

The Sunday Messenger

February 15, 2026

This Coming Week at St. Paul's

Sun:	Divine Service	9 am
	Fellowship	10:15 am
	Adult bible class/Sunday School	10:40 am
	Family lunch	Noon
Mon:	Morning Prayer	8 am
Tues:	Morning Prayer	8 am
	Lunch with Pastor	11 am
Wed:	Ash Wednesday Service	Noon
	Pot Luck	5 pm
	Ash Wednesday Service	6 pm
Thurs.	Morning Prayer	8 am
Sat:	Long Range Planning meeting	9 am

54 people worshiped at last week's service

\$ 4,355.15 is needed every week to meet our church budget.

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

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Facebook: St Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church – Lockport

Pastoral Care – If anyone is in need of pastoral care, please call Pastor Antonetti at (847) 971-0848 and he will help to take care of the situation and address it as quickly as possible. Our elders are also available if you would like to reach out to them as well.

Good morning to all gathered here today at Saint Paul's Lutheran Church. A warm welcome to all of you as we gather together to receive God's gifts, His Word read and proclaimed, His body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins. Thank you for being here today. A summary of today's readings for Quinquagesima follows:

Faith Alone

The seeing are blind, while the one who is blind can see (Luke 18:31–43). Jesus tells the twelve that He is going up to Jerusalem to suffer and die and rise again, but they cannot understand or grasp what He is saying. The meaning of His words is hidden from their sight. However, as Jesus makes His way up to Jerusalem, a blind man calls out to Him for mercy. This blind man sees that Jesus is the Messiah, the Savior, for he calls Him "Son of David." Indeed, Jesus is the Lord's anointed, the keeper of sheep (1 Sam. 16:1–13) who goes to lay down His life for the sheep. He is the incarnate love of the Father who suffers long and is kind, who is not puffed up, who never fails us (1 Cor. 13:1–13). Jesus opens the eyes of the blind (Is. 35:3–7) to see Him not according to outward appearances of lowliness, but according to His heart of mercy and compassion. Those who behold Him thus by faith follow Him to the cross through death into life.

Upon Entering the Sanctuary – We kindly ask that all conversation cease or be kept to a minimum and at the very most a whisper as we prepare ourselves for divine worship. In the front of the hymnal you will find some excellent prayers for worship.

The Lord's Supper – will be celebrated this morning. Communion is offered to those who are members in good standing of this congregation or other Lutheran Church Missouri Synod congregations. We ask our visitors and those who have not worshipped with us in a while to please speak to the Pastor or an elder before communing. More information is available on the blue card in the pew.

Serving the Lord this Weekend: Preacher Rev. Christopher Antonetti;
Organist/Pianist: Dennis Zimmer/Milton Lillie; **Elder:** Joe Land; **Hannah Guild:** Doris Peterman, Jeanette Luzbetak; **Acolyte:** Isaac Zavala

Next Weekend's Scripture Readings – In preparation for our worship next Sunday, the texts are as follows: Genesis 3:1-21, 2 Corinthians 6:1-10, Matthew 4:1-11.

February Mission Offering: MorningStar Mission

Flower Chart – The new flower chart for 2026 is available. The cost will be \$70 per Sunday.

Job Openings: Our Savior Lutheran Church has full and part time job openings for their Pre-school/Kindergarten for 2026-2027 school year. If you are interested, please call Tiffany at 815-319-2143 or email tmjhnsn421@gmail.com.

Manna: Orders will be ready today.

Church Directory Photos: Starting in February we will be taking photos for the church directory. They will be taken after the Sunday Service. Or if anyone wishes you may schedule a time convenient to you. Your photos will be available to you for your own use at no charge delivered by email or your supplied USB drive. For any question or to schedule please contact Allan Luzbetak in person or at 815-325-0010.

Family Lunch: The family lunch is today at noon. We will be preparing for Ash Wednesday and Lent.

ORGAN REPAIRS: Our organ is in the repair shop in Indiana and will be undergoing much needed repairs and rehab. As of last week the upgrade to the organ's operating system had not yet arrived from the manufacturer in Italy. At this point it is difficult to say how long before the organ returns to our church. We will continue to rely on the piano alone for the weeks ahead. The cost of this non-budgeted project is approximately \$10,000. Please consider donating to this important project. You may use your pink envelope. On the My Special Gift line indicate Organ Repairs and the amount of your donation. For information on the scope of the repairs see Kantor Dennis Zimmer or Milton Lillie,

Treasurer. For additional information on giving see Laura Wetherbee, Financial Secretary.

Reception of New Members - Shawn and Kaysha Murray will be joining our congregation this morning during the service, having completed adult catechesis over the past several months, and being examined and absolved. Shawn will be received by confirmation and Kaysha by transfer/public affirmation of faith. Please welcome and congratulate them.

This week we lift Up Prayers

Members of our church family: Linda Sanfilippo, Sandy Michaelson, Denise Pilz, Phyllis Wilsey, Richard Anderson, Judy Wiedmeyer, Dorothy Ziesemer, Michael Smulterowicz, Barbara and Glenn Ferrentino.

Family and friends including: Evelyn P. (Smulterowicz), Jamie Drobney (Hinkelman), Jose Hernandez (Land), Patty Barnes, Ryan, Stephanie, & Liza Church, Jim Kress (Zavala), Rick Evans (Hinkelman), Michele Mylan (Hinkelman), Roberta Gerk (Gerk), Jeri Mack (Hinkelman), Martha & Fred Faulkner (Gerk), Carol & Jerry Mroszk (Gerk), Amelia Church (Gerk), Mindy (Popadowski), Waren Smith (Wetherbee), Brian Jewison (Hinkelman), Michael Arient (Hinkelman), Virginia Lewis (Dymek), Alexander Yankowsky (Wetherbee), Anthony Konidaris (Wetherbee), Abel Schmidt (Hinkelman), Taimi Carlson (Smulterowicz), Dennis Zabor (Hinkelman), Judy Percy (Gerk), Levi Howard (Popadowski), Adam Ferrentino (Ferrentino), Theresa Popadowski (Popadowski), Vinnie Gincauskas (Bachmann), Della Jones (Smulterowicz), Nieko Hadley (Penny & Tina McSherry), Jeanne & Roger Sahs (Wetherbee), Parker Vicich (Lemke), Kathy (Wetherbee), Glenn (Wetherbee), Heather Pilz (Pilz), John, Nylsa and Pete Garza (Gerk)