

THE MAGAZINE OF ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH September 2020

# journey

FALL GUIDE



# How's your spleen?



**ON THE COVER:**  
AnnaLyn (5), Beau (3), and Mia (9 months) Ebener

## journey

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**MISSION**  
St. Paul Lutheran Church is a faith community, shaped around five core values: radical hospitality, passionate worship, intentional faith formation, adventurous mission and service, extravagant generosity.

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I can't remember the last time I shared explicit thanks to God for my pancreas, liver, colon, and kidneys. Come to think of it, I don't believe I've ever incorporated the particulars of my gut into a prayer petition. The absence of such vital organs from a verbal gratitude list has no explanation except, perhaps, that these organs are out of sight and thus out of mind. But neglecting to consider them before God is unfortunate. They're a big part of what keeps me alive.

Two weeks ago, a woman told me about the rapid decline and death of her energetic 74-year old mother. "She hadn't been feeling well for a couple of weeks," my friend said over the phone. "I made sure she kept her doctor's appointment for some stomach pain she was experiencing. The doctor didn't think it was too serious, though he recommended a prescription and a return appointment in two weeks. As her sporadic pain refused to abate, he ordered an MRI. She completed that along with some other tests. The pathology report was bad: Stage IV colon cancer with additional cancer evident on her pancreas, liver, and a kidney. Five weeks later, my lovely mom was dead."

Many of us wonder from time to time about the internal systems of our body. We don't find it useful to obsess over such interior things, especially when there's no reason to suspect illness. But they rarely capture our attention, given our greater focus on what's visible to our eyes. We assign more value to, and spend more energy thinking about, the shape of our hair than the shape of our spleen.

Human societies aren't all that different when it comes to establishing hierarchies of value. Some people rise in value in these hierarchies, like a football coach who's highly visible in his community. Other far less visible people, like the janitor who cleans the team's locker room, receive less respect or lower worth. One of our temptations is to begin to assume that organizations like hospitals, businesses, and churches are healthy and strong because of the most visible people that lead them. Even when we don't mean to, we assign higher worth and value to those we most frequently encounter, or who have titles associated with high regard. This is strange and peculiar, though, especially if we want to talk about overall health in an organization.

The apostle Paul helps us here. He makes note of this peculiarity when he takes the design of our bodies and uses that design as a model for understanding our lives together in a church. The parts of the human body that are *unpresentable* turn out to be indispensable. *Unpresentable* is Paul's word in 1 Corinthians 12

for the twists and turns of your colon. We may think of these organs in our gut as "weak" or "less honorable," to use Paul's words. But that's mostly because we can't see them. In reality, says Paul, those hard-to-see internal pieces deserve as much or more respect than our more visible or presentable body parts. By *presentable*, think here of your sparkling eyes and your awesome smile.

For many months now, I can't get my mind off how many people in our congregation are not visible to me (or you) in a daily way. When we don't gather in big assembly or intersect on weekends, we don't see one another. Our daily lives are almost completely hidden from each other. What did you do yesterday? How are you feeling today? We're left to guess at what's going on in each other's lives. But here's where we have to be extra careful. Even though every healthy cell, speck of tissue, and organ inside our bodies may be invisible to outside eyes, and even though your pancreas and my stomach may have limited standalone value, their relation to the whole of our lives is indispensable. The people of St. Paul that you and I do not get to see for long stretches of time are a big part of what keeps us alive. Let's not forget this, especially now during this pandemic, and in a world that so readily assigns higher value to what can be seen, and lesser value to what cannot be seen.



**PETER W. MARTY**  
senior pastor

# WORSHIP & MUSIC

We ground our lives in the glories of worship. Together, we listen for God. We discover hope. We give thanks. We welcome all.

## 4:1 WORSHIP

**Four on-site** services during each week, with 25 minutes of preaching, music, and communion. Sign up required at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups).

- Monday, 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, 12 noon
- Wednesday, 7 p.m.
- Friday, 12 noon

**One online** service each Sunday, with a 45-minute worship you can share with family and friends. Sent by email at 7 a.m., or find it online at:

- [youtube.com/c/stpaulquadcities](https://youtube.com/c/stpaulquadcities)
- [facebook.com/stpaulquadcities](https://facebook.com/stpaulquadcities)
- [instagram.com/stpaulquadcities](https://instagram.com/stpaulquadcities)
- [vimeo.com/stpaulquadcities](https://vimeo.com/stpaulquadcities)

Podcast at:

- Apple Podcasts
- Google Podcasts
- Spotify and others
- To learn more, visit [stpaulqc.buzzsprout.com](http://stpaulqc.buzzsprout.com).



## ST. PAUL CHOIRS

During the pandemic, children's, youth, and adult choirs will meet periodically for social togetherness and singing. Full safety precautions are in place: Shorter rehearsals scheduled at different times and in good airflow spaces. Smaller ensembles only. Masks on for everybody (yes, for singing). Signup required. It'll be fun. Choir directors will be in contact with their singers. If you haven't been a part of a choir before and would like to be now, contact Chris Nelson, [chris@stpaulqc.org](mailto:chris@stpaulqc.org).



## STRONG SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Measures are in place for the protection of all. St. Paul's congregational commitment is dedicated to maximizing the health and well-being of all who walk through the door. This is especially important given coronavirus transmission that can occur through unknowingly asymptomatic people.

- Masks are required (and available) for all indoor activities
- Hand sanitizer is readily available
- High-touch surfaces and restrooms are disinfected daily (often multiple times)
- Air-flow in the sanctuary includes a newly installed ionization system and complete turnover of the full volume of air every 17 minutes.



## special dates

**All Saints (Online)**

*Nov. 1*

Give thanks for the saints of God.

**Blue Christmas (On-site)**

*Dec. 21, 6 p.m.*

This quiet service offers hope and comfort.

**Christmas Eve (Online)**

*Dec. 24*

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

# MISSION & SERVICE

At St. Paul, we give away more than 21 percent of our annual budget to people in need. St. Paul people also find great joy in volunteering for the benefit of others. Take a look at some of the opportunities available this fall, and get involved.

## FOOD

### Thanksgiving Food and Care Collection

*Month of November*

Stock a paper bag with nonperishable food and personal care items and bring it to St. Paul for those who are food insecure. The food gathered will be used to fill the shelves at the Friendly House Food Pantry. Feminine hygiene products, diapers, and wipes go to Madison Market.

What's needed? Soups, mac & cheese, canned meat (chicken & tuna), cereal, peanut butter, jelly, toilet paper, bar soap, laundry soap, tampons, menstrual pads, baby wipes, diapers size 5-6. Please no expired food. Contact: Ann McGlynn, [ann@stpaulqc.org](mailto:ann@stpaulqc.org).

## EARTH CARE

### Make It Yours Neighborhood Cleanup

*Saturday, Nov. 7, 10 a.m.-12 noon*

The St. Paul corner of the world is a beautiful place. A few times each year, St. Paul people gather to pick up trash and debris in the blocks surrounding the campus. It's called the *Make It Yours* Neighborhood Cleanup. Supplies and snacks are provided. Contact: Jules Irish, [julesi@mchsi.com](mailto:julesi@mchsi.com).

### Environmental Team

The Environmental Team is a band of earth-minded St. Paul folks. They round up dish scrubbers for church suppers. They pick up trash every week on the St. Paul campus and support recycling initiatives, too. Engage your own natural instincts. Think globally and act locally as a steward of this Earthly home. Contact: Duane Haas, [dlhaas@mchsi.com](mailto:dlhaas@mchsi.com).



## NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

A long-time partnership between St. Paul and Madison Elementary continues this year, with a pandemic twist. Contact: Dana Welser, [dana@stpaulqc.org](mailto:dana@stpaulqc.org).

**Face covering crew:** Be a part of the crew that is making face coverings for students and staff. Sew, tie, cut - no previous experience is needed, just a love for the health and safety of kids and adults.

**Grounds crew:** Prune, weed, pick up litter on the Madison grounds. Everyone walking onto this campus needs to know that they will be cared for, just as the school grounds are.

**Madison Market:** On the second and fourth Tuesday of every month, a food pantry comes alive in the gathering area of St. Paul. Help with food sorting and packaging, and loading of cars. Hours are in the morning or afternoon.



# MENTAL HEALTH

## Counselor/Social Worker available for appointments

St. Paul's social worker, Angie Vaaler, is available to supplement the counseling services of our pastors. Her services to St. Paul members and the Madison Elementary School community assist those who would welcome support with back-to-school time or pandemic-related struggles, as well as difficult transitions, struggling in relationships, experiencing depression or anxiety, working through trauma, or in need of a listening ear.

On staff part-time, Angie is available for appointments through telehealth (by telephone or video means). Call 563-326-3547, ext. 312 to schedule.

## NAMI Walk — Virtual for 2020

*Saturday, Oct. 10*

This year's NAMI Walk in the Quad Cities will be a virtual experience, joined by other NAMI Walks across the country. Make the walk your own — walk a 5k through your neighborhood, around your backyard, on your treadmill. Walk registration is free, as St. Paul will give \$5,000 to the walk this year. Sign up online at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups). Contact: Beth Laureijs, [beth@stpaulqc.org](mailto:beth@stpaulqc.org).

## Mental Health Awareness Team

*Third Thursday of the month, 6 p.m., Zoom*

The St. Paul Mental Health Awareness Team, through educational offerings and events, strives to increase understanding of mental health issues. Help us continue to create a supportive, caring, compassionate community for people affected by mental illness. Interested in being a part? Contact: Beth Laureijs, [beth@stpaulqc.org](mailto:beth@stpaulqc.org).

## Friends & Family

*Third Thursday of the month, 7:30 p.m., Zoom*

A 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. Contact: Sara Olson-Smith, [sara@stpaulqc.org](mailto:sara@stpaulqc.org).

## Survivors of Suicide Loss

*First Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Luther Loft*

Offering 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. Contact: Deb and Joe James, [joedeb1984@gmail.com](mailto:joedeb1984@gmail.com).



## HELPING OTHERS

### Quilters

*At home*

This devoted group of caring quilters, beginners and experts alike, sew, tie, cut, and piece together beautiful works of art that are donated to those in need. This crew will be working on some special projects this fall, from home. Interested in being a part? Contact: Cathy Hagglund, [crh4quilts@msn.com](mailto:crh4quilts@msn.com) or Karin Hanson, 563-528-2064.

### Blood Donor Day

*Wednesday, Oct. 28, 1:30-6 p.m.,  
St. Paul Parking Lot*

Give the gift of life. Blood donation is a simple process that takes about 45 minutes to one hour. Enjoy conversation and refreshments afterwards. Sign up online at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups). Contact: Sara Olson-Smith, [sara@stpaulqc.org](mailto:sara@stpaulqc.org).

# COMMUNITY

Togetherness is one of the deep joys of a life of faith. St. Paul people gather in groups, large and small, to share in each other's lives. Below is a sampling of groups who welcome all with open arms.

## WOMEN & MEN

### Women of the ELCA

This is a community of women of all ages who gather for friendship and support, Bible study, and service.

► **Online Circle:** This monthly gathering will be held on Zoom on the third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. Anyone who has a computer, phone, or tablet can join the video conference from the location of their choice. Each month we explore the Bible study from the *Gather Magazine*. To express interest, contact Martha Wells, [marthawells99@gmail.com](mailto:marthawells99@gmail.com).

### Second Saturday Men

*Second Saturdays of the month, 8 a.m., online via Zoom*

Men of St. Paul gather for service, fellowship, and discussion. First gathering of the year will be on Saturday, Sept. 12, 8 a.m. The idea is to strengthen guys in their faith. Contact: Todd Byerly, [todd@stpaulqc.org](mailto:todd@stpaulqc.org).

### Men's Bible study

*First and third Wednesdays, 6:15 p.m.*

Gather together for a time of fellowship, and study. Meet in the 129 House on the St. Paul campus, corner of Lombard and Main Streets. Contact: Jeff Keller, [jeff.keller1964@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.keller1964@gmail.com).

### Virtual Men's Coffee Group

*Twice monthly, Zoom*

Grab a cup of coffee and settle in with your computer to connect with fellow St. Paul men. Led by Hayden Kvamme, this group will meet two times a month through the fall. To express interest, message Hayden. Contact: Hayden Kvamme, [hayden@stpaulqc.org](mailto:hayden@stpaulqc.org).

### Dads' Group

This is a twice-a-month gathering of dads hoping to strengthen some connections in the QCA. The group gathers for food and beverages, games, discussions, and other opportunities. Connect with Pastor Hayden Kvamme to learn about upcoming events. Contact: Hayden Kvamme, [hayden@stpaulqc.org](mailto:hayden@stpaulqc.org).

## YOUNG ADULTS

### 2136

*Twice monthly*

2136 is a ministry for adults in their 20s and 30s to be social, to study, and to serve. Its name comes from both the general age of those involved and the street address of St. Paul. To stay up-to-date on 2136 happenings, check out the 2136 Facebook page at [facebook.com/groups/stpaul2136](https://facebook.com/groups/stpaul2136). Contact: Hayden Kvamme, [hayden@stpaulqc.org](mailto:hayden@stpaulqc.org).

► **Tailgating kick-off:** On Thursday, Sept. 17, 7-8:30 p.m., wear your team colors, bring your own food, and a chair to gather around a fire to celebrate friends and fall. Meet in the west parking lot.



### Coffee Conversations on the North Lawn

On Tuesday mornings on the North Lawn (weather permitting), gather for coffee and conversation at 10:30 a.m. Please sign up at [stpaulqc.org/signups](https://stpaulqc.org/signups) to reserve your spot. Contact: Beth Laureijs, [beth@stpaulqc.org](mailto:beth@stpaulqc.org). The September sessions are:

- **September 8:** Memory Loss – For Individuals and Loved Ones
- **September 15:** Emotional Eating and Body Image
- **September 22:** Resiliency

### Rekindling our spirit: Pledging for 2021

Every November, we ask St. Paul people to pledge their giving for the following year. This year will be no different - even though the way we celebrate this important commitment will be different. The theme for this year will be *Rekindle our spirit*.

As part of this theme, we're inviting St. Paul people to submit personal 300-word essays about the word "fire." Share your stories, memories, and experiences with fire and how your faith might connect. Interested in writing? Message Ann McGlynn, [ann@stpaulqc.org](mailto:ann@stpaulqc.org), for more details.

## SUPPORT & CARE

### Adult Children of Alcoholics

Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m., Zoom

This is a group for people who grew up in dysfunctional homes of any type (mental illness, alcoholic, verbally abusive, etc.). We learn together and support each other, using a spiritual approach. Contact: Dick Jensen, [rrjensen65@gmail.com](mailto:rrjensen65@gmail.com).

### Better Choices, Better Health

Tuesdays, Oct. 20-Nov. 24, 1 p.m., Zoom

Better Choices, Better Health is an evidence-based program developed by Stanford University. It offers self-management skills that empower us to live healthier, more enjoyable lives. Sign up at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups). Contact: Beth Laureijs, [beth@stpaulqc.org](mailto:beth@stpaulqc.org).

### Grief Group Drop-In Online

Tuesdays: Sept. 22, Oct. 20, Nov. 17, Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m., Zoom

Mondays: Sept. 14, Oct. 5, Nov. 2, Dec. 7, 1:30 p.m., Zoom

A supportive, compassion-filled time together for those who are experiencing grief. Explore anger, depression, fears, acceptance, and new strength for a hopeful future. Led by Pastor Sara Olson-Smith, sign up online at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups). Contact: Sara Olson-Smith, [sara@stpaulqc.org](mailto:sara@stpaulqc.org).

### Motherless Daughters

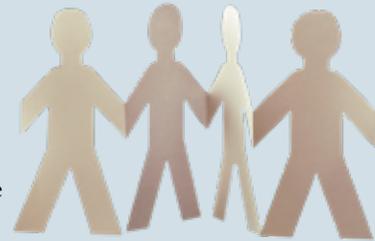
Second Saturday of the month, 9 a.m., Luther Loft

Open for any woman who has experienced mother-loss at any time and needs a safe place for support. Gather to celebrate our mothers, deepen relationships, and develop a network for continuous healing. Contact: Nicole Rathje, [rathjefamily@gmail.com](mailto:rathjefamily@gmail.com).

### Prayer Chain

The Prayer Chain works quietly and steadily behind the scenes. Prayers rise for a problem or illness, or in praise or thanksgiving. No request is too small.

Requests are worded for confidentiality. For a prayer request or to volunteer as one who prays, contact Karin Hanson, 563-528-2064, [tk-max2502@gmail.com](mailto:tk-max2502@gmail.com).



### Stroke Support Group

Third Wednesday of the month, 2-3 p.m., Luther Loft

The group brings together stroke survivors and their families in an atmosphere of caring and sharing to assist recovery. Education about life after a stroke, including helpful hints and coping skills, is included. Contact: Beth Laureijs, [beth@stpaulqc.org](mailto:beth@stpaulqc.org).

### Veterans' Gathering

Are you a veteran from any era? A new group is forming at St. Paul! Led by Lyle Peterson, this group will connect in a variety of ways to provide camaraderie, support, and conversation. To express interest, Lyle would love to hear from you. Contact: Lyle Peterson, [petedav72@gmail.com](mailto:petedav72@gmail.com) or 563-343-1817.

### Walking the Grief Journey: In-Person

Sundays, Sept. 13-Oct. 4, 2:30-3:30 p.m., Luther Loft

This in-person series is for those who have experienced the recent loss of a loved one. Explore anger, depression, fears, acceptance, and new strength for a hopeful future. Signup at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups). Contact: Lynn Batcher Robinson, [ldbatcher@hotmail.com](mailto:ldbatcher@hotmail.com).

**We love how  
accepting and  
full of life  
St. Paul is.  
It feels like  
home!**

**ZACH & NIKKI EBENER**



# ADULTS

As Lutheran Christians, we consider our lives to be unfinished products. That's why we're constantly seeking ways to grow in faith and deepen the meaning of our days. At St. Paul, we cultivate a community of lifelong learning.

## CC Conversations

September 3, November 5, December 3, 6-6:45 p.m.

Enjoy conversation with other St. Paul people on topics involving faith, politics, and culture, using articles and news from the *Christian Century* magazine as a springboard for conversation. Gather in-person for only 45 minutes (intentionally brief). Bring a face covering, passion, perspective, and openness to others. Articles for discussion will be posted on the church calendar 10 days before each session — [stpaulqc.org/calendar](http://stpaulqc.org/calendar). 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). Contact: Peter Marty, [peter@stpaulqc.org](mailto:peter@stpaulqc.org).

## Centering Prayer

Thursdays, 6 p.m., Zoom

Practice an ancient prayer form in which you will experience God's presence within. Centering prayer does not replace other kinds of prayer, but is a discipline that allows a person to move beyond conversation to resting in God and communion with Christ. Contact: Dick Jensen, [rjensen65@gmail.com](mailto:rjensen65@gmail.com).

## DiDAX

Third Thursdays, 7-8:15 p.m., Chapel

The basics of the Christian faith, St. Paul style, for anyone — newer members, long-time members, non-members, folks with lots of church background and folks with little or none, really: anyone! We certainly won't be "didactic," but this class will open up the teaching that guides what we believe, say, and do as a diverse congregation with a Lutheran heritage and an openness to our community. For 2020-2021, the focus will be on Martin Luther's Small Catechism, which he called "Christian instruction in... a brief, plain, and simple version." The book is available at the Book Corner; the cost is \$7. Contact: Peter Pettit, [ppetit@stpaulqc.org](mailto:ppetit@stpaulqc.org).

## Heart. Soul. Mind.

Beginning Sept. 9, Wednesdays, 12 noon – 1 p.m., Zoom; Thursdays, 9:30-10:30 a.m., Chapel; Saturdays, 11 a.m.–12 noon, Chapel

Why has the Bible become a complicated, difficult, unfamiliar book to so many of us? How can we recover it as the shared resource and point of reference that it can be? In his book, *Saving the Bible from Ourselves*, Glenn R. Paauw asks those questions and offers lively, insightful guidance toward useful answers. A brief video each week will lead into discussion in each of three sessions covering the same material. The book is available at the Book Corner; the cost is \$15. Contact: Peter Pettit, [ppetit@stpaulqc.org](mailto:ppetit@stpaulqc.org).



## Jesse's Stump

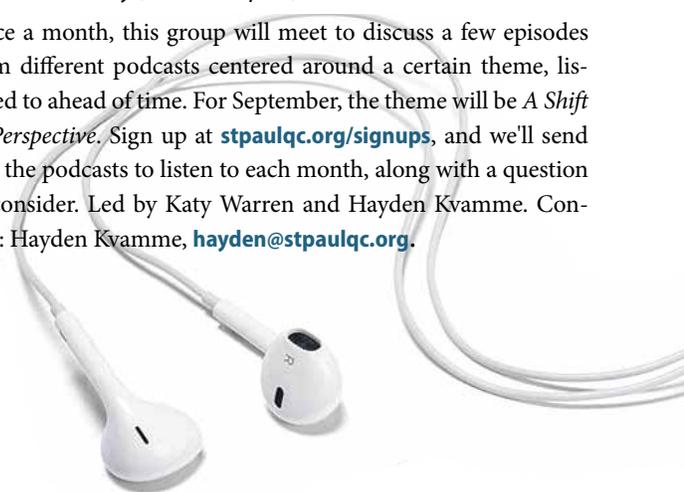
Sundays, 4-5 p.m., South Lawn, beginning Sept. 13

"A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse," — Isaiah 11:1. Growth and learning and exploration of new things — and familiar things in new ways — are all part of the mature life of faith. Like the prophet's promise of God's creative leadership sprouting from long-treasured roots, adult learning at St. Paul offers spiritual and intellectual stimulus at "Jesse's stump." Please come as you are and bring your own chair. Topics and presenters will change week by week; watch St. Paul's enews on Thursdays for details. Contact: Peter Pettit, [ppetit@stpaulqc.org](mailto:ppetit@stpaulqc.org).

## Podcast Discussion Group

Second Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., North Lawn

Once a month, this group will meet to discuss a few episodes from different podcasts centered around a certain theme, listened to ahead of time. For September, the theme will be *A Shift in Perspective*. Sign up at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups), and we'll send you the podcasts to listen to each month, along with a question to consider. Led by Katy Warren and Hayden Kvamme. Contact: Hayden Kvamme, [hayden@stpaulqc.org](mailto:hayden@stpaulqc.org).



## BOOK LOVERS

### Faithful Readers

Thursdays, Sept. 10, 6:30 p.m., and Oct. 8, 7-8 p.m.,  
Library Commons

This book discussion group will gather twice this fall — minus food, plus face coverings. Discussion in September will be on *This Tender Land* by William Kent Krueger. In October, we will discuss *O Pioneers!* by Willa Cather. Limit 20 people. Sign up online at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups). All books are available at the Book Corner. Contact: Katie Hanson, [katiehanson@augustana.edu](mailto:katiehanson@augustana.edu) or Dave Crowe, [davidcrowe@augustana.edu](mailto:davidcrowe@augustana.edu).

### Occasional Tuesdays Book Group

Tuesdays, Oct. 6, 13 & 20, 7:30 a.m., Zoom

In *How the Bible Actually Works*, Peter Enns explains that the Bible is not an instruction manual or rule book but a powerful learning tool that nurtures our spiritual growth by refusing to provide us with easy answers but instead forces us to acquire wisdom. The book is available in the Book Corner. Sign up online at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups). Contact: Katy Warren, [katy@stpaulqc.org](mailto:katy@stpaulqc.org).



### Monday/Friday Bible Class

Mondays, 7 p.m., Chapel, repeated Fridays at 11 a.m., starting Sept. 11, Chapel

Each week, this class will study the Scripture that will be the preacher's focus for the following Sunday. Sign up online at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups). Contact: Peter Pettit, [ppettit@stpaulqc.org](mailto:ppettit@stpaulqc.org).

### Theology Pub

Second and fourth Thursdays of the month, 7 p.m., Zoom

Belly up to your computer with your favorite beverage and join in a lively discussion of today's headlines or whatever else lands on the "bar" as a topic. The format is informal and congenial, with a hearty welcome to all who join in. Contact: Peter Pettit, [ppettit@stpaulqc.org](mailto:ppettit@stpaulqc.org).

### Women's Bible study: Living on a Prayer

Second Tuesdays of the month, 8 p.m., starting Sept. 8, Zoom

Our Bible Study this year will focus on prayer. We'll look at various Bible Stories to learn about the power of prayer, the ways of prayer and how we might expand our thinking of how we pray. Contact: Sara Olson-Smith, [sara@stpaulqc.org](mailto:sara@stpaulqc.org).



# KIDS & YOUTH

Kids and youth find a wonderful second home at St. Paul. Staff and volunteers bring hearts for sharing faith, and the congregation seeks to be a loving sign of God's grace for families. Contact: Kendra Thompson, [kendra@stpaulqc.org](mailto:kendra@stpaulqc.org) (kids and families), and Andy Langdon, [andy@stpaulqc.org](mailto:andy@stpaulqc.org) (youth).

## FAMILY FUN

### Outdoor worship for kids and families

*Third Saturdays of the month, 4 p.m., starting Sept. 19*

Bring a blanket and gather with other families, well-spaced and regardless of weather, on our North Lawn for worship! We'll praise God in playful and creative ways, tell Bible stories, dance (in place!) and sing (quietly)! While everyone is welcome, these services will be planned especially for children and families elementary-aged and younger. Sign up online at [stpaulqc.org/sign-ups](http://stpaulqc.org/sign-ups). Contact: Sara Olson-Smith, [sara@stpaulqc.org](mailto:sara@stpaulqc.org).

### PJ Prayers

*Sundays starting Oct. 4*

Join Children's Ministry team leaders for a prayer service for kids age 3-fifth grade. Here's a weekly chance to gather online — in your pajamas if you like! Hear a story, learn a new song, hear a psalm, and pray together. An email with the link will be sent to St. Paul families with children. Contact: Kendra Thompson, [kendra@stpaulqc.org](mailto:kendra@stpaulqc.org).

### Trunk or Treat

*Sunday, Oct. 25, 5-6 p.m.*

It's the annual orange-and-black frivolity at St. Paul for the whole family. Gather in costume for treating in the St. Paul parking lot. Contact: Kendra Thompson, [kendra@stpaulqc.org](mailto:kendra@stpaulqc.org).



## GRADES 6-8

### 678 Sunday School Home Challenge (Online)

*Unit kickoffs: Sundays, Sept. 13, Oct. 4, Oct. 25, Nov. 15, Dec 6, 6-7 p.m., Zoom*

Meet online every few weeks to learn, worship, and play games together. Then, finish quests at home to be entered into drawings for prizes. Contact: Andy Langdon, [andy@stpaulqc.org](mailto:andy@stpaulqc.org).

### 678 Night

*Oct. 28, 6:30-8 p.m., North Lawn*

High-energy games + fun + togetherness + great Bible studies + campfire style worship = 678. Contact: Andy Langdon, [andy@stpaulqc.org](mailto:andy@stpaulqc.org).

### Confirmation

*Wednesdays beginning Sept. 9, 6-7 p.m.*

For youth in grades 7 and 8, St. Paul's confirmation ministry is a creative, spirit-enlivened experience, built on relationships with God and others. Outdoor retreats offer a fun bonding experience in the fall. The seventh-grade retreat is Sept. 12, the eighth-grade retreat is Oct. 17-18. Contact: Katy Warren, [katy@stpaulqc.org](mailto:katy@stpaulqc.org).

## HIGH SCHOOL

### Sunday Night Live (SNL) — New Time!

*Sundays, 3:45-5 p.m., starting Sept. 13, North Lawn*

SNL is a strong framework for high school youth, a fun place to get recharged before school on Monday morning. Live, grow, and serve. Jump into supersized life experiences. SNL has something for everyone. Contact: Andy Langdon, [andy@stpaulqc.org](mailto:andy@stpaulqc.org).

### Midweek Recharge

*Wednesdays, starting Sept. 16, 7:15-8:15 p.m. North Lawn*

This small group is designed for high school students to gather, connect, and grow in faith with each other. Contact: Haley Rhoads, [haley@stpaulqc.org](mailto:haley@stpaulqc.org).



## FAITH MILESTONES

Faith milestones are special markers along the growing-up journey. Each St. Paul family will receive information about relevant milestones by mail or email. All events will be held at St. Paul, outdoors or in large spaces.

### Three-year-olds: Faith Forming Beginnings

*Sunday, Sept. 20, 9:15-10:15 a.m.*

We welcome three-year-olds and their parents into the beginnings of learning. Each child receives a colorful storybook Bible. Sign up at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups).

### Kindergarten: Explore Worship

*Sunday, Oct. 4, 9:15-10:15 a.m.*

Kids ask questions and explore St. Paul worship together. Sign up at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups).

### First Grade: The Lord's Prayer

*Sunday, Oct. 18, 9:15-10:15 a.m.*

Children and parents learn together about the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray. Sign up at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups).

### Second Grade: Ten Commandments

*Sunday, Oct. 25, 9:15-10:15 a.m.*

Kids discover this gift of God's love, which provides guidance for navigating life. Sign up at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups).

### Third Grade: God's Word

*Sunday, Oct. 11, 9:15-10:15 a.m.*

Students and their parents learn together about God's written word. Each child will receive their own Bible. Sign up at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups).

### Sixth Grade: Digital Identity

*Sunday, Sept. 27, 9:15-10:15 a.m.*

As kids enter their teen years, this milestone gives families the time and space to talk about creating and maintaining an identity that reflects God in our daily and digital lives. Sign up at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups).

### Ninth Grade: Faith Stories

*Sundays, Sept. 20-Oct. 25, 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m., Sanctuary*

Faith stories are the culmination of confirmation at St. Paul. Ninth-graders share three-minute presentations describing how they have experienced the presence of God.

### Tenth Grade: Share, Save, Spend

*Sunday, Nov. 8, 9:15 a.m.*

This is a moment to pause and talk about money intentionally. Families discuss money and examine hopes and values. Sign up at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups).

## Council Notes

The Congregational Council met in August, to hear updates about church operations – specifically related to the pandemic.

St. Paul is gearing up for modified programming for the fall, with smaller, physically distant gatherings. Many events are planned for the church's outdoor spaces; events held in indoor spaces are always with masks and with lots of space and air circulation.

The St. Paul Preschool is gearing up to

welcome students beginning Sept. 8. A series of safety precautions and new procedures were reviewed by the council. Drop-off and pick-up will be different this year, as will classroom practices – all to ensure the safety of students and staff.

The council also expressed its gratitude for the continued contributions of St. Paul people. With decreased expenses, the financial report this month was strong.

## with SYMPATHY

*as of Aug. 22:*

- ▶ Family of Jerry Neff Sr.:  
Jerry & Tammy Neff, his father  
Jennifer & Ben Bekel, her grandfather
- ▶ Family of Mary Floyd:  
Joyce Briggs & Brent O'Malley, her mother  
Kaitlyn & Hans Schneklath, her grandmother
- ▶ Family of Aven James:  
Joe & Deb James, his father  
Tyler James, grandfather
- ▶ Family of Donald Beck:  
Debbie & Ron Elliott, her father  
Haley & Taylor Elliott, grandfather
- ▶ Cindy & Steve Pressley, her sister,  
Carol Umlandt
- ▶ Tammy & Rob Lewis, her father,  
Carl Goostree
- ▶ Dave & Lori Parker, his father, Jim Parker
- ▶ Erin & Haley Wikoff, Erin's aunt  
Jeanne Meyer
- ▶ Ethan Bettis, grandfather Jerry Salzmann
- ▶ Joe & Christal Thiel, his brother John Thiel

## BIRTHS

- ▶ Miles Marietta, son of Brittany & Adam Marietta, July 17
- ▶ Patrick Schultz, son of Autumn Wagner & Scott Schultz, July 19
- ▶ Ava Kinzenbaw, daughter of Andrea & Rob Kinzenbaw, July 24
- ▶ Palmer Pavelka, daughter of Mandy & John Pavelka, Aug. 3
- ▶ Kiel Leathers, son of Quinn & Paul Leathers, Aug. 9

## WEDDINGS

- ▶ Amy Schelker & Mike Nitzel, Aug. 8
- ▶ Ashley Kruse & Nick Harris, Aug. 22

## BAPTISMS

- ▶ Lottie Pelzer, June 19
- ▶ Vinny Bartoluzzi, June 20
- ▶ Logan Saeger, July 23
- ▶ Oliver Ihrig, July 25
- ▶ Wyatt Reiling, Aug. 1
- ▶ Linda Pedersen, Aug. 2
- ▶ Kai Moore, Aug. 8



**ST. PAUL**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

2136 Brady Street  
Davenport, IA 52803



# Donut Driveup

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 13, 8-11:30 A.M.**

Miss St. Paul donuts and coffee? On Sunday, Sept. 13, 8-11:30 a.m., St. Paul pastors and staff will be outside in the parking lot for a donut driveup event. We will have your favorite donuts, a special St. Paul blend of coffee, and a small back-to-school gift for the kids.