



Invited to the Banquet

OCTOBER 11 & 12, 2020
ST. PAUL'S, HOWARDS GROVE



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**ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
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**St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a
Congregation in the Wisconsin
Evangelical Lutheran Synod.**



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We want to extend a warm welcome to everyone attending this worship service! Especially to you who are guests and visitors, WELCOME!

We at St. Paul's Lutheran share a common belief in **Jesus** as **our Savior** from sin and as the Lord of our lives. Our faith is based on God's Word, revealed in the Bible. We want to share God's Word with as many people as possible because we know that Jesus lived, died and rose from death to save us and all people. We're happy to have the opportunity to share the saving truths of the Bible with you!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Worship during these times: We offer distanced seating on one side of the sanctuary. We also encourage compliance for all who are able to wear a face covering to honor God's representatives in our state government. Door handles and pew backs are cleaned between Sunday services. Hand sanitizer is available in the narthex. All responses and songs are printed in your bulletin, which should be taken with you or discarded after worship. Offerings may be placed in the designated boxes in the narthex.

Communion is offered in worship each month on the 2nd and 4th weekends. Members who are not yet comfortable returning to worship during the pandemic may schedule a communion appointment with a pastor.

DVDs: DVDs of our worship services can be made per request. Please contact the office to make arrangements. In order to ensure cleanliness, you do not need to return a DVD. Please consider a small monetary donation (\$2) to cover the cost of the DVD if you request one.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (The WELS) and was founded in 1862. We have our Lutheran elementary school (pre K-grade 8) on site and are part of a federation of churches to support our own high school, Manitowoc Lutheran High School.



THE COMMON SERVICE

Today's Worship Focus: *The Lord compares the kingdom of heaven to a wedding banquet. And he wants everyone to attend. God will celebrate the love shown by his Son and lasting union he has offered to the ones he loves. He offers us the clothes we need to attend. He will destroy death. His invitation is powerful and will be proclaimed everywhere. His banquet hall will be filled. The celebration will be unparalleled and unending. How could anyone refuse? What could possibly be more important? Why would anyone be absent?*

WELCOME

HYMN

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing | 141 v. 1, 2, 5

- 1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing
Praise to our victorious King,
Who has washed us in the tide
Flowing from his pierced side. Alleluia!
- 2 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath you lie.
You have conquered in the fight;
You have brought us life and light. Alleluia!
- 5 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days,
Three in One, your name we praise. Alleluia!

Please stand.

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Let us pray. Remember us, O Lord, not for what we deserve, but because you have begun your good work in us. As you have called us to your service, make us worthy of our calling; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

THE WORD

LESSON

Romans 1:16, 17

I am eager to share the gospel invitation, God's righteousness for us, the wedding clothes he gives to all who believe.

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. ¹⁷ For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.”

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalms 23

The LORD has prepared a banquet before me and I will dwell in his house forever.

The small group will sing the first refrain and verses.

The congregation will sing the repeated refrain and join in refrains after the verses.

Abanquet's pre- par- ed. My cup runs o'er. A
ban - quet's pre - par - ed. My cup runs o'er.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first refrain and the beginning of the first verse. The second staff contains the melody for the second refrain and the beginning of the second verse. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Small Group: The pastures are fresh where you give me rest; calm waters lift up my soul. You lead me on paths that are righteous and good; your name is hallowed by all.

ALL: Refrain

Small Group: Though I am brought down to the valley deep, no evil great will I fear. The strength of your rod and the pow'r of your staff will give me comfort and cheer.

ALL: Refrain

Small Group: A feast you have held in the sight of foes; oil has anointed my head. My cup overflows with your mercy and love; with blessings great am I fed.

ALL: Refrain

Small Group: Today and for all my days to come goodness and love follow me, and now I will dwell in the house of the Lord as long as life there shall be.

ALL: Refrain

Please stand.

M: The Gospel according to Matthew chapter 22.

C: Glory be to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

Matthew 22:1-14

The King invites all to the banquet for his son and admits those who have wedding clothes.

¹ Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: ² “The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come.

⁴ “Then he sent some more servants and said, ‘Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.’

⁵ “But they paid no attention and went off—one to his field, another to his business. ⁶ The rest seized his servants, mistreated them and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city.

⁸ “Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. ⁹ So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.’ ¹⁰ So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. ¹² He asked, ‘How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend?’ The man was speechless.

¹³ “Then the king told the attendants, ‘Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

¹⁴ “For many are invited, but few are chosen.”

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

**who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped
and glorified,**

who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

There Still Is Room | 565

- 1 There still is room! His house is not yet filled;
Not all the guests are there.
Oh, bring them in! Their hunger shall be stilled
With bread, yes, bread to spare.
Go, call them from the lanes and byways,
From winding roads and crowded highways.
There still is room! There still is room!
- 2 There still is time! The Master's voice still rings,
And all his heralds plead:
"Oh, hide beneath the shelter of his wings
Against the time of need."
The gracious call is still extended;
The day of grace is not yet ended.
There still is time! There still is time!
- 3 Now is the time! How fast the moments fly!
How soon each hour is gone!
You virgins, hear and heed the midnight cry;
Look for the break of dawn.
The Bridegroom comes; prepare to greet him.
Rise! Trim your lamps! Go out to meet him!
Now is the time! Now is the time!

SERMON

Romans 1:16, 17

*God's Great Gospel Invitation
Backed by his power - Revealing his righteousness*

OFFERING

Online giving options available



In thanks to our gracious Lord and his gift of forgiveness in Jesus, we bring to him a generous portion of all we have received from him. Offerings for the Lord's work may be placed in one of the designated boxes in the narthex today. They may also be mailed in, dropped off in the office, or given online.

Please stand.

SPECIAL PRAYERS AND LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

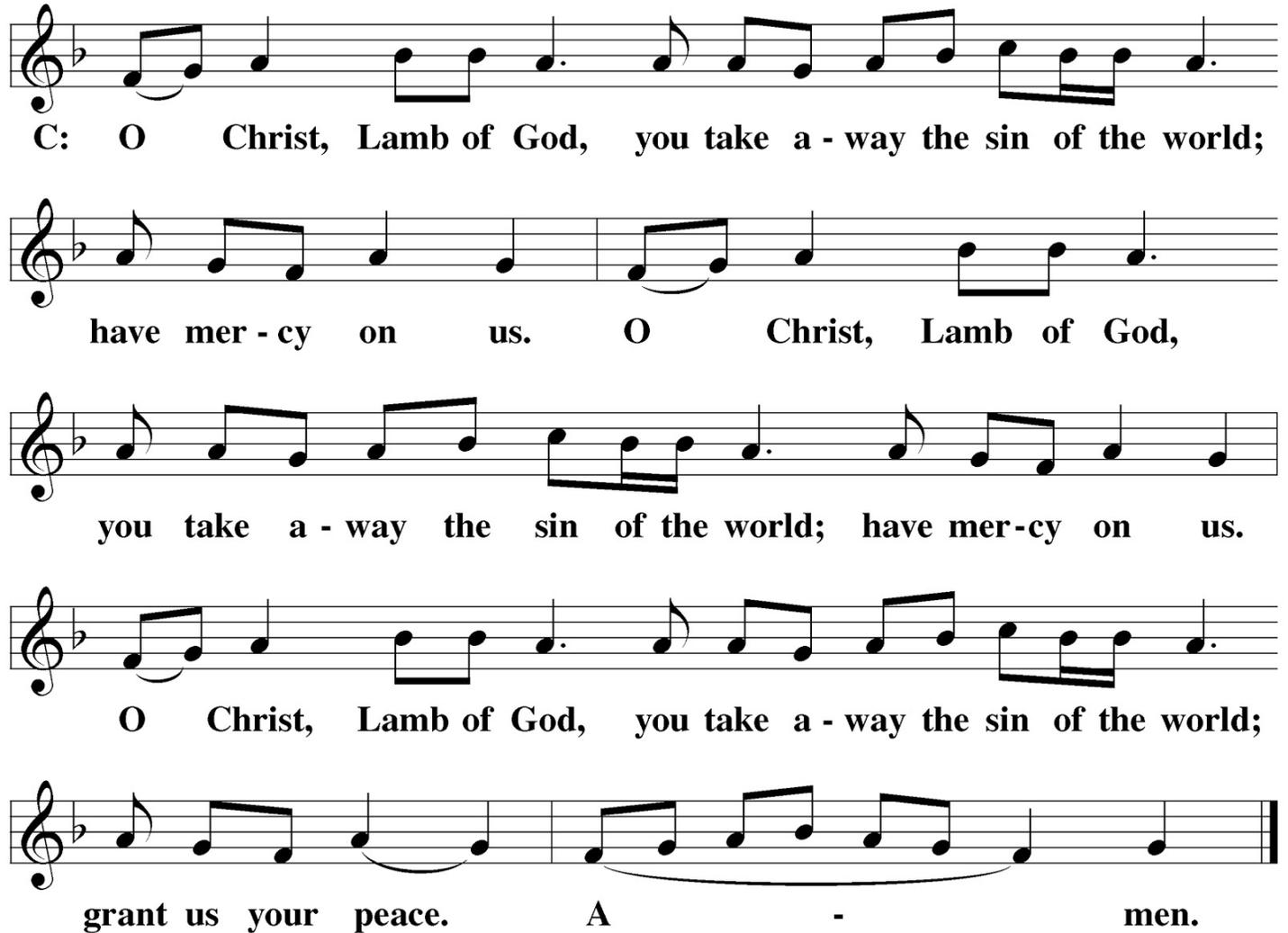
M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my ✝ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my ✝ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

LAMB OF GOD



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men.

Be seated.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION: *St. Paul's invites up to Communion instructed and confirmed members of this congregation and the Wisconsin Synod (WELS). If you are visiting us and are not a member of either, we would love to have you join us - just after we have established a shared faith in Jesus with you on the basis of God's Word. Please speak with one of our pastors after the service so we can make this happen.*

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

DISTRIBUTION ANTHEM

Come and Feast

Sung by Small Group

Eat this bread. Drink this wine. Join the table, come and dine. There is healing for your soul, so come and feast, and be made whole. In this time

you will be blest. Come to Christ, he is your rest. There is healing for your soul, so come and feast, and be made whole.

Eat this bread. Drink this wine. At this table you will find there is life for all who eat, so come and feast, be made complete. Lay your cares and burdens here. You are free, no need to fear. There is life for all who eat, so come and feast, be made complete.

Eat this bread. Drink this wine. Earthly signs of Love divine. We remember what they mean, and so we feast, and are made clean. At this table you will find there is more than bread and wine. There is food to feed the soul, so come and feast, and be made whole.

Please stand.

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

CLOSING HYMN *Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face* | **315: 2, 4, 6**

**2 This is the hour of banquet and of song;
Here is the heav'nly table spread anew.
Here let me feast and, feasting, still prolong
The brief bright hour of fellowship with you.**

**4 Mine is the sin but yours the righteousness;
Mine is the guilt but yours the cleansing blood.
Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace:
Your blood, your righteousness, O Lord, my God.**

**6 Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,
Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,
Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
The Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.**

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SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:

PRESIDING MINISTER: Rev. Aaron Mueller

PREACHER: Rev. Adam Bode

ORGANIST: Dawn Johnson

MUSICIANS: Ann Doro, Bev Gumm, Ann Marohn, and Tanya Schmidt

ALTAR GUILD: Bonnie Baumann, Jean Porter, Karen Kuhn, and Joan Wehrmann

USHERS: 8:00 a.m.- Randy Wehrmann, Craig Thiel, Jordan Bramstedt, Neil Pahl, Jim Eick;
10:30 a.m.- Brian Grimm, Travis Krell, Nick Schmidt

**OFFERING: 10/4 & 10/5 - \$15,659. (WEEKLY BUDGET GOAL: \$15,700.) \$200 - DEBT REDUCTION.
\$3,700 - SPECIAL SCHOOL CLEANING EQUIPMENT**

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

1. Steve and Kathy Sprenger celebrated their 50th anniversary on October 10!
2. Stephanie Winkel and Derek Gabsch united in marriage at St. Paul's on October 10!

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Sunday morning Bible Study** - We continue to take current issues and apply Scripture to them. The aim of the course is to give greater Biblical understanding, increase our peace by relieving stress and guilt, and renew our perspective on the one thing needful. Since we didn't finish some practical issues on the *fine line between Church and State*, we will finish that and begin lesson three.
2. **The office will be open** Monday- Friday from 7:15 am - 4 pm. You can contact Erin at: secretary@stpaulshowardsgrove.org.
3. **Youth Group Bible Study Tonight! When?** 7 pm **What?** Back to School: Tonight's theme is "Fruits of the Spirit 2". **Can't come every time?** No worries. Join us when you can. **Don't want to talk?** No worries. Listen. Chime in only if you want to. **Who should join?** All incoming 9th graders on up. **Where?** Via Zoom
4. **Sunday School** continues this weekend from 9:15 to 10:00 am. Procedures and registration are available online.
5. **Wednesday 9:00 am Bible Study** began last week. We just dipped our feet into the material, Prepare to Answer. Much more to come! Join if you like, we meet in the commons and spread out.
6. **Thursday evening Bible study** continues with Law and Gospel. If you'd like to join, it's not too late! Please speak with Pastor Mueller. We spread out for our meeting in the commons.
7. **Parenting Bible Study: Tuesdays @ 6:30** If you aren't able to attend the Bible study in person but would like to access it online, the Bible studies will be live streamed. They can also be viewed later at these same live-stream links.
September 29 October 6 October 13 October 20 October 27 November 3
Participant workbook available online. Contact Luther with any questions. 920.287.8575; luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
8. **Zoom Women's Bible study - Slinging Stones** Join us online Thursdays, Oct 8-Nov 5 from 8-8:45pm for this 5 week Bible study. Navigate King David's battles and some of our own (Insecurity, Fear, Anger, Shame, Control) found in God's Word! So, what is your "Goliath"? What has been taunting you, mocking and belittling your faith, attacking your very being? Let's throw some stones at it, shall we? See the online church calendar for the Zoom link and password or reach out to Alycia Cameron for more info.

Downloadable materials available at holymhenhouse.com, but not necessary for participation.

9. **Muffins and Meditation Mindful Moms Bible Study** is at an ALL NEW TIME! Start your Wednesday off with a fresh dose of God's Word, friendship, and food. October 14 and 28 we will meet at **8:00am** in the gathering area in front of church to dive into God's Word together. This semester we are covering Psalms for Moms. Contact Pastor Bode or Alycia Cameron for more information. All moms are invited! Busy activities for little ones provided.
10. **Women Writing the Word** This week we studied Hebrews 4:14-16. What comes to mind when you pray "lead us not into temptation"? What does Jesus use to overcome the temptations of the devil? (See Matthew 4:1-11) How do you "approach the throne of grace with confidence"? Feel free to join in our journaling plan and Slack discussion at any time! Contact Alycia Cameron (alycia.cameron@gmail.com, 414-736-8966) for information on how to get connected.
11. **Fanning the Flames - Women's Workshop** On Saturday, November 14 from 8:30am-12:30pm all women of our congregation have the opportunity to dig deep into God's Word together and encourage one another in their personal Bible Study journeys. 2 Timothy 1 invites us to Fan into Flame the gift of our faith, and we will investigate the importance of fanning the flame of faith, discuss methods for how to fan the flame, and receive encouragement from other women who have found fanning the flame of their faith joyful and trying throughout their lives. Light breakfast and lunch will be included in registration cost. Mark your calendars and plan to bring your Bible and a friend. More information coming soon!
12. **Forward in Christ Subscription:** There are forms in the Member Room to renew or sign up for Forward in Christ. Forms and payment can be deposited in the marked payment slot in the Member Room. Due date is November 23rd. Please contact the office if you have any questions. (920) 565-3780 or secretary@stpaulshowardsgrove.org.
13. **Lutheran Pioneer Update** - Discussions are taking place to resume Pioneer meetings and events in 2021. We are looking for two ladies to lead / help with Girl Pioneers. Mike Heilman will work closely with you on planning activities and other items associated with the group. We are also looking for one or more gentlemen to help with Boy Pioneers. Meetings are generally once a month with some additional planning meetings. If interested, please speak with Mike or call him at 698-1654.
14. **St. Paul's Christmas Service:** Children (ages 4K-8th grade) from our church/school/Sunday school have a longstanding tradition of presenting the birth of Jesus in a special children's Christmas service. Due to COVID, plans for this year's children's Christmas service are unique, but we are excited to try something new! We will have three services in the sanctuary to accommodate plenty of seating. Videos of all children's recitations/narrations will be recorded PRIOR to the date and will be incorporated into the

service. Your children will NOT need to present anything during the service but can enjoy Worship with their families. Please fill out the participation form by Monday, November 2. Planning for the service is underway, and we truly hope that your child(ren) will be able to participate in our St. Paul's Christmas service this year! More information, including what your child will need to record and also recording dates/times will come in November. Forward any questions regarding the service to Luther Curia:
luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org

- 15. Living Nativity** - The sign-up sheets for this year's Living Nativity have been sent via needs email. Please sign up for your spot via ccb or contact Marilyn at 920-782-0208 or marilyn347@yahoo.com for sign-up. Remember, this year, we only are having 2 nights, Friday and Saturday, so spots will fill quickly. If you have any questions, please see Sue Vant Hul or Marilyn Eirich.
- 16. Family Urban Artique & Craft Night** - Join us Wednesday, October 28 from 6:00-8:30 for a board and brush event on the St. Paul's campus! Adults will be in the gym working with Urban Artique from Sheboygan. Kids ages 5-13 will be creating a separate craft in the commons (\$15). Kids under 5 will be doing a building activity with Mrs. Marohn in the school hallway (no cost). *Parents don't need to create an Urban Artique project in order to sign their children up for the kids' craft. Kids can be picked up any time after 7:30 if they need to get to bed earlier.* Adult Project Choices: Porch Boards (6 choices) \$54.00; Trays (5 choices) \$46.00; Block Nativity Set \$28.00; Children's Project (age 5-13): Thanksgiving Tree \$15.00. **Register by 10/25:** Adult Registration: www.urbanartique.com/classes Children's Registration: online form or contact the office - 920.565.3780. Visit their website for more information and pictures of sample projects! Contact Luther Curia with any questions. - 920.287.8575; luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
- 17. St. Paul's PTF is throwing a Fall Festival** on October 24 complete with a Trunk or Treat. Kids in costumes can walk from trunk to trunk in our St. Paul's parking lot collecting treats as they go. We are in need of volunteers to decorate their trunks and pass out candy and also would appreciate candy donations. Check your email for signing up and more information. Please contact Dawn Johnson (dawn.johnson@stpaulshowardsgrove.org) with any questions!
- 18. Take a Trip to Israel!** Pastor Mueller is leading a trip to Israel/Jerusalem in January of 2022 (with three other pastors). Official dates are January 11-20, 2022. There are only 55 seats available (on the bus). With four pastors coming and promoting the trip means securing a seat sooner than later is optimal. I have a growing list now up to 25 who are very interested! Paperwork is available in hardcopy or email from Pastor Mueller: pastormueller@stpaulshowardsgrove.org, 920-207-2316. There's a great African vendor saying, "It costs nothing to look! Looking is for free!"