

DECEMBER 2021

The magazine of St. Paul Lutheran Church

journey



Range



ON THE COVER:
Pat Baldwin

journey

DECEMBER 2021

Volume 9 | Issue 10

EDITOR Jessica Taylor

DESIGNER Lauren Brown

ADDRESS

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

CONTACT

Email 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

Range anxiety is what you have when you fear that your electric car battery is going to run out of juice, stranding you on the side of a road in the middle of nowhere. Of course, you have to own an electric car to sense how worrisome that circumstance may or may not be. But the anxiety is evidently real enough for General Motors to have trademarked the term. It helps their marketing strategy outpace other electric car companies, I imagine.

I don't own an electric vehicle, but I've decided that I don't have to own one in order to understand range anxiety. Anybody with a fridge full of leftover or week-old food has to think about range anxiety on a regular basis. Leftover salad with dressing mixed in gets pretty soggy after a day or two. Raspberries have about half the shelf life of blueberries. Who doesn't open the lid of a milk carton and smell the contents as the expiration date nears? As for that leftover chicken dish you tupperware'd in the fridge last Tuesday, all I can say is: "Be careful when you lift the lid." There's a range of days you may have exceeded.

Those of us with COVID-19 booster shots wonder what their time range of effectiveness will prove to be. When will we have to think about a fourth dose — a booster to the booster? My facemasks have a range too, I've discovered. There comes a point when no more washing of a mask does the trick. When one's own breath takes the mask fibers down to the point of no return, pitch it.

Range comes up as a question for people who put up a real Christmas tree long before Christmas week. Watering the trunk in the tree stand is wise. But is it enough to stave off those showers of needles you know are coming? Range. You're positive that your new 30-foot string of Christmas tree lights is plenty long enough to wrap the tree ... until it isn't. Range.

I have friends whose tolerable range of time with relatives under the same roof during a holiday is very prescribed. If the relatives stay too long, anxiety spikes.

In the Bible, we learn that Mary and her relative Elizabeth don't live on the same cul-de-sac. In fact, we sense the geographic distance when pregnant Mary sets out for the hill country one day to visit



Elizabeth. Mary ended up staying three months before heading home, perhaps the maximum amount of time she judged herself to have before becoming range anxious. Late-in-term pregnant women usually limit their travel. Right? There's a range anxiety in being too far from your obstetrician, just like there's a range anxiety in being too far from a battery recharging station.

I always wonder at this time of year how long the Christmas story will hold sway. What's its range of impact in our lives once the tree comes down and the singing of carols ceases? My hope, of course, is that the gentleness of everything the Christchild represents will still find its way into our lives and reshape the often coarse speech of our public life, long after Christmas. I hope, too, that the good news that the shepherds announced and the angels trumpeted will be more enduringly persuasive than the bad or ugly news that so dominates many days.

Range. I can't tell how long the joy of Christmas will extend in my life. But I intend to delight in its joy as long as I can. For developing anxiety over the range of something that is eternally good seems pointless.

A joyous Christmas to you and yours,

Peter W. Marty

PETER W. MARTY
senior pastor

filled with gratitude

St. Paul people: Have you pledged?

2021 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 2022

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 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 2021 giving statements, all offerings must be received in the church office by Friday, 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 2022 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. 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 2021, St. Paul will give \$614,822 of offerings pledged to organizations as close as a neighborhood school and as far away as Africa.



Grateful for what we have

Both sets of our parents grew up during the depression and were grateful for whatever they had. Later in life they'd tell us that back then they were poor, but didn't realize they were poor. We think that experience must have been their foundation for being grateful. They were all hard workers and earned a modest income being a barber, beautician (after we were older), a farmer and farmer's wife.

Although our families did not have a lot of money when we were kids, we learned to be grateful for what we did have. When Cheryl wanted to order books from the book order at school, her mom pointed out to her that she lived half a block from the Scott County Library and could get books there to read. Cheryl learned to be grateful to still be able to have a book to read. Steve grew up on a dairy farm. He had to help milk cows at night after going to football practice. He'd get up early in the morning, but his dad didn't make him help with milking. Instead he gave him that time to do his homework. Steve was grateful for being able to be on the football team.

Cheryl's dad was a man that used a lot of common sayings that we still think of today when situations arise. One of those sayings went something like: "I felt sad that I didn't have a decent pair of shoes until I saw a person that didn't have feet." As we age we're finding ourselves having more aches and pains. We don't have to look far to see a lot of people that have to put a lot more effort into moving around than we do. We are grateful for our health, among many other things, and for giving us the parents we had. — Steve & Cheryl Arp

december

HAPPENINGS



Advent luncheon on Dec. 11 for Women of the ELCA

Women of St. Paul are invited to gather for an Advent celebration on Saturday, Dec. 11, 10:30 a.m., in Fellowship Hall. An Advent devotional and the singing of Advent hymns in the Chapel will be followed by a salad luncheon. Bring a salad, quick bread, or dessert if you'd like. All women are welcome; bring a friend! Childcare will be available. Sign up at stpaulqc.org/signups or the Info Center. Contacts: Carol Moeller, 563-391-3790 or Jan Melvin, 563-332-3665.

This year's annual WELCA Fall Gathering will soon be available online! The presentation includes ways for all people to connect with ministry opportunities at St. Paul and an introduction to the new pastoral resident, Megan Eide. Contact: Karin Hanson, tkmax2502@gmail.com.

December events for young adults

The St. Paul young adult ministry is for those in their 20's and 30's looking for ways to connect and build relationships at church. Come to one of the upcoming events planned for December:

Saturday, Dec. 4, 9-10:30 p.m., gather for late night Skee-ball at Analog Bar in downtown Davenport.

Monday, Dec. 13, come to the church for a Christmas party, 7-9 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Pizza, cookies, and drinks will be provided as we celebrate the holiday season. Games and relationship building will get us excited for Christmas.

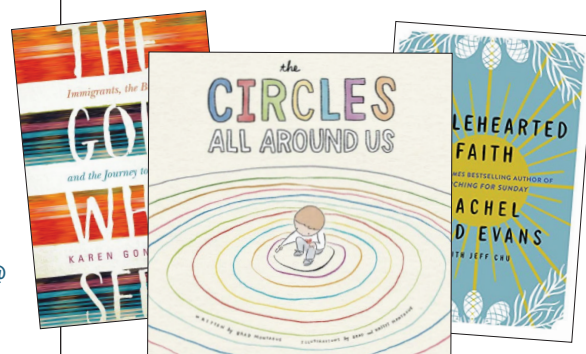
Contact Haley Rhoads, haley@stpaulqc.org, or Pastor Megan Eide, megan@stpaulqc.org.

Book Corner shines for Advent

Our bookstore glows with the season. Displays are freshened with gift-giving in mind. Most gifts come from organizations committed to global justice and fair trade. Come and see! You'll find Advent calendars and devotional booklets for all ages. In addition to Sunday mornings, the Book Corner has expanded its hours for the season to include Wednesdays, 5:30-7 p.m., and Saturdays, 4:30-5:45 p.m.

The St. Paul Book Corner has new selections for adults and children on the shelves too. Every book is carefully selected by St. Paul pastors, staff, and avid St. Paul readers. The new books can also be checked out from the St. Paul Library. Books are priced below retail, without sales tax. They include:

- *Wholehearted Faith* by Rachel Held Evans
- *The God Who Sees: Immigrants, the Bible, and the Journey to Belong* by Karen Gonzalez
- *Woodland Dance!* by Sandra Boynton
- *The Circles All Around Us* by Brad Montague



Faith, Health, and Wholeness Coffee Chats

Grab a refreshing drink and settle into a conversation on faith, health, and wholeness on the first and third Tuesday of the month, 10:30 a.m., in the Chapel. No need to sign up, just come! In December, the focus will be on handling the holidays. Contact: Dave and Dortha DeWit, dorthamdw@aol.com.

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 Christmas greeting and 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 greetings; shared by St. Paul people

St. Paul people can offer their Christmas greetings to the congregation through an online tool set up for 2021. 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.

Social worker/counselor services available

If you find yourself feeling overwhelmed, COVID-fatigued, or just need a listening ear, reach out to our staff counselor/social worker, Angie Vaaler, LMSW. Her services are free of charge to the St. Paul and Madison School communities.

Angie is available for telehealth appointments over both audio and video and is available for in-person counseling services. Contact Angie at 563-326-3547, ext. 312.

Advent for kids & youth

Children's Christmas Pageant

Dozens of St. Paul stars, shepherds, and sheep will sing and tell the story of Jesus' birth on Sunday, Dec. 19, 10:15 a.m. The congregation is invited to the 2021 Christmas pageant, held in the Sanctuary. Contact: Maddy Carroll, maddy@stpaulqc.org.

Children and youth Advent gathering

Each year, St. Paul children and youth gather items for people in need. This year, the gathering will be for hats, gloves, and socks, both adult and child sizes, to be distributed through Tapestry Farms. Items will be collected in the Education Wing on Sundays, Dec. 5, 12, and 19. Contact: Maddy Carroll, maddy@stpaulqc.org.

Youth Advent Events

Shopping for Handicapped Development Center: On Sunday, Dec. 5, high school small groups will gather at Target in Davenport at 6:30 p.m. to shop for Christmas gifts for residents at the Handicapped Development Center. Bring \$5-\$10 to share. Following shopping, students will gather at church to wrap gifts and join in a campfire style worship.

Gingerbread House Building: High school youth will gather on Sunday, Dec. 12, 6:30 p.m. at church to create Bible-story themed gingerbread houses. Students should each bring a bag of candy to contribute.

Christmas Caroling: Students in grades 6-12 will gather at church for pizza followed by an evening of Christmas caroling around the community on Sunday, Dec. 19, 5:30-8 p.m.



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 in the church office or by mail no later than Friday, Dec. 10. The cost for each plant is \$10. Forms are available at the Info Center. Payment is due at the time of order. Contact: Paula Durham, 563-326-3547 ext. 226, paula@stpaulqc.org.

2022 giving envelopes available mid-December

For those who do not give online, the 2022 envelopes are expected to be available beginning in mid- to late December in the Elevator Commons. St. Paul members who do not give electronically, please stop and pick up your personalized box. Questions? Contact Paula Durham, paula@stpaulqc.org.

Advent

**starting
november 28**

Advent is a joyous season — a time of hope amid crisis, light in deep darkness, a sense of expectation, a growing trust in the promises of God.

Our Advent journey begins the weekend of Nov. 27 & 28. Week by week, we'll prepare our hearts for Christ's birth with melodies that crescendo in hopeful expectancy, and with candles that pierce the darkness.

Choral Advent Worship | Sunday, Dec. 5

Let the glories of song and an impressive intergenerational gathering of St. Paul choirs at the 9 a.m. worship service carry you into the beauty of the Advent season. From preschool choristers to adults, Choral Advent Sunday is a joyful tradition for preparing the way for Jesus' birth.

Blue Christmas Worship | Tuesday, Dec. 21

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, Dec. 21, 6 p.m., 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. Gather afterward for conversation and refreshments.



Upcoming concerts: Tidings of comfort & joy

► QCSO Holiday Brass Concert | Sunday, Dec. 12, 3 p.m.

Ring in the holiday season the Quad City Symphony Orchestra brass and percussion sections and organist Chris Nelson. The concert will include uplifting selections of classical and holiday favorites. Tickets are available online at qcsso.org/event/holiday-brass-2021.

► Big River Brass Band Holiday Concert | Sunday, Dec. 19, 3 p.m.

Join the Big River Brass Band for an afternoon of your favorite holiday classics, featuring organist Chris Nelson. The concert is free (donations accepted).

Outdoor Christmas caroling

Come for Christmas caroling on Wednesday, Dec. 22, 5:30 p.m., outdoors on the North Lawn under the shining, hanging lights. Dress for the weather. Music provided. Gather and sing, as together we ask God to stir up our hearts for the One who is coming. Contact: Sara Olson-Smith, sara@stpaulqc.org.

Christmas Eve

friday,
december 24

12 p.m. | Holy Communion & Carols (masks required)

All the glory of Christmas Eve in an early-afternoon option. Scripture and hymns tell the story of this holy night. *Pastor Sara Olson-Smith preaching.*

2 p.m. | Holy Communion & Carols

All the glory of Christmas Eve in an early-afternoon option. Scripture and hymns tell the story of this holy night. *Pastor Sara Olson-Smith preaching.*

4 p.m. | A Children's Christmas Eve

A service focused toward children, with traditional carols and a lively children's message. Children and youth choirs sing. A lovely tradition at St. Paul, kids are invited to play a short Christmas piece on the piano as part of the pre-service music. If interested, sign up online at stpaulqc.org/signups. Limited availability.

6 p.m. | Holy Communion with Open Spirit

The Open Spirit ensemble leads Christmas singing with a contemporary flair. *Pastor Peter Marty preaching.*

8 p.m. | A Service of Lessons & Carols

Music by the Chorale with candlelight. *Pastor Peter Marty preaching.*

10 p.m. | Candlelight Holy Communion

The evening concludes with *Silent Night* with special instrumentation, in a darkened Sanctuary lit with candles. *Pastor Peter Marty preaching.*

There will be no services on Christmas Day (Saturday).

On Sunday, Dec. 26, two services will be offered: 9 & 11:15 am.

Childcare: During all services, the childcare room will be open for parents to use as needed. Childcare staff have the day off. Children are always welcome in worship.

Christmas Eve parking: In addition to St. Paul parking lots & side streets, Madison School lots across Brady Street are available. Observe extra care when crossing Brady Street.

Crowd Considerations

Christmas Eve 2021 at St. Paul looks to be exciting, especially given the absence of in-person worship last year and strong attendance this fall. Because of pandemic caution regarding communal spaces, there will be no additional chairs setup in the sanctuary. Overflow space for extra worshipers at each service will be available in the Chapel. Historically, the 4 and 6 p.m. services have filled to capacity. Masks are expected for all unvaccinated children and adults. The 12 noon service has a mask requirement for all.

***Special Note:** In the event COVID-19 numbers in Scott County were to soar as Christmas approaches, an announcement to revise or scrap this in-person schedule would be made.

Open to being a Christmas greeter?

Welcome people into the warmth of St. Paul on Christmas Eve. Would you be willing to spread some Christmas joy for about 30 to 45 minutes of your time before a particular worship service? Please contact Jennifer Garvey, 563-326-3547, jennifer@stpaulqc.org.

radical hospitality

Ushers are those individuals who help create an environment of hospitality during worship. They allow for worship to flow and for worshipers to relax. It's a simple and uncomplicated form of serving that's a gift to everybody else who walks through the sanctuary doors.

Sunday volunteers embody the spirit of Radical Hospitality that is a strong core value at St. Paul. They make it readily known that everyone counts, everyone matters, and every single person who walks through that door is cared for.

Building Community: Pat Baldwin

For more than six months, from the time Pat Baldwin first moved to the Quad Cities for a new job, he has been found positioned not too far from the

front doors. Whether soaking in the beautiful fall sunshine while having a joyful chat with arriving churchgoers or armed with an umbrella while meeting folks at their car doors, jacket soaked with rain, he is always ready with a friendly greeting and no shortage of meaningful conversation.

"I come to church early and I don't leave until later and I love every minute of it," Pat said emphatically. "I always want everyone to feel welcome so I felt like greeting and ushering is something I could really do. As people come in, I say 'hello' and I look for that person that's either alone or looking down to say 'Hey! Good morning!' because you never know, you never know who hasn't had a good day, who's lonely."

It would be easy to believe that Pat has been a member of St. Paul for many years but he says volunteering has given him a connection to the church and St. Paul people that make him feel deeply ingrained in the community.

"It's about the people. I am a big 'village' type person — it takes a village," Pat said. "Being part of the community is important to me so naturally this church and its community, I love it. I needed a purpose in life now that my son is older and moved away, this church is my purpose. I'm going to do whatever I can to help build this church up because I love it and the people so much."

Pat is passionate about showing his apprecia-

tion for the church and various organizations he is part of through action.

"I just enjoy being here and being around the people in the church," said Pat. "The one thing I really feel about this church is God's love. Some places talk about sharing God's love but St. Paul does it."

If he could create his own bumper sticker, he said it would be "Life is an adventure, experience it." And that's exactly what he's doing through his volunteerism at St. Paul.

Building Connection: Anke Maas & Denny Reichenbacher

Stepping through the Sanctuary doors just before the 9 a.m. Sunday service, you're bound to see the charismatic faces of Anke Maas and Denny Reichenbacher. And for Anke and Denny, it's the connections with other St. Paul members that bring them the most enjoyment.

"You're one of the first faces that people see when they come in and the smile you can bring to people's faces is awesome," Anke said. "You can see the eyes smile even with the masks! It's such a joy."



The one thing I really feel about this church is God's love. Some places talk about sharing God's love but St. Paul does it.



Both Denny and Anke have strong backgrounds in service to their faith, Anke working with and volunteering for numerous youth programs at her home church in Dewitt, and Denny beginning ushering as a young child then later serving as the head of the Christian Education Committee at his former place of worship.

“My dad had me ushering when I was in third grade. My dad was one of the ushers at the church I grew up in and he told me I needed to start doing something other than drawing on the bulletin,” Denny joked. “I ushered there through high school.”

And for Denny, his career as a funeral director, having worked with St. Paul prior to joining the church, made ushering a natural fit for him, and an activity that he and Anke love doing together.

“You meet so many new people and you start to remember faces. The group you usher with and the people you see on Sundays, you get to know each other and connect over hobbies and shared interests,” Anke and Denny said. “Even the younger kids — it’s something we can do together. It’s a great introduction and you see so many St. Paul people you recognize outside of the church.”

“Seeing people as they come in on Sundays... it’s absolutely wonderful,” said Denny. And Anke agrees. “It’s amazing.”

Building Tradition: Linda Creighton, Jayden Creighton-Lovel, Isabelle Lovel

When Linda Creighton joined St. Paul four years ago, she wanted to find a way to volunteer right away. With her background in hospitality, Linda knew ushering be the best way to give back to the church community but it was the insistence of two special members of her family that has made the experience extra meaningful. Linda’s two granddaughters, 13-year-old Jayden and 9-year-old Isabelle, are now right by her side most Sundays, handing out programs, greeting people as they enter, and making memories with their grandma.

“They came to church with me and watched me volunteer. I could see the seed planted and growing,” Linda said. “First, the girls started volunteering on Sundays, and then they wanted to help with Madison Market. They ask to spend their summers loading people’s cars with food.”

It was after watching her big sister Jayden help their grandma usher that Isabelle was inspired to continue the tradition.

“I kept bugging my grandma about helping,” said Isabelle. “It looked fun, giving the baskets to people and collecting everything. I wanted to spend time with my grandma and my sister. Sometimes, even when I’m not ushering, I still end up helping out.”

Linda, Jayden, and Isabelle have created a strong tradition that will carry on. Bringing joy to all three.

“I feel like I’m making God happy, making my grandma happy, and volunteering makes me happy, too,” Jayden said. “Here (at St. Paul) I can be a kid and still do something good, make a difference.”

To those who aren’t sure if ushering is for them, Linda has a few words of encouragement.

“Give it a shot, you don’t have to commit but try it,” she said. “I guarantee you’ll get the itch to continue, just like Isabelle and Jayden did. You’re going to want to give back to the Lord and it’s the perfect way to do that.”

Will this tradition continue? These three sure think so.

“Our 4-year-old little sister, Hermione, sees us helping and she wants to help too,” Jayden said. “In time we think she’ll help to usher with us and then become an acolyte like me.”



ushering basics

There’s a place for you to serve. With four weekend worship services, St. Paul needs to grow the ranks of people open to ushering. All ages welcome. Consider it seriously, if you haven’t before, or if you’ve recently taken a break from ushering. Here’s what you need to know:

Contact Becky Harper (becky@stpaulqc.org) if you’ve not served before. She’ll ensure that all newcomers get set up with a “mentor” on their first day, so someone can guide you through the most basic duties. It’s not fancy training!



1. Every week, the full roster of ushers will receive an email that lists the coming four weekends (i.e. holiday services) when worship occurs. All recipients of the email will be able to view the latest ushering options through this rolling four-week notification.
2. Clicking on a link within that email will automatically send recipients to a Google doc where they can see which worship services are full and which ones have need or openings.
3. By placing your name where there is an opening, you secure the date and service time that works for you (and can then mark your personal calendar).
4. That’s it!

Sounding Joy

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 inbox and the St. Paul website at stpaulqc.org/blog.



Simple Traditions by Kelly McCollough

Recently I found myself surrounded by groups of teenagers in a warm chapel hearing stories of quilting. Those two things, teens and quilting, are normally not something you find together. However, Confirmation at St. Paul has a funny way of bringing seemingly opposing things together. Pastor Sara shared her love of quilting with us as she told stories of learning to quilt with her grandmother. We were there for the 8th grade confirmation retreat, talking at that moment about the ways we may experience God through traditions. Talking with the young men in our group we discovered they too have traditions they share with their families, especially at Christmas. Whether those traditions involved matching pjs, worship, or opening gifts, they are each special. Sitting there, listening to that group of teenagers excitedly talking about their traditions, was truly a joyful experience.

As I heard their stories, I couldn't help thinking about my favorite tradition: baking with my girls. Christmas music, timers beeping, laughing, dogs softly snoring or sometimes barking, and storytelling. These are just some of the sounds in our kitchen around Christmas. My love of baking began when I was young and would bake with my mom. I recall her baking all year long, but especially at Christmas. She would bake all kinds of cookies including thumbprints, snickerdoodles, haystacks, and oatmeal raisin for my dad. She would stay up late at night after working and making dinner to bake. She shared those sweet treats with others wrapped in little packages with bows on top. I vividly remember taking a tray heaped with cookies to school for the teacher's lounge. It was a sad day for them when the last Lassiter kid left our small town elementary school! Sharing those stories and baking with my girls is a little window to their grandmother, whom they never had the pleasure of meeting. Continuing the tradition with them is bittersweet at times, but something I hope we can do with their families someday. If you were to ask either of them what their favorite Christmas tradition is, they'd quickly tell you baking! As a matter of fact, we've already started making our baking list.

As the Christmas season draws nearer I hope to repeat the sounding joy in the simple traditions we hold dear. Coming together again to partake in worship, the exchanging of gifts, or the baking of cookies will be extra special after spending time apart from each other this past year.

Kelly McCollough resides in Davenport with her husband, Mark. She is mom to two teenage daughters, Maggie and Julia.



"Sharing stories and baking with my girls is a little window to their grandmother, whom they never had the pleasure of meeting."

Sign up to receive the daily devotions by email at ow.ly/TGYC5, or read them at stpaulqc.org/blog.

Note: If you have received the devotions by email in the past, you do not need to sign up again.

A word from St. Paul's treasurer:

St. Paul has a large footprint in the Quad Cities and among faith communities regionally and nationally. Our \$2.9 million annual budget, funded entirely by the 1,100 households of our congregation, funds everything from our talented staff to our broad mission outreach to the countless ministries that St. Paul is known for. Every year we count on faithful giving in December to finish the fiscal year in positive territory. Thanks for everything you do, St. Paul people. It's wonderful and appreciated. — *Jeff Bass*



christmas love from the st. paul staff

Pictured: (top left to right) Katy Warren, Peter Marty, Maddy Carroll, Beth Laureijs, Angie Vaaler, Paul Caldwell, Peter Pettit, Megan Eide, Jennifer Garvey, Matt Spencer, Ken Winter, Todd Byerly, Kathy Becker, Becky Harper, Andy Langdon, Dana Welsler, Paula Durham, Karen Strusz, Sara Olson-Smith, Lauren Brown,

Chris Nelson, Marcia Robertson, Carrie Bowman, Karen Holden, Jessica Taylor. **Not Pictured:** Haley Rhoads, Jim Akright, Bill Campbell, Nathan Windt, Dan Pepper, Katie Casey, Margaret Thompson, Linda Allebach, Teresa Whitbeck, Terry Ousley, Harris Schneckloth, Terry Haru, and Dana Taylor.

WORSHIP at St. Paul

► December 4 & 5

*Second Sunday of Advent
Choral Advent, 9 a.m. worship*

Preaching:

All services: Katy Warren

Liturgical tradition:

5pm/8 & 9am

Contemporary Open Spirit:

11:15am

► December 11 & 12

Third Sunday of Advent

Preaching:

All services: Peter W. Marty

Liturgical tradition:

5pm/8 & 9am

Contemporary Open Spirit:

11:15am

► December 18 & 19

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Preaching:

5pm/8 am: Megan Eide

9 & 11:15 am:

Sara Olson-Smith

Liturgical tradition:

5pm/8 & 9am

Contemporary Open Spirit:

11:15am

► December 24

Christmas Eve

See page 7 for details

► December 26

First Sunday of Christmas

Preaching:

9 & 11:15 am: Katy Warren

Liturgical tradition:

5pm/8 & 9am

Contemporary Open Spirit:

11:15am



ST. PAUL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

2136 Brady Street
Davenport, IA 52803

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 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.

