



# St. Paul Lutheran Church

Sheboygan Falls, Wisconsin

February 2021



Pastor Tom Gudmundson

*"Each week the sermon will challenge us to consider the perspective of different characters from the Passion narrative asking the question, "When they look at Jesus, what do they see?"*

The season of Lent begins this month on Ash Wednesday, February 17. This is a penitential season that directs our attention in a focused way upon the suffering and death of Jesus in payment for our sins. This is a time for us to be especially reflective, remembering that it was our personal sins that drove Jesus to the cross out of great love for us. Therefore, we owe Him our gratitude and devotion.

As we have in the past, we will be offering midweek worship services throughout the Lenten season at 11:30 am and 7:15 pm that will spotlight our series theme, "Eyes On Jesus." The series is based on Hebrews 12:2 which says, "O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God." Each week the sermon will challenge us to consider the perspective of different characters from the Passion narrative asking the question, "When they look at Jesus, what do they see?" In most cases, people misunderstood who He is and what He was doing. In some cases, by faith, people recognized Him aright. This series will get us

digging into the Gospel of Mark where we will examine how the various people around Jesus viewed Him—and how we should view Him. We will "fix our eyes" on what Jesus has done to save us from our sins by the shedding of His holy, precious blood and innocent sufferings and death, and then celebrate what God sees on account of His work: our justification for His sake.

Our Ash Wednesday services will be a special time for repentance and reflection as we begin Lent. As our tradition has been, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper and receive the sign of the cross in the form of ashes as a reminder of the importance of our repentance.

Our weekly themes and characters will follow this schedule:

- Feb 17: "Misjudging Eyes"- Jesus' Disciples
- Feb 24: "Betraying Eyes"- Judas
- Mar 3: "Sleepy Eyes"- Inner Circle Disciples
- Mar 10: "Denying Eyes"- Peter and the Apostles
- Mar 17: "Murderous Eyes"- Jewish Leaders

*(Continued on page 2)*

## The Mission of St. Paul Lutheran Church

*"As Friends of God through Jesus, empowered by the Spirit, we are **Connecting People to Christ** by sharing His love in word and action everywhere we are."*

*(Continued from page 1)*

- Mar 24: “Worldly Eyes”- Pilate, Jewish Leaders & Roman Soldiers

In the past, the Wednesday 11:30 am Lenten service was followed by lunch in the Fellowship Hall. However, due to the continuing issue of the Covid-19 virus, there will be no meals this year.

May God richly bless  
our Lenten pilgrimage to  
the cross of Jesus our Sav-  
ior.

In Christ,

Pastor Tom

# Candy Bars for Missions

Thank you so much for supporting the youth mission team candy bar sale. Seroogy's candy bars will be sold from the Church Office until they are gone, so if you need a sweet treat, please stop in!



The poster features a black background with white and red text. At the top, "SAVE THE DATE!" is written in large, light blue, sans-serif letters. Below it, "SOUP" is written in large, bold, white letters with a red outline. A small red and white car icon is positioned between the "O" and "U". Underneath "SOUP", the words "Drive-Thru" are written in a large, flowing red cursive font. To the left of the main title, there is a white silhouette of a pair of crossed knives. To the right, there is a large, friendly-looking cartoon-style drawing of a white soup bowl with a smiling face, rosy cheeks, and a tongue sticking out. The bowl has two handles. The text "St. Paul Lutheran Church" and "730 County Road PPP Sheboygan Falls" is located in the bottom left corner. In the bottom right corner, the date "SUNDAY MARCH 7" is written in large yellow capital letters, followed by the time "10:30 AM - Noon" and the phrase "(or until soup runs out)".

# Energy Release

New this winter, when the Fellowship Hall is open, we have offered families the opportunity to run and play. With the restraints of the pandemic and the cold weather, sometimes it's nice to have a place to just let loose for a little while. Would you like an hour with some extra space? Visit [www.stpaulfalls.com/energy-release](http://www.stpaulfalls.com/energy-release) for more information and to reserve a time.



*Picture: The Chapman family creatively playing at our inaugural energy release day.*

## St. Paul Funeral Coordinator

We have hired Deb Hand to serve as our Funeral Coordinator. The purpose of this position is to serve as the primary contact for all funerals held at our church. Duties vary depending on the needs of the family. Essential duties include:

- Arranging for volunteers to assist with the service, including musicians, sound board, projection, and video
- Arranging for the doors to be unlocked
- Work with office staff in terms of flower delivery times when needed.
- Contact Ladies Auxiliary to schedule luncheon, as needed
- Contact the church grounds crew in the event snow removal will be needed
- Set up the church, including the Worship Center, Gathering Area, and Fellowship Hall when needed
- Start & stop the visitation music and video as needed
- Light candles on the Altar prior to the service
- Assist the funeral home as needed upon their arrival, during visitation, and during the service.
- Clean up the church following the funeral, including Worship Center, Gathering Area, bathrooms, and Fellowship Hall

This is not a staff position, so church funds are not used to pay her. Instead, this \$100 fee is included as part of the fees charged to the family, via the funeral home. In many instances, other churches charge a custodial and sound booth fee which we do not instead we have the funeral coordinator fee.

## Basket Auction for Missions

The Youth and Guatemala mission teams are teaming up! We are preparing many baskets for your bidding pleasure. Some will be available at the back of the church Feb 11-21st, and many other items will be available online from Feb 8-21st. This year, you can bid on and pay for your items online and they will be available for you to pick up at church. Of note, we will again have a sports basket (with a signed 2020 Packer team ball), photography sessions, a golf basket, a beautiful charcuterie tray with all the fixings, a movie basket, a gardening basket, a date night basket, a fun-with-kids basket, many lovely home made decorating items, a Scentsy and LaBrie basket, a hunting and a fishing basket, and a pet basket. We also have a 3-month membership to the SF YMCA up for bidding. Please check us out in the Gathering Area as well as online at [www.stpaulfalls.com](http://www.stpaulfalls.com) to be directed to our online bidding site.



## Early Childhood Center

Enrollment for the 2021-22 school year began last month. The following classes are offered, and several of the spots have already been filled – 3 year old Preschool which meets on T, Th from 9:00-11:30 am or 12:30-3:00 pm and the 4K program which meets M, W, and F from 8:30-11:30 am.

A spot will be saved for your child when the registration form (yellow tri-fold found on the wall in the Gathering Area) along with the \$50 registration fee is turned in, (bring it to the Early Childhood Center or turn it in at the Church Office). Tuition this year is \$95 per month for Preschool and \$125 per month for 4K. The SCRIP program is available to help offset the costs.

Child Care is also available on days or times when your child is not in school. Openings are available for children ages 2 ½ - 5 years old. Child Care is open Monday – Friday from 6:30 am – 6:00 pm. The hourly rate is \$4.25 (3-5 yr. olds)/\$4.50 (2.5-3 yr. olds) per hour.

Please call 467-6733 or email at [pre-school@stpaulfalls.com](mailto:pre-school@stpaulfalls.com) to determine availability.



## Sunday School Update

### Looking Back

Following along with the worship themes, Sunday School classes spent a chunk of January focusing on Stewardship. They talked about being thankful for what they have and willing to give. They learned about storing up treasures in heaven by putting others first. And



they also learned about sharing the Good News and knowing that heaven awaits all those who believe in Jesus.

**PICTURE:** 3K and 4K students learn about sin and forgiveness through baptism.

### Moving Forward

Join us each Sunday during the 9:15 service (kids are dismissed about 9:40) for a sermon themed message at the kid's level of understanding. In February, we will begin to look at Jesus adult years and entry into public ministry. Please be sure to sign-up for worship. For those unable to attend (or for more info on Sunday School), visit [www.stpaulfalls.com/sunday-school](http://www.stpaulfalls.com/sunday-school) for a resource or a video you can show and discuss at home with your kids (or grand-kids!).

# **AWANA Update**

## **Looking Back**

Kids and parents continue to spend time learning, understanding, and applying God's Word. This was month 5 of 9 in our journey of going through the Old Testament. In January our In-Person AWANA focused on *Judges and Ruth*. We learned how God's people were without a leader and things didn't go well. They were caught in an endless cycle of disobedience, invasion, repentance, and deliverance. God raised up judges, like *Deborah, Gideon and Samson*, to help his people. In the end, *Everyone did what was right in his own eyes except Ruth and...*(we'll find out next month).

Along the way, the kids helped cut and tie blankets for Project Linus. Online teachers, kids (and some parents) continue to connect by learning the Old Testament books of the Bible while also having theme nights—like Tools, Uniforms

**PICTURES:** Showing the Cycle of Apostasy in Judges 1)Aiden, Ella and Elissa worship other gods 2) Riley & Andrea, Sarah, Michael & Aaron, and Adeline & Matt are Israelite invaders 3-4)Olivia and Liz represent God's people repenting and enjoying forgiveness.



**PICTURES:** The Bertucci, Gierach, Watson and McDonald families working on blankets for Project Linus.



and Superbowl Night!

At Home a number of students continued earning awards in their handbooks: Emaline Backhaus (2 Jewels), Madalyn Schmidt (1 Jewel), Jolene Backhaus (Chevron), Sophia Schmidt (1 Jewel), Amos Diener (1 Jewel). In addition—Amos completed his first book (*See picture*)



## **Moving Forward**

It's not too late to be a part of any part of AWANA (In-Person, Online & At Home). Visit [stpaulfalls.com/awana](http://stpaulfalls.com/awana) for more information. In February we'll be looking at 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel-Song of Solomon (in person) and Song of Solomon-Ezekiel (Online).

## Teacher Spotlight

### Amanda Hildebrand AWANA Kindergarten

**Occupation:** Customer Service Manager  
**Hobbies:** Being outside with my family  
**Family:** Husband (Eric), Maddie 6th, & Ben 1st  
**Favorites Color:** Turquoise  
**Food:** Anything made from chocolate  
**Season:** Fall  
**Bible Verse:** Phil 4:13- *I can do ALL things through Christ who gives me strength*  
**Family Activity:** Going for walks, especially walks without complaints ☺

**Something we may not know about you:** I am from San Diego and worked at Sea World  
**Lesson learned from Covid times:** God is at work, even in our darkest times there are so many doing wonderful things for their fellow humans.

**Years Serving:** 6 years

**Why do you teach?** Because my soul is filled when I see our clubbers growing in their faith and understanding of God's miraculous plan.

**A Teaching Memory?** I started helping with 1st grade and went up a level almost every year. By last year I was with the 5th graders and I was so moved to hear them able to articulate their own understanding of God's word and plan from all of their years in AWANA. This year I went back to 1<sup>st</sup> grade and am so excited to help lay the foundation for the future years of learning and discipline in God's word.

**What are you doing in class this year? (Via Zoom meeting...)** Each week we discuss a new book of the Old Testament and how it is significant both THEN and NOW.

**Best thing about teaching AWANA:** It keeps me in God's Word and gives me an opportunity to play a small role in the development of faith in their hearts and minds that will hopefully last a lifetime.



**Pictures:** Amanda with this year's Zoom AWANA class and part of last year's 5<sup>th</sup> grade class.

### Lorraine Marotz Sunday School 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

**Occupation:** Primary-Wife and Mother. Secondary-part time cafeteria for Howards Grove School District  
**Hobbies:** Reading Hiking and Traveling  
**Family:** Peter (Husband) and Liam (Son)  
**Favorites Color:** I probably favor blue most but depends on mood and the color of what: i.e. silver gray cars, red or yellow flowers, blue sky.  
**Food:** Italian (Northern & Southern) and Japanese (Sushi)

**Season:** Autumn in New York (New England) Summer in Wisconsin, Spring in Washington D.C., Winter in Colorado

**Bible Verse:** Perhaps Hebrews 12:5-6 . "My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes everyone he accepts as son."

**Something we may not know about you and your family:** We moved from New York 4 1/2 years ago

**Lesson learned from Covid times:** Reconfirmed that our family unit is strong and we rely on each other through Jesus to provide what we need to grow, learn, and survive.

**How many years have you been serving?**

Technically my 2<sup>nd</sup> year for Sunday School. 1<sup>st</sup> year teaching - last year I substituted. I also was serving in AWANA for 2 1/2 years.

**Why do you teach Sunday School?** I believe the program is important and I wanted to ensure our church could continue to offer. I also hope I can help get children interested in learning more about our Savior.

**What is a memory from teaching?** My favorite is one of my students going on a small tangent about Adam & Eve and how everything is their fault because they ate the apple.

**Best thing about teaching:** Seeing interest in the student's faces when they actively participate.



**Pictures:** Lorraine teaching her Sunday School class and with last year's AWANA clubbers.

# Faith Path: Prayer Take-It-Home Event

**Who:** Focus is Kindergarten & 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Students and Parents but ANYONE is welcome!

**What:** Kids and parents together will hear about, learn the importance of and practice prayer.

**When:** Feb 21 during Sunday School (about 9:45am) **\*\*There will not be Sunday School for Kind/ 1<sup>st</sup> Grade on this Sunday.**

**Where:** Fellowship Hall **RSVP:** Encouraged -not required.

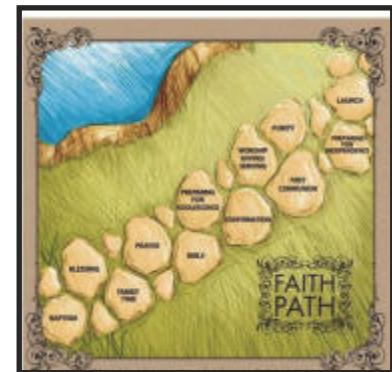
**Question/To RSVP: Contact Jeff Diener**  
[jeffd@stpaulfalls.com](mailto:jeffd@stpaulfalls.com) OR 467-6449

This is the 4<sup>th</sup> step on our Faith Path. For more information, visit our web-site [www.fallsathome.com/faith-path/](http://www.fallsathome.com/faith-path/)

## What Is Faith Path?

Faith Path is ministry (currently covering Birth-18) that encourages us and our families to be intentional in learning, growing, and passing on the faith as various stages in our lives.

Through a variety of resources, reminders and personal contacts through the Faith Path we at St. Paul seek to continue equipping our congregational family and parents to be primary developers at home and even into the community and world around us. Visit Faith Path wall outside the sanctuary or visit <http://fallsathome.com/> for more information.



## Family Tool Box

Deuteronomy 6:7 instructs parents to impress God's commandments on their children. While it would be nice if teachers, coaches, and bosses would support this, in the end it is the job of parents to daily raise their kids in the Lord. Below are some suggestions to help along the way. For more specific resources feel free to contact Jeff.

**Consider engaging...     ...in discussion over those taboo topics!** Money, sex, puberty, dating, pornography, addictions, and more. Our kids are going to hear and learn about these things. You can't control that! YOU CAN CONTROL...who they hear it from, how it's explained and even when it's taught. By regularly engaging your kids in conversation you allow opportunities to bring up these topics, even at young age. How much detail do you go into? If they're ready for more, they'll ask. Be in communication about school, friends, family and more. Look for little windows to get their thoughts and discern when it is time for a little more information and conversation.

**Consider keeping...     ...a prayer list.** As you hear about concerns or needs (or joys too). Write them down and use this as a place to start in praying with your kids/family. If the list gets too long...assign certain topics to certain days. Perhaps **Sunday = Church**; **Monday = Immediate Family**; **Tuesday = Extended Family**; **Wednesday = Missions**; **Thursday = Schools & Government**; **Friday = Community**; **Saturday = Other**.

**Consider praying together as a family...** "Lord, help us to grow as a family with our foundation in you. Help us to communicate about topics that are tough to discuss. Help us as we pray together and lift up the people and world around us. We love you. Amen."

## Youth Ministry at St Paul

Nicole Dollevoet, Director of Youth



**Confirmation students** hit the ground running January with 6<sup>th</sup> graders completing the Old Testament, 7<sup>th</sup> graders completing The Creed and 8<sup>th</sup> graders learning the 10 Commandments. Everyone did well on test #3 as we enter the last units for the year. A few classes even had the opportunity between studies to make Valentine's Day cards for **Project Angel Hugs**.

**Youth Group** had their winter kick-off in January playing hide and seek. We've had a great time exploring the words of Jesus pertaining to light, sin, and creation. The month of February we will cheer on our favorite teams during the Superbowl, send some love to our college age students, and end the month with glow in the dark mini golf.



Can you find the 4 youth 'hiding' in this photo?



Youth Mission Team Photo as they served Sheboygan County.

The **Youth Mission team** that will be heading to Nashville this summer continues to move forward in their planning. We are in the midst of our fundraiser season. We wrap up candy bars soon, we've collected items for the basket auction and then look forward to Kringle sales before Easter. **Please note** due to Covid restrictions the Easter

Breakfast will not be taking place this year, but you are encouraged to pick up a Kringle for your Easter celebrations. The team will be meeting the very end of January to continuing their planning, do a few service projects, and grow in their relationships with one another.



A very proud moment as 1 HUGE container of food items was sorted by our team!

## Night to Shine FAQs

### (Frequently Asked Questions)

Hopefully, this answers some of your questions about the night.

- The 2021 Night to Shine Prom will not be held at a church. The prom will be virtual. That means you can watch it on a computer, Smartphone, or TV where you live.
  - The virtual experience link will be available beginning at 5:00 pm on Friday, February 12 and will be available for some time after February 12, to be sure you can watch it later or re-watch it on another date.
  - The virtual experience is between 30-60 minutes in length.
  - The virtual experience will NOT be a giant Zoom call or prom recorded somewhere else, but rather an exciting program designed specifically for you. Feel free to dress up, dance and sing along to the music.
  - The virtual experience will have 3-D animation, celebrity drop-ins, music with words on the screen for those of you who want to sing and dance along karaoke-style, and of course everyone's favorite part... a virtual crowning!
  - The Sheboygan County Night to Shine Committee will be dropping off or sending you a Gift Box a few days before the event. In the box will be special things for you to use during the Night to Shine Prom. They will be yours to keep and enjoy!
- Specific questions can be sent to the committee through Facebook Messenger.



## January Congregation Meeting Summary

**Constitution & Bylaw Update:** President Margaret Hand presented an overview of the changes that have been made by the team of Jim Fasse, Margaret Hand and Stefanie Trakel. All documents were reviewed and legal details were researched. Documents were then revised as necessary to reflect current practices. The Council and Synod were part of the review and approval process. The Constitution now reflects the accurate legal name "St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Inc." The original constitution called for purely Lutheran hymns and books for worship and study, this was changed to Christian. To facilitate regular review and updates, several items were transferred from these documents into policies. New policies include:

- Ministry Staff – how we fill a Called or Commissioned Staff Position
- Nomination of Church Council
- Election & Appointment of Church Council
- Church Council – lays out structure of meetings and duties. Quorum and emergent practices were added.
- Ministry Action & Advisory Teams
- Elder Team – describes qualifications & responsibilities
- Executive Team Roles – describes roles of President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer & Head Elder

The Constitution & Bylaw Review Board at the SWD reviewed our documents and recommended further changes, which were made.

Discussion was held. The Synod is ok with us using Christian songs and books, as opposed to only Lutheran. The policies that we've had in place already were not part of the Constitution & Bylaws, they were created by the Church Council as deemed necessary. They have the power to create policies on behalf of the church. These new policies that have now been pulled from the Constitution & Bylaws will be approved by the Church Council following this meeting. The Congregation voted unanimously to adopt the revised Constitution & Bylaws. All documents will be available on our website.

### Roof Project:

Over the past 8 years, we've been working to replace sections of the flat roof. The section over the 100 wing and youth room is now experiencing significant leakage during rainstorms. Delaying repairs will cause additional damage. To address the situation, the Council invoked the Emergency Repair Policy to get repairs scheduled for early spring. The project will cost \$26,000. The Council would like Congregational approval to fund repairs from the Building Fund instead of the Capital Improvement Fund.

The roof is an integral part of the building and the Building Fund has been utilized in the past for projects such as the parking lot addition. The Building Fund balance is \$616,709 as of December 31, with no plans for the use of these funds. In contrast, the Capital Improvement fund has been reduced to \$46,617. Over the past 5 years this fund has paid for various projects totaling \$549,858 with many additional projects on the horizon as our building continues to age.

Discussion was held regarding the use of a pitched roof instead. The Council will discuss the cost/benefits of a pitched roof for the future, however the contract has already been signed with the roofing vendor to replace this portion of the roof. The process of obtaining bids occurred when this project initially began 8 years ago, it was determined at that time to use the same vendor for the entire phased project.

The Congregation approved the use of the Building Fund for the roof project, not to exceed \$26,000.

**Call Team Update:** Pr Kyle will be visiting Fort Wayne next week to interview a candidate. Pr Kyle and Mark Sbrocco will be interviewing 4 seminary candidates in St. Louis in early February. The candidates look like they have the potential to be a good fit. We will then rank the candidates and find out if we are matched with a pastor on Call Day, April 28. President Willie has encouraged Pr Kyle to focus on calling a graduate at this time. Once the graduate arrives and is installed, Pr Tom plans to retire shortly after. We will then begin to look for a third pastor and start the search again.



## February Prayer Calendar 2021

*Heavenly Father, we lift to you our prayers for:*

- 1-Ministry Staff **and birthdays:** Eric Christenson, Dawn Guell, Joe Rawlings, Amanda Richardson, Colleen Sass
- 2-The Gathering Place **and birthdays:** Chad Berke, Lanyon Feile, Pastor Don Hasse, Regina Hornsby-Gutche, Crystal Jones, Becky Kerfoot, Neely Kunz, Kay Sbarbaro, Michaela Schramm, Bret Srock, Mike Van De Kreeke, Mark Vollbrecht, Brennan Wolfert **Anniv.:** Marty & Carol Nemitz
- 3-Quilters **and birthdays:** Jenny Boy, Daisy Cook, Paul Lee, Tyler Mueller, Jim Risseeuw, Fay Rusch, Ann Schielke, Brandon Schmidt, Tanya Smith, Amber Thiel, Tanya Wilson, Katie Witkowski, Penny Ziemke
- 4-Memory Matters **and birth:** Jim Bayer II, Carsyn Brown, Phoenix Ewald, Scott Neerhof, Elvera Ottman, Kim Scharinger, Grayson Toutenhoofd
- 5-St. Paul Seniors **and birthdays:** Makena Cruz, Mateo Cruz, Bodi Dentz, Logan Gregory, Linda Knutson, Jacci O'Dwanny, Jamie Sperber, Kimberly Van De Kreeke, Kyle Winterberg
- 6-Men's Bible Study **and birthdays:** Chad Berceau, William Bronoski, Melissa Geisthardt, Natalie Heinz, Kris Hoppe, Bessa Theobald, Joan Zimmerman **Anniversary:** Scott & Jean Trakel
- 7-Ushers **and birthdays:** Holly Johnson, Karen Kuhnly, Roman Martin, Danielle Nonnemacher, Kent Saemann, Evan Schmitz, Isabelle Stengel, Jeremy Winter, Gregory Zimmermann **Anniversary:** Jim & Cheryl Nicholson
- 8-Finance Team **and birthdays:** Sharen Backhaus, Ginny Herrmann, Mark Huehns, Orson Najacht, Todd Novotny, Rick Roehrborn, Ashlyn Shircel, Julia Splittergerber, Ingrid VanderWeele **Anniversary:** Ken & Marilou Otto
- 9-Bell Choir **and birthdays:** Brent Adamson, Carson DePagter, Andrea Kuchelmeister, Maya Leitch, Hollie Toerpe Kroll
- 10-AWANA **and birthdays:** Brooke Casper, Mark Gibeault, Annette Shircel, Ali Washatko. **Anniv.:** Mark & Sharon Leider, Ray & Sharon Ogea
- 11-Pastors and their Families **and birthdays:** Bob Baumann, Jonathan Block, JoAnn Gatzke, David Gremminger, Angela Heinz, Sandy Hiebing, Lynn Kohlhagen, Laura Krumholz, Lorelei Lentz **Anniversary:** Randy & Dorothy Block
- 12-Office Helpers **and birthdays:** Keith Bruckner, Natalie De Pagter, Sandy Kluz, Nikki Stenson, John Toerpe
- 13-Early Childhood Center **and birthdays:** Heidi Gudmundson, Marley Kattner, Travis Parker-Kattner, Sandy Seifert, Dylan Thiel, Brett Wagner **Anniversary:** David & Lynn Seitenzahl

-14-Celebration **and birthdays:** Brody Morgan, Pam Buboltz, Judy Jensema, Ziggy Kimmier, Sarah Mileski, Marianne Ricciardi, Candy Shaw, Sara Smallwood, Branden Toerpe **Anniversaries:** Jeff & Cindy Herbert, Steve & Helen Timm

-15-Youth Ministry **and birthdays:** Wayne Huehns, Rivers Maas-Franz, Jack Riemer, Christopher Saunders, Amanda Smith, Lynn Weinfurther, Drew Widder, Abigail Wimmer **Anniversary:** Jack Peterman & Sherry Siemers-Peterman.

-16-Adult Choir **and birthdays:** Shawn Burkhardt, DeeAnna Jaschob, Jade Johnson, Charlotte Miller, Anna Sanders, Jeff Smith, Graham Thiel

-17-Confirmation **and birthdays:** Camryn Baier, Mark Kattner, Judy Koenig, Eric Novicki, Michael Vojnovich **Anniversaries:** Mike & Ann Helmke, Chris & Sue Reichelt

-18-The Harvest **and birthdays:** Brianna Bennin, Arika Bertucci, Jason Bonner, Stephanie Fox, Alexah Hansen, Wes Johnson, Clark Kirst, Dave Scherer, Cindy Van Maastricht, Jeff Wiegand

-19-Prayer Chain **and birthdays:** Devin Bayer, Abbie Blecher, Zach Blindauer, Janelle Corgiat, Amy Pierce, Tracey Warm, Jeremy Wimmer

-20-Connecting Groups **and birthdays:** Ed Henning, Chris Klueger, Perry Lutze, Colin O'Dwanny, Jeremy Oostdyke, Claire Smallwood, Steven Stiemke

-21-Communion Assistants **and birthdays:** Debbie Arneson, Keith Arneson, Sue Dicke, Ted Hahn, Larry Suemnicht, Kris Van Engen **Anniversary:** Jeff & Debbie Hand.

-22-St Paul Friends' Club **and birthdays:** Dave Albrecht, Leigh Cherveny, Nicole Corrigan, Claire Holzwart, Courtney Kohlhagen, Taylor Kohlhagen, Hunter Musar, Cheryl Nicholson, Stephanie Peterson, Leo Spatola, Peter Toutenhoofd, Megan Walz

-23-Church Council **and birthdays:** Becci Block, Rachel Gremminger, Terry Scherer, Peter Stiemke

-24-Facilities Maintenance **and birthdays:** Lynn Boenisch, Jenni DePagter, Tony Herzog, Terry Horne, Mike Lutze, Alicia Schramm **Anniversary:** Tony & Rebecca Herzog

-25-Thursday Praise Team **and birthdays:** Rachelle DePagter, Michael Hareid, Sandy Long, Logan Mohr, Chad Neerhof, Tracy Saak, Steve Seifert, Jim Stroessner, Mckenzie Trakel, Addy Verhagen, Emily Wallner, Wendy Young **Anniversary:** Scott & Liza Donath

-26-Altar Guild Servers **and birthdays:** Kevin Heidemann, Conner Kerfoot, Regina Kropelin, Nic Lindau, Aliya Nickolai, Natalie Nickolai, Laura Royston, Michael Schamburek, Keith Schmidt **Anniversary:** Keith & Karen Grupe

*(Continued on page 12)*

## January Council Meeting Summary

**The Gathering Place Ministry Update** – Leah reported that their census is down as they lost a few participants over the holidays, which is typical. There is currently no wait list. Several participants from nursing homes plan to return once vaccinated. Only half the volunteers have returned since reopening, volunteers are in great demand for all organizations. Unfortunately the majority of speaking engagements and marketing opportunities have been canceled for this year.

The November Giving Campaign raised about \$12k more than last year, amazing financial support from the community. The Soup Cook off will be March 7, but as a drive through with commercial kitchens from the community supplying the soup. The Council thanked Leah for continued efforts to maintain a safe program for our participants and volunteers.

**Education Office Workroom Copier**- The Council approved the purchase of a new copier for the Education Office Workroom in the amount of \$6,500 to be funded by the Capital Improvement Fund. The current machine is 6 years old and needs significant repairs to function properly. It is more cost effective to purchase a new machine.

Tom Splittgerber is working with James Imaging on a possible collaborative pricing arrangement through Lutheran High with local churches through a lease, which should be better pricing than what was originally quoted. This information will be included in the decision of which vendor to move forward with.

**Nominating Team** - Margaret Hand has appointed the following to the Nominating Team for 2021: Donna Felch (Chairman), Glen Kohlhagen, Beth Jens & Lisa Huehns. Stefanie Trakel and Pr Kyle serve as advisors.

**Constitution & Bylaw Project Policies** – The Council approved policies #46-51 & 53. These can be

found on our website.

**Call Team Update** – One member of the Call Team stepped down. Pr Kyle is looking for additional people to observe the upcoming interviews, both Jeff Berg & Tom Splittgerber will assist as able.

**Elder Team Update** - The Elder Team reached out to all regular attenders that are no longer attending, through phone calls to let them know we are thinking of them. They were able to talk with about half the families. Most people say they are watching online and are still cautious through the pandemic. This will be reassessed after the pandemic to see who doesn't return.

The Elders are continuing to build up small groups. They have reached out to all new members with information on our current groups. There will also be a promotional campaign in February. The use of a Congregation wide book study was also suggested as a way to regain energy for small groups.

### Senior Pastor Report –

Pr Tom is now preaching once a month or twice in 5 Sunday months, therefore Pr Kyle is doing the majority of the preaching

Christmas services went well given the circumstances, staff have debriefed and started plans for Easter

Pr Kyle continues making shut in visits and holding counseling sessions

There are 7 weddings on the schedule for 2021, he is working to schedule counseling for most of these

He did a funeral and has another next week

Pr Tom has taken over the Baptism class

AIM has started, there are 4 couples in the class. Whomever isn't preaching on Sunday teaches the class.

PLI is planned for March 18-20 in Houston

The Circuit Forum to elect a circuit visitor is Jan 31. Pr Tom will attend, Pr Kyle will decline if elected.

The Synod Convention is scheduled for 2022. There is discussion about potentially delaying everything a year due to Covid, which includes all elected positions remaining in office for an additional year. The Synod will lose \$300,000 to over a million dollars by delaying, which means synodical dues will go up to cover that expense and the new convention. The Council will vote against delaying the convention. They have also asked Pr Kyle to handle submitting the Congregation ballot for Synodical positions.

## Prayer Calendar Continued...

(Continued from page 11)

-27-Tech Team **and birthdays:** Jenny Bender, Dick Boenisch, Brayden Much, Bernetta Rautmann, Ashley Rickaway, Jenni Schmitz, Brad Stroessner, Joel Tauschek, Elle Teunissen **Anniversary:** Sharon & Leo Dunton

-28-Good Hope Road **and birthdays:** Todd Goedeke, Scott Monnot, Nadine Muehlbauer, Jessica Palm, Heidi Washatko

-29-Endowment Team **and birthdays:** Grace Grosshuesch, Amanda Hiebing, Chad Oppeneer, Justin Reineke **Anniversary:** Bill & Karri Brandt

*...Amen.*

## Financial Report -

*Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021*

### Financial Results- 12 Months Year to Date Actual, Budget & Variance

|                                | 6 Months<br>Ended 12-31-20 | 6 Months<br>Ended 12-31-20 | Variance<br>from Budget<br>(Short)/Over |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---|
|                                | Actual                     | Budget                     | (Short)/Over                            |
| General Offerings              | \$ 586,571                 | \$ 644,279                 | (\$ 57,707)                             |
| Other Income                   | \$ 25,866                  | \$ 12,158                  | \$ 13,709                               |
| Mission Offerings              | <u>\$ 50,333</u>           | <u>\$ 42,618</u>           | <u>\$ 7,715</u>                         |
| <b>Total Income</b>            | <b>\$ 662,770</b>          | <b>\$ 699,054</b>          | <b>(\$ 36,283)</b>                      |
| Operating Expenses             | \$ 543,498                 | \$ 655,556                 | (\$ 112,058)                            |
| Mission Support                | <u>\$ 50,333</u>           | <u>\$ 42,617</u>           | <u>\$ 7,715</u>                         |
| <b>Total Expense</b>           | <b>\$ 593,831</b>          | <b>\$ 698,174</b>          | <b>(\$ 104,343)</b>                     |
| <b>Surplus (Deficit) Total</b> | <b>\$ 68,940</b>           | <b>\$ 880</b>              | <b>\$ 68,060</b>                        |

### 1. Expenses are under budget due to the unfilled 3rd pastor position

*Early Childhood Center reporting has been included in the numbers shown.*

*The Gathering Place reporting has been eliminated as it is self-funding.*

### Capital Improvement & Parking Lot Funds

|                      | Monthly<br>Activity    | Balance at<br>Month End |
|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
|                      | Increase<br>(Decrease) |                         |
| Capital Improvements | <u>\$ 11,806</u>       | <u>\$ 43,617</u>        |
| Parking Lot Fund     | <u>\$ 4,126</u>        | <u>\$ 39,447</u>        |

### Membership Report

|                     |       |                      |       |
|---------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|
| Baptized<br>Members | 2,611 | Confirmed<br>Members | 2,147 |
|---------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|

*Contact Karri in the Church Office for a detailed report.*

## Love INC is in need of a Donations Coordinator

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# St Paul Lutheran Church Event Calendar February 2021

| Sun   | Mon   | Tue  | Wed  | Thu  | Fri   | Sat  |
|---|---|--|--|--|---|--|
| <b>1</b><br>7:45 am Worship HC #3<br>9:15 am Worship SS #6<br>10:30 AM<br>10:45 am Worship #10<br>5:00 pm Youth Grp Super-Bowl Party*               | <b>2</b><br>9:15 am TGP<br>9:00 am Women's Bible Study<br>5:45 pm Bell Choir<br>6:30 pm Cub Sct PK3885<br>7:00 pm CMWF* | <b>3</b><br>9:00 am Quilters<br>10:00 am Pstr Bible Study<br><b>6:00 pm</b> AWANA Sparks<br><b>NO Conformation *</b>                                       | <b>4</b><br>9:00 am Mmny Mttrs<br>9:15 am TGP<br>6:30 pm Worship HC #D*  | <b>5</b>   | <b>6</b><br>8:00 am Men's Bible Stv<br>8:30 am Celebration Re-hearsal |  |
| <b>7</b><br>7:45 am Worship #2 HC<br>9:15 am Worship SS #6<br>10:30 AM<br>10:45 am Worship #10<br>5:00 pm Youth Grp Super-Bowl Party*               | <b>8</b><br>9:15 am TGP<br>11:45 am Staff Mtg<br>6:00 pm Boy Sct<br>6:00 pm Guys Get Together*                          | <b>9</b><br>9:15 am TGP<br>9:00 am Women's Bible Study<br>5:45 pm Bell Choir<br>6:30 pm Cub Sct PK3885*  | <b>10</b><br>10:00 am Pstr Bible Study<br>6:00 pm Conf<br>6:00 pm AWANA TNT Family Night*  | <b>11</b><br>8:00 am Parent Group<br>9:00 am Mmny Mttrs<br>9:15 am TGP<br>6:30 pm Worship HC #A*     | <b>12</b><br>6:30 pm Able Fellowship*                                 | <b>13</b><br>8:30 am Celebration Re-hearsal                    |
| <b>14</b><br>7:45 am Worship HC #3<br>9:15 am Worship HC SS #7<br>10:30 AM<br>10:45 am Worship HC #11<br>12:00 pm Friends Club<br>5:30 Youth Group* | <b>15</b><br>9:15 am TGP<br>11:45 am Dir Mtg<br>6:00 pm Boy Sct<br>6:00 pm Quilting<br>6:30 pm Harvest*                 | <b>16</b><br>9:15 am TGP<br>9:00 am Women's Bible Study<br>5:45 pm Bell Choir<br>6:30 pm Boy Sct Ldf Mtg<br>6:30 pm Cub Sct PK3885<br>6:30 pm Council Mtg* | <b>17 Ash Wednesday</b><br>10:00 am Pstr Bible Study<br>11:30 am Worship HC<br>6:00 pm Conf<br>6:00 pm AWANA<br>7:15 pm Worship HC #9          | <b>18</b><br>9:00 am Mmny Mttrs<br>9:15 am TGP<br>6:30 pm Worship HC #B*                             | <b>19</b>   | <b>20</b><br>8:00 am Men's Bible Stv<br>8:30 am Good Hope Road |
| <b>21</b><br>7:45 am Worship HC #1<br>9:15 am Worship SS #5<br>10:30 AM<br>10:45 am Worship #9<br>12:00 pm TSoH Prac<br>5:30 pm Youth Group*        | <b>22</b><br>9:15 am TGP<br>11:45 am Staff Mtg<br>6:00 pm Boy Sct*  | <b>23</b><br>9:15 am TGP<br>9:00 am Women's Bible Study<br>5:45 pm Bell Choir<br>6:30 pm Cub Sct PK3885*   | <b>24 Lent 1</b><br>8:30 am ECC Chapel<br>10:00 am Pstr Bible Study<br>11:30 am Worship<br>6:00 pm Conf<br>6:00 pm AWANA<br>7:15 pm Worship #9 | <b>25</b><br>9:00 am Mmny Mttrs<br>9:15 am TGP<br>5:00 pm Blue & Gold Banq<br>6:30 pm Worship HC #C* | <b>26</b>   | <b>27</b><br>8:30 am Celebration Re-hearsal                    |
| <b>28</b><br>7:45 am Worship HC #4<br>9:15 am Worsp HC SS #8<br>10:30 AM<br>10:45 am Wrshp HC #12*  |   |  |  |  |   |  |

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**Pastors:** **Kyle Backhaus**, Senior Pastor  
**Thomas Gudmundson**, Associate Pastor  
**Donald Hasse**, Pastor Emeritus

**Church Office Hours:** 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM Monday - Thursday  
Fridays Closed

**Church Phone:** 920-467-6449

**Church Fax:** 920-467-4239

**ECC Phone:** 920-467-6733

**The Gathering Place:** 920-627-6847

**Website:** [www.stpaulfalls.com](http://www.stpaulfalls.com)

## Worship Schedule

|                 |          |   |
|-----------------|----------|---|
| <b>Thursday</b> | 6:30 PM  | Informal (Country Music 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs./month) |
| <b>Sunday</b>   | 7:45 AM  | Traditional (Hymns)                                   |
|                 | 9:15 AM  | Blended (Hymns & Praise Band)                         |
|                 | 10:45 AM | Contemporary (Praise Band)                            |

## Wee Care Nursery

Nursery staffed Sunday from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

## Education Schedule

Sunday School during 9:15 AM service (during the school year)

## **Early Childhood Center**

**3 year-old class - Tuesday & Thursday**

9:00 - 11:30 AM or 12:30 - 3:00 PM

**4K Class - Monday, W  
8:30 - 11:30 AM**

**Child Care** - Monday through Friday 6:30 AM - 6:00 PM  
Ages 2 ½ - 5 years Call for Drop-ins

# The Gathering Place & Memory Matters

TGP - Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**Memory Matters** - Thursdays 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM