

# ST. PAUL connections



## WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

What does it look like to follow Jesus? That is the topic of discussion in the gospel reading today. And it is not an easy question to answer.

That is the task that several ninth graders have this week and in the weeks to come as they share their "faith stories" with us. Where do they see God at work in their lives and in the world? And what does that mean for them? Listen up. We have a lot to learn.

Faith is not just a label. It is more than a list of things we believe. It transforms our lives. It calls us to act. It points our attention towards God and each other. So, what's your story?

## today at st. paul

### September 15 & 16 - Pentecost 17

Preaching:

5:30/7:45 Josh Kestner  
9:00/11:15 Peter W. Marty

Worship notes:

7:45 St. Paul Quartet  
9:00 Rite of Confirmation; Chorale  
Communion served at all services

Readings: Isaiah 50: 4-9a; James 3: 1-12;  
Mark 8: 27-38

## next weekend

### September 22 & 23 - Pentecost 18

Preaching:

5:30/9:00 Katy Warren  
7:45/11:15 Josh Kestner

Worship notes:

9:00 Rite of Confirmation; Chorale  
Communion served at all services

Readings: Jeremiah 11: 18-20;  
James 3: 13—4:3, 7-8a;  
Mark 9: 30-37

Privacy laws prevent hospitals from automatically informing churches of members admitted. You can easily notify our pastoral care staff of a hospitalization: 563-326-3547 x211 or becky@stpaulqc.org.

## Hospitalized: (\*released as of 9/13)

- \*Russ Carlson
- Bob Crampton
- \*Lisa Holdorf
- \*Jim Mullins

## confirming faith

Confirmation concludes at the beginning of the ninth-grade year. Students will share their faith stories during a series of Sunday-morning sessions in Fellowship Hall, starting today (Sunday) Sept. 16, 10:20-11:05 a.m. They will be confirmed during worship on the morning they present their story. Students confirmed today during 9:00 a.m. worship: Lauren Anderson, Izzy Appel, Sarah Bernick, Taylor Buhr, Natalie Carslake, Ben Eckman, Peter Evans, Cecelia Fierce, Tyler Hurd, Chloe Isbell, Zachary Paustian, and Caroline Sierk.

## staff connections

### PASTORS

Peter W. Marty *Senior pastor*  
Sara Olson-Smith *Associate pastor*  
Katy Warren *Associate pastor*  
Kelsey Fitting-Snyder *Pastor in residency*  
Joshua Kestner *Pastor in residency*  
Ron Huber *Visitation pastor*

### COMMUNICATIONS

Ann McGlynn *Director of communication*  
Lauren Brown *Artistic director*  
Becky Harper *Adm. asst. to sr. pastor*  
Karen Holden *Book Corner manager*  
Destiny Ellingsworth *Communications intern*

### OPERATIONS

Todd Byerly *Operations director*  
Paula Durham *Business manager*  
Jennifer Garvey *Receptionist*  
Carrie Bowman *Business office assistant*  
Marcia Robertson *Stewardship coordinator*  
Harris Schneekloth *Campus and grounds*  
Matt Spencer *Building manager*  
Jim Akright *Custodial/Maintenance*  
Paul Caldwell *Host*  
Terry Haru *Host*  
Ron Mullen *Host*  
Nick Peterson *Host*

### LEARNING

Kendra Thompson *Pastor of children & family life*  
Karen Strusz *Preschool director*  
Andy Langdon *Director of youth ministries*  
Eyreka Barnes *Assistant to learning director*  
Dana Welsler *Neighborhood schools*  
Teresa Whitbeck *Childcare team leader*  
Christine Vincent *Youth ministries intern*

### MUSIC

Chris Nelson *Director of music ministries*  
Bill Campbell *Contemporary music*  
Linda Allebach *Assistant organist*  
Nathan Windt *Chorale director*  
Dan Pepper *Youth choir director*  
Katie Casey *Children's choir director*  
Sara Harless *Children's choir director*  
Margaret Thompson *Children's choir director*



## NAMI WALK 2018

Saturday, Sept. 22, 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.

The NAMI Walk supports the mission-driven work of local NAMI organizations, like the one in the Quad Cities. NAMI stands for National Alliance on Mental Illness. They host education programs, facilitate support groups, provide mental health trainings, advocate for access to services, and offer a compassionate place to turn for the millions of Americans living with mental illness.

The St. Paul team is coordinated by Deb and Joe James.

Registration is free for St. Paul team members; everyone gets a T-shirt. Sign up online at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups), or today (Sunday) at the table in the Elevator Commons.

Contact: Deb and Joe James, [joedeb1984@gmail.com](mailto:joedeb1984@gmail.com).

## 10:20

- ▶ If you could run the 100-meter dash in 10:20, you'd know Usain Bolt personally.
- ▶ If you were talking on a CB radio, 10-20 is the code you'd use for asking someone's location.
- ▶ If you want to catch 45 minutes of Sunday morning learning at St. Paul, 10:20 is your start time.

## THIS SUNDAY

### LEARNING FOR KIDS & YOUTH (10:20-11:05 a.m.)

- ▶ Ages 3 - Pre-K: Main Level
- ▶ Grades K-2: Upper Level, Friendship Hall
- ▶ Grades 3-5: Lower Level, Commons area
- ▶ Grades 6-12: Lower Level, Youth Rooms

### SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE (SNL), GRADES 9-12 (7:15-8:30 p.m.)

SNL gathers most Sunday nights at St. Paul. It's a strong framework for high school youth to live, grow, and serve joyfully. It's also a fun place to get recharged before school on Monday morning. Andy Langdon, andy@stpaulqc.org, 326-3547 x228

### LEARNING FOR ADULTS (10:20-11:05 a.m.)

- ▶ *Unearned privilege as cheap grace (2 of 2)*: There are many people today wanting to unmask and dismantle unearned privilege such as white, male, and economic privileges. Jason Mahn tries to theologially grapple with his own privilege, inviting and enabling participants to join him. Jason Mahn, associate professor of religion and director of the Presidential Center for Faith and Learning at Augustana College. In the Chapel.
- ▶ *We are the church together*: The ELCA is committed to celebrating cultural diversity but is also the whitest Christian denomination in America. Explore our denomination's social statement, *Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity, and Culture*. Josh Kestner, pastor in residency. In the Luther Loft.
- ▶ *Bible Study - With the eyes of a child*: Begin with the reading of a story from a children's Bible then dig more deeply into the scripture itself. Adam, Eve & the serpent with Pastor Sara Olson-Smith. In Room 208.

## NEXT SUNDAY

- ▶ *Campus ministry is for everyone*: Sarah Goettsch, campus pastor, University of Iowa; Jon Fry, campus minister, University of Northern Iowa; and students. In the Chapel.
- ▶ *Scott County Kids*: Dawn Knutson, family system coordinator, Scott County Kids. In the Luther Loft.
- ▶ *Bible Study - With the eyes of a child*: Led by Pastor Peter W. Marty. In Room 208.

**SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP**: Please join others for coffee, doughnuts, juice, and conversation in the gathering areas on the main level.

**A BLUE BOOK, "Welcome to St. Paul,"** is situated in every pew near the aisle seat. Please take a moment to share your name and pass the book. As it returns to you, glance at other names and look for your chance to greet one another after worship. The warmth of your greeting can brighten the whole day.

**NURSERY**: We believe children belong in worship. But if your child needs a break, please assist other worshipers and seek out our staffed nursery in the "Kid's Corner" in the Library Commons. Silent pagers available. For nursing moms, a designated room is available to you, just 20 feet left of the elevator.

**CHILDREN**: Children's messages are a part of our Sunday services at 9:00 and 11:15 a.m. Special bulletins are available from an usher. Worship bags for children are at entrances to the Sanctuary.

**COMMUNION**: The Lord's Table is open to believers of all Christian traditions. Adults and children who do not commune are invited to come forward, crossing arms upon the chest for a blessing. Communion is distributed by a practice called intinction; please touch your wafer lightly to the wine. Gluten-free wafers are available at all stations. Grape juice is available on Sundays in the potery chalice at the station furthest left.

**FAITH RESOURCES**: A library and the nonprofit Book Corner on the main level provide wonderful resources for growing your faith. Check them out.

**MEMBERSHIP**: A one-session Membership Inquiry Class is offered once each month for those interested in exploring what membership at St. Paul involves. The next opportunity will be on **Monday, Sept. 17, 6:30-9 p.m. OR Saturday, Oct. 13, 9-11:30 a.m.** Childcare is available on request. Sign up online at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups), at the Info Center, or call 326-3547.

## DISCOVER & CONNECT

### book lovers

#### LUNCH BOOK CONVERSATION:

Thursdays, Sept. 20-Oct. 4, 12-1 p.m., in Fellowship Hall. Gather with others to discuss this fall's Faith & Life Speaker Austin Channing Brown's book, *I'm Still Here*. Bring a bag lunch and an openness to talk and listen about racism, privilege, and how we might commit to building racial justice in our church and world. Book available in the Book Corner. Pastor Sara Olson-Smith, sara@stpaulqc.org

**EARLY MORNING BOOK GROUP**: Tuesdays, Sept. 18-Oct. 2, 6:45-7:30 a.m., Library Commons. If the Bible isn't a science book or an instruction manual, then what is it? What do people mean when they say the Bible is inspired? When Rachel Held Evans found herself asking these questions, she began a quest to better understand what the Bible is and how it is meant to be read. *Inspired* by Rachel Held Evans is available in the Book Corner. Pastor Katy Warren, kathy@stpaulqc.org

**GOING DEEPER**: Mondays, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 8, and 15, 5-6 p.m., Church House Living Room. Longing for deeper conversation about matters of faith? This four-week study will consider *Inspired* by Rachel Held Evans. Using various genres, the author explores with knowledge, imagination, and wit what the Bible is and how it is read. Book available in the Book Corner. Please read the first 60 pages before the first meeting. Lynn Batcher, ldbatcher@hotmail.com

**ST. PAUL BOOK CORNER** is open this Sunday morning. Stop in to find Confirmation cards and gift ideas, and to check out the large selection of new adult and children's books. This book store is a non-profit congregational venture to help people make the Christian faith a seven-day-a-week experience. Prices are below retail; no tax is charged.

### youth

**678 NIGHT**: Wednesday, Sept. 26, 6:30-8 p.m., in the Library Commons. High-energy games, fun, togetherness, and great Bible studies with campfire-style worship! Our youth director, Andy Langdon, and a slew of high school youth leaders rally the excitement. Andy Langdon, andy@stpaulqc.org

### adults

**EXPLORE WELCA**: On Thursday, Sept. 20, 7 p.m., enjoy time together and a Bible study with women of St. Paul. This circle of the Women of the ELCA, as are all of the circles, is committed to growing faith, affirming gifts, supporting one another in our callings, engaging in ministry and action, and promoting healing and wholeness. Cindy Bleich, 355-4850; Karin Hanson, 528-2064, tkmax2502@gmail.com

**2136 TAILGATE PARTY**: Young adults (20s & 30s) "kick off" the year with some food and fun Thursday, Sept. 20, 6:30 p.m. Burgers and hot dogs provided. Wear your favorite team jersey or colors, bring a dessert or side to share, and a lawn chair. Whether new to St. Paul or looking to connect with other young adults, this event is for you! Friends are welcome; childcare available. Meet in the west St. Paul parking lot. Pastor Josh Kestner, joshua@stpaulqc.org

**BREAKFAST IN THE PARK**: Prime Time 50+ (for folks 50 and older) gathers for a potluck breakfast at West Lake's Breezy Point Shelter (gate 6), on Saturday, Sept. 29, 8:30 a.m. A \$3/person donation helps cover costs. Sign up at the Info Center by Sept. 23, indicating what dish you'll bring. Drinks are provided; bring table service. In case of rain, we'll gather at St. Paul. Joan & Paul Marietta, 349-1973; Linda & Jim Hoepner, 940-6737

**HEART. SOUL. MIND. BIBLE STUDY**: Thursdays, 9:30-10:30 a.m., in Fellowship Hall. *Cross Examinations*: The central symbol of the Christian experience, the cross, evokes not only a range of emotions, but also a range of interpretations. Explore how the cross has shaped the lives of people in different contexts, and how it continues to shape us today. Pastor Kelsey Fitting-Snyder, kelsey@stpaulqc.org

**MOMS' MORNING**: Thursdays, 9-10:30 a.m., in the Church House Living Room. Moms' Morning is an every-Thursday-morning gathering that celebrates parenthood with laughter, prayer, and mutual support. A Bible study is held once a month, along with service projects and learning. Childcare is provided. Pastor Sara Olson-Smith, sara@stpaulqc.org

## OF SPECIAL NOTE

**MEMBERSHIP INQUIRY CLASS**: Join a group of others Monday, Sept. 17, 6:30-9 p.m., exploring life and faith in this place. Explore what the commitments, values, and directions of this congregation are. Sign up at the Info Center or online at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups). Pastor Sara Olson-Smith, sara@stpaulqc.org

**KNITWITS**: Thursday, Sept. 20, 5 p.m. in the 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. Belinda Holbrook, bholbrook@mchsi.com

**MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS TEAM**: Thursday, Sept. 20, 6-7:30 p.m., Library Conference 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.

**WORSHIP AT FREE INDEED PRISON CONGREGATION**: The Free Indeed congregation, within the walls of the Anamosa State Penitentiary in Anamosa, Iowa, will welcome St. Paul people for worship on Saturday, Oct. 6. This new congregation of the ELCA invites inmates of the prison as well as people from the outside to worship together. Transportation and lunch will be provided. The group will depart St. Paul at 7:45 a.m. and return by 3 p.m. Visitors must submit paperwork for a background check no later than Monday, Sept. 24. Sign up at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups). Questions? Barb Brunkan, barbburkan@gmail.com.

**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED OF THE QUAD CITIES FALL BRUNCH**: Friday, Sept. 28, 8:30 a.m., Library Commons. Come together with other QCA women for a morning of fellowship. Pastor Rich Hendricks from the Metropolitan Community Church and One Human Family will present on "Combating Hate." Brunch will be served. Cost is \$7. Signup at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups). Karen Miller, grammy630@msn.com

**COATS LEFT BEHIND**: Are you missing a coat? In the coat rack area near the central staircase, take a look and see if yours is one of a couple dozen coats currently without an owner. Matt Spencer, spencer@stpaulqc.org

FAITH & LIFE SERIES 2018

## AUSTIN CHANNING BROWN

SUNDAY, OCT. 7, SANCTUARY

- ▶ 10:20 am: *Power, Privilege, & Purpose*
- ▶ 4 pm: *I'm Still Here*



### COME WATCH THE SLUGGERS!

The St. Paul Sluggers have a double header every week at the Lindsay Park ball fields in the Village of East Davenport. The next dates include:

- ▶ Thursday, Sept. 20, at 6 & 7 p.m.
- ▶ Tuesday, Sept. 25, at 8 & 9 p.m.

Come out and cheer them on! Pastor Josh Kestner, josh@stpaulqc.org