

JANUARY 2023

The magazine of St. Paul Lutheran Church

journey



Continue



ON THE COVER:
Clayton & Jan Lloyd

journey

JANUARY 2023

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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, courageous service, extravagant generosity.

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POSTMASTER

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It's that time again. The time when we turn the calendar page to a new year which, in turn, is supposed to indicate a fresh start. An opportunity to start over and create new habits or dream up some creative new goals. There's something about the beginning of another year that makes many of us hopeful and excited at the promise of newness.

To be honest, the whole process of making New Year's resolutions has always seemed a little funny to me. Why do we feel as though we need to wait until January 1st to make some sort of change in our lives? Or what is it about the start of another year that makes us think some revolutionary adjustments are even needed at all?

The science behind making New Year's resolutions tends to agree. One survey suggests that just one week into January, more than 25% of those who have committed to some sort of change in the new year have already dropped their resolution. Researchers can even predict the day you're most likely to give up on your new goal: January 19th. In some circles it's referred to as "Quitter's Day"—the point at which you've lost interest in your new plans and reverted back to old habits once again. Statistics tell us that only about 9% of those who make resolutions in 2023 will be successful in keeping them.

As each year passes by, I've become more and more convinced that making New Year's resolutions are more likely to make us feel like a failure than anything else. So today I'd like to suggest a different word to focus on: continuity.

One of my favorite poems is *Continue*, by the late Maya Angelou. There's not enough space here to share the whole piece, so I encourage you to look it up and make it your own inspiration for the coming year. She writes:

*My wish for you is that you continue
Continue ...
To be who and how you are
To astonish a mean world
With your acts of kindness
Continue ...
In a society dark with cruelty
To let the people hear the grandeur
Of God in the peals of your laughter
Continue...*



*To let gratitude be the pillow
Upon which you kneel to
Say your nightly prayer
And let faith be the bridge
You build to overcome evil
And welcome good...*

There's more beauty to the poem than these few lines, but those words are some of my favorites. I'd much rather spend the rest of my life trying to live up to such aspirations than to form half-hearted resolutions I don't really intend to keep.

Instead of making resolutions that will soon fall by the wayside, what if we all spent time throughout the year thinking about the greater values we continually commit ourselves to—the characteristics we appreciate in ourselves or the traits we want to spend a lifetime cultivating.

As we begin this new year, to borrow Maya Angelou's words, my hope for you is that you continue. Continue in the love and faithfulness you've already cultivated in all sorts of ways. Continue seeking peace and joy—and continue finding ways you can share such things with others. You don't need any calendar to tell you to do so. Just continue the good work God has already been forming within you.

KATY WARREN
associate pastor

Little Bird and Jesus takes flight!

The new St. Paul children's podcast, created by Pastor Sara Olson-Smith, spread its wings, and flew into homes as the first episode launched in December. Since then, Little Bird has made her way around the country with listeners stretching from the Quad Cities to Chicago, Denver, Kansas City, and even abroad.

Every Monday, kids bring their imaginations on a journey with Little Bird, a small but brave sparrow who befriends Jesus. While listening to podcasts with her kids, Pastor Sara Olson-Smith came up with the idea of a Bible podcast for kids.

"I love telling stories, and I love telling stories to kids. Those stories teach us who God is, and remind us who we are and how we get to live in the world. Podcasts create a wonderful way to tell these stories in playful and accessible ways," Sara said. "As for the Little Bird? Jesus talked about birds almost as much as he talked about sheep. A little sparrow, simple and ordinary, is a perfect companion for our Savior who cares a great deal for those people and things that are often ignored or overlooked."

Bill Campbell composed the theme music heard each week within the podcast. He is the director of contemporary music at St. Paul, a professor of music at St.



Bill Campbell

Ambrose University, and an award-winning composer of music for all genres and multiple mediums.

"When you're creating the music for a film or media, you're trying to help the narrative move forward through sound and emotion. It can be environmental – the setting of the scene," Bill said. "As a composer, you're working on the narrative arc, the story's full progression from beginning to end. It's much like accompanying a singer but I'm accompanying what's going on in the story of the podcast."

Bill has worked on several soundtracks, mostly for documentaries. He's relatively new to the podcasting world, but much of the process is the same.

"When I was coming up with the music for Little Bird, I thought the music would catch the right kind of vibe and feeling to bring people in. The audience is children and the parents of children. You must know the audience, what the story is that you're trying to tell, and how you want people to feel at that moment. If you can express that through music, then you've got something. When I'm at the piano working things out, I feel like a sculptor. I start creating, chipping away, and certain things start to appear, to be seen and heard in the space, and then the form starts taking shape."

And in the true collaborative spirit, a whole team of people have made Little Bird come to life. Pastor Megan Eide serves as the story editor, utilizing her background in communications and children's literature to make the story just right for the littlest of listeners.

"Not only is Little Bird sweet and creative, but it uses a popular platform that kids and adults can enjoy together. I read the script aloud and focus on hearing the story and visualizing the characters. I look for verbs or adjectives that can be more audible/visual. Instead of 'Mary said' we'll try 'Mary cried, sang, stuttered,'" Megan said. "As Sara adapts the biblical story into the children's podcast, she stays true to the text while also playing imaginatively with the "gaps." The Luke writer never said there *wasn't* a Little Bird rejoicing along with Mary and Elizabeth! These playful, imaginative gaps are where we invite children's minds to enter in and participate in the



Where to listen:

Little Bird Podcast: New episodes premiere every Monday. Listen to the journey of Little Bird wherever you find podcasts, on the St. Paul website at stpaulqc.org/children, and social media.

St. Paul Worship Podcast: Every Thursday at 1:30 p.m., tune into the St. Paul podcast to hear music, a reflection, and sermon from the previous week-end, plus a prayer and blessing to carry you through the end of your week. Listen wherever you find your podcasts, on the St. Paul website at stpaulqc.org/worship, and social media.

Radio: Catch the weekly St. Paul broadcast at 8:30 a.m. every Sunday at WOC1420 or online at iheartmedia.com. St. Paul's radio ministry is funded through special gifts and money designated for the Memorial Gifts Fund.

wonders and mystery of God."

Many of the little listeners also participate, lending their voices to the introduction of the episode, fun responses throughout the story, and closing out the episode at the end.

And each week, the story wraps up with questions for listeners to reflect on, ideas to spark creativity, and valuable skills to practice like bravery, supporting each other, empathy, and many more.

winter guide

This winter, settle in and be warmed by joyful gatherings. Here's a sampling of what St. Paul people can experience, with more information online at stpaulqc.org and in the weekly *Connections* flyer.

kids & families

Moms' Morning continues to meet in the new year

Friendships form when mothers of young children get together on the second and fourth Thursdays, 9-10:30 a.m., in the Church House Living Room. The first gathering of 2023 will be on Jan. 12. Moms' Morning is a gathering that celebrates parenthood with laughter, prayer, and mutual support.

In our time together, we will study the Bible, explore parenting topics, and sometimes just hang out and drink coffee. In January, come talk about resolutions and organization. In February, topics include relationships and summer planning. Childcare is provided. Contact: Pastor Sara Olson-Smith, sara@stpaulqc.org.



FAITH MILESTONES

Faith milestones are special markers, grounded in the Bible and nurturing faith in everyday life. We discover God's presence in seemingly ordinary happenings. Here's what's coming up in January and February:

- ▶ **6th Grade | Digital identity:** Texting, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, YouTube, Twitch – parents and kids will explore identity and faith in a digital age on Sunday, Jan. 8, 10:15 a.m., Fellowship Hall.
- ▶ **One-year-olds | Faith forming beginnings:** For parents of children born in 2022, connect and share in the joy and exhaustion of life with a newborn. Learn what it means to form a child's faith. Gather on Sunday, Jan. 29, 10:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Each child will receive a colorful story Bible.
- ▶ **2nd Grade | The Lord's Prayer:** On Sunday, Feb. 12, 10:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall, children and parents learn together about the Lord's Prayer, a prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray.
- ▶ **1st Grade | The 10 Commandments:** On Sunday, Feb. 19, 10:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall, kids learn and discover the 10 Commandments and this gift of God's love, which provides guidance for navigating life.

Sign up online at stpaulqc.org/signups.

All St. Paul ice-skating party

Lace up your skates! On Saturday, Jan. 14, 9 a.m., Frozen Landing Middle Park is the place for kids, youth, and adults to skate into 2023. You're invited for this intergenerational event — anyone is welcome. The cost is free. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Sign up online at stpaulqc.org/signups. Contact: Maddy Carroll, maddy@stpaulqc.org.

youth

GRADES 6-8

678 Night

High-energy games + togetherness + great Bible studies + campfire-style worship = 678. For those in grades 6, 7, and 8, this group will meet on Wednesdays, Jan. 25, March 22, and April 26. Contact: Liz Franks, liz@stpaulqc.org.

Sledding fun for youth and families

Come slide into the new year with middle schoolers and their families. Meet at the church on Sunday, Feb. 19 to caravan to a local sledding spot for an afternoon of fun, 2-5 p.m. We'll meet back at the church for hot cocoa afterwards. Event is dependent on weather. Sign up online at stpaulqc.org/signups. Questions? Contact Liz Franks, liz@stpaulqc.org.

GRADES 9-12

Camp Shalom service project

High school youth are invited to help beautify the cabins at Camp Shalom through a painting service project. Leave Friday, Jan. 27 for a night at Camp Shalom and return on Saturday, Jan. 28. We'll paint large canvases to hang in the cabins, play games, and build connections. Sign up online at stpaulqc.org/signups. Limited availability. Questions? Contact Liz Franks, liz@stpaulqc.org.

Summer mission trip informational meeting

Students in grades 8-12 are invited to participate in a summer mission trip to Kansas City, July 10-15. The trip, which will include a service and worship component, calls youth into community and creates incredible memories for faith and life. An informational meeting will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 22, 8 p.m. Contact Liz Franks, liz@stpaulqc.org.



music

Youth choir alumni ring in the New Year

Welcome the new year at St. Paul with a beloved annual event.

All former Youth Choir singers are invited to join the current Youth Choir for worship on Sunday, Jan. 8. Gather to rehearse a favorite anthem, “*Who Is the Lamb?*” at 8:30 a.m. in the Chapel. The choir sings during the 9 a.m. service. Questions? Contact Dan Pepper, pepper@stpaulqc.org.

Come sing in the choir!

At St. Paul, voices soar gracefully in praise. God’s love is our song. All God’s people have a place in a choir, from four-year-olds to adults.

Rehearsals begin again in the new year on Wednesday, Jan. 4, 6 p.m. There’s a place for you! Questions? Contact Chris Nelson, chris@stpaulqc.org.

Wartburg Castle Singers & Kammerstreicher chamber orchestra

On Saturday, Feb. 25, 2 p.m., the Wartburg College Castle Singers and Kammerstreicher chamber orchestra will perform an eclectic mix of music in the St. Paul Sanctuary.

Under the direction of Dr. Nicki Bakko Toliver, the Wartburg Castle Singers perform a wide repertoire from Byrd to The Beatles and beyond. Comprised of advanced vocalists, they have a noteworthy reputation for their vocal jazz arrangements.

Kammerstreicher is led by Dr. Rebecca Nederhiser. The name is a nod to Wartburg’s German heritage — Kammerstreicher means “chamber strings”— and is comprised of Wartburg’s top string students. Contact Chris Nelson, chris@stpaulqc.org.

winter guide continued

adults

Heart.Soul.Mind. set to resume Jan. 11

Becoming God's People: Paul's Communities and Ours will be the focus of Heart.Soul.Mind. for the winter season of 2023.

The opportunities and challenges faced by the first New Testament writer were like many that we know. An indifferent and sometimes hostile culture, glib religious opportunists, deeply polarized and competing leadership groups, and failed mission trips all dogged his efforts to bring Gentiles into God's people. Explore Paul's life and letters — they open up his world to us and continue to shine the gospel light on our own world.

Join the journey, with three weekly options: Wednesday, 12-1 p.m., on Zoom; Thursday, 9:30-10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall; Saturday, 11 a.m.-12 p.m., Luther Loft. Contact: Peter Pettit, ppettit@stpaulqc.org.

Gather for CC Conversations in 2023

CC Conversations is a first-Thursday-of-the-month opportunity to discuss religion, culture, and social and spiritual issues of the day using articles and news from *The Christian Century* magazine as a springboard for conversation. Think critically about how our faith perspectives impact contemporary issues. The first two meetings of the year will be Jan. 5 and Feb. 2. Pastor Peter Marty facilitates discussion. Contact: Peter Marty, peter@stpaulqc.org.

Occasional Tuesdays book group

Gather for conversation centered around a good book on Tuesdays, January 10, 17, & 24, 7-7:45 a.m., in the Library Commons. In Ann Lamott's *Dusk Night Dawn: On Revival and Courage*, explore the tough questions that many of us grapple with. How can we recapture confidence as we stumble through dark times toward the light of hope that still burns ahead for all of us? Sign up online at stpaulqc.org/signups. Contact: Katy Warren, katy@stpaulqc.org.

Faith BasiX

The basics of the Christian faith, St. Paul style, for anyone — really, anyone! Upcoming dates include Tuesdays, Jan. 24, Feb. 28, March 28, and April 25, 7 p.m., in the Luther Loft. This monthly series will be an exploration of worship in its patterns and variety. No background needed; all questions welcome! Contact: Peter Pettit, ppettit@stpaulqc.org.

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

Faith, Health, and Wholeness Coffee Chats

First and third Tuesdays of the month, 10:30 a.m., Luther Loft

Bring a beverage of your choice and settle into a conversation on faith, health, and wholeness. No need to sign up, just come! Each month features a different subject. Contact: Dave and Dortha DeWit, dorthamdw@aol.com.

Young adults | Monthly gatherings

St. Paul's young adult ministries are geared for those in their 20s and 30s interested in connecting and building relationships through church. Contact: Megan Eide, megan@stpaulqc.org or Max Franks, max@stpaulqc.org.

Theology Pub | Third Thursday of the month, 6 p.m., The Loft at Boozie's, 114 W. 3rd Street, Davenport

Come to enjoy a rich mix of people and perspective, as we explore informally the many ways in which our faith intersects with our lives and the world. Contact: Peter Pettit, ppettit@stpaulqc.org.

Guys Coffee Group | Second and fourth Mondays, 10 a.m.

Grab a cup of coffee and settle in to connect with fellow St. Paul men. Contact: Dave McPherson, davemcph@msn.com.

Racial Awareness Team | Third Tuesdays, 7 p.m.

Expand awareness of our world, deepen empathy, advocate for change, celebrate justice, delight in diversity, and partner with neighbors in our city. Anyone is welcome. Contact: Sara Olson-Smith, sara@stpaulqc.org.

Dementia Caregivers Group

Caring for someone with dementia can be overwhelming. All who walk this journey are welcomed to gather for friendship and support this winter beginning Tuesday, Jan. 10. The group will meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, 2-3 p.m., in the Church House Living Room. Angie Vaaler and Beth Laureijs facilitate. Contact Angie Vaaler or the church office at 563-326-3547 with questions or to sign up. Contact: Beth Laureijs, beth@stpaulqc.org.

adult learning

You'll find a variety of presenters and topics for adult classes on Sundays, 10:15-11:00 a.m. in the Chapel. No need to register in advance, just come!

Jan. 8 | Travels with the Holy Spirit

Pastor Sara Olson-Smith

From creation's first moments to a promised presence of God into eternity, the Holy Spirit is at work in this world. Yet, despite evidence of the Spirit's actions throughout the Bible, the Spirit has evaded definition and been widely ignored in Christianity. Pastor Sara Olson-Smith leads this journey into the third person of the Trinity, the one who is most likely to show up in surprising ways.

Jan. 15 | Midwest Melodrama: Superstar Jenny Lind and the Lutheran Church

Kai Swanson, Augustana College

When Lars Paul Esbjörn finally made it to Andover IL he knew he had a fight on his hands. But when it came to saving Swedish immigrant souls from the self-proclaimed prophet Erik Jansson, Esbjörn never would have imagined finding an ally in the greatest global celebrity of the day, the "Swedish Nightingale," Jenny Lind. Follow the path from Bishop Hill to Andover, Jenny Lind, Augustana College and today's ELCA, as Kai Swanson, a former member of the Jenny Lind Chapel Committee (and inveterate sucker for a good story) serves as our guide.

Jan. 22 | At the World Climate Summit

Laura Meloy

What happened in November at the United Nations' most recent climate summit in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt? What is it like to be present and participating in that global event? St. Paul member Laura Meloy was selected to participate as one of eight young adults from around the world for a Lutheran World Federation delegation. Her week in Egypt brought powerful insights, experiences, and opportunities. Hear Laura report and reflect on this remarkable journey. (You can read about it in the December *Journey*.)



Jan. 29 | A Joyful Noise — and More

Nathan Windt, St. Paul Chorale Director

How does choral singing fit into the weekly church service? What goes into choosing music, preparing a choir, and blessing the gathering with song? Seasonal themes, scripture readings, current events, congregational dynamics, and more are all part of the process -- how do these ingredients get stirred together into a delicious musical dish, week after week and holiday by holiday? With St. Paul Chorale director (and St. Ambrose professor) Nathan Windt.

Feb. 5 | Annual Meeting

There will be no adult learning on this Sunday. St. Paul's annual meeting will be held at 10:10 a.m. in the Sanctuary. This meeting includes items of important business such as approving the 2023 budget and review of 2022 financials and annual report. Pastor Peter Marty will present a state-of-the-church report. Candidates for church leadership will be voted on.



Pathways to the divine: Exploring the world's religions

During the first half of 2023, The Prairie Retreat will host a monthly series entitled *Pathways to the Divine*. Each month, the session will explore the core and depth of many of the world's religions, right here in the Quad Cities. The sessions highlight a different faith practice, listen to religious leaders, and visit their places of worship.

On March 20, 6-8 p.m., Pastors Peter Pettit and Max Franks will host a session on Lutheranism right here at St. Paul. The series begins Monday, Jan. 16 and is free and open to the public. For more information visit theprairieretreat.org.

THE CHALLENGE OF THE CLIMB

Clayton Lloyd and his wife Jan find themselves traveling a little more now in their years of semi-retirement, but it's been a part of Clayton's life since he was young. Now, he's traveled to at least 15 national parks but it's not just about the destination. Many of Clayton's trips are about family, challenging yourself, and the setting. A setting we don't see much around the Quad Cities: mountains!

FAMILY TRIPS

When Clayton was between four and five years old, he very distinctly remembers his family trip to The Great Smoky Mountains and his first trip that was a little different from family fishing trips.

"I remember going on a trip to the Great Smoky Mountains, I was sitting in the back of a Studebaker with my mom, dad, brother, and dad's sister. It was something adventurous. My dad was from a family of fisherman so sometimes going to the mountains was secondary to a trip to Minnesota to go fishing. Sitting in the back of the car, with no air conditioning and my mom checking each motel before checking in. My brother and I sat in the back wondering: 'Did we get a motel with a pool?'"

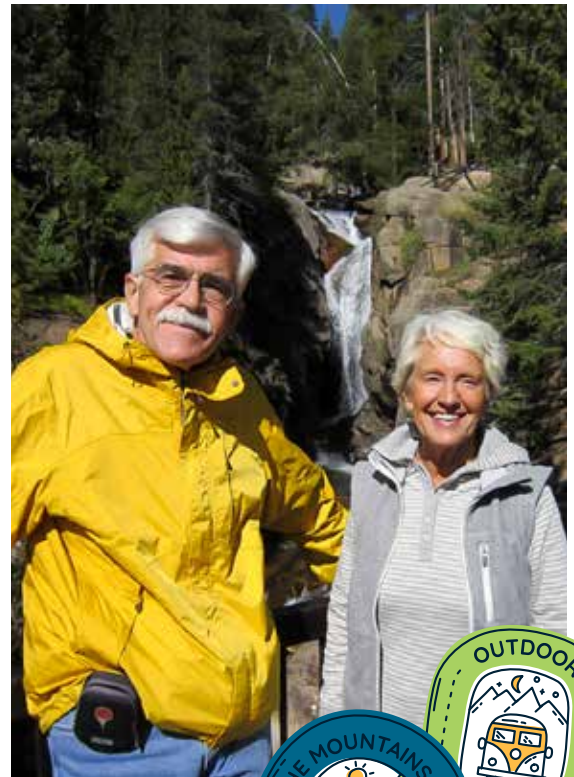
At that time, the Lloyd family trips consisted of journeying up Pike's Peak to see the mountains and sitting down for a picnic lunch. Family trips would often have a family connection associated with them. The Lloyds would stop and visit family on the way to their destination.

The first trip Clayton and Jan took after settling in the Quad Cities had a similar feel to those family trips. It was a visit to Colorado, this time to see his older brother. They would stay in a condo partially owned by his brother and spend the rest of the time hiking. Once Clayton's two sons were born, those family trips expanded to include the boys.

"When our sons came along, we started out day hiking. No backpacking or anything that adventurous. Colorado is where our strongest connections were. Often, trips were planned around family these connections."

One place stands out clearly in Clayton's mind. A location the family visited often.

"Summit County. It's a national forest and the area where we've hiked most often. We go hiking and climbing around Silverthorne, Colorado. We went there often to see my brother, and we got to know the trails there. Then I started



going with my sons, (St. Paul member Ben Lloyd) and my older son, Aaron, to do these familiar hikes again. With the boys, after we'd climb, we sat down and looked out to appreciate the landscape. It's so different from what we've grown up around. Maybe it's not the most majestic place but it's the familiarity, the memory, and reflection of different times."

There are memories, lots of clear memories, pieces of the events, incidents, and experiences. From helping to rescue a dog from a stream to cross country skiing in tough terrain, the Lloyds are continuing to expand their circle of travelers to include their grandchildren.

THE IOWA 8

More recently, with grown children, The Lloyds find themselves traveling with a different kind of family – a group of friends lovingly referred to as ‘The Iowa 8,’ a circle of parents whose children ran cross-country together at Davenport Central High School.

Often these are Road Scholar trips, travels that include an educational component coupled with hiking.

“We’re most often doing something hiking related. There is a range of physical capacity, motivation, and willingness for a challenge. There have been moments of great connection with members of the group. In Rocky Mountain National Park, Doug Robertson wanted to do something more aggressive. The Robertsons have spent more time in the park and on more challenging hikes. We drove up to the highest area. It was a cold blustery morning with strong winds. We got out of the car and the doors were almost blowing off the car, the winds were so fierce. We marched across this tundra on top. We were joking, saying this may be the last thing we ever do together but as we got further down, the day and the hike got better. But a hike of that sort brings you closer as a group.”



EXPLORING AMERICA'S HOLY GROUND

***America's Holy Ground: 61 Faithful Reflections on Our National Parks* by Brad Lyons is the 2023 All St. Paul Reads book. This year marks the 20th anniversary of All St. Paul Reads.**

All St. Paul Reads is encouragement for all to read and talk about a single book title in the same year. This dessert and discussion event will take place on Sunday, Feb. 12, 3-4:30 p.m. *America's Holy Ground* is available in the St. Paul Book Corner for \$20. To help with planning, please RSVP at stpaulqc.org/signups.

2023: GOD & NATURE

This is a big year for All St. Paul Reads. Celebrating 20 years of bringing St. Paul people together to read the same book, and it will be Book Corner manager Karen Holden's 10th and final year organizing the event as she plans to retire in February 2023. With the big milestones also comes change. A new type of book will be featured for the first time as well as a date and time change to accommodate more people.

This is the first time All St. Paul Reads has featured a devotional book. Over the years, the event has brought St. Paul people together to read theology books, fiction, books about contemporary issues, and more but not yet a devotional.

“Pastor Sara will be our speaker for the event,” Karen Holden said. “She’ll talk about God and nature. Sara is really gifted when it comes to tying together God and the natural world.”

Each chapter or reflection highlights a different national park and pairs the park with a word or theme: borders, unity, potential, etc. Three questions at the end of each devotional guide readers through a reflection surrounding each theme.

“The questions following each section are all-encompassing. They’re not only about the park but the theme or one-word topic so you don’t have to be someone who has traveled a lot or been to any of these parks.”

Another fun element of the event is the themed tables. Each table will represent a specific national park. That table will read the devotion from the book to begin the discussion.

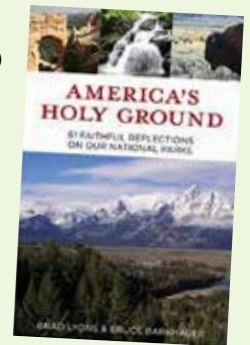
“I hope that people look at the book and see how these places are all about God and just go see one national park.”

HISTORY OF ALL ST. PAUL READS

Over the past 20 years, many hands, hearts, and minds have contributed to making the event a success. From the selection of each year’s book to the planning of the event. And while the book selection first began with a more theological focus, it has branched out to include many genres. Over the years, many dedicated St. Paul people have been driving forces behind making the event such a success.

The 2023 ASPR team is made up of Karen Holden, Jan Bush, Jeanine Crockett, Georgeann Kreiter, Belinda Holbrook, Marcia Robertson, and Pam Crowe.

The event is meant to emulate All Iowa Reads, an initiative to encourage reading of the same book over the entire state of Iowa.



new members



Karen Brenot is an OB physician with Trinity Hospital. Karen is married to Matt and they have two daughters, Ella and Claire. She spends her free time with family and loves Disney World. She was attracted by St. Paul's commitment to inclusivity.



Larry & Teresa Keller like to farm and spend time with family. Larry is a retired construction facility supervisor with the City of Davenport. Teresa works at St. Paul as visitation chaplain. They care a lot about Habitat for Humanity and hunger initiatives.



Allan Rathje & Francie Hill have strong ties to Clinton, Iowa. Allan is retired from ADM and Francie is closely connected with the Bickelhaupt Arboretum. They are passionate about supporting people through AA. They come to St. Paul through friends.



Ann & Ted Harris are retired — Ann from social work and Ted as a professor. They enjoy spending time with their nine grandchildren and volunteering with Hope at the Brick House. Their son Andrew Harris and family are members at St. Paul.



Maggie Meloy works as a therapist with Vera French. She takes an interest in reading and traveling, and she's passionate about mental health and social justice. Her mom, Lisa Meloy, and sister, Laura Meloy, are St. Paul members.



Paul & Michele Regginello spend their free time walking, watching sports, and enjoying time together. Paul is employed at HyVee and Country Club Coffee after retiring from Sears Seating where Michele currently works. The church's hospitality and welcome are what drew them to St. Paul.

Warm monthly options to explore membership

Greet the new year with a warm welcome for exploring St. Paul life. Come discover the goodness of this congregation and our mission to the world:

- ▶ Saturday, January 28, 9-11 a.m.
- ▶ Monday, February 27, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Pastors Peter Marty and Sara Olson-Smith lead these introductions to St. Paul life, ministry, and the faith expressions that inspire it all. Sign up online at stpaulqc.org/signups.





Jim & Jane Richardson have two grown sons. Jim works as a special asset officer with IH Mississippi Valley Credit Union. Jane is a caregiver with Home Instead. Affordable housing and senior care are things they are passionate about. The welcoming congregation and music ministry attracted them to St. Paul.



Dan Warren is a retired college professor of speech and communication. He recently moved from Lawrence, Kansas, to be closer to family. In his free time, he enjoys reading, trains, and cheering on Jayhawk and Illini sports. His daughter Katy Warren and family are members at St. Paul.

Council Notes

Council met for their last council meeting of the year in mid-December. Council expressed thanks to 25 congregation members who gave of their time to call fellow St. Paul people as part of the this autumn's financial pledge commitment campaign.

Council also expressed gratitude for all the volunteers who prepared the sanctuary and building decorations for the Advent and Christmas seasons. In December, St. Paul was privileged to host a number of signature musical groups including the Nova Singers, the Big River Brass Band, and the Quad City Symphony brass and percussion sections.

The Madison Market food pantry continues to serve upwards of 140 families every other week. The plan for the phased roll-out of St. Paul's online directory in 2023 was shared with the council.

Council appointed Tina Stubbs to serve on

the finance committee for a three-year term, and Amy Thoreson and Amy Lovig to serve on the personnel committee for two- and three-year terms respectively.

Council approved a full slate of nominees from the nomination committee. These individuals will serve on the church council, mission board, endowment fund for mission outreach, memorial gifts, and nominating committees. The congregation has the opportunity to vote on this slate at its annual meeting to be held in the sanctuary on Sunday, Feb. 5 at 10:10 a.m.

Thanks were expressed for the generous spirit behind individual household pledge commitments for 2023. Everybody at St. Paul is asked to make a pledge commitment that matches their faith and works for their household. In early January, the compilation of these pledge commitment will indicate the shape of St. Paul's daily ministry budget for 2023.

WORSHIP at St. Paul

► **Dec. 31 & Jan. 1**
First Sunday of Christmas

Preaching:
All services: Peter W. Marty
Liturgical tradition:
5pm/8 & 9am
Contemporary Open Spirit:
11:15am

► **January 7 & 8**
Baptism of our Lord

Preaching:
All services: Max Franks
Liturgical tradition:
5pm/8 & 9am
Contemporary Open Spirit:
11:15am

► **January 14 & 15**
Second Sunday after Epiphany

Preaching:
5pm/9 am: Sara Olson-Smith
8 & 11:15 am: Megan Eide
Liturgical tradition:
5pm/8 & 9am
Contemporary Open Spirit:
11:15am

► **January 21 & 22**
Third Sunday after Epiphany

Preaching:
All services: Peter A. Pettit
Liturgical tradition:
5pm/8 & 9am
Contemporary Open Spirit:
11:15am

► **January 28 & 29**
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Preaching:
All services: Katy Warren
Liturgical tradition:
5pm/8 & 9am
Contemporary Open Spirit:
11:15am

Giving envelopes are ready for pickup

If you give by using envelopes (instead of electronically), your 2023 box will be ready for pickup in the Elevator Commons. The office is open from 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday through Friday. If you'd like, contact Jennifer Garvey, jennifer@stpaulqc.org, 563-326-3547, to let her know you're coming and she will have them ready.



ST. PAUL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

2136 Brady Street
Davenport, IA 52803



2023

"God help us to change. To change ourselves and to change our world. To know the need for it. To deal with the pain of it. To feel the joy of it. To undertake the journey without understanding the destination. The art of gentle revolution." — Michael Leunig