

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

William Day—Chancel Choir Director

Carol Seefeldt—Bell Choir Director

George Felty— Organist

Pastoral Support Committee: Tamara Sillars, Nate Helke,
Nora Schultz, Bill Panzigrav, 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.stpauluccwausau.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

OCTOBER 2025 COMMUNICATOR

Search Committee Update

Greetings from the Search Committee,

It has been quite some time since we have provided an update to the congregation. We have been working and meeting frequently throughout the summer.

As many of you have likely heard, we had a candidate that was intended to be presented to the congregation in early August. This was a candidate that the Search Committee was unanimously excited about as of our first meeting via Zoom. Unfortunately, as we were preparing contracts to be signed, it came to light that there were some financial gaps (due to inter-state economic differences) that we were not able to overcome. Sadly, that candidate withdrew from consideration.

Very shortly after that, we received a new profile that was also promising. We had 2 solid interviews with this new candidate and were making preparations for a 3rd, when that candidate removed himself from consideration citing "Personal Reasons".

While it is discouraging following the process so far down the road 2 times only to be disappointed near the finish line, it has been encouraging to receive all the profiles that we have had so far. Currently, we don't have any in-process applicants, but I'm confident that more candidates will continue to come in as we move forward. We will continue to sift through applicants as they are presented, but we might need to go a little outside of the box to make sure that we do what is best for the future of our church.

I'd like to thank everyone for their patience with this search. We knew it would be a complicated and potentially long process - - which has proven to be true. In the meantime, I'd like to remind
(continued next page)

...Search Committee Update (continued)

everyone that WE are the church and it's up to us as individuals and as a group to make sure that we're still serving our community spiritually and through our actions while we're continually moving forward through this challenging process.

Nate Helke, Chairperson
Search Committee

And now a message from our Visitation Pastor, Christopher Ewan

You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before people, that they may see your good deeds and praise God in heaven. -Matthew 5:14-16

Our church has been around for a long time—since 1863. Until the arrival of the automobile, the church drew most of its members from the surrounding neighborhoods. If you wanted to come to church, you had to hoof it! But downtown Wausau evolved over time to accommodate autos and the social changes that came with reliable motorized transportation. Many houses were razed to make room for wider roads, parking lots, municipal buildings, and commercial spaces. Over the decades, the neighborhood around St. Paul's has changed, with fewer people living in the church's immediate vicinity.

For the first time in a **long** time, that is about to change! The Foundry on 3rd building project across the street from the church is just about complete, and by the end of this year the nearly 150 apartment units will be available to rent. By New Year's Day we'll likely have 150-500 new neighbors:

(continued next page)

Ministries Schedule



Readers

10/05 Cathy Taschler
10/12 Gail Rowell
10/19 Craig Clausen
10/26 **NEED VOLUNTEER**

Media

10/05 Travis Schubring
10/12 Gerry Brummond
10/19 Chuck Romanowski
10/26 Gerry Brummond

COMMUNION SET-UP AND CLEAN-UP

Oct. 5: Gary and Pam Helke

Scrip Sales

10/05 Jerry Woller
10/12 Gerry Brummond
10/19 Carla Elliott
10/26 Pam Helke

Ushers

10/05 Team 4
10/12 Team 5
10/19 Team 6
10/26 Team 7



Leading us in worship in September will be:

Oct. 5	Pastor Jill Christopherson
Oct. 12	Michael Loomis
Oct. 19	Rev. Elizabeth Hazel
Oct. 26	Pastor Ann Larrabee

2025 AppleFest At St. Paul's UCC!



Sunday, October 12th

**Join us in Guild Hall following
9am Worship for Applefest!**

***We are purchasing a variety of
Apple Pie from Main Street Cafe.
We will sell individual slices for
people to try or take home.
We will also have a couple
extra apple pies for sale.**

**Sponsored By: St. Paul's UCC;
426 Washington St., Wausau WI (715) 842-3733**

Update from Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center:

This fall, we're offering something special.

From **October 5–10, 2025**, we're hosting an **open immersion week** at Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center, and you don't need a group to attend. Whether you've been out to Pine Ridge before or this would be your first visit, this is a chance to be part of the work we do here, experience daily life on the reservation, and meet some truly incredible people in the community.

Spots are limited, so if your heart's tugging at the idea, we'd love to have you with us. You can learn more or sign up at pineridgereconciliationcenter.org.

Chris Ewan (continued)...

who each day will pass by our church on their way to work; who will hear our carillon play at noon; who will hear our bells mark the hour.



It seems we ought to do the neighborly thing and introduce ourselves to the newcomers to our neighborhood. The question is, how do we do this? Perhaps we should hang a large banner on the south side of the church that reads something like, "Hey, we see you there! Come to St. Paul's to hear the Good News!" We have church members with backgrounds in advertising, marketing, and business, who doubtless have better ideas than mine about how to effectively reach out to the Foundry's residents.

To help us gather these ideas, a special box will be placed in the narthex for you to put your ideas in. Whether it's a slogan to put on a banner, a special service or Open House around Christmas, or whatever, please write it down and put it in the specially marked box which will be available beginning at the October 5 service. At the end of the month, staff will read through the ideas and share them with Council and relevant committees. But if you've got a super idea that just can't wait, stop in at church and tell us about it!

The neighborhood is changing, and it provides us with a great opportunity to reach out to potential new friends and members. Let's make the most of this opportunity. See you in church!

-Christopher Ewan

Update from the Personnel Committee:

The Personnel Committee has hired St. Paul's own Mary Anderes as our new Administrative Assistant. Her prior office experience and kind spirit will be a welcome addition to the office staff. She will begin on October 6. We are continuing the interview process for the Housekeeper. We have some promising candidates, so please stay tuned!

Message from our Faith Formation Director



Dear St. Paul's U.C.C. Family,

It is with a heavy heart that I share the news that I will be stepping down from my role as Faith Formation Director at St. Paul's. In the midst of some personal challenges, I have

come to the decision that I need to return to Green Bay to be closer to my family and close friends.

This decision has not been easy. My time at St. Paul's has been filled with blessings, meaningful connections, and a deep sense of community. I regret that I cannot continue in this role, as I truly wish I could remain a part of the wonderful ministry and growth happening here.

I want to thank you for welcoming me so warmly into your church family and for the opportunity to serve alongside you in guiding and nurturing the faith of our young people. It has been an honor and a joy to walk this journey with you, and I will always carry with me the memories of our time together.

Though my path is leading me away for now, please know that you will remain in my prayers. I trust that God will continue to do great things through the people and ministries of St. Paul's.

With gratitude and love, Trinity Thiry

Youth education and activities are continuing in Trinity's absence. Chris Ewan is teaching confirmation class. Carol Seefeldt, Deb Nass, and Marie Martens have been leading our Sunday School classes. Tania Schwarze and Chris Ewan have been scheduling and preparing to lead youth on a variety of events. *"Children are not a distraction from more important work. **They** are the most important work."* - John Trainer

OCTOBER



BIRTHDAYS

10/01	Michael Heise	10/17	Matthew Hornung
10/01	Emmalee Koy	10/17	Mary Howland
10/01	Megan Newman	10/17	Vernon McGivern
10/02	Erik Jung	10/17	Abbey Meyers
10/03	Isabelle Mattila	10/17	Sidney Weiland
10/03	James Mielke	10/18	Nancy Jaecks
10/03	Ethan Sillars	10/18	Krista Salzman
10/03	Michael* Tercha	10/18	Nancy Stimart
10/04	Sophie Martens	10/19	Dale Osterbrink
10/07	Carol Wieman	10/20	Colette Brill
10/07	Susan Wolf	10/20	Susan Kroeplin
10/08	Tracey Baken	10/20	Loukas Trzcinski
10/08	Bette Brummond	10/21	Dean Albrecht
10/08	Bonnie Fust	10/21	Tanya Luebke
10/08	Wayne* Gore	10/21	Stephanie Wolfe
10/08	Heath Martens	10/22	Bonnie Conklin
10/09	Nancy Junkerman	10/22	Logan Ferge
10/09	Craig Urban	10/23	Dewell Clay
10/10	Gordon* Clements	10/23	Rodney Wendorf
10/10	Kaitlyn Ruenger	10/23	Shylah Wrigley
10/11	Leiahna Behle	10/24	Finley Helke
10/11	Lynnette Cooning	10/25	Tripp Doescher
10/11	Jake Riiser	10/25	Laurie Trzcinski
10/11	Linda Schroeder	10/26	Isabelle Franklin
10/12	Alicia Gardner	10/26	Daphne Genrich
10/13	Kacie Endres	10/27	Jasmin Clark
10/13	Dustin Genrich	10/27	Melissa Tercha
10/13	Daniel Sillars	10/29	Riley Gwidt
10/14	Josephine Pagel	10/30	Jackson Kulas
10/15	Bridger Brandenburg	10/30	Eleanor Pagel
10/16	Lorelei Meyer	10/30	Cari Schmitt
10/17	Mary Haugland	10/31	Ryan Hammerstrom

Birthdays are nature's way to tell us to
eat more cake!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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 planning to give candy to your trick or treaters? Why not use a scrip card to purchase your treats? We have scrip available for all major grocery stores, CVS, Walmart, Target, Sam's Club, and Walgreens.



Christmas is only 3 months away. Make gift giving easier on your pocketbook and your schedule by purchasing scrip cards earlier. Please call the office for a full list of scrip cards available for the holidays.

Thank you to all who donated to the Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center. We were able to send a check for \$645.00 for the funds collected in August. Thank you for your generosity.

Blessings,
The Finance Committee

Financial Report for August 2025:

Current Giving:	\$14,777.54
Monthly Goal	\$20,000.00
Year to Date:	\$134,572.90
Year to Date Goal:	\$160,000.00—behind goal \$25,427.10

Staff Support Expenses: Under budget by \$67,446.39

Administrative Expenses: Under budget by 16,366.34

Program Expenses: Under budget by \$3,209.76

Property Expenses: Over budget by \$4,711.17 (without cleaning service expense, would be under budget by \$5,038.83)

Upcoming Confirmation and Youth Activities

There is NO confirmation class on October 1.

Confirmation Classes: October 8, 14, 22, and 29 at 6:00.

Haunted Corn Maze at Willow Springs: Friday, October 24. Meet at the church for supper at 6:00. Leave for Willow Springs at 7:00 with the van. The cost is \$15.

Trunk and Treat: Saturday, October 25 from 12:00—2:00 at Grace UCC on 3rd Ave. Candy, books, and other treats for trick-or-treaters.

Church and Treat: Sunday, October 26 after service at St. Paul's. Children wear their Halloween costumes and receive treats.

Confirmation Retreat: November 7-9. The van will leave the church at 4:00 on Fri. for Daycholah Center. The confirmands will return Sun. at 2:00 pm.

Marshfield Clinic– Weston needs volunteers!

Volunteer opportunities are available for all levels of ability. Whether you want to work in the gift shop or coffee shop, surgical waiting area, as an escort or with pet therapy, we have a place for you. Whatever your talent, you can do amazing things as a volunteer.

Reach out to Volunteer Services at 715-393-2605.

Official Acts of the Church:

Memorials received by the church:

In Memory of Beverly Helke and Eleanor Brown
\$3000 to the General Fund
by Marcia Kutchera





Attention

St. Paul's Food Pantry operates twice per month: on the Second and Fourth Thursdays each month.

We will be open again on:

Thursdays Oct. 9 and Oct. 23

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.

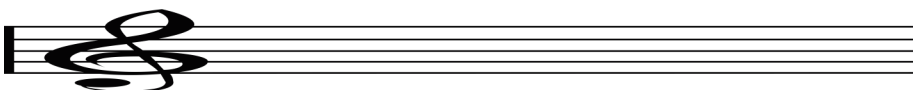
Church Dartball League Update

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>
10/6	Away/St. Marks	Away/St. Michaels
10/13	BATTLE OF ST. PAUL'S—Packers at Home	
10/20	Home/Redeemer	Home/Good Shepherd
10/27	Away/St. Stephens	Away/Peace



Sharing their musical talents in church will be:

Oct. 5	Youth Bells	Oct. 19	Starburst Choir
Oct. 12	Senior Bells	Oct. 26	Chancel Choir

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

2025 Halloween at St. Paul's UCC





Brainard Funeral Homes

Donuts and Decisions

Please join us for an advance funeral planning seminar hosted at St. Paul's United Church of Christ. We will be discussing the steps involved in getting a funeral plan in place, how that plan will effect your loved ones, and answering your questions on funeral service.

Location:

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

Date and Time:

Thursday, October 30th at 10:00 AM

Advance Funeral Planner:
Ingrid Benson



Topics Discussed

- Advance funeral planning
- Types of services
- Death away from home
- Planning financially for services
- After the funeral service

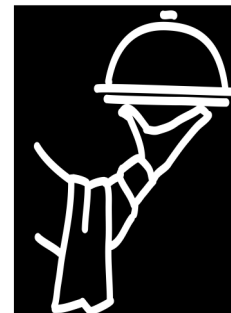
Thank you!!!

The annual Church Picnic held September 7 was one of the coldest in memory, with overnight temps dipping into the upper 30's. The competition for a chair in the warm sunlight was intense! But the food was delicious, Mark Wayne entertained with his music, the kids enjoyed the bouncy house, and the day was a success.

There are many volunteers to thank for their efforts: **Carol Seefeldt** and **Donna Pagenkopf** staffed the welcome and registration table; **Kateland Sillars**, **Tamara Sillars**, and **Richie Nussbaum** worked in the kitchen from 7:30 until closing, cutting up vegetables, making the meatballs and other dishes, and cleaning up; the **Helke clan** helped take down the tents provided by **Gerry Brummond**; and **Wes Helke** mopped up spills in the shelter. Speaking of **Wes**, we thank him for mowing the lawn and trimming the sidewalks around church all spring and summer. That's dedication!

And thank you to all the unnamed volunteers who helped make September's activities a success!

"If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself." - Henry Ford



Diner's Club at BB Jacks
900 Golf Club Rd. Wausau
October 17th at 6:00.

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

Fall Committee Chair Meeting: Tuesday, Oct. 21st @ 6pm

Help Us Put The Pieces Together!

Please Send a Committee Representative if the Chairperson is Unable to Attend.



October

St. Paul's in October through the Years...

On **October 1, 1978**, Rev. H.W. Ortwein was given the honorary title of Pastor Emeritus.

The cornerstone for the new sanctuary was laid on **Monday, October 3, 1960**.

Mothers' Club (now the Ladies of St. Paul's) was formed **October 6, 1946**.

Back in **October 1958**, there were 558 children participating in the Sunday school program at St. Paul's.

The Guild Hall was dedicated on **October 22, 1950**. The Rev. Gerhard Grauer, son of longtime St. Paul's Pastor E.C. Grauer and later a key architect of the formation of the United Church of Christ, spoke at the ceremony.

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



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.