

**October 31, 2024**



**MISSION STATEMENT**

*Called into community by the Spirit, we worship our Creator in the reformed tradition.  
We proclaim God's love by welcoming all seeking to know and serve Christ  
and to join us as we share His love in the community.*

**VISION STATEMENT**

*Continuously creating a vital congregation of faith, open to all,  
as we worship God, and boldly answer Christ's call to service.*

**Sunday, November 3, 2024**

Sunday School for All Ages 9:00am

Worship: 10:15



**Sunday, November 10, 2024**

Sunday School for All Ages 9:00am

Worship: 10:15

## **News from Pastor: HALLOWEEN – YEA OR NAY?**

**Hebrews 12:1** *Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.*

There probably isn't a more controversial holiday among Christians as Halloween. So, I would like to share a few of my thoughts with you.

Halloween began as a day in the church called *All Hallows Eve*. A *Hallow* is a holy person – a saint. All Hallows Eve then, is the eve of All Saints Day – the day the church remembers all the saints who have gone before us and modeled holiness for us. We will celebrate All Saints Sunday at St. Paul on November 3<sup>rd</sup> during worship. Historically the church observed All Hallows Eve as a time of vigil to wait for the time when we would honor the family, friends, and saints who are now part of that Great Cloud of Witnesses Paul speaks of.

This day also became a Celtic celebration in which it was believed that the boundary between the worlds of the living and the dead were blurred. Thus, costumes were worn to scare away the ghosts. That is the history of the holiday we now call Halloween.

Celebrating Halloween as Christians is about your intention. God knows your heart. There is nothing wrong with letting kids dress up in costumes and going around collecting candy – Halloween is probably like Black Friday for dentists. There is nothing wrong with handing out candy and admiring the cute, scary, and creative costumes.

So I say, go and enjoy Halloween. Enjoy the costumes, seeing the children, passing out treats, and watching Hocus Pocus – knowing that in a few days we will be celebrating all the saints who have gone before us.

Many Blessings,  
Pastor Kim



## ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER OF ST. PAUL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH?

Pastor Kim would love to talk with you. We will set up a time to meet and talk about *what it means to be a Christian, what it means to be a Presbyterian, and what it means to be a member of St. Paul Presbyterian Church*. You may call the church office at 303-694-3434 or email at [pastor@stppc.org](mailto:pastor@stppc.org).

### Note from the Editors:

In addition to getting some great updates about happenings in and around St. Paul, we hope that by now from reading the newsletter, you all know that you are loved, you have value, you are part of a family, you are part of our village, and we are thankful to know you. Also, you know that we love quirky calendar dates. When I snuck a preview of November fun things, there were too many for me to do the usual little summary. So, we took a picture of the whole month to share. If you are inspired, check out the website [storypeople.com](http://storypeople.com) for many quirky, uplifting pieces of art, cards, etc. that have more fun, thought provoking, and inspiring content. To be clear, this is an opinion piece, not the church promoting or an effort to sell anything. So happy Hug A Bear Day, Pianist Day (Michelle!), World Kindness Day, Veteran's Day, International Day for Tolerance, Butter Day, Thanksgiving, and Celebrate Your Unique Talent Day. Does anyone else find it ironic that Skeptics Day follows the time change?? **Don't forget to change your smoke detector batteries and set back your clocks an hour Saturday night so you can show up refreshed to church Sunday morning.** If you forget, don't worry. You won't be alone and you'll look like an overachiever for being early. It will give you a chance to try Sunday School. Let's rock November while giving God the glory and eating our cake on Cake Day, too.

Apologies that you will have to zoom in on your computer or phone for this one.



## **Note from the Elderberries (50ish + welcome):**

Chili's on Thursday 11/21 for the Elderberries Luncheon at 11:30 AM. Below is the address:

Chili's Grill & Bar  
Arapahoe Crossings  
6646 S Parker Rd  
Aurora CO

Hosted by Marsha Belt 720-289-1672 and Kathleen Hall 303-886-1329

We hope to see many of you there as we have a Thanksgiving get together but we don't have to do anything but show up and enjoy the company!

## **News From Our Service Ministries:**

Hey Service Ministries! We want to hear from you! Please send us updates as you're meeting so that we can include relevant and interesting tidbits so that folks know what is going on across the entire church 'cause we know you're doing things for our church family and community. No need to wait until the newsletter deadline, just send them our way. 😊

### **MINISTRY OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION [MCE]**

Thanks to the participants of Sunday School who shared what Sunday School means to you last week. They shared that they love learning about God, doing crafts and activities, that Sunday School helps them explore the Bible and understand the sermons better, they get to know other people, and more.



## MINISTRY OF MEMBERSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP [MMF]

### CONSECRATION SUNDAY LUNCHEON

**Sunday, Nov 10<sup>th</sup> 11:30am**

Meet in our Fellowship Hall immediately following our traditional 10:15 am regular worship time. MOFS (Ministry of Finance & Stewardship) invites everyone to join together in a provided luncheon celebration, as we conclude our Annual Stewardship Campaign.

Our pledge cards reflect our renewed commitments of our time, talents and finances to our church.

NOTE: Optional potluck desserts may be brought in to share.

### POTLUCK PIE SOCIAL

**Wednesday, Nov 27<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm**

Meet in our Fellowship Hall immediately following our 6 pm Thanksgiving Eve Vespers worship service. This is a great time to invite your friends and family as we celebrate Thanksgiving together!

If you are able to bring a pie, we ask that you please cut it into small slices ahead of time. This way, several selections can be enjoyed. Donations of whipped cream are also appreciated.



NOTE: These are our only two events for November. There will not be a Game & Craft Night nor a fourth Sunday Potluck, due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

## MINISTRY OF MISSION AND OUTREACH [MMO]



From Cleve: Just received a call from Isabela, the Community Liason at Sunrise Elementary. As the weather finally turns toward colder fall temps, and with a change for

some possible snow this week, they are seeing lots of their kids walking to school with very cold hands. She asked if we could help out.

We will still engage with them closer to the Holidays with our Mitten Tree, as usual, and perhaps their Christmas Shop, and Angel Tree programs in December. But if some loving folks at St Paul could bring in new or gently used gloves/mittens in kids sizes now they would really appreciate it.

Thanks so much!

(Tip from editors: this doesn't help now, but if you stock up on clearance gloves in late January or just before spring, you will have some on hand when mitten tree or requests like this come in next year!)

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On behalf of UNICEF and the children throughout the world, thank you for your donations! Trick or Treat for UNICEF boxes are located on the table in the Narthex. Your loose change can help so many!

If you would like to write a check, make it payable to St. Paul, but be sure to write UNICEF on the memo line. These can simply be placed in the offering plate or you can Venmo or donate online. This fundraiser concludes the second Sunday in November, on the 10th.



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It has been a big month of mission and outreach activities! Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone who donated fabric, prepped the materials, and stayed to help tie fleece blankets after church last week! We tied (or started) 15 fleece blankets that will be given to the Aurora Public School District to support children who are experiencing homelessness and who have been identified as needing supports through the McKinney Vento program ([https://www.aurorak12.org/divisions/finance/departments/federal\\_programs/mc\\_kinney\\_vento](https://www.aurorak12.org/divisions/finance/departments/federal_programs/mc_kinney_vento)).

St. Paul has donated tie blankets to this program for at least three years and blankets have aided children new to our community, children whose homes have burned down, or

who have otherwise needed warmth as they have faced shelter insecurity in a variety of scenarios. Thank you!



## St Paul Presbyterian Church Food Pantry (part of MMO)



### STPPC Food Pantry Article October 28

This is your funny to start the Holiday season! Can you believe it is that time of year again? At the pantry, we try to make the holidays a special time.

Not sure if the STPPC food pantry will do Thanksgiving baskets. Food Bank of the Rockies (FBR) will have special items like flour, spices, oil, etc. Those will be added to the regular boxes. If you wish to help, you can donate through the church with food pantry in the memo box. Christmas boxes will also have the above special items.

It has been suggested that kids clean out their closets and toys before Christmas instead of after. This way, there are more items at Goodwill and Arc for families to buy their Christmas presents.

Jeanne makes dish clothes for the food boxes at Christmas. Maisie knits hats for clients and their kids. If you have something you would like to share in the boxes, let me know. Usually, candy canes are handed the Tuesday before Christmas. Nothing religious can be put in the boxes because we purchase food from FBR.

The distribution on the 29th of October, Halloween candy will be put in the boxes.

There is a small grocery cart of odds and ends that is put out for our clients. This is where female items are shared, soaps, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and other unique items. Some items that can be added to the cart are coffee, laundry detergent, dog food. When big, packaged items are received, usually they are repacked in gallon bags.

As a note, there were some purple table cloths on the long tables by the pantry that hid the boxes underneath. They have disappeared, so if someone knows where they are and can magic them back, that would be soooooooooooooooooooooo appreciated!! Please and thank you.

Thanks for your support of the food pantry.



## **Prayer Requests:**

- Request...please continue to Pray for Randy and Jeanne Sheridan and family.
- Prayers of joy that Emma was accepted to Embry Riddle next year!
- Prayers for discernment for everyone who participates in our democracy through voting and for the leaders at all levels of government (school boards to President).
- Prayers for all of our servicemen and women, first responders, and veterans, of thanksgiving for their service and for peace in their souls.
- For families and individuals struggling with loss and thanksgiving for memories of loved ones as we celebrate All Saints Day.

## Staying Connected

<b>Streamed &amp; Recorded Services:</b>	<a href="https://stppc.org/worship/">https://stppc.org/worship/</a>
<b>Ask for a Prayer Request:</b>	Email <a href="mailto:prayer-network@stppc.org">prayer-network@stppc.org</a> or <a href="mailto:pastor@stppc.org">pastor@stppc.org</a>
<b>Join Prayer Network Email List:</b>	Send email w/subject "Join List" to <a href="mailto:prayer-network@stppc.org">prayer-network@stppc.org</a>
<b>Food Pantry volunteer signup:</b>	<a href="https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084faaa629a1ff2-fpvolunteer">https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084faaa629a1ff2-fpvolunteer</a>
<b>View Church Calendar:</b>	<a href="https://stppc.org/whats-happening/church-calendar/">https://stppc.org/whats-happening/church-calendar/</a>
<b>Add to Church Calendar</b>	Send request to <a href="mailto:office@stppc.org">office@stppc.org</a>
<b>Submit to the Newsletter</b>	Send request to <a href="mailto:newsletter@stppc.org">newsletter@stppc.org</a>

## St. Paul Presbyterian's YouTube Channel

Scan this code with your smartphone to go to our YouTube channel or  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8VC2Q0iii62pJyIIntYmOQ>



## Offerings and Donations

<b>You may mail a check to:</b>	St. Paul Presbyterian Church 18901 E. Hampden Ave. Aurora, CO 80013
<b>Online Donation options:</b>	<a href="https://stppc.org/donations/">https://stppc.org/donations/</a>
<b>In person donations:</b>	Sunday during Worship or office during office hours

## Hours

<b>You may mail a check to:</b>	St. Paul Presbyterian Church 18901 E. Hampden Ave. Aurora, CO 80013
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<b>In person donations:</b>	Sunday during Worship or office during office hours

**Please note:** Our church office is run by volunteers. We appreciate your patience when we step away from the desk. If you reach voice mail, please leave your name/number, and who you are trying to reach so we can return your call. Thank you!

**We recommend calling before you come!**

We are not going to cover bad weather days and risk our volunteers driving and walking on ice.

## Newsletter Submissions

Submission Deadline	Publishes
Tuesday, November 12 at noon	Thursday, November 14
Tuesday, November 26 at noon	Thursday, November 28 (actually we're going to publish before Thanksgiving)

**Please send submissions to [newsletter@stppc.org](mailto:newsletter@stppc.org)**

## October & November Celebrations

If you have a birthday or anniversary in October and November we wish you the happiest of days!

<u>Happy Birthday</u>	<u>Birth Date</u>
Luke Hopkins	10/26
Liz Ludchak	10/27
Bill Jones	10/27
Katie Ford	10/29
Scott Carlson	10/29
Greg Hopkins	11/01
Jennifer Gaudreau	11/02
Gayle Fidler	11/04
Ayla Ludington	11/04
Jett Capobianco	11/06
Louella Grgic	11/07
Jason Rurup	11/10
Jeanne Sheridan	11/15
Joelle Brouner	11/20
Desmond Ludington	11/21
Lanette Moe	11/21
Gayle Downen	11/23
Rose Ludchak	11/29
Conrad Parra	11/30
Theodore Klaus	11/30

<u>Happy Anniversary</u>	<u>Marriage Date</u>
Cheryl & Doug Wetzel	10/28
Ginger Norman & Michael Gobla	11/20

If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, we apologize.

Please leave a note in the church office, email [office@stppc.org](mailto:office@stppc.org), or call the church office at 303-693-3434 so we can make sure your birthday, anniversary, and other important information is recorded.

## **Refrigerator Reminder Page**

**Submit all calendar dates to [office@stppc.org](mailto:office@stppc.org)**

Full Calendar (all churches and activities) at: <https://stppc.org/whats-happening/church-calendar/>

THURS	10/31		
FRI	11/1		<b>Office Closed</b>
SAT	11/2		
SUN	11/3	9:00 am	Sunday school for all ages
		10:15 am	Worship [Sanctuary & Live Stream]
		11:30am	Ministry and Grounds
		11:30am	Membership & Fellowship
MON	11/4	9:30 am	Food Pantry Setup
TUE	11/5	10:00 am	Food Pantry [Fellowship Hall]
		1:00 pm	Agape Study Group
		3:00 pm	Ministry of Christian Education
WED	11/6	7:00 pm	Vocal Choir
THURS	11/7	6:30 pm	Deacon Meeting
FRI	11/8		<b>Office Closed</b>
SAT	11/9		
SUN	11/10	9:00 am	Sunday School for all ages
		10:15 am	Worship [Sanctuary & Live Stream]
		after worship	Food Pantry Box Packing
		11:15 am	Consecration Sunday (Fellowship and Lunch, bring desserts to share)
MON	11/11		Veteran's Day (Thank you for your service!)
		9:30 am	Food Pantry Setup
TUE	11/12	10:00 am	Food Pantry [Fellowship Hall]
		10:00 am	Prayer Shawl Ministry
		Noon	St Paul News submission deadline [ <a href="mailto:newsletter@stppc.org">newsletter@stppc.org</a> ]
WED	11/13	7:00 pm	Vocal Choir
THURS	11/14		St. Paul News publishes
		6:00 pm	Session
Friday	11/15		Jeanne's Birthday!