

THE MAGAZINE OF ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH September 2017

journey



Learning how to love

In 1961, the black writer and social critic James Baldwin knew the death of segregation was imminent. The only questions surrounding that death, he wrote, were “how long, how violent and how expensive the funeral is going to be.”

The funeral procession for putting segregation to rest has stretched longer than Baldwin ever imagined. The cortege is still inching its way to the cemetery. The funeral has turned out to be quite violent and expensive as well. The Charlottesville riots last month revealed as much. We're still paying an exceedingly high societal price for people who have decided on hatred as a way of life.

As I listened to a broadcast last week about the growth of white supremacy movements in America, I tried to picture what it would be like to have hatred as one's defining identity trait. Most of us would consider the idea of relishing hate for innocent others to be a profound sickness. Yet white supremacists and neo-Nazis nurture this hatred on a daily basis. They're proud to affiliate with anyone else whose aspirations to hate match their own. Imagine yourself laboring to form a group of any kind – a bridge league, a sand volleyball team, a book club, a wine-tasting circle – and deciding that somehow you have to get the word hate into your group's name or purpose in order to find meaning. Wouldn't that be a distressing project?

Shortly after the events in Charlottesville, I picked up Robert Sternberg's *The Nature of Hate* to try and learn as much as I could about hate that consumes. I put the book down when I realized that an analysis of hate was more than my head or heart needed that evening. What I realized from reading, however, and what news reports continue to bear out, is how so many participants within hate groups have experienced insufficient love at critical points in their life. Somewhere in their childhood or adolescence, love ran in short supply.

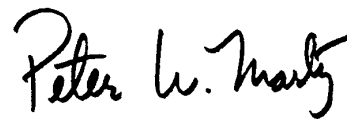
As I think about the role of St. Paul Lutheran Church in a culture where hate gets legitimized too easily, I feel the privilege of belonging to this congregation. We get to be on the front lines of embodying and teaching love. As important, we assume the duty and responsibility of denouncing and renouncing hate at every turn. The Christian calling requires nothing less. The special joy of being a part of a congregation like St. Paul in these times is that our faith proves most alive when our shared conviction of love runs most deep.

If Nelson Mandela was correct in claiming that hate is a learned craft, then we must presume that love can also be taught. We commit ourselves to this teach-

ing assignment every week, helping others and ourselves learn how to love better.

When Martin Luther King Jr. had to face the equivalent of Tiki torch parades and hate-filled chants in his day, he had strong words for his tormenters. “Do to us what you will, and we shall continue to love you ... Throw us in jail, and we shall still love you. Bomb our homes and threaten our children, and we shall still love you. Send your hooded perpetrators of violence into our communities at midnight and beat us and leave us half-dead, and we shall still love you. But be assured that we will wear you down by our capacity to suffer.”

I've not suffered much from love that I've extended in my life. But, with you, I want to be ready to grow that personal capacity to suffer, especially given the love that the world needs to receive from us right now. Let's promise to be open to every opportunity we have to speak love to those who learned how to hate better than they ever learned how to love.



PETER W. MARTY
senior pastor



journey

SEPTEMBER 2017
Volume 5 | Issue 7

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



ON THE COVER:
Beth, Will, and Nathan Behrens (left to right)

CENTERED IN *worship & music*

We ground our lives in the glories of worship. Together, we listen for God.
We sing songs of praise. We discover hope. We give thanks. We welcome all.
Contact: Chris Nelson, chris@stpaulqc.org.

EVENTS

Fall Start-up Sunday

Sunday, Sept. 10

Fall Start-up Sunday is when we return to the fullness of our Sunday-morning learning and worship life.

- ▶ Learning classes begin for all ages, 10:45-11:30 a.m.
- ▶ Sunday worship returns to 8, 9:20, and 11:45 a.m.

Healing Liturgy

Sept. 2, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, & Dec. 2, 6:30 p.m.

On the first Saturday of the month, a healing liturgy is held after worship. The gathering seeks God's goodness and care for those in need of physical, spiritual, or emotional healing.

Nova Singers Concerts

Sunday, Oct. 15, 4 p.m. & Friday, Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m.

Nova Singers is a 20-voice a cappella ensemble with a nationwide reputation for expressiveness, virtuosity, and innovative programming. The October concert is titled *Today I Will _____*. The annual December concert is *A Nova Christmas*. Tickets available at the door, or online at novasingers.com.

Reformation Hymn Festival

Sunday, Oct. 29, 3 p.m.

Commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation with a multi-congregation choir, hymns, and readings. Jon Hurty, Chris Nelson, Karen Ullestad, Stacy Grau Christianson, and other members of the community will lead. Free and open to the public.

CHOIRS

For age 4 through adults, St. Paul's choirs sing songs of faith, in an energetic mix of music. No auditions, just come and sing. Practices begin Sept. 6.

Alleluia Choir | Ages 4-K

Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 6-6:45 p.m., Room 206
Director: Sara Harless

Jubilate Choir | Grades 1-3

Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 6-6:45 p.m., Room 201
Director: Katie Casey

Cantate Choir | Grades 4-6

Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 6-6:45 p.m., Room 009
Director: Margaret Thompson

Youth Choir | Grades 7-12

Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 6-6:45 p.m., Chapel
Director: Dan Pepper

Chorale | College & Adults

Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 6-7:30 p.m., Room 011
Director: Nathan Windt

Augustana Choir & Quad City Choral Arts Fall Concert

Friday, Oct. 27, 7 p.m.

Two of the most beloved Quad City choirs, both led by Jon Hurty, will perform a combined fall concert, with a Pleasant Valley High School choir. More information coming soon at augustana.edu.



SPECIAL DATES

Reformation Weekend

Oct. 28 & 29, all services

All Saints Weekend

Nov. 4 & 5, all services

Joy Weekend

Nov. 11 & 12, all services

Thanksgiving Eve

Nov. 22, 7 p.m.

Choral Advent

Dec. 10, 8 & 9:20 a.m.

Blue Christmas

Dec. 19, 6 p.m.

Christmas Eve

Dec. 24, 11 a.m., 3, 5, 8, & 10 p.m.

A SPIRIT OF *mission & service*

At St. Paul we give away more than 20 percent of our annual budget to people in need, and our mission board keeps the congregation focused on the needs of our neighborhood and world. St. Paul people also find great joy in volunteering for the benefit of others. Take a look at some of the opportunities available this fall, and get involved. Contact: Pastor Katy Warren, katy@stpaulqc.org.

FOOD

Table Graces

Tuesday, Oct. 3, 4:30-7 p.m., Kitchen

Table Graces is a St. Paul ministry that provides “comfort food” at times of transition – such as a recent hospitalization, or during an extended illness or special circumstance. Teams cook, assemble, and freeze meals in the church kitchen. Sign up at stpaulqc.org/signups. Contact: Tammy Hermanson, tammy@stpaulqc.org.

So All May Eat meal serving

Saturday, Sept. 30, Wednesday, Nov. 29, & Saturday, Dec. 30

People cook at St. Paul and serve meals at the Salvation Army shelter at 6th and Harrison streets in Davenport. The initiative is called So All May Eat. Needed for the dates above are shoppers, cooks, and servers. Providing a warm meal to those who are struggling is one way we show God’s grace to others. Sign up at stpaulqc.org/signups. Contact: Pastor Katy Warren, katy@stpaulqc.org.

Thanksgiving food collection

Thanksgiving Eve worship, Nov. 22, 7 p.m.

Stock a paper bag with nonperishable food items and bring it to worship for those who are food insecure. The food gathered will be used to fill the shelves at the Friendly House Food Pantry.

What’s needed? Among other items: soups, mac & cheese, canned meat (chicken & tuna), cereal, peanut butter, jelly, toilet paper, bar soap, laundry soap. Contact: Pastor Katy Warren, katy@stpaulqc.org.

HOUSING

Habitat for Humanity

Wednesdays, Sept. 27 and Oct. 18, 5-8 p.m.

St. Paul people are building a home, in partnership with Habitat for Humanity in the Quad Cities. Swing a hammer, raise a wall, run a table saw. No prior construction experience needed. To sign up for a shift, visit stpaulqc.org/signups. Contact: Pastor Katy Warren, katy@stpaulqc.org.

"THERE IS A
COMMUNITY FOUND ON EVERY
MISSION SITE, A SPIRIT OF WHICH IT
FEELS GOOD TO BE A PART. WORKING ON
SOMETHING FOR SOMEONE ELSE IS A
GIFT THAT VERIFIES PURPOSE IN LIFE."

SCOTT TEASDALE



INTERNATIONAL

Tanzania trip

April 29-May 10, 2018

Empowering Women: An immersion trip to Africa, will include visits to a water project, a gender-based violence initiative, a village health clinic, and a club for the area’s most vulnerable children and families. In the evening, time will be devoted to conversation and contemplation. The guiding principles of this time away will be simple: to be with the people of the area, learn about their lives, and be inspired by their work. Contact: Ann McGlynn, ann@stpaulqc.org.

MENTAL HEALTH

NAMI Walk

Saturday, Sept. 23, 9:30 a.m., Modern Woodmen Park

Lace up your sneakers and join the St. Paul crew who walk each year to support programs and research for people who struggle with mental illness. Registration is free; everyone gets a T-shirt. Sign up online at stpaulqc.org/signups. Contact: Deb and Joe James, joedeb1984@gmail.com.

Mental Health Awareness Team

Third Thursday of the month, 6 p.m., Church House Dining Room

Expand awareness. Banish stigmas. Love others. Share stories and support. Local experts and everyday people team up to provide education and events at St. Paul. Interested in being a part? Contact: Marla Brundies, mbrundies@hotmail.com.

Friends & Family

Fourth Monday of the month, 6 p.m., Church House Living Room

A drop-in group for people whose loved ones are impacted by mental illness, Friends & Family is for anyone looking for mutual support by sharing with and listening to others. Led by mental health professionals and Pastor Sara Olson-Smith. No need to sign up, just come. Contact: Pastor Sara Olson-Smith, sara@stpaulqc.org.

Survivors of Suicide Loss

First Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Library Conference Room

Offering support for those who have lost a friend or family member to suicide at any time, this monthly gathering is for care, compassion, and encouragement. No need to sign up, just come. Contact: Deb and Joe James, joedeb1984@gmail.com.

EARTH CARE

Make It Yours Neighborhood Cleanup

Saturday, Sept. 2, 10 a.m.-12 noon.

The St. Paul corner of the world is a beautiful place. A few times each year, St. Paul people gather to pick up trash and debris in the blocks surrounding the campus. It's called the *Make It Yours* Neighborhood Cleanup. Supplies and snacks are provided. Contact: Jules Irish, julesi@mchsi.com.

Environmental Team

The Environmental Team is a band of earth-minded St. Paul folks. They round up dish scrubbers for church suppers. They pick up trash every week on the St. Paul campus and support recycling initiatives, too. Engage your own natural instincts. Think globally and act locally as a steward of this Earthly home. Contact: Duane Haas, dlhaas@mchsi.com.

NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

Play a game, read together, plant a garden, paint a mural, clean up after an event, offer hospitality. At Madison Elementary, being together is what it is all about. Students and staff delight in the relationships built with St. Paul people. Make a difference in the lives of kids, some of whom face tough challenges. Contact: Dana Welser, dana@stpaulqc.org.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2017-18 INCLUDE:

Grounds care: A diminishing school budget means little landscaping for school. Madison needs volunteers to prune, weed, pick up litter. Everyone walking onto this campus needs to know that they will be cared for, just as the school grounds are.

Mentors: Meet with a child to read, share lunch, play games, listen, build relationships.

Classroom and school support: Help a teacher, work in a classroom, wash children's clothing, pop popcorn, work school events, go on a field trip. Many working families are unable to volunteer during the school day. St. Paul members are the perfect volunteers to help lift up students and staff.

Madison Market: On the second and fourth Tuesday of every month, a food pantry comes alive at the J.B. Young Opportunity Center. Help with food delivery, sorting or shelving, or offer hospitality to the guests. Hours are in the morning or afternoon.



THE JOY OF *community*

Togetherness is one of the deep joys of a life of faith. St. Paul people gather in groups, large and small, to share in each other's lives. Below is a sampling of groups who welcome all with open arms. Contact: Pastor Sara Olson-Smith, sara@stpaulqc.org.

WOMEN

Women of the ELCA

This is a community of women of all ages who gather for friendship and support, Bible study, and service. Monthly gatherings are held at church and in members' homes, as well as special events throughout the year. Contact: Karin Hanson, 563-528-2064 or Cindy Bleich, georgebleich@mchsi.com.

- ▶ **Advent Celebration:** On Saturday, Dec. 2, join other St. Paul women for social time, starting at 10:30 a.m., followed by a program and salad luncheon. Sign up at stpaulqc.org/signups or the Info Center. Childcare will be available. Contact: Jan Lloyd, cmljml@q.com.

MEN

Second Saturdays

Second Saturday of the month, 9 a.m.

Men of St. Paul gather for service, fellowship, and discussion. The idea is to strengthen guys in their faith. Contact: Todd Byerly, todd@stpaulqc.org.

- ▶ First meeting of the fall will be on Saturday, Sept. 9, 8:30 a.m., at the Kreyter tree farm, 12010 70th Ave., Blue Grass. Speaker will be Roger Kean of the Scott County Conservation Department.

Men's Bible study

First and third Wednesdays, 6:15 p.m., 129 House

Gather together for a time of fellowship, study, and light supper. Meet in the 129 House on the St. Paul campus, corner of Lombard and Main Streets. Contact: Jeff Keller, jeff.keller@aol.com.

YOUNG ADULTS

2136

First and third Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.

2136 is a ministry for adults in their 20s and 30s to be social, to study, and to serve. Its name comes from both the general age of those involved and the street address of St. Paul. To stay up-to-date on 2136 happenings, check out the 2136 Facebook page at facebook.com/groups/stpaul2136. Contact: Rachel Evans, mightyrachel@gmail.com.

- ▶ **Tailgating kick-off:** On Thursday, Sept. 21, 6:30 p.m., wear your team colors, and bring a dish and a chair to gather around a fire to celebrate friends and fall. Meet in the west parking lot.

College retreat

Sunday, Sept. 10, 1-4 p.m., Luther Loft

Gather with other college-aged people to discover (or re-discover) your Myers-Briggs personality type. Investigate how this shapes relationships, spirituality, and what we do with our lives. Dr. Derek Ball will lead our time together. Come ready for some good conversations, pizza, and fun with great people. Sign up online at stpaulqc.org/signups. Contact: Pastor Sara Olson-Smith, sara@stpaulqc.org.



TOGETHERNESS

Golden Agers luncheon

Wednesday, Oct. 11, 10:30 a.m., Chapel & Fellowship Hall

St. Paul senior adults, 75 years and older, come together each October for the Golden Agers worship and luncheon. RSVP by calling Jennifer Garvey at 563-326-3547. Contact: Pastor Ron Huber, ron@stpaulqc.org.

KnitWits

Third Thursday of the month, 5 p.m.

Church House Living Room

Knitters and crocheters are invited to share time over yarn as we work on service and individual projects. Don't know how to knit or crochet? We'll be glad to teach you. Contact: Belinda Holbrook, bholbrook@mchsi.com.

Primetime 50+

Monthly gatherings

Primetime 50+ brings together folks age 50 and older. Monthly gatherings at a variety of Quad City area spots are a time of fun and great community. Sign up at the Info Center for:

- ▶ **Breakfast in the Park:** On Saturday, Sept. 30, wake up with breakfast at West Lake Park. Bring a dish to share. Contact: Tom and Joan Lahl, joandiLa@aol.com.
- ▶ **Treats and Trivia,** on Friday, Nov. 3, 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall. Contact: Eldon and Ronda Bird, erbird@mchsi.com.

Quilters

Sept. 25, Oct. 23, Nov. 28, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Fellowship Hall

This devoted group of caring quilters, beginners and experts alike, gather monthly to sew, tie, cut, and piece together beautiful works of art that are donated to those in need. Contact: Cathy Hagglund, crh4quilts@msn.com or Karin Hanson, 563-528-2064.

Powerful Tools for Caregivers

Mondays, Sept. 11-Oct. 16, 5-8:30 p.m., Luther Loft

Iowa State University Extension will hold a six-week session, Powerful Tools for Caregivers, designed to empower family caregivers of adult and minor children with special health and behavioral needs to take better care of themselves. The course is free. To register, call the Iowa State University Extension office at 563-359-7577. Contact: Jennifer Best, jbest@iastate.edu.

SUPPORT & CARE

Adult Children of Alcoholics

Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m., Upper Level Education Wing

This is a group for people who grew up in dysfunctional homes of any type (mental illness, alcoholic, verbally abusive, etc.). We learn together and support each other, using a spiritual approach. Contact: Dick Jensen, rrjensen65@gmail.com.

Blood Donor Day

Wednesday, Oct. 25, 2-6 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Give the gift of life. Blood donation is a simple process that takes about 45 minutes to one hour. Enjoy conversation and refreshments afterwards. Sign up online at stpaulqc.org/signups. Contact: Pastor Sara Olson-Smith, sara@stpaulqc.org.

Care companion training

Saturday, Oct. 7, 8:30 a.m.-12 noon

A Care Companion is not an expert or counselor, but is someone who walks alongside and shares a journey for a period of time. Friendship, presence, and prayer are the tools. Be part of this team of compassionate people. Sign up online at stpaulqc.org/signups. Contact: Pastor Sara Olson-Smith, sara@stpaulqc.org.

Home Communion

Sunday, Nov. 5, volunteers are needed

Illness or age sideline many of our members from worship. Home Communion wraps them warmly into congregational life. Equipped with special communion kits, volunteers visit our homebound members in care facilities and private homes four times a year. Contact: Pastor Ron Huber, ron@stpaulqc.org.

Motherless Daughters

Second Saturday of the month, 9 a.m., Church House Living Room

Open for any woman who has experienced mother-loss at any time and needs a safe place for support. Gather to celebrate our mothers, deepen relationships, and develop a network for continuous healing. Contact: Nicole Rathje, rathjefamily@gmail.com.

Prayer Chain

The Prayer Chain works quietly and steadily behind the scenes. Prayers rise for a problem or illness, or in praise or thanksgiving. No request is too small. Requests are worded for confidentiality. For a prayer request or to volunteer as one who prays, contact Marge Irwin, 563-391-3632.

Walking the Grief Journey

Sundays, Oct. 22-Nov. 19, 10:45-11:30 a.m., Church House Living Room

A supportive, compassion-filled series for those who have experienced the recent loss of a loved one. Explore anger, depression, fears, acceptance, and new strength for a hopeful future. Sign up online at stpaulqc.org/signups. Contact: Pastor Sara Olson-Smith, sara@stpaulqc.org.



LIVE THE QUESTIONS: *adults*

As Lutheran Christians, we consider our lives to be unfinished products. That's why we're constantly seeking ways to grow in faith and deepen the meaning of our days. At St. Paul, we cultivate a community of lifelong learning. Contact: Ryan Bailey, ryan@stpaulqc.org.

BOOK LOVERS

Early Morning Book Group

Tuesdays, Oct. 24-Nov. 14, 6:45-7:30 a.m., Library Commons

What is the Bible?: How an Ancient Library of Poems, Letters, and Stories Can Transform the Way You Think and Feel About Everything by Rob Bell goes deep into the Bible to show how it is more revelatory, revolutionary, and relevant than we ever imagined—and offers a cogent argument for why we need to look at it in a fresh, new way. Contact: Pastor Katy Warren, katy@stpaulqc.org.

Faithful Readers

Second Thursday of the month, 7 p.m., Church House Living Room

Faithful Readers, St. Paul's literature discussion group, meets September through May. The first fall meeting of this 20th anniversary year will be Sept. 14, with a potluck at 6:30 p.m. The selection is *Babette's Feast and Other Stories* by Isak Dinesen, which is not available in the Book Corner, so please purchase it on your own. For September please read the first story, "Babette's Feast." See a list of readings for the rest of the year at stpaulqc.org/small-groups. Contact: Katie Hanson, katiehanson@augustana.edu or Dave Crowe, davidcrowe@augustana.edu.

Going Deeper

Thursdays, Oct. 5-26, 5-6 p.m., Church House Living Room

Longing for deeper conversation about matters of faith? A four-week small group opportunity will make its way through *Grounded* by Diana Butler Bass, a book that explores the shift among believers from a vertical understanding of God to the God found in nature and human community. Please read the first four chapters before the first meeting. Contact: Lynn Batcher, lbatcher@hotmail.com.

FAITH EXPLORATION

Centering Prayer

Thursdays, 6 p.m., Upper Level Education Wing

Practice an ancient prayer form in which you will experience God's presence within. Centering prayer does not replace other kinds of prayer, but is a discipline that allows a person to move beyond conversation to resting in God and communion with Christ. Contact: Dick Jensen, rrjensen65@gmail.com.

Heart. Soul. Mind.

Thursdays, beginning Sept. 14, 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Fellowship Hall

Gospel of Life: "So that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name." That's why the Gospel of John was written. Explore its rich symbols, textured characters, and profound insight. Discover the good news of life promised to us in Jesus. Contact: Ryan Bailey, ryan@stpaulqc.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Financial Peace University

Sunday afternoons, Sept. 10-Oct. 22, 1 p.m., Luther Loft

Geared for young adults, this session of Financial Peace University, created by Dave Ramsey, will be led by St. Paul member Martha Wells. The idea is to take “baby steps” toward better financial health. Materials can be ordered online at daveramsey.com for \$109, or purchased through Martha Wells for \$93. Childcare will be available upon request. Sign up by Sept. 7 at stpaulqc.org/signups. Contact: Martha Wells, marthawells99@gmail.com.

CC Conversations

First Thursday of the month, starting Sept. 7, 6-7:15 p.m.

CC Conversations is a new opportunity for St. Paul people to discuss with each other faith, politics, and culture, based on articles and news from *The Christian Century* magazine. Think critically and faithfully about a whole host of contemporary issues. Pastor Peter Marty will facilitate discussion. Participants will want to have read the Aug. 16 and 30 issues in advance, either by stopping at the church to read one of the copies secured in the library or through a subscription (special St. Paul rate cards are available at the Info Center). Contact: Pastor Peter Marty, peter@stpaulqc.org.

"I LOVE TO LEAD FPU. MY COMBINATION OF PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE, AND THE CHANCE TO HELP OTHERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THEIR LIVES, IS A VERY JOYFUL AND MOTIVATING EXPERIENCE."

MARTHA WELLS



FAITH & LIFE SERIES

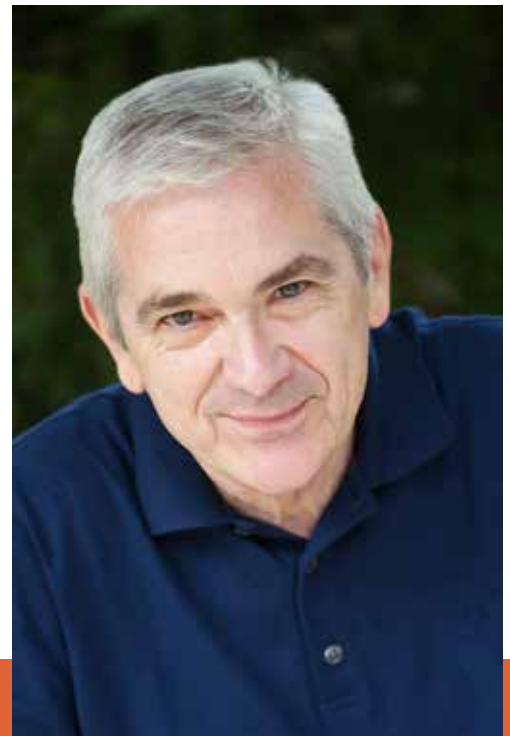
Tom Gjelten

Sunday, Nov. 12, 10:45 a.m. and 4 p.m., Sanctuary

Tom Gjelten, an NPR reporter who covers issues of religion, faith, and belief, is the 2017 St. Paul Faith & Life speaker. The events are free and open to the public.

His reporting draws on many years covering national and international news from posts in Washington and around the world. In 1986, Gjelten became one of NPR's pioneer foreign correspondents, posted first in Latin America and then in Central Europe. In the years that followed, he covered the wars in Central America, social and political strife in South America, the first Gulf War, the wars in the former Yugoslavia, and the transitions to democracy in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

His new book, *A Nation of Nations: A Great American Immigration Story*, recounts the impact on America of the 1965 Immigration Act, which officially opened the country's doors to immigrants of color. It is available in the St. Paul Book Corner.



Each fall, St. Paul hosts the community-wide Faith & Life Series. The church brings persons of national stature to the Quad Cities — sparking new ideas about what it means to live faithfully. This event reflects St. Paul's mission to serve as a learning center for our people and the entire region.

SUNDAY MORNING *learning*

On Sunday mornings, you'll find a variety of presenters and topics for adult classes, 10:45-11:30 a.m. Meet up with God's word, some riveting ideas, and interesting people. No need to register in advance. Grab your cup of coffee and settle in. Contact: Ryan Bailey, ryan@stpaulqc.org.

SEPTEMBER

September 10

Witness to Jesus Christ in a global context: With the commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in mind, look at how Luther's and Lutheran fundamental foci on salvation by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, grounded in Scripture alone, to the glory of God alone, offer a timely call to witness to Jesus Christ, in the 21st century. Winston Persaud, professor of systematic theology, Wartburg Theological Seminary. In the Chapel.

Deeply rooted for the sake of the world (part 1 of 3): Explore the essential nature of Christian spirituality and how it is lived for wholeness and wellness. Elaine Olson, St. Paul member and certified spiritual director. In the Luther Loft.

The Bible project: Using just one page of creative illustrations and diagrams, discover the key themes of each book in the New Testament. Led by St. Paul pastors and members. In Room 208.

September 17

Getting to know Kelsey and Josh: Come and meet St. Paul's two new resident pastors during this question and answer time with Kelsey Fitting-Snyder and Josh Kestner. What motivates them, what are they most looking forward to, why did they become pastors? In the Chapel.

Deeply rooted for the sake of the world (part 2 of 3): Learn about your preferred spiritual type, how it is expressed within the context of God's grace, and how it relates to your life in the church. Elaine Olson, St. Paul member and certified spiritual director. In the Luther Loft.

The Bible project: In Room 208.

September 24

A few ugly sides to the Reformation: For all the fresh perspectives and renewing impulses of the 16th century Reformation, there were some dark sides to the words and actions of some of the church reformers and civil authorities of the day. As part of history, these are worth knowing about. Pastor Peter W. Marty. In the Chapel.

Deeply rooted for the sake of the world (part 3 of 3): Discover spiritual practices that are "ever ancient, ever new." Consider how it is that we hear God speak. Elaine Olson, St. Paul member and certified spiritual director. In the Luther Loft.

The Bible project: In Room 208.

OCTOBER

October 1

The Book of Revelation and Ecology (part 1 of 2): Does a biblical book replete with destruction of the Earth and the entire cosmos

have anything to say to us today about care of creation? Consider Revelation's ecological context in the Roman empire and its depiction of animals in light of Roman gladiator games. Micah Kiel, associate professor of theology, St. Ambrose University. In the Chapel.

Hope at the Brick House: This brick building just a few blocks from St. Paul is a joyful presence in the area, offering afterschool and summer programs for kids, neighborhood meetings, meals, and help with resources. Joyce Klopp, director. In the Luther Loft.

October 8

The Book of Revelation and Ecology (part 2 of 2): In the Chapel.

Spirituality and the workplace: Consider how faith extends beyond Sunday to impact our daily routines and relationships. One St. Paul member shares his experience of how religion and spirituality have been integrated into the workplace. Steve Ollenburg, president and CEO, Modern Woodmen Bank. In the Luther Loft.

The Bible project: In Room 208.



October 15

Faith, resilience, and grief: Resilience is the latest buzz word surrounding our human response to loss, tragedy, or bumps along the road of everyday life. Discover how faith and resilience intersect to help us see more light when there is darkness. Pastor Sara Olson-Smith and Joel Moore, ELCA deacon and nurse manager. In the Chapel.

Free Indeed: Free Indeed is a ministry taking shape at the Anamosa State Penitentiary, a men's Iowa state prison. It serves nearly 1,000 men, building a community of faith within the confines of the prison. It uses the national Prison Congregations of America model, fostering a network of supporters and assistance for those who are released to the community. Jerry Collell, ELCA pastor. In the Luther Loft.

The Bible project: In Room 208.

October 22

Martin Luther and music: Martin Luther is most known for his 95 Theses, starting the Reformation in one of the most significant events in Western history. What may not be so well known is that Martin Luther was an enthusiastic proponent of music, and even composed himself. Many of Luther's hymns have become a beloved part of contemporary liturgy. Consider Luther's thoughts on music, both in his own personal application, as well as that to congregational worship. Nathan Windt, St. Paul Chorale director and associate professor of music, St. Ambrose University. In the Chapel.

Pyramids of violence and racism: Two pyramids, one representing a continuum of violence and one a continuum of racism, show how seemingly non-harmful, or socially acceptable beliefs and actions are at the foundation of the worst possible acts in our world. Learn more about the pyramids, and consider how you are represented. Ann McGlynn, director of communication. In the Luther Loft.

The Bible project: In Room 208.

October 29

Luther by the Bach: As we celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, one of the composers most associated with German church music is the great Johann Sebastian Bach. Two of Bach's cantatas were written to celebrate the Reformation Festival: *God, the*

Lord, is Sun and Shield, BWV 79, and the beloved setting of Martin Luther's hymn, *A Mighty Fortress is Our God*, BWV 80. This session will address Bach's understanding of the theological components of the Reformation Festival, and Martin Luther, through his musical setting of these two cantatas. Nathan Windt, St. Paul Chorale director and associate professor of music, St. Ambrose University. In the Chapel.

Family Bible Study: In place of regular learning, families will strengthen their intentional conversations by digging into the Bible and learning about the Reformation. Bring your Bibles! In Fellowship Hall.

The Bible project: In Room 208.

NOVEMBER

November 5

Radical Lutherans/Lutheran Radicals: Can a Lutheran be socio-politically radical? Can a radical be faithfully Lutheran? Jason Mahn of Augustana College will answer "yes" by tracing the ideas and lives of people such as Martin Luther, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Dorothee Soelle, and maybe even you. He will read from his new book, *Radical Lutherans/Lutheran Radicals*. Jason Mahn, associate professor of religion, Augustana College. In the Chapel.

Horses Heal – Growing through therapeutic equine activities: Acting as personal mirrors, teaching patience, and assisting in personal growth, horses are essential tools in the physical, emotional, mental, and cognitive development of individuals with special needs. Join New Kingdom Trailriders as they present the many ways horses heal. Theresa O'Keefe, St. Paul member. In the Luther Loft.

The Bible project: In Room 208.

November 12

Faith & Life speaker: Tom Gjelten is a National Public Radio reporter who covers issues of religion, faith, and belief. His stories encompass areas such as the changing religious landscape in America, the formation of personal identity, the role of religion in politics, and social and cultural conflict arising from religious differences.

November 19

The refugee as stranger: Since the end of World War II and the experience of displaced persons in its aftermath, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has been responsible for structuring global responses to crises that place people at risk in their own nations. Discuss the situation of refugees in the U.S. and the rest of the world before reflecting on competing views regarding our obligations to strangers. Peter Kivisto, professor of sociology, anthropology, and social welfare, Augustana College. In the Chapel.

Feeding people, not landfills: The Food Rescue Partnership is a Quad Cities coalition that promotes rescuing food for its best possible use. Dedicated to eliminating food waste, Food Rescue establishes partnerships between community stakeholders to reduce the amount of food going to landfills and increase the amount available to feed hungry people. Pete Vogel, board chair. In the Luther Loft.

The Bible project: In Room 208.

November 26

Nurturing an inclusive workplace through strengths: The city of Davenport's inclusion & equity administrator will discuss efforts within the city to create and nurture a strengths-based environment. This includes a commitment to building an environment, a workplace, and a community in which everyone is valued and everyone has the opportunity to thrive. Scott J. VanDeWoestyne, city of Davenport. In the Chapel.

Family Advent Learning: During the learning hour, people of all ages are invited to Fellowship Hall to prepare our hearts for the coming of the Lord. Kick off the Advent season with songs, a Bible story, and family craft. In Fellowship Hall.

The Bible project: In Room 208.

EXPLORE FAITH: *kids & families*

Kids and families can find a wonderful second home at St. Paul. Staff and volunteers bring hearts for sharing faith, and the congregation seeks to be a loving sign of God's grace for families. Contact: Michelle Juehring, michelle@stpaulqc.org.

SUNDAY MORNINGS

Learning for kids

Sunday mornings, 10:45-11:30 a.m. starting Sept. 10

On Sept. 10, Sunday morning learning begins for the school year. Look for friendly St. Paul faces on that day to guide you.

The classroom journey begins at age 3. The *Spark* curriculum from Augsburg Fortress guides the adventure. Parents are asked to remain in the building each Sunday during learning. You'll find your child's classroom in the education wing:

- ▶ Main Level: Age 3-PreK
- ▶ Upper Level: K-Grade 2
- ▶ Lower Level: Grades 3-5

Special Sundays | 10:45-11:30 a.m.

- ▶ **Family Bible study:** In place of regular learning on Sunday, Oct. 29, families will strengthen their intentional conversations by digging into the Bible. Meet in Fellowship Hall. Bring your Bibles!
- ▶ **Family Advent learning activity:** On Sunday, Nov. 26, we prepare our hearts for the coming of our Lord. Meet in Fellowship Hall for an Advent lesson, Christmas carols, and family craft, in place of regular learning.

Childcare

Staffed childcare is available, all Sunday morning. It's for families with infants and young children through preschool age. Children are always welcome in worship. But, there are times when your child needs a break, and you'd like some focused time to soak up a class or sermon. Parents may move easily between a pew and the childcare room as needed. Silent papers are available.

Nursing Moms' Room

A room for nursing moms, located next to the elevator area near the central staircase, is available too. Find rocking chairs, a changing table, supplies, and a video feed from the Sanctuary during worship.

FAITH MILESTONES

Milestones are foundational faith moments that shape our spiritual lives. Families gather for these celebrations; they mark moments in the rhythm of the congregation. Milestone events are planned for different ages throughout the year. Fall milestones include:

Kindergarten

Sunday, Sept. 24, 10:45-11:30 a.m.

Kids ask questions and explore St. Paul worship. A monogrammed worship bag for each child adds to this fun family event in the fall. Sign up at stpaulqc.org/signups. Contact: Michelle Juehring, michelle@stpaulqc.org.

Third Grade

Sunday, Oct. 22, 10:45-11:30 a.m.

Students and their parents learn together about God's written word. Each child will receive their own Bible and a blessing from the congregation at 9:20 a.m. worship. Sign up at stpaulqc.org/signups. Contact: Michelle Juehring, michelle@stpaulqc.org.

PRESCHOOL

St. Paul Preschool is a loving community for children, age two through pre-kindergarten. The church's classrooms fill with light and life on Monday through Friday mornings, 8:45-11:45 a.m., September through May.

With a highly educated staff leading the way, this little village for preschoolers is solidly constructed in Christ's love. Some 100 children find a home in classrooms:

- ▶ Two-year-olds (two- and three-day programs)
- ▶ Three-year-olds (two- and three-day programs)
- ▶ Pre-K (four-day program)

Contact: Joanna Roland, joanna@stpaulqc.org.

PARENTING

Moms' Morning

Fridays, 9-10:30 a.m., starting Sept. 15, Church House Living Room

Friendships form when mothers of young children get together. Moms' Morning is an every-Friday-morning gathering that celebrates parenthood with laughter, prayer, and mutual support. A Bible study is held once a month, and guest speakers visit once a month as well. Childcare is provided. Contact: Sara Harless, saraharless@gmail.com.

St. Paul Parenting Fellowship

St. Paul Parenting Fellowship is a community of families from all walks of life. The mission is to share in the joys and trials of parenting, give to others in the spirit of Christ, and grow in efforts to raise kids in a life of faith. Gatherings feature friendship, support, and learning.

- ▶ **Trunk or Treat:** Sunday, Oct. 22, 5-7 p.m. It's the annual orange-and-black frivolity at St. Paul for the whole family. Gather for a simple meal, a short worship service, treating, and a parking lot dance party! Costumes are encouraged.
- ▶ **Parents' Game Night:** Fridays, Sept. 8 & Oct. 20, 5:30-8 p.m. Come for dinner and get ready to laugh out loud with other parents. After a delicious meal and witty conversation, we'll break out the games where fun will be had by all. Sign up at stpaulqc.org/signups. Contact: Sean Harless, sharless57@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Sunday, Dec. 10, 4 p.m.

Calling all stars, angels, shepherds, and sheep! Children will delight in sharing the story of Jesus' birth through the singing of traditional Christmas carols and speaking parts. Everyone receives a costume to wear. Selections for speaking parts and rehearsals will begin in October. Watch the church calendar for specifics. Would you like to help guide the Christmas program? Contact: Michelle Juehring, michelle@stpaulqc.org.

"I LIKE MUSIC!"

BETH BEHRENS, 4,
ABOUT VBS

"I LIKE THE GAMES!"

NATHAN BEHRENS, 6,
ABOUT VBS

"I LIKE MEETING
NEW PEOPLE ON
MISSION TRIPS."

WILL BEHRENS, 13



This is the place for off-the-charts fun, faith, and friendship. But it's so much more. Every encounter is aimed at powerfully nurturing and strengthening the faith of young people and their families. Contact: Andy Langdon, andy@stpaulqc.org.

GOD-INSPIRED ENTHUSIASM: *youth*



HIGH SCHOOL

Sunday mornings

Sundays, 10:45-11:30 a.m.

Sunday gatherings are offered each week for students in grades 9-12 in Room 005. High school youth also volunteer to teach Sunday morning learning for younger children, assist with worship, usher, work in the nursery, or sing in the Youth Choir.

Sunday Night Live (SNL)

Sundays, 7:15-8:30 p.m., starting Sept. 10, Youth Room

Grab a booth or a spot on “the carpet monster” for Sunday Night Live (SNL). SNL is a strong framework for high school youth, a fun place to get recharged before school on Monday morning. Live, grow, and serve. Jump into super-sized life experiences. SNL has something for everyone. Small groups meet beforehand, on- and off-site.

- ▶ **Small group kick-off potluck:** On Sept. 10, 6:30 p.m., come before SNL and plug in with a small group for the year. Meet the leaders, share a meal, play some games. Bring a drink/side dish to share.
- ▶ **Midweek Recharge:** Wednesdays, starting Sept. 13, 6:45-8 p.m., this small group is designed for students who do not attend Sunday evenings. In Room 208.
- ▶ **2018 summer trips info meeting:** Sunday, October 1, 6:45-7:15 p.m., Library Commons. During the October potluck, trip dates, costs, and details will be announced.

GRADES 6-8

Sunday mornings

Sundays, 10:45-11:30 a.m., Youth Room

Sunday gatherings are offered each week for students in grades 6-8. Most seventh- and eighth-graders also serve as acolytes during worship, or sing in the Youth Choir.

678 Night

Wednesdays, Sept. 27, Oct. 25, & Nov. 29, 6:30-8 p.m.

High-energy games + fun + togetherness + great Bible studies + campfire-style worship = 678. This group for those in grades 6, 7, and 8 meets periodically throughout the year.

Confirmation

First three Wednesdays of the month, beginning Sept. 6, 6:30-8 p.m.

For youth in grades 7 and 8, St. Paul's confirmation ministry is a creative, Spirit-enlivened experience, built on relationships with God and others.

The fall confirmation retreat for seventh-graders will be Sept. 15-16 at Camp Shalom, and for eighth-graders in the Quad Cities on Nov. 3-4.

Faith Stories

Sundays, Sept. 17-Oct. 15, 10:45-11:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Faith stories are the culmination of confirmation at St. Paul. This fall, for five Sundays during the learning hour, ninth-graders will share three-minute presentations describing how they have experienced the presence and work of God in their lives. Contact: Ryan Bailey, ryan@stpaulqc.org.

Contemplative Retreat

St. Mary's Monastery, Sept 23, 10 a.m.- Sept. 24, 10 a.m.

Spend 24 hours at the monastery and embrace the stillness of nature, tradition, and contemplation. Guided group experiences, worship with the sisters, walking the trails, deeper conversations and intentional slow free time make this a different sort of youth retreat. Cost is \$50. Sign up online at stpaulqc.org/signups by Sept. 10. Contact: Andy Langdon, andy@stpaulqc.org.

NEW STAFF MEMBERS



KATIE CASEY, *Jubilate children's choir director*, is the music teacher at Pleasant Valley's Hopewell Elementary School in Bettendorf. She has a bachelor's degree in music education from the University of Illinois and a master's degree in special education from Western Illinois University. She and her husband, Jimmy Cederquist, live in Bettendorf with their children, Kinley, 5, and Kellyn, 1.



MICHELLE HENRY, *youth ministries intern*, is a junior at Augustana College from Des Plaines, Illinois. In this brand new internship for St. Paul, Michelle will work closely with Andy Langdon, director of youth ministries. She is majoring in environmental studies and classical studies, with a strong desire to serve in the Church. She is an admissions ambassador and serves on the campus ministries leadership team. She was a leader for YouthWorks this summer, and a counselor at Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp in Colorado in 2016.



GRIFFIN RASCHE, *communications intern*, is a senior at St. Ambrose University and is from Camanche, Iowa. Griffin, who will work with the communications department, is majoring in multimedia journalism and strategic communications. She works as a director/producer at SAUtv, a features editor at The Buzz, and is a tennis player. She is returning from a summer research internship in Madison, Wisconsin.



KYLE SCHNEIDER, *contemporary music assistant*, is a senior at St. Ambrose University studying music education. He grew up in Crystal Lake, Illinois, but has family roots in the Quad City area. At St. Paul, Kyle works under the direction of Bill Campbell, contemporary music coordinator, for the Open Spirit worship on Sundays. Outside of church, Kyle spends majority of his time performing and teaching music throughout the area.

UPCOMING *worship*

SEPTEMBER 2 & 3

Season after Pentecost
Labor Day weekend

PREACHING

- 5:30** Katy Warren
- 8:00** Katy Warren
- 9:20** Katy Warren
- 11:00** Katy Warren

SEPTEMBER 9 & 10

Season after Pentecost
Fall Start-up Sunday

PREACHING

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

MUSIC

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

SEPTEMBER 16 & 17

Season after Pentecost

PREACHING

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

MUSIC

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

SEPTEMBER 23 & 24

Season after Pentecost

PREACHING

- 5:30** Josh Kestner
- 8:00** Josh Kestner
- 9:20** Sara Olson-Smith
- 11:45** Sara Olson-Smith

MUSIC

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



ST. PAUL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

2136 Brady Street
Davenport, IA 52803

Fall

START-UP
SUNDAY



Sunday worship starting Sept. 10:
8, 9:20, & 11:45 a.m.
Learning for all: 10:45-11:30 a.m.