

ST. PAUL connections

MONDAY, DEC. 24

- 1pm Holy Communion & Carols
- 3pm A Family Service for All
- 5pm Holy Communion & Open Spirit
- 8pm A Service of Lessons & Carols
- 10pm Candlelight & Holy Communion

TUESDAY, DEC. 25

Christmas Day/Offices closed



WEDNESDAY, DEC. 26

No Preschool/Winter break
9am Poinsettia deliveries to home-bound

THURSDAY, DEC. 27

No Preschool/Winter break

FRIDAY, DEC. 28

No Preschool/Winter break

SATURDAY, DEC. 29

5:30pm Worship

SUNDAY, DEC. 30

7:45am Worship
9am Worship
No Learning/Christmas break
11:15am Worship

RECENT ISSUES OF CONNECTIONS are available at the Info Center and online at www.stpaulqc.org/newsstand.



MARY'S SONG

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior." That's the first line of what is often affectionately referred to as "Mary's Song" or the Magnificat. As she visits Elizabeth, Mary can't help but break into song. It's no "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" or "Jingle Bell Rock," and yet it's the perfect song to hear on this final weekend in Advent.

Mary's song displays genuine trust in God — even in the midst of some pretty daunting circumstances. Like an aria in an opera or a duet in a musical, the Magnificat stops the action of the Gospel in order to celebrate the greatness and faithfulness of God. Mary's song is a great example of faith for all of us.

today at st. paul

December 22 & 23 - Advent 4

Preaching:

5:30/11:15 Katy Warren
7:45/9:00 Sara Olson-Smith

Worship notes:

9:00 Chorale

Communion served at all services

Readings: Micah 5: 2-5a; Hebrews 10: 5-10;
Luke 1: 39-45 [46-55]

next weekend

December 29 & 30 - Christmas 1

Preaching:

5:30/9:00 Kelsey Fitting-Snyder
7:45/11:15 Josh Kestner

Worship notes:

Communion served at all services

Readings: 1 Samuel 2: 18-20, 26;
Colossians 3: 12-17;
Luke 2: 41-52

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 12/20)

Jim Cox
Jack Leabo
*Dan Moeller
*Rex West
Teresa Zinn

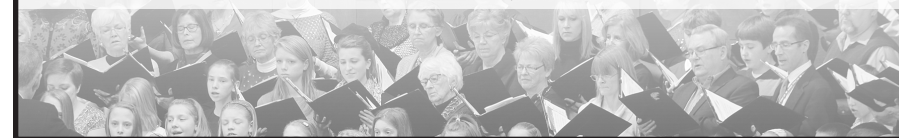
With sympathy:

Teresa & Todd Fey, her grandmother
Norma Schreiber
Tim & Marie Stephens, his grandmother
Mary Stephens

VOICE YOUR FAITH!

Wednesday rehearsals begin Jan. 9.
No auditions — just come and sing!

Alleluia Choir	Age 4-K	Wednesdays, 6-6:45 p.m.	Sara Harless
Jubilate Choir	Grades 1-3	Wednesdays, 6-6:45 p.m.	Katie Casey
Cantate Choir	Grades 4-6	Wednesdays, 6-6:45 p.m.	Margaret Thompson
Youth Choir	Grades 7-12	Wednesdays, 6-6:45 p.m.	Dan Pepper
Chorale	College & adult	Wednesdays, 6-7:30 p.m.	Nathan Windt



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*
Angie Vaaler *Social worker/counselor*
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 *Children's ministries assistant*
Dana Welser *Neighborhood school*
Beth Laureijs *Pastoral residency administrator*
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*

It's beginning to look a lot like CHRISTMAS

At St. Paul, there's Christmas spirit in the air.
Find more photos from the season online at
www.facebook.com/stpaulquadcities.



Christmas Eve Monday, Dec. 24

- 1 p.m. | Holy Communion & Carols
- 3 p.m. | A Family Christmas Service
- 5 p.m. | Holy Communion with Open Spirit
- 8 p.m. | A Service of Lessons & Carols
- 10 p.m. | Candlelight Holy Communion



ST. PAUL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

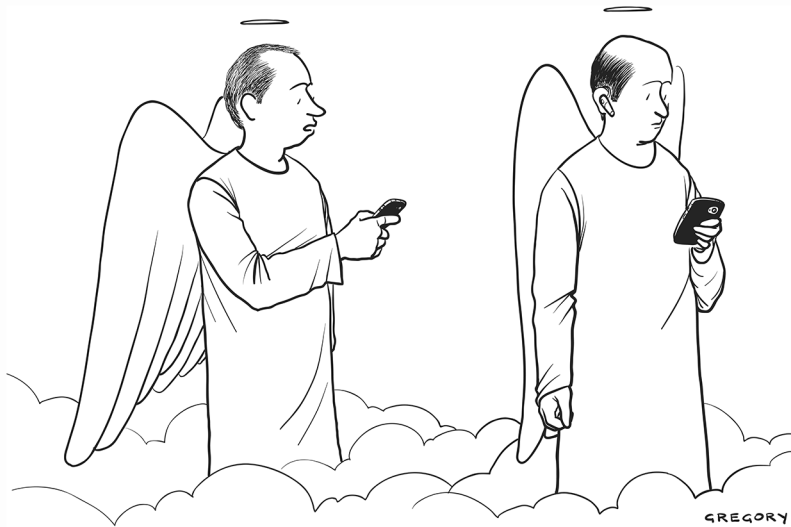
2136 Brady Street
Davenport, IA 52803
563.326.3547
www.stpaulqc.org

LEARNING BREAK FOR ALL AGES:

Sunday morning learning classes for all ages are on break Dec. 23 and 30. Classes resume on January 6.

NEW YORKER

cartoons with Pastor Peter Marty



"Two bars—how about you?"

Sunday, Jan. 6, 10:20 a.m. in the Chapel

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DISCOVER & CONNECT

YOUTH CHOIR ALUMNI — JAN. 6: All college and beyond former Youth Choir singers are invited to join the current Youth Choir for worship on Sunday, Jan. 6. Gather to rehearse a favorite hymn, *Who Is the Lamb?*, at 8:20 a.m. in the Chapel. The choir sings during the 9 a.m. service. No need to sign up, just come! Questions? Contact Dan Pepper, pepper@stpaulqc.org.

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY will be offered Sundays, Jan. 6-March 3, 10:20-11:05 a.m. The course will be led by St. Paul members Ron and Meg Knapper. In this series, the idea is to take "baby steps" toward better financial health. Sign up for the class and order materials at www.fpu.com/1071814. Cost is \$109. Contact: Ron Knapper, ron.knapper@gmail.com.

CC CONVERSATIONS is a first-Thursday-of-the-month opportunity to discuss faith, politics, and culture, using articles and news from the *Christian Century* magazine as a springboard for conversation. Gather Jan. 3, 6-7:15 p.m., Library Commons. Peter Marty facilitates. Participants read in advance: G. Jeffrey MacDonald's "The debate over shareholder activism and divestment" (pp 20-22), and Carolyn Helsel's "Ten myths about racism" (pp 23-25), both

in the 1.2.19 issue of the magazine. Stop at the church to read an onsite copy secured in the library or read via subscription (special St. Paul rate cards available at the Info Center).

THEOLOGY PUB: Second Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., next meeting Jan. 8, in the lower level of Front Street Brewery's Pub & Eatery, Davenport. Theology Pub offers an opportunity to gather around conversation, food, and drinks. We'll be taking a look at Luther's Small Catechism. Anyone is welcome! Pastor Josh Kestner, joshua@stpaulqc.org

2136 YOUNG ADULTS: QC Storm hockey game, Saturday, Jan. 12, 7:10 p.m. Cost is \$15 per ticket. RSVP by Dec. 31. Start off the new year with some new friends or by reconnecting with old ones. Enjoy a night out with some other young adults, and support a local sports team. For questions or to RSVP, contact Pastor Josh Kestner, joshua@stpaulqc.org.

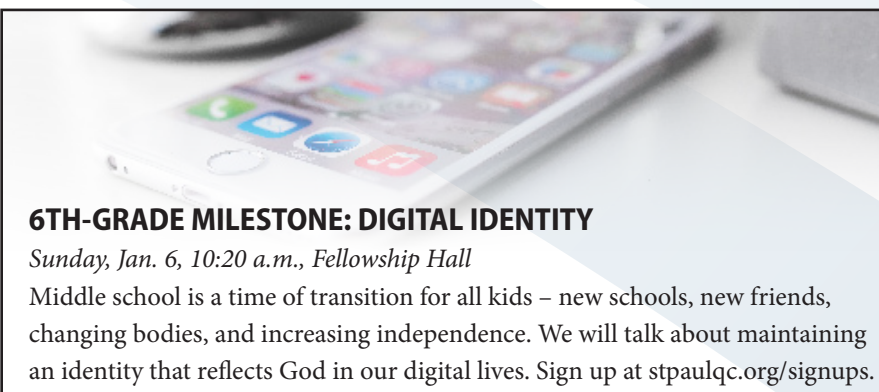
HEART.SOUL.MIND. BIBLE STUDY: Thursdays, 9:30-10:30 a.m., in Fellowship Hall, beginning Jan. 10. The book of Exodus not only tells the story of the freeing of a people, but demonstrates God's continued faithfulness. Come and explore what this book has to offer our lives of faith today. Pastor Kelsey Fitting-Snyder, kelsey@stpaulqc.org

FAITH MILESTONE

1-year-olds: Faith Forming Beginnings

Sunday, Jan. 27, 10:20-11:05 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Gather together with fellow parents of children born in 2018. Connect with others experiencing the joy and exhaustion of life with a newborn. Learn more about what it means to form a child's faith from the very beginning. Sign up at stpaulqc.org/signups.



6TH-GRADE MILESTONE: DIGITAL IDENTITY

Sunday, Jan. 6, 10:20 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Middle school is a time of transition for all kids – new schools, new friends, changing bodies, and increasing independence. We will talk about maintaining an identity that reflects God in our digital lives. Sign up at stpaulqc.org/signups.

OF SPECIAL NOTE

ONE NEW WAY TO SERVE IN 2019: The St. Paul usher crew is searching for a few additional team members, particularly at the 7:45 and 9 a.m. services on Sundays. Ushers play an important role in worship. They greet and seat worshipers, welcome, and help with offering. Smiles and conversation are part of the joy. Interested in being a part of the usher crew? Express interest at stpaulqc.org/signups. Contact: Tom Eriksen, teriksenuc@gmail.com.

NEED A LAST MINUTE GIFT IDEA? Check out the Book Corner. It is stocked with lots of gift ideas, nativities, ornaments, children's books, chocolate, and a large selection of books.

THE POINSETTIAS in our worship space are thanks to the many individuals who honor or remember loved ones with these gifts. We rejoice in all gifts of love. You may pick up a copy of the list of contributors at the Info Center. Thank you all.

ALL ST. PAUL READS is encouragement for all to read and talk about a single book title in the same year. In 2019, that book is *The Boys in the Bunkhouse*, by New York Times writer and columnist Dan Barry. Gather together for dinner and discussion on Thursday, Feb. 28, 6-8 p.m. The book is available for purchase for \$10 in the St. Paul Book Corner. To help with dinner planning, please sign up at stpaulqc.org/signups.

SERVING IN THE CITY: This spring, take part in a service trip in the heart of Chicago, March 10-13. Led by pastor Katy Warren and Andy Langdon, director of youth ministries, spend time working at soup kitchens, Head Start programs, and food pantries. Explore the city by eating at ethnic restaurants, and be part of meaningful conversations. Cost is \$150, including meals, housing, and transportation. Spots are limited; open to anyone age 14 and older. Sign up at stpaulqc.org/signups. Pastor Katy Warren, katy@stpaulqc.org

ROLLER SKATING PARTY

Sunday, Jan. 20, 1-4 p.m., Eldridge Skatepark

Lace up your skates! Anyone is welcome. Cost is free. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Kendra Thompson, kendra@stpaulqc.org.

Sign up online: stpaulqc.org/signups



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Thank you, St. Paul people, for your generosity all year long.

We share our lives and our resources as a way of loving and thanking God. Together, we make the ministry of this place alive! Every year-end offering and completion of a pledge commitment is beautiful. Thank you for helping us finish 2018 strong.

Noon on Monday, Dec. 31, is the moment by which to share all remaining 2018 gifts. If you are a St. Paul member who hasn't yet pledged for 2019, please do so online ASAP at stpaulqc.org/pledge-2019. Thanks.

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 pottery 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 **Saturday, Jan. 26, 9-11:30 a.m. OR Tuesday, Feb. 19, 6:30-9 p.m.** Childcare is available on request. Sign up online at stpaulqc.org/signups, at the Info Center, or call 326-3547.