

MARCH 2023

The magazine of St. Paul Lutheran Church

# journey



Deal with each other and forgive  
one another as the Lord forgives  
you.



# I regret that



**ON THE COVER:**  
Jonathan Bergert

## journey

**MARCH 2023**

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**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.

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I've sat at the bedside of hundreds of people who, in their last days or hours of life, were preparing to say goodbye to this world. To be an intimate companion in such precious moments of waning breath is one of the great privileges of my life. I hope someone "companions" me when I'm there, because dying alone wouldn't be my first choice. Plus, whoever is at the bedside gets the up-close opportunity to learn and absorb insight for their own journey ahead.

Next to important questions about pain – Are you doing okay on the pain front? – I always want to know how someone is feeling about the sum of their life. You don't strike me as a person full of regrets. But is that, in fact, the case? Most of the time, the response is over-the-top affirmative. No regrets whatsoever.

I happen to believe such ones have known all kinds of regret over the decades, though two things seem to occur in the dying process of people with faith. First, they're often overwhelmed with gratitude as the full scope of their life keeps flooding their brain. This only happens for those who've cultivated gratitude over long stretches of time. But secondly, God plants in us a remarkable power for giving perspective to life as our days narrow. This implantation of God's spirit and power isn't my idea; it's the Apostle Paul's.

We all have experiences of regret, some of them profound. No one is exempt. Regrets are simply a part of life. Somewhere around the age of seven, researchers tell us, humans develop the capacity to imagine what might have been. Our regrets of action (quitting a job prematurely, for example) while immediately painful, tend to lessen over time. Regrets of inaction (failing to say yes to a job opportunity, for example) linger more painfully. In other words, we often regret things we didn't do more than things we did.

According to Amy Summerville, a psychology professor at Miami University who runs a Regret Lab – yes, a Regret Lab! – regret is the second most common emotional state after love. This may be why broken romances typically top regret lists, ahead of other things from career to education to fi-

nance. I know from personal experience that some of my worst regrets involve a couple of poorly handled romantic relationships during adolescence and young adulthood. Nobody taught me how to break off a relationship that wasn't destined to go places. So, I fumbled. That ineptitude still gnaws at me. "Ruminative regret" is what Summerville would call it; rumination being a term that comes literally from bovine digestion, as cows regurgitate food, chew it over again, swallow it back down, and then repeat the cycle.

On one level, regrets are no fun. They cause us to compare, often frustratingly, what actually happened with what we can imagine alternatively happening. On another level, however, regrets serve a hopeful function. They help us learn from personal mistakes and teach us how we can do better.

Here's a secret that a lot of people never discover: One of the best things we can do with our regrets is haul them into church, unload them in the sanctuary of God, lay them squarely at the foot of the cross. I don't mean verbalize them to others or tape them to the floor beneath a cross. But handing all those regretful actions and inactions over to God, especially during the 40 days of Lent, beats managing them on our own, which usually means ignoring them. Faith helps us know which regrets to let roll off into oblivion and which ones to keep ruminating over. It's a process that makes for a much better life and death.



**PETER W. MARTY**  
senior pastor

# sunday morning **learning**

In Sunday-morning learning, we seek to grow curiosity about the stuff of faith. You'll find an array of top-notch options for adult classes. Grab your cup of coffee and come on in.

## ▶ **March 5: Including and Engaging Neurodiverse Children and Adults**

*Kathryn Kunkel, M.S., CCC-SLP, BCBA*

"Neurodiversity" describes the reality that we all experience as we process the world in different ways. As with other forms of human diversity, our cultures do not always pay attention to people whose lives are significantly different from the majority. Kathryn Kunkel is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst and a Licensed Speech Language Pathologist with an expertise in autism and developmental delays. Through her work, she educates and empowers families with members on the autism spectrum to develop necessary adaptive behavior skills and positive social relationships in order to more actively participate in the home and community environment. Kathryn will offer insights into what it means for people to live "on the spectrum" and ways in which we can, individually and as a congregation, best welcome, support, and accompany them.

## ▶ **March 12: Our Jewish Neighbors –Their Jewish Lives and Religion**

*Rabbi Linda Bertenthal, Temple Emanuel and Congregation Beth Israel*

We glean from the Bible a picture of Jews and Judaism that is nearly 2,000 years old. We may know our Jewish neighbors as Americans, classmates, co-workers, etc., without knowing much about their lives and religion as Jews. Focusing on the Jewish community's response to the Enlightenment and modernity, Rabbi Linda Bertenthal will help us understand the character of Jewish life and religion today. She will also explore the responses of different Jewish communities to a crucial life question of our time.

## ▶ **March 19: The Power of Empathy**

*Derek Ball, Marriage and Family Therapist*

When we learn to see what the world looks like from someone else's perspective, we gain power to act differently, navigate differences, and discover new things about ourselves. Empathy is a super-power that is available to everyone. With decades of experience counseling individuals and couples in the challenges of everyday conflict and confusion, Derek Ball opens a window into some straightforward practices that can unleash empathy's power in our lives.

## ▶ **March 26: Those Kids — Our Kids**

*Sgt. Andrew Harris, Davenport Police Department*

How can we best understand the crises and challenges of youth in Scott County today? From the perspective of those who engage with the issues daily as things go wrong in a young person's life, what do we learn about "loving the neighbor" who is a troubled and/or neglected teen?

*Please note: Sunday morning learning for adults will not be held on Palm Sunday, April 2, or Easter Sunday, April 9.*



## **Pathways to the divine: Explore the world's religions**

The Prairie Retreat is hosting a monthly series entitled *Pathways to the Divine*. Each month, explore the core and depth of many of the world's religions, right here in the Quad Cities. Each month, learn about a different faith practice, listen to religious leaders, and visit their places of worship.

In March, Pastors Peter Pettit and Max Franks will host a session on Lutheranism right here at St. Paul. The series is free and open to the public. For more information visit [theprairieretreat.org](http://theprairieretreat.org). Upcoming sessions include:

### **March: Protestant | Lutheran**

Monday, March 20, 6-8 p.m.

Peter Pettit, Max Franks

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

### **April: Mahayana Buddhism**

Monday, April 17, 6-8 p.m.

Buddhist nun Su Cô Liên Diệp, Lay Buddhist Judith Lee

Kim Cang Temple, 4630 N. Pine Street, Davenport, Iowa

### **May: The Baha'i Faith**

Monday, May 15, 6-8 p.m.

Phil Turner

Eastern Iowa Community College, 101 W. 3rd St, Davenport, Rooms 116-117

### **June: Hindu**

Monday, June 19, 6-8 p.m.

Archarya Balaji Temple Priest, Raja Krishnamurthy, and Rohit Kunte

Quad City Hindu Temple, 9801 14th Street West, Rock Island, Illinois

# march

## HAPPENINGS



### Fourth-graders begin First Communion prep

Fourth-graders and their parents learn about the sacrament of Holy Communion during a five-session Sunday-morning unit, recalling the promises made at the time of the child's baptism. First Communion preparations take place on Sunday mornings, March 5, 19, 26, and April 2, 10:15-11 a.m., Fellowship Hall. Children will paint and decorate chalices, that will then be displayed on Maundy Thursday, April 6 — when they receive Holy Communion for the first time.

For more information, contact: Maddy Carroll, [maddy@stpaulqc.org](mailto:maddy@stpaulqc.org).

### It's just about time!

When the sun rises on Sunday, March 12, we'll be on Daylight Saving Time. If you turn in at 10 p.m. on Saturday, March 11, be sure to set your clocks ahead to 11. See you in church!

### Upcoming concert to feature University of Iowa Choir and Pleasant Valley Chamber Choir

On Thursday, March 23, 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary, the University Choir from the University of Iowa will perform with the Pleasant Valley Chamber Choir. Each choir will perform their own pieces and then join together to sing Ralph Vaughan Williams, *O Clap Your Hands*, with Dr. Greg Hand on the organ. The concert is free and open to the public. Free-will donations will be accepted. Contact: Chris Nelson, [chris@stpaulqc.org](mailto:chris@stpaulqc.org).

### Help feed the hungry at Zion Lutheran meal site

Five nights a week, people gather at Zion Lutheran Church at 8th and Marquette streets in Davenport for a warm meal. At different times throughout the year, St. Paul people participate in So All May Eat by helping prepare and serve a homemade dinner to fill the stomachs and the souls of people experiencing hunger.

One crew shops for ingredients ahead of time. One crew cooks in the St. Paul kitchen (3-5 p.m.). One crew transports and serves the food (5-7 p.m.). Needed are shoppers, cooks, and servers for Wednesday, March 29 and Wednesday, May 31.

Sign up at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups). Contact: Katy Warren, [katy@stpaulqc.org](mailto:katy@stpaulqc.org).



### Youth opportunity: Serving in the city

High school students are invited to participate in an overnight mission trip, April 28-29. The group will travel to Chicago to serve at food packaging plants. A quick trip — but one in which youth will be reminded of the value of service and blessings we receive while doing so. Youth can sign up at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups). Contact: Liz Franks, [liz@stpaulqc.org](mailto:liz@stpaulqc.org), with questions or to sign up.

## Faith BasiX: Exploring worship

The basics of the Christian faith, St. Paul style, for anyone — really, anyone! Meet on Tuesday, March 28, 7 p.m., in the Luther Loft. This series will be an exploration of worship in its patterns and variety. No background needed; all questions welcome! Contact: Peter Pettit, [ppettit@stpaulqc.org](mailto:ppettit@stpaulqc.org).

## Give Easter flowers to remember loved ones

Easter lilies and spring flowers will decorate the front of the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 9. If you would like to donate a plant in memory or in honor of a loved one, please place your order by March 31. The cost is \$15.

Forms are available in the church office. Please return the form with a check payable to St. Paul. Indicate on the form if you would be willing to deliver a plant to a homebound member after Easter. Contact: Becky Harper, [becky@stpaulqc.org](mailto:becky@stpaulqc.org).



## Faithful pledging

St. Paul's ministry is built on every household in the congregation making a pledge commitment. These commitments create a collective sense of sharing in the demands of an active ministry while enjoying the blessings and benefits that come with anchoring oneself in a faithful community. Without other income sources, household pledges serve as the backbone of St. Paul's budget.

2023 Pledge commitments arrived from 1,016 households, totaling \$2,626,344. Forty-four of those pledges are new. Of the total number of pledges, more than 300 people managed to increase their commitment over the prior year. The average pledge amount for a St. Paul household this year is \$2,585. "When everybody gives what they're truly capable of, and when faith motivates them to do their best, things happen," said Pastor Marty. "Things are happening at St. Paul."

## Welcome Brittany Guy to St. Paul childcare

A big welcome to Brittany Guy as St. Paul's new childcare team leader. She comes on board following the recent resignation of long-time team leader, Teresa Whitbeck, who served with outstanding dedication for 18 years. Brittany previously taught for two years in St. Paul's preschool. Before that she was a math and reading interventionist for the Davenport School District. She shared her excitement recently in assuming her new role: "I'm thrilled to provide safe and quality care for the little ones. It's what I love to do. Getting to know the parents will be an extra plus." Brittany is responsible for coordinating all training, scheduling, and protocols with the childcare team.



**Parents of young ones:** Drop in to the childcare area on the main floor and introduce yourselves to Brittany. Staffed childcare is available Sunday mornings from 7:45 a.m to 12:15 p.m., Wednesday evenings, and for all congregation-wide events.

## Save the date for VBS!

St. Paul kids will experience God's love and learn how to live life with God by their side, at Vacation Bible School 2023. St. Paul VBS, with the theme, *Hero Hotline*, will be Monday, June 12-Friday, June 16, 8:30-11:30 a.m. Registration is \$15 per student. Deadline is June 1.

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 high school youth are invited to join in the experience by volunteering. Sign up online starting April 1 at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups). Contact: Maddy Carroll, [maddy@stpaulqc.org](mailto:maddy@stpaulqc.org).

## VBS week for teenagers

Middle-schoolers, entering grades 6-8, will plunge into summer during 678 Week, Monday, June 12-Friday, June 16, 8:30-11:30 a.m. Registration is \$15 per student. Deadline is June 1. Youth will have a blast while learning about God, this faith community, and one another. Registration is \$15 per student. Deadline is June 1. Sign up online starting April 1 at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups). Contact: Liz Franks, [liz@stpaulqc.org](mailto:liz@stpaulqc.org).



Lent is a journey — a path that people from all walks of life travel to the joy of Easter.

There are many ways to explore the words of God to prepare your soul for the Resurrection of Christ.

# Lent



## Wednesdays during the Season of Lent

*Gather in community during the 40 days of Lent, March 1—March 29*

### ► **Noontime Worship** | 12 noon-12:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Breathe deeply in the midst of your workday for these contemplative noontime gatherings. Half-hour services include music, silence, a pastoral reflection, and Holy Communion centered on the same themes as Wednesday evenings.

### ► **Suppers** | 5:30-6:55 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

A hungry throng gathers each Lenten Wednesday for catered suppers, planned with busy folks in mind. You won't need a reservation. Just bring your freewill donation to help cover the per-plate cost (\$8/person or \$25/family is suggested). Those inspired to contribute more are welcome to do so (actual food costs are 20-percent higher).

### ► **Adult learning** | 5:30-6:15 p.m. in Luther Loft

Aligned with the Lenten theme of *Feathers of Faith*, this discussion will focus each week on one of the birds in Debbie Blue's book, *Consider the Birds*. Blue's close-up look at birds in Scripture is "edgy, scholarly, and shocking"; it reveals poignant life lessons on desire and gratitude, power and vulnerability, insignificance and importance. Bill McKibben has said that Blue's book reminds us that "the natural world can be an endless source of metaphor and inspiration." Pastor Peter A. Pettit leads in the Luther Loft. The book is available in the Book Corner for \$13.

### ► **Choir rehearsal** | 6-6:45 p.m., Choir rooms

All choirs will rehearse on Wednesdays during Lent. Children's and Youth Choir will be from 6-6:45 p.m.; Chorale will gather from 6-6:55 p.m.

### ► **Evening Worship** | 7-7:35 p.m., Sanctuary

The beautiful *Holden Evening Prayer* liturgy fills the Sanctuary on Wednesday nights in Lent. *Feathers of Faith: Lenten Inspiration from Birds of the Bible* is the unifying theme. Each week, a different bird featured in the Bible will be explored along with what these feathered friends teach us about God and faith. Soar into the Easter season with lessons, activities, and stories inspired by birds. Children encouraged to worship; childcare also available. Come, bless your winter-weary spirit. You'll be on your way home by 7:35.



## Lenten supper helpers needed

Lenten suppers are returning to St. Paul this year! There is nothing quite like sitting around a table and sharing a meal in community with others. And these Lenten gatherings simply could not happen without St. Paul people. Would you consider joining the Red Apron Hospitality crew or the Green Apron clean-up team? It's a simple way to share yourself.

Sign up for one or more weeks at [stpaulqc.org/signups](http://stpaulqc.org/signups). Contact: Jessica Taylor, [jessica@stpaulqc.org](mailto:jessica@stpaulqc.org).



## Devotional book: Water & Spirit

*Water & Spirit: Devotions for Lent 2023* highlights readings from the gospel of John from Ash Wednesday to Easter. Explore Jesus' journey from baptism to the cross and the empty tomb. The pocket-sized book is available for \$3, large print for \$5.

The St. Paul Book Corner also carries many other books, devotionals, and resources for your Lenten practices.

The Book Corner will be open for additional hours during the Lenten season. Wednesdays in Lent, the Book Corner will be open 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. and 6:30-8 p.m. It will be open Maundy Thursday, April 6, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. and 6:30-8 p.m. and closed Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

## Confirmation

Wednesdays, March 1-29, 6:30-7:40 p.m.

Teenagers will meet onsite for games, a brief Bible study, small group discussion, and worship each Wednesday in Lent. Contact: Pastor Katy Warren, [katy@stpaulqc.org](mailto:katy@stpaulqc.org).

## Loving & serving: Ideas during Lent

Lent is a time for spiritual discipline. Just as Christ emptied himself with extravagant love for the sake of the world, so we also seek to practice acts of love.

During this season of Lent, consider how to deepen your relationship with Christ through serving. Explore how to give of yourself through church ministries and community organizations. Perhaps you can “take on” a discipline of service. Offer your time and energy for the food pantry, volunteer to usher, or greet people with a smile on Sunday mornings.

Perhaps your Lenten practice extends to the people you love most. Plan a special family dinner or make a long-neglected phone call.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

# HOLY WEEK & EASTER

The story of Jesus' passion and death is central to our faith. Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday, the Sunday of the Passion, with palms and hosannas. Come and worship, as together we journey through Jesus' last meal and his death toward the joyous light of Easter morning.

### ► Palm Sunday | April 1 & 2

Saturday at 5 p.m.

Sunday at 8, 9 & 11:15 a.m.

### ► Maundy Thursday | April 6

Services at 12 & 7 p.m.

### ► Good Friday | April 7

Services at 12, 4 & 8 p.m.

Pretzel-making at 3 p.m.

### ► Easter Sunday | April 9

6 a.m. sunrise

8, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m. (contemporary)

*No Saturday worship*



## LENTEN GIVING

### ELCA World Hunger Appeal

Hungry people next door and around the globe are on St. Paul hearts during the Season of Lent. Every few seconds — the length of each breath we take — someone in the world dies from hunger-related causes. All midweek Lenten offerings at St. Paul (in envelopes or cash) will be given to support the important work of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) World Hunger Appeal. Please earmark your check memo line with “Lent — World Hunger.”

Take some time during Lent to educate yourself about hunger, its root causes, and the highly-regarded work of the ELCA through relief, development, education, and advocacy. By providing immediate relief to those who are hungry, ELCA World Hunger meets basic needs and recognizes the universal human right to food. But ending hunger is about more than food. By connecting people with education, health care, and sources of income, long-term, sustainable change can be accomplished.

We act with love for our neighbors, from Davenport to Malawi, through our congregational effort to help relieve global hunger. At St. Paul, the spiritual practices of awareness and generosity mark the Lenten season.



# putting **DOWN** roots

**St. Paul youth transform new Camp Shalom cabins with brushstrokes and paint.**

In late January, a group of St. Paul youth packed their bags and art supplies and made the 42-mile drive to Maquoketa to spend the weekend creating artwork that will plant seeds and make Camp Shalom cabins feel a little more like home.

Camp Shalom Program Director Ben Carlson and St. Paul youth coordinator Liz Franks first came up with the idea near the end of last year when Liz first visited Camp Shalom. The two wanted to engage the youth program right away, not waiting until the summer, so an indoor art-related project seemed like the perfect fit. After multiple brainstorming sessions, the two settled on outfitting the new Camp Shalom cabins with artwork created by St. Paul youth.

Each piece of artwork is a 30" x 40" canvas representing a different tree that the Camp Shalom cabin is named after; mulberry, oak, cherry, maple, elm, aspen, and hickory. Inscribed on every canvas is a Bible verse.

"The cabins are pretty basic. Even though they're new, they're pretty simple. These pieces add that extra bit of pizzazz and bring a feeling of cabin unity," Ben said. "They have Bible verses to inspire thoughtfulness and reflection when campers are in their cabins at night."

Nearly every one of the participants has a strong connection with Camp Shalom. Three of the youth were camp counselors just last year and others are longtime campers.

"These kids love and care about Camp Shalom, more than just about anybody. Being able to contribute something that will hang up for the next 20 years, that's a tangible contribution of the impact they'll make as a counselor and camper," Ben said. "We're so grateful that Liz brought the kids to do this. St. Paul helped contribute to the cost of the artwork as well. We're grateful that the kids

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

1 PETER 4:10





take an interest and ownership in Camp Shalom. It adds to the experience of camp for future campers.”

St. Paul artistic director Lauren Brown designed the canvas trees and created an easy paint-by-number outline so anyone of any artistic background could partake. But the youth and adults on the trip took ownership and made each piece their own. While the original plan was for each person to contribute to every canvas, the youth decided they wanted to work on just one from start to finish.

Tenth grader Jonathan Bergert was one of the youth that participated in the retreat weekend. He said the weekend provided a lot of bonding with fellow youth and a chance to make something of their own to share with others.

“I was going outside of my comfort zone. I don’t paint much so it was fun to try to make a painting. I did better than I thought I would. At first, everyone was filling in the colors, following the rules,” Jonathan said. “But after a while, we all put in our own ideas and made them our own. Connor (DeNike) went with a space theme. The chaperones went with an autumn color scheme. Mine was a dark sky theme with stars. Mary added flowers and birds. We all put our own personality into it.”

The retreat just happened to be an extra special time for Jonathan. It was the weekend of his 16<sup>th</sup> birthday. And while birthday weekends are often special events spent with those closest to you, Jonathan decided to celebrate his birthday being of service to others and among new friends.

“Going into the retreat, I was unsure of what the weekend would be like. Good friendships were made,” Jonathan said. “I met and got to know others better. Connor DeNike and I connected during that weekend. We found out we have a lot in common. Everyone made my birthday weekend special with surprise cupcakes and treats.”

For the Blackwells, this retreat was quite a family affair. Amira and her older sister Adrianna were joined by their mom Cherie. The Blackwell sisters have spent many summers at Camp Shalom so it feels a little like a home away from home. The retreat was a more intimate gathering than they’re used to and the time together was impactful. Amira said her favorite parts of the weekend were the activities that connected her with other St. Paul youth.

“It was a great group in a place I really like. It was special to be together and be of service to others,” Amira said. “The most memorable activity was sledding. We spent a lot of time inside painting but there were activities that brought us outside. Being out in the snow and nighttime stargazing were times we all forgot about outside things, and could focus on being together.”

Amira’s mom Cherie was one of the chaperones on the trip and commented on the important role Camp Shalom has played in her daughters’ lives.

“Camp Shalom holds a very special place in a lot of the kids’ hearts. A combination of camp and St. Paul has formed their faith. The most meaningful experience was being in that environment together and making new memories,” Cherie said. “The craziness and music of camp have engaged the girls to want to continue to participate. Camp Shalom and the St. Paul youth programming have supported both Amira and Adrianna in their development, especially as leaders.”



## Camp Shalom registration is open!

Summer camp registration for kids, youth, and families is now underway. Camp Shalom is a Christian camp, founded by the St. Paul congregation, which offers outdoor experiences in faith community for children, entering grade two through high school youth. For all the details, visit the camp website: [campshalomia.org](http://campshalomia.org).

# new members



**Jon & Kristine Dohrmann** enjoy spending time with family, relaxing by the pool, hiking, and cheering for Iowa State. Jon is retired from John Deere as an internal audit manager. Kristine is a Lutheran pastor currently serving as a hospice bereavement coordinator. They were attracted to St. Paul by the intergenerational feel and music.



**Cody & Chelsa Krech** are the parents of two boys, Cody and Callahan. Cody is a dentist at Dental Group of Galesburg and enjoys the outdoors and sports. Chelsea works as a psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner with Everley Psychiatric Group and enjoys travel and yoga. They were drawn to St. Paul by the community involvement and diversity of the congregation.



**Melody Paulsen** is a retired registered nurse and childcare provider. She likes to sew and spend time with her children and grandchildren. She is passionate about the community and singing.



**John & Judy Robinson** are retired – John from plastic surgery and medical school teaching, and Judy as a professor of English. They spend their free time golfing, gardening, reading, and with family.



**Becky & Ben Schutman** like to spend time with family and friends. Becky is a fifth-grade teacher at Madison Elementary School. Ben owns and runs Schutman's Lawn Care. Ben's mom, Kathy Schutman, is a St. Paul member.



**Cheryl Seyb** is retired from Bitco in employee services. She enjoys pickleball, walking her dog, and spending time with friends. She was drawn to St. Paul by the warm welcome.



**Nick & Anna Villareal** are parents to one-year-old Charlotte. Nick and Anna both work for the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics – Nick as a stroke clinical coordinator, and Anna as collections coordinator for their Project Art collection. Anna's parents, Ron and Karin Mullen, are St. Paul members.



**Steven Witte** works as a delivery driver with Wensco Sign Supply. He spends his free time golfing in the summer and skiing in the winter. He's a big Yankees fan and is passionate about youth ministries. His father, Craig Witte, is a St. Paul member.

## Explore St. Paul life in a Membership Inquiry Class

Are you ready to more fully make St. Paul your church home? If you're discovering the blessing of this congregation, spring may be the time to prioritize a Membership Inquiry Class for you to deepen your sense of belonging and commitment. You can pick one date from the monthly options:

- ▶ Thursday, March 23, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- ▶ Saturday, April 22, 9-11 a.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](http://stpaulqc.org/signups).

## 2023 budget, slate of candidates approved

The congregation approved the 2023 budget, as well as a slate of candidates for church council, mission board, and three committees, at the annual meeting in February.

The \$3.04 million budget represents a .16 percent increase from 2022. Proposed benevolence and mission giving — money given to outside organizations to support work locally, nationally, and internationally — grows to \$641,502, more than 21 percent of the budget.

Approved candidates for leadership positions are:

- **Church Council:** Pat Baldwin, Ann Bush, Jenny Gosse
- **Mission Board:** Steve Evans, Heather McCollough, Cindy Walls
- **Endowment Committee:** Steve Horan, Pat Ferrell
- **Memorial Gifts Committee:** Kathy Tomsha, Myrna Miller
- **Nominating Committee:** Cathy Anderson, Eric Engstrom

To see the year-end video, recapping 2022, visit [youtube.com/stpaulquadcities](https://www.youtube.com/stpaulquadcities). A copy of the Annual Report is available at the Information Center.



**Parents of children born in 2022** gathered at St. Paul to connect and share in the joy (and sleeplessness!) of life with a newborn. These are some of the babies born in 2022. Families learned what it means to form a child's faith and received a colorful story Bible as a gift from St. Paul.

## WORSHIP at St. Paul

- ▶ **Wednesday, March 1**  
**Worship:** 12 noon & 7pm
- ▶ **March 4 & 5**  
*Second Sunday in Lent*  
**Preaching:**  
5pm/8 am: Max Franks  
9/11:15 am: Sara Olson-Smith  
**Liturgical tradition:**  
5pm/8 & 9am  
**Contemporary Open Spirit:**  
11:15am
- ▶ **Wednesday, March 8**  
**Worship:** 12 noon & 7pm
- ▶ **March 11 & 12**  
*Third Sunday in Lent*  
**Preaching:**  
All services: Peter W. Marty  
**Liturgical tradition:**  
5pm/8 & 9am  
**Contemporary Open Spirit:**  
11:15am
- ▶ **Wednesday, March 15**  
**Worship:** 12 noon & 7pm
- ▶ **March 18 & 19**  
*Fourth Sunday in Lent*  
**Preaching:**  
All services: Katy Warren  
**Liturgical tradition:**  
5pm/8 & 9am  
**Contemporary Open Spirit:**  
11:15am
- ▶ **Wednesday, March 22**  
**Worship:** 12 noon & 7pm
- ▶ **March 25 & 26**  
*Fifth Sunday in Lent*  
**Preaching:**  
5pm/9am: Peter W. Marty  
8/11:15am: Megan Eide  
**Liturgical tradition:**  
5pm/8 & 9am  
**Contemporary Open Spirit:**  
11:15am
- ▶ **Wednesday, March 29**  
**Worship:** 12 noon & 7pm



ST. PAUL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

2136 Brady Street  
Davenport, IA 52803

# St. Paul Podcast

First posted on Thursdays at 1:30 p.m., the St. Paul podcast offers music, scripture, and sermon from the previous weekend, plus a prayer and blessing to carry you through the end of your week.

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Listen wherever you find your podcasts, on the St. Paul website at [stpaulqc.org/worship](http://stpaulqc.org/worship), or social media.

