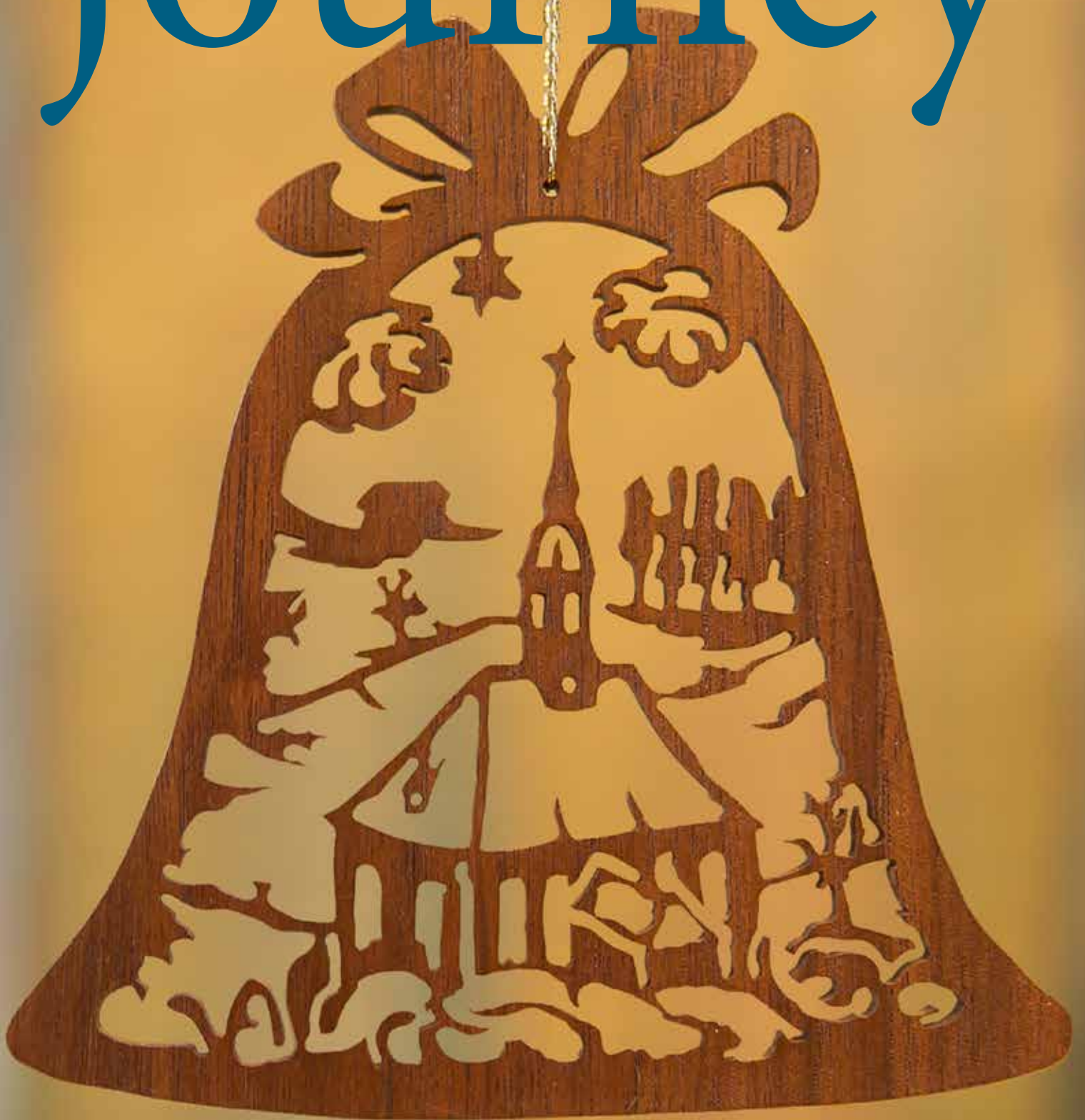


THE MAGAZINE OF ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH December 2016

journey



No vacancy

Travel changes for most couples once their first child is born. Gone are the unscripted adventures – the wanderlust – and the spontaneous decisions once taken for granted. When toddlers need a morning and afternoon nap, not to mention a dependable bedtime, driving around to find the perfect lodging loses appeal fast.

My wife likes to remind me of the time when we were in Montreal with our eight-month-old son fussing badly from a long day in his car seat. We couldn't land a hotel for anything. Every place we stopped was booked full. When we finally found an available room, the front desk clerk informed us that they had no cribs to loan. Jacob slept inside a dresser drawer that night, cozily situated next to Susan's side of the bed.

Quebec lacked those "No Vacancy" signs that many of us grew up seeing along America's highways and byways. Those signs, in their heyday, were handy devices. Front desk managers didn't have to be the bearers of bad news when all their rooms were taken. Weary motorists didn't have to bother stopping once they saw the "No" lit up in the distance.

These once ubiquitous signals of hospitality (or disappointment) are fading fast now. The lodging industry has shifted from mom and pop establishments to national chains. Neon lighting systems, with a simple toggle switch to turn the "No" in "No Vacancy" on or off, aren't so common anymore. Smartphone calling, online booking, and mobile apps in the car eliminate the need to spot available lodging through the windshield.

But there are other reasons why these vacancy indicators have fallen out of favor, says Jefferson Rogers, professor of geography at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Managers can sell the same room twice when a reservation holder doesn't show but still has to pay. Eliminating the signs also presents a screening benefit. "If people come in asking for a room," says Rogers, "and you think they look like trouble—rowdy college students, say—if you have 'Vacancy' out there, you're kind of obligated to give them a room. Without the sign, you can just say, 'Sorry, we're full,' even if you're not."

All of this makes me wonder what the parents of Jesus actually encountered when they learned that "there was no place for them in the inn" (Luke 2:7). Was there no physically available space to bed down? No forty square feet to lay a mat? Or, was someone at the front door sizing them up and expressing some private disfavor? It's a fair question to ask. A woman in labor, with an awkward companion, could not have been the most convenient guest. I think the doorman feared he'd have to be the midwife.

We'll never know the answer to why someone

moved them out back to a manger near the cows. But this early rejection of a home for Jesus would hardly be his last. He's still looking for a home in our world – still searching for a place to bed down.

We're busy erecting "No Vacancy" signs around the dark places of our souls and the shallow zones of our hearts. Nobody wants to fuss with the inconvenience of Jesus on certain days. It's so much easier – isn't it? – to buy this item and make that decision, to denounce this person and sequester that money, to support this legislation and avoid that commitment ... all without having to deal with Jesus. Plotting everyday life, relationships, and politics becomes much simpler if we don't have to plop Jesus into the equation.

We can ignore Jesus and his values all we want, but that will always be at the expense of our integrity and to the peril of our faith. He *will* come back knocking. And when he does, and the door of our heart starts to rattle, it will eventually crack open. That's all Jesus needs to get his hand inside. He is reaching for that toggle switch on the "No Vacancy" sign. Determined to turn off the "NO," our Lord wants to make sure that the next person we meet knows there is still room left in our heart.



Peter W. Marty

PETER W. MARTY
senior pastor



ON THE COVER:
Handcrafted wood ornament made by Betty Dresselhaus' late husband, Glenn

journey

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MISSION
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All St. Paul Reads 2017: *Just Mercy*

Just Mercy – a story about the potential for mercy to redeem us, and a clarion call to fix our broken system of justice – 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. The case drew Bryan into a tangle of conspiracy, political machinations, and legal brinksmanship – and transformed his understanding of mercy and justice forever.

All St. Paul Reads is encouragement for all to read and talk about a single book. The Book Corner sponsors this annual event with everyone invited to a meal followed by spirited book discussion.

In 2017, the event will take place on Thursday, February 9, 6:30-8 p.m. Tami Byram Mahl, a St. Paul member and lawyer, will share her experience working on a death penalty case early in her legal career. The punishment was eventually set aside. Additionally, a portion of the case was successfully argued before the U.S. Supreme Court – Tami was one of the lawyers present for the arguments.

Just Mercy is available for purchase for \$10 in the St. Paul Book Corner.

Children and youth Advent gathering: Socks and stories

Each year, St. Paul children and youth gather items for others experiencing poverty. This year, the gathering will be for the children of Madison Elementary School. Items will be collected at tables in the Education Wing on these days:

- **Dec 11:** Crew or knee-high socks for children of all sizes
- **Dec 18:** Books for children, reading ages K-5

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



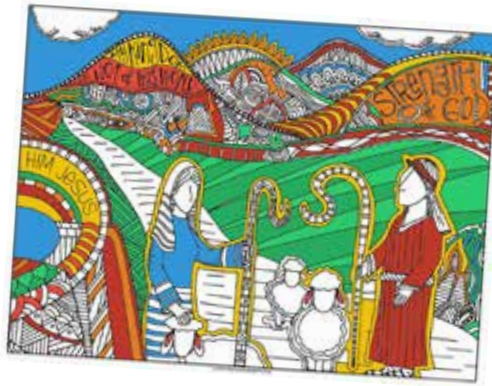
"Two bars—how about you?"

ADVENT ADULT COLORING EVENT

Help create an art installation for Advent at this season's adult coloring event on Thursday, Dec. 1, 6:30 p.m.

Five individual posters which focus on a different aspect of Jesus' life and ministry will create a piece at St. Paul for the season.

Participants can bring their own coloring supplies, but colored pencils will be provided. Bring a friend for this relaxing evening of conversation and creating. Light snacks will be available. To sign up, visit stpaulqc.org/signups.

**New books in the Book Corner**

The St. Paul Book Corner has new selections for adults and children. Every book is carefully selected by St. Paul pastors, staff, and avid St. Paul readers. Books are priced below retail, without sales tax. A few of the new selections include:

- *Sabbath as Resistance: Saying No to the Culture of Now* by Walter Brueggemann
- *October 31, 1517: Martin Luther and the Day That Changed the World* by Martin E. Marty
- *A Field Philosopher's Guide to Fracking: How One Texas Town Stood Up to Big Oil and Gas* by Adam Briggie
- *Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis* by J D Vance
- *Mama Bear's Manifesto: A Moms' Group Guide to Changing the World* by Leslie Klipsch
- *Once We Were Brothers* by Ronald H. Balson
- *Allah: A Christian Response* by Miroslav Volf
- *Of Thee I Sing: A Letter to My Daughters* by Barack Obama
- *Refuge* by Anne Booth

**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, Jan. 1, 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. 25 and Jan. 1. Classes resume Jan. 8.

Youth choir: All former Youth Choir singers are invited to join the current Youth Choir for worship on Sunday, Jan. 8. 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.



MOLDUS & MAKEUS



St. Paul people: Have you pledged yet?

2016 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 2017

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 orange pledge card and envelope for 2017 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-2017. 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 2016 giving statements, all offerings must be received in the church office through mail or the offering plate by 12 noon on Friday, Dec. 30.

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 2017 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 \$550,000 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.

PETER & BETH LAUREIJS

This summer marked 20 years living in Iowa, and the U.S. We're both from Nova Scotia, Canada; although Peter spent his formative years in Holland. Our children, Aleisha, Ria and Andrew are fun, thoughtful, caring young adults; living and working in Nova Scotia, Pennsylvania, and Minnesota, respectively.

As a family, church and faith have always been an important part of our lives. We go to church to give thanks, to learn and to refuel ourselves for the week ahead. As a doctor and a nurse, we have been in challenging situations where our faith has helped us. Weekly worship keeps us grounded, informs us, and helps us remain humble as we live our lives and hopefully continue to become the people God would have us be.

We were drawn to St. Paul by the worship services and outreach. We enjoy the welcoming atmosphere, thought-provoking sermons, and beautiful music at each service. The outreach opportunities that St. Paul provides through Habitat for Humanity, Madison School, and many others, create a stronger community for everyone. Last, but not least, we enjoy stimulating adult learning sessions which help inform our views in a world that is continuously being molded and changed by events near and far. In so many ways, St. Paul enriches our lives!

A nourishing meal

Two St. Paul ministries offer meals for those going through difficult times, life transitions, new arrivals

Table Graces and Meals for Moms are creating community and well-wishes by taking meals to St. Paul members who are facing a variety of circumstances that warrant care and compassion.

Food is nourishment for the body and soul, organizers of both efforts say. A meal gives people the opportunity to experience some normalcy and take a little bit of a break from the change that's going on around them.

"Many stories about the ministry of Jesus occur around a meal and the sharing of food," said Tammy Hermanson, St. Paul staff member who leads the Table Graces effort. "Food not only nourishes the body, but the gift of food feeds the spirit as well. Bringing sustenance at a time of need communicates caring. It creates bonds and strengthens friendships. Sharing food can be a wonderful way to serve one another while fulfilling very basic human needs."

TABLE GRACES

The Table Graces ministry is designed to help the people of St. Paul connect with others through preparing meals together a few times a year and delivering them to fellow St. Paul members at a later date. A frozen entrée, fresh salad, dessert, and a note card or prayer grace the tables of those who welcome a lovingly prepared meal during a particular time of need.

Someone recently hospitalized, a displaced individual or family, or those impacted by special circumstances are some of the people who benefit from the ministry.

Friendships also form among the people who come to cook, Tammy said. They take joy in recommending recipes and delivering meals.

"Table Graces transcends food," she said.

MEALS FOR MOMS

When Christine Lassers had her third child, Teddy, fellow moms brought her meals during the initial weeks after his birth.

"It was wonderful," said Christine. "Having a child is one of the most stressful times of life. Having someone bring meals, it takes one more thing off your plate. You don't have to make a mess, don't have to clean dishes."

Christine is the coordinator of Meals for Moms – an initiative started by the Moms' Morning group that meets at St. Paul. They are welcoming others into the meal-making and delivery effort.

The way it works is simple. Christine connects with Pastor Sara Olson-Smith each month about babies born, and children adopted, to St. Paul members. She then connects with the families to see if they would be interested in having some meals brought to them.

Some say no, some say yes. For the ones who say yes, Christine sets up an online signup, posts it on the Moms' Morning Facebook page and sends the link out by email. The system is flexible, allowing for suggestions based on dietary needs, allergies, or tastes, and for different preferences on days and times for deliveries.

Most importantly, it encourages connection and goodness – for both the cook and the recipient.

"This is an extra little help until a family gets back to a regular routine," she said. "New moms can relax a bit, and simply put the meals in the oven."



Amy Philip, Christine Lassers, Sara Harless

TABLE GRACES will hold a special Christmas cookie-making event on Thursday, Dec. 8, 2-6 p.m. in the St. Paul Kitchen. The cookies will be given to the families who participate in the Madison Marketplace food pantry. Sign up for a shift at stpaulqc.org/signups.

MEALS FOR MOMS are inviting individuals to join in their effort to bring meals to St. Paul members who are new parents. To be a part of this opportunity, email Christine Lassers at christine.lassers@gmail.com.

Shelter & refuge

St. Paul-supported organizations serve women and children experiencing homelessness, or fleeing abusive situations

A baby blue, two story, wood frame home on 20th Street in Rock Island looks like a typical home from the outside. But take a step inside and see – up to four women and their children live there, with a house manager who helps take care of running the household. The women are there because they are experiencing homelessness, and need a place to determine the next steps of their lives.

“We are more than a shelter,” executive director Ann Ring said, noting that many of the women who come to stay at the house have trauma in their backgrounds. “We are a home.”

The organization is called the St. Joseph the Worker House Association, a nod to its history dating back to the 1970s. Women can stay for up to 90 days in the 20th Street house, and up to a year in a transitional housing duplex. They participate in chores, take classes, find work, and get support to tap resources as they get back on their feet.

The history of the house began in the early 1970s when Fr. Robert Reynolds, the pastor of St. Joseph the Worker Church, opened the Catholic Worker House in the parish rectory. Eventually the program moved to the house on 20th Street, operated by Chuck and Kim Trapkus. The house, then known as the Dorothy Day House, provided services for a number of years. As part of the national Catholic Worker Movement, the house welcomed anyone who came to its door.

In the late 1980s, the Catholic Worker Board of Trustees donated the property to the St. Joseph the Worker House Association, which was a corporation formed by St. Joseph Church. The mission of the house became focused on homeless women and children. The church, which closed in 2005, had a mission of social justice involvement and provided generous funding for the operation of the house.

After being closed for several years, the house reopened in September of 2006 under new leadership. In 2007 a new board was seated and became a 501c3 charity.

In September of 2009, the board purchased a second home, which is located on 11th Street.

In 2010 the first house was named the Martha House based on the biblical woman, Martha, who showed hospitality to Jesus.

The organization is now supported by individual donations, local church and community efforts, as well as grants and fundraising. St. Paul began its support in 2015.

Jessica Bingham is the house manager at St. Joseph the Worker. She lives there, a position that she finds quite fulfilling



Ann Ring and Jessica Bingham

as she is a “homemaker at heart.”

She manages the chore chart to make sure the work of running a household gets done. She helps support residents as they cook meals for each other. She also lends an ear to the women – “they come and talk with me,” she said. “This has really opened my eyes to a lot of things.”

It’s doing lots of seemingly little things that occupy her time – yet they are big things toward making the house comfortable for all.

“I was a homemaker for 12 years,” she said. “I can do 22 things at once and it doesn’t phase me,” she said.

GIVE

St. Paul offerings financially support the work of several shelters in the Quad Cities, including these four shelters for women and children. St. Paul's commitment to these shelters total \$22,000.

ACT

The organizations featured on these pages rely on volunteers and advocates to help empower the marginalized in our community.

Do you have a skill, talent, or passion to share? Here's how to connect and work in the lives of others:

Family Resources: www.famres.org

Humility of Mary:
www.humilityofmaryhousing.com

St. Joseph the Worker House:
www.sjtw.org

Winnie's Place: www.cuqca.org/ministries/winnies-place

LEARN

Sister Mary Ann Vogel from Humility of Mary Housing will speak about her organization's work on Sunday, Dec. 11, 10:45-11:30 a.m. in the Luther Loft.

Humility of Mary Housing

Humility of Mary Housing Inc. (or HMHI) serves approximately 80 single-parent families with 150 children annually. It began with one four-plex building that housed four young mothers and their four babies. Today, HMHI has 49 apartments in 15 locations in Davenport.

HMHI empowers, strengthens, and increases the self-reliance of single parent families who have been homeless, through supportive services and quality housing. Families live in furnished apartments, paying rent on a sliding-fee scale.

While in the HMHI program, social workers partner with parents to set goals to increase their education or job training. Families with parents suffering with brain-injury, mental health, or recovery issues also receive support of a resident site manager.

Family Resources

The Family Resources shelter is a place for women and children fleeing domestic violence and/or sexual assault (hotel rooms are also available for men and others who are not able to stay at shelter). It is a short-term shelter, at an undisclosed location, for what can be one of the most dangerous times in a survivor's life.

Domestic violence is a pattern of behavior that is used to gain power and control over one's intimate partner, and it can occur in both dating and marital relationships. The violence can be in the form of physical injury, but it may also be in the form of threats, isolation, sexual assault, and emotional abuse.

Services offered include 24-hour crisis line at (563)326-9191, 24-hour emergency response to hospitals and police departments, counseling, medical advocacy, legal advocacy, housing referrals, employment assistance, and safety planning.

Winnie's Place

Winnie's Place, which is celebrating its 10-year anniversary this month, offers free, comprehensive services to women and children. Services include: shelter, food, clothing, counseling, parenting skills, spiritual support, as well as encouragement, acceptance, and hope.

At the shelter, women can focus on their mental health, chemical dependency, budgeting, time management and parenting, instead of putting all of their emotional energy towards preventing abuse.

The name Winnie came from this: "Women In Need — Nurtured into Excellence."

Advent

STARTING NOVEMBER 27

Choral Advent Worship | Sunday, Dec. 4

Let the glories of song – and an impressive intergenerational gathering of all 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. 16, 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. 20, 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. 11, 4 p.m.

Dozens of St. Paul stars, shepherds, and sheep will sing and tell the story of Jesus' birth at the 2016 Christmas pageant, held in the Sanctuary.

Youth Advent Events | Dec. 4 & 18

Shopping for Handicapped Development Center: On Sunday, Dec. 4, 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. 18, 5:30-8 p.m.



Christmas love FROM THE ST. PAUL STAFF

Pictured: (back row, left to right) Michelle Juehring, Jennifer Garvey, Katy Warren, Harris Schneekloth, Joanna Roland, Amy Diller, Ryan Bailey, Ann McGlynn, Rick Ybarra, Becky Harper, Lauren Brown (front row, left to right) Jim Akright, Paul Caldwell, Matt Spencer, Tessa Hahn, Tammy Hermanson, Chris Nelson, Marcia

Robertson, Karen Holden, Todd Byerly, Paula Durham, Sara Olson-Smith, Andy Langdon, Peter Marty **Not Pictured:** Dana Welser, Ron Huber, Bill Campbell, Nathan Windt, Dan Pepper, Sara Harless, Rosita Tendall, Margaret Thompson, Linda Allebach, Teresa Whitbeck, Joe Wollett, Allison Adams, and Ron Mullen.

Christmas Eve

SATURDAY, 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 Katy Warren 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 and a string ensemble on hand. *Pastor Peter Marty preaching.*

Christmas Day

Sunday, December 25, 10 a.m.

One Sunday service, with the great lessons and carols. *Ryan Bailey 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.



Gifts of Love

My late husband, Glenn Dresselhaus, was truly a talented craftsman. His favorite medium was working with black walnut.

He cut the walnut trees down and made boards suitable for crafts. His specialty was making items with his scroll saw – these items were very intricate. His handiwork won many ribbons and awards at the fair, Festival of Trees, Plus 60 Art Show, and other venues.

His favorite gifts to make were for the pastors at Christmas. Every fall, he spent considerable time deciding which pattern to use and creating his masterpiece. Over the years, the gifts were a variety of nativity scenes, angels, or words expressing joy to the world and peace.

After cutting out the intricate ornaments, he sanded and then sealed them with a finish. He wrapped them and delivered them. Glenn loved to share his creations – he always said homemade gifts were an expression of love, and by creating with his hands, he also expressed God's love.

Glenn died of cancer on Oct. 8, 2011. Our son, Mark, who lives in Kalona, Iowa, is also a talented craftsman and is carrying on the tradition of creating beautiful items with his dad's scroll saw.

— Betty Dresselhaus



new members / OCTOBER 2016



Pam & Todd Ancelet, Justin, Gavin



Ethan Bettis



Lori & Jerry Bippus



Tami Jaenel-Conklin



Heather & Jason Dalhoff, Haden



Laura Fehr



Sue & Mark Griswold, Cheyenne



Larry & Thelma Hall



Kerri Hanna, Nicole, Sydney, Nolan



Olga Jennings, Alex



Marianne Jensen



Greg Krafka, Brynn, Macy



Linda Mott



Nicole Pleggenkuhle



Drew & Kelly Shepard, Ethan



Myron & Sheila Thorberg

PAM & TODD ANCELET have two boys, Justin and Gavin. Todd works at John Deere and Pam is a math teacher and homemaker. This family takes an interest in reading, fitness, and spending time together. They came to St. Paul through friends.

ETHAN BETTIS is a senior at Pleasant Valley High School. He spends his free time doing homework, listening to music, and watching movies on Netflix. The diversity of the congregation is what attracted him to St. Paul.

LORI & JERRY BIPPUS enjoy biking, fitness, gardening, and volunteering. They have five adult children. Jerry is a project manager with Iossi Construction. Lori is employed as a communications manager at John Deere.

TAMI JAENEL-CONKLIN has a new baby, Addison (*not pictured*). Tami works as an occupational therapist at Genesis. She and her husband like to travel, watch sports, and spend time outdoors.

HEATHER & JASON DALHOFF are the parents of Haden. Jason is employed in accounting at John Deere while Heather manages the homefront. They like to spend time with family and were drawn to St. Paul by the music and children's programs.

LAURA FEHR works as a music therapist with Music Speaks, LLC. She takes an interest in reading, spending time with friends and family, and working out. She is also passionate about health, nutrition, and positivity.

SUE & MARK GRISWOLD are the parents of Cheyenne. Mark is retired from marketing at Alcoa and Sue is a retired third grade bilingual teacher. This family enjoys art, gardening, and travel. The youth activities are what attracted them to St. Paul.

LARRY & THELMA HALL live in Davenport. Larry is retired from parts distribution at John Deere and takes an interest in stained glass and wood carving. Thelma is a homemaker and likes cooking and counted cross-stitch.

KERRI HANNA has three children, Nicole, Sydney, and Nolan. Kerri is a physical therapist with Rock Valley Physical Therapy. This family enjoys exercise, reading, boating, and the kids' activities. What drew them to St. Paul? The youth programs and service opportunities.

OLGA JENNINGS is the mother of son Alexander. Olga is an engineer at the Rock Island Arsenal. Originally from Ukraine, she likes to spend time with her kids, volunteer, and work on house projects. The programs and mission are what attracted her to St. Paul.

MARIANNE JENSEN is a retired English teacher and community volunteer. She enjoys reading, biking, and book clubs. The music and worship are what brought her to St. Paul.

NEW MEMBERS CONTINUED

GREG KRAFKA has two daughters, Brynn and Macy. Greg is employed as a cost and financial analyst with John Deere. He spends his time attending his daughters' school and sports activities, golfing, and working out. What attracted him to St. Paul? "The energy and enthusiasm of the youth programs."

LINDA MOTT is an assistant US attorney. She takes an interest in golfing, swimming, spending time with family, and going to the park with her dog. The feeling of welcome is what drew her to St. Paul.

ROB PEREZ (*not pictured*) is employed as a barber at the East Moline Correctional Center and likes to bike, jog, and spend time with his daughter, Stella.

NICOLE PLEGGENKUHLE is a student at Palmer College. She enjoys running, anything outdoors, playing the piano, and spending time with friends and family.

DREW & KELLY SHEPARD are the parents of son, Ethan. Drew is employed as an air traffic controller at the Quad Cities International Airport. Kelly works as an accounting supervisor with Lee Enterprises. They like to spend time with family and enjoy the outdoors.

MYRON & SHEILA THORBERG are retired and like to spend time with family. They have two adult children.

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 Thursday, Dec. 8, 6:30-9 p.m. or Saturday, Jan. 7, 9-11:30 a.m. Sign up at the Info Center or online at stpaulqc.org/signups.



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. 11. 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.

Wonders of his love

ST. PAUL ADVENT DAILY DEVOTIONS

This December, focus on the promise of God's love and light with an Advent blog. Featuring an array of St. Paul voices, daily devotions will land on the website and in your email box based on the theme *Wonders of His Love*. Sign up to receive devotions by email at ow.ly/TGYC5, or read them on the website: stpaulqc.org/blog.

UPCOMING worship

DECEMBER 3 & 4

*Second Sunday of Advent
Choral Advent, 8 & 9:20 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, Cantate Choir

DECEMBER 10 & 11

Third Sunday of Advent

PREACHING

5:30 Amy Diller
8:00 Amy Diller
9:20 Katy Warren
11:45 Katy Warren

MUSIC

9:20 Chorale, Jubilate Choir

DECEMBER 17 & 18

Fourth Sunday of Advent

PREACHING

5:30 Peter W. Marty
8:00 Peter W. Marty
9:20 Sara Olson-Smith
11:45 Peter W. Marty

MUSIC

9:20 Chorale, Alleluia Choir

DECEMBER 24 & 25

Christmas Eve & Christmas Day

See page 9 for preaching details

DEC. 31 & JAN. 1

First Sunday of Christmas

PREACHING

5:30 Peter W. Marty
8:00 Peter W. Marty
9:20 Amy Diller
11:45 Amy Diller



ST. PAUL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

2136 Brady Street
Davenport, IA 52803



Christmas Eve

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

Christmas Day~10 A.M.