



St. Paul Epistle October 2025

Gratitude

“If our first response to the receipt of gifts is gratitude, then our second [response] is reciprocity: to give a gift in return” (Kimmerer 2024, 13).

I did not expect such profound insight from a short book assigned for the class I’m taking this semester. In her book, *The Serviceberry: Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World*, Robin Wall Kimmerer offers astonishing insight into what our world *could be* if we embodied gratitude. Now, she doesn’t write from a Christian or religious point of view, but the parallels to our life together as church are plain to see.

Kimmerer speaks about seeing the abundance that exists all around us and taking stock of the bounty already in our midst. In the church we do this yearly with the Time and Talent sheets, though instead of celebrating the richness of skills we have in our churches, these forms typically end up in a drawer. Instead, we over-focus on money and lose sight of the treasure troves that exist within each member. We, as a church, often fail to show kindness to those who serve on our behalf—remember a few months ago I tried to list everyone involved in making worship happen each Sunday? It was a long list!

I love the quote above because it shows how simple gratitude goes on to change others. Showing gratitude is as simple as saying “thank you” or “good job.” It could be a little more involved like sending a card. But being grateful isn’t something that can be done *too* much. It leads, Kimmerer says, to spreading gifts and seeing abundance. Kimmerer writes, “In a gift economy, the currency in circulation is gratitude and connection rather than goods and money. ... The prosperity of the community grows from the flow of relationships, not the accumulation of goods” (34). Reread that sentence with the word “church” in place of “community.”

Can you imagine what it would look like if we approached every interaction with hearts and minds of gratitude? If we modeled our churches this way? Truly finding value in each other and our relationships? This, I think, is what the Kingdom of Heaven is all about and what Jesus challenges us to recreate here on earth. The “gift economy” is just a secular way of talking about it. I could go on and on, but I’ll leave you with this quote, “Mothers do not sell their milk to their babies, it is a pure gift, so that life can continue. The currency of this economy is the flow of gratitude, the flow of love, literally in support of life” (19).

In gratitude,
Pr. Anthony

Pet Blessing and Stuffed Animal Blessing!

You are invited to join us for a Pet Blessing on Saturday, October 4th at 4:30 pm at Immanuel, outdoors!

Note the time change.

Please bring a chair and we ask that all critters are properly restrained.

Then, join us in worship on Sunday, October 5th with your favorite stuffed animal as we bless them too.

Pr. Anthony will be bringing his 30+ year old “Snowy” the Snowman. It’s not just for kiddos 😊



CELEBRATION

1 Year of Joint-Ministry Celebration and Installation of Pastors Riley and Anthony

Save the date and make plans to attend this important worship service!

We will gather Sunday, October 26th at 2 pm at Immanuel.

The service will begin there with the first half of the installation, then we will drive over to St. Paul to continue worship.

St. Paul will also host fellowship afterwards.

Please try to attend both parts to emphasize our ministry as “Two Churches, One Mission.”

Also, if willing, carpool with friends and fellow congregants.

This will cut down on traffic and travel time. All of Dixon is invited!

You won’t want to miss it.

Check the Facebook event for more details.



Worship Assistants Serving in October

Saturday October 4 ~ at Immanuel

Saturday October 11 ~ Robin Colglazier

Saturday October 18 ~ at Immanuel

Saturday October 25~ Marian Myers

Sunday October 5 ~ Patti Larsen

Sunday October 12 ~ Glen Hughes

Sunday October 19 ~ Linda Patterson

Sunday October 26 ~ Joyce Craney



WELCA Coffee

Wednesday, October 8th ~ 9:00 am
in the fellowship hall. Come enjoy a delicious
breakfast, great coffee and delightful fellowship.
All are welcome! You'll be glad you came!

Scarecrow Festival October 18th 10 am ~ 2 pm
Downtown Dixon Drop by the booth to say hello!

Out and About

Out and About is planning to gather for lunch on
October 7, 2025 at 11:30 a.m.
at Dunk's Bar and Grill (formerly the Corner Spot),
510 Chicago Ave., Dixon.

For more information or to request a ride,
call or text Beverley Eykamp at 815-677-8545.
We hope you'll join us as we check out this new restaurant!



We celebrate with those who have an October birthday.

4 Robert Conley, John Cover
6 Matthew Moore
7 Kimberly Bradley
9 Martha McWethy
11 Justin Ewing
12 Allen Bollman, Pam Moore
13 Jim Marshall
17 Debra White
18 Peggy Grobe (Drew)
19 Faith Garnhart
20 Katy Bell
21 Connie Laidig
24 Debra Liebzeit
25 John Groshans, Leo Patterson
26 Crystal Kessel
27 Mark Thrasher
29 Jason Cover



The Church Office will be CLOSED
Monday, October 13

**CHURCH OFFICE
WILL BE CLOSED**

Please send Epistle items to the church office on or before Thursday, October 23rd



Mark your calendars
St. Paul's Rummage Sale
Friday, October 17
and
Saturday, October 18
9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Thank you to all who helped with the
Habitat for Humanity work day!
You are a blessing!



Housewarming Shower for the New
Habitat for Humanity Homeowners
Saturday, October 25th 1:00 pm at
First Presbyterian Church Dixon
Hosted by local churches including

St. Paul & Immanuel. Please RSVP to Sarah at sarahbingaman@comcast.net

SOCIAL DATES TO COMMITTEE REMEMBER

We need to get ready for November because it will be a very busy month. For many years we started the LSSI Giving Tree on the first of November and then after Thanksgiving we started the Goodfellow gift giving. That will change this year.

- **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.**
- **On Friday November 14th, 30 dozen cookies need to be delivered to benefit Rock River Hospice & Home and the Festival of Trees.**
- **Sunday, November 16th Ross Jallo will give an organ concert at 2:00 with a reception to follow.**
- **Sunday, November 23rd there will be multi-generational event. We will make Advent Logs and enjoy pie together in the Fellowship Hall before service. There will be no coffee or treats in the Gathering Area on this day. (Pie & Coffee available following the service as well!)**

Thank you from Social Ministry for your help in the busy month of November.

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!

CHILI SUPPER



Immanuel Lutheran Church is hosting its annual Chili and Soup Supper!

Join us for a night of fellowship, fundraising, and fabulous food! Half the proceeds go to Buddy Bags, a program that helps feed children and youth in our community.

Takeout containers available. Open from 4pm - 7pm.



Tuesday, 28
October 2025



1013 Franklin Grove Rd.
Dixon, IL 61021

Adult Meal Ticket: \$10
Child Meal Ticket: \$5



Immanuel Lutheran Church
More Info : www.ilcdixon.org



YOUTH & FAMILY NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER 2025

Two Churches,
One Mission

UPCOMING...

Reminders



Outdoor Pet Blessing
Saturday, October 4th at 4:30pm
Immanuel Lutheran Church
All pet owners, with pets are welcomed to this blessing.
Pets must be leashed or in a cage.
Please bring your own chair.

Confirmation Students:

Classes are 1-3pm @ St. Paul:

- October 5th
- October 19th
- November 2nd

IN THIS ISSUE...

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Open to the public!

Chili DINNER

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28TH
4:00-7:00PM

Get Your Family Ticket Now!

"Confirmation class,
We are helping with
this!!!"

CLIFF'S
DONUTS SALE
@ SELMI'S

**ST PAUL
YOUTH**

The St Paul youth are selling to attend the Youth Quake in February. Donuts are \$12/dozen or \$1/donut. Order forms are available at St Paul, or scan to order online:

Additional forms can be downloaded from stpauldixon.org. Orders are due with payment to St Paul by October 5. Donuts can be picked up 11:45-12:15pm at St Paul on Sunday, October 19. Thank you for supporting St Paul youth.



SEPTEMBER

HIGHLIGHTS

God's Work. Our Hands.
Rally Sunday, Sept. 7th:



**Personal Care Kits:
65 Completed!**

**THANKS
KIDS!**



LUTHERAN
WORLD RELIEF



**School Kits:
67 Completed!**

Confirmation Fall Retreat



Sept. 19-20

YOUTH & FAMILY NEWSLETTER

"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing."

1 Thessalonians 5:11

October Children's Offering/Change:

SPLC:  Goodfellows of Lee County

ILC:  PADS Homeless Shelter - Dixon, IL

Scarecrow Fest. Booth

*Read a secret,
pray for secret,
leave a secret.*

All youth are asked to join us for ILC & SPLC



Tickets through Dec. 31st

Full Event

Adult - \$82.00

Youth - \$45.00

More Info at:

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



Who? 6 - 12th graders

When? FEBRUARY 13 - 15, 2026

Where? Wilderness Resort

Wisconsin Dells

Register by

November 9!

More details to come...

October Faith formation schedule

SUNDAY SCHOOL AT IMMANUEL: 9AM

AT ST PAUL: 9:30AM

OCTOBER 5, 12, 19 26

St Paul Faith Lab - 9:30am, Oct. 26

A Reformation Event

All Youth Event!

3:30-5:30 PM

OCT. 6TH!

YOUTH GROUP EVENT

FEAST & FINE ARTS

1013 FRANKLIN GROVE RD. DIXON, IL

FELLOWSHIP HALL

PREPARING FOR ILC CHILI DINNER

FEASTING ON FOOD

DINNER TOGETHER:

Chicken nuggets, Pizza, Cookies!

FINE ARTS

CRAFTS:

PALLET DECORATING, CANVA PAINTING

AND MORE.

OCTOBER

ILC SPLC YOUTH

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

ILC Acolyte

10/4: Pet Blessing

10/5: Mason Wolf

10/12: Mattie Melendrez

10/18: Open

10/19: Addison Wolf

10/26: Drew Melendrez

10/26 reader: Open



4:30pm
Pet
Blessings

5

Sunday school
ILC: 9am

Sunday school
SPLC: 9:30am

Confirmation
1-3pm
@ St Paul

6

**FEAST &
FINE ARTS**

Immanuel
(ILC) FtBY

3:30-5:30 pm

7

8

9

10

11

12

Sunday school
ILC: 9am

Sunday school
SPLC: 9:30am

15

ILC FtBY

3:30-5:30 pm

14

15

16

17

18

ILC/ SPLC
Scarecrow
Fest. Youth
Booth

8:00 - 2:30pm

19

Sunday school
ILC: 9am

Sunday school
SPLC: 9:30am

Youth comm. 9:15am
Confirmation
1-3pm
@ St Paul

20

ILC FtBY

3:30-5:30 pm

21

22

25

24

25

26

ILC Sunday
school 9am

SPLC Faith Lab
9:30am

27

ILC FtBY

3:30-5:30 pm



28

ILC

Chili/Soup
Dinner
4-7 pm

29

30

31



Contact Info

SPLC: Gerad Von Holten

Email: youth@stpauldixon.org

ILC: Somar Bryson

Email: yfdirector@ilcdixon.org



"Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase." - Martin Luther

APPLE CIDER DOUGHNUTS SALE

ST PAUL LUTHERAN YOUTH FUNDRAISER

<u>Item</u>	<u>Price</u> X	<u>How many</u> =	<u>Total \$\$</u>
By the dozen	\$12		
Individual	\$1		
TOTALS:			\$

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

Apple Cider doughnuts will be made fresh and will be available for pick up at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 421 S. Peoria Ave in Dixon on Sunday, **October 19th from 11:45 am – 12:15 pm.** Paid orders are due at the church office by Sunday, **October 5** (payable to: "St Paul Lutheran Church") Cliff's Donuts are made fresh at Selmi's in Rock Falls, IL.

*Thank you for supporting the youth events of St. Paul Lutheran Church.
Funds raised will support students attending the Youth Quake in February.
Checks payable to **St Paul Lutheran Church.***

815-288-2757

October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 1:00 pm Worship & Music Meeting 3:00 pm Christian Ed/ Faith Formation Meeting 5:00 pm Praise Band rehearsal	2 11:00 am Chair Yoga 11:00 am Joint Book Study at ILC	3	4 4:30 pm Worship at Immanuel ~ Pet Blessing
5 9:30 am-10:30 am Sunday School / Youth Group 10:45 am Worship Praise Band 1:00 pm-3:00 pm Joint Confirmation Class at St. Paul Donut Orders due	6 10:00 am Prayer Team 5:00 pm Line Dancing 6:00 pm Property Committee Meeting 6:00 pm Joint Book Study at ILC	7 9:00 am Line Dancing 9:00 am Staff Meeting at ILC 11:30 am Out & About at Dunk's Bar & Grill	8 9:00 am WELCA Coffee 2:15 pm Thrivent 2:30 pm Finance Committee	9 11:00 am Chair Yoga 11:00 am Joint Book Study at ILC	10 1:30 pm Liberty Court Worship	11 5:30 pm Worship at St. Paul
12 9:30 am-10:30 am Sunday School / Youth Group 10:45 am Worship Executive Council	13 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 5:00 pm Line Dancing 6:00 pm Joint Book Study at ILC	14 9:00 am Line Dancing 9:00 am Staff Meeting at ILC 10:00 am Social Ministry Meeting	15 10:30 am Heritage Square Worship 5:00 pm Praise Band rehearsal 6:00 pm Council Meeting	16 11:00 am Chair Yoga 11:00 am Joint Book Study at ILC Sale Set Up 9:00 am-noon	17 9:00 am to 2:00 pm SALE	18 9:00 am to 2:00 pm SALE 10:00 am-2:00 pm Booth at Dixon Scarecrow Festival 5:30 pm Worship at Immanuel
19 9:15 am Youth Committee 9:30 am-10:30 am Sunday School / Youth Group 10:45 Worship Praise Band 1:00 pm-3:00 pm Joint Confirmation Class at St. Paul Donut Pick Up	20 10:00 am Prayer Team 5:00 pm Line Dancing 6:00 pm Joint Book Study at ILC	21 9:00 am Line Dancing 9:00 am Staff Meeting at ILC	22 10:00 am Care Ministry Epistle Items to the Church Office	23 11:00 am Chair Yoga 11:00 am Joint Book Study at ILC	24	25 5:30 pm Worship at St. Paul
26 9:30 am-10:30 am Faith Lab/ Reformation Sunday 10:45 am Worship 2:00 pm Installation service begins at ILC moves to St. Paul /reception following	27 10:00 am Prayer Team 5:00 pm Line Dancing 6:00 pm Joint Book Study at ILC	28 9:00 am Line Dancing 9:00 am Staff Meeting at ILC 4:00 pm-7:00 pm Chili/Soup Supper at ILC	29	30 11:00 am Chair Yoga 11:00 am Joint Book Study at ILC	31	

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