



### **Purpose Statement**

Living Christ centered lives so we may love all, serve our community, and share the Word.

### **News for Sunday, October 6**

**Join us for Outdoor Worship at 9:00 a.m.**

**Bring your pets to be blessed!**

Click [HERE](#) for the 9:00 a.m. Worship bulletin

Click [HERE](#) to watch the Livestream

**This morning** we extend a welcome to Pastor Kathy Burkheimer.

**We Remember in Prayer;** those on our Home Visitation list and those on our prayer list: Bev Julien, Phyllis Jacobsen, Lee Eilers, JoAnn Garcia, Barb Lenn, Lori Dewey, Shirley Graftaas, Betty Steinke, Michael Harting, Larry Wahler, JoDell Cruz, Sandy Julifs, Lila Edeus, and Berta Beyer.

**During this time of transition** if you have an emergency, please call Sue in the church office or one of the council members who will contact the pastor that is covering during that time.

### **Pet Blessing Oct 6**

During outdoor worship on Sunday Oct 6, we will be worshipping with all God's creation, including our pets! You are invited to bring your dog, cat, horse, fish or any pet to receive a special blessing for the animals and attend worship with you. The pet blessing ritual has its roots in honoring St. Francis of Assisi who is the patron saint of animals. His feast day is commemorated Oct 4. If you would like to offer blessings or assist with this part of the service, please let the church office know. (In case of inclement weather, the Pet Blessing will be canceled).

### **Tri-Church Confirmation Class for 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade students!**

Sunday, October 6 – Class will meet from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at St. Paul.

### **Call Committee**

St. Paul Church Council met at their regularly scheduled meeting this month. It was decided to send around a sign up list for those that would be interested on being on the call committee. This does not mean that you are on the committee, but rather gives the Council a list of members who expressed interest. Council would like to have a diverse committee, of all ages and backgrounds. Please pray over this important decision and sign up if you are interested. You can also have your name added to the list by calling Sue Dirks in the office. Please sign up by October 6<sup>th</sup>. Council will be meeting again on October 10<sup>th</sup>. There is a sign-up sheet on the back table in the sanctuary.

### **Coffee Fellowship**

Please check your calendars to see what Sunday you could provide treats and make coffee. During this time of transition, this time of fellowship helps keeps us all united. If you don't want to do it alone, ask a friend to help! The list to sign-up is posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

### **50 Year Celebration**

**Make plans to join us for Autumn Fest and our 50th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, October 12.** A complete schedule of festivities are in development as we prepare to celebrate LOMC's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary; as we **Remember, Reconnect, Renew!** The day kicks off at 10am. Throughout the day there will be opportunities to hear from past staffers and campers as they share stories. LOMC tours, hikes, games and more will be available! You can learn more about the day's opportunities and purchase a lunch ticket at: <https://lomc.org/autumn-fest/> Volunteers are needed for a variety of roles throughout the day! You can sign up to serve here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050B4FADAA2FABF58-51342603-50th>

**The LOMC 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration is at 2:00 p.m. with a reception following.** We will worship God amidst creation through story, sharing and song. The LOMC Reunion Swing Choir will share special music. A variety of people will share messages, including past and current staff and bishops of the three Illinois synods. All are welcome! **Plan on joining us this fall to experience outdoor ministry at LOMC in Oregon, IL**

### **6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to the 2024 Middle School Northern Illinois**

**Synod One Day Retreat on Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran in Sterling.** The day begins at 10:00 a.m. with some games and Bible fun before lunch. After lunch, we will turn our trunks into masterpieces as we set up for the LSSI Trunk or Treat. We will pass out candy and hold a costume parade before gathering for worship and then heading on our way. Please keep trunks

and costumes family-friendly. Lunch and snacks will be provided for everyone. **Please contact Gabby by October 15** if you would like to participate or if you would like to have a car in the LSSI Trunk or Treat or donate candy for Trunk or Treat. THANKS!

**6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> graders check your calendars:**

The Fall Retreat will be at LOMC November 22-23! This overnight adventure involves digging into God's word and creation while sleeping in a cabin at LOMC! Cost is \$80 per camper. If you are interested in attending this retreat please let Gabby know by October 1. We will be attending with a few other churches in the area and sharing chaperones among our churches. St. Paul will be covering \$60 of the cost of this event for each attendee.

**Plastic Bags Needed**

The Loaves & Fishes Breakfast Program at First United Methodist Church, Sterling, serves hundreds of meals each week day! Plastic grocery bags are needed to hand out their meals. Drop them off in the basket in the back of the sanctuary. Thank you!

**Hospice Cookies**

We have been asked to provide 30 dozen cookies for this year's Hospice Festival of Trees County Store. There is a sign-up sheet on the kitchen counter in the Fellowship Hall. Cookies will need to be at the church on Friday, November 15. Thank you. Any Variety (i.e. Christmas cookies (a favorite), snickerdoodle, sugar, cut-outs, oatmeal, peanut butter, thumb prints, chocolate chips, peanut blossoms with Hershey kisses, etc. Cookies should be in disposable containers that do not need to be returned.

**Children's Offering**

This month we will also be supporting the harvest of food for those in need through the Buddy Bag Program, a free meal program that provides food to school kids on the weekends, when school lunch is not available. Our Children's offering for the month of October will be given to the program. The Tri-Church Confirmation Class helps to pack these several times during the school year.

**THIS WEEK**

**Monday, October 7**

Menz Group will meet at St. John's at 6:00 p.m.

**Thursday, October 10**

Council Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

**Saturday, October 12**

**LOMC 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Next Sunday, October 13**

Worship/Communion service at 9:00 a.m.

Coffee Fellowship at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday school – 10:15 – 11:00 a.m.

**Next week – October 13**

Presider: Pastor Mark Luepke

Opener/Head Usher/Closer – Mary Ordean

Acolytes – Ordean family

Greeters – Susan Kuehl, Bev Graunke

Ushers – John Renner, Dan Dir

Reader – Marilyn Geiger

Sound – David Carrillo

Coffee Fellowship – *Volunteer needed*

Sunday School Teacher – David Carrillo