November 12, 2026



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 15
Sunday School for All Ages 9:00am
Worship: 10:15am

Sunday, November 22
Sunday School for All Ages 9:00am
Worship: 10:15am

Sunday, November 29
Sunday School for All Ages 9:00am
Worship: 10:15am

Upcoming Events *(see inside for details)*

Thursday November 25:
- Thanksgiving Vespers Service at 6:00 p.m. followed by pie and chilli social.

Friday November 27:
- Hanging of the Greens 9:00 a.m. until noon.

News from Pastor Jim:



Thanksgiving

Although just a couple of years out of date, the picture above is of Sally's and my grandchildren sitting down for our family's Thanksgiving meal. The picture is proudly displayed on the top of a bookcase in my Pastor's Office.

Large families know the drill (there were 12 of us gathered to celebrate the holiday): the adults sit at a formal dining room table for the Thanksgiving feast, and the children sit at the "kid's table" somewhere else. Although the kids "protest" that they are excluded from the formal meal, I have come to learn that their secret is they really enjoy being together without the grown-ups present to criticize their posture or their table manners.

For one thing, the adults can hear peals of laughter coming from the other room as the kids tell their silly stories and likely make fun of their parents and grandparents. For another thing, the kids always finish the meal way before the adults as they come running to their mothers to announce they are ready for dessert (which is promptly served just to get them to leave the adults alone!)

Without a doubt, Thanksgiving Day is Sally's and my favorite holiday. There are seldom any such things as "Thanksgiving Holiday Parties," "Thanksgiving carols," or "Thanksgiving cards and newsletters." Without stress, free from the anxieties of over-shopping and over-consumption, families in America celebrate among themselves the three "Fs" of Thanksgiving Day: food; family; and football!

As Thanksgiving Day approaches, I hope you have plans to gather with family and friends to join in a meal which expresses your gratitude to God for the many blessings he has provided. For some, I worry that this may be a melancholy holiday. The now-empty chair at the head of the table. The spouse away on military duty; the family member confined to a hospital bed; the absent child on a campus far away. May God be with you, and may he comfort you with memories of happy times during celebrations gone by.

The psalmist records his happy memories as he went to the house of God to give thanks: "These things I remember, as I pour out my soul: how I went with the

throng and led them in procession to the house of God, with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival" (Psalm 42:4). St Paul Presbyterian Church will have a Thanksgiving Eve vespers service on Wednesday, November 25, at 6:00 p.m. Before you celebrate the three "Fs" on Thanksgiving Day, I invite you to join us as quietly and peacefully we celebrate and give thanks for the many blessings we have received from our bountiful God.

And, by the way, do you have a lonely friend who would like to join you in worship and fellowship? Bring them along on Thanksgiving Eve so that they, too, may give God their praise and gratitude for their many blessings, including the thoughtful friend they have in you!

Happy Thanksgiving!

Peace, grace, and mercy,

Pastor Jim

Note from the Editors:

As the holidays approach, we will publish one newsletter in November and one in December, with no editions during Thanksgiving week or at the end of December.

The December newsletter will be published **Thursday, December 3**, with submissions due **Tuesday, December 1, at noon**. Please include announcements for the rest of December and early January.

As a friendly reminder, all articles are due by noon on the Tuesday before publication.

Thank you for helping keep our church family connected. Wishing you a warm and wonderful holiday season!

Your Newsletter Editors

News From Our Service Ministries:

MINISTRY OF ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL [MAP]

A Note from MAP to All St. Paul Committees

MAP invites each committee to send me a brief update for the church newsletter. We'd love to hear about upcoming events or ways the congregation can lend a hand.

Please include your committee's upcoming meeting dates and times, and let me know if your schedule changes.

A few sentences are plenty! For upcoming events, please include the date, time, location, and a contact person so those who are interested know how to get involved.

Please email your update to stpaulnews.aurora.co@gmail.com. Thank you for the time and care you give to St. Paul and for helping us share your committee's work with our church family.

MINISTRY OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION [MCE]

St Paul Book Club will meet Tuesday, December 8 at 1pm in the Narthex.

This book club will only meet once for 1½ hours to discuss *Small Things Like These* by Claire Keegan. Keegan is an award-winning Irish author. This particular book won the Orwell Prize, was shortlisted for the Booker Prize, and was a New York Times Book Review Editor's Choice, among other recognition. It is set in 1985 Ireland during the Christmas season and addresses themes of religion, hope, and responsibility. It has the distinct advantage of being quite short--only 116 pages, easy to read in an afternoon or over a couple of evenings.

If you are interested, please contact Katie Palmer.
If you would like to participate, but are unavailable during weekdays, let her know that too. We may have a second session if there's enough interest.

Agape Calendar 26-27

Nov. 17	Louella	1 Corinthians, Chapters 11:17-34, 12 Now YOU are the Body of Christ
Jan.12	Sue	1 Corinthians, Chapters 13-14 Christian Love
Jan.26	Deanna	1 Corinthians, Chapter 15 Hope in the Resurrection
Feb. 9	Joann	1 Corinthians, Chapter 16 Connected by Christ's Love





MINISTRY OF MEMBERSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP [MMF]

Wednesday, November 25 | 6:30 PM: Thanksgiving Eve Pie & Chili Social

Celebrate Thanksgiving with your church family! Please join us in Fellowship Hall immediately following our 6:00 PM Thanksgiving Eve Vespers worship service for an evening of delicious food, friendship, and gratitude.

If you would like to bring a pie, please cut it into small slices ahead of time so everyone can enjoy a variety of flavors. Have a favorite chili recipe? We would love for you to share it! Please let Sheila or Gayle know if you can bring a pot of chili.

Invite your friends and family to join us for this special Thanksgiving tradition. Everyone is welcome!

In observance of the Thanksgiving holiday, these are our only two scheduled fellowship events for November.

Friends & Family Photo Board

Help us celebrate the faces of our church family! We are refreshing the Friends & Family Photo Board in Fellowship Hall and would love to include you.

If your photo is missing or outdated, please email a current photo to office@stppc.org, and we will be happy to print and display it. You may also bring a printed photo to church. Please include the names of everyone pictured.

Photos from recent church events, gatherings, and activities are also welcome. Send your favorites to the church office so we can celebrate the wonderful moments we share as a congregation.

A Friendly Name Tag Reminder

Please remember to wear your name tag during worship and fellowship activities. Name tags help us welcome visitors, learn one another’s names, and strengthen our connections as a church family.

If you need a new name tag, simply leave a note on our office administrator Sirah’s desk.

Thank you for helping make St. Paul a warm, welcoming, and connected church family!

With gratitude,
Ministry of Membership & Fellowship (MMF)

MINISTRY OF WORSHIP [MOW]

Hanging of the Greens



As you make plans for Thanksgiving and the Christmas holidays please don't forget the four week season of Advent when we prepare for the coming of the Christ Child. And please mark your calendars to come assist with Hanging of the Greens on FRIDAY November 27, at 9:00 a.m. We will put up the Chrismon tree, hang wreaths and garland, set up the Advent candle wreath, Christmas candelabras, as well as all the other decorations in the narthex and fellowship hall. All are welcome, there are tasks both for folks who can lift heavy things and those who cannot. Children are also most welcome -- in fact, by tradition the last ornament on the Chrismon tree is to be placed by the youngest person helping. Many hands make for light work, so please come if you are able.

And also mark Saturday January 9, 2027 at 9:00 a.m. to assist with taking it all down and packing it away.

If you have questions please contact Cleve Dixon, or any member of the Ministry of Worship.

MINISTRY OF MISSION AND OUTREACH [MMO]

Thank you to the people of St Paul for their support of the World Communion Special Offering. Your generous donations totaled **$1,142.90** to support PC(USA) efforts in the areas of Racial Justice, Gender Justice, Peacemaking, Global Witness, and Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations.

The fall coat collection for Sunrise Elementary gathered **6 large bags of coats!** The Sunrise Community Liaisons, Isabela and Fernanda, were amazed and very grateful.

And, we have received notice that the mission of Zimbabwe Kidz Mission Partnership is coming to an end with a letter from Sharon Lynch:

> *Dear Friends,*
>
> *You have been so faithful in believing in the mission of the Partnership for many years. There are thousands in Zimbabwe who have clean water to drink because of your effort, and they are grateful. On one of our trips, one of the congregations called us their "water angels." You are some of those angels who brought clean water to them.*
>
> *I need to retire from leading the Partnership as energy and age take a toll. No one has come forward to lead the mission, and if it were God's plan for it*

to continue, someone would have. Everything has a beginning and an end, and I am content that ZimKidZ is ending.

Please do not send additional donations. We have funds for possibly three more boreholes. The schools have clean water, and twenty churches have a preschool because of your donations.

Thank you for your prayers and finances for ZimKidZ all these years. You have blessed many people you have never met or seen, but your love extends to them through your belief in our mission.

God's blessing be with you,

Sharon Lynch

St Paul Presbyterian Church Food Pantry (part of MMO)

Balance October 31	**$9,953.07**
Donations October	$945.99
Expenses October	$3,723.27



Thanksgiving bags—Donated by you! GOAL-- 60

Thanksgiving bags. Put a bag together or just donate 5-10. Items: (no glass) mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy, cranberries, cream of mushroom soup, french pumpkin, black olives.

Prayer Requests:

- Please pray for Lillianna Turvin, who is hospitalized at Children's Hospital with pneumonia, and for Rebekah and Frank during her recovery.
- Please pray for Jamie Sands for healing and a smooth recovery following dental surgery.

- Please pray for Terry Murphy, who has returned to Someren Glen after a hospital stay and may transition to hospice care, and for peace and comfort for him and his family.

- Please pray for the crisis with my grandkids and Evie! I don't know the details but please pray for safety and a resolution.

- Please pray for Corky, Bill, and Fred, who are all in the hospital in New Mexico.

- Please pray for Randy Robertson, who is facing serious health concerns, and for strength and comfort for his family.

- Please pray for Clif, whose tests found a suspicion of cancer in his lung, and for wisdom for his doctors as they do further testing next week and develop a treatment plan.

Staying Connected

Streamed & Recorded Services:	https://stppc.org/worship/
Ask for a Prayer Request:	Email prayer-network@stppc.org or office@stppc.org
Join Prayer Network Email List:	Send email w/subject "Join List" to prayer-network@stppc.org
View Church Calendar:	https://stppc.org/whats-happening/church-calendar/
Add to Church Calendar	Send request to office@stppc.org

St. Paul Presbyterian's YouTube Channel

Scan this code with your smartphone to go to our YouTube channel or https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8VC2Q0iii62pJyIlntYmOQ

Offerings and Donations

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

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM [additional as needed]
Closed on Fridays
Thursday, November 26th - OFFICE CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING

Newsletter Submissions

Submission Deadline	Publishes
Tuesday, December 1	Thursday, December 3
Tuesday, January 5	Thursday, January 7

Please send submissions to stpaulnews.auroraco@gmail.com

November Celebrations

If your birthday or anniversary is in November,
we wish you the happiest of days!

Happy Birthday	Birth Date
Greg Hopkins	11/01
Jennifer Gaudreau	11/02
Ayla Ludington	11/04
Gayle Fidler	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
Katie Palmer	11/27
Rose Ludchak	11/29
Conrad Parra	11/30
Theodore Klaus	11/30

Happy Anniversary	Marriage Date
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,
or call the church office at 303-693-3434 so we can make sure your birthday,
anniversary, and other important information is recorded.