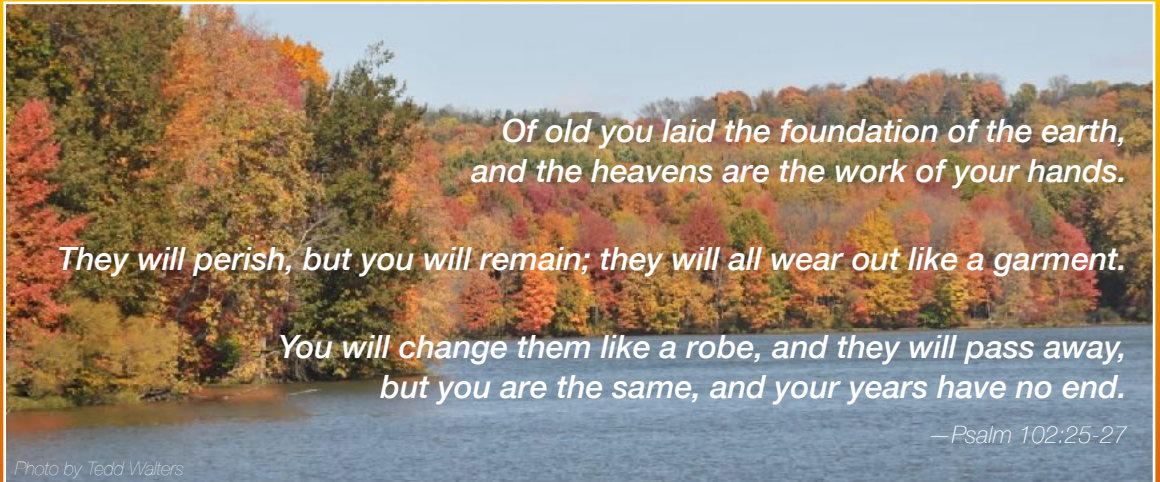


STPAULNOW

October 2026

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
336 W. Main St., Cardington, OH 43315
(419) 864-8369 • office@StPaulNow.org

StPaulNow.org



*Of old you laid the foundation of the earth,
and the heavens are the work of your hands.*

They will perish, but you will remain; they will all wear out like a garment.

*You will change them like a robe, and they will pass away,
but you are the same, and your years have no end.*

—Psalm 102:25-27

Photo by Tedd Walters

From Pr. Steve

phone: (614) 530-1011; email: pastorsteve@stpaulnow.org

On the last Sunday of September, the 27th, I started a short series of sermons on St. Paul's letter to the Philippians. The series, which I call *How to Make Church Work for Us and our Neighbors*, continues for the first three Sundays in October.

In the first message, Lights in the World, the Lord reminded us that we are a fellowship called together by Jesus Christ himself, and that we must never loose our grip on that reality. Further, in his church we are each to look not only to our own needs, but also to the needs of others.

On October 4 our Father will speak to us about Spiritual Investments and the gains and losses which following Christ entails.

On October 11 we will focus on how to discipline our hearts and minds to have a real sense of peace we can share with others in a world in which peace is a rare commodity.

October 18 the series concludes with a lesson on handling conflict with opponents of the gospel of Christ. This involves striving for the gospel without doing harm to our opponents. (There's another thing that is in short supply in our world.)

I hope to see you in church. And now there are a couple other subjects I want to mention.

Nominating Committee at work

Our Nominating Committee is seeking people for service on the 2027 Church Council and 2027 Nominating Committee. If you are contacted, please give prayerful consideration to stand for one of the offices to be filled. You are free in Christ—decide as his Spirit leads you. If you have any questions contact Mark Niendam.

Thanks to all who helped on the work days

On the days prior to September 19 all the wood in the sanctuary was cleaned, flag staffs were cleaned and flags were dusted.

On September 19 mulch beds at church were refreshed, church exterior was power washed as needed, and trees were trimmed; some of the trees at the parsonage were also trimmed.

On September 29 gutters were cleaned at the parsonage, the entire house was power washed, and brush was removed.

You helpers know who you were, I know, and so does the Lord. Thank you for your service to Christ and his Church.

—Pr. Steve

Worship Services are streamed live Sundays at 10:00 AM; videos are posted at stpaulnow.org and on Facebook Sunday afternoon.



Bible Studies are now underway for men and women. You can still take advantage of these opportunities for fellowship and deepened understanding of God's holy Word and how it applies to our lives today.

Women's Bible Study Wednesdays at 10:00 AM, in the fellowship room at church. Current topic: *Meeting the Spirit*. Any questions, please contact Donna Bathke at (402) 720-6694.

Men's Bible Study meets in the fellowship room at 6:30 PM on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Current topic: the book of Revelation. Any questions, contact Tom Bathke (402) 372-7620.

New pictorial directory will be printed and distributed soon—time is running out to make changes and/or corrections.

Charlene Pace - charpace12@yahoo.com

Cardington Food Pantry

Needs for October: Instant potatoes, hamburger helper, boxes of pudding. **Always needed:** Canned vegetables, meals in a can, soup, white and brown sugar, salt/pepper.



Operation Christmas Child

It's that time again. Boxes are now available in the narthex at church. See p. 2 for details.

October Birthdays

1 Bruce Fissell	15 Joan Smith	27 Norma Dennis
4 Geri Ruth	16 Chad Ebert	28 Jean Calbert
7 Terry Roberts	Mary Gilkerson	Charlene Pace
9 Vivian Schultz	Jason Radel	30 Katie Burns
12 Carol Ebert	18 Jeremiah Whittington	Rylie Goodman
14 Libby Hoy	21 Grant Smith	31 James Westbrook
Tiffany Potter	22 Megan Johnson	
Marilyn Wallace	24 Shelby Roberts	

Let us know if we missed anyone.

September Council meeting

Regular meeting, September 8, 6:30 PM

Present: Howard Radel (Chairman), Mark Niendam (Vice Chairman), Marie Christiano (Treasurer); Thomas Bathke, Steve Kirk, Pr. Steve
Excused: Sondra Carey, Terri Roberts

Council took the following actions:

- Approved the minutes of the August meeting.
- Approved the Treasurer's report for August.
- Received the pastor's report for August.
- Approved reimbursement of \$150 to Community Methodist Church for Vacation Bible School expenses.
- Confirmed work day at parsonage and church on September 19.
- Approved installation of a TV monitor in the nursery to enable streaming of our worship services there.
- Confirmed indefinite continuation of Blessing of Children at conclusion of our worship services. Council will continue to observe and will evaluate the practice at a later date.

Treasurer's Report for August 2026

FUNDS	BALANCE 8/1/2026	INCOME August	EXPENSES August	BALANCE 8/31/2026
General Fund	\$ 4,952.32	\$ 9,232.16	\$ 11,528.16	\$ 2,656.32
Committed Funds				
Benevolence Fund	\$ 3,353.81	\$ 100.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 3,453.81
Richard Renz Fund	\$ 4,257.85	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,257.85
Funeral Fund	\$ 798.39	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 798.39
Christian Education Fund	\$ 489.13	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 489.13
Memorial Fund	\$ 10,790.80	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 10,790.80
Building Fund	\$ 20,470.00	\$ 10,354.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 30,824.00
Total Committed Funds	\$ 40,159.98	\$ 10,454.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 50,613.98
Total Funds (Gen. + Committed)	\$ 45,112.30	\$ 19,686.16	\$ 11,528.16	\$ 53,270.30

October Worship Service Assignments

Communion setup: Toni Binkley Assisting Server: Jay Burns

Accompanists	Acolytes	Lectors	Prayer Leaders	Ushers
4 Kathy Hill	TBA	4 Sondra Carey	4 Dave Radiger	4 Dave Radiger, Howard Radel
11 Emilee McCabe		11 Dave Radiger	11 Charlene Pace	11 Tom Bathke, Warren Cargill
18 Emilee McCabe		18 Charlene Pace	18 Sondra Carey	18 Jay Burns, Charlie Seitz
25 Emilee McCabe		25 Donna Bathke	25 Donna Bathke	25 Jeff Radel, Howard Radel



Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes will be available at church beginning on October 4. Filled boxes need to be returned to the church by November 15. Each box contains a brochure with instructions, a label to indicate boy or girl, and an offering envelope to include a donation of \$10.00 (if you are able) to cover shipping and other costs. Fill the box to the top, using the following guidelines.



FUN "WOW" ITEM & TOYS

- Soccer ball with pump
- Dolls and stuffed animals
- Shoes ▪ Toy cars
- Jump ropes and yo-yos
- Toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries)

PERSONALIZED WITH CARE

- Prayer for each child
- A note and photo
- Unique items in every shoebox

FULL WITH SCHOOL SUPPLIES, PERSONAL CARE ITEMS, & MORE!

- Toothbrushes ▪ Socks
- Combs and hairbrushes
- Pens, pencils, sharpeners, crayons, and markers
- Notebooks and coloring books ▪ Hair accessories
- Solar calculators
- Flashlights
- Sunglasses



DO NOT INCLUDE soap, candy, toothpaste, gum, used or damaged items, scary or war-related items, seeds, food, liquids or lotions, medications or vitamins, breakable items or glass containers, or aerosol cans.

Lord's Stitches Quilts

Our Lord's Stitches quilting group made 45 beautiful quilts to send to Lutheran World Relief. These quilts will be shipped along with relief supplies and services around the globe to areas stricken by war, famine or other catastrophic events.

They also have given 4 children's quilts to the Rubber Boot Mission; 4 to Honor Flight for Veterans, 2 for the Christmas in Cardington raffle, and 2 to the Christmas Clearing House, Marion, for families in need.

Besides all that, they have enjoyed fellowship with one another along the way, praying for one another, and lifting up God's Word in devotions each Tuesday morning, 10:00 AM - about noon.

Thank you, Stitches, for your faithful work in Christ.

Invitation from a neighboring church

Community Methodist Church is sponsoring a Fall Festival on Sunday, October 18, from 4:00 - 6:00 PM at their church, 300 S. Marion Street, Cardington. Food, games, and raffle will be offered, with proceeds going to support their youth ministry.