3:30-5:30 pm	18	19	20	21	22
23 SS ILC: 9am Sunday school Advent Faith Lab - SPLC: 9:30am	24	25	26	27 SPLC/ILC Closed 	28	29
30 SS ILC: 9am Xmas program practice - SPLC: 9:30am 1st Sunday of Advent 	1	2	3 	4	5	6





We remember the saints who died this past year, who now rest with our Lord.
We also give thanks to God for all our loved ones who have departed this life for
their witness to God's love.

Members of St. Paul and their families remember our loved ones:

Judith Kay Hulbert, (January 10, 2025)

Rodney Bollman, (January 29, 2025)

Rose Hamill (July 10, 2025)

Ron Wagner (July 10, 2025)

Ethel Steder (July 26, 2025)

Tim Stiens (August 6, 2025)

Jean Glessner (October 11, 2025)

Karen Wagner (2020)



November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 5:30 pm Worship at Immanuel
2 9:30 am-10:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship Praise Band 1:00 pm-3:00 pm Joint Confirmation Class at St. Paul All Saints Day Daylight Saving Time Ends	3 10:00 am Prayer Team 5:00 pm Line Dancing 6:00 pm Property Committee Meeting 6:00 pm Joint Book Study at ILC	4 9:00 am Line Dancing 9:00 am Staff Meeting at St Paul	5 1:00 pm Worship & Music Commit- tee Meeting 3:00 pm Christian Ed/ Faith Formation Meeting	6 11:00 am Chair Yoga 11:00 am Joint Book Study at ILC	7	8 5:30 pm Worship at St. Paul
9 9:30 am-10:30 am / Sunday School 10:45 am Worship 11:45 am -2:00 pm lunch & shopping for Goodfellows (youth) Youth Quake sign up deadline Executive Council	10 10:00 am Prayer Team 5:00 pm Line Dancing	11 9:00 am Line Dancing 10:00 am Social Ministry Meeting CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	12 9:00 am WELCA Coffee 2:30 pm Finance Committee 5:00 pm Praise Band rehearsal	13 11:00 am Chair Yoga	14 1:30 pm Liberty Court Worship	15 5:30 pm Worship at Immanuel
16 9:15 am Youth Com- mittee 9:30 am-10:30 am Sunday School 10:45 Worship Praise Band 1:00 pm -3:00 pm Joint Confirmation Class at St. Paul 2:00 pm Ross Jallo Organ concert	17 10:00 am Prayer Team 5:00 pm Line Dancing	18 9:00 am Line Dancing 9:00 am Staff Meeting at St. Paul Epistle Items to Church Office	19 10:00 am St. Paul Ministries Meeting 10:30 am Heritage Square Worship 6:00 pm Council Meeting	20 11:00 am Chair Yoga	21	22 5:30 pm Worship at St. Paul
23 9:30 am-10:30 am Advent Logs & Pie 10:45 am Worship 2:00 pm Advent Tea Christ the King	24 10:00 am Prayer Team 5:00 pm Line Dancing	25 9:00 am Line Dancing 9:00 am Staff Meeting at St. Paul	26	27 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED Happy Thanksgiving	28	29 5:30 pm Worship at Immanuel
30 9:30 am -10:30 am Christmas Program Rehearsal 10:45 am Worship Advent Begins						

St. Paul Lutheran Church
421 S. Peoria Avenue
Dixon, IL 61021
Email: office@stpauldixon.org
Website: www.stpauldixon.org
Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 8:30 am - 1:30 pm
Phone: 815-288-2757
Email: pastoragwindau@gmail.com
pastorreedwindau@gmail.com

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Staff

Rev. Riley Reed-Windau & Rev. Anthony Windau
Co-Pastors

Gerad Von Holten - Director of Youth and
Family Ministries

Rhonda Thomas - Secretary

Brenda Nailor & Sharon Colglazier - General Funds
Treasurers

Lorraine Hussung - Special Funds Treasurer



Church Council

Robin Colglazier – President
Patty Hallquist – Vice President
Joyce Craney – Secretary
Carol Moats
Jeanette McWethy
Julie Pitchford
Linda Patterson
Cyndi Starr