

ST. PAUL connections



THE CELEBRATION CONTINUES . . .

The presents have been unwrapped. The stockings are empty, and perhaps all the Christmas cookies have now been consumed. But Christmas is far from over. The joy and peace we celebrate on Christmas Day can carry us well into the New Year. Enjoy more Christmas carols in worship today.

The tiny baby lying in a manger is just one way we encounter this God who is with us. In fact, we would do well to look for all sorts of ways Jesus appears in our lives every single day. Christ was born to bring hope and comfort to all people, every day. Not just one day a year. Keep your eyes peeled. You might just notice God showing up in some unexpected ways.

today at st. paul

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

next weekend

January 5 & 6 - Epiphany of Our Lord

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

Worship notes:
Communion served at all services
Readings: Isaiah 60: 1-6; Ephesians 3: 1-12;
Matthew 2: 1-12

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 12/27)

*Connie Droessler-Vens
Jerry Hansen
*Teresa Zinn

Birth:

Hazel Vens, daughter of Connie Droessler-Vens & Ramsey Vens, Dec. 21

Death:

Vince Burke, Dec. 20

With sympathy:

Kris & Cal Atwell, her father Dale German
Joan Martinoff-Burke, husband
Vince Burke

MY NOTES FROM TODAY

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*

winter AT st. paul

At St. Paul, we cherish every opportunity to be together. Learning. Friendship. Growing faith. As winter grows colder, come and experience the warmth of Christian community.

ADULTS

Sunday morning learning for adults starts back up on Jan. 6, 10:20-11:05 a.m., Explore big questions with presenters in the Chapel. Engage in a thought-provoking simplicity series in the Luther Loft. Dive into a Bible study in Room 208.

KIDS & YOUTH

Sunday morning learning for kids and youth resumes Jan. 6, too. Kids age 3-fifth grade engage in the Bible with the *Spark* curriculum. Middle school and high school youth learn about the Bible – and have some zany fun.

TOGETHERNESS

Roller skating. Heart Soul Mind Bible study. Book groups. All St. Paul Reads. Zion Lutheran Meal Site. 678. Confirmation. Sunday Night Live. 2136. WELCA. Quilting. Centering Prayer. Moms' Morning. Second Saturdays.

Discover life at St. Paul this winter, for learning and togetherness that is nourishing, grace-filled, centered in faith.

VOICE YOUR FAITH!

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

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|----------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 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 |



2136 Brady Street
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www.stpaulqc.org

MONDAY, DEC. 31

TUESDAY, JAN. 1

New Year's Day/Offices closed



WEDNESDAY, JAN. 2

No Preschool/Winter break
9:30am Staff meeting
6:15pm Men's Bible study

THURSDAY, JAN. 3

8:45am Preschool
9am Moms' Morning
12:30pm Ruth circle
6pm CC Conversations
6pm Centering Prayer
6:30pm Open Spirit rehearsal

FRIDAY, JAN. 4

8:45am Preschool

SATURDAY, JAN. 5

9am WELCA board
5pm Book Corner open
5:30pm Worship
6:30pm Healing liturgy

SUNDAY, JAN. 6

7:45am Worship
8am Book Corner open
9am Worship
10:20am 6th grade milestone
10:20am Learning for all
10:20am Financial Peace University
11:15am Worship
6:30pm High school small groups
7:15pm Sunday Night Live

LEARNING BREAK FOR ALL AGES:

Sunday morning learning classes for all ages are on break today, Dec. 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

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.

DISCOVER & CONNECT

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 Hessel'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).

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.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA: All women of St. Paul are invited. Circle meeting dates/times, onsite and offsite: Anna (day and evening): Jan. 12, 10 a.m. (Cafe Indigo); Dorcas: Jan. 8, 9:15 a.m. (St. Paul); Explore WELCA: Jan. 17, 7 p.m. (St. Paul); Lydia:

Jan. 7, 9 a.m. (St. Paul); Ridgecrest: Jan. 18, 1 p.m. (Oakwood Activity Center); Ruth: Jan. 3, 12:30 p.m. (St. Paul). Cindy Bleich, 355-4850; Karin Hanson, 528-2064, tkmax2502@gmail.com

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. 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



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.

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.



OF SPECIAL NOTE

A BRIEF HEALING LITURGY will be offered at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 5, in the Church House Living Room. Each month, on the first Saturday, we provide an opportunity for individuals in need of physical, spiritual, or emotional healing to come and seek God's goodness and care.

2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE IN and lined up alphabetically in the Elevator Commons this weekend. St. Paul members, please stop and pick up your personalized box. These envelopes are for you as a convenient reminder of the faithful discipline of giving.

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY will be offered Sundays, Jan. 6-March 3, 10:20-11:05 a.m., in the Church House Dining Room. 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.meg.knapper@gmail.com.

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.

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.

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 tomorrow, 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.