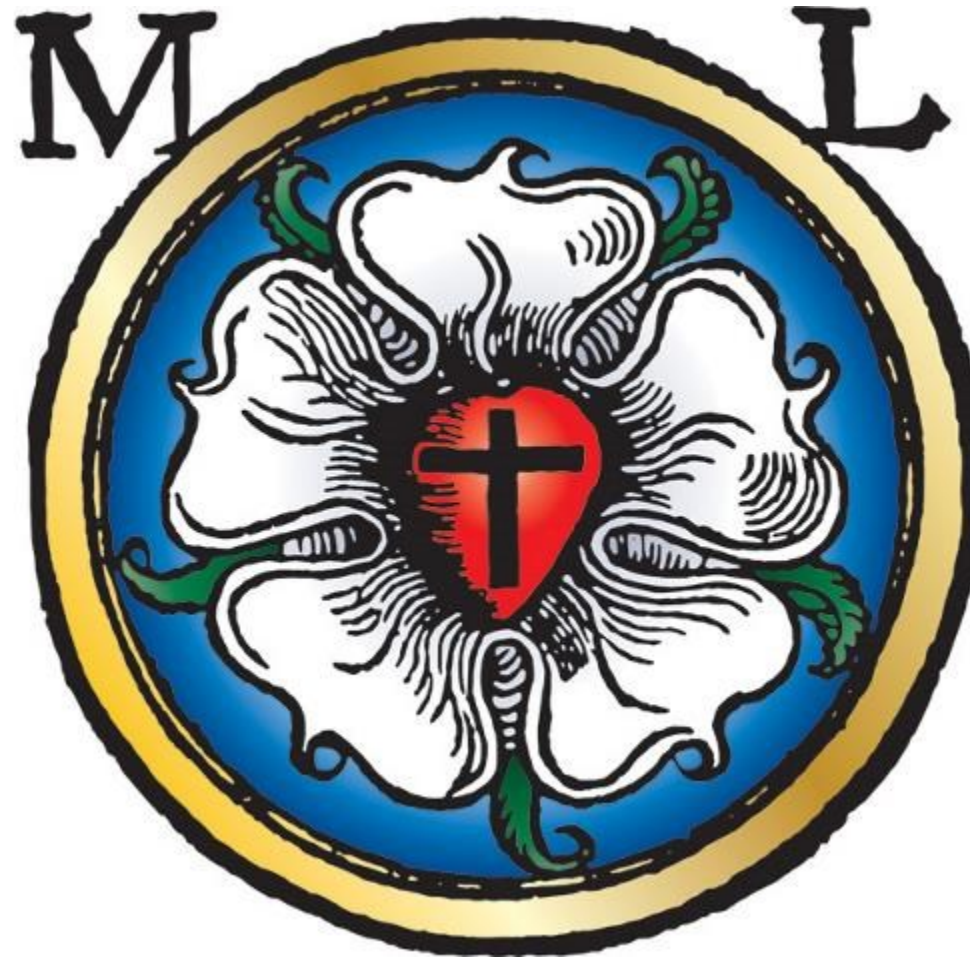


St. Paul's Letter



October 2026

Special church picnic collectors' edition



St. Paul Lutheran Church

222 North George Street Millersville, Pennsylvania 17551

CHURCH COUNCIL 2025-2026

Committee Liaison

Rev. Mark Kopp, Pastor

—

Bruce Hampton Pres.

Property

Jim Bernheisel

Stewardship

David Sykes

Long Range Planning

Tim Brooks

Building Use

Dee Perry

Worship & Music

Jody Kunzler

Altar Guild

Barb Sensenig

Adult Education

Sue Swartz Vice Pres.

Children's Ministry

Linda Hiney*

Finance

Mike Althouse,

Finance

Treasurer (non-voting)

*Recording Secretary

Other Contacts

Church office: 717-872-7392

Email: office@stpaulmillersville.org

Website: www.stpaullutheranmillersville.org

Sunday: 9:00 a.m.-Worship & Holy Communion

Our Staff

Preaching and Presiding Minister: Rev. Mark Kopp
pastorkopp@stpaulmillersville.org
Pastor David Fisher: Pastor Emeritus
Bruce Hampton: Church Council President
Lucy Esbenshade: Choir Director
Cathy Regitz: Sexton
Bill Napier Administrator/musician
Church Office Hours: M-F 8:00 a.m. to 12:00p.m.
Email: office@stpaulmillersville.org

October Birthdays



- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Jody Kunzler 4 th | Charles Ives 20 th |
| Barb Conforti 6 th | Dru Landis 20 th |
| Tricia Landis 7 th | Loren Klingaman 25 th |
| David Rockstroh 9 th | Jim Bernheisel 25 th |
| Marty Kahler 11 th | Brady Swartz 27 th |
| David Sykes 16 th | Gene Miller 30 th |
| | Madeline Kahler 31 st |

Helping Hands					
Oct	4	11	18	25	
Bulletins	Kay Cherry	Barb & Jeff Sensenig	Mary & Cy Fritz	Cathy Trissel	
Sunday School	Jody Kunzler	Sue Swartz	Jody Kunzler	Carrie Henry	
Flowers Vase 1	Gaynel & Steve Daugherty	Suzanne & Denny Herr	Linda Hiney	Sandy Miller	
Flowers Vase 2	Barb & Jeff Sensenig	Suzanne & Denny Herr		Wanda & Dave Rockstroh	
Usher 1	No one Signed up	Barb Sensenig	Connor Van Aulen	Cathy Trissel	
Usher 2	No one Signed up	Jeff Sensenig	Elaina Van Aulen	No one Signed up	
Usher 3	No one Signed up	No one Signed up	No one Signed up	No one Signed up	
Usher 4	No one Signed up	No one Signed up	No one Signed up	No one Signed up	
Altar Guild 1	Dee Perry	Dee Perry	Dee Perry	Dee Perry	
Altar Guild 2	Sandy Miller	Sandy Miller	Sandy Miller	Sandy Miller	
Lector	Frank Witmer	Bruce Thens	Linda Hiney	Frank Witmer	
Lay Assistant	Jim Dierolf	Jim Bernheisel	Jim Dierolf	No one Signed up	
Acolyte	Connor Van Aulen	Ian Henry	Brady Swartz	Wyatt Henry	

Bev's Bakers



October

- 4 None needed
- 11 Mary & Cy Fritz
- 18 Wanda Rockstroh
- 25 No One Signed Up



Finance, Finance, Finance

August Update:

Giving Income	\$	18,217
Other Income	\$	1,434
Directed Fund Income	\$	00
Fund Income	\$	2003
Expenses	\$	16,730
Surplus/deficit (month)	\$	(4,166)
Surplus/deficit (year to date)	\$	(21,555)



October Schedule At A Glance

- Oct 4 19th Sunday after Pentecost
 Pastor Appreciation Day
- Oct 11 20th Sunday after Pentecost
- Oct 18 21st Sunday after Pentecost
- Oct 25 18th Reformation Sunday
 Confirmation

Would you like something included in the newsletter, please let the office know. There is almost always room to squeeze something in or add more pages. If there is something you are curious about and believe the congregation might be interested...please let the office know...the search for content is continuous. Send an email to the office if you have read this.

2026 Church Picnic



It's official...
Barb had a
good time.

Pastor Kopp keeping watch over the desserts whilst simultaneously filling the most important role of quality control. Beth, on the left, politely averting her eyes from the spectacle.





Bingo competition was fierce.
No injuries were reported this year.



All eyes and ears were focused on Sylvia as Bingo numbers were called. While Barb was living it up in the parking lot, Jeff stayed behind trying to win that big prize.

The 2026 Cornhole Championship Tournament



New and old
members up
for a little
competition.

Doctor Jim is in
the game. Dave
thinking about
asking about
that rash.



Here we see master corn-
holer Greg Lashley provid-
ing some professional
coaching for Kay Cherry.

Bernice is saying,
“Oooooo, don’t take my
picture!”.

***I KNOW I'M
SUPPOSED
TO DO
SOMETHING
HERE.***



C
R
O
W
D

While Greg tallied the scores,
huge crowds gathered to
watch the game.

The Loaves and the Fishes or more accurately The Chickens and the Corns



Folks enjoying the classic combination of chicken and trivia.



Glenda, just joining the group, “I guess you’re all wondering why I called for this meeting”.

Sharon praying that a) Bill brings her the correct food and b) he doesn't forget where they are sitting.

Karen, in the center facing away, looking to see if anyone is listening to her continuous speaking. Karen

shown here in a rare moment of speaking without hand gestures. Kay politely nods her head...all the while Evan continues to fill up.



Bill, (background) starting with dessert first.

It's the most important meal of the day!

Sandy & Lois exchanging critical information. The guys, not wanting to interrupt, quietly eat their meal.

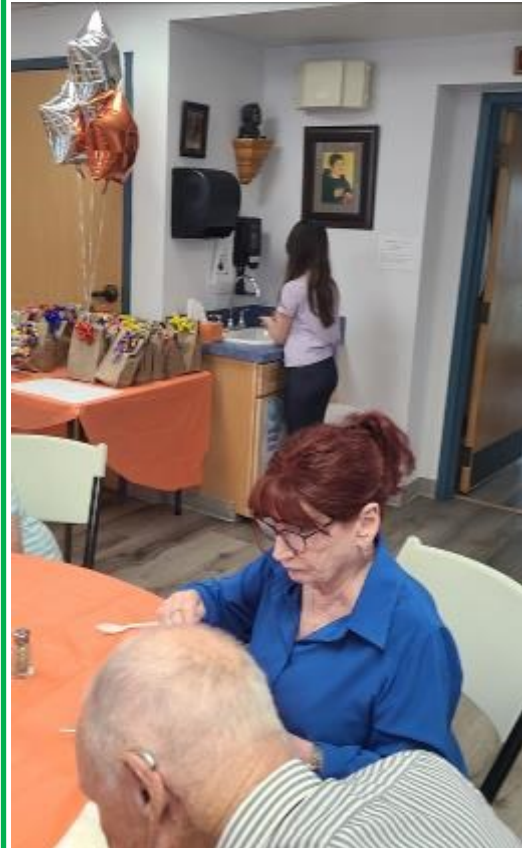


David Sykes sharing army intelligence while Dave Ellenberg and Cole take it all in.

Time for dessert.

This is not a Drill!

This is not a Drill!



Elaina demonstrating good hygiene.

Wanda and Dave quietly take it all in, possible wondering “what have we gotten ourselves into?”.

Pastor Appreciation Day



We will be celebrating Pastor Kopp on October 11th after the service. Of all the pastors we have had here at St. Paul, he is without a doubt, the most recent. Come join the celebration.

Another Plea

Please consider volunteering to be a reader or an usher. We need your help during the worship service. If more people pitch in, it will take some pressure off those who handle these tasks much of the time.

What Matters in the End...

Living Well and Dying Well

All Saint's Day, Sunday November 1, 2026

Luther Hall St. Paul Lutheran Church

10:50 - 11:00 Linda Hampton, Distribute pocket-folders with handouts and informational booklets. Welcome, Introduction of Panel Presenters.

11:00am -11:40 Funeral Director - Kevin Kraft, Sr. Supervisor, Clyde W. Kraft Funeral Homes, Inc.

Kevin will provide basic information regarding burial vs. cremation options, tips to help personalize a funeral or memorial service, questions that should be asked of the funeral home of choice if one decides to pre-pay for their services to ensure that their funds are protected. Handouts provided.

11:40 - 12:20 Brunch/Lunch

12:20 -1:00 Dr. James A. Bernheisel, MD

Dr. Bernheisel will address: Facing the Worst Case Scenario/ Respecting Choices - Your Life. Your Wishes, Family. The importance of Advanced Care Planning (ACP) / Understanding CPR, Ways to help you breathe (Ventilators, Bi-pap), Tube feeding, Brain death.

What Matters in the End...

Living Well and Dying Well (cont'd)

1:00 - 1:10 Break if needed.

1:10 - 2:00 Hospice Community Educator, under the direction of Karen Stauffer.

My family and I need help. When is it time to call Hospice? How will they help my loved one? Can I receive Hospice care at home? What's Palliative Care? How are symptoms and pain proactively managed? Can Hospice help me get needed equipment? Cost?

Coping with serious illness and facing end of life is one of life's most stressful moments. This presentation provides a comprehensive overview of the physical, emotional, and spiritual comfort and care Hospice can provide to both patients and families to improve quality of life. This session addresses the array of Services Hospice Provides, as well as the specifics of who can benefit from Hospice care.

2:00 - 2:15 Closing Remarks and Prayer by Pastor Mark Kopp, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Millersville PA

A little Humour

A PREACHER, WHO COULDN'T SWIM, WAS ON A BOAT ONE DAY. HE FELL OVERBOARD INTO THE SEA AND SADLY NO-ONE NOTICED AND THE BOAT SAILED AWAY. WHEN ANOTHER BOAT CAME PAST, THE CAPTAIN SHOUTED OUT TO THE PREACHER, "DO YOU NEED HELP?" THE PREACHER REPLIED, "NO THANK YOU, GOD WILL SAVE ME." A SHORT WHILE LATER ANOTHER BOAT CAME AND THE FISHERMAN SHOUTED TO THE PREACHER, "DO YOU NEED ANY HELP SIR?" AGAIN THE PREACHER CALMLY REPLIED, "NO THANK YOU, GOD WILL SAVE ME." EVENTUALLY THE POOR PREACHER DROWNED AND OF COURSE HE WENT STRAIGHT TO HEAVEN. WHEN HE GOT THERE, HE ASKED GOD, "WHEN I WAS DROWNING, WHY DIDN'T YOU SAVE ME?" GOD REPLIED, "ARE YOU KIDDING? I SENT YOU TWO BOATS!"



A Lutheran Nightmare



**CHANGE? CHANGE!
I CAN'T HANDLE CHANGE!**

That's right folks, Bob Dylan wasn't wrong when he sang "the times they are a-changing." So, what could it be? A new liturgy? A new hymn? Different wine? A wine list? Hotdog buns for communion bread? A different way to line up for communion? No more cookies? Decaf coffee? No, nothing that traumatic. (yet) We are going to change the offering envelopes to ones that are produced in-house. This should save us at least 50% and eliminate a significant number of envelopes that are paid for but go unused.

- ✝ The new envelopes will be a "one envelope does it all" type. All the special services, like Ash Wednesday and Thanksgiving, will be listed on the front rather than a separate envelope for each.
- ✝ Will there will be a spot for flowers and bulletins? YOU BET.
- ✝ OH NO, I forgot my envelope. That's ok, there will be plenty of envelopes available at the church.
- ✝ What will I need to do differently? You will now put your name and/or envelope number on the envelope. If you forget your number, it will be easy to look up. If you forget your name, a new one will be assigned. We will get through this together.
- ✝ Will they be mailed to me? NO. Shut-ins will have the envelopes mailed to them as necessary, but everyone else can restock at church on Sunday.
- ✝ How much will we be saving? Currently, envelopes cost \$0.16 each with many never being used but paid for. New ones will cost \$0.0726 each with presumably little going to waste.

Stay tuned for more information.

Martin Madness!

On the cover: The Luther rose (or Luther seal) was created at the request of printers to have a personal symbol representing the reformer's faith that could serve as a mark indicating something was an authorized publication of Luther's. It became widely recognized as the symbol for Lutheranism, and still is today.

- ✚ An estimated 6,001,500,000 Bibles have been printed since the first one came off the press in the Middle Ages. The first Bible published in North America was printed in 1663.
- ✚ While reformers rejected marriage as a sacrament of the church, they expanded the role of the church in marriage. Couples took an oath before God and the ceremony was moved from outside the church on the doorstep—a medieval practice—to inside the sanctuary in front of the altar.
- ✚ By the time Luther died, 30 editions of the Small Catechism had been published. By the end of the 16th century, there were an additional 125 editions in circulation and approximately 100,000 copies in print.
- ✚ An emphasis on the involvement of laypeople during worship revolutionized the way space inside the parish church was used during the Reformation. Many of the physical barriers between priest and congregation were removed. Consequently, the interiors of local churches took on the appearance that many still have today. Luther felt very strongly about the importance of signup sheets especially for ushers, readers, and lay assistants.
- ✚ Whether or not to use pipe organs and other musical instruments during worship became a hotly debated issue for many churches involved in the Reformation movement. Some went as far as banning the use of organs and instruments.
- ✚ Luther composed more than 40 hymns in his lifetime, and in 1529 wrote and composed the tune for what became known as “The Battle Hymn of the Reformation”—today called “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God.”

The Battle Hymn of the Reformation

This 1530 manuscript by Martin Luther's colleague Johann Walter contains the oldest surviving copy of the melody for "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" (Ein' feste Burg ist unser Gott). Created in 1530 by Johann Walter, the melody and words of the hymn were taken from a draft collection of Luther's hymns. It is currently housed at the Germanisches Nationalmuseum in Nuremberg, Germany. It serves as the primary and oldest musical source for Martin Luther's famous Reformation hymn.



Johann Walter lived from 1496-1570. According to a document filed with his will, he was

born with the surname of Blanckenmüller, but was adopted out of poverty by a citizen of Kahla, and given an education at Kahla and Rochlitz under his new name: Johann Walter. He began his career as a composer and bass cantor in the chapel of Frederick the Wise at the age of 21. It was a position he would hold until Frederick's death in 1525. By this time, he was the director of the chapel and had become an outspoken musical spokesman for Lutherans. Walter edited the first Protestant hymnal for choir, Eyn geystlich Gesangk Buchleyn, in Wittenberg in 1524, with a foreword by Martin Luther himself.



Literally!

What was Martin really saying? Here is a literal translation of A Mighty Fortress Is Our God:

A mighty fortress is our God,	And though the world were full of devils
A trusty shield and weapon;	And sought to devour us whole,
He helps us free from every need	We would not fear so greatly;
That has now befallen us.	We shall surely succeed.
The old evil foe	The prince of this world,
Means business now;	However grim he looks,
Great power and much cunning	Can do us no harm;
Are his cruel armor;	For he is judged:
On earth, there is no equal to him.	A single little word can fell him.

By our own might, nothing is done;	They must let the Word stand
We are lost all too soon;	And get no thanks for it;
But the right Man fights for us,	He is right here on the field with us
Whom God Himself has chosen.	With His Spirit and gifts.
Do you ask who He is?	Let them take body,
He is named Jesus Christ,	Goods, honor, child, and wife:
The Lord of Hosts,	Let them go;
And there is no other God;	They gain nothing thereby;
He must hold the field.	The Kingdom must remain ours.



**You might not get it...
It's a Lutheran thing!**

Help the mission in Haiti

The Hoedown for Haiti 2026

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO BENEFIT NEW LIFE MISSION - HAITI, INC
CHILDREN'S HOME - FEEDING PROGRAM - SCHOOL SPONSORSHIP

NEW LIFE
MISSION - HAITI'S
HOEDOWN
FOR HAITI

SILENT AUCTION - ONLINE

OCTOBER 11-15, 2026

Visit us on our website
newlifemissionhaiti.com
to bid on some
amazing items!



Use your camera to scan the
code for more details and
tickets

DINNER & LINE DANCING

OCTOBER 17, 2026

The Copper Horse

335 Camp Rodgers Rd.
Ephrata, PA 17522



\$35 per Adult \$15 per Child

Please respond by October 3rd

*** Line Dancing will be lead and taught by
Boof Scootin' Becky !**

Fellowship!

Upcoming Events:

- ✚ October 10 Ryan Observatory
- ✚ October 16 Line Dancing with Beth
- ✚ Oct 17 Millersville Parade baked goods and yard sale
- ✚ Nov 20 Line dancing with Beth

GREAT GRUB FELLOWSHIP CLUB

- ✚ ***OCTOBER 13 JOSIE'S PUB***
- ✚ ***NOVEMBER 10 HARVEST RESTAURANT***



Other GGFC events and Fellowship may be
scheduled in the interim ...

So you have to check the signup sheets!



Denny Herr has graciously offered his time and trailer to benefit our yard sale. He will be at the church on October 15 & 16, from 3:30-6:30pm. You may bring the items you are donating to church during this

time and he will secure everything. The goal is to eliminate putting last minute items IN the church, then having to handle them again to take the items out to the yard. This trailer loading event is RAIN OR SHINE. Questions, give Denny a call.



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Thrivent Choice, one of Thrivent's signature generosity programs, represents the heart of Thrivent and gives clients a voice in how Thrivent distributes millions in grant funding each year.

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To learn more, visit thrivent.com/thriventchoice or contact:



YARD SALE DONATION INFORMATION

**THE YARD SALE AND BAKE SALE IS ON PARADE DAY,
OCTOBER 17TH.**

Remember Family Members in Your Prayers

Marilyn Homsher
Ann Nagle
Marion Trimble
Peggy Bruce
Patty & Barry Leed
Charles Scharnberger
Peg Siglin

Ruth Derby
Louise & Bob Diamond
Don Harrold
Lucy Esbenshade
Ken Hoak

*Please contact the
office if you would
like to add some-
one to this list.*



**I can do all things
through God who
strengthens me**

**St. Paul Lutheran Church 222 North George Street
Millersville, Pennsylvania 717-872-7392**

The Rev. Mark S. Kopp, Pastor

Our mission statement:

**Called through the gospel of Jesus Christ, St. Paul Lutheran
Church seeks to hear and heed Christ's call to discipleship
through worship, learning, and serving the Millersville
Community with the love of God.**