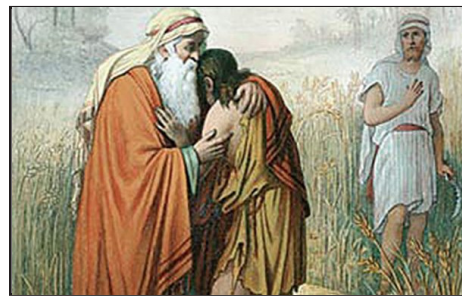


ST. PAUL connections



THE PRODIGAL FATHER

Today we hear Jesus tell the story known as "The Prodigal Son." A son takes half his inheritance, squanders it on reckless living, goes broke, and returns home – only to find not harsh judgment but his father's open arms.

The word "prodigal" is defined as wasteful and reckless extravagance. The son certainly fits the label. But so does the father. Not only does he give his son the inheritance, but he runs to throw his arms around him in welcome, showers him with the best robe, a ring, and sandals for his feet. Then he rejoices with an extravagant party.

Perhaps a better title for this story would be "The Prodigal Father." Jesus tells of a parent who loves lavishly without restraint. This parent doesn't keep ledgers but only gives with reckless extravagance. It's a story about our generous and gracious God who loves each of us "prodigals" without restraint.

today at st. paul

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

next weekend

April 6 & 7 - Lent 5

Preaching:
5:30/9:00 Sara Olson-Smith
7:45/11:15 Katy Warren
Worship notes:
7:45 St. Paul Quartet
9:00 Chorale
Communion served at all services
Readings: Isaiah 43: 16-21; Philippians 3: 4b-14; John 12: 1-8

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 3/28)

*Janet McIntyre
Vi Ramsey
*Harper Schrank

Death:

Gary Stodden, March 26

With sympathy:

Deb & Mark Kretschmer, her brother
Doug Tanner
Molly & Kelly Kretschmer, their uncle
Doug Tanner



Maundy Thursday: April 18 — 12 & 7 p.m.

Good Friday: April 19 — 12, 4:30, 8 p.m.

Easter Sunday: April 21 — 6, 8, 9:45, 11:45 a.m.

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 Welsler *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*

Congregation to consider two pastoral calls

A congregational meeting will be held next **Sunday, April 7, 10:10 a.m.** in the Sanctuary. The purpose of this short meeting will be to call Peter Pettit as teaching pastor and Hayden Kvamme as resident pastor, and to ratify new constitutional language and bylaw amendments approved by the congregation at the annual meeting on Feb. 3.

Peter Pettit, teaching pastor

As teaching pastor, Peter Pettit would oversee learning at St. Paul, including preschool, children, youth, and adult learning. He also would teach and preach.

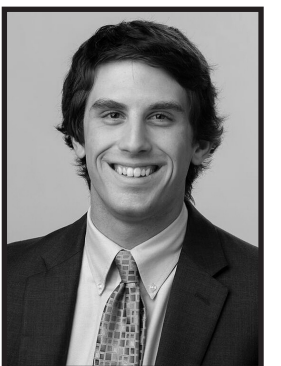
Glimpse: [My wife] Lynn and I together are looking forward to investing ourselves in a community of faith that is mission-focused, confessionally clear, and interpersonally healthy, and to being embraced by it.



Hayden Kvamme, resident pastor

As resident pastor, Hayden Kvamme would take part in St. Paul's two-year residency program for new pastors. Funded through the Lilly Endowment of Indianapolis, it is designed to shape wise pastoral practices in the context of a healthy congregation.

Glimpse: From a young age faith has shaped my life. One of my favorite activities is simply talking to other people about their faith, and how they see God at work in their daily life.



Read more about Peter and Hayden in the April *Journey* magazine

MONDAY, APRIL 1

8:45am Preschool
9am Lydia circle
6:30pm Survivors of suicide loss support group
7:30pm Private meeting

TUESDAY, APRIL 2

7:30am Preschool Breakfast w/a buddy
8:45am Preschool
9:15am Dorcas circle
9:45am Private event
1:30pm Sarah circle
3pm Aging Innovatively
6:30pm Anna evening circle
7pm Personnel meeting

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

7:30am Preschool Breakfast w/a buddy
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
6:15pm Men's Bible study
6:30pm Confirmation
7pm Lenten worship

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

8:45am Preschool
9am Moms' Morning
9:30am Heart.Soul.Mind. Bible study
5pm 2136 Young Adults
6pm CC Conversations
6pm Centering Prayer
6:30pm Open Spirit rehearsal

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

8:45am Preschool

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

7:45am Free Indeed prison ministry
8am Patterns class
8:30am Mental health first aid course
1pm Private event
5pm Book Corner open
5:30pm Worship
6:30pm Healing liturgy

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

7:45am Worship
8:30am Book Corner open
9am Worship
10:10am Congregational meeting
10:20am Learning for all ages
10:20am 4th grade milestone/communion preparation
10:20am Walking the Grief Journey
11:15am Worship
2pm Nova Singers set-up/rehearsal
4pm Nova Singers concert
6:30pm High school small groups/potluck
7:15pm Sunday Night Live

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.)

- ▶ *Building a bridge for the future – I-74 bridge update:* Sit down before a detailed progress report on the bridge construction, including bridge foundations and installation process. Don't miss the photos and close-up look at diagrams and timelines. Bring your questions and impressions. Kirk Nelson and Jason Holdorf, registered professional engineers. In the Chapel.
- ▶ *Honoring your child – perinatal loss:* Come together to build your bridge to hope, sharing the loss of your infant with others who have walked this journey. We will share experiences of the loss of a baby at any time during pregnancy or after delivery. Lisa Gaston, United Church of Christ pastor and Genesis Health System chaplain. 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. The Last Supper, with Pastor Katy Warren. In Room 208.

NEXT SUNDAY

- ▶ *The social impact of big data:* Deke Gould, a continuing lecturer in philosophy at Augustana College. In the Chapel.
- ▶ *An invitation to Jim's Place:* Angela McCombs, academic fieldwork coordinator, Occupational Therapy, St. Ambrose University. In Luther Loft.
- ▶ *Bible Study - With the eyes of a child:* Pastor Peter W. Marty. 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

BLESS A BATHROOM: The kids of St. Paul Sunday School will gather toiletries on two Lenten Sundays for the women and children living at St. Joseph the Worker House in Rock Island, a transitional housing program for homeless families.

- ▶ March 31: Toilet paper and paper towels
- ▶ April 7: Soap and shampoo, toothpaste and toothbrushes, and other toiletries

Items can be placed on tables in the Education Wing. On Sunday, April 7, at the beginning of Sunday school, all kids will gather in the Lower Level to bless the items gathered. Questions: Pastor Kendra Thompson, kendra@stpaulqc.org.

ST. PAUL ORGANISTS Chris Nelson and Linda Allebach will join with area organists to present a recital of organ music by J. S. Bach, N. Bruhns, and J. Walther today, Sunday, March 31, 3 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. This concert is free and open to the public.

SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE LOSS: Support for those who have lost a friend or family member to suicide at any time, this monthly gathering is for care, compassion, and encouragement. Next meeting Monday, April 1, 6:30 p.m. No need to sign up, just come. Deb and Joe James, joedeb1984@gmail.com

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.

2136 YOUNG ADULTS: Let's serve together! River Bend Foodbank works to end hunger on both sides of the river. They need our help inspecting and sorting donations before they are distributed. Meet at the foodbank this Thursday, April 4, 5-7 p.m. RSVP for more details to Pastor Josh Kestner, joshua@stpaulqc.org, 563-326-3547 ext. 237.

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).

WOMEN OF THE ELCA: All women of St. Paul are invited. Circle meeting dates/times, onsite and offsite: Anna (day): April 1, 12:30 p.m.; Anna (evening): April 2, 6:30 p.m.; Dorcas: April 2, 9:15 a.m.; Explore WELCA: April 11, 7 p.m.; Ruth: April 4, 12:30 p.m.; Sarah: April 2, 1:30 p.m. Cindy Bleich, 355-4850; Karin Hanson, 528-2064, tkmax2502@gmail.com



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.

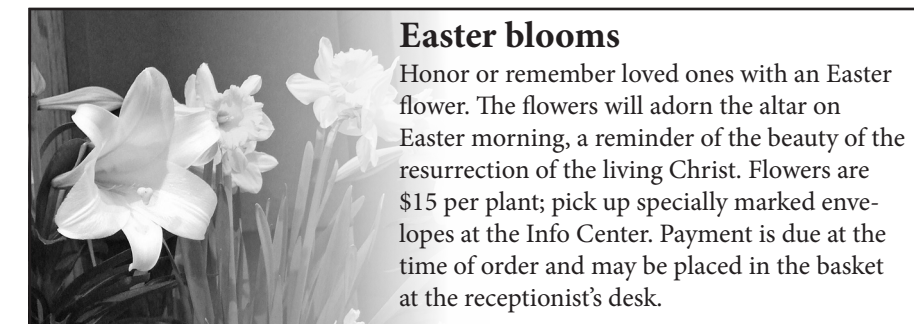
OF SPECIAL NOTE

A BRIEF HEALING LITURGY will be offered at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, April 6, 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.

SOCIAL WORKER AVAILABLE FOR APPOINTMENTS: St. Paul's social worker, Angie Vaaler, is available to supplement the counseling services of our pastors. Her service to St. Paul members and the Madison Elementary School community assists those who may be going through a difficult transition, struggling in relationships, experiencing depression or anxiety, working through some trauma, or in need of a listening ear. On staff part-time, Angie is available for appointments: 563-326-3547 ext. 312.

NOVA SINGERS CONCERT: Sunday, April 7, 4 p.m. The Nova Singers will perform *Home* with guest violinist Mariela Shaker. Tickets will be available at the door or online at novasingers.com. Also, this concert will be the premiere of a commissioned piece by composer Carol Barnett, set to the words of area children.

HANDEL ORATORIO SOCIETY CONCERT: Sunday, April 14, 3 p.m. The Augustana Oratorio Society is celebrated for exploring the riches of Choral-orchestral literature. It is conducted by Jon Hurty, St. Paul member. The musicians of the Handel Oratorio Society include Quad-Cities community members, Augustana students, the Augustana Choir, the Augustana Symphony Orchestra, and invited soloists. Tickets are available online at augustana.edu/arts/ticket-office.



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 and may be placed in the basket at the receptionist's desk.

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: Grilled hamburgers, hot dogs, brats, baked beans, potato salad, and coleslaw.
- ▶ **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 April 3 is chapter 5, pages 109-126. In the Lower Commons. 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.