

ST. PAUL connections



WHY BAPTIZE?

In the Lutheran Church, we baptize people so that they can become a part of something extraordinary; not so that they might avoid some hellish peril. While many Christians unwittingly embrace a theology of fear, mostly because that's what they learned somewhere – "If I don't get my child baptized, she's going to hell" – that line of reasoning isn't biblical. It certainly doesn't build a free and faithful life.

Jesus spent his ministry embodying promise as a way of life, not threat. Threat had nothing to do with his method for convincing people to want to be baptized. Today, when we baptize, we think of our life as not only joined forever to the Lord (a relationship sealed by the Holy Spirit); we also see ourselves as bound up with other Christians around the world – our true brothers and sisters.

Have you been baptized? If not, speak with a pastor to learn more about the joy of the baptized life.

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 1/10)

- *Stephanie Aitken
- *Shirley Fidler
- Becky Griesbach
- *Beatrice Grobe
- Dorothy Haes
- John Seeck

With sympathy:

- Andrew & Amy Harris, his grandmother
- Mary "Destie" Nagle

MY NOTES FROM TODAY

MONDAY, JAN. 14

- 8:30am Youth suicide prevention meeting
- 8:45am Preschool

TUESDAY, JAN. 15

- 8:45am Preschool
- 7pm Personnel meeting

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 16

- 7:30am Finance meeting
- 8:45am Preschool
- 9:30am Private event
- 9:30am Staff meeting
- 5:30pm Adult children of alcoholics
- 6pm All choirs rehearse
- 6:15pm Men's Bible study
- 6:30pm Confirmation
- 6:45pm High school midweek recharge

THURSDAY, JAN. 17

- 8:45am Preschool
- 9am Moms' Morning
- 9:30am Heart.Soul.Mind. Bible study
- 5pm KnitWits
- 6pm Mental health awareness team
- 6pm Centering Prayer
- 6pm Congregation council
- 6:30pm Open Spirit rehearsal
- 7pm Explore WELCA

FRIDAY, JAN. 18

- 8:45am Preschool
- 1pm Ridgcrest circle

SATURDAY, JAN. 19

- 9am Private event
- 5:30pm Worship

SUNDAY, JAN. 20

- 7:45am Worship
- 8:30am Book Corner open
- 9am Worship
- 10:20am Learning for all
- 10:20am Financial Peace University
- 11:15am Worship
- 1pm All St. Paul roller skating party
- 6:30pm High school small groups
- 7:15pm Sunday Night Live

today at st. paul

January 12 & 13 - Baptism of Jesus

Preaching:

All services Peter W. Marty

Worship notes:

7:45am St. Paul Quartet

9am Chorale

Communion served at all services

Readings: Isaiah 43: 1-7; Acts 8: 14-17;
Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22

next weekend

January 19 & 20 - Epiphany 2

Preaching:

5:30/9 Josh Kestner

7:45/11:15 Kelsey Fitting-Snyder

Worship notes:

9am Cantate Choir; Chorale

Communion served at all services

Readings: Isaiah 62: 1-5; 1 Corinthians 12:
1-11; John 2: 1-11

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 |



This spring, St. Paul youth and adults are invited to take part in a four-day experience, March 10-13, in Chicago that will include volunteering, exploring, and discussing systemic issues at the root of poverty and injustice.

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. Questions? Contact 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



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
- ▶ 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.)

- ▶ *Why worship?* With more than 200 worship opportunities each year at St. Paul, have you ever asked during a hymn, reading, or prayer: Why did they decide to choose that one? Come and hear what goes into worship planning each week. Chris Nelson, director of music ministries. In the Chapel.
- ▶ *Prevent, reach, develop:* As St. Paul and One Eighty partner to help ensure a safe and affordable home for a family, learn about the work One Eighty is doing in the central city of Davenport. Traci Oberhaus and Dakotah Antrim. In Luther Loft.
- ▶ *Bible Study - With the eyes of a child:* Get ready to study the Bible with renewed curiosity and playfulness. Beginning with a story from a children's Bible, we'll dig more deeply into the scripture itself. Baptism of Jesus with Pastor Sara Olson-Smith. In Room 208.

NEXT SUNDAY

- ▶ *Sing boldly!* Nathan Windt, associate professor of music, St. Ambrose University, and director of St. Paul's Chorale. In the Chapel.
- ▶ *Living faithfully during trying times:* Pastor Sara Olson-Smith. In Luther Loft.
- ▶ *Bible Study - With the eyes of a child:* Pastor Katy Warren. 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 **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

youth

678 NIGHT: Wednesday, Jan. 30, 6:15-8:15 p.m. Crazy games, fun fellowship, and great Bible study — just for students in grades 6, 7, and 8. This month is a special event with other Lutheran churches from around the Quad Cities, hosted in the St. Mark Lutheran Church gymnasium. Transportation will be provided. Meet at church and check in with Andy Langdon. The bus will leave at 6:15 p.m. Andy Langdon, andy@stpaulqc.org

adults

KNITWITS: Third Thursday of each month, 5 p.m., in the Church House Living Room. Next gathering Jan. 17, knitters and crocheters are invited to share time over yarn working 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

WOMEN OF THE ELCA: All women of St. Paul are invited. Remaining January circle meeting dates/times, on-site and offsite: Explore WELCA: Jan. 17, 7 p.m. (St. Paul); Ridgecrest: Jan. 18, 1 p.m. (Oakwood Activity Center). Cindy Bleich, 355-4850; Karin Hanson, 528-2064, tkmax2502@gmail.com

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS TEAM: Thursday, Jan. 17, 6-7:30 p.m., in the 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.

QUILTING: Monday, Jan. 21, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. in 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. Cathy Hagglund, crh4quilts@msn.com or Karin Hanson, 563-528-2064

FRIENDS & FAMILY: Fourth Monday of the month, 6 p.m., next gathering Jan. 28 in the 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. Pastor Sara, sara@stpaulqc.org

2136 is a group for young adults with events ranging from bowling outings and game nights to service projects and meaningful conversations. Whether you are new to St. Paul or have been attending for awhile, 2136 offers great opportunities to meet others who are in a similar stage of life. Find us on Facebook at "St. Paul 2136 - Young Adults" for announcements about events in February. Come whenever you are free and interested! Pastor Kelsey Fitting-Snyder, kelsey@stpaulqc.org

HEART.SOUL.MIND. BIBLE STUDY: Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. 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.



OF SPECIAL NOTE

MEMBERSHIP INQUIRY CLASS: Join a group of others Saturday, Jan. 26, 9-11:30 a.m., exploring life and faith in this place. Find out what the commitments, values, and directions are for this congregation. Sign up at the Info Center or online at stpaulqc.org/signups. Pastor Sara Olson-Smith, sara@stpaulqc.org

HOLY BAPTISM: During 11:15 a.m. worship this weekend, Theodore Shepard, son of Kelly and Drew Shepard, steps into the embrace of the Christian faith through holy baptism. We welcome him into the Lord's family.

IT'S NATIONAL SOUP MONTH: In the Book Corner, during the month of January, when you buy one soup mix, receive a free Women's Bean Project mix (cornbread, cookie, soup, or beans and rice).

THANK YOU FOR USING THE ST. PAUL LIBRARY: The dedicated volunteers who lead the St. Paul Library are reporting a very good year for 2018, with 452 checkouts - up from 293 in 2017. Significant increases came in adult fiction and children's books. For those who use the library, please take a look around at home to see if you have any books checked out that should be returned. Thanks for checking.

2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE IN and lined up alphabetically in the Elevator Commons. 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.



So All May Eat

Several times a year, St. Paul people cook and serve a meal at Zion Lutheran Church. Cooks are needed for:

- ▶ **Wednesday, January 30**

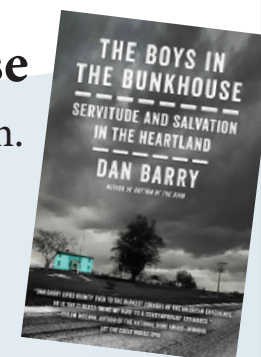
Volunteer to help at stpaulqc.org/signups. Questions? Contact Pastor Katy Warren, katy@stpaulqc.org.

The Boys in the Bunkhouse

All St. Paul Reads | Feb. 28 | 6-8 p.m.

Gather together for dinner and discussion around *The Boys in the Bunkhouse*, by author Dan Barry.

To help with dinner planning, please sign up at stpaulqc.org/signups or outside of the Book Corner.



WINTER AT ST. PAUL

Discover life at St. Paul this winter, for learning and togetherness that is nourishing, grace-filled, and centered in faith. Find upcoming dates and opportunities in the January *Journey* magazine.