



Announcements

Sunday, September 20, 2026

Visitors

Welcome to all of our guests and first-time visitors, we are glad to have you here today! Please take a moment to fill out a *Welcome* envelope, available in the pews. If you are attending the outdoor service, the envelopes and a sign-in sheet can be found on the "welcome" table under the pavilion.

The envelopes also serve as a giving envelope for those who would like to support the ministries of our church. Completed envelopes can be placed in the giving box or handed to a church leader.

Interested in learning more about St. Paul? A Welcome Class is being held Sunday, October 18th at 9:30AM in the Choir room for those who would like to learn more about the church. If you are interested in attending or have any questions, please contact Ellen Harpel in the church office at 717-626-4709 or email her at eharpel@stpaulstitiz.net.

Today

Capital Campaign Update: On Sunday, September 27, we will have a congregational meeting, after both services, for the purpose of voting on whether to proceed with a capital campaign aimed at improving the Educational Wing of the building. The areas of improvement are

- Social Hall and Kitchen
- HVAC throughout wing
- Christian Early Learning Center Entrance
- Room 100 (Choir Room)

Today, we welcome Rev. Renee Liabraaten at worship. She worked with a capital campaign planning team this summer to assess whether the congregation should move ahead. As part of that work, she interviewed 44 families to determine excitement and financial feasibility. Today she reports on her findings. Written copies of the report are available in the narthex; we will send out a copy early this week.

Baptisms: Today we will celebrate the Baptism of Dakota Ryan Berrios and Cian Sage Northridge at the 10:45 service. If you have questions about baptism for someone in your family, please let a member of the pastoral staff know.

Fall Festival

The CELC's annual Fall Festival is fast approaching! On **Saturday, October 3rd**, St. Paul will host kids and families connected to the Early Learning Center for fun, learning, outdoor activities, a cakewalk, and basket raffle. We are looking for volunteers to man

the raffle tables, read stories to the kids, guide guests through and around the Sacred Grounds, and manage pumpkin decorating, a relay race, and an obstacle course. Additionally, any musicians interested in offering their talents at the festival should contact Ministry Fellow Jonah Lenahan, jlenahan@stpaulinitz.net. You can also sign up on Time to Sign Up: <https://ttsu.me/fallfestival>. We look forward to kicking off a new season with the CELC!

Empty Bowls

Many Hands, Many Gifts

Empty Bowls 2027 needs you! Planning is underway for our March 7 community event benefiting the Warwick Community Chest. We're looking for people with many different interests and gifts to help with food, fundraising, promotion, hospitality, volunteers, event production and more. No previous Empty Bowls experience is needed. Interested? Contact Larry or Melanie Carlson at larry.carlson52@gmail.com.

Find Your Place

Where might you fit in Empty Bowls 2027? Maybe you know local businesses, enjoy working with people, have an artistic side, love organizing details—or simply like making things happen. Our Work Groups offer many ways to participate, both in planning and on event day. Want to learn more? Contact Larry or Melanie Carlson at larry.carlson52@gmail.com.

Adult Ministry

Soul Flow for Moms: Soul Flow is gentle exercise combining yoga-inspired movements, dance, breath and music. Moms are invited to three Soul Flow Thursdays from 6:30-7:30pm to experience it. Jenn Maryniak, St. Paul mom and Fitness instructor, will lead us. Sept 24 (pavilion/yard), Oct 1 (social hall), Oct 8 (pavilion/yard). Sign-Up with Jenn: jennmaryniak@gmail.com. Bring a mat and waterbottle.

The Chosen: Join us this fall to watch The Chosen, a dramatization of the life and ministry of Jesus, followed by lunch and conversation of faith, art and life. Begins today after the 10:45 service in Room 7 (Lower Level). Bring something to share for lunch. Contact Betsy McConnell to sign up or for more information, contact Betsy McConnell at betsy.a.mcconnell@gmail.com.

Sacred Grounds Book Club: Join as we gather to cultivate faith and community through conversation about what it means to tend the patch of ground where we are. We meet monthly on Monday mornings at 10:30AM in the Media Room. For more information contact Scott Frase at sfrase@stpaulinitz.net. Here is our fall lineup:

September 28: *The Unsettling of America* by Wendell Berry
October 26: *What Grows in Weary Lands* by Tish Harrison Warren
November 23: *This is Happiness* by Nial Williams
December 21: *The Irrational Season* by Madeline L'Engle

Young Adult Fun: We are offering weekly programming for young adults. This will rotate through a handful of activities: pickleball, local trivia nights, cross net and game night. To make it possible for people to come who have other commitments, we will try an alternating Monday and Wednesday schedule. Interested? Contact [Jonah Lenahan](#) (856-454-3807) or Ian Harpel (717-618-9606)

Companion Ministry: The Companion Ministry connects St. Paul members who would benefit from having regular visits with a companion. The companions meet with each other on the third Monday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Media Room to share stories, learn skills, and encourage each other. The next meeting is Monday the 21st.

Bible Study

Adult Faith Formation; Find Your Common Ground: Join us Sunday mornings at 9:30 am for our adult Sunday school classes, known as Common Ground Groups. With groups for people in all seasons of life, there's a place for everyone to connect, grow in faith, and build meaningful relationships. Pick up our Learning Together brochure in the church lobby or contact Scott Frase, sfrase@stpaulinitz.net, to find a group that's right for you!

Men's Bible Study: The next men's Bible study will take place at Luther Acres in the Muhlenberg building at the restaurant called the Round. We will meet at 9AM on October 3. Information/questions please contact Jim Millhouse, e44a@ptd.net or 717-626-6296.

Pastor's Weekly Bible Study: Thursday mornings at 10:00 AM in the Media Room. Zoom is also available.

Pod and Pub: Join us on Wednesday nights, 7 PM, every other week to discuss an episode of Pastor Rob's Podcast, *Ponder Anew*. The next gathering will be on Sept. 30th at Appalachian Brewing Co., in Lititz. Interested? Let Heather Weaver (717-725-1885) know and she can keep you posted on location, etc. You can find the podcast on our website: <https://www.stpaulinitz.net/podcasts>

Giving

Warwick Community Chest The donations to the Lititz Warwick Community Chest during September can be anything of your choice. No large sizes, please. No expired items. Items can be placed in the wooden chest in the narthex at any time.

Stay Tuned for our annual Food Drive in October!

Bridge of Hope, a mission partner of St. Paul, is in need of donations of a used lawn mower and a reliable used car for a local program client. Please contact Caitlyn Mellinger, Neighborhood Resource Specialist, at 717-207-8932 or email CaitlynM@bridgeofhopeinc.org if you have either of the above. Bridge of Hope works with single mothers with children who are homeless so that they can achieve self-sufficiency and permanent housing. A group of congregational members are currently 'neighboring' a local family.

Children's Ministry

 **True Colors:** This is our Fall Kids Sermon Series. Come watch the color wheel spin as we focus on a different color each week in worship. We'll learn why that color is meaningful at church and the truth of the Gospel it holds.

 **Color Collection:** Throughout the Fall, we will collect used crayons and markers to be recycled. Look for the bin in the Sunday School entrance. Last day to donate: Nov. 1. Questions: see Marty Althouse.

 **Splash of Color Event for young families:** Sunday Sept 27 4:30pm, Pavilion. Families with a child in the age range of birth - 6 years old are invited to a colorful evening outside. We will make art with the colors in nature and eat a colorful meal together. Older siblings, Grandparents welcome too! 4:30p event start. 5:15p pizza potluck.
Last name A-G: bring a side or dessert that is Red, Yellow or Orange
Last name H-O: bring a side or dessert that is Blue, Green or Purple
Last name P-Z: bring a side or dessert that is Brown, Black or White

 **You are apple-solutely welcome in Sunday School!**

Babies, Tots and Twos: Play near your parents in their Common Ground Group
Ages 3,4 & PreK: Room 2 with Cindy, Cindy, Elizabeth and Shirley
Grades K & 1: Room 3 with Marty and Jody
Grades 2 & 3: Room 1 with Chris, Beth and Jim
Grades 4 & 6: Room 4 with Joe, Christy and Kathy
Grade 5: Room 6 with Kelly, April, Sharon and Ty

 **Fall Faith Stepstones:** save these dates to celebrate our youngest kids this Fall:
Sept 27 - Ages 3 (and new 4's) receive a Bible Book to start Sunday School

Oct 25 - Grades K&1 lead the Lord's Prayer in Worship
Nov 22 - Grade 2 celebrates their First Communion

Youth Ministry

Fall Fun at the Hoslers: All youth are invited to the Hoslers' home in Lancaster on Sunday, October 18 from 4-7PM, for an evening of pumpkin carving, games, and food! Stay tuned to the BAND app for more details.

7th and 8th Grades - Explore: Confirmation class with Pr. Wallace: Sundays 9:30-10:30AM in Room 8 of the Lower Level

9th-12th Grades - Jesus is Making All Things New: A Journey Through Revelation. Sundays 9:30-10:30 in Room 5 of the Lower Level

All Youth - Wednesdays at 9PM: All youth will be invited to meet virtually for a brief reflection, prayer and opportunity to connect. This time will be a sort of Compline service, which marks the completion of the day with prayer and the opportunity to settle our minds and hearts before we rest for the night. A Google Meet link will be sent out weekly via the BAND App.

Girls Group! We are gathering just the girls for their own time of mentorship and bible study. Girls in grades 5-8 are invited to join Ms. Brenda Penny and Ms. Cindy Stauffer in the Youth Room for fun and connection. Our first one is October 18, 6:30pm!

Volunteering

Teachers Wanted: The Common Ground Group, *Faith Building*, is looking for teachers for the upcoming Sunday School year. This group uses the David C. Cook Bible in Life curriculum. We are looking for a few more folks who would be willing to teach a couple of times from September-May. If you are interested in participating in the life of the church in this way, please reach out to Tom Herrmann at (717) 269-6582 or Scott Frase at sfrase@stpaulsitiz.net.

Substitutes Needed: We are looking for adults willing to serve as substitute helpers in the Kids Sunday School classes (9:30-10:30am). Clearances and a brief training are required. Lots of flexibility is included with this meaningful way to serve. Contact Deacon Emily.

Office Volunteers Needed: We are looking for someone who can work in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00am-1:00pm. Office tasks include answering the door and phones, making photocopies and other light office work. Computer skills preferred.

If you are interested, please contact Ellen Harpel at 717-626-4709 or email her at eharpel@stpaulinitz.net.

New Member Sunday-October 4th

If you have been to a Welcome Class and are interested in becoming a member of St. Paul or have questions about becoming a member, please contact Ellen Harpel at 717-626-4709 or email her at eharpel@stpaulinitz.net

Camp Connections

Party with a Purpose: Saturday Sept 26, 4:00-9:00pm. Join us for Party with a Purpose on September 26, 2026 at Kirchenwald in Lebanon County, PA. Enjoy Oktoberfest-style fun with live music, auctions, BBQ, and community fellowship—all to support our camping ministry. Pay what you can.

Capture the Flag: Sunday October 4, 3:00-5:30pm. Review your camp map, paint your face, and practice your cone zone celebration dance. Invite your friends and family (parents, too) to join you in this CTF summer reunion event. Play alongside familiar faces from your week at camp, plus campers from every other week of the summer. Campfire worship to follow. St. Paul will carpool at 2:30pm from the pavilion parking lot.