

THE MAGAZINE OF ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH December 2017

journey



Christmas controversy

December is the favorite month of the year for many of us. Not only do loud sweaters come out of the closet, and cartons of eggnog go flying off the supermarket shelves; these are weeks when too many people who shouldn't be on ladders climb them to prettify the neighborhood with lights.

We listen to great music, talk explicitly about giving gifts, and reconnect with relatives who haven't been in the forefront of our minds for a long time. For practicing Christians, December is that season for anticipating the remarkable story of God opting for human skin over royal finery. The lovely word JOY gets fresh attention in our lives too, and appropriately so.

But December also brings on a politicized controversy every year. Critics of the phrase "Happy Holidays" reinvigorate their claim that a broad-based secular plot to attack Christmas is aggressively in the works. Anything less than each and every Starbucks barista saying "Merry Christmas" to all customers is viewed as a direct insult to Jesus being born.

Contrary to the notion that some plot to eradicate Christmas is a modern creation of the Christian Right, earlier generations brought their own fears and conspiracy theories to the month of December. In 1659, the Massachusetts Bay Colony Puritans banned the Christmas holiday based on their interpretation of the Bible. In the 1920s, Henry Ford launched a venomous crusade against Jews, claiming they were out to kill Christmas. In the 1950s, communists were blamed for trying to destroy the holiday. For decades, nervous Christians have labeled the American Civil Liberties Union the arch-enemy of Christmas.

As far as I can tell, Christmas is alive and well. Jesus isn't going off the map any time soon, except among numbers of Christians who casually sideline him when setting their personal or family priorities. The Jews and Muslims I know are not offended by the words "Merry Christmas," even if they do not use the expression themselves. The real roots of the annual kerfuffle over Christmas being in jeopardy seem mostly tied to anxiety over the rapidly changing demographics in America. If truth be told, Christianity as a dominant religious force in people's lives and in the larger culture is waning, just as a decline in the number of white Christians in America is accelerating.

Since anxiety doesn't go well with the concept of joy, and since Jesus doesn't appear to obsess over securing whiteness as a basis for Christianity, here's where I think our focus should be: This is a month when we realize that no gift under the tree matters in the least if Christ is not deeply lodged in our heart. We seem to look others in the eye more than usual, surprising ourselves by

pleasant encounters with strangers with whom we normally keep a distance. Our guard goes down a bit as our awareness for precious things goes up. Perhaps figuring that Jesus may show up in unsuspecting places, we behave with new gentleness. Or, we try to on our best days.

We notice children in a way that suggests we believe they might be entering the kingdom ahead of us. We light a candle or two or three or four in the center of the kitchen table, not because we're foolish enough to believe we're extinguishing darkness in the world; it's more a sign that we love One from whom we receive our own light and heat and peace.

Speaking of peace, December is that month when we seem to yearn for peace more eagerly than other months. As faith gets a hold of us, we discover that peace isn't found in the checkout line at Walmart. Then too, there are the glories of worship – transcendent song, eternal words from the Psalter, and of course people hungering after joys similar to our own.

For these reasons and more, we get to ignore the Christmas controversy. We spend our energies not worried about being offended by others who don't use the word *Christmas*, but rather by being delighted in a Lord who is so sweet, so tender, and so mild.



Peter W. Marty

PETER W. MARTY
senior pastor



ON THE COVER:
Quinn Strickler

journey

DECEMBER 2017
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MISSION
St. Paul Lutheran Church is a faith community, shaped around five core values: radical hospitality, passionate worship, intentional faith formation, adventurous mission and service, extravagant generosity.

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CHILDREN AND YOUTH ADVENT GATHERING: WASH AND BRUSH

Each year, St. Paul children and youth gather items for people who are having a difficult time. This year, the gathering will be for adults & children staying at the Family Resources shelter, which offers safety and comfort. Items will be collected at tables in the Education Wing on these days:

- **Dec 10:** Soap and shampoo of all kinds
- **Dec 17:** Toothbrushes and toothpaste

Questions? Contact Michelle Juehring, michelle@stpaulqc.org.

New year promises youth choir alumni singing, Peter Marty sharing cartoons

Welcome the new year at St. Paul with two beloved annual events.

New Yorker cartoons: Come and enjoy a hearty laugh on Sunday, Dec. 31, 10:45-11:30 a.m. as Pastor Peter Marty reviews the year through the New Yorker cartoons.

All other Sunday morning learning classes (for all ages) will be on break Dec. 24 and Dec. 31. Classes resume Jan. 7.

Youth choir: All former Youth Choir singers are invited to join the current Youth Choir for worship on Sunday, Jan. 7. Gather to rehearse a favorite anthem, *Who Is the Lamb?*, at 8:30 a.m. in the Chapel. The choir sings during the 9:20 a.m. service for this fun annual tradition. No need to sign up, just come! Questions? Dan Pepper, pepper@stpaulqc.org.



Christmas Poinsettias

Christmas poinsettias will decorate the front of the Sanctuary as Christmas approaches. If you would like to donate a plant in memory or in honor of a loved one, orders may be placed in the church office or by mail no later than Sunday, Dec. 10. The cost for each plant is \$10. Forms are available at the Info Center. Payment is due at the time of order. Contact: Paula Durham, 563-326-3547 ext. 226, paula@stpaulqc.org.



Service in the city: April 11-15

This spring, St. Paul people are invited to take part in a four-day experience in Chicago that will include volunteering, exploring, and discussing systemic issues at the root of poverty and injustice.

Led by Pastor Katy Warren, work at soup kitchens, Head Start programs, and food pantries. Explore the city by eating at ethnic restaurants each evening. Be a part of meaningful conversations. Worship at an urban congregation on Sunday morning.

Service in the City will take place on Wednesday, April 11-Sunday, April 15.

Cost is \$150, including meals, housing, and transportation. Spots are limited; open to anyone age 18 and older. Signup at stpaulqc.org/signups. Questions? Contact Pastor Katy Warren, katy@stpaulqc.org.

Cook for, serve a meal at the Salvation Army

On Saturday, Dec. 30, cook a meal at St. Paul and serve at the Salvation Army shelter at 6th and Harrison streets in Davenport. The initiative is called So All May Eat. Needed are cooks in the afternoon and servers in the evening to ensure that the people who come to the shelter are fed.

Sign up online at stpaulqc.org/signups. Contact: Pastor Katy Warren, katy@stpaulqc.org.



St. Paul people: Have you pledged?

2017 Offerings

Your offerings are critically important for the financial health of our congregation. A financial pledge is only as good as its fulfillment. Every offering you make adds to the goodness of what we can accomplish. Thanks for making St. Paul a priority in your life.

Pledging for 2018

One of the expectations of St. Paul is that all members make a financial pledge commitment – a faith promise of what they believe they can give to support the ministry of the congregation. Please make every effort to get that purple pledge card and envelope for 2018 in. Extra cards are available at church. Or, save time by logging onto the St. Paul website and making your pledge electronically at stpaulqc.org/pledge-2018. Online pledges are completely confidential.

Year-end giving

An 11-month statement of your giving will arrive in your mailbox mid-December. To be credited to 2017 giving statements, all offerings must be received in the church office through mail or the offering plate by Sunday, Dec. 31.

Gratitude

Thank you for your gifts of gratitude for St. Paul now and throughout the year. The Christ-centered mission and ministries of St. Paul depend entirely on the giving and pledges of every single household.

Our pledged giving for 2018 will make possible St. Paul's expanding mission character, staffing, and ministry vision. Thank you for your generosity.

St. Paul believes in giving 20+ percent of our annual budget away. This double-tithe is no easy matter. It's the hallmark of a servant people who belong to a servant church. Generations have helped establish this priority, supported fully through the offerings of St. Paul people.

This year, St. Paul will give more than \$560,000 to organizations as close as a neighborhood school and as far away as Africa.

Have a question about pledging or stewardship? Contact Marcia Robertson, stewardship coordinator, 563-326-3547 ext. 218, marcia@stpaulqc.org.



AL GEHBAUER

Baptized at St. Paul when he was "about that high," Al Gehbauer holds out his hand about waist-high, to estimate the size of a 6-year-old boy.

Al is now 99 ½ years old. And he still loves St. Paul.

Al attended a country school in rural Scott County, then found a ride to school each day at J.B. Young (just a few blocks from St. Paul). He graduated from what is now Davenport Central High School.

His first job was on a farm, milking cows two times a day. He joined the Navy during the war years, and returned home to a job at Case Corp., the place he retired from decades later. He attended business school at AIC, a decision he credits with helping him earn good positions at Case.

He and his wife, Elizabeth, raised three children. He loved to dance, to big band music in particular. The family enjoyed camping, and traveled all over the country to places like Yellowstone and Rocky Mountain National Park. All the while, St. Paul was an important part of their lives.

Al's parents had deep German roots. His dad died when Al was a child, but he does have a photo of him on the day Al was baptized at St. Paul.

The photos on display at Al's home include his great-grandson.

"St. Paul is all I've known," he said. "I'm a firm believer in Jesus Christ and God the Almighty. St. Paul is a good place to enjoy my faith."

Aging innovatively

A HEALTHY AGING PROGRAM

On the outside, Jim's Place looks like a normal brick ranch house, situated in the neighborhood near St. Ambrose University.

On the inside, the house is filled with items that are known as assistive technology – things to promote independence, from lighted countertops to watering systems for gardens.

This winter, led by an occupational therapist who works at St. Ambrose and is earning her doctorate degree, St. Paul people age 60 and older will have the chance to take part in an initiative to help discern ways for them to stay in their homes as long as possible.

“We will have discussions, reflection, and activities,” said Anne Lansing, who created the program as part of her doctoral studies. The sessions will take place at Jim's Place and at St. Paul.

Aging Innovatively will provide education and strategies for healthy aging; discuss home safety, supports, and assistive technology available; help individuals re-engage in meaningful life activities; and problem-solve to reduce or remove barriers.

The goals are to help people stay independent in their home and engaged in their community as long as possible, improve and maintain quality of life, and help continue taking part in meaningful life activities.

Participants will work with occupational health department faculty, staff, and students on assessment, establishing goals, and developing steps to achieve those goals.

Two pre-sessions, on Tuesday afternoons, Jan. 16 and 30, will help program leaders with some pre-testing and one-on-one coaching sessions. Then the group time will begin on Feb. 6, from 1-3 p.m. A final individual session will be held on March 13.

FEB. 6: OCCUPATION, HEALTH, AND WELL-BEING

Understand the importance of occupational engagement to health and well-being. Participants will identify their meaningful life occupations and if they are continuing to engage in the occupations they value. They will also identify barriers and solutions to occupational participation. At St. Paul Lutheran Church.

FEB. 13: HOW DOES YOUR HOME ENVIRONMENT SUPPORT YOU?

Learn about the ways that the home environment can be supportive or a barrier to occupational participation. Hands-on learning with a variety of assistive technology will take place during this time. At Jim's Place, 2126 Brown St., Davenport.

FEB. 20: LET'S PREVENT FALLS

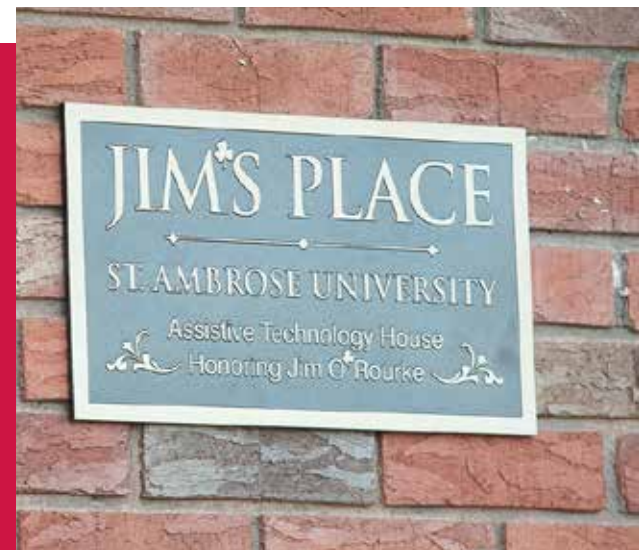
Explore assistive technology that can help with preventing falls in the home. A Tai Chi class will take place in this session, led by an instructor from Milestones Area Agency on Aging. The instructor is experienced with seniors and certified in arthritis and fall prevention through the Tai Chi Health Institute. At St. Paul Lutheran Church.

FEB. 27: STAYING SOCIALLY ENGAGED & GETTING OUT IN THE COMMUNITY

Understand the importance of social and community engagement to health and well-being. Participants will learn about community transportation available to help them stay socially active and engaged in the community. Hands-on learning with assistive technology will take place. At Jim's Place, 2126 Brown St., Davenport.

MARCH 6: THE BRAIN AND LIFE-LONG LEARNING

Cover a basic overview of the brain, learning, and memory. The importance of continued learning to brain health as we age will also be touched upon. Participants will learn about assistive technology which can support continued learning. At St. Paul Lutheran Church.



**Spots are limited.
To learn more
and sign up,
please contact
Anne Lansing at
563-333-6128
or [lansingannem@
sau.edu](mailto:lansingannem@sau.edu). The
program is free.**

Born on CHRISTMAS DAY

Six St. Paul members were born on December 25. Jim Keller will celebrate his 69th Christmas birthday this year, Quinn Strickler will celebrate her first.

A few days late, Christmas Quinn a gift

Everything was ready by early December.

Hana Strickler was convinced she was having her baby early. Her due date was Dec. 21, but Hana, her husband, Brian, and daughter Molly, were well-prepared right after Thanksgiving time.

Then Dec. 21 came and went. And Dec. 22. And Dec. 23. At a Christmas Eve gathering, a family member told Hana, “You’re having that baby tomorrow.”

“I’m not having this baby on Christmas!” Hana replied.

The Stricklers arrived home late on Christmas Eve. Hana told her husband, “We have to go to the hospital now.” Grandpa Ben Cleaveland came to the house. Hana and Brian were at the hospital by 10:30 p.m.

By 6:30 a.m. Christmas morning, Quinn Lucile Strickler was born.

As she held her new baby girl, Hana’s sister-in-law sent her photos of Molly opening her Christmas presents. And the traditional eggbake breakfast? “I missed eggbake!” Hana said. Her family brought it with them when they came to meet Quinn at the hospital that day. A picture of a full room of visitors marks a very special Christmas.

The hospital meals Hana ate all included a delightful Christmas card. She saved each one for Quinn’s memory book, along with the front page of the newspaper from that day. Hana and Quinn went home from the hospital on Dec. 26.

This year, Quinn will turn 1. She was baptized at St. Paul the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

Quinn, sometimes called Christmas Quinn, is a calm, happy baby with a smile that lights up the room, her mom says. As she grows older, mom says the possibilities are endless for her future birthday celebrations. Perhaps she will celebrate on Christmas Day, or on another day close by. Or maybe she’ll choose to mark it on her half birthday – June 25 could make for a fun summer birthday party.

“I’ll let her decide,” Hana said.



From lutefisk to cake, a Christmas celebration

He blames it on the lutefisk.

Jim Keller was supposed to be born on January 7. But his mom ate her family's traditional lutefisk on Christmas Eve before going to church. By 10:30 a.m. Christmas Day, she held a baby boy in her arms.

Jim chuckles. He's pretty sure that baby boy wanted nothing to do with that lutefisk.

He grew up in southwest Minnesota, the oldest of four. Windom is one hour straight north of Lake Okoboji.

Christmas Eve was about church and opening gifts. Christmas Day and Jim's birthday were always about family gathering at his house. Aunts, uncles, cousins, grandparents, great-aunts – 20-25 people came over for Christmas dinner. Grandma always brought a kettle of homemade baked beans, and someone always made mincemeat pie. Salads, scalloped potatoes, and pies completed the meal.

After the family ate, many of them headed outside for the sledding hills.

He remembers his favorite Christmas/birthday gift was a rod and reel from his aunt and uncle, when he was in about fourth or fifth grade. "It was a non-winter gift. I was thrilled. I could go bullhead fishing on Wolf Lake."

He did receive a rocking horse when he turned three years old. Harry the horse was a gift from his grandparents. It stayed in his mom and dad's basement until all the grandkids were too old to ride it. Jim then decided it was time for a bit of refurbishing. Harry the

horse is now good as new, with new paint and handles to hold onto for his grandkids.

When Jim became a parent, he and his wife Vicki continued the family tradition of opening gifts on Christmas Eve. They would all get up early on Christmas morning and head to Minnesota to be with family.

And that brings us back to food.

Jim's Christmas birthday story began with lutefisk.

It's now wonderfully centered on cake. Somewhere along the line, Jim's birthday cake became a Christmas tree birthday cake.

Each year, Jim and Vicki get together with their sons, daughters-in-law, and granddaughters. The granddaughters make Jim a Christmas tree birthday cake.

Age 7 months to 7 years, Frannie, Nora, Josie, Nellie, Cece, and Jilly are experts at green frosting (and many other colors, too).

"Now we have these six little granddaughters. They do a marvelous job of decorating my cake," he said.



A Christmas Day birthday is the least-popular day for a baby to be born in the United States, according to a study from Harvard University, except for Feb. 29, which only happens once every four years. The second-least popular day is Jan. 1. The most popular day is Sept. 16. Where does your birthday rank? See a chart at nyti.ms/1ZqWk8i.



PEACE

Advent *starting December 3*

Choral Advent Worship | Sunday, Dec. 10

Let the glories of song – and an impressive intergenerational gathering of St. Paul choirs at the 8 and 9:20 a.m. worship services – carry you into the beauty of the Advent season. From preschool choristers to adults, Choral Advent Sunday is a joyful tradition for preparing the way for Jesus' birth.

A Nova Christmas | Friday, Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m.

The Nova Singers' Christmas concert is an annual tradition at St. Paul. Nova Singers is a 20-voice ensemble with a nationwide reputation for expressiveness, virtuosity, and innovative programming. The group has performed across the country and produced six professional recordings. Tickets available online and at the door.

Blue Christmas Worship | Tuesday, Dec. 19, 6 p.m.

This quiet service of longing and hope is designed for anyone who doesn't feel like celebrating. During the holidays, grief, illness, aging, depression, loneliness, unemployment, and loss can be magnified. The Blue Christmas service acknowledges pain and longing, while offering hope and comfort for the broken-hearted. In the gathering darkness of December, anticipate Jesus, the light of the world.

For kids & youth

Christmas Pageant | Sunday, Dec. 10, 4 p.m.

Dozens of St. Paul stars, shepherds, and sheep will sing and tell the story of Jesus' birth at the 2017 Christmas pageant, held in the Sanctuary.

Youth Advent Events | Dec. 3 & 17

Shopping for Handicapped Development Center: On Sunday, Dec. 3, high school small groups will gather at Target in Davenport at 6:30 p.m. to shop for Christmas gifts for residents at the Handicapped Development Center. Bring \$5-10 to share.

Christmas Caroling: Students in grades 6-12 will gather at church for a pizza dinner followed by an evening of Christmas caroling around the community on Sunday, Dec. 17, 5:30-8 p.m.



Light In The Darkness: Advent devotions begin Dec. 3

This December, focus on the promise of God's love and light with St. Paul's annual tradition of daily Advent devotions.

Featuring an array of St. Paul voices, these devotions will land in your email box and the St. Paul website, based on the theme of Light in the Darkness. The final devotion will be posted on Christmas Day.

Sign up to receive the devotions by email at ow.ly/TGYC5, or read them on the website beginning Sunday, Dec. 3, at stpaulqc.org/blog. Note: If you have received the devotions in the past, you do not need to sign up again.

Christmas Eve *Sunday, December 24*

1 p.m. | Holy Communion & Carols

All the glory of Christmas Eve in an early-afternoon option. Scripture and hymns tell the story of this holy night. *Pastor Sara Olson-Smith preaching.*

3 p.m. | A Family Christmas Service

A service for all ages, but focused toward children, with traditional carols and a lively children's message. Children and youth choirs sing.

5 p.m. | Holy Communion with Open Spirit

The Open Spirit ensemble leads Christmas singing with a contemporary flair. *Pastor Peter Marty preaching.*

8 p.m. | A Service of Lessons & Carols

Music by the Chorale with candlelight. *Pastor Peter Marty preaching.*

10 p.m. | Candlelight Holy Communion

The evening concludes with *Silent Night* in a darkened Sanctuary lit with candles. *Pastor Peter Marty preaching.*

Childcare: During all services, the childcare room will be open for parents to use as needed. Childcare staff will not be present. Children are always welcome in worship.

Christmas Eve parking: In addition to St. Paul parking lots & side streets, Madison School lots across Brady Street are available. Observe extra care when crossing Brady Street.

Would you be a greeter? Welcome people into the warmth of St. Paul on Christmas Eve. As people flow into church, a handshake, a smile, and a cheerful greeting mean so much.

Would you be willing to spread some Christmas joy for about 30 to 45 minutes of your time before a particular worship service? Please contact Jennifer Garvey, 563-326-3547, jennifer@stpaulqc.org.



CHRISTMAS LOVE *from the* ST. PAUL STAFF

Pictured: (stairs, top to bottom) Ryan Bailey, Joanna Roland, Katy Warren, Andy Langdon, Matt Spencer, Sara Harless, Dana Welser, Paula Durham, Karen Holden (front row, left to right) Lauren Brown, Ann McGlynn, Josh Kestner, Tammy Hermanson, Todd Byerly, Michelle Juehring, Jennifer Garvey, Kelsey Fitting-Snyder,

Chris Nelson, Jim Akright, Marcia Robertson, Becky Harper, Sara Olson-Smith, Peter Marty, Tessa Hahn. **Not Pictured:** Ron Huber, Bill Campbell, Nathan Windt, Dan Pepper, Katie Casey, Margaret Thompson, Linda Allebach, Teresa Whitbeck, Joe Wollett, Paul Caldwell, Harris Schneekloth, Kyle Schneider, and Ron Mullen.

new members / OCTOBER 2017



Kirk & Cathy Anderson, Hannah, Lauren



Mike Detmer



Josie Wagner & Matthew Lee



Bert & Dick Medd



Susan & Bill Porter



Judy & Art Schroeder



Allison Whalen

KIRK & CATHY ANDERSON have three teenage daughters – Megan (*not pictured*), Hannah, and Lauren. The Andersons are returning to St. Paul after spending the last few years out of state. Kirk is the vice president of finance at Augustana College and Cathy is a home maker.

MIKE DETMER works for US Auctioneers. He likes to spend his free time working on his house and being with friends and family. The investment in St. Paul youth is what attracted him to St. Paul.

JOSIE WAGNER & MATTHEW LEE enjoy cycling, camping, traveling, and the Iowa State Cyclones. Matt is a software engineer at John Deere and Josie works as a special education teacher at Keystone Academy. The opportunities to get involved are what drew them to St. Paul.

BERT & DICK MEDD are a retired couple passionate about family and music. They like to follow the activities of their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Their son and daughter-in-law, Gary and Jean Medd, are St. Paul members.

SUSAN & BILL PORTER come to St. Paul through friends. Bill is retired from John Deere and Susan is retired from Von Maur. They enjoy reading, exercise, gardening, and spending time with grandchildren.

JUDY & ART SCHROEDER are both retired. Art was a high school teacher and likes gardening and reading. Judy was a Lutheran Deaconess and spends her time reading and knitting. They're both passionate about adult education. Their son and his family, Matt and Leigh Ann Schroeder, are St. Paul members.

ALLISON WHALEN works as a lab technician at the Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center. She enjoys reading, volunteering, and mission work. The welcoming atmosphere is what drew her to St. Paul.



Membership Inquiry Classes:

Learn more about the faith expressions that ground us, the mission commitments that inspire us, and the program life that can grow your faith. Come to an upcoming class on Saturday, December 9, 9-11:30 a.m. or Thursday, January 11, 6:30-9 p.m.

Sign up at the Info Center or online at stpaulqc.org/signups.



Mission Board Notes

The Mission Board met recently to discuss ways to support important work in the Quad Cities and beyond. The board approved:

- Continuing gifts to new or redeveloping congregations within the ELCA. First on Fullerton, a church community in Chicago that embraces people experiencing homelessness, will receive \$4,000. Free Indeed, a new church inside the walls of the Anamosa State Penitentiary for men will receive \$2,000.
- Providing \$1,000 to The Diaper Ministry, an effort of St. Paul moms. Diapers and wipes are offered to families who visit the Madison Market food pantry, managed by St. Paul. The mission board also is sup-

porting Christmas gifts for Madison families, including a crockpot or George Foreman grill, a gift card to Aldi's, and a family board game.

- Supporting Lutheran Chaplaincy Outreach with a \$1,000 gift. The chaplain and volunteers of this organization sometimes visit St. Paul members in Iowa City hospitals.
- Giving \$500 to The Water Party, which recently raised more than \$56,000 to build a well in the village of Njiro, Tanzania, through Empower Tanzania Inc.
- Granting \$500 to Scott County Holiday Meals.
- A new urban service experience for adults in Chicago (see page three for more details).

ST. PAUL PRESCHOOL NAMES NEW LEADERS

Two long-time St. Paul preschool staff members have been named as director and assistant director. Preschool director Joanna Roland is retiring; her farewell weekend at St. Paul is Dec. 2-3. If you'd like to donate to a retirement gift for Joanna, please write a check to St. Paul clearly marked for "Joanna Gift." You're also invited to send individual cards or notes to the church, or drop a written expression in the basket on her farewell weekend.



Karen Strusz will be the preschool director. She taught for 10 years at St. Paul and is in her third year as assistant preschool director. She oversees the statewide voluntary preschool classrooms as part of her work.

Karen earned a degree in health care administration from Winona State University. She completed her onsite supervisor credential for the Iowa Department of Human Services. Karen has previous experience as a community educator, assistant administrator of a medical practice, and as an instructor in the child care program at Scott Community College. She also worked at the Child Abuse Council. Karen enjoys working with children and watching them learn about themselves and the world around them.

Karen is married to Brian. They have two children – Madison and Megan are both former preschool students at St. Paul.



Kathy Becker will be the assistant director. She has been a part of St. Paul Preschool for 18 years as a teacher and resource guide. She attended Kirkwood Community College and the University of Missouri. She has an associate's degree in Early Childhood Education from Scott Community College.

Kathy has volunteered extensively in the Davenport Community School District and as a mediator for the Scott County small claims court. She and her husband Rod live in Davenport. Their son, Zach, resides in New York City. They lovingly remember their daughter Mariah, who died of cancer in November 2002.

UPCOMING *worship*

DECEMBER 2 & 3

First Sunday of Advent

PREACHING

- 5:30** Sara Olson-Smith
- 8:00** Katy Warren
- 9:20** Sara Olson-Smith
- 11:45** Katy Warren

MUSIC

- 8:00** Quartet
- 9:20** Chorale

DECEMBER 9 & 10

*Second Sunday of Advent
Choral Advent, 8 & 9:20 a.m.*

PREACHING

- 5:30** Peter W. Marty
- 8:00** Kelsey Fitting-Snyder
- 9:20** Peter W. Marty
- 11:45** Kelsey Fitting-Snyder

MUSIC

- 8:00** Quartet, Chorale, Youth choir
- 9:20** All choirs

DECEMBER 16 & 17

Third Sunday of Advent

PREACHING

- 5:30** Katy Warren
- 8:00** Katy Warren
- 9:20** Peter W. Marty
- 11:45** Peter W. Marty

MUSIC

- 9:20** Chorale

DECEMBER 23 & 24

Fourth Sunday of Advent

PREACHING

- 5:30** Josh Kestner
- 8:00** Josh Kestner

Christmas Eve Worship

See page 9 for preaching details

DECEMBER 30 & 31

First Sunday of Christmas

PREACHING

- 5:30** Kelsey Fitting-Snyder
- 8:00** Katy Warren
- 9:20** Kelsey Fitting-Snyder
- 11:45** Katy Warren



ST. PAUL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

2136 Brady Street
Davenport, IA 52803



Christmas Eve

1 ~ 3 ~ 5 ~ 8 ~ 10 P.M.