

The Parish Word

St. Paul Lutheran Church of Kalkaska, MI
2470 Beebe Rd
Kalkaska, Michigan 49646
www.stpaulkalkaska.org

Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
Pastor Tom Phillips
(217) 371-2122
Rev.Phillips.STL91@gmail.com

St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Mancelona, MI
211 E. Hinman St.
Mancelona, Michigan 49659
www.stmatthewmancelona.com

July – August 2025

Part-time Church?

Imagine if you told your boss you were only going to work once a week, but still wanted to be a full-time employee; or telling a coach you plan to skip 3 out of 4 practices... or only occasionally watered your garden... or taking your daily heart medicine when you feel like it... or skipping three out of four oil changes on your vehicle...

If none of these scenarios make sense, then why do so many people think that occasional church attendance is “just fine”?

On the one hand, God gives great gifts every week in the preaching of His Word, the Holy Communion, and Christian fellowship & Bible study. Watching the service on YouTube or Zoom is ok, especially if you simply can’t attend in person, but it’s like going through a fast-food drive-thru vs. a sit-down meal at a restaurant. You miss out on a lot, and your brothers and sisters in Christ miss you!

On the other hand, when you only have time to receive His gifts once in a while... you miss out on the gifts. You miss out on the practice with other Christians. You miss out on the medicine God provides for your soul. You miss out on working alongside your brothers and sisters in Christ.

Of course, folks take vacations... Did you know there are Missouri Synod churches all over the United States and Canada... lcms.org has a locator that can give you directions and service times for a congregation near your vacation spot. If you cannot attend a service in person, then at least plan to have a devotional service with your family (see the beginning pages of Portals of Prayer).

Pastor Phillips

Learn by heart...

²⁴And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,
²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Hebrews 10:24-25 ESV

News from St. Matthew LC

Lord willing, we will host a service (and picnic) at Palmer Park on July 13. We will begin with a Parish Worship Service at 10am, followed by a potluck lunch. Meat & drink provided. Bring a dish to pass and lawn chairs. There will be no service at St. Matthews or St. Paul on that day... COME TO THE SERVICE & PICNIC!

We will also hold our July Voters Meeting on July 20 at 10:15am. And we will serve the 5th Tuesday Community Meal at the Mancelona United Methodist Church at 5pm on July 29.

News from St. Paul LC

We are planning our Annual Church Picnic for August 3. The Parish Service begins at 10am. There will be no service at St. Matthews on that day... COME TO THE SERVICE & PICNIC!

Vacation Bible School will be held Tuesday-Thursday the following week (August 5-7).

The Work of Elders

Among the many things your Board of Elders does is assist the Pastor in shepherding the souls under his care. In order to do this we need an accurate list of members. Over the course of the next 12 months, or more, the Boards of Elders for both St. Matthews and St. Paul will be working through all the names on our current membership list.

We will make every effort to contact each member household. We will report our progress to the Voters Assembly, according to our constitution and bylaws. The goal is not to remove people, but to make sure they are under a pastor’s care wherever they may be.
O Lord, bless our work in Your name!

For the time being, please send your items for the September 2025 “Parish Word”
No later than August 15th to: Rev.Phillips.STL91@gmail.com

From Martin Luther's Small Catechism...

A "catechism" is a book for teaching, usually in the form of questions and answers. We study the catechism (and the Scriptures!) all during our life.

The Lord's Prayer: The introduction

Our Father who art in heaven.

What does this mean? With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.

Bible Study: It's about Jesus!

Christian Education is a big deal! Weekly study of Bible stories "fleshes out" the things we hear and say and do in the Divine Service on Sundays, and equips us to interact with the world outside of the congregation as mature Christians. It also helps people of all ages become more familiar with the Holy Scriptures and how the teachings of the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod are drawn from the Scriptures (and not from history or human reason or feelings).

EVERYONE should be involved in Bible Study with fellow church members. We have Sunday afternoon adult Bible study at St. Paul after the service. The same topic is presented at St. Matthew on Mondays at 4pm.

What is the Lutheran Witness magazine?

Reprint... still working on it! The Lutheran Witness is an official magazine of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. Every issue is chock full of great articles on interesting topics of our day and what our Synod teaches on those topics. Sample issues are on the table in the narthex.

We should be able to accept subscriptions in August through the congregation @ \$24 per year. Each issue is well worth the cost!

On your radar... planning ahead

- Vacation Bible School August 5-7 (@SPL)
- Junior Catechism will begin in August or September. This is a 2-year program for middle/highschoolers (beginning as early as 6th grade) Speak with Pastor Phillips to enroll
- Sunday School We need your help! Everything from teachers to helpers to music leaders to students (yes... let the little children come to Jesus!) Help us encourage our young families
- Every Household Visits – Have you invited Pastor to your home?

It's Time to Enroll in Sunday School!

Sunday school helps prepare a child for catechism/confirmation instruction. An active Sunday school ministry is one way the congregation helps parents teach their children about God's love for them in Jesus.

It is high time for a children's Sunday school at St. Paul (St. Matthew already has some instruction time on Sundays). **Parents (and grandparents) of grade school-aged children: Let's plan a family get together at church in August.** *If you have ideas or can help, please speak with Pastor.*

Men's Outing, July 25th

Men (and sons): come on out for a relaxing Friday evening of Christian fellowship, good food, horseshoes, corn hole, storytelling, firewood burning, etc.

This invitation comes from the Men's Club of Trinity Lutheran Church in Manistee and hosted by the Phillips' Every Other Brother Club (711 Warfield Rd. – Manistee County, between Cadillac and Wellston). This great fellowship event starts at 6pm (early arrivals welcome!). A free-will offering will be received and sent to a mission project.

Directions from Mesick: M-37 south to W. 30 Rd. Road curves and changes to Coates Hwy, then it becomes 711 Warfield Rd. is 1.5 miles north of M-55. Take USFS 7389 Road a half mile to the end! Text Pastor Phillips and he will send you the Google Maps pin location for your GPS.

The Recipe Corner: Cookie Salad

(Edith Plumb, St. Matthew)

Ingredients:

- 2 cups buttermilk
- 2 sm. pkg. instant Vanilla Pudding
- 2 - 8oz containers of Cool Whip
- 2 - sm. cans of Mandarin Oranges well-drained
- 1 pkg. striped cookies

Mix buttermilk and pudding. Add cool whip then the oranges. Crumble cookies and add to mixture, save some for topping. Enjoy!

It's STILL all about
JESUS!

For Your Weekly Devotions...The readings for Sunday worship

(and the Psalm for our weekly Bible Study)

Try to read the lessons before the date listed (then you will be familiar with the weekly theme!)

July 6

Isaiah 66:10-14
Psalm 66
Galatians 6:1-10, 14-18
Luke 10:1-20

July 27

Genesis 18:20-33
Psalm 138
Colossians 2:6-15
Luke 11:1-13

August 17

Jeremiah 23:16-29
Psalm 119:81-88
Hebrews 11:17-31; 12:1-3
Luke 12:49-53

July 13

Leviticus 19:9-18
Psalm 41
Colossians 1:1-14
Luke 10:25-37

August 3

Eccl. 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-26
Psalm 100
Colossians 3:1-11
Luke 12:13-21

August 24

Isiah 66:18-23
Psalm 50
Hebrews 12:4-24
Luke 13:22-30

July 20

Genesis 18:1-10a
Psalm 27
Colossians 1:21-29
Luke 10:38-42

August 10

Genesis 15:1-6
Psalm 33
Hebrews 11:1-16
Luke 12:22-34

August 31

Proverbs 25:2-10
Psalm 131
Hebrews 13:1-17
Luke 14:1-14

St. Matthew's Officers

Chairman – Dennis Schlak
Vice Chairman – Joan Tewes
Treasurer – Patty Atkinson
Recording Secretary – Edith Plumb & Louise Hinds
Financial Secretary – Ed Sell
Elders – Don Hinds (Head Elder), Ed Sell, Chuck Smith
Trustees – Chuck Smith, Roger Smelker

St. Paul's Officers

Chairman – Bud Burns
Vice Chairman – Adam Kuuttila
Treasurer – Patti Ritthaler
Recording Secretary – Pam Burns
Financial Secretary – Pam Burns
Elders – Norm Volz (Head Elder), Bud Burns, Adam Kuuttila, Gary Ritthaler, Dennis Quast
Trustees – Gary Ritthaler (Head Trustee), Bud Burns, Scott Risinger

The Parish Classifieds / Idea Corner

Thank you! Last November we relocated to northern Michigan and left behind close friends and our support network of 20+ years. Then we received Beverly's cancer diagnosis. The members of St. Paul and St. Matthew have loved us in word and action, even though we were brand-new to the community. For all of you we give to God heartfelt thanks!

The Phillips Family

Volunteers Needed: We need 2-3 volunteers to work with Pastor Phillips to re-establish our Sunday School Ministry at St. Paul. Please speak with Pastor.

Wanted: folks to co-op on bulk food purchases. Maybe make purchases through Azure Standard or similar. Speak with Pastor P.

Still available: Office Chair – Free – Brenda Bellinger (231-564-3249)

Everyone a Greeter: How do you welcome those who come to worship? If it was your first time visiting our congregation, how would you like to be welcomed?

Thank you from the SPL Ladies Guild! We received an anonymous gift of 200 yards of batting making quilts. Thank you for this gift, it is very much appreciated!

St. Matthew's Bulletin notes: Send your item for the weekly bulletin, no later than Wednesday morning, to:
emrhplumb1@gmail.com

St. Paul's Bulletin notes: Send your item for the weekly bulletin, no later than Wednesday morning, to:
stpaulkalkaska2470@gmail.com

Area LCMS Congregations within 50 miles... We are not alone!

(This section is under construction... can you help provide information?)

Circuit 31 (our Petoskey Circuit)

Boyne City - Christ Lutheran Church

1250 Boyne Ave., Boyne City, MI 49712

(231) 582-9301

christlutheranboyne@gmail.com

www.clcboyne.com

Pastor Chuck Hoffman

Charlevoix - Bethany Lutheran Church

11906 US-31 North, Charlevoix, MI 49720

(231) 547-9446

bethanycharlevoix@sbcglobal.net

www.bethanycharlevoix.com

(Vacant)

Gaylord - Trinity Lutheran Church

1354 S. Otsego Ave., Gaylord MI 49735

(989) 732-4916

office@trinitygaylord.com

www.trinitygaylord.com

Pastor Kurt Klingbeil

Grayling - Mount Hope Lutheran Church

905 N I75 Business Loop

Grayling, MI 49738

(989) 348-5921

mthopelcms@gmail.com

www.mthopelcmsgrayling.org

Pastor Kurt Klingbeil

Kalkaska - St. Paul Lutheran Church

US 131 N 2470 Beebe Rd,

Kalkaska MI 49646

(231) 258-9258

stpaulkalkaska@att.net

www.stpaulkalkaska.org

Pastor Tom Phillips

Lewiston - Bethlehem Lutheran Church

3805 County Road 612, Lewiston, MI 49756

(989) 786-3713

bethlehemlewiston@gmail.com

<https://bethlehemlewiston.360unite.com/home>

(Vacant)

Mancelona - St. Matthew Lutheran Church

211 E. Hinman, Mancelona, MI 49659

Mailing Address: PO Box 469

(231) 587-8442

stmatthewmancelona@gmail.com

www.stmatthewmancelona.com

Pastor Tom Phillips

Petoskey - Zion Lutheran Church

500 W. Mitchell St., Petoskey, MI 49770

(231) 347-3438

office@zionlutheranpetoskey.org

www.zionlutheranpetoskey.org

Pastor Matt Peters - Circuit Visitor

Emeritus - Retired Pastors (home church)

Pastor Ken Bernthal (Gaylord)

Pastor Paul Schneider (Gaylord)

Pastor Daniel McVey (Kalkaska)

Pastor Don Nemec (Gaylord)

Congregations in neighboring circuits

Bellaire - Hope Lutheran Church (English District)

Cadillac - Emmanuel Lutheran Church

11198 E M 55, Cadillac, MI 49601-8474

(231) 775-3261

<https://emmanuelcadillac.org/>

Pastor Brennan Woell

Cedar - St. Paul Lutheran Church

Elk Rapids - Grace Lutheran Church

Houghton Lake - St. John Lutheran Church

Interlochen - Redeemer Lutheran Church

Leland - Immanuel Lutheran Church

Mesick - Faith Lutheran Church

Traverse City

St. Michael Lutheran Church

Trinity Lutheran Church & School

The Parish Word – Calendar

July 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
SPL = St. Paul – Kalkaska	SML = St. Matthew – Mancelona	1 11am Ladies Guild (SML)	2	3 Pastor's day off	4	5
6 9a Worship (SML) 11a Worship (SPL) 1230p Bible Study (SPL) 2p Adult Instr (SPL)	7 4pm Bible Study (SML) 6pm Friendship Ministry (SML)	8 430pm Elders (SML)	9	10 Pastor's day off	11	12
13 930a Ladies Guild (SPL) 10a Service& Picnic in the Park @ Mancelona	14 4pm Bible Study (SML) 6pm Friendship Ministry (SML)	15	16	17 Pastor's day off	18	19
20 9a Worship (SML) 1015a Voters (SML) 11a Worship (SPL) 1230p Bible Study (SPL) 2p Adult Instr (SPL)	21 4pm Bible Study (SML) 6pm Friendship Ministry (SML)	22	23	24 Pastor's day off	25 ~6pm Men's Club Outing to the EOBC	26
27 9a Worship (SML) 11a Worship (SPL) 1230p Bible Study (SPL) 2p Adult Instr (SPL)	28 4pm Bible Study (SML) 6pm Friendship Ministry (SML)	29 5pm 5 th Tuesday Community Meal @ Mancelona UMC	30	31 Pastor's day off		
	SPL Boy Scouts Mondays @ 530pm			SPL Alcoholics Anonymous Thursdays @ 8pm		

Save this page!

The Parish Word - Calendar

August 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	SPL Boy Scouts Mondays @ 530pm			SPL Alcoholics Anonymous Thursdays @ 8pm	1	2
3 10a Service & Church Picnic @ St. Paul	4 4pm Bible Study (SML) 6pm Friendship Ministry (SML)	5 9-Noon Vacation Bible School (SPL) 11am Ladies Guild (SML)	6 9-Noon Vacation Bible School (SPL)	7 9-Noon Vacation Bible School (SPL)	8	9
10 9a Worship (SML) 930a Ladies Guild (SPL) 11a Worship (SPL) 1230p Bible Study (SPL) 2p Adult Instr (SPL)	11 4pm Bible Study (SML) 6pm Friendship Ministry (SML)	12 430pm Elders (SML) 530pm Council (SML)	13	14 Pastor's day off	15	16
17 9a Worship (SML) 11a Worship (SPL) 1230p Bible Study (SPL) 2p Adult Instr (SPL)	18 4pm Bible Study (SML) 6pm Friendship Ministry (SML) <u>Newsletter Deadline</u>	19	20	21 Pastor's day off	22	23
24 9a Worship (SML) 11a Worship (SPL) 1230p Bible Study (SPL) 2p Adult Instr (SPL)	25 4pm Bible Study (SML) 6pm Friendship Ministry (SML)	26	27 9am Elders (SPL-Big Boy)	28 Pastor's day off	29	30
31 9a Worship (SML) 11a Worship (SPL) 1230p Bible Study (SPL) 2p Adult Instr (SPL)			SPL = St. Paul – Kalkaska	SML = St. Matthew – Mancelona		

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