

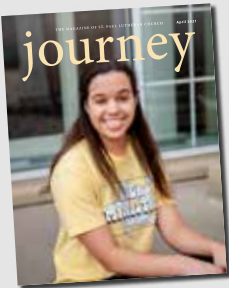
THE MAGAZINE OF ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

April 2021

# journey



# Sacred speech



**ON THE COVER:**  
Adrianna Blackwell

## journey

**APRIL 2021**  
Volume 9 | Issue 2

**EDITOR** Jessica Taylor

**DESIGNER** Lauren Brown

**ADDRESS**  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
2136 Brady Street,  
Davenport, Iowa 52803

**CONTACT**  
Email [journey@stpaulqc.org](mailto:journey@stpaulqc.org)  
Phone 563.326.3547

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

*Journey* (USPS 8314) is published monthly by St. Paul Lutheran Church ELCA, 2136 Brady St., Davenport, IA, 52803. Periodicals Postage Paid at Davenport, IA.

**POSTMASTER**  
Send address changes to  
*Journey*, 2136 Brady Street,  
Davenport, Iowa 52803

Words are composed of scant physical matter. Tiny scratches of graphite, minuscule droplets of ink, invisible rays from a screen, and sound waves emanating from human breath are about all the physical makeup they possess. However inconspicuous their material substance, words carry great significance. Every day we breathe something of our spirit into the consonants and vowels that constitute human speech. In some sense, we are our words and our words are us. They become flesh in us, much like God's word became flesh in Jesus of Nazareth.

For all the words we typically speak in a given day — 10,000 on average — there is a marked decline in the use of religious language these years. Sacred speech and spiritual conversation are disappearing from everyday parlance, even among those who regularly attend church. This isn't a new phenomenon. But it's a relatively recent one that's growing rapidly. According to research by the Barna Group, more than three-quarters of Americans rarely have spiritual or religious conversations; and this in a country where more than 70 percent of the people identify as Christian. Our conversations reveal that faith and spirituality rarely rise to the level of personal importance we may claim for them. Central terms in the Christian vocabulary that have helped give shape to the Christian life over time are essentially drying up.

Thanks to Google Ngram Viewer data, we're now able to research word usage in printed works extending back as far as 500 years. There are other ways to measure word occurrence of the spoken word. In the last 50 years, the frequency of word use for many terms associated with Christianity and moral formation have dropped precipitously. Words like mercy, grace, faith, sacrifice, honesty, and wisdom are disappearing from our vocabulary. Word groupings associated with compassion, humility, and courage have declined in usage by more than 50 percent in recent decades. This downshift in religious language is alarming.

Yes, we should expect language to change over time. But since the language we hear and speak on a daily basis influences our memories, behaviors, perceptions, and worldviews, there are obvious implications to this shift away from sacred speech. In a very real sense, our minds not only shape our words; our words shape our minds. If language about God, faith, and the virtues of the human spirit are erased from daily conversation, it's only natural to expect that our minds and decision-making instincts will give less consideration to such topics. As culture grows more distant from the vocabulary of faith, our lives will locate their meaning and find their

orientation in realms other than religion — consumerism, politics, entertainment, and sports, to name a few. Not surprisingly, we're becoming less reliant on spirituality than we used to be as a culture.

When we're tempted to complain about our world being short on mercy, absent of kindness, devoid of compassion, or, on some days, altogether ungracious, we ought to think about the responsibility that accompanies our use of language and how that use contributes to the larger culture around us. If words like mercy, kindness, compassion, and grace are gone from societal conversation, we shouldn't expect the world to mysteriously conform to the ideas they represent.

What do we do about all of this? Well, there's little we can change directly about the religious fluency or conversational instincts of others. But we can be mindful of our own words, and how we use them, which end up shaping our own minds and behaviors, and in turn impacting others.

Easter 2021 isn't like many Easters we've known, thanks to this unfriendly pandemic. But Easter is here — Hallelujah! And the message of new life from our resurrected Lord is as real as it's ever been. For believers, the task is to decide if that new life makes any personal difference in the ways they think and act. If it does make a difference for us, then we'd better find words to use that make our joy obvious. Otherwise, the world will never know that God really matters to us. And we'll fail to be the change our Lord hopes we'll be.



**PETER W. MARTY**  
senior pastor

# Plan for a full reopening in 2021

As a church, St. Paul has worked hard to endure this pandemic with courage and creativity. The staff has made every effort to maintain high quality programming and worship. Their top interest remains sustaining the faith and character of our caring community. As a people, we've stuck with strong safety protocols and listened to expert advice from medical and public health officials. Our church has successfully avoided becoming a virus spreading site. Now, with great congregational eagerness for being back together, there is growing excitement for more and more members getting vaccinated. We owe our greatest thanks to God who continues to bear us up as a congregation through this difficult time.

## Ministry currently offered

In addition to all of the daily activities that drive much of St. Paul's vibrancy, the following staples of ministry during the pandemic remain intact:

- Sunday online worship every week.
- Saturday evening in-person worship at 5 p.m. (signup online for these 30-minute Saturday services, which have a current max attendance of 125 people). The Lenten Wednesday noon contemplative service concluded its run in March.
- Regular online and onsite programming for youth, conversation groups, learning class participants, support groups, and more.

## Ministry just around the corner

- Beginning April 11, a 10 a.m. in-person Sunday service will be added into the weekend mix. A second in-person Sunday service will be added and announced as soon as attendance and interest warrants (signup online for these 30-minute Sunday services, which have a current max attendance of 125 people).
- Onsite meetings, programs, and opportunities for the congregation will continue to expand.
- A FULL RE-OPENING of the church will occur six weeks after the date when vaccine supply and vaccination appointments are readily available to all people\* in our community.
- Early plans are in the works for several spirited hospitality events as a full re-opening comes into sharper focus.

\*A COVID vaccine for children may be unavailable before late 2021 or early 2022. St. Paul joins other institutions in believing that safe gatherings are possible even given this absence of vaccinations for children. The COVID death rate for children under 16, as compared with adults, is .0004%.

## What a FULL RE-OPENING of the church will mean

The date when we can fully re-open as a congregation on weekends (see above) will be announced well in advance. We anticipate the return of several features of congregational life as part of this re-opening chapter:

- The lifting of tight restrictions on attendance numbers
- Food can be served (e.g. communion, breakfast donuts, coffee, etc.)
- Choirs sing for in-person worship
- Kids' messages occur with gathered children
- Adult and children's learning is able to function in regular session
- Childcare provided (with attendants fully vaccinated)

## Of special note

As a congregation, we recognize that another virus surge, or the rapid spread of an aggressive variant, could alter our pace or plan toward a full re-opening. Realistically, the virus is going to mutate and remain a steady presence in the country as long as a portion of the population chooses not to vaccinate. The faster our entire community is able to vaccinate, the better off everybody will be.

Face masks, as annoying and uncomfortable as they can be, remain an onsite expectation for the time being. Wearing them constitutes an expression of respect and care for other people with situations different from our own. CDC recommendations for wearing masks in public, once widespread vaccination has occurred, are still pending.

Food for most St. Paul events will be limited until the date of full re-opening.

# April

## HAPPENINGS



### OUTDOOR WORSHIP FOR KIDS & FAMILIES

On Saturday, April 17, 4 p.m., bring a blanket and gather with other families, well-spaced and regardless of weather, on our South 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](https://stpaulqc.org/signups). Contact: Sara Olson-Smith, [sara@stpaulqc.org](mailto:sara@stpaulqc.org).

### Upcoming faith milestones for youth

Faith milestones are special markers along the growing-up journey. Each St. Paul family will receive information about relevant milestones by mail or email. Both events will be held outdoors at St. Paul. Contact: Andy Langdon, [andy@stpaulqc.org](mailto:andy@stpaulqc.org).

▪ **Ninth Grade | Blessing of the Keys:** On Sunday, April 18, 11 a.m. parents and students come together for conversation about new responsibilities in life, including the ability to drive. A blessing is said over car keys. Sign up at [stpaulqc.org/signups](https://stpaulqc.org/signups).

▪ **Tenth Grade | Share, Save, Spend:** On Sunday, April 25, 11 a.m. families will begin the conversation about money and examine our hopes and values. This is a moment to pause and talk about money intentionally. Sign up at [stpaulqc.org/signups](https://stpaulqc.org/signups).



### Two weekly in-person worship opportunities in April

Shortened in-person worship services will be offered in the St. Paul sanctuary on Saturday evenings at 5 p.m., and Sundays (starting April 11) at 10 a.m.

These services will include a short message, prayer, reflection, and music from Chris Nelson, organist and director of music ministries, Bill Campbell, director of contemporary music, and other musicians. Come and worship with others. Because of pandemic concerns, holy communion will not be served.

Sign up is required, at [stpaulqc.org/signups](https://stpaulqc.org/signups). You can also call the church office at 563-326-3547. A reminder email will be sent the day before your chosen worship time. Households sit together at marked locations in the sanctuary, maintaining a safe physical distance. Please bring a face covering with you.

### Wednesday afternoon park playdates in April

Soak in the sunshine and reconnect as the children play on Wednesday afternoons in April, 3-4:30 p.m., weather permitting. Gather at the St. Paul preschool playground and the North Lawn for a chance to play and talk. As the spring and summer unfold, we might move to other parks, but for now we'll just enjoy our own playground and lawn.

Bring a blanket or lawn chairs, and masks for everyone over age two. Sign up online at [stpaulqc.org/signups](https://stpaulqc.org/signups). Contact: Sara Olson-Smith, [sara@stpaulqc.org](mailto:sara@stpaulqc.org).



## Save the date! VBS registration coming soon

St. Paul kids will experience God's love and learn how to live life with God by their side, at Vacation Bible School 2021. St. Paul VBS, with the theme, *Knights of the North Castle*, will be Monday, June 21-Friday, June 25, onsite. Registration is \$15 per child while spots remain available. A morning and afternoon session will be offered — masks, small class sizes, and creative indoor-outdoor activities will ensure a safe, meaningful, and engaging week.

St. Paul will come alive with kids using their imaginations and creatively building their faith by singing, dancing, playing games, and much more. Parents, adults, and older youth are especially invited this year to join in the experience and connect with other parents, youth, and families by volunteering. Sign up at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups) to participate or volunteer. Contact: Hayden Kvamme, [hayden@stpaulqc.org](mailto:hayden@stpaulqc.org).

## Hidden in Plain Sight exhibit opens in April

St. Paul is partnering with The Robert Young Center to create an educational tool for adults in our congregation and community that teaches parents about spotting drug use in their home. They coordinate materials and create a room filled with examples of hidden drug/alcohol paraphernalia — then provide a walk-thru and education for parents after they look through the room.

The exhibit, entitled *Hidden in Plain Sight*, will be on display at St. Paul during the month of April. Sign up to view the exhibit at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups). Contact: Andy Langdon, [andy@stpaulqc.org](mailto:andy@stpaulqc.org).

## St. Paul women to hold spring gathering

The Women of the ELCA will hold their annual spring gathering on Saturday, April 17, 9:30-11 a.m. The gathering will be in-person in Fellowship Hall and is open to all St. Paul women and their guests.

The morning will include a presentation by St. Paul member, Jeanne Olsen, former lay chaplain at Genesis Medical Center. She will be presenting *Angels: An Extension of the Arm of God*. Angels are a significant aspect of the Christian faith and are mentioned 273 times in the Bible. Jeanne has been studying angels since 1987.

Sign up at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups). Contact: Doris Mack, 563-332-6054, or Artie Simms, 563-359-1303.

## Coffee Chats in April

Join in conversation on faith, health, and wholeness with Angie Vaaler, Hayden Kvamme, and Beth Laureijs. Conversations are Tuesday mornings from 10:30-11:30 a.m., on the North Lawn, with the chapel as a backup in case of inclement weather. Please sign up at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups). Topics are:

- **April 6 | Faith and Improv:** We'll laugh together in an improv activity, alongside discussion on the value of both structure and spontaneity in our lives and in our faith.
- **April 13 | The Joy of Spring:** Hopefully the weather cooperates for this chat about the power of the outdoors to nourish our spirits and fill our imaginations.
- **April 20 | Habits and Practices:** How does one cultivate a life of faith in God and care for other people? What sorts of habits ground such a life, and where do they come from?



## Spring in the Book Corner

As we look forward to spring and welcoming back smaller in-person worship, the Book Corner's hours have been updated. Shop in-person on Saturdays, 4:30-5:45 p.m., and Sundays (starting April 11) from 9:30-11 a.m.

You may also email [bookcorner@stpaulqc.org](mailto:bookcorner@stpaulqc.org) for over-the-phone shopping with curbside pickup or to make an appointment to shop in-person.

## Spring cleaning in the St. Paul neighborhood

The St. Paul corner of the world is a beautiful place. On Saturday, April 24, 10 a.m.-12 noon, gather to pick up trash and debris in the blocks surrounding the campus. It's called the *Make It Yours* Neighborhood Cleanup. Supplies are provided. Contact: Jules Irish, [julesi@mchsi.com](mailto:julesi@mchsi.com).



# saying yes

A group of St. Paul youth came together to learn about themselves, their connection with God, and deepen their relationships with each other.



*I intend to use the skills I learned to have deeper conversations and connections with people, whether at St. Paul or in other spaces. The training made me more willing to initiate conversations in day-to-day life.*

ASA MAHN



A group of 20 freshmen and sophomore youth at St. Paul went through Youth Peer Ministry training during the month of February. Utilizing The National Peer Ministry Training Center's curriculum, the group learned effective conversational and communication skills, how to initiate a social relationship, how to explore values and decision-making, leadership, and much more during their 12 hours of training. St. Paul's director of youth ministry, Andy Langdon, was sparked with the idea because he had previously been through peer ministry training during his time in college.

"Youth Peer Ministry is a series of sessions that gradually teach you more and more about who you are and how you can be thoughtful of other people," Andy said. "It helps kids develop better friendships with people, it helps them to be more open and honest about what they think. And it also helps them come alongside people who may be hurting in different ways, or outsiders or strangers."

And there couldn't have been a better time to initiate the program.

"I've held on to this curriculum for a long time, waiting, but we thought that right now our kids were feeling more isolated so Haley Rhoads and I decided it

could be an opportunity to invest in the leadership of them in this very unique way. This was the time to try something new. It is a very relationship-heavy, conversational activity so it could be done easily, without jeopardizing the integrity of the program."

And the peer ministry group is putting its leadership into action by volunteering for numerous projects and events at St. Paul and beyond.

"We wanted them to say "yes" to more service projects and to consider themselves leaders, that they have something to offer. We need people to say "yes" to things. The students learned to decipher what is valuable and to try something new. You get out what you put in."

The Youth Ministry team plans to continue the program next year with a more traditional weekend retreat.

Meet a few St. Paul Peer Ministers:

## Adrianna

Adrianna Blackwell is a 16-year-old sophomore at North Scott High School. Adrianna decided to jump in and join the peer ministry group.

"Andy [Langdon] reached out to me and asked if I would be interested in a group he was starting, and I said yes because I'm typically willing to take risks and try new things at church. This training was beneficial to me because I learned how to better support my friends, family, and classmates."

Adrianna is challenging herself to reframe the way she views others after the training activities.

"A few things that really stuck with me were how easy it is to make assumptions about our friends, classmates, coworkers, and random strangers we see. It's necessary to show more kindness and less judgment to the people in our lives. I also learned that it's important to give appreciation and acknowledge individuals who have had an impact on your life."

Adrianna has even been using the training to educate her classmates. In school, she was asked to give a presentation to her student leadership class on effective communication and chose to use the W-H-E-A-T





method she learned in peer ministry. The W-H-E-A-T method is a conversation-starting guidebook. The acronym stands for Where you live, Hobbies, Experience, Acquaintances, and Travel and are each ways to initiate a conversation,

“I found it really rewarding that my classmates liked the idea and were willing to get outside of their comfort zones and make a new friend that day,” she said. “I consider myself a friendly and social person, however, I sometimes find it hard to step out of my comfort zone and meet someone new. This strategy will help me communicate with others, and I encourage anyone to take the first step and talk to someone you normally wouldn’t.”

## Asa

Asa Mahn, a 15-year-old freshman, attends Rock Island High School. Asa believes the training brought this group of students, who attend different schools across the Quad Cities, closer than they otherwise would be.

“Over the training, I was able to build much stronger relationships with everyone in the group,” he said. “Before the training, I didn’t feel like I knew many people very well. However, now I feel that my relationships with these people are much stronger as we all went through this [program] together.”

Asa plans to continue utilizing the training he received in his daily life.

“I think since the training I’ve been able to initiate conversations better, whether I’m intentionally utilizing the things I learned, or because I received more practice from the training,” he said. “I intend to use the skills I learned to have deeper conversations and connections with people, whether at St. Paul or in other spaces. The training made me more willing to initiate conversations in day-to-day life.”

## Abbie

Abbie Torgerud is a 15-year-old freshman at Bettendorf High School. Abbie said the one-on-one time with her peers helped her to build strong and healthy friendships where she can share openly and trust her peers.

“What really stuck with me was knowing how to help someone that was struggling with something and needed a push to see what was best for them,” Abbie said. “I plan to use this with people at school and activities as well as St. Paul people that need suggestions on what to do and how to get involved.”

Since the training, Abbie has developed a keen eye for watching body language in her peers.

“The main thing that has changed in my day-to-day life is watching social cues. I can now spot things in someone’s body language that I may not have before.”

# Saying yes in action

## St. Paul youth and mentors renovate Youth and Booth Rooms

In early January, youth ministry intern Haley Rhoads, along with congregation member Jack Miller, submitted a proposal to renovate the current Youth Room and Booth Room — two Lower Level rooms utilized by St. Paul youth — which have been used in their current state for around 10 years.

“We imagine this project as something that will enhance the aesthetics and functionality of our youth rooms, while also allowing youth to be involved in the creation of the space that is theirs,” Haley said. “This project offers service opportunities for our youth to put together the space while continuing to offer the long-term benefits of an enhanced youth space.”

Youth have begun working hard on three separate weekends with more to come. Teenagers are working, alongside mentors, to update paint, lighting, and organization in the youth rooms. So far, updates include building new platforms for the booths to provide comfortable seating and create multiple levels in the room. Painting the two rooms has begun as well.

“For many of our youth, the experiences in these rooms have been foundations for their faith, said Haley. “We are proud of the ways in which our youth choose to gather at St. Paul and we believe that this project and its benefits will impact our youth for years to come.”

The Youth and Booth Rooms are set to be completed in May.





## ASSOCIATE YOUTH DIRECTOR: Haley Rhoads

St. Paul is happy to welcome youth ministries intern, Haley Rhoads, to the St. Paul staff as the new full time associate youth director. Haley has been a huge asset to growing the youth programming at St. Paul. The associate youth director is a newly created position, established due to the incredible work the youth ministries team has done to create new programs, groups, and activities for youth at St. Paul.

Haley, originally from Dubuque, is a senior at St. Ambrose University, graduating in May 2021. She is double majoring in strategic communications and multimedia journalism, as well as minoring in marketing and electronic production.

Growing up in the church, Haley was grateful to have St. Paul be a welcoming place in the Quad Cities. She has experience in youth ministry working at a non-profit camp in Tennessee for the summer, where she found her passion for helping others grow in their faith. She enjoys creating relationships with the youth and adults at St. Paul, all while growing in her own faith.





# Spring@St. Paul

St. Paul people continue to find ways to connect and be together — all with a backdrop of sunny skies, budding flowers, and the promise of spring. We worship together. We gather to discuss the God of love and loving our neighbor. We laugh and play together (including a round of St. Paul staff golf!). And we continue to shine God's light in our community.



# new members / FEBRUARY & MARCH 2021



**PAUL GRUNDEWALD & EMILY CRAPNELL** are an engaged couple. Paul is a registered nurse at Genesis East. Emily works as an accountant for RSM.



**ELLEN REEDER & MIKE CHAMPION** are an engaged couple. They both work at John Deere – Ellen as a product consultant and Mike is a customer support manager. They enjoy cooking, hiking, and traveling. They were attracted to St. Paul by the online services.



**MIKE & TONYA WILKINS** have two daughters – Miya and Macie. Mike manages construction projects with HyVee. Tonya is the principal at Sudlow Intermediate School in Davenport.



**DARRELL & DEE HILLIER** were drawn to St. Paul by the ministry, music, and friendliness of the people. Darrell retired from Sara Lee and now drives a truck. Dee is a retired lab technician. They like to garden, walk, camp, and travel.



**KELLY & PAM WOLF** are passionate about family, faith, and giving back to the community. Kelly is vice president of key accounts at VGM and spends his free time with family and golfing. Pam is a retired director of nursing and enjoys gardening, golf, and travel.



**SEAN RIEDEL** works as IT director at Rouse Consulting Group. He enjoys being outdoors, making music, and spending time with family.



**MIKE JOHNS & JANA LECANDER-JOHN**s take an interest in being outdoors and doing projects around the house. The couple is retired – Mike from Grainger and Jana from Smith Filter Corporation. They were attracted to St. Paul by the welcoming people and opportunities to help others.



**TOM & JESS TAYLOR** are parents to six-year-old Avery. Tom works as assistant manager at Crawford Brew Works and Jessica is director of communication at St. Paul. They take an interest in reading, theatre, hiking, and dance parties.



## Membership Inquiry Classes:

Learn more about the faith expressions that ground us, the mission commitments that inspire us, and the program life that can grow your faith. Come to an upcoming class on Saturday, April 24, 9-10:15 a.m., Library Commons.

Sign up online at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups).

## Council Notes

The St. Paul council met in-person on a cold evening in March. The council expressed their appreciation for the St. Paul staff during the past year as they've put in additional work to continue to connect with the congregation in new and creative ways. They were also complimentary of the upcoming Holy Week and Easter celebrations and worship opportunities that will be taking place. Many are feeling hopeful about the vaccination rate and gradual reopenings in the community.

Updates were given regarding the painting and construction in the Youth and Booth rooms, painting of various areas in the church, and the progress of repairing the humidifier for the sanctuary organ.

In addition to the congregation's support of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, the mission board recently added a \$500 sponsorship to World Relief Quad Cities. The council noted the increase in global refugees entering the United States in the coming year, with as many as 125,000 expected in 2021. World Relief QC helps provide resources and guidance to immigrant

and refugee families that enter the Quad City community.

The reopening plan for St. Paul (see p. 3) was discussed and finalized by the council. The plan outlines current offerings and a phased reintroduction of traditional offerings back into weekend worship.

News of the resignation of Visitation Pastor Kristine Dohrmann was shared with the council. Kristine's increased family obligations and part-time pastoral call in Princeton, IA made the additional St. Paul responsibilities too great of a workload. She will be sorely missed. The personnel committee has formed a search team to identify a new visitation pastor or chaplain.

The council appointed two new members to the St. Paul Finance Committee. Tom Dryg is the Vice President of Centennial Tax and Accounting. Christal Thiel is a business analyst for Accounts Payable Shared Service at John Deere.

The financial report was reviewed and approved.

## with SYMPATHY

as of March 18:

- ▶ Family of Jane McChesney:  
Shari Pelzer, mother  
Lexi Pelzer, grandmother
- ▶ Family of Marsha Foss:  
Pam & Kelly Wolf, her sister  
Jen & Chris Cobb, her aunt
- ▶ Mary Brownson, brother Jim Brownson
- ▶ Marie & Tim Stephens, her grandmother  
Marie Mifsud
- ▶ Billy & Danielle Heller, his grandmother  
Shirley Heller
- ▶ Family of Irene Evans:  
Steve & Michelle Evans, his mother  
Karly, Leah, Peter, & Rachel Evans,  
their grandmother
- ▶ Cheryl & Jerry Linn, her sister Rita  
Tolliver
- ▶ Family of David Wojtanowicz:  
Amy & Nathan Windt, her father  
Ella, Emma, & Ethan Windt,  
their grandmother
- ▶ Caryl Fleming, husband Jim Fleming
- ▶ Family of Sharon Rendack:  
Jayne Rose & Dan Dickens, her sister  
Abbey Dickens & Jordan Escontrias,  
her aunt
- ▶ Jason Halkias, grandmother  
Catherine Halkias
- ▶ Family of John Micheel:  
Carol Micheel, husband  
Karen & Jim Rathje, her uncle

## Employment opportunity: Director of Children & Family Life

St. Paul Lutheran Church has opened the search for a Director of Children and Family Life. This individual will have the opportunity to build a regionally inspiring children's ministry where faith can come alive for kids (birth – 5th grade) through creative programming, annual faith milestones, and family engagement for the journey. The director will possess an eagerness and passion for developing relationships with children and their families, and skill for cultivating and sustaining relationships among parents and program leaders. Strong organizational skills and good administrative instincts are critical. High self-awareness, quality leadership, and a well-grounded personal faith will help this person draw people together, foster connections, and inspire program leaders. The goal of this ministry will be to provide innovative, playful, and relational opportunities for children to discover the blessing of knowing Jesus Christ.

This employment opportunity is ideal for that individual who would enjoy a 25-hour/week position for 10.5 months/year. The position description is currently available at [stpaulqc.org/employment](http://stpaulqc.org/employment).

This leader will work on a dynamic multi-staff team and in tandem with a 1/4-time children's ministries assistant to create a culture of excitement for children to learn and enjoy the Christian life. By building networks of support for children through parental engagement, Sunday morning learning, and special events, the director will have the chance to shape young lives in profound ways.

Submit a cover letter of interest and resume: [SPLCchildren@gmail.com](mailto:SPLCchildren@gmail.com). Because the position is currently open, applications will be reviewed as they arrive.

## DEATHS

- ▶ Jim Fleming, March 2
- ▶ Sharon Rendack, March 10
- ▶ John Micheel, March 19

## BIRTHS

- ▶ Everett Blaine Slavens, son of Gina & Bobbie Slavens, Feb. 5



**ST. PAUL**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

2136 Brady Street  
Davenport, IA 52803

# Holy Week & Easter

MARCH

28

## **Palm/Passion Sunday**

- ▶ Online worship, sent by email at 7 a.m.
- ▶ Palm drive-thru, 8:30-11:30 a.m.
- ▶ Outdoor youth-led worship, 11 a.m.

APRIL

2

## **Good Friday**

- ▶ Online worship, sent via email at 4 p.m.
- ▶ Contemplative pathway, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

APRIL

4

## **Easter Sunday**

- ▶ Online worship, sent via email at 7 a.m.
- ▶ Outdoor sunrise worship, 6:30 a.m.
- ▶ Outdoor Easter worship, 9 a.m.
- ▶ Outdoor Easter worship, 10:30 a.m.

**SIGN UP REQUIRED AT:**

**[stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups)**