

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
426 Washington St. Wausau, WI 54403

Christopher—Visitation Minister 715-680-0083

(Emergency calls after office hours only)

Kris Vraney—Office - admin1@stpaulsuccwausau.org

Tania Schwarze—Media Tech – web@stpaulsuccwausau.org

Mary Anderes—Office - admin2@stpaulsuccwausau.org

William Day—Chancel Choir Director

Carol Seefeldt—Bell Choir Director

George Felty—Organist

Stephanie Reyes—Housekeeper

Pastoral Support Committee: Tamara Sillars, Nate Helke,
Nora Schultz, Bill Panzigray, Carla Elliott

Search Committee Members: Marie Martens, Tamara Sillars,
Matt Volhard, Rita Kellman, Nate Helke, Carol Seefeldt,
Josh Reissmann, Nora Schultz, Kateland Sillars, Allison Dean,
David Wilharm

Church Council Officers:

President- Nora Schultz 715-574-5854

Vice-Pres- Colette Brill 715-574-1239

Secretary- Allison Dean 715-574-5275

Treasurer- Gail Rowell 715-581-9452

Office Hours: 8:00 – 3:00 (Mon-Thurs) 8:00 – 12:00 (Fri)

Office Phone: (715) 842-3733

Our Website: www.stpaulsuccwausau.org

CCLI License: 3121320 & 20363711

One License: A-724784

Please note: Sunday Services are available on Public Channel Spectrum 980 or
TDS 14. *Weekly Sunday Services begin on Tuesdays at Noon; Wednesday at
5pm; Thursdays at 8am; and Sundays at 9:30 am.

St. Paul's United Church of Christ – Wausau, WI

NOVEMBER 2025 COMMUNICATOR

Message from Christopher Ewan

One of the men, when he saw he was healed of his skin disease, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him--and he was a Samaritan. Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then Jesus said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well." - Luke 17:15-19

Our annual Thanksgiving Day was established back in 1863 by President Lincoln, amidst the most trying year of the U.S. Civil War. Though it is technically a secular holiday, the first unofficial Thanksgiving traces back to 1621, when a group of Puritan separatists at Plymouth Colony gave thanks to God for a successful growing season, and for having survived their first year in the New World. Nearly half the colonists who had landed in 1621 died of exposure, disease, and malnourishment that first year, and more would have died if not for the help of sympathetic Wampanoag neighbors.

As they feasted on the fruits of the labors (and the venison of the forest), the Plymouth colonists no doubt reflected on the trials of the past year, and the future hardships they would endure in the coming North Atlantic winter. They took heart that they had survived. They had learned a lot from their Wampanoag tutors. They had experienced the abiding presence of God through all their trials. And for having come through their first harrowing year in the New World, they gave thanks.

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It seems nothing elicits a spirit of gratitude and thanks like enduring a trial or overcoming a hardship. Individuals who have had a near-death experience or survived a serious disease often report finding a new appreciation for the everyday pleasures and people in their lives. I often take good health (or at least feeling OK) for granted. But after I suffer through a bout of the flu, COVID, or even a scratchy throat, I'm made more aware of what a blessing it is to be able to breathe through my nose again, to not have a fever or chills, or to be able to swallow without pain.

The Samaritan man whom Jesus healed of his skin disease, came back to give thanks to God for essentially getting his life back. He would no longer have to live outside his village in a lepers' colony. His skin didn't itch, burn, or ooze anymore. He could be with his family and friends and worship God with them. He could go back to his old routine. He could plan for the future and go on living. But first, he made sure to return to the man sent by God, who made his healing and his future possible.

I wish you all a blessed season of Thanksgiving!
Christopher Ewan

Sunday School and Confirmation Christmas Program

Our church will have a Children's Christmas service on Sunday, December 14. We hope to have a group of fifteen children, including Confirmation students, for the program. Music for the service will be practiced during Sunday School in November and December, and there will be a dress rehearsal held on Saturday, December 13, from 11:00 until 1:00, right after Breakfast with Santa. If your child or grandchild is interested in participating, please send a text to 715-680-0083, or call the church office at 715-842-3733.



Ministries Schedule



Readers

11/02 Cathy Taschler
11/09 Craig Clausen
11/16 Vivienne Reissmann
11/23 Gail Rowell
11/30 Gayle Woller

Media

11/02 Gerry Brummond
11/09 Travis Schubring
11/16 Chuck Romanowski
11/23 Gerry Brummond
11/30 Travis Schubring

Scrip Sales

11/02 Josh Reissmann
11/09 Bev Romanowski
11/16 Kurt Seefeldt
11/23 Andy Witt
11/30 Jerry Woller

Ushers

11/02 Team 8
11/09 Team 9
11/16 Team 1
11/23 Team 2
11/30 Team 3

COMMUNION SET-UP AND CLEAN-UP

Nov. 2: Nora Schultz



Leading us in worship in November will be:

Nov. 2	Pastor Jill Christopherson
Nov. 9	Chris Ewan/Colette Brill
Nov. 16	Michael Loomis
Nov. 23	Michael Loomis
Nov. 30	Pastor Ann Larrabee

NOVEMBER



BIRTHDAYS

11/02 Bernie De Lonay
 11/02 Wendy Gohdes
 11/02 Tristian Grondin
 11/02 Aeronova Hafner
 11/02 Eric Marone
 11/03 Everett Dean
 11/03 Caitlin Grisham
 11/03 Hunter Guite
 11/03 Kathy* Krueger
 11/04 Dennis Brown
 11/05 Judy Manning
 11/06 Joan Mielke
 11/07 Alyeska Seefeldt
 11/08 Christopher Anklam
 11/08 Kelsey Gwidt
 11/08 Keri Konkol
 11/08 Barbara Simandl
 11/08 Vinessa Zillman
 11/10 Jackson Genrich
 11/10 Sarah Hieronimus
 11/10 Marissa Kuhtz
 11/10 Ryan Osterbrink
 11/10 Brynn Voigt
 11/11 Dennis Czerwinski
 11/11 Thomas Erickson
 11/11 Shaenah Maguire
 11/11 Duane Neiter
 11/11 Jessica Welter
 11/11 Peter* Wrigley
 11/13 Marta Babl
 11/13 Nancy Schulz
 11/14 Ethan Clausen
 11/14 Carter Hall
 11/14 Amanda Meyer
 11/14 Sandra Ryan
 11/15 Donna Pagenkopf

11/15 Sandra Panzigrau
 11/17 Jamie Heil
 11/17 Mary Sharkey
 11/17 Mark Yellstrom
 11/18 Jeremy Nass
 11/18 Kimberly Suchon
 11/18 Emily Witt
 11/19 Randall Beilke
 11/19 Amelia Higgins
 11/19 Mary Petersen
 11/21 Jordan Clark
 11/21 Lois Gavol
 11/21 Ross Howland
 11/21 Ty Suchon
 11/22 Brandon Kickbusch
 11/23 Ronald Genrich
 11/23 Bailey Kissinger
 11/23 Haydyn Krause
 11/23 David Schwede
 11/24 Victoria Petrenova
 11/24 Debra Roeder
 11/24 Geraldine Seidler
 11/25 Tanya Olbrantz
 11/28 Ashley Andrew
 11/28 Jennifer Hoepfner
 11/28 Diane Powell
 11/29 Robert McCabe
 11/29 Thomas VanOrder
 11/30 Mary Anderes
 11/30 Randall Buedding
 11/30 Kristine Lang
 11/30 Jeff* Newman
 11/30 Gail Rowell
 11/30 Brayden Sturm
 11/30 Andrea White

Dollars and Sense from the Finance Committee

Get your 10% and 20% Kwik Trip cards while they last!

We have a limited number of 10% Kwik Trip Gas and 20% Kwik Trip Grocery cards available. Get yours today!

Are you buying more groceries this month to prepare for the Thanksgiving Holiday? Use scrip to support the church while hosting your holiday festivities.

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas...according to the calendar. Prepare for Black Friday shopping by purchasing the scrip cards you will need. Don't stand in line without one! Please see the gift order sheet included in this newsletter.

Stewardship Minute:

There is more to St. Paul's UCC than what you see on Sunday mornings. With our Food Pantry, Bible Study, Youth Activities, Christian Education, Music Ministry, and so much more...all these things are assisted by leadership and staff who are deeply committed to our becoming who God is calling us to be. The ministry and mission of our church take place because of the spiritual and financial gifts our members and friends choose to share. These are the resources that fuel our mission; and yes, it does take money to provide these spiritual things!



Your decision to give a gift is the response to an invitation—a choice—as a follower of Jesus, it really isn't an option! Based on what we have received, we are encouraged to give: out of thanksgiving for what God has done and as a sign of faithfulness and commitment to be a part of the good things that God is continuing to do in our world. We have the gift of Jesus and we are invited to respond to what God has given us with our own generosity.

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As a congregation, we are entering a time of discerning what we will contribute monetarily in the coming year. The practice of exercising financial stewardship is a spiritual discipline and a way to grow our faith. There is joy in practicing generosity, and it begins with a simple step of a commitment to contribute. We hope you will see the opportunity to make a commitment as a way of developing a healthy habit – one that can change you, and the world! Please prayerfully consider your pledge for 2026. Pledge cards can be returned in the mail, or brought to church on Stewardship Sunday, on Sunday Nov. 2nd. Additional cards are available in the narthex or from the office. Thank you!

Financial Report for September 2025:

Current Giving:	\$13,037.00
Monthly Goal	\$20,000.00
Year to Date:	\$147,609.90
Year to Date Goal:	\$180,000.00—behind goal \$32,390.10

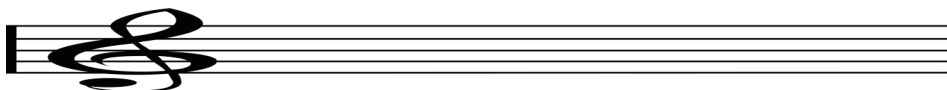
Staff Support Expenses: Under budget by \$80,582.64

Administrative Expenses: Under budget by \$10,946.75

Program Expenses: Under budget by \$2,952.71

Property Expenses: Over budget by \$5,508.44 (without cleaning service expense, would be under budget by \$5,741.56)

If you're homebound or recovering from a procedure and would like a visit from our Visitation Pastor, please call the church office at 715-842-3733 or Chris at 715-680-0083.



Sharing their musical talents in church will be:

Nov. 2 Youth Bells Nov. 23 Starburst Choir

Nov. 9 Senior Bells Nov. 26 Senior Bells, Chancel Choir

Nov. 16 Chancel Choir Nov. 30 Chancel Choir

"Some of the greatest sermons that have ever been preached were preached by the singing of a song." -Spencer W. Kimball

November at St. Paul's Through the Years...

The Carillon Bells in the Bell Tower were ordered on **November 2, 1964.**

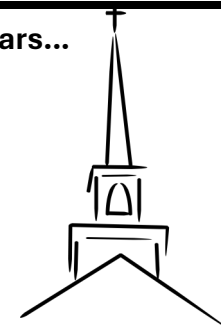
On **November 5, 1985**, renowned harpist Phyllis Schlomovitz gave a recital at our church.

The new church sanctuary was dedicated on **November 13, 1961.** Elmhurst College President Dr. Robert Stanger spoke at the special service.

Talk about dedication! In **November of 1963**, Bert Pagenkopf was honored for having served as Sunday School superintendent for more than fifty years!

On **November 25, 1942**, the Senior Choir sang for a Joint Brotherhood Service in Marathon Park.

Source: *The 125th Anniversary Calendar of St. Paul's United Church of Christ, 1988.*



Wausau Holiday Parade Church Float

The 2025 Wausau Holiday Parade will be held on Friday, December 5, starting at 6:30 p.m. This year's theme is "Merry and Bright". St. Paul's will be entering a float. A generous church member has offered us use of his trailer, but we will need a few more materials, including: a gas generator, white Christmas lights, and zip ties. Our Confirmation students will brainstorm decorating ideas and themes in upcoming meetings, but we could use some help! After the church service on November 30, we will decorate the float in the garage. If you'd like to help in this endeavor, please sign up on the clipboard in the hallway.



Upcoming Confirmation Dates

Sunday, November 2: 10:15-11:15

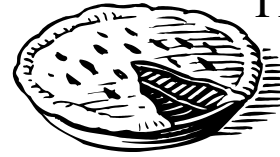
Wednesday, November 5: 6:00-7:00

Confirmation Retreat: November 7-9

Wednesday, November 19: 6:00-7:00

Sunday, November 30: Decorating Parade Float after Church

There will be NO Confirmation class on November 12 or November 26.



THANKSGIVING PIE SALE

ONLY \$17.00/Pie

Pie orders are DUE BY NOON, on
 November 14th—No Exceptions

List the number of pies and variety you wish to order:

____ Raspberry Cream Cheese

____ Pumpkin Cream Cheese

____ Banana Cream

____ Dutch Apple

____ Pumpkin

____ Blueberry Cream Cheese

____ Chocolate Silk

____ Pecan

____ Lemon Cream Cheese

____ Total Pies Ordered

____ Amount Enclosed

Name _____

Phone No _____

Pie Pickup will be from 1:00-3:00 pm on Wednesday November 26th.

Please fill out the form and either email it back to admin1@stpaulsuccwausau.org or turn it in to the church office by Friday, November 14th at 10:00 am (all emailed orders will receive an email confirmation-if you do not receive an email confirmation please call the church office 715-842-3733) All Pies must be paid for when picked up.

Attention

For November and December, our Food Pantry will be open Thursdays 11/13, 11/20, 12/11 and 12/18. We will not be open Giving Day and Christmas Day.

Hours of Operation: 9:00 am-Noon

Walk-up: Welcome both operational days

Drive-up: Limited to once a month

Diaper Distribution: Once per month per family.

In person distribution only. NO carry-outs for others.

Church Dartball League **Update**

The St. Paul's Hornets and St. Paul's Packers seasons have begun. Anyone who is interested is welcome to join.



We play at 7:00 pm on Mondays. Please contact Gerry Brummond or Gary Helke if you are interested.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Hornets</u>	<u>Packers</u>
11/3	Home/St. Michaels Sox	Home/Redeemer Lutheran
11/10	Away/Wesley Wolfpack	Away/St. Marks
11/17	Away/Immanuel Baptist	Away/Wesley Wolfpack
11/24	Home/St. Andrews	Home/Wesley Gophers

Other Community Events:

Friends of the Library Book Sale:	11/6	9:30 am—7:30 pm
	11/7	9:30 am—4:30 pm
	11/8	9:30 am—3:30 pm

Peace UCC Bazaar: 11/22 9:00 am—2:00 pm
(Luncheon 11:00-1:00) 1530 Grand Ave. Schofield

Sweet Shoppe at St. Agnes Parish: 12/13 10:00 am—2:00 pm
6101 Zinser St. Weston

St. Paul's UCC Christmas Poinsettias 2025

Those wishing to order a poinsettia plant(s) are asked to complete the form below and return it, along with \$20.00 (per plant) to the church office. **All orders and money need to be into the church office by Sunday, December 14, 2025.**

🌟 All memorials will be listed in the Christmas bulletins.

You may take your plant anytime after the December 24 9:00 pm Late Service.

Please note the number of plants you wish to order of each color at \$20 per plant.

Red

Tri-Colored

Total Plants Ordered

Ordered by:

Name _____

Phone Number

Cash Included **Check #**

In *memory* of:

OR -

In *honor* of:

Given By:

Plants may be taken home after the Christmas Eve Service unless other arrangements are made at the time of ordering.

Sunday, November 2 at 3:00 pm, the Wausau Chapter of the American Guild of Organists will be dedicating a brand new organ with organists Goerge Felty, Patrick Burkhardt, Bryan Higgins, and Dan Larson. The program is free of charge and will be held at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church in Antigo.



St. Paul's Harvest Fest 2025

NOVEMBER 15, 2025 (10am - 3pm)

ARE YOU A CRAFTER?

THE LADIES OF ST. PAUL'S ARE LOOKING FOR DONATIONS FOR OUR HARVEST FEST, ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15.

*Are you a wood worker who enjoys making toys for children, making birdhouses from reclaimed lumber or are capable of making Christmas ornaments, or any type of project, on a scroll saw or lathe?

*Do you specialize in knitting, crocheting, embroidering, or sewing? How about jewelry making, beadwork, stained glass, basket weaving, stamping, is that your interest?

*Do you like making homemade candles, doing floral arrangements, painting or macramé? Whatever craft you are willing to make and donate, will be appreciated.

DONATED ITEMS MAY BE DELIVERED TO THE CHURCH OFFICE THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 10-14.

Unsold donations may be reclaimed after the sale the following week.

*** LOOKING FOR BAKED ITEMS ***

If you're not a crafter, we are looking for anyone willing to bake items such as cookies, bars, cupcakes, pies, and rolls, for the Harvest Fest. Baked goods should be delivered before noon on Friday, November 14. Our ladies group will do the packaging and pricing.



Coming November 8th to the 319 Gallery!

12:00 p.m. to 3 p.m. 319 4th St. Wausau



The 1st Annual Children's Book Signing

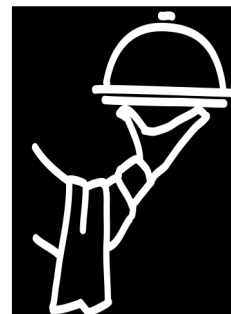
by local author **Steve Zimick**

Help us celebrate the release of Steve's latest book, **The Great Quest**, and get your personal copy signed.

- Refreshments
- Prizes
- Adopt an adorable stuffed pet to take to its forever home
- Bring a non-perishable pet treat or toy and enter to win a door prize.

50% of sales are gifted to the Marathon County Humane Society

For more information, contact the 319 Gallery at 715-870-2261 or 715-297-2643



The Final Diner's Club of the Year
will be at The Palms
5912 Business 51 Schofield
November 14th at 6:00.

Please sign up or call the office at
715-842-3733 if you plan on attending.

Help Support Our Christmas Mission

Every year on Christmas Day, St. Paul's Mission Committee offers the people in our community a wonderful meal and a time to be together on this special day.

Last year gift bags were distributed to our guests as Christmas gifts. Flowers were also donated and given out. It was heart warming to see the joy and appreciation from the guests who attended.

This year, with the help of the Mission Committee and our congregation, we will be giving fleece blankets to our Christmas guests. What better way to show we care than to give a warm blanket that was made by our church members, community members, friends, and families.

We have three options for you: 1) You can purchase the tie blanket kits for \$15 after church for the month of November in the hallway, across from the parlor. 2) You can choose your own fabric for the tie blanket. Directions are available at the table. 3) If you don't feel crafty, please consider making a monetary donation. You can drop this by the table after church or mail it into the church and label it "Christmas Gift Mission."

We as a church are given the opportunity to give to our community-to add a little cheer to someone who may be alone this holiday; to give a gift, perhaps the only one they will receive; to reflect on our blessings, and spread joy to those around us.

We look forward to working on this mission and appreciate your talent, generosity, and support. Thank you.



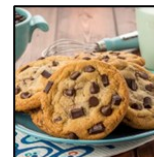
Cookie Dough Fundraiser Oct. 12th - Nov. 7th

Help Us Raise Funds
for Our Youth Events &
Programming!

**Our Goal:
Sell 200 Boxes!**

You can order with the
church office or online at:
www.iraismore.com
Enter Group ID: 29621

Every Box of pre-portioned cookies contains 36 (1 oz) preformed cookies, for a total of approximately 2.25 lbs of cookie dough.



Quality & Convenience: Cookie Dough may be frozen up to 1 year, has a shelf-life of 21 days at room temperature. The product can be thawed and refrozen. It can remain in the fridge for up to 6 months. Zero Trans Fat, Kosher Product. May contain traces of nuts.

Priced To Sell: Only \$20- \$22 for a box of 36 (1 oz) pre-formed cookies. Simply place and bake!

**Cookie Dough Pick Up Will Be At Church –
The 1st Week of December.**

***Sellers Are Responsible for Delivering The Orders They Sold.**

***Buyers- Who Order Through Church Office- Are Responsible for Picking Up Their Cookie Dough.**

***Money Due When Ordered. No Cancellations or Refunds.**