

THE MAGAZINE OF ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH December 2020

journey



Screaming



ON THE COVER:
Artwork by Marigold
Arnold-Powell, age 7

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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POSTMASTER

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Let's be honest for just a moment. This year has been tough. And certainly nothing like what we imagined it might be. I'd guess we've *all* had plenty of disappointments, fears, worries, or challenges this year.

Plans have had to be changed (and then changed again). Our communal and individual health has been on the forefront of our minds like never before. Political unrest. Racial tensions. Natural disasters of every variety around the country. Who even knew the word 'derecho' before this year? The list could go on. And on. And on. It's enough to make us want to scream.

And now...you can.

A new website was designed specifically with your frustrations in mind. It allows you to let go of all that 2020 pent-up frustration by screaming into your computer's microphone, where it's then broadcast from speakers placed in, of all places, remote locations throughout the countryside of Iceland.

It's a collaboration between the government of Iceland, wanting to promote tourism in their beautiful country, while also providing some comic relief and (on a more serious note) mental health resources to those who may need it.

Just head over to **LooksLikeYouNeedIceland.com**. As the website says, "You've been through a lot this year and it looks like you need the perfect place to let your frustrations out. Record your scream and we'll release it in Iceland's beautiful, wide-open spaces."

If that's not enough, you can enjoy scrolling through a number of live-video feeds of the picturesque Iceland landscape and listen to others release their aggravated screams into the great wide open. "You'll feel better, we promise!" they assure us.

This site would be useful for any one of us in the coming weeks. The busyness of the Christmas season is combined with continued changes to our usual routines, missing out on family traditions, or concern for the health and safety of others. There's no shortage of things that might make us want to yell into the abyss.

Then again, there's always been a long list of potential frustrations or concerns, it just changes with our circumstances or surroundings. When I think about the familiar Christmas story, I wonder how utterly exasperated Mary must've been, nine months pregnant, traveling to a foreign city for a census of all things. I'd be crabby!

Or Joseph. As the biblical story describes it, how discouraging to be in search of a place for him and Mary to rest after long days of travel, only to be stuck in some smelly barn. At that point, I bet they both felt

like screaming. Or how terrifying for the two of them, to welcome their first-born child into the world with no family or familiar surroundings nearby.

No, God didn't encourage Mary & Joseph to go scream into the Judean countryside, though I suppose that was an option. Instead, God sent angels to reassure the couple: "Do not be afraid!" God provided shepherds and magi and

stars and an innkeeper, all of whom helped lessen the burden of their fears and worries.

This year in particular, if the Christmas story reminds us of anything, let it be the gift of one another. God has given us each other, to lighten the load, share words of comfort, and ensure no one feels isolated. We won't need an app to scream into some farm field if we know we have Emmanuel, God-with-us, close by. This Christmas, my prayer is that God's love will be felt through the presence and encouragement we bring to each other.

On a personal note, my wife Allison and I have some happiness to share. We're expecting a few screams around our own house before long — the cries of a newborn! Thanks to the miracle of modern medicine, I'm privileged to be carrying this little gift from God. This year, I have a whole new appreciation for some of what Mary must've experienced. Our little boy — who will not be named Jesus, by the way — is due in late March. We're grateful for so much support from our beloved St. Paul community. Thanks for sharing your love in this new season of our lives!



Katy Warren

KATY WARREN
associate pastor



REKINDLE THE SPIRIT

St. Paul people: Have you pledged?

2020 OFFERINGS

Our offerings are critically important for the financial health of our congregation. Every offering we make adds to the goodness of what we can accomplish. Thanks for making St. Paul a priority in your life.

PLEDGING FOR 2021

One of the expectations of St. Paul is that every member make a financial pledge commitment – a faith promise of what they believe they can give to support the ministry of the congregation. Please make every effort to turn in your pledge card and envelope for 2021. Extra cards are available at church. Or, save time by logging onto the St. Paul website and making your pledge electronically at www.stpaulqc.org/pledge. Online pledges are completely confidential.

YEAR-END GIVING

By mid-December, you should receive a statement of your giving through November 30. To be credited to 2020 giving statements, all offerings must be received in the church office by Thursday, Dec. 31 at 12 noon, or postmarked by Dec. 31.

GRATITUDE

Thank you for your gifts of gratitude to St. Paul now and throughout the year. The Christ-centered mission and ministries of St. Paul depend entirely on the giving and pledges of every single household.

Our pledged giving for 2021 will make possible St. Paul's expanding mission character, staffing, and ministry vision. Thank you for your generosity.

Have a question about pledging or stewardship? Contact Marcia Robertson, giving ministry coordinator, 563-326-3547 ext. 218, marcia@stpaulqc.org.

St. Paul believes in giving 20+ percent of our annual budget away. This double-tithe is no easy matter. It's the hallmark of a servant people who belong to a servant church. Generations have helped establish this priority, supported fully through the offerings of St. Paul people.

In 2020, St. Paul will give \$570,000 of offerings pledged to organizations as close as a neighborhood school and as far away as Africa.

NEW YEAR'S EVE FIRE

Starting in eighth grade, and then into my early 20s, I attended Winter Camp, a church retreat that took place every year from Dec. 29-Jan. 1.

We gathered at Camp Wapsie Y near Cedar Rapids in the earlier years, then at Camp Abe Lincoln outside of Buffalo. We slept in (mostly) heated cabins, stayed up way too late, tried to schedule our shower time so we at least had a bit of hot water, and gathered for small and large group time together.

Our group of friends has stayed in touch throughout the years, and gathered for a reunion of sorts about four years ago. Many of us are in caring professions.

Throughout our time at camp, we wrote on pieces of paper the things we wanted to let go of or be forgiven for in the coming year. We dropped those pieces of paper in a locked box.

New Year's Eve was the best part of camp.

Each small group crafted a skit, based on a theme that emerged at camp, something happening in our world, or something just plain silly. We laughed and cheered as each small group took the stage. After changing into dress clothes to prepare for worship, we huddled together in small groups of friends to reminisce on the year – the good and the bad.

As part of worship, and as the time drew closer to midnight, we paused and made our way outside. Remember the pieces of paper we wrote on and deposited into the locked box? We lit them on fire.

I can't remember the words that were spoken as we watched the fire each year. But I can share the lyrics from the first verse of one of my favorite camp songs, "Pass It On."

"It only takes a spark, to get a fire going. And soon all those around, can warm up in its glowing. That's how it is with God's love, once you've experienced it. You spread God's love to everyone, you want to pass it on." — Ann McGlynn





SEASON of ADVENT

Christmas Connections

It is a truth universally acknowledged that a piece of handwritten mail brings joy. Our togetherness these days happens primarily through letters in the mail, email exchanges, phone calls, brief text messages, and video chats. When we are not able to gather, these are the things that are restoring our spirits.

You are invited to multiply this joy and connection by being a part of **St. Paul's holiday Christmas Connections**. Sign up, as a household or individual, to be paired with another St. Paul person, couple or household, for a Christmas season of correspondence.

When you sign up, you'll be asked about your preferred means of communication. Avoid the phone but love handwritten letters? No problem, we'll pair you with another letter-writer. Have horrific handwriting but could spend all day on email? Super, you will be given someone new to activate the "you've got mail" alert.

In these days when so many of us are feeling isolated and disconnected, you can be a part of creating more networks of care, support, and encouragement. Our hope is that everyone involved will share joy and deepen connection. Through simple acts of reaching out, we can experience the truth of this season, that God is among us, bringing new life and hope.

Sign up at stpaulqc.org/signups or contact Pastor Sara Olson-Smith, sara@stpaulqc.org.

Christmas greetings, from St. Paul people: St. Paul people can offer their Christmas greetings to the congregation through an online tool set up for just this year. Visit bit.ly/stpaulgreetings. There, you can see the cards, photos, and tidings sent by St. Paul people. Then, you can add your own. If you'd like St. Paul staff to add your good wishes for you, email the photo or words you'd like to use to Lauren Brown at lauren@stpaulqc.org.

A Christmas story, in lights

Led by St. Paul youth and volunteers, a light display will showcase a Christmas story on the south lawn for the month of December.

The 15-minute synchronized show will be set to music and a story. It will be on every evening from 6-10 p.m., except during times of in-person 7 p.m. worship. Those wishing to view can park in the parking lot across from the South Lawn. The sound will be played through an FM transmission to your car radio.

Youth to mark season with shopping for gifts, caroling

The St. Paul Youth are modifying their traditions this year due to the pandemic, yet still looking forward to serving and singing.

Shopping for Handicapped Development Center: On Sunday, Dec. 6, high school small groups will gather at Target in Davenport in shifts to shop for Christmas gifts for residents at the Handicapped Development Center.

Christmas Caroling: Students in grades 6-12 will gather in their own cars in the south parking lot at 7:15 p.m. to Christmas carol with each other on Sunday, Dec. 20.

Caroling around the outdoor Christmas tree

Come for Christmas caroling, spaced out around the outdoor Christmas tree outside the south doors, on the three days leading up to Christmas.

The 30 minutes of caroling will begin at 4:45 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 22; Wednesday, Dec. 23; and Thursday, Dec. 24. Physical distancing and face coverings required. Dress for the weather. Music provided.

"Reader's Theatre" children's Christmas pageant to air Dec. 20, 7 p.m.

Due to coronavirus precautions, this year's children's Christmas pageant will be presented as a reader's theater online. We will capture this dramatic retelling of the story of our savior's birth on Zoom.

The program will air on Sunday, Dec. 20, 7 p.m. It will be available as video on facebook.com/stpaulquadcities, or on youtube.com/c/stpaulquadcities. It will be posted as a podcast on stpaulqc.buzzsprout.com.

Questions? Message Kendra Thompson, kendra@stpaulqc.org.

Blue Christmas Worship set for Monday, Dec. 21, 6 p.m.

This quiet service of longing and hope is designed for anyone who doesn't feel like celebrating. During the holidays, grief, illness, depression, and loneliness can be magnified. The Blue Christmas service acknowledges pain and longing, while offering hope and comfort for the broken-hearted. In the darkness of December, anticipate Jesus, the light of the world. Signup is required, at stpaulqc.org/signups.

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

Hope is alive for some in-person Christmas worship this year, even if certainty is not. At present, 14 equivalent Christmas services (about 30 minutes in length) are spread over six days. As we go to press, however, perilously high COVID case numbers in Scott County make planning difficult. Sign-up (beginning Sunday, Dec. 13) is required for these limited-in-size, non-communion services. Mask-wearing and adequately distanced seating locations are expected. In the event that services must be canceled, all households will be contacted before the day of their scheduled service. Thanks for your understanding. Sign up online at stpaulqc.org/signups.

ONLINE Christmas Eve Worship at St. Paul features a host of gifted musicians, your favorite carols, candlelight in the sanctuary, a Christmas sermon — all shaped around the hope-filled story of the birth of our Lord. A link to the service will be posted at 4 p.m. on Christmas Eve.

SATURDAY, DEC. 19	SUNDAY, DEC. 20	MONDAY, DEC. 21	TUESDAY, DEC. 22	WEDNESDAY, DEC. 23	THURSDAY, DEC. 24
Worship: 5 p.m.	Worship: 9 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Worship: 12 noon 4 p.m. <i>* Note: Blue Christmas worship at 6 p.m.</i>	Worship: 12 noon 4 p.m. 7 p.m.	Worship: 12 noon 4 p.m. 7 p.m.	Worship: 12 noon 4 p.m. 7 p.m.

CHRISTMAS LOVE from the ST. PAUL 2020 STAFF



Pictured: (left to right) Katy Warren, Peter Marty, Hayden Kvamme, Paula Durham, Karen Strusz, Sara Olson-Smith, Chris Nelson, Terry Ousley, Ann McGlynn, Beth Laureijs, Kendra Thompson, Matt Spencer, Angie Vaaler, Haley Rhoads, Carrie Bowman, Peter Pettit, Kristine Dohrmann, Dan Pepper, Lauren Brown, Bill Campbell, Erika Lindebraekke, Jennifer Garvey, Marcia Robertson,

Paul Caldwell, Sara Harless, Becky Harper, Katie Casey, Karen Holden, Dana Taylor, Andy Langdon, Margaret Thompson, Destiny Ellingsworth, Jim Akright, Nathan Windt, Terry Haru, Harris Schneekloth, Don Gustafson, Dana Welser, Miles Thompson, Todd Byerly, Kathy Becker, Teresa Whitbeck, Linda Allebach



CHRISTMAS memories

St. Paul people fondly remember Christmases past, when the love of God surrounded them as they celebrated the birth of Jesus Christ, light of the world

Grandma's gift, *Jeanne Withycombe*

The Saturday before the first Sunday in Advent, a short, square, white box is removed from its shelf in the basement and brought upstairs. The contents of this box are one of the most precious gifts I have ever been given. It is the family's nativity set. Each of the 20 pieces was carefully handmade by my mother, Ray's grandmother. As I unwrap and place the figures in and around the Advent wreath, I remember the wrinkled, arthritic hands that so lovingly made them. I remember too the generous heart that spent so many long hours crafting them, and then gave them away.

A lot of memories surround the set — 45 years of them. My favorite is the year three-year-old Ray told the Christmas story to his best, stuffed friend, Lambie. Pointing to each figure, mispronouncing some of the words, likening Mary and Joseph to “mama and papa bear,” and telling Lambie he was glad he didn't have to ride a donkey or a camel. His story had the main points — with a few unusual details. His dad and I have smiled for years over the serious question, “Wouldn't that straw be prickly for the Baby Jesus to sleep in?”

A part of every Christmas, family traditions around the nativity set have evolved over the years. Sometimes we have shared with family and friends, but most often it has been just the three of us and the cat. One year we “hid” the holy family on the first Sunday and then moved it each day around the house and a little closer to our stable in the wreath. Recent years have seen us, armed with cocoa or hot cider (with a cookie sneaking in), gather late on each Advent Sunday night, light the next candle, and sit together in the soft light. Often we read part of Luke's Christmas story, Rick's deep voice so clear in the silent room. Sometimes we just talk. This is always a sweet, quiet time, precious in the midst of all the craziness the holidays sometimes bring — and it's all possible because of Grandma's Gift.



72 Christmases, Phyllis Ahlstrand

I have enjoyed 72 wonderful Christmases in Nebraska, Texas, Arizona, Hawaii, Missouri — and especially in Iowa. Two threads run through all of them regardless of geography: family togetherness (which is a mixture of presents, great food, fun) and celebration of the birth of Christ (which underlies the great joy and happiness that makes the world seem a better place for one month each year).



So many happy images come to mind. As a small child, I see myself with my mom Christmas night discussing what wardrobe I need for my new doll. As a parent, it was finding the right gift for each of our children and gathering with extended family for our traditional turkey dinner which included Swedish rye bread and lutefisk. As a grandmother, it is the creativity of my children who, after the opening presents ritual, plan different entertainments such as white elephant exchanges, ice skating on the river, skiing at Snowstar, and photo shoots in a homemade booth.

As wonderful as these memories are, the truly special experiences in different churches are my REAL Christmas.

When I was a child, we went to Swedish Julotta services Christmas morning. In the choir loft sat an older man who lip-synched there every Sunday morning so that he could belt out Hosanna over all the voices at 5:30 a.m.

As a mom, I see visions of Christmas pageants with my children having roles including Alisa as a church mouse, Laura as a crazy angel, and Dave as the back half of a cow wandering through the congregation.

As a grandmother, it is the joy of sharing the beauty of the lights, the music, the messages with my children and grandchildren and having special

Christmas experiences such as watching live animals wander into the sanctuary or being cornered after the children's service by Jack Kindschuh who convinced Natalie, Mallory, and me that we would love to usher at the 10 p.m. service.

Both personal and religious moments which have made me feel valued and loved are the memories that I treasure as Christmas approaches.

A big deal, James Weiss

As a teenager, I recall the time when our rural church decided to create a Christmas Eve production involving all youth of the church from four or five years of age through high schoolers. For the congregation it was a "big deal" as we had not previously experienced anything of that magnitude.

The production included the very young singing age appropriate songs, the manger scene (sans live sheep but believe it crossed a few minds), the congregation singing various Christmas hymns, and finally to high schoolers moving around the sanctuary to assist in the lighting of candles for singing Silent Night as the closing hymn by the congregation. The sanctuary filled to capacity over the years as word spread throughout the community about Zion Lutheran's Christmas pageant.

Today we take such an event as a usual Christmas activity. But for our congregation at that place in time it was special in retelling of the Christmas story. May each of you have a blessed Christmas and remember to keep the Christmas story alive in your heart and mind.



Advent devotions:

A thrill of hope

This Advent season, focus on the promise of God's hope with St. Paul's annual tradition of daily Advent devotions.

Featuring an array of St. Paul voices, these devotions will land in your email box and the St. Paul website, based on the theme of *A Thrill of Hope*. The final devotion will be posted on Christmas Day.

Sign up to receive the devotions by email at ow.ly/TGYC5, or read them at stpaulqc.org/blog. The devotions will also be read by a staff member on the day's dial-in devotion, to listen call: 563-323-5489 ext. 4. *Note: If you have received the devotions by email in the past, you do not need to sign up again.*



Traveling

Traveling is my passion. It started back when I was a kid when our family took long driving trips. We would see as many sights and people as possible as we made our way to our destinations. "A Thrill of Hope" for me is planning and experiencing international venues where I can mingle with the people who live there, eat regional foods, and see interesting structures and natural vistas. I was able to sing karaoke in a grass hut in the Amazon jungle, walk amongst geysers in Iceland, climb to the top of the Andes to view Machu Picchu in Peru, and sadly walked the road that thousands of Jews took from the trains directly to the gas chambers at Auschwitz. There were thrills in all these places, though not all were pleasant ones.

As I prepare for this 2020 Christmas season, I consider the lyric, "A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices. For yonder breaks, a new and glorious morn!" This takes on a significant and poignant meaning for me this year. In my 61 years on this Earth, I have never experienced a year with so much weariness and fear. The good news is that Christians will be ready to rejoice at the news of the birth of Jesus Christ. It will be time to say farewell to the weary world of 2020 and scream out in our most raucous of voices to proclaim a "new and glorious morn" on Christmas day.

John Walston is a retired teacher. He lives in Davenport.

More snow

A thrill of hope occurred right before Halloween, during the end of October, and when we had a small dusting of snow across the Midwest. I recall that the snow quickly melted by the afternoon that day, but the thrill of hope that I heard from my youngest son was heard with a shriek of excitement that morning. It was followed with a concentration of thought and vision of hope in his eyes that a snowman or snow fort could be constructed soon.

Hoping, waiting, yearning and craving filled a little boy with anxiousness. "Is there really going to be enough snow" he asked as he peered out of the living room window. Before I could respond, he must have noticed the yet-green grass that wasn't completely covered. "Daddy, when will we get more snow?"

I don't know exactly what your current feelings of the cold and wet or icy snow are as you read this, but I'll guess that its mention might elicit a thrill of desperation or even might make you shiver a little bit as you wait and long for spring weather.

While we wait for a change in seasons and fairer weather, we still have four weeks before Christmas that are filled with many activities; caroling, crafts, nativity scenes, cookies, advent calendars, wreaths, Christmas lights and decorations, and even perhaps some last minute shopping and mailing of holiday cards.

We must remember that Advent is four weeks of expectant waiting for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas. This expectant waiting for arrival reminds us as Christians to remember and prepare for the Birth of Jesus and of humanity's redemption and the future return of Christ in glory and his kingdom come.

Our thrill of hope in Jesus has saved us from a weary world! We rejoice for receiving a new and glorious morning. O holy night! The stars are brightly shining!

David Bergert lives in Bettendorf with his wife, Ewelina, and two sons, Jonathan and Jacob.



December

HAPPENINGS

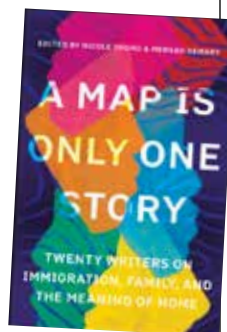
All St. Paul Reads: *A Map Is Only One Story*

A Map Is Only One Story: Twenty Writers on Immigration, Family, and the Meaning of Home is the 2021 All St. Paul Reads book.

All St. Paul Reads is encouragement for all to read and talk about a single book title in the same year. In 2021, this virtual event will take place on Thursday, February 11, 7-8 p.m.

A Map Is Only One Story is available for purchase for \$12 in the St. Paul Book Corner. Pick up is available by emailing bookcorner@stpaulqc.org, or during Book Corner business hours, posted on the website.

To help plan for the Feb. 11 virtual conversation, please sign up at stpaulqc.org/signups.



2021 giving envelopes available mid-December

For those who do not give online, the 2021 envelopes will be available in the church office beginning in mid- to late December.

To pick up your box, stop by the church office from 8:30-4 p.m., Monday-Friday. Or, call ahead to 563-326-3547 to ask that they be placed on a pick up table just inside the office doors.

Questions? Contact Jennifer Garvey, jennifer@stpaulqc.org.

Veterans group seeks soldiers now serving

The St. Paul veterans group would like to know if any St. Paul member has a child or grandchild serving in the military, so they can send them a greeting to thank them for their service.

Lyle Peterson looks forward to hearing from you. You can message him at petedav72@gmail.com, or call 563-343-1817.

Christmas poinsettias to decorate Sanctuary

Christmas poinsettias will decorate the front of the Sanctuary as Christmas approaches. If you would like to donate a plant in memory or in honor of a loved one, orders may be placed no later than Friday, Dec. 11.

Sign up at stpaulqc.org/signups. Or, place your order by phone with Becky Harper, 563-326-3547, ext. 211. The cost for each plant is \$8 - payment can be mailed to church at St. Paul Lutheran, c/o Poinsettias, 2136 Brady St., Davenport, IA 52803.

After Christmas, the poinsettias will be delivered to St. Paul people by a team of volunteers. To help deliver, contact the church office.

Coffee Chats on Faith & Wellbeing

Tuesdays, Dec. 8 & 15, 10:30 a.m., Chapel

On Tuesday mornings in the Chapel, gather for coffee and conversation at 10:30 a.m. Contact: Beth Laureijs, beth@stpaulqc.org. The December sessions will focus on family dynamics. Sign up online at stpaulqc.org/signups.

Podcast Discussion Group

Thursday, Dec. 10, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Zoom

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. Sign up at 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.

Outdoor Family Worship

Saturday, Dec. 19, 4 p.m., North Lawn

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/signups. Dress warm!

Social worker/counselor available for appointments

If you find yourself feeling overwhelmed, COVID-fatigued, or are struggling to find the energy to function in the way you are accustomed to, consider reaching out to our staff counselor/social worker, Angie Vaaler, LMSW. Her services are free of charge to the St. Paul and Madison School communities. Call 563-326-3547, ext. 312 to schedule an appointment (currently being offered via telehealth).

DONUT DRIVEUP

Brisk winds and chilly temperatures weren't enough to keep St. Paul people and staff from sharing a moment of fellowship. Fresh donuts, hearty grocery donations, and masked smiles were in abundance last Sunday morning as our Donut Driveup/Ingathering took place in the church parking lot.



new members / FALL 2020



JOE AND LINDA CAMMILLERI are both retired – Joe as a custodian and Linda as a secretary. They enjoy walking, reading, and sports. Linda was a childhood member of St. Paul.



KEVIN AND WANDA JANSEN were drawn to St. Paul by the hospitality and sense of community. Kevin is president of Mandus Group, and Wanda works as a financial advisor with Ameriprise Financial. They have two adult children.



JOHN AND DARCY MCCAW have two children, Kailee and Mason. John is a recruiter at MST and Darcy is a dental hygienist at QC Dental Docs. They like to spend time with friends and family and are passionate about helping others. They were attracted to St. Paul by the opportunities for youth and adults.

KIMBERLY SEALS (not pictured) is the mother of three children – Brandon, Madison, and Hayden. She works at Biotech X-ray.

Council Notes

The St. Paul Congregational Council met online via Zoom for its November meeting, as the number of COVID-19 cases surged in the region.

They gave their support of the Memorial Gifts Committee's approval of an expenditure for the radio ministry program. This decades-long, Sunday-morning time slot on WOC1420 brings St. Paul worship to people weekly at 8:30 a.m. It will continue into 2021.

St. Paul Preschool is now online until at least January. Families were asked to continue to support the school with tuition, but at a significantly reduced rate. The preschool staff will continue to work and be paid through this online-only time. They are valued and beloved by the kids and their families.

The congregation's investment commit-

tee is saying farewell to Dave Stern, who has served on the committee for six years. The incoming member, who will serve for three years, is Dave Nuernberger, a recently retired tax accountant. He joins Adam Kunkel and Dave Crockett on the committee.

The council also voted to begin the process of moving the annual meeting to a format that will not require an in-person meeting. More information will be available in the next edition of Journey.

The October financial report showed the continued support of St. Paul people through these challenging times. The council expressed gratitude for all who continue to ensure that St. Paul remains strong while also investing in important work of organizations in our community and world.

with SYMPATHY

as of Nov. 20:

- ▶ Paul & Joan Marietta, his sister Joyce Ford
- ▶ Kathie Heaps, aunt Sherry Bach
- ▶ Hayden & Kathryn Kvamme, his grandmother Earline Bond
- ▶ Lisa & Jason Holdorf, her grandmother Elsie Van Gundy
- ▶ Family of Eleanor "Jane" Moeller: Dan & Leigh Moeller, his mother Nick & Erika Moeller, grandmother
- ▶ Family of Sharon Wollett: Joe & Rachel Wollett, his mother Ben & Izzy Wollett, grandmother
- ▶ Family of Janice Slifka: Mark & Deb Slifka, his mother Emma & Nick Trizzino, her grandmother Claire & Zach Marotta, her grandmother
- ▶ Family of Jane Lovaas: Russ Lovaas, wife Jeff & Judy Lovaas, his mother Brian & Evette Lovaas, his mother Zach, Jared, & Morgan Lovaas, grandmother Lindsay & Michael Millea, her grandmother Kelsey & Aaron Askam, her grandmother
- ▶ Rick and Beverly Plett, his nephew Kurt Oetzmann
- ▶ Howard and Diane Swayne, son Steven Swayne
- ▶ Family of Roger Jepsen: Ann Carruthers and Debbie Geisler, father Tiffany Geisler and Michelle Trumbo, grandfather
- ▶ Family of Kenneth Earel: Jim and Anne Earel, his grandfather

DEATHS

- ▶ Paula Leffert, Nov. 4
- ▶ Peggy Lorenz, Nov. 4
- ▶ Jane Lovaas, Nov. 11

WEDDINGS

- ▶ Megan Black & Matt Daniels, Oct. 24
- ▶ Anne Page & Jeremiah Chansler, Nov. 7

BAPTISMS

- ▶ Mia Grace Ebener, daughter of Nikki and Zach Ebener, Oct. 25
- ▶ James Kent McElvania, son of Christine & Jeff McElvania, Nov. 8



ST. PAUL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

2136 Brady Street
Davenport, IA 52803

Hope in the Darkness: AN ADVENT CANTATA

As we wait to celebrate the birth of Christ, gather online on Sunday, Dec. 6, at 7 p.m. for Hope in the Darkness: An Advent Cantata.

Featuring video of original music by Bill Campbell, contemporary music director, and readings from St. Paul people, this experience will prepare us for Christ's coming into our lives.

Music includes *Candle in the Dark*, *O Come O Come Emmanuel*, *Song of John (Prepare Ye)*, *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*, and *Lo How a Rose*.

HOW TO WATCH:

- ▶ Log in to St. Paul's Facebook page, facebook.com/stpaulquadcities
- ▶ Visit the St. Paul YouTube page at youtube.com/c/stpaulquadcities

