

ST. PAUL connections



NEW LIFE

Repent. You'll probably only ever hear this word in church. It's been used as a threat, "Repent! Change your life or else." But it's more of an invitation, "Repent. Come. Live a new, fuller life." That's more of the language that we read in the passage from Isaiah today. And the life they describe is one of comfort and joy: milk, honey, food, drink, relationships, peace.

The dawn of spring is a perfect time to contemplate repentance. As the seasons turn, everything around us is becoming new. New buds on the trees. New grass sprouting in the ground. New lambs being born in a pasture. Let that inspire us to lean into the new lives that God invites us into – lives of faith, hope, and love.

today at st. paul

March 23 & 24 - Lent 3

Preaching:
 5:30/7:45 Sara Olson-Smith
 9:00/11:15 Josh Kestner

Worship notes:
 7:45 St. Paul Quartet
 9:00 Jubilate Choir; Chorale

Communion served at all services

Readings: Isaiah 55: 1-9; 1 Corinthians 10: 1-13; Luke 13: 1-9

next weekend

March 30 & 31 - Lent 4

Preaching:
 5:30/7:45 Kelsey Fitting-Snyder
 9:00/11:15 Peter W. Marty

Worship notes:
 7:45 St. Paul Quartet
 9:00 Cantate Choir; Chorale

Communion served at all services

Readings: Joshua 5: 9-12; 2 Corinthians 5: 16-21; Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-32

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 3/21)

*Ann Quist

Death:

Jim Cox, March 15
 Mary Dengler, March 17

With sympathy:

Lisa Cox, husband Jim Cox
 Cyndi Cox, brother Jim Cox
 Karen & Mark Holden, her brother Steve Lowden
 Heather & Jason Hagemann, her uncle Steve Lowden
 Deb & Jack Jecklin, her sister Kathy Wennihan

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: JUNE 17-21, 2019



Sign up online: stpaulqc.org/signups

VBS: Kids age four (by Sept. 15) through entering fifth-grade, from 8:30-11:30 a.m. Registration is \$15/child through Sunday, May 19, \$25/child from May 20-June 2. No walk-ins will be accepted.

678 Experience: Youth, entering grades 6-8, will spend the morning (8:30-11:30 a.m.) having a blast and learning about God. Registration is \$15/student through Sunday, May 19, \$25/student from May 20-June 2.

Summer Stretch: High school students, entering grades 9-12, volunteer in the morning with VBS and 678, then spend the afternoon playing water games, making T-shirts, and studying the Bible. Cost is \$30.

Volunteer: A strong corps of service-minded and joy-filled adults make it all happen. Interested in helping? There's a job to fit your gifts.

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 *Giving ministry 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*
 Terry Ousley *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 Welsej *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*

ST. PAUL MIDWEEK LENTEN GIVING:

ELCA World Hunger

More than 800 million people — that's 1 in 8 people in our world today — are hungry.

Working with and through congregations, ELCA World Hunger reaches communities in need. From health clinics to microloans, water wells to animal husbandry, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to respond, supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty.

All Lenten offerings at St. Paul, in purple envelopes, cash, or designated in the memo line of your check as World Hunger, will be given to fight hunger. We hope to exceed \$20,000.

▶ 1 in 8 people:

That's 868 million people – are chronically hungry and cannot lead active daily lives.

▶ 1.2 billion

People live in extreme poverty, living on less than \$1.25 per day.

▶ 46.2 million

Americans are living in poverty.



MONDAY, MARCH 25

8:45am Preschool
 9:30am Madison Market setup
 6pm Friends & Family

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

7:30am Madison Market setup
 8:45am Preschool
 12:30pm Madison Market
 4:30pm WELCA leader Bible study prep

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

8:45am Preschool
 9:30am Staff meeting
 11:30am Book Corner open
 12noon Lenten worship
 5pm Book Corner open
 5:30pm Lenten meal
 5:30pm Adult children of alcoholics
 5:30pm Lenten learning for adults
 6pm All choirs rehearse
 6:30pm Confirmation
 7pm Lenten worship

THURSDAY, MARCH 28

8:45am Preschool
 9am Moms' Morning
 9:30am Heart.Soul.Mind. Bible study
 6pm Centering Prayer
 6:30pm Open Spirit rehearsal

FRIDAY, MARCH 29

8:45am Preschool
 5:30pm Parent Game Night

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

5pm Habitat for Humanity dinner
 5:30pm Worship

SUNDAY, MARCH 31

7:45am Worship
 8:30am Book Corner open
 9am Worship
 10:20am Learning for all ages
 10:20am 4th grade milestone/communion preparation
 10:20am Walking the Grief Journey
 11:15am Worship
 6:30pm High school small groups
 7:15pm Sunday Night Live

RECENT ISSUES OF CONNECTIONS

are available at the Info Center and online at www.stpaulqc.org/newsstand.



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

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
- ▶ Grade 4: Fellowship Hall
- ▶ 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 re-charged before school on Monday morning. Andy Langdon, andy@stpaulqc.org, 326-3547 x228

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

- ▶ *Sacred space in an unlikely place:* The congregation of Free Indeed at Anamosa State Penitentiary invites adults from the outside world to come worship alongside them. We will talk about what it has been like to walk with these men through the past year. Christine Vincent, St. Paul youth ministry intern, and senior at Augustana College. In the Chapel.
- ▶ *Adoption - Joys and sorrows, dos and don'ts:* We will talk about open, international, and trans-racial adoption with the hopes of supporting anyone who has been touched by adoption or is considering the adventure. Leslie Klipsch, author, business owner and communication specialist, and Jake Klipsch, high school principal. In Luther Loft.
- ▶ *Bible Study - With the eyes of a child:* Begin with reading a story from a children's Bible before digging more deeply into the scripture itself. Woman at the well, with Pastor Kelsey Fitting-Snyder. In Room 208.

NEXT SUNDAY

- ▶ *Building a bridge for the future - I-74 bridge update:* Kirk Nelson and Jason Holdorf, registered professional engineers. In the Chapel.
- ▶ *Honoring your child - Perinatal loss:* Lisa Gaston, United Church of Christ pastor and Genesis Health System chaplain. In Luther Loft.
- ▶ *Bible Study - With the eyes of a child:* Pastor Katy Warren. In Room 208.

KIDS & YOUTH

ADULTS

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, April 15, 6:30-9 p.m. OR Wednesday, May 22, 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

FREE INDEED PRISON MINISTRY:

Go and worship inside the walls of the Anamosa State Penitentiary with the Free Indeed congregation on Saturday, April 6. Depart at 7:45 a.m., return around 3 p.m. Limit eight participants. All worshipers must pass a background check. Sign up at stpaulqc.org/signups. A church staff member will call to get your full name, date of birth, social security number, and address to complete a background check. Deadline to sign up is today, Sunday, March 24. Barb Brunkan, barbrunkan@gmail.com

FRIENDS & FAMILY: On the fourth Monday of the month, 6 p.m., this gathering is for people whose loved ones are impacted by mental illness. Next meeting March 25; no need to sign up, just come. In the Church House Living Room. Pastor Sara Olson-Smith, sara@stpaulqc.org

AGING INNOVATIVELY, a five-week course led by professionals from St. Ambrose University, will provide education and strategies for healthy aging. The goals are to help people stay independent in their home and engaged in their community as long as possible. Sessions will be held on Tuesday afternoons,

April 2-30, 3-5 p.m. To learn more and sign up, please contact Anne Lansing at 563-333-6128 or lansingannem@sau.edu. The program is free.

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 April 4, 6-7:15 p.m., Library Commons. Peter Marty facilitates. Participants read in advance: "Who needs Amazon?" by Steve Thorngate (pp 10-11); and "My holy envy" by Barbara Brown Taylor (pp 24-29), both in the 3.13.19 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).

CAMPUS CREW: Would you like to help pick up litter from the church campus, once a week or once in a while? A small but mighty crew walks the campus with trash bags and picker uppers to clear away the clutter that comes with being a well-traveled place. To express interest, connect with Dan Dickens at dickens.dan@gmail.com.

Parents' GAME Night

Friday, March 29, 5:30-8 p.m.
Sign up: stpaulqc.org/signups



Mental Health First Aid

Saturday, April 6, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Free and open to the public

Mental Health First Aid gives people the skills to help someone who is developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis. The program builds mental health literacy, helping the public identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental illness. Sign up online at stpaulqc.org/signups. Contact: Pastor Sara Olson-Smith, 563-326-3547 or sara@stpaulqc.org.

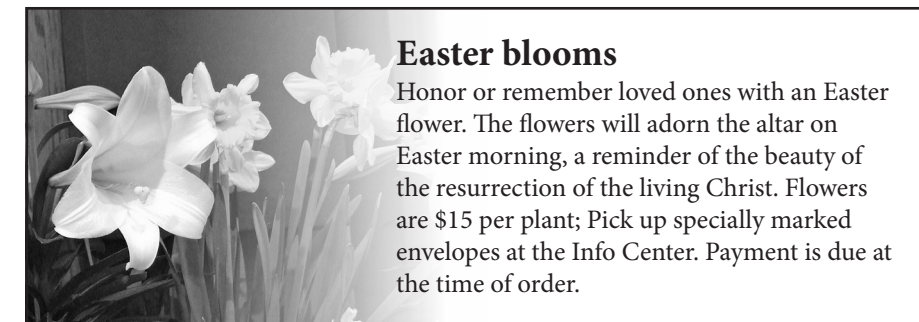
OF SPECIAL NOTE

SPARE COPIES OF PASTOR MARTY'S recent pastoral letter are available at the Info Center.

HOLY BAPTISM: Three children step into the embrace of the Christian faith through holy baptism this weekend: during 9 a.m. worship, Bodhi Wachal, son of Joanna and Cory Wachal; and during 11:15 a.m. worship, Lillian Chewning, daughter of Emily and William Chewning, and Hazel Vens, daughter of Connie Droessler-Vens and Ramsey Vens. We welcome them into the Lord's family.

NEW BOOKS IN THE BOOKSTORE: The St. Paul Book Corner has recently added several new titles to its shelves for adults, youth, 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: ■ *Mockingbird* by Kathryn Erskine ■ *The Day the Crayons Quit* by Drew Daywalt ■ *Easter Stories: Classic Tales for the Holy Season* by C.S. Lewis ■ *God and the Gay Christian: The Biblical Case in Support of Same-Sex Relationships* by Matthew Vines. For a complete list of new books: stpaulqc.org/book+corner. The Book Corner also has a wonderful selection of cards and fair trade gifts, including First Communion and Easter cards, jewelry, and bookmarks.

FOURTH-GRADERS are receiving instruction and preparing for their first communion during the learning hour on Sundays, March 17-April 14, in Fellowship Hall. During 7 p.m. worship on Maundy Thursday, April 18, students will receive communion for the first time. Pastor Kendra Thompson, kendra@stpaulqc.org



Easter blooms

Honor or remember loved ones with an Easter flower. The flowers will adorn the altar on Easter morning, a reminder of the beauty of the resurrection of the living Christ. Flowers are \$15 per plant; Pick up specially marked envelopes at the Info Center. Payment is due at the time of order.

a tree planted

Wednesdays in Lent: March 13 - April 10



- ▶ **Worship | 12 noon-12:30 p.m.**
Chapel gatherings will include music, silence, a pastoral reflection, and Holy Communion.
- ▶ **Suppers | 5:30-6:55 p.m.**
Enjoy a meal in community. Catered by HyVee, a freewill donation of \$8/ person or \$25/ family is welcome to cover the cost. This week's menu: beef and chicken tacos, refried beans, Spanish rice, chips and salsa.
- ▶ **Lenten study: The Final Week of Jesus' Life | 5:30 - 6:15 p.m.**
Led by Pastor Peter Marty, discuss different risks Jesus assumed as he got close to death. The resource is *Entering the Passion* by Amy-Jill Levine. Advance reading assignment for March 27 is chapter 4, pages 91-106. In the Luther Loft. No need to sign up, just come.
- ▶ **Worship | 7-7:35 p.m.**
A service in the Sanctuary features the beautiful *Holden Evening Prayer* liturgy. *A Tree Planted* is the unifying theme. Using the rooted nature of trees, pastors will guide our minds and hearts to think about deeper meaning this Lenten season.