THE MAGAZINE OF ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH February 2017

Journey

The beauty of mystery

Psychologists have discovered that we possess a bias in our brain that tricks us. It tricks us into believing that every incidental event that occurs in the world has a cause. This is why some people shake the die harder when they want to roll a larger number during a board game. They're predisposed, like the rest of us, to want to see cause behind coincidental events.

When a Utah woman gave birth on a third consecutive Leap Day, several years ago, the Internet buzzed with excitement. This doesn't just happen, people reasoned. There is no way one could give birth to three separate children on February 29, each four years apart, unless God was orchestrating this "miracle." Right? My private hunch is that God gets far less excited about coincidences than we do, and much more enthused with the idea of creation continuing every time there is a new birth. But what do I know?

I do know that we struggle to live easily with mystery. We get impatient in its presence. The modern mind likes to figure things out. We love fixes and we want to believe there is a solution to everything. There isn't always a perfect fix, of course, which an oncology unit can school us in pretty fast. Still, we lean toward solving, managing, and controlling. And when we can't do these things, we go a little crazy. Mystery can terrify.

Yet life isn't so much a problem to be solved as it is a mystery to be explored. That's French philosopher Gabriel Marcel's idea, which happens to align well with biblical understandings. Life is an unfathomable gift. We are surrounded by countless mysteries from incredible love to confounding evil. The cross itself is mystery. Grace is mystery. The magnificence of God in your life and mine is mystery.

Imagine someone coming up to you and saying, "You know, I understand you. I have you pegged. I've seen you on Facebook. I knew your uncle. I know all about your family problems. I know you better than you think." Would you feel understood and well known by this stranger? Or would you be telling yourself, "He doesn't have a clue to the mysteries of all that I am."

Mystery is not the absence of meaning; it's the presence of more meaning than we can understand. Mystery is at the heart of God. God can never be fully known unless we're willing to reduce God to ideas that we can wrap our minds around, however trivial those ideas or concepts may be, as in, "The Man Upstairs arranged for me to have my job, you to have your arthritis, and that Utah woman to have three leaplings."

Coincidence is built into the universe. We don't need to look for God to be arranging events when we can't make sense of their randomness ourselves. Far better to cherish mystery and simply live trustingly in the presence of God. By faith we get to relax into all kinds of things we will never know, and never need to know.

Next time I preach, try these words on for size: "Peter, don't tell us what you know. Tell us



what you don't know, so that together we may worship God."

Leter h. mary

PETER W. MARTY senior pastor

P.S. We finished our 2016 ministry in very solid financial shape, thanks to the generosity of you St. Paul people, and careful spending by St. Paul staff. Our mission giving to others exceeded \$555,000! By the way, it's not mere coincidence, that when you give generously, your personal life becomes more whole and your congregation becomes able to serve more significantly. That cause and effect is easy to see. What is sheer mystery is that God would plant in you and me the sense that we matter ... and that we can make a real difference in the world. Such is the beauty of mystery.



ON THE COVER: Brett Hagen, see page 4.

journey

FEBRUARY 2017 Volume 4 | Issue 12

EDITOR Ann McGlynn

DESIGNER Lauren Brown

ADDRESS

St. Paul Lutheran Church 2136 Brady Street, Davenport, Iowa 52803

CONTACT

Email journey@stpaulqc.org Phone 563.326.3547

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.

Journey (USPS 8314) is published monthly by St. Paul Lutheran Church ELCA, 2136 Brady St., Davenport, IA, 52803. Periodicals Postage Paid at Davenport, IA.

POSTMASTER

Send address changes to Journey, 2136 Brady Street, Davenport, Iowa 52803

Second-grade milestone: The Lord's Prayer

At St. Paul, faith milestones are special markers along the growing-up journey. Each milestone is grounded in the Bible and nurtures faith in everyday life.

On Sunday, Feb. 12, 10:45 a.m., Fellowship Hall, second-graders and parents will learn about the Lord's Prayer, a prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray. Sign up online at **stpaulqc.org/signups**.

Family Bible Study to be held Feb. 19

Families with children of all ages are invited to a Bible study led by a St. Paul pastor on Sunday, Feb. 19, 10:45-11:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall.

This family learning activity will take the place of regular Sunday school. Children grade 3 and younger should be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Michelle Juehring, michelle@stpaulqc.org.

Preschool registration set for 2017-2018

St. Paul Lutheran Preschool provides a rich variety of age-appropriate developmental activities in a Christian atmosphere. Opportunities abound for growth and learning for kids ages 2-5.

Fall 2017 registration for St. Paul Preschool will take place February 21-22, 9 a.m.-12 noon, for currently enrolled students. New students will register on March 7, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. If you are interested in enrolling your child, please contact Joanna Roland, 326-3547, ext. 219, or joanna@stpaulqc.org.

In Our Own Voice seeks to change attitudes, assumptions

On Thursday, Feb. 23, 7-8:30 p.m., St. Paul will host In Our Own Voice, a program where two people will tell their story of living with mental illness. The evening is organized by St. Paul's Mental Health Awareness Team and the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

The presenters will share their journey of illness, acceptance, and hopes as they make their way along the path of living well. Specifically, they will talk about dark days, treatment, coping skills, and successes they've had along the way.

The presentation is free and open to the public.



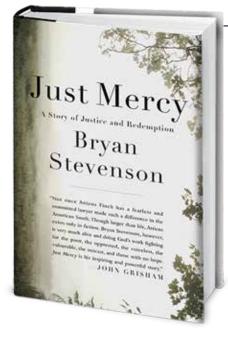
ST. PAUL TO HOLD ANNUAL MEETING FEB. 5

St. Paul's annual meeting will be held on Sunday, Feb. 5, at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

This meeting includes items of important business: approving the 2017 budget (*see page 11*), the review of 2016 financials and annual report, and a vote on the slate of candidates for congregational council, mission board, as well as the endowment, memorial, and nominating committees.

Pastor Peter Marty will present a report, and a year-in-review slideshow will be shown. The church leadership candidates to be considered at the annual meeting are:

- Church Council: Samantha Bley, Tom Buhr, Jeannine Crockett
- Mission Board: Jerry Fisher, Sharon Ratliff-Crain
- Endowment Committee: Anne Budde, Josh Fiedler
- Memorial Gifts Committee: Ken Kerker, Ben Lloyd
- Nominating Committee: Dana Esbaum, Pat Sierk



All St. Paul Reads: Just Mercy

Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption is the 2017 All St. Paul Reads book.

The author, Bryan Stevenson, was a young lawyer when he received one of his first cases involving the death penalty. The case was that of Walter McMillian, who was sentenced to die for a notorious murder he insisted he didn't commit.

Ultimately, McMillian was exonerated and released from death row. Stevenson founded the Equal Justice Initiative, which is committed to ending mass incarceration and excessive punishment in the United States, challenging racial and economic injustice, and protecting basic human rights for the most vulnerable people in American society.

All St. Paul Reads is encouragement for all to read and talk about a single book. For 2017, the event will take place on Thursday, February 9, 6-8 p.m. Tami Mahl will share her experience working on a death penalty case early in her legal career.

Just Mercy is available for purchase for \$10 in the St. Paul Book Corner. Dinner will be served, as a thank you from the St. Paul Book Corner. Sign up at **stpaulqc.org/signups** or outside the Book Corner.

A night at Theology Pub

Monthly faith conversation set at local brewery

The fireplace is on. The food is on its way. Mugs are filled with drinks of each person's choosing. The din of conversation from the first floor at Front Street Brewery offers a comfortable background.

It's St. Paul's Theology Pub night at Front Street. Twenty people are gathered around tables, ready to talk faith and life. They come from all walks of life – all different ages, educations, work, and life circumstances – once a month to talk over one topic.

The ice breaker in January was to talk about a favorite winter activity. Smiles, chuckles, and knowing nods or shakes of the head affirm (or not) the responses as people talk about hibernating or snow shoeing or reading or skiing.

And then, Brett Hagen, who leads this monthly gathering, begins the more thoughtful conversation for the night. The topic: Resolutions.

"Each year many of us come up with a list of resolutions that we intend to adhere to throughout the next year, with some of us having success and some not," said Brett, who stepped into the leadership role of this longtime and laid back event last year.

As the son of a pastor and the grandchild of a pastor, it's a role he really loves – and it shows.

Each month, Brett prepares the discussion topic and a list of questions to get the conversation going.

What is it about a new year that causes us to create these resolutions? Do you come up with resolutions? Why? What benefit do they give you? Is there any difference between a New Year's resolution and promising yourself something else?

He asks others to read short transitions aloud to go deeper.

"In addition to resolutions, there are promises



Theology Pub meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at Front Street Brewery in downtown Davenport. Anyone is welcome.

that we make to others. Sometimes they're small promises and sometimes they are larger ones. We've all made promises to others and been promised things by others, but we've more than likely also had broken promises, either by ourselves or by others."

Each person around the two tables brings a different perspective, a unique experience, a take on the world as they see it. The conversation is thoughtful, considerate, enlightening.

The formal conversation on this particular evening closes with talking about covenants.

"In the secular sense, a covenant is an agreement or contract between two parties. In the Judeo-Christian tradition, a covenant is a promise made by God to God's people, with the expectation that they follow God's commandments."

Can you recall any of the covenants that God has made with us? Do you see reminders of those covenants? As Christians, are grace and God's love part of a covenant?

A MONTH OF

On cold winter nights, come to St. Paul to experience music aglow in warmth, vibrancy, comfort. Over four weeks in February and March, three concerts will fill the Sanctuary with songs familiar and new.



Nova Singers

Date: Sunday, Feb. 19, 4 p.m. Tickets: Adults \$18, seniors \$15, students free, www.novasingers.com

"Dancing the Mystery" will include song and poetry, with readings of 13th and 14th century Sufi poets Rumi and Hafiz. The music selected resonates with the words of each poem. Pieces will include *La Voix du Bien-Aimee* (The Voice of the Beloved) by Jean-Yves Daniel Lesur, *I Will Not Leave You Comfortless* by William Byrd, *Jerusalem* by Michael McGlynn, and two excerpts from *Songs from Behind the Caravan* by Abbie Betinis.





Wartburg College Castle Singers & Kammerstreicher

Date: Friday, Feb. 24, 7:30 p.m. Tickets: Adults \$15, \$5 for students K-12, www.wartburg.edu/tours

Directed by Dr. Nicki Toliver, the Castle Singers is a select chamber ensemble with a diverse repertoire ranging from jazz to classical. Called one of the "crown jewels of the Cedar Valley," the group has traveled to Europe, Australia, Fiji, the Caribbean, the United Arab Emirates, and Brazil.

The Kammerstreicher is the Wartburg College chamber orchestra. Repertoire for Kammerstreicher concerts is best described as "eclectic." Recent performances have featured Baroque and Classical works by Bach, Corelli, and Mozart, standard string orchestra pieces by Britten and Warlock, and arrangements of songs by the Beatles and Radiohead.

Overnight hosts are needed. Contact Chris Nelson, chris@ stpaulqc.org, 563-326-3547 ext. 214.



Augustana Choir Home Concert

Date: Sunday, March 12, 3 p.m. **Tickets:** Freewill donation

This highly selective mixed ensemble performs a wide variety of music in major concerts, special events, and on tour. The choir has released a number of recordings, and performed on radio and network television. The Augustana Choir requires a high level of musicianship and serious time commitment. Students in the Augustana Choir also participate in the Handel Oratorio Society.

anty .

Prevent. Reach. Develop.

One Eighty revitalizes neighborhood, restores lives

It started in a jail cell.

It expanded to a mobile home.

It moved into a couple of buildings.

Now, an organization called One Eighty is on a \$1.5 million course to revitalize a half-city block.

Rusty Boruff is a convicted felon who spent time in jail because of his failed attempts to feed a drug addiction. He's now dedicated his life to prevention and healing people who are abused, addicted, incarcerated, homeless, forgotten.

"We love the people in this community. We feel this community is worth investing in," said Rusty, the founder and executive director of One Eighty.

A man named Merle

Rusty had a pretty normal upbringing, one that included church, he said. But he got into alcohol and drugs in high school. He found himself homeless at age 18, doing whatever he could to feed his addiction and survive. He slept in a van, broke into people's homes. With a son on the way, he was arrested and sent to jail.

A man named Merle, in his 90s, came to visit Rusty in the Mercer County Jail. He visited every single Sunday. It was never what Merle really said that made the biggest impact, Rusty said, it's what he showed him: God forgave him. Someone believed in him.

When Rusty got out of jail, he knew that his life would be devoted to helping others. He and a few friends bought a mobile home for \$500, a place for men leaving incarceration to come and stay.

That grew to a few buildings in Davenport.

Today, One Eighty is a 12-month residential program for 18 men and 10 women. It includes enterprises that provide employment training and opportunities and affordable housing for 25 men and women. A school outreach initiative offers a baseball league, afterschool program, a food pantry, mentoring, and clothing and household item donations.

Eighteen staff members work at One Eighty. Each month, upwards of 300 volunteers lend a hand. In April, One Eighty purchased the half-block at 6th and Marquette Streets.

Old made new

Nearly 20 years ago, the neighborhood in Davenport took a big hit. A beloved school closed, and a neighborhood that already had its share of challenges added more struggling buildings to the list of hardships.

Over the years, groups tried to keep the campus - which included a shuttered church, rectory, and convent - going, but it never quite stabilized.

In one weekend, One Eighty volunteers, staff, and participants remodeled,

"WE LOVE THE PEOPLE IN THIS COMMUNITY. WE FEEL THIS COMMUNITY IS WORTH INVESTING IN." painted, cleaned up, and cleared out the property. It was enough to move many of the organization's initiatives into one place. The old Catholic church is now offices and meeting spaces. The large rectory is home to the men in the residential program. The convent is called stability housing – for those who have graduated the program but want to remain connected. A nearby house on Marquette Street is where women live.

The school has the donation center, and will be rehabbed to serve as classrooms, library, computer lab, gym, and music and art rooms for the community. It will be called the One Eighty Achievement Center.

The goal? To prevent crisis, poverty, and addiction before it happens; to reach out to those who are experiencing those three circumstances; and develop them so that they can live healthy, thriving lives.

"We will change this neighborhood from the inside out," Rusty said.

- RUSTY BORUFF

Unconditional love

Addicted and alone, Becky Taylor came to One Eighty

Becky Taylor's only friend dropped her off at the only place she thought could help. Two weeks later, Becky picked up the phone and begged her friend to come and get her. It was the summer of 2014. She thought she couldn't take being there any longer.

The friend said no. There was no one else to call. So Becky had to stay.

"I was angry," she said. "But deep down, I knew what I didn't want was exactly what I needed."

A life of heroin addiction and violence had taken its toll. She lied, stole, and hurt a lot of people. She had been married and divorced three times, and lost custody of all six of her children. A year later, she graduated from the One Eighty residential program.

Today, Becky is on staff at One Eighty. She manages the candle-making business, is launching a commercial cleaning business, and is the night and weekend supervisor at the women's house. And she knows she is loved unconditionally.

Becky's childhood was hard. She started drinking at 14, and was married and pregnant by 18. Her first husband physically abused her. He beat her so badly when she was pregnant with her fourth child that she knew she had to leave.

Her second husband was even worse, she said. They owned a bar together, where she bartended. He would beat her, to the point where she could barely move, then he would give her pain pills so she could work the bar.

Her third husband emotionally abused her.

"I sunk into a hole, I didn't care who I was hurting. I had no education, no job, no nothing...no self-esteem," she said. "I hit bottom."

Heroin was part of her life. Addiction to the drug was, too. She met a woman at a domestic violence shelter and they became friends. It is that friend who dropped her off at One Eighty two and a half years ago. "She never gave up on me. There had never been anyone in my life who didn't give up on me."

When her friend declined to come and get her, Becky got to work. One of her most important goals was to earn her GED. She studied and studied. Tutors and others at One Eighty cheered her on. "All of that support is what did it." Becky passed.

Meanwhile, she attended One Eighty's daily Bible studies, classes, and employment program. When she relapsed, the people at One Eighty stood by her.

"Somebody loving me unconditionally? I never had that. I have that here."

When asked about what her dreams are, Becky paused. "God has got me in such a wonderful place here. I always wanted to help somebody in the situation I was in. I have the chance to show others that I was there, too.

"And look at where I am today."





One Eighty's work program includes six employment enterprises. They are windows and siding, candle making, commercial cleaning, gardening, design, and painting. The enterprises train residents for future job opportunities, equip them with job preparation skills, close job gaps on resident resumes, and provide operating funds for One Eighty.

The St. Paul Book Corner carries the candles made by the people who are a part of the One Eighty residential program. St. Paul will support One Eighty with a donation of \$3,000 in 2017.

To learn more about One Eighty and its enterprises, and to take a video tour of the campus, visit **www. oneeighty.org**.

HAPsurprises

The starting, she says, is the hardest part. Blank canvas. Empty memory card. Piece of tree bark. That's when creating is the most difficult, most intimidating.

But then Marie Stephens begins – and all sorts of wonderful things come to life.

"The floodgates open and I get all sorts of ideas," said Marie, who works from her dining-room-turned-art-studio in her north Davenport home.

Each of her works has a story – of how they were made, why they were made, what

The thing I love the most though, is that there is no way to make two pieces exactly the same. Each one is an original piece of art, through and through.



they were made, what went right, what went wrong. Nature is a recurring theme throughout her paintings, photographs, jewelry, and earthen materials works.

Many are displayed in the home she shares with her family.

One, for example, is a fox made from ink and the bark of a tree in her back yard. She calls it and others (a llama, elephant, rhino, koala) made from the same method "Happy Surprises."

"I go out into my garden, feel the heat of the sun on my back, and then head under the shade of the weeping branches of my beautiful river birch tree. Then I begin to peel the papery bark from the trunk. It's a completely random process. The only planning involved is to try to peel a piece large enough to work on," she writes.

"After peeling a few pieces, I examine each one, and ask myself, what does this one want to be? I begin seeing familiar shapes and the images come alive in my mind's eye. Each piece so far has looked like an adorable creature of sorts. I love the earthy feel and the different tones and textures of this completely renewable resource found steps from my back door.

"The thing I love the most though, is that there is no way to make two pieces exactly the same. Each one is an original piece of art, through and through, and is the result of a random, freeing act of tearing a sheet of paper from a tree."

Marie has a degree in horticulture from Iowa State University. She worked in beautiful places such as Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania and the Chicago Botanic Gardens. The work, she said, gave her the chance to learn about colors and textures.

After time, she and her husband, Tim, moved back to Iowa to farm with his family. They grew cut flowers that they sold to businesses and individuals. Her first online shop sold dried flower wreaths.

A move to the Quad Cities, and Marie is able to focus her work on making art.

As Marie continues on in her creating, she sees herself making more art that will convey a message. One such piece explores the French phrase Je suis, which means "I am."

"My goal in creating this painting was to inspire social change for the better. Rather than searching for man-made solutions for our broken world, I have prayed, through the process of creating this painting, for God to inspire all of us to love and forgive one another as God continues to love and forgive each of us.

"Je suis means 'I am' in French, and I couldn't help but see Jesus in the phrase as well."





To learn more about Marie Stephens, visit www.mariestephensart.com or on Instagram at mariestephensart.

ARTIST'S STATEMENT Marie Stephens

"As a self-taught artist, I have been drawing and painting for most of my life. My love of art and nature began with crayons at the dining room table drawing with my first bestie, my brother, Joe. When we weren't drawing, we were outside hiking around our backyard forest, playing with our hamsters, gerbils, parakeets, morning doves, pigeons, dogs, turtles, turkins, and who knows what else! God bless my parents for being so brave! Quiet time was spent watching Grizzly Adams, Marty Stouffer's Wild America shows, or Mutual of Omaha animal shows, or reading books about animals.

"I learned a few more of the basics by taking as many drawing classes as I could during my high school years, and an oil painting class after graduating from Iowa State University. My son happens to LOVE Bob Ross. Through our shared interest in painting, and his countless requests to watch Bob Ross, I have watched his instructional videos hundreds of times. To say I am not at all influenced by Mr. Ross would be a lie."

new members / december 2016













Carol & Mark Andersen

Ericka Arias

Derek & Lisa Ball, David, Gracie

Diana Cook

Dave Hanson



Lysa & Bob Hegland, Bryson, Addison



Jennifer & Chris Hunter, Alex, Brady, Cami





Reid & Sarah Keller





Christine & Jeff McElvania



Samantha Hepker & Aaron Russell





Ike Hurning



Kelsey & Myka Walljasper

Kelsey West

CAROL & MARK ANDERSEN like to spend their free time on their hobby farm and were attracted to St. Paul by the worship, music, and people. Mark is a construction manager with JF Edwards and Carol is a registered nurse.

ERICKA ARIAS is a Spanish teacher at Alleman High School. She enjoys running and learning more about the Hispanic/Latino culture. What drew her to St. Paul? "The passionate and involved people."

NICK BAKER is employed as an IT help desk technician with Stefanini Global. He takes an interest in sports, the outdoors, family, local music and events, and travel. His fiancé, Bailie Rasmussen, is already a St. Paul member.

DEREK & LISA BALL are the parents of David and Gracie. Derek works as a marriage and family therapist. Lisa is a contract specialist at the Rock Island Arsenal. This family likes music and spending time with friends and family. The children's ministry and welcome they received are what brought them to St. Paul.

DIANA COOK is a greeter at Weerts Funeral Home. She spends her free time volunteering, playing cards, and spending time with family. The sermons and people are what attracted her to St. Paul. She is pictured with her granddaughter, Libby Bowe.

DAVE HANSON works as an engineer at John Deere. Among other interests, he enjoys karaoke. He comes to St. Paul because of the welcoming environment.

LYSA & BOB HEGLAND and the parents of Addison and Bryson. Bob is active duty Army at the Rock Island Arsenal. Lysa is vice president and foundation director at Scott Community College. They take an interest in motorcycles and family time. The large congregation and kids activities are what brought them to St. Paul.

JENNIFER & CHRIS HUNTER have three children. Cami, Alex, and Brady. Chris is employed at Genesis as a physical therapist. Jen is a health teacher in the Davenport School District. They enjoy family activities, Hawkeye sports, and traveling. A "beautiful welcome and open environment" drew them to St. Paul.

IKE HURNING works as a golf course superintendent at the Springbrook Country Club. He spends his free time biking, surfing, and skiing. He's pictured with Kerri Hanna, a current St. Paul member.

REID & SARAH KELLER like to sing, golf, travel, and read. Reid is a music teacher at Davenport Central High School. Sarah is a social worker with Beacon of Hope Hospice. They have a newborn daughter, Nora.

ALLISON MAXWELL moved back to the Quad Cities from Chicago in February. She is a behavior analyst and works with children with Autism in a clinic setting. She enjoys playing her clarinet, riding her bike, and spending time with friends and family.

CHRISTINE & JEFF MCELVANIA like to spend their free time traveling. Jeff is employed as a treasury manager with John Deere. Christine is a partner and investment advisor with Quad Cities Investment Group. They are expecting their first child in March.

NEW MEMBERS CONTINUED

SAMANTHA HEPKER & AARON RUSSELL spend their free time riding bikes, walking, and cooking. Aaron is a paint engineer at John Deere. Samantha works as a preschool teacher at Sycamore United Methodist Church. The generosity to the community is what attracted them to St. Paul.

JAN & JERRY TRIMBLE like to walk, hike, camp, ski, and spend time with family. Jerry works as a building and codes inspector for the State of Iowa. Jan is the family services director and volunteer coordinator with Habitat for Humanity. The welcoming atmosphere and vast ministries are what attracted them to St. Paul.

KELSEY & MYKA WALLJASPER both work in the Sherrard School District. Kelsey is a school counselor while Myka is a reading teacher. They enjoy volunteering, performing theater, going to Disney World, and Netflix. The feeling of love and acceptance is what drew them to St. Paul. **KELSEY WEST** is a student at Augustana College. She takes an interest in studying, watching baseball, hot yoga, and playing with her nephew. She's passionate about women's rights and working with survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence.

MEMBERSHIP INQUIRY CLASS

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 Tuesday, February 7, 6:30-9 p.m. or Saturday, March 11, 9-11:30 a.m.

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

Council Notes

The congregation will consider approval of a \$2,648,000 daily ministry budget in 2017 at the upcoming annual meeting, as recommended by the Congregational Council.

The proposed budget represents a 4.46 percent increase from 2016. Proposed benevolence and mission giving – money that support work locally, nationally, and internationally – will be more than 21 percent of the budget.

The budget is created thanks to the faithful pledging of St. Paul people. For 2017, 1,052 pledges totaling \$2.388 million were received, for an average pledge of \$2,275. The council expressed gratitude for the seriousness of commitment by our members.

The annual meeting will be at 10:30 a.m. on Feb. 5 in the Sanctuary (*see more on page 3*).

In other business, the council approved the Endowment Committee's grants of \$6,000 to support the youth mission trip to Appalachia this summer to make homes warmer, safer, and drier. It also approved \$7,000 for preschool scholarships and \$3,000 for a Guatemalan insight trip for siblings Sara and William Herzberg.

The council also appointed new members to the finance and personnel committees. Josh Carter and Curt Oppel will serve on the finance committee. Jenny Molyneaux and Adam Hass were named to the personnel committee. All will serve three-year terms.

The staff of Camp Shalom recently visited St. Paul Sunday school to lead games and singing. General registration for summer 2017 at Camp Shalom near Maquoketa, Iowa opened on Saturday, Jan. 28, at 7 a.m. Sessions for adults with disabilities, kids with ADHD, and families also are available. Learn more at **campshalomia.org**.



FEBRUARY 4 & 5

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

UPCOMING worship

| PREA | CHING | |
|-------|-------------------------|--|
| 5:30 | Peter W. Marty | |
| 8:00 | Sara Olson-Smith | |
| 9:20 | Peter W. Marty | |
| 11:45 | Sara Olson-Smith | |
| MUSIC | | |
| 8:00 | Quartet | |
| 9:20 | Chorale, Alleluia choir | |

FEBRUARY 11 & 12

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

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

9:20 Chorale, Cantate choir

FEBRUARY 18 & 19

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

PREACHING5:30Amy Diller8:00Katy Warren9:20Amy Diller11:45Katy Warren

MUSIC **9:20** Chorale, Youth choir

FEBRUARY 25 & 26

Transfiguration of our Lord New Member Sunday, 11:45 a.m.

PREACHING

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

MUSIC **9:20** Chorale, Jubilate Choir

For more details on the weekly worship schedule at St. Paul, go to **stpaulqc.org/worship**



2136 Brady Street Davenport, IA 52803

ASH WEDNESDAY March 1 Worship at 12 noon & 7 p.m.